# Extension Service Review

## A new chapter begins

M. L. WILSON, Director of Cooperative Extension Work

With the new year, 1946, a new chapter begins in the history of civilization, the atomic era. Not only was 1945 the year of victory for the democratic way of life, it was also the year of announcement to the world that leaders of science had peered behind the veil of the greatest source of power, atomic energy.

In recent months we have heard and read a great deal about atomic bombs and the atomic age. Much that has been written and said, no doubt, falls in the same category as stories about George Stevenson's railroad engine. There were that people would be blown to ; that the countryside would be on fire; that smoke would poison cows and pigs and hens.

### Have Confidence in Science

Thinking people today do not belittle the potential dangers from atomic power if mankind is foolish enough to use it for war. They are calm in their belief, however, that the dire consequences we hear about will not naturally follow so long as we place confidence in the men of science who developed it. Whether the atom will destroy us, or whether it will open a bright new future to mankind, depends to a considerable extent on whether mankind is willing to learn from, and apply in practice, all fields of science in the broadest sense.

### An Educational Challenge

The Extension Service, like the entire field of education, therefore, is confronted by a new challenge. It must help put science, each and every phase of science, to work for the common good. We in agriculture, as every other field of human activity, have worked closely and intimately with the physical and biological sciences. In these sciences we have made tremendous progress. As the new chapter begins, it is vital that we make similar progress in the everyday application of the more intangible, but equally important, fields of the social sciences. In this way we can bring about and enter into a new age of reason, rather than one of new and greater destruction. Certainly, a service that has done as much as has the Extension Service in helping people to organize the use of science for the benefit of mankind, should not shrink in fear and trembling, every time the atom is mentioned, just because it was first used as an instrument of destruction.

As we begin 1946, we realize that practical use of atomic power for running cream separators and washing machines still lies quite a few years ahead. But in the meantime there is much to be done. The public has a right to look to its educational institutions, including cooperative extension work, for leadership in making science the servant, not the destroyer of mankind.

### More Technology Not Less

We know now that the future holds for us more technology, not less. That more organization of human intelligence will be needed. That cooperation will be a greater virtue than ever before. So we see that extension work must continue to stress higher living standards through the demonstrated use of science. Extension work must make it a point to reach every segment of the rural population. Renewed efforts are needed to cement cooperation and the spirit of fellowship and neighborliness. We need to work closer with, not shy away from, farm organizations and other cooperating groups in those of their activities directed to attainment of higher living standards and community welfare. Conservation of the soil is as important as ever, atomic energy notwithstanding. We must continue to emphasize development of policies through democratic means. We must recognize the place of youth and their part in shaping the future. We must use and apply as a yardstick to our own efforts scientific research methods in appraising methods and results used in extension work. We must constantly aim for professional improvement.

These are the things to keep in mind as we prepare our plans and programs for the coming year. In the Bankhead-Flannagan Act Congress has given recognition to the importance of cooperative extension work as an essential element of our present and future rural life. It has also given us a charter of assignments, covering, in a broad way, the activities along the lines I have mentioned.

Ten thousand cooperative extension workers are beginning a new chapter. It is the chapter dealing with an age of intensified use of technology on the one hand, and, we hope, an age of greater blessing and happiness throughout the world.

Canning peaches, 600 bushels of them, were delivered to 15 communities in Plymouth County, Conn., by cooperative buying from a wholesaler under the leadership of Dorcas Mason, home demonstration agent. Similar pooling of orders was successfully done for asparagus, 2,000 crates having been delivered by one Connecticut Valley grower.

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# Year of victory—1945

■ Looking back on 1945—the year of victory—let us draw up in informal fashion an outline of what extension workers did during the year. Of first importance was the job of helping farmers to maintain top production. As in previous war years, the filling of the farm manpower barrel with the needed number of workers was a problem of top urgency. That these manpower needs were met is shown in the following account of labor placements:

### Farm Labor

One million more farm placements were made in 1945 than in 1944. Movement of labor to where it was needed was carried on with military precision.

Figures for the first 10 months of 1945 show that 5,725,726 placements were made as compared with 4,627,673 for the 10 months of the previous year. Placement of men seasonal workers increased from 2,663,921 for the first 10 months of 1944 to 4,800,867 for the first 10 months of 1945.

Placements of returned veterans as hired help, share croppers, and tenants rose from 513 placed in January of 1945 to 5,907 placed in October 1945, the total for the 10 months in 1945 being 24,155. These figures do not include men going back to their own farms or to the farms of relatives.

In the placement of men year-round workers the total for the first 10 months in 1945 was 153,872 as compared with 170,223 during the first 10 months of 1944. The total placement of women during the 10-month period in each year was 7,878 in 1944 and 9,555 in 1945.

The 1944 placement of women seasonal workers showed a decrease from 496,048 in the first 10 months of 1945 to 589,586 in the first 10 months of 1944. There were 1,039,873 youth seasonal workers placed in the first 10 months of 1945 as compared to 1,177,428 in the first 10 months of 1944. Total seasonal workers, men, women, and youth, placed in the first 10 months of 1945 totaled 5,544,788 compared to 4,430,955 for the first 10 months of 1944. Year-round placements of men, women, and youth for the first 10 months of 1945 totaled 180,938 as compared with 196,718 in the first 10 months of 1944.

In all its various aspects, efficiency on the farm and in the farm home was stressed by extension workers throughout the year: job instruction for emergency farm workers; farm machinery repair clinics; farm safety; fire prevention; the 8-point dairy program. All these helped to make possible the smooth functioning of the greatest agricultural enterprise in the world—America's 6 million farms.

### Youth

The 4-H "Feed a Fighter" program helped galvanize the productive efforts of the 1,700,000 members of 4-H Clubs. At Chicago, in December, delegates to the National 4-H Club Congress took a quick look at their wartime accomplishments and then set their course postwarwise.

Cooperative Extension's efforts to serve all farm people were strengthened by the establishment, in a number of States, of State Extension rural youth committees. A majority of the States gave more emphasis to youth programs than in any previous year.

### Veterans

By VE-day, Veterans' County Agricultural Advisory Committees had been established in practically all agricultural counties. These hard-headed but sympathetic committees have already proved of direct benefit to the veteran who is headed back to the land.

### Legislative

Passage of the Bankhead-Flannagan Act, amending the extension section of the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935, makes possible the further development of cooperative extension work, particularly county phases—agricultural, 4-H, home demonstration, and older rural youth.

### Anti-inflation

Throughout the year Cooperative Extension continued its educational activities in the anti-inflation campaign. Land-appraisal clinics proved to be a highly useful teaching device in realistically looking at the earning power of the land from a long-time rather than a short-time view.

The OPA leaflet, Protecting the Farmer's Dollars, outlining the ceiling price program on equipment and other things farmers buy, was ordered in hundreds of thousands of copies by State Extension Services for redistribution to farmers.

### Victory Gardens and Home Food Preservation

Victory gardens and home food-preservation programs drew heavily upon the time and energy of extension workers. Through press, radio, leaflets, and direct contact, city and townspeople, as well as those in the country, were given information on how and what to grow. In homes and in community canning centers billions of jars of fruits, vegetables, and other foods were put up. Nutrition's basic seven became a living reality in thousands of households. The city gardener understood better than ever some of the problems of the farmer—the battle against unfavorable weather, harmful insects, and the vagaries of growing things from seed planting to harvest.

### Good Neighbors

The wide scope of Cooperative Extension's educational endeavors [illegible] ally brings the world to the [illegible] people of this country: Through [illegible] Extension Services farm people [illegible] given the facts on the Dumbar[illegible] Oaks proposals that led up to the San Francisco Conference; they had background information on the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that was established at Quebec; they knew about and some of them took direct part in the foreign student training program.

Extension workers aggressively helped to promote the purchase of war and Victory bonds in rural America. In the closing months of the year, documentary films from the Treasury Department in support of the Victory Loan Drive were being shown in rural communities throughout the Nation.

The fat salvage campaign in rural areas was also assigned to Extension. Used fats flowed from the farm kitchen to the war machine and after VJ-day to the reconversion machine in millions of pounds.

Thus ends 1945—a year of war [illegible] which culminated in the victory [illegible] brought us face to face with the [illegible] problems of peace.

# Whither, rural youth?

■ With travel and time restrictions gone with the war, rural youth groups are being organized or revived at such a rapid rate that prewar strength will soon be surpassed.

No freak development, the rapid reconversion has been made possible through the persistent survey and study of organizational problems and programs of rural youth by Federal and State extension workers throughout the war years.

Extension rural youth committees, functioning in national, State, and county offices, have developed suggestions and recommendations the adoption of which has helped accelerate the activities now under way.

Some of the more significant recommendations generally adopted include the establishment of a State youth committee composed of representatives of all phases of extension work, designation of one person to have full responsibility for development or expansion of a youth program, and participation by youth in the development of their own programs.

Accompanying the resurgence of youth groups has been greater interest in expanding the organizations beyond community and county lines and increased emphasis on the responsibilities of youth in the local and world community.

### State Federations Formed

Evidence of wider horizons is the strong trend toward organization of State youth councils or State federations of youth groups. During the last quarter of 1945, State councils or federations were formed in New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, and Connecticut.

As a hopeful witness of this development, Martin Annexstad, president of Minnesota's long-established State Rural Youth Council, suggests that a regional federation of State executive committees be considered as a future goal.

A trend giving promise of greater community progress in the near and far-distant future is the recognition and acceptance of civic responsibilities.

In New York, the new State organization pointed to the necessity of youth's assistance in developing future rural policy. In addition, the group agreed to take a hand in improving marketing, distribution, and use of farm products, nutrition, and rural health services.

The Young Farmers of New Hampshire, organized in November 1945, listed as one of their major objectives the acceptance of responsibility in community affairs, especially in more active participation in town and other government.

Similar concern for better civic administration was indicated by Minnesota's Rice County Rural Youth Group. Their plan of action was to tour their local courthouse to study the activities and duties of county officers.

### Executive Group in Minnesota

And typical of the attitude of youth groups toward returning veterans and war workers is that of Minnesota's Rural Youth Executive Group. Believing, no doubt, that the preservation of peace begins at home, they are urging that one of the first activities by local groups in 1946 be the organization of a hospitality committee for returning veterans and war workers.

Encouragement of 4-H Club work is the objective of the Jasper County (Ind.) Rural Youth Group. In 1945 they offered an award to the best 4-H Club girl demonstrator in the county, and in 1946 will offer awards for both the best girl and best boy demonstrator.

Sponsorship of a summer evening school by Minnesota's Fillmore County group and publication of the Service Newsette for boys in the service by Ohio's Tuscarawas County group are other examples of civic or service activities.

### Interest in Public Problems

Increasing interest in public problems is indicated by the selection of such study topics as reconversion problems, postwar agriculture, international cooperation, and culture and customs of other countries.

As for recreation, emphasis is still placed on the concept of re-creation, and camps, picnics, hikes, hay rides, wiener roasts, folk dances, dramatics, kittenball, and other sports continue to be the order of the day.

A broadside view of current trends the country over seems to indicate that now in the bud and rapidly coming to flower in the thinking of youth groups is the realization that it is responsibilities assumed and fulfilled—even more than privileges enjoyed—that make democracy click.

## It's tough to farm in city clothes

The Victory Clothing Collection is being made from January 7 to 31.

Henry J. Kaiser, national chairman of last spring's collection, is heading this collection for overseas relief. Local committees in some 7,800 communities throughout the Nation are endeavoring to collect 100 million serviceable used garments, and additional shoes and bedding.

Everything is needed—coats, suits, trousers, overalls, boots, and shoes tied securely together in pairs, work shirts, sweaters, skirts, and pajamas—anything wearable, household linens and quilts, too.

Overseas relief workers report that farmers are forced to do the work of their slaughtered draft animals, and are without shoes as they travel the rough, rubble-strewn roads and fields. Hundreds of thousands of them are dressed little better than the scarecrows in our fields. There is a desperate need for heavy shoes and warm clothing for farm families who till the "scorched earth" and landmined acres. There is also need for lightweight clothing for the Philippines—yard goods, summer clothing, shoes.

America's spring cleaning of 1945 was done in answer to the plea "What can you spare that they can wear?" It yielded clothing enough to share with 25 million of our ragged friends in 28 countries overseas. UNRRA and other relief agencies report that this is only a small percentage of the destitute, homeless and looted people who desperately need clothing. To help relieve them, our allies, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand have been conducting clothing collections, and President Truman has announced the need justifies another appeal to the people of the United States.

# Young farmers accept community responsibility

■ The Young Farmers of New Hampshire recognized the need for more active participation in town and other government at their Statewide meeting in Laconia in November. Hampshire agriculture in an intelligent and broad-minded way.

Programs for the coming year will be built around farm problems, but the larger national issues will not be forgotten. Mutual problem clinics will take up specific things, meetings will be held on poor farms where concrete suggestions can be made for improvement, as well as on good farms.

It is hoped that the program can be broadened to include young women as well as young men. In some cases, this will be done with special meetings held at the same time the men meet, followed by a recreation hour; in others, general meetings will be held on rural health, better nutrition, education including better schools for the community, and recreational problems.

Norman Whippen of the State Extension staff, who directs the New Hampshire Young Farmers Clubs, discusses plans with Irving Livingston, who farms 200 acres.

### Better Training Practices

But through the whole program, the young farmers will not take their eyes from the main objective—better farming practices. The year's plan includes talks and demonstrations on better use of land, on new machinery, labor-saving devices, and cooperative undertakings.

The Young Farmers of the State accepted the challenge offered them by Director Henry Bailey Stevens when, in his address of welcome at the Laconia meeting, he said: "You are the young men who before many years will be carrying on New Hampshire agriculture. You will be the taxpayers deciding community policies and determining what rural life will be. The type and caliber of the population in the countryside depends on you."

A special committee on community responsibility recommended studying town warrants, attendance at legislative and other hearings, and running for office, both town and State. Discussion groups where community problems could be considered were proposed. "We feel," the committee reported, "that the young farmer has a responsibility in community affairs. Unless he devotes some of his time to local organizations, the community will suffer. He should take leadership if he can possibly do it; but if he doesn't, his attitude alone will do much to influence the growth and development of local organizations."

Following two years of local and regional meetings during the war, the young farmers decided on a formal organization. Although the character of the organization is not yet determined, it is clear that they intend to approach the problems of New

Some of the young New Hampshire farmers who meet regularly to find ways of meeting their problems cooperatively and intelligently.

# South Carolina develops egg markets

J. M. ELEAZER, Extension Information Specialist, South Carolina

■ Although South Carolina is not in a large commercial egg-producing area, it has had a perennial problem with its brief surplus of eggs each spring.

With no existing facilities for removing this surplus, as it grew along with general diversification and live-at-home programs on the farms, it grew more and more acute along through the years until eggs would hardly sell at all during the flush egg season.

All of this has vastly changed in recent years.

The carlot shipment of chickens that county agents started from the State about 20 years ago brought more confidence in chickens, and this accentuated the egg surplus. Combination movements of eggs and poultry, first by car and then by truck, from rural areas constituted the first commercial movement of the spring surplus of eggs.

### State Needed Volume

But this proved far from adequate. It was felt that what the State needed was an established egg business here in our midst that would take all eggs that came at the market price. But it took volume to support any such outlet. The great increase in poultry incident to the present war gave us the volume that such a system needed to make it feasible. W. A. Tuten was employed as assistant extension marketing specialist in 1941 to help with marketing work, and especially egg and poultry marketing.

In the spring of 1942 Mr. Tuten took over this work and assisted in setting up three egg-grading stations, at Greenwood, Newberry, and Rock Hill, respectively. The Agricultural Marketing Administration came in to support the price; and 143,460 dozen eggs were marketed through this channel at an average price of 29.5 cents per dozen, all of which were on a wholesale graded basis.

In 1943 the Government was slow in announcing a support price program. As a result, the price of eggs went down as low as 20 cents per dozen in some sections by February 1. Immediate relief was necessary, so Mr. Tuten organized a truck pick-up service and piloted several trucks to all parts of the State and picked up eggs that had been assembled by farm and home agents and egg dealers. A total of 536,857 dozen eggs were moved to a dehydration plant in North Carolina where they were processed for the armed forces. Forty counties participated in the movement of this surplus, at an average price of 32.5 cents per dozen.

### Egg-Grading Schools Held

This arrangement offered nothing permanent, so Mr. Tuten conducted 16 egg-grading schools in various sections of the State and trained approximately 150 people to candle and grade eggs according to U. S. Department of Agriculture requirements for consumer grades. This step proved to be very much worth while and created quite a bit of interest among the various egg dealers in the State. As a result, we now have eight Federal-State grading stations operating.

In 1944, 1,109,167 dozen eggs were thus assembled in 36 counties of the State, and they averaged 33.5 cents during the usual cheap egg season. WFA was again ready to support the market last year but had to take very few, as the market for graded eggs stayed above the support price and producers did not have to take advantage of that protection.

Mr. Tuten feels that South Carolina has really got somewhere with its egg marketing since large-scale outlets have developed at points all over the State. We did not have this a few years ago. He attributes this progress to the standardization program that is being followed, which makes eggs a merchantable product. It includes proper candling, grading, packing, storing, and handling of the eggs.

Dixie-Home Stores have installed up-to-date grading equipment for rapid and large-scale handling of eggs at their headquarters in Greenville. Swift and Company are now equipped to handle eggs at their plants in Spartanburg, Columbia, Greenville, Anderson, and Charleston. Armour has done likewise at Greenville. The Greenwood Cooperative is equipped to buy and store eggs in large volume.

All of these grading stations operate strictly on a Government graded basis and have licensed government egg graders that were trained by Mr. Tuten and are under his supervision. All eggs handled by these grading stations are candled, graded, and packed according to size and quality.

In addition to the above-mentioned facilities, Swift and Company's branch house at Spartanburg has installed a breaking room and a processing room. In the breaking room, all off-grade, small, soiled and cracked eggs are broken and quick-frozen. The processing room has equipment and facilities for treating the egg shells with hot oil which greatly increases their keeping quality.

So, all in all, South Carolina has passed another milestone on her way to diversified farming. For, as Director D. W. Watkins says: "Marketing is of prime importance, as we will not get far with a product until it can see its way to the consumer with adequate marketing arrangements. And we can't develop markets," he continues, "until there is some volume to support them. You have that inevitable gap there between small volume and adequate volume that makes marketing difficult. After we get over that bump and there is considerable volume, marketing becomes a more practical problem."

## 4-H Club works at conservation

The Lebanon Club in the Dolores soil-conservation district of Colorado won first prize on its booth at the 4-H achievement day. The club made 15 concrete turn-out boxes which it sold to farmers in the irrigation section. The chairman of the board of supervisors donated $1,000 to the Dolores district for use in developing conservation with the 4-H Clubs. Next year 4-H Club members in that area will establish conservation practices on the land in connection with a calf-, pig-, or lamb-feeding project.

# Can the community act to meet vital problems

**One session of the West Virginia annual extension conference was given over to discussion of the conservation and development of the State's rural communities. County Agent W. N. McClung presented the subject with this thought-provoking list of problems:**

■ Which one of us has not scheduled a meeting at some point in our county with the idea of "killing two birds with one stone" only to find that the meeting just didn't click?

The people either didn't attend, or the interest was half-hearted; whereas when we held two meetings at two adjacent points in the same area the results were much better. Later on perhaps we found that some national, religious, or other differences were responsible for our failure.

It is important that we find and recognize the factors which led to the establishment of a community when we set out to plan the extension program for our county.

If we do not do this, we shall probably find ourselves working against odds which will cause much of our effort to be almost or entirely lost.

### Job of Teaching

We in extension work are vested with the job of teaching. It is obvious that we cannot do all the teaching ourselves. Our numbers are too few and the things to be taught too many. We must have help to get the teaching job done. Our best help in doing this teaching will be found among the people we are supposed to teach, namely, the farm people themselves. In spite of improved transportation, rural telephones, rural electrification, and the enlarged trading areas, we shall still find that much of our most effective teaching will be done by local folks farm men and women, boys and girls, who are, by the very nature of their location, thrown in contact with each other at frequent intervals.

We may find that different communities have different hopes and ambitions for themselves and their families—different standards of life, if you please—with which they seem to be satisfied.

Shall we try to mold all communities to the same pattern, or shall we study each community and start with it where it is and build from there?

The problem of creating a desire for things they do not now possess may be our first big job in many of the more backward West Virginia communities. Certainly the desire must come ahead of the joint action necessary for achievement.

It has been said that no community can rise above the average health level of the people living in it. Perhaps this will be the first problem.

### Rural Areas Need Physicians

Dr. Chapman, speaking at the West Virginia Farm Women's Conference at Jackson's Mill last August brought out these facts:

(*a*) "Before the war there was only one physician per 1,700 people in rural West Virginia. At least one physician per 1,000 people is considered necessary. Only about one-half enough physicians."

(*b*) "Physicians congregate in larger centers of population leaving many rural communities with little or no medical service available."

(*c*) "If all the people had their teeth properly fixed, we would need four times as many dentists as we now have. Thousands of otherwise physically fit young men were turned down for military service because of bad teeth."

"Only three counties in West Virginia have the minimum number of dentists recommended."

(*d*) "Hospital facilities are far below the absolute minimum needed for reasonable care. There are 5,621 hospital beds in West Virginia for a little less than 2 million people, or about 3 beds per 1,000 people. Thirty-five counties have fewer beds than are recommended. One-half of our counties have no general hospital at all."

(*e*) "Local health departments are woefully understaffed or do not exist. We need 34 more full-time qualified health officers. There are only 28 full-time health nurses. We need at least 360. We have 6 health centers. The minimum number needed is 34."

With the prospective farm income for West Virginia being what it is, will our people ever be able to pay for adequate medical care or must we have more health services at public expense?

Will this matter of the health of our farm people require community action?

There is much discussion about returning service men and war workers, and many people feel it will have a profound, if not revolutionary effect upon the rural community as we have known it. Will these returning members of the community be satisfied with conditions in the community as they left them? Or will they insist that something be done about the problems, and will they be willing to help bring these changes about?

Are the schools and churches meeting the needs of our farm people? Of the rural farm population, 3.9 percent had no schooling and 16.2 percent had less than fifth-grade education, according to 1940 census figures for West Virginia.

Shall we have further consolidation of schools into larger and larger units, or will our people still want the school to be the center of the community, for public meetings and other activities which once centered around it? With improved transportation, shall we find a more modest consolidation—two- and four-room schools—desirable?

### Are Churches Losing Ground?

Our rural churches seem to be losing ground, by comparison, all the while. Will the rural church eventually become merely a place to hold Sunday school and find farm people driving to town for church services?

Will farm people have more time for recreation in the future than they have had in the past? Will they want much of their recreation to center in the community, or will they want to drive to town for the strictly commercial kind? Some students of community life have used the term "rural culture," in making reference to the activities which communities developed for themselves long before Extension and other outside influences ever appeared on the scene. Recrea-

tion of their own making was a part of this rural culture—square dances and hay rides are examples. Perhaps we should be wise to start with such forms of community recreation as we try to assist with the development of a satisfactory rural recreation program. But the big question for us is: Can a good recreation program be established for farm people without community action?

### Group Action Needed

Can rural electrification, roads, and telephones be provided generally in the West Virginia farm community without group action? When they do come to a community, will they tend to change the boundaries of the community, thereby unsetting many organizations, and make much community effort go for naught; or can the necessary adjustments be made so that more of our people can benefit from the changes?

The 1940 census for West Virginia says that 89.4 percent of the farm homes had no running water; 89.8 percent had no bathrooms; 92.5 percent had no toilet in the house; and, although the census did not say so, we know that a high percentage of these homes were not "pretty."

### Remodeling of Farm Homes

It is anticipated that many West Virginia farm families will install water and sanitary facilities in the next few years and that many farm homes will be remodeled.

Shall these improvements be made "hit-or-miss" fashion with each family working out its own plans, or can the services of a qualified specialist be had who can supply plans and specifications which will make for comfortable and convenient homes and which will also lend themselves to proper landscaping—homes which can be made pretty?

Can something be done to see that a good architectural plan is not ruined by a careless carpenter or contractor who says, "You don't want it that way," and the farm family thinks maybe he knows more than the architect who planned it?

Can this type of farm-housing program be carried out without community action?

All the problems mentioned so far as possible community problems have been those which cost money. We know that the farm income of the average farm family is too low to do many of these things as they would like to have them done. The 1940 census says that the average cash income per farm in West Virginia was $433. Not very many of the things we have mentioned can be had on an annual income of only $433 per family.

Certainly we cannot ignore the economic side of farming as a community activity and expect to get very far with the community improvements which cost money.

Our soil recources must be conserved and developed if farm incomes are to be maintained or increased.

### Increasing Farm Income

New types of farming and new crops have been brought to our attention as a promising means of increasing farm income in West Virginia.

I refer to such things as small fruits, cauliflower in Canaan Valley, and others with which you are familiar.

Are we safe in assuming, if such enterprises are developed, that they will bring many problems of production, harvesting, grading, and marketing which will require group action?

If these things, and many others which could increase farm incomes, are to become a reality, can they be accomplished without community action? In short, can we expect any material increase in the average farm income in West Virginia without group action?

We have probably all observed situations such as this: A farmer and his wife have done a splendid job of rearing a large family and building up a good farm and home with the help of the children. The children grow up and begin to scatter. One child wants to farm. He takes over the responsibility of operating and managing the farm—often on a share basis but without any definite eventual ownership plan. This goes on for years, with the soil, buildings, and herds increasing in value under his management.

By and by the parents die or drop out of the picture. A settlement with the other heirs becomes necessary, and differences of opinion and disputes arise as to values.

The final result is that the farm either is purchased by the operator at a much higher price than would have been the case when he started to operate it; or a "family row" ensues, and the estate is settled through sale, and the farm passes out of the family and into the hands of someone with no interest in the community.

We have few guideposts as to what would be a fair arrangement whereby the child who wants the farm could buy it when he starts to farm it and benefit by the increased value his efforts bring to it.

Is this a proper job for community action in the conservation and development of the West Virginia rural community?

Can it be done without conscious and concerted action?

We know that public opinion is the most powerful influence in our county and probably is in any democracy.

Shall we have need for a national "farmer opinion" in matters of national agricultural policies?

Can the economic adjustments in farming in the future, which will mean so much to the individual farmer's financial welfare and which need to be made very quickly, be made without a pretty good "national farmer opinion?"

Can this national opinion be arrived at without thorough discussions of policies at the community level?

### Developing Local Leadership

Can a community develop its local leadership by any better method than by thorough discussions on matters of policy all the way from the community level to the national level?

Is this an important activity for community action?

These are but a few of the many things which, it seems to us, the farm people might best accomplish by combining their efforts at the community level.

It is our opinion that we, as extension workers, would be wise in planning our programs accordingly.

■ DIRECTOR ARTHUR L. DEERING of Maine has been named as a member of the Committee of Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations which met in Quebec the last half of October.

# Fight against infantile paralysis

■ Infantile paralysis isn't choosy—farm children are just as susceptible to it as city children. That's why America's rural families have their own particular stake in the work of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, whose annual March of Dimes provides funds for skilled care and treatment of polio victims even in the remotest rural areas.

This year the March of Dimes will be conducted between January 14–31.

Once again, last year, poliomyelitis stalked our country. More than 13,000 cases were reported. Hardest hit were Tennessee, Utah, Illinois, Virginia, and New York. Epidemic struck at farm and city indiscriminately. The National Foundation disbursed more than $1,000,000 in emergency aid to epidemic areas, in fulfillment of its pledge that "no victim shall go untreated for lack of funds, regardless of age, race, creed or color."

"The idea that infantile paralysis is a city disease is a widespread misconception," declared the National Foundation. "Its presence in rural communities at a fairly high attack rate is explained by the fact that country children seldom acquire early immunity to communicable diseases.

"Rural children have fewer contacts than city children. They are not as likely to come in contact with the poliomyelitis virus, over a period of years, and thus build up immunity. When an epidemic comes, fewer country children are likely to resist it."

Records of the National Foundation show hundreds of epidemics in rural areas—none more graphic than the serious epidemic of 1944 in North Carolina. Polio struck in thinly-populated Catawba County and swept through the Catawba River Valley like a brush fire.

Only a miracle of organization—"The Miracle of Hickory"—saved the situation. Children were transported to a temporary hospital erected in 3 days. Physicians, nurses, physical therapists were rushed to the area. Behind that organization were the resources and experiences of the National Foundation, teamed with strong and willing men and women of the stricken countryside.

When polio hit Henderson County, Tenn., in the summer of 1945, the county chapters of the National Foundation transported patients from their homes to the nearest large hospital in Memphis, 70 miles or more away. Patients who required after-care were treated in their homes, if possible, or were taken to convalescent centers.

Cases often are reported in rural communities that have no hospitals, or none with proper facilities for the care of infantile paralysis. Today, such equipment as hot pack machines and wool and the services of skilled physical therapists are essential. Through the National Foundation rural patients can be brought to hospital centers, greatly increasing their chance of recovery.

Poliomyelitis is one of the most expensive diseases known to medicine. Not only must many victims of past epidemics receive continuing care, but each year's outbreaks add new names to the steadily growing list. Hospitalization for a single patient costs more than $2,500 a year. Some cases require continuing care for several years. Few families can meet the cost of extended polio treatment.

Eight years ago, the late Franklin D. Roosevelt created the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in fulfillment of a growing need for an organized fight against polio and a "General Staff" to direct that fight. Basil O'Connor, personal friend and former law partner of Mr. Roosevelt, has been the Foundation's president since its formation.

Before the National Foundation was launched, infantile paralysis was considered a "local affair." From the most isolated farm to the largest city, men, women, and children fought the disease with the inadequate resources then available.

Today a national network of local Foundation chapters stands ready to combat polio wherever it appears and to provide continuing care of patients from former outbreaks. Each chapter, wherever it may be, has the total backing of the national organization.

Epidemic action and epidemic aid are the more obvious and dramatic aspects of the National Foundation's work. Everyone who has come through a polio epidemic knows this part of the organization's work. But there is another less spectacular and less familiar aspect: Science.

The Foundation, in its 8-year history, has appropriated $7,673,113 for research and education. Under its grants, men of science in 41 universities, medical schools, and laboratories are seeking a preventive and possible cure for infantile paralysis.

Physicians, nurses, physical therapists, medical social workers and others are constantly being trained in modern methods of treating poliomyelitis and readjusting its victims to useful lives. A constant program of education is being carried on by means of booklets, leaflets, radio, movies, to bring the facts about polio to the families of America.

## Home demonstration club holds its members

Although members of the Brady Home Demonstration Club realized last January that they couldn't continue to hold regular meetings, they refused to disband. Nearly every member has gone to work outside her own home, but the president and secretary told Eutha Olds, Pulaski County, Ark., home demonstration agent: "Please continue to keep our club on the roll and send us all the material."

Miss Olds says the group meant what it said. They have held some night meetings—enough to keep the club organized. In November they reported the club had invested $375 in Victory bonds. The club owned 7 acres of land on which it has a clubhouse. This adjoins the school grounds. The money invested in bonds was from the sale of some of the acreage to the school district for the construction of additional buildings. The bonds will be used later to improve the clubhouse.

Now the members are beginning to return home. Miss Olds says they plan to start regular meetings soon.

# First FM educational network

■ With ending of the war, all fields of education, including cooperative extension work, will have new tools with which to do a better job.

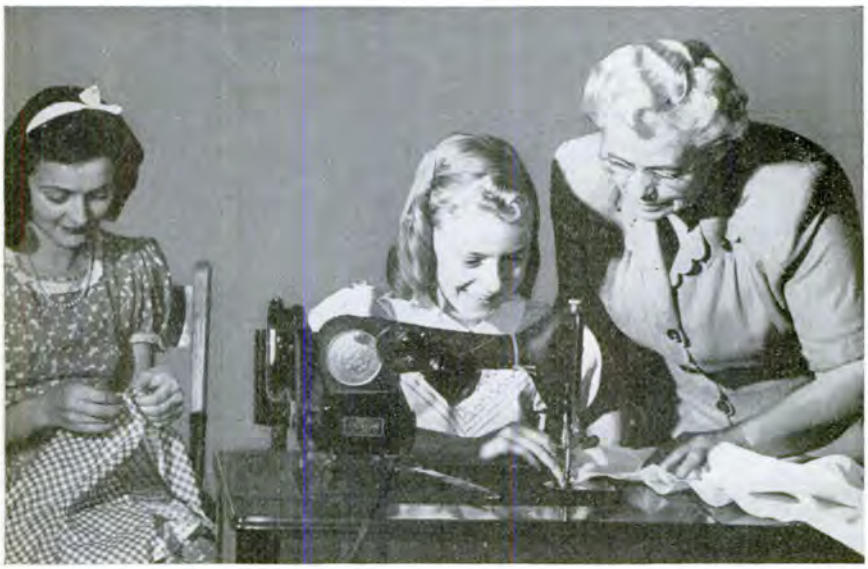
In radio alone there are a number of new opportunities which should make extension teaching easier and better. Among these is FM (frequency modulation) broadcasting. FM broadcasting is still in its infancy, about where radio broadcasting was in 1920. FCC (Federal Communications Commission) has not yet completed its hearings on the basis of which some important policy decisions will be made.

In the meanwhile, forward-looking educational institutions are busy planning their program with future developments in FM broadcasting in mind. Last summer, for instance, the legislature of the State of Wisconsin passed a law providing for a State Radio Council, a board of 11 members, representing the State University (which includes the Agricultural College and State Extension Service), the State Department of Public Instruction, the teachers' colleges, the State Board of Vocational and Adult Education, and the State Department of Agriculture, together with the Governor. This council supervises the university-owned radio station, WHA, which identifies itself as "the oldest station in the Nation," and is also authorized to establish the educational FM broadcasting system. Funds were also authorized for the construction and operation of the initial units of the State FM educational system.

Recently the Wisconsin State Radio Council announced that applications have been filed with the FCC for a 10-kilowatt transmitter to serve the Milwaukee and eastern lake shore area in the State, also for a 3-kilowatt station to be located on the university campus at Madison. Plans are also under way for additional units at various points in the State so that, eventually, complete day and night coverage can be had throughout the State. The executive director of the council, H. B. McCarty, says that "all stations will operate noncommercially in the presentation of educational public service programs."

These steps in Wisconsin probably represent only the beginning of similar actions in many States. Although it may be some years before FM facilities are available for extension use in some areas, FM broadcasting is definitely here as another tool for extension workers to keep their eyes on.

# She builds for the future



■ This picture and story of a valued leader of youth in Otero County, Colo., was contributed by County Agent E. G. Colette. For the past 10 years, Mrs. E. Herman Heatwole (right) has been leader of a 4–H clothing club with from 5 to 9 girls in each year's group. The girl at the sewing machine is a first-year girl, and the one at the left has completed 5 years of 4–H Club work and is now a junior leader of a second-year clothing group.

Mrs. Heatwole has devoted some 2,340 hours of her time to help the young girls of her community become better homemakers. She takes her work as a leader seriously and is really concerned when one of her members falls by the wayside and fails to complete her year's work. On the other hand, she has a feeling of pride and satisfaction when her club members do some outstanding work and are rewarded.

## 4-H health for better living

Ten members and two adult leaders from the Lyondale 4–H Club, Geary County, Kans., accompanied by one extension agent attended the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City as an award for being named first in the Kansas 4–H health for better living activity.

"We are highly pleased with the achievements of the 12 counties which entered the contest this first year," said Mary Elsie Border, assistant State 4–H Club leader.

"Some of the very constructive and interesting things that clubs throughout the State did in the interest of better health included rat-killing campaigns, water tests for club camps and communities, physical examinations and follow-ups for members, tests for tuberculosis, the showing of educational health films, and the giving of health demonstrations. One county bought a hospital bed for use in the community.

# Have you read

SEAMAN A. KNAPP, SCHOOLMASTER OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE. *Joseph Cannon Bailey.* 307 pp. Columbia University Press, New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ Through the formative years of our democracy, each generation was blessed with outstanding individuals whose leadership went beyond the period of time in which they lived. Seaman A. Knapp was such a leader. He is regarded by many as the most influential protagonist of scientific agriculture during the years falling roughly between the signing of the Land-Grant College Act and the Smith-Lever Act in 1914. As one who placed great faith in getting things done through cooperation and through allaying the inborn suspicion of practical farmers by appealing to their common sense, Knapp would probably deny claim to such a high honor. It is certain, however, that his influence was dominant through the greater part of that historic period in United States agriculture; and, on numerous occasions, it proved decisive.

In the daily routine of cooperative extension work, most of us have fallen into the habit of thinking and speaking of Seaman Knapp as a kind of patron saint of cooperative extension work. It is true that Knapp made a lasting contribution to the teaching profession through his introduction of the demonstration method. But the mistake too many of us have frequently made is to attribute Knapps leadership solely to his pioneering in demonstration work. Enough time has passed for a true evaluation of Knapp's contributions, not only as educator but as agricultural leader.

We find such an evaluation in Joseph Cannon Bailey's new book on Seaman A. Knapp. Dr. Bailey's book goes far beyond Knapp's leadership in extension work. It begins with Knapp's youth on a frontier farm in New York State, where the boy received the benefits of growing up in a large family of rugged, independent, adventure-seeking Puritan forebears. For the first time we learn many previously unpublished personal details about Knapp, obtained from members of his family and from his letters and papers. These personal glimpses are combined with phases of Knapp's career such as his early education; the accident which forced him to give up teaching for a while and go farming in Iowa; his interest in promoting purebred livestock; his promotional genius, business activities, and leadership in agricultural journalism; his trips abroad to obtain improved seeds; and his USDA connections predating his cotton-boll weevil control program. Many other documented materials outlining personal philosophies and official actions help to introduce a far more influential Seaman Knapp than the secondary title—Schoolmaster of American Agriculture—implies. No previous literature on Seaman Knapp has quite succeeded in bringing together such a comprehensive set of details about Knapp, who stands out in this text as a truly great leader in agriculture.

Naturally, I recommend the reading of the book to every professional extension worker and to the staffs of our land-grant colleges. But I also hope that interest in the book will extend beyond the purely professional level. The book is so written that it will be interesting reading to many rural lay readers. It should also serve as an inspiration to students in our agricultural colleges, students of history, and all those who see in science and its practical application to farming the answer to the problem of finding a way toward insuring an ever-advancing standard of rural living.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

IF THE PROSPECT PLEASES. *Ladd Haystead.* University of Oklahoma Press, 1945.

■ This book is one man's interpretation of the West and of the West's postwar opportunities. Only a westerner could have written it. The author pays tribute to the man who first launched him on an agricultural writer's career, County Agent J. E. Shinn of Spokane "who used to give a chore boy a great holiday once a month by taking the youngster on a day's tour of farms, the while the kindly agent taught the rudiments of agriculture which were later to help him make a living." The book pictures, in easily read style, the West's historic past; its breeziness; its opportunities and future for those, especially among veterans, who like the democratic and progressive way of life. Although the book makes certain assumptions with which some of us who are westerners don't agree, it offers an evening's entertaining reading.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

## 4-H Clubs grow certified seed sweetpotatoes

Georgia 4–H Club members staged the State's first show of certified seed sweetpotatoes in connection with the State 4–H Club Congress in Atlanta. 4–H members from the 16 counties engaged in the sweetpotato demonstration project competed for two free trips to the sweetpotato areas of Louisiana and $60 in cash awards.

Objective of the 4–H sweetpotato project is to demonstrate by practical application the way to produce high-quality certified seed sweetpotatoes and plants. About 1 million plants were removed from the 51 hotbeds at bedding time, and it is estimated that 15,000 bushels of seed potatoes will be produced this year by the 54 4–H members participating in the project.

The 4–H member agrees to grow the sweetpotato plants in artificially heated hotbeds—either electric- or flue-heated—and to follow recommended cultural and handling practices to insure top quality. He also agrees to return to the sponsor for use in expanding the project twice the amount of the same grade seed potatoes he receives.

The potatoes were auctioned off in grade lots. Buyers from three of the larger chain store organizations operating in Atlanta participated in the auction. The contest was sponsored by the Extension Service in cooperation with a chain-store organization.

# Books via post

■ Not unlike the well-known story of Mahomet and the mountain, the Department of Child Development and Family Relationships at Cornell College of Home Economics yearly brings its library to thousands of persons in New York State who are unable to obtain the volumes otherwise.

With the aid of the U. S. Post Office, a loan library of nearly 1,000 volumes is circulated to interested persons throughout the Empire State.

It all started back in the depression when a great many libraries were unable to add the new and specialized books on family relations subjects to their stacks. So a loan library of these volumes was established for the entire State. Any New York resident may borrow one or more of the books for 8 weeks, simply by paying the postage for shipping.

Best customers of the loan library are the extension discussion groups and study clubs. These groups, organized by county extension officials at the request of local residents, receive assistance from extension specialists and staff of the Cornell Department of Child Development and Family Relationships.

The study clubs schedule 10 to 14 meetings a year to consider various age groups and their needs. The discussion groups take up special studies in child development or family relationships. Last year 24 New York counties organized 310 discussion groups and study clubs enrolling more than 5,000 persons.

The extension collection supplements the State traveling library in Albany and local libraries. Not only "life with father" but life with every other member of the family, plus practically every possible problem of family relationships are treated in the collection of nearly 1,000 volumes.

Included in the extension loan library are several books written by members of the Cornell faculty: Helping Children Learn, by Ethel Waring and Marguerite Johnson; It's a Wise Parent, by Russel and Mollie Smart; Management in Homes, by Ella Cushman; Feeding Babies and Their Families, by Helen Monsch and Marguerite Harper; Living Together in the Family, by Lemo Dennis Rockwood, and Pictures of Family Life, by Dr. Rockwood. Another book by Dr. Rockwood and Mary Ford, Youth, Marriage, and Parenthood, came off the press last month.

Among the most-requested volumes in the collection are The Parents' Manual, by Anna Wolf; Bonaro Overstreet's Brave Enough for Life, and Your Child's Development and Guidance, by Lois Meek. Reflecting current trends, Soldier to Civilian, by George Pratt, and From Many Lands, by Louis Adamic, are also gaining popularity.

# Broadcasting the results

■ C. W. Jackson, assistant extension editor (radio) in Texas, interviews Abe Young, center, and F. D. Roland, Negro county agricultural agent of Harrison County, right, about Young's tree farm demonstration. Young has planted some 5,000 pine seedlings on an old worn-out Harrison County farm as part of his forestry and soil conservation program. The trees are thriving and are protected from fire. Young follows the recommendations of Roland and receives much assistance from the Texas Forest Service in promoting his demonstration.

Jackson is in charge of the Texas Farm and Home Program which broadcasts each weekday morning from Texas A. and M. College. The program celebrated its seventeenth birthday November 8.

■ Sixteen members of the home demonstration clubs in Fremont County, Colo., got together recently at the high school cafeteria and packed 164 cans of food for shipment overseas to the hungry in war-torn countries, according to Lucille Nelson, home demonstration agent for Fremont and Custer Counties. The beets, carrots, corn, peaches, and apples were all donated.

Florence, Colo., women did their bit, nine women making 40 gallons of sauerkraut which they canned later.

The food that was preserved in those 2 days will soon be on its way to hungry peoples on the European continent. It is a symbol of what small groups can do to help other people in the world who are not as fortunate.

# 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.**

### Cotton Tire Cords Can Take It

■ Research on tire-cord materials was started early in the war with the object of providing the armed forces with the most dependable tires that could be produced. The Southern Regional Research Laboratory of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry at New Orleans was one of the research groups working to improve cotton cord. To develop a cord that would be satisfactory for use with synthetic rubber, laboratory scientists first investigated what is known as low-gage cotton cord, which they believed would outwear and outrun the larger or high-gage cord that had been in use for many years. Then they selected certain commercially available varieties of cotton from which they believed better cord could be made. The first experimental tires were for trucks, made with 90 percent synthetic and 10 percent natural rubber. They were officially tested at the Army ordnance tire-testing grounds at San Antonio, Tex.

All tires tested satisfactory results, but those made with cord from improved varieties gave higher mileage and had better resistance to rocks and other obstacles than those of standard cotton cord. Tires made with cotton of the Stoneville variety were roughly 20 percent better than the standard cord; those of SXP cotton, 75 percent better; and those made from Wilds cotton, 132 percent better. These tests were made in 1943. Tests made in the summer and fall of 1944 showed that rayon and the improved cotton cord performed better in light-truck tires than standard cotton cord. In passenger car tests, in which no rayon cords were tested, both standard and improved cotton cords gave entirely satisfactory performance. With one recapping, both standard and improved cords ran a total of 68,000 miles and were still in good enough condition for another recapping. Thus the standard as well as the improved cotton cord was shown to be entirely adequate for high-speed passenger-car driving.

### How 2,4-D Kills Weeds

■ Ever since the weed-killing effect of 2,4-D was established, there has been speculation about how it does it. At first it was thought that the chemical, originally used as a plant-growth regulator, made the weeds "grow themselves to death." Experiments at the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Md., however, have shown that, on the contrary, the weeds stop growing after application of 2,4-D, and their roots and tops soon shrivel and die. The reason is that the plants' food reserves are depleted or burned up by the action of the chemical. Annual morning glory root reserves, for example, are depleted to almost nothing in 2 weeks after treatment, and the thick roots of dandelion become soft in about 3 weeks. Within 2 months the whole dandelion plant has disintegrated.

It may seem strange that a substance that was first used to stimulate production of roots and setting of fruit should also be a killer of plants. One explanation is that as a growth regulator 2,4-D is used in concentrations of only 5 to 10 parts per million, whereas for its lethal role the standard mixture contains 1,000 parts per million, or 0.1 percent.

### Large-Scale Returns

■ Practical returns from research may be slow in materializing but a successful project can repay its cost a thousandfold or more. In addition, returns in improved human health and advancement of scientific knowledge may be incalculable. Five outstanding research projects that took 4 to 5 years of study at an annual cost for salaries and expenses of $2,000 to $16,000 to produce results are paying off in the millions every year, and these benefits will continue into the future, while the expense of the research is ended. These five accomplishments, described in the Research Achievement Sheet series of the ARA, were the research on cattle tick fever, the development of hog cholera serum, the discovery of phenothiazine to control internal parasites of livestock, the establishments of optimum conditions for incubating eggs, and the studies of trichinosis and establishment of methods of protecting men against it. Many of the other research accomplishments described in the Achievement Sheets, which now number 49, have been as beneficial to farmers and to the public as these five.

### Better Vegetables for North and South

■ The first of a series of publications on the nine Bankhead-Jones regional laboratories came off the press in October. Breeding Better Vegetables for the South at the U. S. Regional Vegetable Breeding Laboratory, Miscellaneous Publication 578, describes the research program and results to date at the laboratory near Charleston, S. C. Work is being done on snap beans, cabbage, tomatoes, sweet corn, peas, carrots, lima beans, asparagus, and watermelon to find new varieties better adapted to conditions in the Southeastern States and more resistant to the prevalent diseases than present varieties. The wide use of such improved stock would increase yields and benefit consumers both in the region itself and in the States to the north, where the markets are supplied out of season from the Southeastern States.

The other Bankhead-Jones laboratories to be covered in this series of Miscellaneous Publications are: The Regional Pasture Research Laboratory, State College, Pa. (publication now in press); Soybean Laboratory, Urbana, Ill.; Swine Breeding Laboratory, Ames, Iowa; Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory, Dubois, Idaho; Animal Disease Research Laboratory, Auburn, Ala.; Salinity Laboratory, Riverside, Calif.; and the Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory, Ithaca, N. Y.

# Among Ourselves

■ CHARLES L. CHAMBERS, agriculturist of the Federal Extension Service, died in Washington, D. C., November 24. Mr. Chambers had been with the Department of Agriculture for nearly 30 years.

A native of Birmingham, Ala., Mr. Chambers was graduated with a B. S. degree from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute in 1908. He was in charge of the agricultural department of the Louisiana Industrial Institute at Ruston, La., for 6 years, after which time he was livestock club specialist for the State of Oklahoma. Mr. Chambers first came to the Department of Agriculture in 1915 as agent in animal hubandry, and in 1917 came to the Extension Service as assistant in boys' club work in the Southern States. In 1923 he accompanied three club members from Montgomery County, Md., to the International Stock Show in England to judge livestock exhibits, and the boys won gold cups.

After working with the boys 4–H Clubs for many years, Mr. Chambers was director of field agents in the Southern States with headquarters at the Washington office for several years, and in recent years served as principal agriculturist in Director M. L. Wilson's office.

■ MAJOR EARL HAAS, district 4–H Club agent for Kent, Allegan, Ottawa, and Barry Counties, Mich., from January 1937 until he entered the service in 1941, was one of a group of American officers who conferred with Major General Sumi, chief of staff of southern Luzon forces, to demand their surrender within 9 days.

Major Haas and the other officers were lowered by ropes into a precipitous mountain valley to meet the Japanese envoys at the appointed place 22 miles from Manila. They maintained contact with headquarters by signaling with a battle flag. Major Haas was one of the three officers who carried firearms. The conference was held in a bamboo shelter built by the Japanese, and the party was served American C rations and Japanese tea.

■ ROBERT W. MOORE, Tennessee State supervisor of the extension farm labor program, was named assistant director in charge of county agent work. He succeeds H. S. Nichols who died October 22.

Mr. Moore has been closely associated with extension work since his graduation from the U-T College of Agriculture in 1915. As a large farm operator in Hardeman County he worked closely with the county agents and was a leader in agricultural development in that area. From 1935 to 1942 he was district supervisor for the Farm Security Administration in west Tennessee. Since that time he has had charge of the extension war emergency farm labor program. He still has his farming interests in Hardeman County, and practical experience in farming coupled with years of close association with extension work qualifies him for valuable service to the State as leader of county agent work, Dean Brehm stated.

■ J. H. McLeod, assistant director, has been appointed vice director of the Tennessee Extension Service.

He will have general administrative supervision over all agricultural extension activities under the director, C. E. Brehm, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of extension, said in announcing the appointment.

Mr. McLeod has been associated with the Tennessee Extension Service since 1921, when he first joined the staff as swine specialist. In 1934 he became head of the farm management department and in 1936 was appointed assistant director in charge of specialist activities and program planning. Before coming to Tennessee he did extension work in Texas and Arkansas.

His work in agricultural economics and program planning has gained wide recognition, not only in Tennessee but throughout the South. Because of his long association with extension work and his broad knowledge of agricultural conditions in the State, he will be in position to render a wide service to farm people in his new capacity with the Extension Service, Dean Brehm said.

■ RECOGNITION OF 25 YEARS' SERVICE as 4–H Club leader in Chenango County, N. Y., came to Harry Case on November 27 when Mayor of Norwich, James W. Flanagan, recently proclaimed "Harry Case Day." Highlighting the event was a 4–H Anniversary Reception at the Norwich Club, sponsored by the banks and rural organizations in the county. Among the special guests paying tribute to Mr. Case were R. A. Turner, senior agriculturist, Federal Extension Service, and Albert Hoefer, State 4–H Club leader.

It is worthy of note that Harry Case has developed the largest number of achievement club winners of any county in the United States. Every national 4–H contest has included representative judging and demonstration teams from Chenango County.

In his official proclamation, Mayor Flanagan said, "Mr. Case has contributed much to Norwich and Chenango County during this quarter of a century of leadership. Some 10,000 rural youths have come under his influence in 4–H work and many of them are now among our finest rural leaders.

# Carnival Christmas meeting is popular

■ For 15 years, county-wide Christmas Idea Day has been an annual event in the Whatcom County (Wash.) Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, when not only ideas for making Christmas gifts but a variety of ways to make this season an especially enjoyable one were exchanged. A unique plan was worked out last year that not only saved the home demonstration agent a lot of headaches but gave a day of special enjoyment and instruction to every one of the 117 women attending.

There were two big reasons for its success. It was planned beforehand to the last detail, and the motto was: "It can succeed only if you do your part."

In the meeting of the presidents of home demonstration clubs in September, plans were made for the Christmas meeting. These plans included a display by each club of home-made articles suitable for Christmas gifts. Nothing was to be included that could not be made because of lack of commercial materials. Directions for making any articles that could not be made without directions were to be sent to the county extension office 1 week in advance so that mimeographed copies could be prepared to give out.

Next, Isla Whitchurch, the assistant home demonstration agent, who was acting home demonstration agent at that time, sent a letter to each club with information about the noonday lunch. Each club attending was asked to bring a salad and main dish with a Christmas garnish, and a sugar-saving dessert accompanied by the recipe. One club was asked to make the coffee for the entire crowd. The meeting was held in the spacious YWCA club rooms, and the Y's dishes were used.

Miss Whitchurch got five women to give demonstrations for making Christmas gifts and before the meeting spent some time helping them to organize their demonstrations.

The big Christmas meeting was held at the beginning of November. The YWCA room was arranged in carnival style. Six booths were set up with chairs round them for the six demonstrations. Display tables were arranged about the room. From 10:30 to 11:00 a. m., the women from the various clubs set up their displays and examined the others. Then the demonstrations began, all six at the same time. Women would gather round one, watch it until they had learned what they wanted to, and then proceed to the next one. As the same six were to be given again after lunch, the women did not try to see more than three during the morning.

The demonstrations included stenciling on cloth, splatter-printing Christmas cards, making Christmas centerpieces, wrapping gifts, and making purses and bags. Miss Whitchurch demonstrated making plaster-of-paris pins and plaques.

Three of the demonstrators found it necessary to repeat their demonstrations about twice during the morning session, though the demonstrations of Christmas cards, wrapping gifts, and making centerpieces were continuous, since one could learn by watching during any part. The women seem intrigued by the "carnival style" procedure.

Just before lunch, tables were arranged with all desserts in one group, salads in another, and main dishes together, making a really beautiful display. Many of the women were busy with pencil and paper writing down suggestions; in fact, all during the day they were taking notes. From 12:00 noon to 1:00 p. m. was spent in lunch and visiting; and then everyone pitched in to clean up, each washing her own dishes. After this, there was group singing of Christmas songs, and a 5-minute talk by the county home demonstration agent on "What makes a good gift." She suggested that the gift list should be checked by answering these questions: (1) Is it useful in any way? (2) Does it do what it is supposed to do? (3) Is it as attractive as a gift should be? (4) Is it priced to be suitable to both the giver and the receiver?

The demonstrations were then resumed. Those who had seen the demonstrations copied recipes and examined the displays. At 2:30 everyone helped clean up, and by 3:00 p. m. Christmas Idea Day was over.

Christmas Idea Day has become a tradition in Whatcom County. Each year the members have made a greater contribution, both in planning and in carrying out the plan.

## Extension refresher courses for veterans

A "refresher" course for county agricultural agents—believed to be the first of its kind in the Nation—is in process in Texas. Fifteen students reported for the intensive 8 weeks' course. All are graduates in agriculture whose intention to go into county agent work had been interrupted by the war, and all are veterans of from 3 to 5 years' service with the armed forces.

The course is intended primarily for prospective agents who have been in military service and will bring them the latest information on the findings of agricultural research, marketing, and the status of the various governmental programs.

Instructors for the course are drawn from the Texas Extension Service headquarters staff. Research workers of the agricultural experiment station and members of the Texas A. and M. College will also take over instruction in several subjects.

Through arrangements made with the schools of agriculture and of graduate students, the prospective agents will receive credit toward graduate work for the time spent in the refresher course.

## 4-H Club camps

Approximately 3,760 club members and 300 leaders attended the county camps in New York State this year. This compares with 2,299 members and 200 leaders in the 1944 camps, according to Prof. J. A. Lennox.

Attendance ranged from 10 days to 2 weeks per camper in the 15 4-H camps which drew campers from 45 counties. Two new camps were started during the year. Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties bought a new camp site at Mountain View in Franklin County; and Montgomery, Herkimer, and Fulton Counties obtained a CCC camp at Speculator in Hamilton County and established a permanent camp.

# We Study Our Job

## Extension contacts through meetings

The average home demonstration agent holds nearly twice as many meetings as the county agricultural agent. Not only is there a difference in the total number of meetings held but there is a difference in emphasis on meetings among county extension workers. The patterns for use of meetings as extension devices by which the county extension agents carry on their work vary widely, according to their annual statistical reports. These patterns involved such factors as (1) number of meetings held, (2) attendance at meetings, (3) use of time on meetings by extension workers, and (4) trends in attendance at meetings and number of meetings.

(1) The average home demonstration agent has from 2 to 4 times as many method-demonstration meetings as the average county agricultural agent; but the agricultural agents hold 2 to 3 times as many general meetings as the home demonstration agents. The average number of leader-training meetings used by different types of county workers is approximately the same. The home demonstration agents report twice as many adult meetings with no extension worker present as the county agricultural agents. If this is considered a criterion of effectiveness of leadership training, meetings held by home agents are much more effective than those held by agricultural agents. The number of meetings is only a partial measure of agents' effectiveness.

(2) If we analyze the annual report data from the attendance point of view, county agricultural agents reach nearly one-half of their total attendance through general meetings while the home demonstration agents reach only one-fourth by this means. The home demonstration agent makes nearly twice as many contacts through method demonstration meetings as through general meetings. The attendance at the different types of meetings appears to be larger with county agricultural agents than with home demonstration agents.

(3) The time required to put on a meeting also varies. It takes longer to establish result demonstrations and hold a meeting at them, than to gather material and prepare for and put on a method demonstration. Since general meetings consumed less time than other types and usually have larger attendance, they are an effective means of contacting large numbers of farm people, at relatively lower costs.

Meetings also play a large part in the 4-H Club program. In general, they follow the pattern for adult work as described above. The attendance is generally smaller. The number of meetings carried on without an extension worker present is relatively larger for both types of workers.

(4) The total attendance for all types of extension meetings reached its maximum in 1941. This was true for every type of extension meeting except for leader-training meetings. They reached their maximum in 1942. The general trend for the last few years, both for number and attendance at meetings, has been downward. What part the gasoline situation had to do with this tendency is hard to measure.

## Massachusetts studies home demonstration organization

Some 800 Massachusetts homemakers living in 61 rural towns were interviewed in a study of home demonstration organization in six counties—Berkshire, Essex, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, and Plymouth Counties. The homemakers visited included women who had taken part in extension activities and some who had not participated, as well as 153 home demonstration leaders. About a fourth of the leaders were county advisory council members; over half were township committee members; and others were home-demonstration project leaders.

The survey was made in townships which had more than 25 percent rural population. The towns selected were classified according to the extent to which the extension organization had been developed for the local women. The towns were divided into "spots" having from 5 to 12 homes; every home in every twelfth spot was covered by interviewers. Massachusetts State and county extension workers cooperated with members of the Division of Field Studies and Training in making the interviews.

The general outlines of the study were suggested by the Massachusetts staff. The procedures were outlined at the Evaluation Workshop in Chicago last March, and the details were worked out in conferences of State and USDA extension staff members. Bureau of Agricultural Economics sampling experts were also consulted.

Those who participated believe the 800 records will yield valuable data to answer questions on home demonstration organization.

More information on this study will be given in a later issue of the REVIEW.

## Family finances studied

Joint bank accounts and the proper way to set up dual ownership of land—these are the two points of business in which Kansas farm homemakers are most interested. This information comes from Gladys Myers, extension home management specialist, Kansas, who trained leaders in record keeping, money planning, and business transactions in 13 counties.

"The joint bank account," she explains, "is of particular advantage in case of death, allowing the money to be easily transferred without further procedure. Such a bank account can be shared by brother and sister, son and mother, father and daughter, as well as by husband and wife.

"Farm women are also deeply interested in how to set up dual ownership of land so that their legal interests are maintained. Kansas laws on descent of property and distribution of money are also studied."

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS' ASSOCIATION meeting held in Chicago, December 5–7, was attended by 94 delegates from 28 States. The association elected the following officers for the next year: President, Lois Rainwater, Wilson, N. C.; first vice president, Mrs. Louella M. Condon, Rockwell City, Iowa; second vice president, Florence Hester, Versailles, Ind.; and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Margaret C. Shepard, 51 13th Avenue, Newark 3, N. J.; councilor for Central States, Mrs. Laura B. Willison, 142 North Broadway, Wichita, Kans.; Southern States, Katherine E. Staley, Lauderdale, Miss.; Western States, Carmen Johnson, Fort Collins, Colo.; Eastern States, Mabel Milhan, Danbury, Conn.; Newsletter editor, Charity B. Shank, Columbia, Mo. The names of the outstanding home agents who were given special recognition at the association banquet will be published in the February REVIEW.

DEVELOPING INDIVIDUAL FARM AND HOME PLANNING was given special attention at a session of the Agricultural Outlook Conference held December 3–7. Director Wilson presented the subject as a phase of the Bankhead-Flannagan legislation. The importance being attached to extension farm and home plans was emphasized in talks by R. G. Vick and Velma Beam, extension agents of Clay County, N. C. They told how they together use farm and home planning in their work through farm unit demonstrations. We hope to give a summary of their talks in an early issue of the REVIEW.

950 DELEGATES ATTENDED NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CONGRESS in Chicago, December 2–6. For the first time local 4-H Club leaders were among the delegates. They and 4-H Club members took part in the kick-off for the 10-point 4-H Club program. J. P. Schmidt, of Ohio State University, organized the 950 delegates into 15 discussion groups and then each group into huddles to discuss the 10 points—4 points one day, 3 another day, and 3 the next day. A most wonderful demonstration of youth sincerity of purpose was given in their discussions for they talked in terms of not only their community, State, and Nation, but in terms of international problems.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS meeting in Chicago, December 5–8, elected the following officers for 1946: President, W. H. Sill, Parkersburg, W. Va.; vice president, H. M. Nichols, Webster City, Iowa; secretary-treasurer, C. C. Keller, Springfield, Mo.; executive committee, A. F. Macdougall, Concord, Mass.; regional directors—North Central Region, Cletus F. Murphy, Waseca, Minn.; Western Region—Stuart Stirling, Silver City, N. Mex.; Northeastern Region, Ben Morgan, Marlington, W. Va.; and Southern Region, John Lenry Logan, Clearwater, Fla. Names of county agents receiving distinguished service award certificates will be published in the February REVIEW.

RURAL HANDICRAFT SHORT COURSE designed especially for extension workers in the 13 southeastern States will be held between May 13 and June 1, 1946. This 3-week course will be conducted by Miss Lucy Morgan, Director of Penland School of Weaving, Penland, N. C. Courses in hand weaving, chair seating, metalwork, pottery and clay modeling, furniture upholstering, furniture refinishing, rug making, leatherwork, basketry, lamp shade making, and similar crafts will be offered.

ESTES P. TAYLOR, editor of the Agricultural Leaders' Digest, and secretary of the American Agricultural Editors' Association, passed away on November 23 in Chicago. A former county agent in Colorado, horticultural extension specialist in Idaho, director of extension work in Arizona, and editor of the Digest for almost 25 years, Mr. Taylor was well known, respected, and loved by extension workers throughout the country.

EXTENSION WORK IN ITALY is getting a good start, according to the accounts of Capt. James F. Keim, now working to reestablish Italian agriculture and carrying on the methods he used as 4-H Club leader in Pennsylvania. Captain Keim has written of his difficulties and his success from time to time in The Pennsylvania Farmer. The latest installment is on his efforts in getting a shipment of livestock from the Island of Sardinia to the mainland.

PROFITABLE POULTRY PRODUCTION is the name of the first sound motion picture produced by Missouri and now being widely used by agents. It runs 30 minutes and is in natural color with most of the scenes on Missouri farms.

A COUNTY AGENT RETIRING after 11 years of service in Barry County, Mo., drew the following tribute from his local newspaper: "Mr. McConnel has worked successfully and most agreeably with the farmers of this county in building for a better and more profitable agriculture. He is a real dirt farmer himself and has understood in a very definite way the problems of the farmers. During his years of service for and with our farmers he has had the satisfaction of seeing the soil-improvement and dairy-improvement programs succeed in a way that is rapidly transforming Barry County into one of the leading dairying and livestock-producing counties of the entire State."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# Guideposts for 4-H Clubs in a changing world

■ National 4-H Club Week, March 2–10, focuses the attention of all extension workers on building the local 4-H Club program into an effective youth organization in the changing world of today.

During the past year, a committee of State, county, and national 4-H leaders has been working on the 4-H Club program of the future.

Meeting frequently and working earnestly, these leaders developed 10 guideposts for future 4-H programs:

Planned to help 4-H members analyze their own situations, needs, and interests in this age of atomic energy and to build a program which will more adequately prepare them for citizenship physically, mentally, and spiritually, these 10 guideposts are: (1) Developing talents for greater usefulness; (2) joining with friends for work, fun, and fellowship; (3) learning to live in a changing world; (4) choosing a way to earn a living; (5) producing food and fiber for home and market; (6) creating better homes for better living; (7) conserving nature's resources for security and happiness; (8) building health for a strong America; (9) sharing responsibilities for community improvement; (10) serving as citizens in maintaining world peace.

The guideposts were introduced to the 1,100 4-H leaders and members attending the 4-H Club Congress in early December. The young folks took part in spirited discussions on how their local problems could be worked out within the framework of these 10 guideposts.

During 4-H Club Week all club members can do the same. They can make these 10 guideposts their own by analyzing their local situations and planning a program to meet these situations. The 900 club members who discussed the 10 points at the Congress are now in their local communities all over the United States. They will take a leading part in helping local clubs adapt the guideposts to their own club programs. They will consider such issues as housing, health, vocational choices, marketing, distribution, conservation, recreation, and maintenance of world peace which come within the scope of the 4-H Club program under these 10 points.

National 4-H Club Week also gives an opportunity to inventory communities for prospective 4-H Club members. The national goal is set at 3,200,000 4-H Club members by 1950. This means that every member must help at least one other member get started in 4-H Club work.

Club Week can serve to bring the work of 4-H Clubs and the possibilities of the new program to the attention of parents and new prospective leaders. It is a good time to recruit new leaders and develop enthusiasm for the program.

4-H Clubs have made a war record of which they are justly proud. Can they also rise to the higher challenge of building a just and enduring world peace? The discussion, understanding, and acting upon the precepts laid down in the 10 guideposts are the first steps in that direction.

# 4-H Club Week message from the White House

**HARRY S. TRUMAN, President of the United States**

■ All young men and women in the world today face the challenge of unsettled times and new problems—but also of new ideas and great new opportunities. We have an unlimited building job to do. On the foundations of the victories that youth sacrificed so much to win, we now have the opportunity to raise up a progressive, productive civilization in which the rights of the individual and the need of unbroken peace must have the highest, most enduring values. To make that promise of the future come true—the realization of which means so much to the oncoming generation—is not only the hope but the task of youth everywhere. The eyes of the young men and women of the world are on the youth of the United States, searching for example, ideas, and ideals.

We have an outstanding example to offer them in 4-H Club work. For more than 30 years I have seen 4-H Club work serve as a powerful incentive to millions of farm boys and girls in development of their talents, their leadership, and their citizenship. Times may change, but the objectives of 4-H work, as reaffirmed in their 10 postwar goals, are based on fundamental human principles that never change.

I urge all rural young people to take an active part in their own local 4-H Club Program in 1946 and in years following. This is one of the ways in which we can build the kind of youth the United States needs—strong, skilled, informed, and articulate—and it is one of the important means we have of demonstrating to the world what youth can accomplish through practical democracy and good citizenship.

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# International Extension Service takes form

ARTHUR L. DEERING, Director, Maine Agricultural Extension Service

■ The United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture, held at Quebec in October, makes possible the beginning of an International Extension Service. Here at Quebec long ago the British and the French under Wolfe and Montcalm fought one of the decisive battles of the world. Here President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill planned the decisive phases of World War II. Here again representatives of the Allied Nations met to hasten the war's successful conclusion.

Yet an even more significant chapter has been written in world progress in this historic city of Quebec. Here in October met the delegates and their advisers from 40 nations, not to plan for war but to create an organization that would help banish from the earth the fear of hunger, the threat of famine, and give hope to the millions of underfed and undernourished people of the world.

### FAO Is Not a Relief Agency

However, the Food and Agriculture Organization is not a relief agency; nor are the farmers of this Nation, or the people of any nation, expected to lower their own standards of living in order to raise the standards of those less fortunate. Rather, it is hoped that standards of living in disadvantaged countries will be raised by their own efforts with intelligent aid.

Let me illustrate the extreme importance of this very point. Let us suppose that we live in a neighborhood where the people have very low incomes and can only with great difficulty obtain the barest necessities of life. How can that situation be helped? Well, it can't be greatly or permanently improved by dumping more food into the laps of these people. That may help in an emergency but not permanently. On the other hand, if we can give these neighbors of ours a chance to increase their incomes, they will raise their own standards of living. Not only that, but they will buy more of our goods, and we will share in their prosperity. From being a threat to the peace of our community, they will become good neighbors and desirable citizens; all will benefit in income, improved social conditions, and real satisfactions.

An actual example is the case of India, with her population of 400 millions. The conference delegate from that country told us that the minimum adequate diet cost $84 per year for each adult. Then he added that the average income of the people of India was only $22 per year. No wonder is it that famine and pestilence occur there yearly! Certain it is that until the income of those people can be raised or those two figures brought nearer together, malnutrition and starvation will continue as a regular occurrence.

That example is typical of the need existing in many areas. The answer should be provided largely by the people themselves with a minimum of help and assistance from outside. Through a quarter of a century of experience the Extension Service has demonstrated that the solution to many such problems is to raise the living standards of a people or a nation.

### Delegation Represents Farm Leadership

Now let us return to the FAO conference. Clinton P. Anderson, our Secretary of Agriculture, was the official delegate from the United States. There were 35 "advisers" in the United States delegation. Among these were Dr. Howard Tolley, alternate for the Secretary and chosen as vice president of FAO and member of the executive committee for 3 years; 4 members of Congress; the presidents of the 4 leading farm organizations; 3 from the land-grant colleges; our Director of Extension, M. L. Wilson; and others.

The work of the conference was performed by many different committees. The topics were developed in answer to problems existing or arising. A chairman and secretary were then selected. The membership on the committee was entirely voluntary, the number on each depending upon the interest of different countries in the job assigned. Some committees had only a few members; others had 10 or more.

From the first it was apparent that several countries wanted a committee dealing with education and extension. When the topic was finally announced it was like the old hoop skirt—it covered the subject completely and then some. Here it is: "Education, Extension, and the Exchange of Scientific and Technical Information." Dr. Spencer Hatch, who had spent 17 years in India and was more recently in Mexico, was appointed as secretary; and the writer, over his objections, was chosen chairman. The countries represented on the committee by one or more members consisted of the following: Brazil, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Denmark, France, Haiti, India, Iraq, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Russia, South Africa, and the United States.

### Interest in Extension Is World-Wide

Only those people who attended this conference can apreciate the world-wide interest in extension work. For example, 18 nations selected this committee as their primary interest. Moreover, 4 of those serving on this committee were, in the closing days of the conference, chosen as members of the permanent FAO Executive Committee of 15.

Out of the work of this committee came many suggestions and recommendations. It is impossible to list all these. Rather, let me select a few related specifically to Extension which will give you an idea of the interest and desires of many countries:

1. They want FAO to encourage throughout the world the further development of an extension service as an educational agency.

2. They want technicians from this country to assist in taking moving pictures of improved practices and scientific methods as one of the best means of teaching, especially in those countries where 90 percent of the people can neither read nor write.

3. They want missions and panels of experts who can assist in organizing extension work and who will survey conditions, recommend procedures, and develop methods of instruction.

4. They want regional and international conferences of extension per-

sonnel, and they want them called within the year.

5. They want an international advisory committee on extension work.

These and many other proposals were made. They came from many countries, large and small, advantaged and disadvantaged areas, from members of the committee and members of the conference. It is true that many nations now have a form of extension service. However, it bears little resemblance to ours—in completeness of organization, in trained personnel, or as a definite educational agency. The more advanced countries may have county or area personnel, known as farm advisers, or economists, or having other titles. Their duties may combine several services outside the educational field. The United States is regarded beyond question as having the most complete, best organized, and best financed Extension Service in existence. Our leadership in this field is recognized throughout the world.

We have then an opportunity under the United Nations Charter to aid in the development of an International Extension Service. Our own Director M. L. Wilson, who contributed a great deal to the effectiveness of several FAO committees, such as Extension, Rural Welfare, Health, and Nutrition, has made the following statement regarding this opportunity:

"The United Nations Organization now makes possible an Extension Service for the World's Farmers, whatever its name in whatever language. Extension education through the application of science will build a capable, efficient, and intelligent rural population."

# New 11-point program sets peacetime aims

■ This fall a committee of Maryland extension workers headed by Prof. Fred Leinbach, head of the animal husbandry department at the University of Maryland, was assigned a big job by Director T. B. Symons—to look into the possibilities of a unified program for all extension workers in the State, which would tie together the many aids they can provide for farm families in the "reconversion period," when agriculture must make its plans for peacetime production.

The committee presented its report at the annual extension conference in Baltimore in November; and, after discussion, their program was unanimously adopted by the State and county extension workers present. They also planned to present the program to the farm and home leaders of the State for their approval.

The aim of the Extension Service in 1946, will be to aid farm families in achieving a higher level of rural living. Agriculture now faces an unusual situation. It made a magnificent contribution toward the successful winning of the war. Despite all handicaps, farm families achieved the goal of producing an enormous supply of food. Now they face the peacetime era and its uncertain economic prospects with an industry expanded beyond normal requirements and with a critical need for greater efficiency of production and marketing. The farm and home plant is in need of restoration, improvement, and rebuilding. Natural resources of all kinds are in an impaired condition and in need of conservation and replenishing. Wartime forcefully demonstrated the need for higher levels of nutrition and other factors contributing to an improvement in health. Social, spiritual, and moral values and relationships declined generally in all walks of life.

It has been said that the farm family is the mainspring of democracy and the cradle of Christianity. The farm family faces the challenge of leadership in remolding and replenishing the ideals and the moral fiber of the Nation and in preserving the American way of life.

Major problems, and objectives in overcoming these problems, that face Maryland agriculture today have been summarized in this extension program as follows: An uncertain economic situation will require that farmers develop even greater efficiency in production and marketing to keep on a paying basis. Their war-worn home and farm equipment and buildings must be restored and improved as soon as practicable. Loss and waste of natural resources such as the soil, speeded by heavier tillage and other wartime practices, will demand extra effort for conservation. Food that is not balanced enough to satisfy needs of human bodies, and inadequate rural health facilities call for a definite plan for improving the health of rural folks. And finally, as the war has strongly pointed out, we can all benefit from higher moral, spiritual, and social relationships through a development of sympathetic understanding of one another.

To tie together all these aims and objectives, a program of 11 points for 1946 has been outlined. These points are as follows:

1. Help farmers convert Maryland agriculture to a peacetime basis.
2. Conduct an educational program to plan food production in line with market conditions and labor supply.
3. Stimulate the greatest possible efficiency on the farms and in the homes.
4. Render every possible aid to returning veterans.
5. Stimulate a rehabilitation and improvement of the farm plant, including farm equipment and facilities of the farm home.
6. Develop greater leadership among rural people, both youth and adult.
7. Conduct a vigorous educational program to promote conservation of all natural resources.
8. Continue to emphasize adequate health and nutrition.
9. Promote greater cooperation with farm organizations.
10. Promote a more comprehensive 4-H and older-youth program.
11. Promote better farm family living as the crowning objective of farm life.

■ Iowa 4-H Clubs have raised approximately $1,800 toward a fellowship for a woman from China to study 4-H Club work in the United States. The idea of doing this originated with Mrs. Edith P. Barker, girls' club leader of Iowa, whose energy behind it helped to carry it through.

■ Among adult volunteer leaders of 4-H Clubs in New York, 355 men and women have had 5 years of service, 90 have served for 10 years, 42 for 15 years, and 15 for 20 or more years.

# Parent interest in 4–H Club work

ROBERTA LAREW ALLISON, Home Demonstration Agent, Nicholas County, W. Va.

"I'll be glad to help if there is anything I can do," is a familiar statement heard by extension workers. In Nicholas County, W. Va., we decided to capitalize on this idea in the 4–H program. By showing parents and other adults in the community that there is something they can do, we have obtained some gratifying results. Seventy-six adults are now assisting with the 25 4–H Clubs. Our records show that in a majority of the clubs parents show a great deal of interest; this is always true in the really good clubs.

Fifty-three mothers, dads, and neighbors of 4–H members in the local 4–H Clubs are actively engaged in some manner in promoting club work. These are in addition to 29 teachers and older club youth who are also leaders in clubs. During the past year, 30 mothers alone assumed responsibility as leaders, assistant leaders, or members of adult advisory councils.

One leader recently remarked to me: "I think some parents in my club would hate to miss the meetings as badly as the members." Take, for instance, Mrs. Deloe. She didn't, as she said, even let a new baby keep her from attending the county exhibit and field day. With her two daughters, aged 12 and 14, 10-year-old Johnnie, and 2-month-old baby she came 10 miles on the bus to the 4–H project round-up. She has served as assistant leader of Mayflower Club for 2 years.

### Whole Neighborhood Turns Out

Over at Mount Nebo, where Ramsey Workers' Club sponsored a recreation night each month, the whole neighborhood now comes out to play games, sing, and square dance. One of the fathers who had never attended 4–H meetings was asked to help with the program. At the next meeting he appeared with his fiddle and had brought along someone to play the guitar. As a result, the night's square dance was the first of many such recreation programs, and he was a regular participator from then on and is one of the best boosters we have.

L. N. McClung, father of a member of Sugar Grove Mountain Climbers' Club, was invited to the first club meeting last year. "I didn't know a thing about club work at that time," he later admitted, "but I began to learn." Since that time he hasn't missed a meeting and is now a regular member of the County Leaders' Association, having served on the county camp planning committee this summer.

We have found that one of the most successful methods for getting parents and other adults in the community interested in the 4–H program is through the formation of an adult advisory council for each club. The council, usually composed of two or three adults, is in addition to the regular leader, who remains in charge of administration of the club. The council forms a project leader group, a decided help to the regular leader, who is usually a busy person. Because they were asked to have a part in the program, the council members don't hesitate to attend meetings, give suggestions, and help members with their projects.

### Recognition of Ability Is Essential

Recognition of ability is a great factor in keeping adults interested in the program. If Mrs. O'Dell is an especially good seamstress and she is chosen as clothing leader for the local 4–H Club, she is pleased to think that extension workers and the club leader have confidence in her ability. Therefore, Mrs. O'Dell comes to the meetings, learns more about the varied club program, and becomes interested in activities in addition to her clothing work. This is the idea on which we have based our plan.

Copies of all letters containing information and subject matter, as well as schedules, events, and other general program material mailed to regular leaders from the county office, are also sent to the adult councilors. This does not relieve the regular leader of administrative responsibility but strengthens her program by keeping the council members interested in club activities. Adult advisers are invited to all county leaders' meetings and training schools.

Many leaders are not permanent residents of the community. This is especially true of teacher leaders. As Nicholas County public schools cooperate closely with the 4–H program, a great many clubs are organized through the local school. Through the adult council system a summertime leader can be trained to assume responsibility for the club during the critical months of June, July, and August when project work and other activities would otherwise lag. This has saved at least three of our clubs from "going on the rocks."

### Every Club Holds Public Meetings

At least one public meeting a year is a requirement for "blue ribbon" rating in West Virginia 4–H Clubs. Special emphasis has been placed on this in Nicholas County with the result that many parents have had their first glimpse of the 4–H program (other than project work done at home). Some examples of these public meetings are: 4–H Sunday (a Sunday worship service in May arranged by the local 4–H Club), patriotic programs, community vesper services, social events for the community (mother-father suppers, box suppers, and parties). Ten clubs presented one of their regular monthly programs at local PTA meetings. Four clubs exchanged programs or cooperated in giving a program, with the help of the local farm women's club. "Parents' Night" has been a popular way of getting mothers and dads to the meetings.

Community projects—ranging from monthly recreation nights to cleaning the community cemetery—have given parents a tangible means for appraising the 4–H program. "The 4–H Club did that," one woman said proudly as she referred to the windbreak planted around the school playground. Another mother from a remote community pointed out: "Our children really had no place to go for recreation until the 4–H Club began sponsoring those playtimes at the church." Community libraries and magazine exchanges, landscaping church grounds and schoolyards, buying softball equipment, and taking over the responsibility of janitor service for the local church are some of the successful community projects.

As Nicholas is largely a rural county, the weekly paper is widely (and thor-

oughly) read. Publicity on 4–H Club activities has been stressed this year through a special weekly 4–H column edited by the extension workers. Material for this column comes from the local club reporter. (We are sponsoring a "reporters' contest," and 70 percent of the reporters are regular with news!) The reporter sends his items directly to the county office. Recently a man came into the office and inquired about organizing a club in his community. "I read about 4–H work in the paper," he said.

Realizing that parent interest and cooperation with the county 4–H program is a prerequisite to a successful program, one of our chief objectives for this year has been to make 4–H Clubs everybody's clubs. By approaching parents with the idea that they can make a big contribution, we have tried to get them interested in our plan of action. After parents come to the first meeting they are usually convinced that they should stay with the 4–H program.

## Labor-saving shows

Central and western Kansas farmers and homemakers had an opportunity during November to see the exhibit-demonstration of labor-saving equipment sponsored by the Extension Service in cooperation with commercial implement dealers, vocational agriculture departments, and local farmers and homemakers. Approximately 1,500 persons attended the first show at Topeka.

# Volunteer leaders teach coat making

■ That volunteer local leaders can accomplish wonders is known to many extension workers. A concrete example of their accomplishments in the home economics field is furnished in the report of a series of coat schools conducted in Massachusetts last fall by Mrs. Goldie S. Parks, home demonstration agent of Hampden County.

The women and children in the county needed coats and welcomed the opportunity of making their own.

Thirty-one different community groups were enrolled in this project, and the limitations of time made it impossible for the home demonstration agent to conduct each meeting for each of the groups. To accommodate the large number of homemakers who wanted to learn to make coats, it was decided to have the project conducted on the community level entirely by volunteer local leaders.

The leaders, some of them experienced in the field of clothing construction and others without much previous training, were selected by the community home bureau chairmen and the members of the project groups. In all, there were 50 of the leaders who agreed to take the training and teach coat making to the members of their group.

Because coat making is not an easy task and because inexperienced workers have many questions to ask of their leaders, Mrs. Parks requested each leader to have no more than five homemakers in her group. However,

**Two of the 50 local leaders in Hampden County, Mass., model the coats made in training classes. As a result of their efforts more than 300 coats were made in the county.**

as more than five women in most communities wanted to make coats, arrangements were made for groups of more than five to have an assistant leader for each five additional members.

Instruction meetings for the leaders were held at three centers—in the eastern, central, and western parts of Hampden County. Each group of leaders met six times, and for each leader meeting one or more similar sessions were held on the community level.

Within 3 months, as a result of the efforts of these local leaders, more than 300 coats were made by Hampden County women for themselves and their children. Coats and suits from old and new materials, for summer, spring, and winter wear were made. When they were completed, a series of colored slides showing the members of each community group modeling their new coats was prepared and shown to the County Home Bureau Executive Committee and other interested people.

Each homemaker kept a careful record of the expenses of her coat and priced similar garments in the retail stores. The total of the differences between the actual expenses and the store prices came to $6,947.13.

The selection and training of leaders multiplied the efforts of the home demonstration agent manyfold and enabled many more women to learn to make the coats they needed and wanted.—*Donald T. Donnelly, Hampden County extension editor.*

## Dairy building boom

A Nevada boom in dairy building construction is under way, according to V. E. Scott, extension agricultural economist of the Nevada Extension Service.

In recent weeks, in his travels about Nevada he has seen more than a dozen new structures going up, and there are indications that many more will be built.

The building of dairy structures is stimulated by the demand for fluid milk, which is as great or greater today than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war.

# How goes the soil conservation district?

■ Since the first soil conservation district was set up in 1937, more than 1,400 districts have been organized, covering parts or all of 1,700 counties. In a large number of these, extension agents did the education work, leading up to the formation of the district. Once under way, many agents have continued their educational activities in the district and have found it an excellent resource in supporting their efforts to improve farm practices, in developing local leaders, and in helping farmers to solve their own problems in soil and water conservation. Some agents have left the work of districts entirely to district supervisors and others.

After 6 years of experience, it seemed wise to examine the administration of these districts to see how effectively the supervisors and rural people are working together in conservation and how well the Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Service are helping them. The Soil Conservation Service, the Extension Service, and the State Extension Service in 19 States, representing all parts of the United States, agreed to cooperate in arranging for and making studies of the administration of districts by the governing bodies.

### 69 Districts Studied

Two to four districts were selected in each of the 19 States, and a total of 69 were studied. Each had been operating for at least 2 years. Extension workers studied about half of these districts, and members of the Soil Conservation Service studied the other half. Only one man went to each district, and in no case was that a district in his own State. The reports from both services were very similar.

Studies reported on educational work being done in 64 districts indicated that much more is needed in 59 of them. Supervisors emphasized the need for more educational work. District administration, they say, could be substantially improved if the people were better informed as to the need for conservation practices, how to apply them, how to adjust their enterprises to farm conservation plans, and how the district organization operates. They were emphatic in asking that conservation extension work be tied into district programs rather than conducted separately.

The governing bodies of districts feel that though the Extension Service made a great contribution in educational work leading up to organization and in the initial stages of district operation, they have only partially met the need for continuing education in soil and water conservation after districts have been formed.

In only 22 of the 69 districts studied was there any mention of developing local leadership. Supervisors in most districts seemed to give little recognition to the opportunities of increasing action in this way. The extent to which leaders are depended on seems to be limited by the ability of the county agent to find and develop leaders among the farmers and ranchers.

### Leaders Get Results

In the Arkansas-Verdigris District, Oklahoma for example, group leaders are trained, their jobs are defined, and they exert active leadership in soil and water conservation in their communities. The studies showed that specifically designated leadership, recognized by neighbors, gets better and more consistent results than irregular, haphazard leadership.

In one district the supervisors have adopted the policy of conducting all district work through organized neighborhood groups with farmer leaders. Group action began in 1941 with a dozen neighboring farmers, each of whom had a farm conservation plan. The neighbors began meeting annually to see how they had made out and discover what they planned to do the next year. These get-togethers have speeded the rate of conservation progress.

Good results were obtained in a California county when the agent, back in 1938, called together 45 leading farmers to form a council and make recommendations for improving the agriculture of the county. The group formed 4 committees, including 1 on soil and land use. It was the work of this committee that later led to the organization of a soil conservation district. Several members of the council have since then become district supervisors.

Based on these 69 reports a number of suggestions are made to a county agent for helping to strengthen the district in his county. It is suggested that he attend supervisors' meetings and take the lead in educational activities. He can help the supervisors find ways to take the initiative in district affairs and can help supply the vision needed in district administration. He can help the State Conservation Committee in careful selection of appointive district supervisors and can help local farmers understand the duties and qualifications needed in supervisors. He can take the lead in finding and developing neighborhood conservation leaders and helping neighborhood groups to function.

In the districts studied, better results were obtained in soil conservation if the educational job of the Extension Service was formalized by written agreements with supervisors and written programs instead of being left to the individual inclinations and voluntary action of the personnel.

The report finishes up with the hope that history will show that district supervisors and cooperating agencies were able together to determine accurately their respective functions, maintain the right balance in all phases of operations and administration, and make soil and water conservation endure through democratic processes.

## 4-H Clubs made Christmas decorations

Thousands of wreaths, swags, ropes, and table decorations for Christmas were made by 4-H Club members of Rhode Island. Most have been for home use, but several clubs have made quantities for sale for their treasuries.

Instructions for a variety of decorations were furnished by Prof. Norman W. Butterfield of the Rhode Island State College; and L. Russell Albright, State conservationist, Kingston.

# 4-H Club gives frozen-foods locker to high school

■ The Merry Workers of 4–H Club of Caribou, Maine, presented a cold-storage locker to their high school this fall. This live-wire group of girls only 12 to 14 years of age earned the $765 required to purchase the locker.

Progressive Aroostook County already possesses three community lockers for frozen food; one at Fort Kent, one at Presque Isle, and the other at Caribou. This one at the high school is exclusively for the younger members of the community and will benefit some 600 pupils who daily patronize the hot noon-day lunch prepared and served in the spacious home economics department and cafeteria located in the basement of the school building.

Charlotte Bragdon, the home economics instructor, who, with the aid of the school-lunch committee, superintends the planning and serving of the hot lunch, fully appreciates this new three-unit locker for storing and preserving meat and vegetables. Just before school started in the fall all three units were filled with green peas which had been contributed by 4–H Club members, and processed and packaged at a freezing plant nearby. The locker has a capacity of 1,400 quarts.

Money for purchasing the cold-storage locker came primarily from the sale of baby beef, raised during the past 2 years by Earlyne and Barbara Blackstone, two of the Merry Workers. Earlyne, aged 13, and Barbara, 12, are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blackstone, both prime movers in the promotion of the school lunch program. Five other girls were also contributing members.

The baby animals were contributed by the Maine Potato Growers' Association and the Caribou Lions Club. To further encourage the project, board and lodging, as you might say, were furnished free of charge by Mr. Blackstone for nearly 14 months, and the girls did the rest.

Barbara's 730-pound steer sold at the recent fair at 39 cents a pound, and Earlyne's animal weighed 795. The sale of the baby beeves alone provided about $600 of the $765 required to purchcase the locker .

The final installment was ceremoniously given to James A. Hamlin, superintendent of schools, at the club's annual exhibition-meeting held at the Blackstone home shortly before school opened.

Aside from their whole-hearted participation in such patriotic projects as the sale of war bonds, and fat and wastepaper salvage, the children of Caribou and all Aroostook County have made a tremendous contribution to the success of the 1942 to 1945 war food production program. According to W. C. Libby, assistant State supervisor of farm labor, approximately 23,500 Aroostook boys and girls under 18 years of age have worked in the Aroostook potato harvest during the past 3 years. This figure represents about 70 to 80 percent of the total school population of the area in the upper seven grades—from the sixth grade to senior year in high school—and includes also several thousand 4–H Club members who worked in the potato fields and carried on other important farm projects as well.

## Maryland young farmer heads rural youth group

Robert M. Hanson, of Gaithersburg, Md., young farmer and 4–H Club member of Montgomery County, was chosen this fall as president of the Rural Youth of the United States of America at the annual training conference attended by representatives from more than 100 youth organizations of the country.

His choice as the leader of this organization, which has as its aim better citizenship in the world and better appreciation of other people, seems apt, for Robert Hanson has grown to be a farmer and to appreciate farm life, all in the past 3 years. Three years ago, a lad from the suburbs of Washington, D. C., he stood with his parents in a field of barley stubble and planned ahead for a livestock farm and a new country home on the rolling acres then bare of any kind of buildings. Now established as a junior partner in a beef- and hog-raising business and winner of many fair prizes for his livestock, Bob, now 21 years old, is both a real farmer and a young man who appreciates the need for better understanding among farmers and consumers, industry and labor, and nations around the world.

Mount Prospect Farm, at Gaithersburg, has taught him much in the past years, he says, for through his 4–H projects he has developed real farming. Work is essential to results in farming or in the show ring, he knows, and work is also necessary to make people understand each other better within their community—whether that community be the crossroads or the world.

The Rural Youth of America was formerly the Youth Section of the American Country Life Association. As the youth group has continued its meetings in recent years, they decided to change their name, the Country Life Association having suspended activities for several years. Robert Hanson succeeded as president Walter Boek, a student at Cornell University in New York State. Other officers of the youth group are: Vice president, Thomas M. Jenkins, student council of West Virginia State College; secretary-treasurer, Jean Wallace of the University Grange, Ohio State; and editor, Eugene Fulmer, Collegiate chapter FFA, Pennsylvania State College.

Robert Hanson returned from Chicago, along with 24 other 4–H delegates to the National 4–H Club Congress. He was a winner of a trip as State meat animal contest winner in 4–H. In November, with 5 other 4–H Club boys and girls, he took part in a panel discussion of youth programs and responsibilities at the Maryland Extension Service conference sessions devoted to work with young people. At Chicago, he also was one of the 10 boys and girls chosen from various discussion groups for a final summary of the major points considered under the topic, The Place of 4–H Clubs in a Changing World.

# Steuben County, N. Y. attracts potato growers

■ "There is always a chance for men who know their business to find a place to practice it," said "Bill" Stempfle in 1941. And Steuben County, N. Y., in which Stempfle is county agricultural agent, has proved his point.

Nearly 20 years ago, William S. Stempfle came to a conclusion. He knew that Steuben County, with its fertile, rolling, hilltop plateaus, provided excellent conditions for growing potatoes. He knew the climate was ideal. In earlier days Steuben had been one of the first counties in the United States to produce potatoes commercially and achieved distinction as the source of the Boggs potato grader, the Boss digger, and the Spaulding Rose variety. Stempfle also knew that the steady and rapid decline in production after 1910 resulted from manifold causes, none of which implied unsuitability of the land or marketing obstacles. The potato growers who remained were getting low yields because they had not kept pace with the methods developed by research.

Believing in education and publicity, Stempfle sent out a call for a Steuben County "potato convention" to promote the industry within his county. In the ensuing years, the annual convention, which has always featured a potato show, lectures, and discussion, has become a recognized event of importance, attracting growers, dealers, and agricultural leaders from the entire eastern section of the country.


**It looks as if Bill Stempfle, left, is mighty pleased with Steuben County, N. Y. potatoes.**

As invariably happens, word about Steuben County's advantages for commercial potato production spread from one person to another. Well-established Maine growers were lured from the Pine Tree State to the newly developing center in New York. Steuben County was experiencing a second pioneer movement.

The migration actually began in 1938 when two lads in their early twenties, Bishop and Babbin by name, drove down from Aroostook County, Maine, to see the land and became landowners before nightfall of that first day. In spite of their youth, they were growers of experience, and they were ambitious. Their enthusiasm was infectious. It is estimated that in the following year several hundred of their former Maine neighbors drove down to be convinced. Many of them were, and stayed to swell the growing community which from that time on has been known as "Little Maine." Long Islanders have since supplemented the original group.

The phenomenal growth and success of the community are the result of more than suitable physical conditions. Honest and well-calculated publicity has been an important factor. New and scientific methods of production have been employed, and cooperative effort encouraged.

From the start, the farms have comprised large acreages of the best potato soils. Among the score of "big" seed growers is Frank L. Clark, a former Connecticut resident. Certified seed grown on three of his large farms has helped to rank Steuben as the number one New York county in the production of seed potatoes.

Mr. Stempfle says: "As is to be expected, the demonstration of the sound economics of planting seed bred for high yield, the liberal use of fertilizer, thorough spraying and dusting, and all the other factors that make for large yields and profit has not been lost upon the people.

"Coincident with these changes of production is a phenomenal increase in the marketing of the crop. Steuben potatoes of the 1944 vintage moved as far west as Chicago and New Orleans, down the Atlantic seaboard to Florida, and were consumed in substantial volume in a score of cities within these boundaries."

Prospective additions to the community of potato growers have had one more advantage. Land values have not boomed. Many Steuben County farms which are for sale are listed in the county agent's office. Mr. Stempfle shows the properties to prospective buyers and arranges meetings with owners at no cost to anyone.

The energetic work of Bill Stempfle and scientific cooperative efforts of the community are proof that pioneering days are still with us.

# Do you know

## Agent J. E. WYLIE, who has mailed more than 28,000 copies of his news letter to servicemen from Miami County, Indiana

■ J. E. Wylie, county agent in Miami County, Ind., really had something to show when he met his fellow workers at the annual extension conference at Purdue University, December 11–14. He brought with him his collection of paper money given him by GI's stationed all over the world in appreciation for the news letter he has been mailing to them regularly every 2 weeks and for giving them all the local news. Other agents flocked around him to get a look.

At one time, Agent Wylie mailed his news letter to more than 1,000 servicemen from Miami County, but the number has now shrunk to a few hundred. The letter was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. The job of getting out the news letter got pretty big when the mailing list expanded, but the high school commercial classes and other willing groups helped address envelopes and did other mechanical chores. More than 28,000 copies of the letter have been sent to the boys since it was started in 1944. Folks both in and out of the Army tell him it's unbeatable as a morale builder. He wants to keep up the letter indefinitely.

"The boys in the service need letters from home more now than ever," he comments, "and I feel that although it takes a lot of time and work to keep it going, it's worth it."

The collection of paper money started accidentally. Several months ago a serviceman sent him a piece of foreign paper money as a token of appreciation for the news letter. The next issue carried a "thank you" for the souvenir piece. That started the flow of foreign money coming in. It appeared many other Miami County GI's wanted to express their appreciation.

The collection now numbers more than 160 different denominations and varieties of money representative of 54 countries, all carefully mounted in an album with scotch tape so that both sides of the money are visible. It takes about 10 minutes to mount one piece of money, says Agent Wylie.

The cash value of some of the money was high at one time in the country in which it was printed. One bill rated 10 million marks just before VE-day. It is worthless today.

Unique in the collection is a "$5 bill" the Japs had printed and ready to be used when they should invade the United States.

"I wouldn't trade this collection for the equivalent of the national debt," Mr. Wylie insists, "the sentiment back of this collection means so much to me."

**J. E. Wylie, Miami County, Ind., agricultural agent, and a part of his collection of foreign currency which GI's from his county have sent him in appreciation of a news letter he has been mailing to them for the past 18 months**

His Christmas news letter, besides the usual homey items about folks in the county, contained one of his guest editorials by a local minister. These guest writers for the news letter have included city officials, ministers, and others. But his greatest thrill came when Maj. Gen. William Kepner, a native of Miami County, wrote a special guest column from England.

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# New Hampshire youth in VFV

■ Four thousand seven hundred and seventy-five New Hampshire boys and girls from urban, village, and farm homes earned $225,000 working as Victory Farm Volunteers in the 1945 season, announces Norman Whippen, assistant farm labor supervisor in New Hampshire.

In addition to the New Hampshire youth, 92 Boston boys living on New Hampshire farms for the summer earned $6,000, and 89 Alabama boys, in the State for a month and a half, earned $7,000.

These young people did all types of farm work, planting, cultivating, and harvesting. Most of the New Hampshire youth lived at home and worked by the day. In Coos County, 700 Berlin youth picked 600,000 pounds of snap beans in August, earning more than $12,000. Altogether, 1,200 youth were used in the county during the season.

A total of 800 Nashua boys and girls, 150 to 375 a day, worked 81,000 youth hours and made more that $30,000. In Conway and the surrounding towns, 190 youth harvested corn, potatoes, and beans. In addition to these, 350 girls from private camps helped with the harvest.

Forty high schools in the State dismissed youth for farm work when they were needed, and three schools had half-day sessions.

Farmers all over the State were very well satisfied with the work done by these Victory Farm Volunteers, says Mr. Whippen. The Boston boys stayed an average of 56.5 days and did better work than last year. The Alabama boys worked from July 4 to August 20 and were good help.

# Committee plans 4-H Club program

■ Careful planning of 4–H Club programs is an unbroken rule in Jefferson County, Colo., and the success of the 4–H Club program there has proved that planning pays. The executive committee of the council is seen in session developing an improved 4–H Club program to meet the needs of Jefferson County boys and girls. The entire council is composed of older 4–H Club members, assisted by the county agricultural agent and home demonstration agent, and local 4–H adult leaders. The council builds and helps to carry out the county 4–H programs.

The executive committee, as pictured above, meets often to keep things going. Accomplishments of the county program this year have included the contacting of new members of the present membership, editing and publishing a monthly 4–H Club newspaper, actively planning and assisting with the details of the county junior fair, and an annual 4–H achievement banquet. This council and county organization illustrate results that can be achieved when the older club members, adult leaders, and county extension workers combine their efforts.

# News from Mother Walker

South Carolina's well-beloved pioneer home demonstration worker, Mrs. Dora Dee (Mother) Walker, was recently visited by J. M. Eleazer, State information specialist. Talking with her, he felt again the inspiration of her indomitable spirit and sent in the following account of his talk with her.

■ This afternoon I went to see Mother Walker, now in the twilight of a remarkable career.

I thought of the tragedy which had stalked her life—of how, a young woman, she had been left a widow with three sons and a daughter—of how she had worked to educate them until each one was well on the way to a successful career and then had been struck down by tragic death—of how, at middle life, she was left alone, and how, in spite of all that, she had lived on to call two generations of South Carolinians her "adopted sons and daughters."

After 26 years of school teaching, Mother Walker, in 1911, took up a larger field of service as "tomato club agent" for Barnwell County. This was a forerunner of the extension program for women and girls in the State. So, from the very beginning, she took a vital part in the development of home demonstration work.

Her work took her to every county many times. Mother Walker became an institution in the lives of farm women and 4–H Club girls all over South Carolina. Her early bulletins on canning, pickling, and preserving were pioneers in their fields, and they still form the background for such things in the State. Home conveniences and the beautification of the grounds claimed her service over the State until you could see the difference as you went around.

In her garden grow trees and shrubs from every county in the State, gifts from farm folks as she went among them. Her garden also has plants from 22 foreign countries. The acre or more around her house would make a botanist's paradise.

## Georgia canning contest

Georgia's group of young 4–H Club girls received recognition in the fall for their work when the Agricultural Extension Service announced the winners in the canning contest designed especially for young 4–H members.

The winners were announced by Mrs. Ruth T. Broach, food preservation specialist, and Kathleen Weldon, 4–H leader, of the Extension Service, who pointed out that 4–H Club girls between the ages of 10 and 14 were judged on the basis of records showing the foodstuff canned with and without assistance and on exhibits of canned foods at fairs and other meetings.

The contest, designed to encourage the younger 4–H girls to take an active part in canning for their families and utilizing products grown on the farm, is sponsored by the Extension Service in cooperation with a large Georgia sugar-refining concern.

Each of 4 girls received $25 war bonds, 4 received $10 in war savings stamps, and 12 received $5 in war savings stamps.

# We Study Our Job

## Do we need more or less farm or home visiting?

According to the annual statistical reports the farm and home visit is one of the extension methods that held up in spite of a shortage of gasoline and automobile tires. In the early thirties the number of farm and home visits per county extension worker fell off, but beginning with 1935 there was a tendency for the number to increase. In 1944, annual statistical reports showed the maximum number of individual farms and homes visited as well as the maximum number of farm and home visits.

Apparently the county agricultural agents annually visit 1 out of every 5 or 6 farms in their counties, while the home demonstration agent visits only 1 out of 8 or 10 farm homes. The average county agent makes between 700 and 800 farm visits to some 400 or 500 individual farms. On the other hand, the average home demonstration agent makes between 300 and 400 home visits to about 200 to 300 individual homes.

As pointed out in the two preceding issues of the REVIEW (We Study Our Job page), the subject-matter content of the agricultural and home economics extension program calls for the use of different methods and a variation in the emphasis on methods used. The county agricultural agent finds it advisable to devote over 50 percent more time to farm and home visiting than the home demonstration agent.

Certain phases of farming and homemaking lend themselves to the farm-and-home-visit type of extension procedure better than others. A sick chicken or a diseased plant can be brought to the county extension office, but a sick pig, cow, or horse, or a problem connected with the reorganization of either the farm or the farm and home buildings is more effectively handled by a visit to the farm or home.

Farm visits have not only the purpose (1) of helping a farmer or homemaker to solve some perplexing problem, but also (2) of building up acquaintances and increasing prestige, (3) of stimulating a farmer or homemaker to use some improved practice which may become the basis of a local demonstration, and (4) of enabling the extension worker to get a better understanding of the local problems.

When making a farm or home visit, generally the extension worker is dealing with one person in his own situation. The solution offered must be a real answer to the problem. The average visit consumes about an hour and generally deals with but one problem.

The extension approach through meetings generally deals with one or more problems of a group of farmers or homemakers. Meetings generally take more time and reach a greater number of persons than do farm or home visits. Those attending the meetings have to adjust the subject matter presented at the meetings to their own situations.

## Relative effectiveness of methods to be studied

The major objective of a study being made in Wisconsin is a comparative evaluation of the results obtained when subject matter is taught through a combination of project meetings and leaflets; of radio and leaflets; and of project meetings, radio, and leaflets. These particular combinations will be tested in La Crosse, Fond du Lac, and Winnebago Counties, respectively.

Six lessons giving instructions for the repair, care, and selection of hats were broadcast over the University Station at Madison the second and third weeks in October. This station is heard in Columbia and Winnebago Counties but not in La Crosse County to any extent. During the same period, project meetings at which leaflets were distributed were held in La Crosse and Winnebago Counties. Homemakers in Fond du Lac County were sent leaflets on request.

The survey was made by personal interview the last week of November to determine the comparative number of suggested practices actually carried out by the homemakers in the three counties.

Lucinda Crile, Division of Field Studies and Training, Federal Extension Service, and Gladys Meloche and Josephine Pollock, Wisconsin Extension Service, are in charge of this study.

## Cornell studies Extention

A new office of extension studies in home economics was established at Cornell University on December 1.

Heading the new office, under the title of administrative specialist in extension studies, is Dorothy DeLany, formerly assistant State 4-H Club leader in New York.

In the new position she will have charge of coordinating all resources, including Federal and State, concerned with extension methods in home economics. Miss DeLany will aid in the application of new techniques to extension activities; such research techniques as measuring the value of and improving present teaching methods through the printed word, radio, demonstrations, contests, exhibits, and similar means.

This type of office, said Director Simons, is relatively new in State service, but the groundwork has been laid with considerable success by the Federal Extension Service, and developed further at the Universities of Chicago and Columbia. This work on extension methods, carried on more or less independently by the various departments at the colleges, will benefit from the increased over-all attention that now can be given to it.

Miss DeLany is spending the first months of her new job in training: 1 month in the Federal Extension office and about 2 months visiting the Northeastern States where field studies of 4-H Club work are under way. She will participate again at the Evaluation Workshop held for the second consecutive year at the University of Chicago in March. At the 1945 workshop, Miss DeLany cooperated in planning a study on how the addition of personnel to county staffs affects extension accomplishment.

# 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.**

■ **More Effective Control of Cotton Insects Promised.** Benzene hexachloride is proving to be the most promising material ever tested against several important cotton insects by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Preliminary tests indicate that it may control the boll weevil and the cotton aphid and other sucking insects at the same time. Results of tests conducted in September 1945 indicate that benzene hexachloride is equal or superior to the best-known insecticides, such as calcium arsenate, DDT, sulfur, and nicotine, foremost of the serious cotton pests, with the exception of the bollworm. Control of the boll weevil and the cotton leafworm was better with benzene hexachloride than with calcium arsenate in cage tests. For controlling the cotton flea hopper, Lygus bugs, and stinkbugs, the new material was at least as good as DDT, sulfur, or sulfur-arsenical mixtures. The cotton aphid was killed more readily when treated with benzene hexachloride than with nicotine dust. On the debit side, heavy applications of benzene hexachloride have caused some damage to tender cotton foliage, and the cotton bollworm is better controlled by DDT or calcium arsenate. Recommendations for the use of benzene hexachloride against cotton pests will not be made until much more work has been done under field conditions to determine the proper dosages and methods of application.

■ **New Use for Penicillin.** Bacterial spores, a dormant, highly resistant form of germ life, may be destroyed by penicillin, according to recent findings of Bureau of Dairy Industry scientists. Spores occur widely in nature, causing deterioration and spoilage of some industrial materials and canned non-acid foods. Penicillin is most effective against nonsporulating bacteria (the kind that do not form spores) when they are actively multiplying, and by might be more susceptible at the stage when they are starting growth. Earlier work of the Bureau had shown that mild heating started the growth of many species of spores. Bureau scientists incubated spores in a fluid containing small amounts of penicillin and found that after beginning to germinate, the spores became sufficiently unstable to be attacked by the drug, a high percentage of them being destroyed. These results suggest the possible use of penicillin as a preservative of materials in which spores may cause spoilage. The Bureau of Dairy Industry is especially interested in the possibilities for sterilizing evaporated milk and preserving fresh milk for longer periods. Other uses might be found in such fields as paper manufacture, food preservation, and the tanning, wool, and rubber industries.

■ **Wheat Germ and Corn Germ Good Protein Sources.** Protein, as its name—derived from the Greek word for "primary"—indicates, is of high importance in nutrition. Protein foods of animal origin, such as meat, milk, and eggs, are more efficient nutritionally than plant proteins, but they are usually more expensive. Sources of low-cost protein of good quality are very important in maintaining nutrition on a national scale. Studies by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, supplementing earlier work on soybeans, peanuts, and cottonseed, show that wheat germ and corn germ rank first and second, respectively, among plant sources of nutritionally efficient protein. Moreover, they can probably be made available in large quantities in a form suitable for human consumption. It has been estimated that 55 million pounds of wheat germ alone is now produced every year in the United States and Canada. Specially analogy it was thought that spores processed and defatted wheat and corn germs that have excellent keeping quality are now being prepared commercially for human use.

■ **Buyers' Chart for Quality Chicks.** To help buyers identify the quality of baby chicks and poultry breeding stock for sale by hatcherymen and breeders participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan, officials of the plan have just issued a chart that explains the eight designs now used commercially. The chart is entitled "Trade-Marks Identifying Quality Chicks, Breeding Stock, and Hatching Eggs." These designs represent the four progressive stages of breeding quality and four different degrees of pullorum disease control provided by the plan and are registered as trade-marks in the United States Patent Office. Any one of the designs on a chick box indicates that the chicks were hatched in officially supervised hatcheries from eggs of officially supervised breeding flocks. "U. S. Register of Merit" represents the highest breeding stage. Stock so marked is excellent for breeding purposes. Such stock is scarce, however, and is intended primarily for specialized breeding flocks rather than for general farm use. The next highest stage is "U. S. Record of Performance" and signifies very good quality; such stock also is intended for breeding flocks. "U. S. Certified" chicks are recommended as excellent for general use and "U. S. Approved" as very good for such use. The pullorum control classes, indicating different degrees of control over pullorum disease, are "U. S. Pullorum-Clean" (best for all purposes), "U. S. Pullorum-Passed" (excellent for all purposes); "U. S. Pullorum-Controlled" (very good for all purposes); and "U. S. Pullorum-Tested (good for all purposes). Use of the designs is limited to participants in the plan. Copies of the chart can be obtained from the Bureau of Animal Industry.

■ **What's in a Food?** A new pamphlet, entitled "Tables of Food Composition in Terms of 11 Nutrients," is now available as Miscellaneous Publication 572 of the Department of Agriculture. The tables give average values for food energy, protein, fat, carbohydrate, 3 minerals, and the better known vitamins found in 275 food materials. The publication was prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics and the National Research Council.

# VFV showed value of farm experience for urban youth

IRVIN H. SCHMITT, Chief, Victory Farm Volunteer Division, Extension Farm Labor Program

In November 1942, when the program of placing nonfarm youth in wartime agricultural work was under initial consideration by Extension, American armies were just landing on the shores of North Africa. And we were still many months away from the Normandy invasion when the Victory Farm Volunteers' program actually got under way.

Today, with a two-front military victory behind us, it is apparent that farmers have labor problems still with them, problems peculiar to a transition period. In many States, nonfarm boys and girls can help meet that need for help on farms again in 1946. Plans for a youth program in the coming year are not completed at this time, however, but there definitely will be such a program. We are just now able to summarize wartime VFV experiences.

These experiences seem to indicate clearly that youth are a convenient and important labor source. For some kinds of work they are better fitted than for others. Without proper supervision they are not always satisfactory.

When carefully selected, trained, placed, and supervised, youth made good work records during the war period. Placements of these young workers numbered 1,149,341 in 1943, 1,696,986 in 1944, and an estimated 1,500,000 in 1945 (final figures not available). The number of individual boys and girls placed was not so great, as many were placed more than once in a season, 700,000 having been placed in 1943, 875,000 in 1944, and an estimated 825,000 in 1945.

A quick summary of VFV wartime activities throughout the Nation shows that boys and girls were busy at work in southern cottonfields, in Louisiana's bean and potato harvest, in the orchards and fruit-packing sheds of California, the Dakota grainfields, Utah's cherry orchards, dairy barns of the Northeast, the hybrid cornfields of the Midwest, the snap-bean rows of Maryland and Maine and Michigan, in Oregon's vegetable and berry harvest, and many others.

Nearly 80 percent of these youth worked as "day-hauls." Only 17 percent went to farms to live, but theirs was one of the most interesting among the experiences of youth, cementing new friendships between urban and rural peoples. "Live-ins," although inexperienced for the most part, were handy help with farm chores, the most simple tasks involved in a variety of operations, and many an odd job. Many boys and girls drove tractors and handled nearly every kind of farm machinery. In many instances girls relieved the farmer's wife of housework and assisted in the garden and with the poultry. Youth campers were few in numbers but provided a reliable source where it was feasible for farmers and Extension to operate camps.

In 1946, with fewer workers available from outside sources, many industrial workers and servicemen who ordinarily perform farm work not yet returned to their normal occupation, and continued high-production goals, we may look forward to a VFV program in some areas but in a somewhat modified form.

We have always used some nonfarm youth to supplement the seasonal farm labor supply, even though farmers are bound to turn to adult labor if and when it becomes available. Youth labor in some areas does seem to offer a long-time answer to summer farm labor needs. With that premise, we shall be forced to make some provision for efficient utilization of this labor and youth's own welfare.

What type of program would best bring about such efficiency and supervision requires some study on the part of both Extension and the schools. Parents, youth-serving organizations, and school officials are already interested in some kind of permanent plan to make farm work available to youth in vacation periods. The war has prompted educators to put more emphasis on work experience, and schools can be expected to be vitally concerned with any plans for farm experience. Extension workers can well be asking whether Extension should play a role in any postwar farm work program for city and town youth. If there is any place for a tie-in with 4–H Club or older youth activities, now is the time to be thinking along this line.

Many extension workers, educators, and others who worked with youth during the war feel that the VFV experiences brought out certain incidental values that should be continued in the years to come. Summer camp sponsors and directors, school people, youth-serving agencies, and Extension learned some valuable lessons. Farmers and agriculture generally benefited from increased urban appreciation of their problems. Youth gained the values inherent in wholesome work experience, learned many new things, and got a broader concept of the way other Americans live and work.

It may not be outside Extension's scope of activity to consider urban youth and their relation to agriculture of tomorrow. If food is to continue to play its essential role in peace, and if there is to be peace even within the Nation, we should obviously be mistaken in rearing millions of town-bred boys and girls who are ignorant of farming.

## Mexican youths tour Texas

Youth of Mexico and Texas cemented good neighbor relations in a 12-day joint educational tour of south, central, north, and west Texas.

Twelve students of the National School of Agriculture of Mexico and 14 members of Texas 4–H Clubs met at Laredo, November 3, and lived and traveled together until November 15.

The tour was sponsored by the foundation of a Nation-wide merchandising company in cooperation with the Texas Extension Service.

The Mexican students chosen for the tour were selected on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and character.

Each of the 12 Extension Service districts of the State was represented by one 4–H Club boy and two additional boys.

# Farmers have trading co-op

■ Farmers of Dunn County, Wis., are planning to organize a new kind of cooperative.

It will be known as the Farmers' Cooperative Trading Association. The cooperative will not sell farm produce for members, nor will it sell farm supplies to them—the usual function of a farmers' cooperative. Instead, it will do as its name implies; it will be a "trading" association through which a farmer with something on his farm he does not need may dispose of it to a farmer who can use it or through which a farmer who has need for something can locate a farmer who has what he needs but wants to dispose of it.

County Agent J. L. Wenstadt explains that many farmers have been calling at his office asking where they can find such things as a Duroc Jersey boar, 2 or 3 tons of alfalfa hay, or clover seed. At times the county agent can tell them, but not always; for although many farmers come seeking for such information, not many report items which they have to sell.

So, to answer such questions intelligently, the new cooperative was planned. Its rules will provide that each member pay a fee of $3 a year and provide himself with 25 cents' worth of postal cards. The cards will be stamped with the address of the association office. Then, when a member has a good, serviceable purebred bull for sale, for instance, he will send in a description of the animal, its location, and the price he wants. All such cards will be filed, so that when another member comes in and asks where he can find a Duroc Jersey boar, or a purebred Holstein bull, or a ton of hay, the information will be available.

The cooperative will be organized on a nonprofit basis. The object of the $3 membership fee is to hire extra part-time office help to keep the file, if necessary, and to advertise, from time to time, the items farmers have for sale; also to provide for postage, stationery, and other incidentals. The cooperative will have directors and officers and will hold an annual meeting.

Out of 100 replies to letters by Wenstadt to farmers, asking their opinion of the plan, 99 farmers said that they would like something of that kind included in the county agricultural program. When 100 members sign up, Wenstadt says the program can start.

About once a month, he says, all items listed in the file can be advertised for sale. This is expected to increase newspaper classified advertising rather than to decrease it, because many farmers listing items in the file would not ordinarily advertise them.

As a result of the first year's experience, a masterly description sheet may be evolved. Under this plan each item would be described by number; a farmer would merely have to put down the number of the item on the post card, mark the card "Buy" or "Sell" to indicate what he wanted to do, and mail the card. The number would reveal, for instance, the breed, description, and age of bull for sale or wanted, and other pertinent information. The seller would add the price he wanted. The description sheet would be sent to each member, so that it could be used by either buyer or seller.

In addition, it is planned to provide each member with a map of the county. When he obtains information on items he wants from the file, he will be given the section number in which the farm is located on which the item is for sale. Then he does not have to look for the farm; he can locate it quickly from his map.

The plan has an added advantage, says Wenstadt. Obtaining information on items for sale does not depend upon the farmer's finding the county agent in when he calls. If the agent is out, an office girl can quickly give the information from the file.

## Roosevelt Fire Company functioning

Equipped with a brand new truck, a 500-gallon steel tank, and a power take-off driven fire pump, the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company of Los Angeles County, Calif., is all set to give better protection to farmers of the east side of Antelope Valley.

The volunteer company works in close cooperation with regular fire-fighting units of the county forester and fire warden.

Organized in 1942 as part of a Statewide emergency farm fire protection program by the Agricultural Extension Service to protect against possible sabotage fires, the Roosevelt unit was one of 26 similar groups formed in the Antelope Valley. These groups were organized by M. H. Kimball, assistant Los Angeles County agent, with the assistance and cooperation of Chuck Gardener of Pine Canyon Patrol Station; John Segrist of Vincent, and Roy Keat of Big Rock, and others in the department. There were more than 2,800 such units formed throughout the State by the Agricultural Extension Service.

During the past 3 years the Roosevelt volunteers have assisted forestry rigs at 8 or 10 fires and have responded alone to more than a dozen. This was accomplished with a 1922 truck mounting a spray rig and engine, which occasionally had to be towed to the fire by another truck or tractor because of its antiquity; but the water pump and engine never failed to function once the rig reached the fire! The original rig was purchased for $150 subscribed by a dozen ranchers.

The new apparatus was purchased with funds subscribed voluntarily by farmers and residents of the Roosevelt district, more than 100 having contributed nearly $2,500. Some 400 residences and farms lie within the area of easy access of the new rig.

## New Hampshire organization study

With the end of the war a period of constructive effort and change in activities faces the Extension Service. The Extension Service of the State of New Hampshire is making a study of its organization to obtain recommendations for the postwar era. The study will include a consideration of the objectives of Extension, duties and responsibilities of staff members, and their relationship with each other.

The New Hampshire Committee is being assisted in this study by Assistant Director L. A. Bevan and Dr. Fred P. Frutchey of the Washington office. The committee presented a progress report of the work at the annual New Hampshire Extension Conference in January.

# Among Ourselves

■ **AWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE** were announced by the Executive Committee of Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Honorary Extension Fraternity, meeting in Chicago, Ill., on October 24. The fraternity's highest award, the Distinguished Service Ruby, was voted by the several chapters to F. A. Anderson, Director, Extension Service, Colorado. A. D. Wilson, land use specialist, Extension Service, Minnesota, was awarded a 1945 Certificate of Recognititon at Large by the Executive Committee.

Upon recommendation of 11 State chapters and approval of the Epsilon Sigma Phi Executive Committee, 1945 Certificates of Recognition were awarded to the following extension workers: Martha Radcliff McPheeters, extension food and nutrition specialist, Oklahoma; Lonny I. Landrum, State home demonstration agent, South Carolina; Dr. C. E. Brehm, Director, Extension Service, Tennessee; Mrs. Edna V. Smith Tuller, former State home demonstration leader, Michigan; J. W. Burch, Director Extension Service, Missouri; W. E. Dittmer, district extension supervisor (15 northeastern counties), South Dakota State supervisor farm labor program; Mildred C. Thomas, home demonstration agent, Worcester County, Mass.; Marjorie E. Luce, State home demonstration leader, Vermont; L. T. Oldroyd, Director, Alaska Experiment Station, Director Extension Service, Alaska; Alando B. Ballantyne, extension specialist, rural sociology, Arizona; S. B. Hall, Multnomah County agricultural agent, Oregon.

## Agents honored for distinguished service

■ Twenty-four home demonstration agents were honored for distinguished service by the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association, meeting in Chicago early in December. Each of these agents had been in the service for 10 years and was selected by her State Home Demonstration Agents' Association as one who had done outstanding work. Distinguished Service Award Certificates were presented to 54 county agents by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents at their annual banquet on December 7. The agents so honored were:

*Arkansas:* Carroll S. Morrow, Fort Smith; Oliver L. Adams, Hope; Miss Marcelle Phillips, Booneville; Miss Harriet King, Fayetteville.

*Colorado:* Bernard H. Trierweiler, Greeley; D. L. McMillen, Fort Collins; Mrs. Carmen Johnson, Fort Collins.

*Connecticut:* Ernest Eugene Tucker, Rockville.

*Florida:* K. C. Moore, Orlando; Joseph W. Malone, Marianna.

*Georgia:* Webb Tatum, Elberton; Earl M. Varner, Swainsboro; John H. Henderson, Marietta; Shields B. Adair, Gray; Miss Sue Stanford, Swainsboro.

*Idaho:* Charles Warren Daigh, Rupert; Guy T. McAlexander, Moscow.

*Illinois:* E. A. Bierbaum, Anna; John R. Gilkey, Decatur; Hamlet H. Lett, Mount Carmel; Mrs. Esther K. Thor, Champaign County.

*Indiana:* L. E. Archbold, Decatur; Lloyd E. Cutler, Crown Point; Mervin S. Smith, Bluffton; Miss Janice Berlin, Indianapolis.

*Iowa:* Paul N. Payne, Cresco; Marion E. Olson, Mason City; Kenneth R. Littlefield, Sac City; Myron D. Lacy, DeWitt.

*Kansas:* C. T. Hall, Olathe; Harold B. Harper, Newton; Claude Lewis King, Topeka; Miss Nernetta Fairbairn, El Dorado.

*Kentucky:* Robert Hume, Williamstown; Robert Wigginton, Cynthiana; Thomas H. Jones, Beattyville; C. F. Park, Harrodsburg.

*Louisiana:* B. W. Baker, Alexandria; A. B. Curet, New Roads; G. C. Meaux, Oberlin; B. B. Jones, New Orleans.

*Maine:* Philip S. Parsons, Bangor.

*Massachusetts:* Allister F. MacDougall, Concord.

*Michigan:* K. K. Vining, Grand Rapids; William Edward McCarthy, Bay City; Mrs. Bertine Benedict, Mason.

*Minnesota:* J. I. Swedberg, Redwood Falls; George A. King, Waconia; Ronald McCamus, Willmar; Miss Ada D. Todnem, Fairmont.

*Mississippi:* E. E. Deen, Hattiesburg; J. K. Morgan, Starkville; H. A. Carpenter, Indianola; Ernest L. Hobby, Fayette; Miss Katherine Staley, Meridian.

*Missouri:* Roy I. Coplen, Higginsville; Robert A. Langenbacher, St. Charles; Miss Ann Sillers, Kahoko.

*Montana:* W. H. Jones, Billings; Miss Lillian Stone, Billings.

*Nebraska:* J. R. Watson, Westpoint; Clyde C. Noyes, McCook.

*Nevada:* Royal D. Crook, Fallon.

*New Hampshire:* Eloi Augustus Adams, Rochester; Miss Una A. Rice, Woodsville.

*New Jersey:* Miss Charlotte Embleton, Somerville.

*New Mexico:* Miss Maud Doty, Albuquerque.

*New York:* Charles W. Radway, Malone; A. L. Shepherd, Poughkeepsie; Earl G. Brougham, Catskill.

*North Dakota:* William R. Page, Grand Forks; Snorri M. Thorfinnson, Forman.

*Ohio:* Francis P. Taylor, Steubenville; E. Howard Bond, Napoleon; Walter H. Bluck, Wilmington; Rossie Greer, Painesville.

*Oklahoma:* Clarence R. Humphrey, Okemah; W. R. Hutchison, Newkirk; Thomas B. Morris, Hobart; Miss Jeffie Thompson, Stillwater; Mrs. Susie Baker, Sayre.

*Texas:* Miss Nannie Hill, Vernon; Miss Clara Pratt, Lubbock; Miss Nena Roberson, Dayton.

*Utah:* Miss Rosa Ellen Agren, Farmington.

*Vermont:* Miss Jennie Hall, Woodstock.

*West Virginia:* Miss Margaret Rexroad, Fairmont.

T. M. CAMPBELL, Negro field agent for the southern tier of States from Texas to Florida, was given a special honor on January 11, when a bust of Mr. Campbell was unveiled at Tuskegee Institute in recognition of his 40 years of extension work.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

WORD HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT MARIE OROSO, beloved head and founder of home demonstration work in the Philippines, fell victim to the battle for the liberation of Manila. Many extension workers here will remember Miss Oroso who studied extension methods here some 20 years ago. She went back to inaugurate a home demonstration service especially to meet the food and nutritional needs of her people. In 1933 she sent two of her agents, Miss Brodeth and Miss Atienza, to the United States for a year of advanced study in both foods and extension methods.

She and nine of her home demonstration agents were working overtime as usual during the last days of January 1945, packing and canning foodstuffs for people being evacuated to the provinces and for the prisoners at Santo Tomas (which they somehow managed to smuggle in). When the Americans occupied the north side of the city, the agents were caught in the south side. Miss Oroso was hit by shrapnel in the leg and with the rest of her girls took refuge at the Remedios Hospital not very far from her office. The hospital suffered a direct hit, killing Miss Oroso and three of the agents, and left the others wounded.

During the days of the occupation she was one of the outstanding figures. She, with her agents, helped the people to use what they had at hand, even turning the troublesome hyacinth plant that clogs the waterways into salad. The agents and leaders trained in home demonstration work were a nucleus of trained workers to help the people feed themselves during the trying war days. Her heroic work will long be remembered.

SIX YOUNG VENEZUELAN STUDENTS are spending February and March in Puerto Rico, finishing up their extension training under conditions more nearly similar to those they will find at home. Miss Ana Carvajal, Miss Elda Marquina, Miss Adela Rodriguez, Miss Luz Uzcategui, Angel Capobianco and Mario Perez have completed 10 months of study in the Federal Extension office and with State and county agents in several of the following States: Pennsylvania, Indiana, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Connecticut, Louisiana, New Hampshire, Ohio, South Carolina, Missouri, Washington, and Illinois. This group is particularly interested in organization and supervision of county extension work, 4-H Club work, nutrition, and handicrafts. The training schedule in Puerto Rico will be under the supervision of Roberto Huyke, director; Antonio Perez, assistant director in charge of county agent work; and Miss Esther Seijo, assistant director in charge of home demonstration work. They will start back to Venezuela on April 4 to assist in expanding extension work in their own country. These six students bring to 14 the total number of Latin-American trainees who have completed the final phase of their work in Puerto Rico where the language and conditions more nearly approach those they will find in their native land.

DIRECTOR WILSON IS DEVELOPING A FILE OF CURRENT STATE REPORTS of extension work. So often he has found that they furnished just the material he wanted to show what the Extension Service is. These reports are just the thing to give to visiting Congressmen, important officials, or foreign dignitaries, or for use at public hearings, meetings, and conferences.

BRIEF STORIES ON THE WORK OF COUNTY AGENTS were part of the regular advertising of the General Electric Co. last fall. This is being continued for the current year. The advertising company handling this work is now gathering factual material dealing with specific cases in which the county agent helped the farmer. Any particularly good incidents may be sent to the REVIEW which will forward them to the proper person.

A NEW COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL became the objective of the home demonstration club members in Rabun County, Ga.; and they raised $5,000 to help underwrite the operating fund, reports Gladys Murray, home demonstration agent. Through the county council representing 14 community home demonstration clubs and 267 women, the money was raised in 5 weeks as their share of a $30,000 endowment fund to underwrite the operating expenses for a proposed 25- to 30-bed hospital. Members of one club pledged 1 dozen eggs a week and with this money furnished a room at the county maternity home. The women of the county made 21 gowns and 9 patchwork quilts for use in the maternity home, and they also keep the institution supplied with fresh flowers and large quantities of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other farm products.

A PLAY FESTIVAL IS A FEATURE of the spring in eastern Colorado when each county is presenting its best one-act play in a contest on the college campus, March 2, states Margaret Fillas, extension rural recreation specialist. County extension agents are in charge of the competition which selects the best one-act play in the county.

DR. JOHN F. DUGGAR, who served as first director of the Alabama Extension Service July 1, 1914, to June 30, 1920, died December 21. He will be remembered for his part in extension work in Alabama.


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# Corn Belt studies its homes

## Central States Housing Conference Focuses on Farmstead Improvement

■ What help does the farm family need in order to get the kind of housing they want and should have? The consensus at the Central States Housing Conference was that housing must occupy an important place in the extension educational program. It was said again and again that education in housing must be on a volume basis.

Back of education must always be research, and important in this field is the work of the Central Experiment Station Farm Structures Committee reported at the conference by the late Mr. F. R. Immer of Minnesota. Fourteen Central States and the U. S. Department of Agriculture are collaborating. The research is organized in 13 subcommittees, including one on farmhouses, one on farmstead planning, one on the utilization of building materials, and another on the Midwest plan service. Each committee is working on a regional publication—the housing bulletin to be published in Illinois.

### Rural Builders Need Training

Training of rural builders is one of the immediate problems facing the researchers. Short courses for builders—in some cases for a year and in others on a shorter-term basis—are helping, but more are needed. The use of local materials to supplement the scarce lumber is another problem of the immediate future getting attention from the experiment stations. They are studying ways of cutting the cost, the comparative value of one- and two-story barns and labor-saving design.

The Midwest plan service was initiated in 1932. For support it depends on sale of plans, of which 300 are now available. An annual revision of a new catalog of plans and the development of a more comprehensive service with the cooperation of associations of manufacturers are two improvements under way.

No matter how valuable the facts uncovered, they will do no good unless they become easily available to farmers and their families through county extension workers with a good county housing-education program.

### Local Sponsoring Committee Helpful

Discussion of a county housing program included the value of a local sponsoring committee, including farm people, dealers, architects, and other interested agencies and individuals. This committee should study needs, develop programs, plan meetings, demonstrations, publicity, exhibits, and other educational activities which will help those planning to build or remodel. The tried and true extension devices such as demonstrations, tours, and exhibits can easily be adapted to the housing problem.

### County Reading Center Recommended

The suggestion that each county extension office have a reading center filled with reference materials on planning, building, finishing, furnishing, and similar subjects interested the conferees. The self-evident truth that the farm family must have the information *before* they build was emphasized by R. B. Hull, landscape specialist in Indiana. He has had satisfactory results in helping to replan the entire farmstead lay-out when a new building was contemplated, avoiding the mistake of putting the new building on the old site when it does not give efficient working and living conditions.

### Agent Needs Training

To organize an effective county program, extension agents will need to be trained in this new field, and some agents will have more aptitude for it than others. They should know the functional needs of farm families in their counties and the personal and esthetic preferences of local people as well as the fundamental principles of good farmstead lay-outs and materials suitable and available for building in that particular area.

Demonstration houses are most effective when the family know just what is involved before they agree to undertake the demonstration, and plenty of opportunity is given for people to inspect the house. It is helpful when local architects, builders, and dealers are especially invited to the demonstration homes. Close contact with local dealers to keep them informed of recommendations made by specialists and to see that they get copies of all materials put out, pays dividends in a housing program.

Three outstanding features of the conference were the visual material from Illinois which was demonstrated by Keith Hinchcliff; the discussion on organization of a State housing program, by Spence Cleland of Minnesota; and the methods used in both Illinois and Minnesota to train extension agents.

### Housing Is Part of Over-All Program

Housing, it was brought out, is not a separate program but must be integrated into the over-all extension program. After returning home, one of South Dakota's district agents, Clarence Shanley, wrote: "The forester, the landscape architect, the agricultural engineer, and the rural architect will all have a part in laying out the farmstead. The livestock men, including poultry and dairy, should be in on planning the different buildings so they will meet the needs of the farm. The women may not be so interested in the details of the hog barn or the cattle barn, but they should be in on the planning of about everything else. I can't think of anything in the program that the farm management specialist would not be interested in." This looks like a real job for the State program planners.

Representatives attending the Central States Conference included directors, county agent leaders, home demonstration leaders, district agents, county agents, home management and farm management specialists, economists, and landscape architects.

TODAY'S HOME BUILDS TOMORROW'S WORLD is the theme of Home Demonstration Week to be observed by local clubs and national radio programs throughout the country May 5–12, 1946.

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# Today's vision is tomorrow's action

LITA BANE, Head, Department of Home Economics, University of Illinois

**The job of the home demonstration agent is close to the heart of Miss Bane, who has followed the work since the passage of the Smith-Lever Act. Her thoughtful discussion of the future of home demonstration work was first made at the annual meeting of the Home Demonstration Agents Association in Chicago, December 5, and is given here in a shortened version.**

■ From the beginning, home economics has been closely related to agriculture in the extension program—so closely related in some instances that home economics stood in danger of losing its identity and representing rather those phases of production commonly carried on by farm women—gardens, poultry, canning, and the rest. As a matter of fact, at an early regional conference a State leader and a competent one, after telling about their project on building a new kind of chicken coop, closed her talk by saying, "We are building on a broad foundation and for eternity." Not long ago I came across my notes made at that meeting and I had added "by building chicken coops." Now we may begin by building chicken coops, but as home economists having faith in the ideals of our profession, we dare not stop there.

Today finds us still closely related to agriculture because in the main we are working with farm women. Much of our work for some time will doubtless continue to be with them, but there seems to be a handwriting on the wall that eventually all homemakers, city and country, will insist upon having help. If it does not come through existing agencies, I believe new organizations and services will have to be set up. In the main, home economics extension has undoubtedly been better off because of its close relation to agriculture, in spite of the struggle to maintain our identity and our independence of action.

The 1940 Yearbook of Agriculture says:

"Hitherto the problems of commercial farmers have almost completely dominated agricultural thinking and policy. These problems still bulk very large, as they should, but they no longer tell the whole story.

"All of our attention was concentrated on the science of material things. But the greatest discoveries about gasoline, steel, rubber, fertilizers, bacteria, insects, however much they contribute to better production, tell us little about how to live wisely. In fact, they often complicate living enormously—individual living and social living. Seeing the effects of this complication, we have come to realize that there are other great areas about which we are badly in need of scientific knowledge. We need to know a great deal more about such vital problems as what kind of environment human beings need for their best development, how to create such an environment; why we human beings so often make a mess of our affairs in spite of all our great achievements."

But if there is truth in the prophetic words I have just read, it means that home economists must play a much more important role in the future.

Home economists, as such, no matter how good-willed they are or how many 18-hour days they put in, cannot solve all the world problems of which even the least experienced among us is acutely conscious. We, single-handed, cannot repair the damage that has been done to our society. The temptation is great, particularly in times of world-wide distress, to race all over the lot doing a little here and there and hoping that because we have spent ourselves so unselfishly the results are bound to be the best we can make them. That conclusion I believe to be unsound. We are tempted to follow the example of the candidate for mayor of New York. The New Yorker commented in its Of All Things column: "Our candi-

**"Friendships are between people before they can be between nations; and they are likely to be built up in rather old-fashioned ways."**

dates for mayor have expressed their views on such matters as Palestine, the Polish problem, world peace, and atomic power. We certainly ought to know just who is best fitted to run the city hall." I should like to make a few city-hall comments—their equivalent in terms of home economics.

Surely the war proved that we serve our fellow men best by doing the things we know best how to do. Some boys who yearned to fly fighter planes were kept on the ground doing mechanical repair work or in a laboratory far from the scene of battle.

Suppose we take a close-up look at homes—those institutions for the benefit of which we are expending our time, energy, and talents. Lots of things happen in homes—important things. Many of them center about the physical needs of the human race for food, shelter, and clothing; and we need not apologize for our interest in these needs. We should feel apologetic, however, if we consider only the physical needs that food, shelter, and clothing satisfy and forget the human hungers for security, affection, recognition, new experience, esthetic enjoyment, and sense of achievement, which are often met at the same time with the tools of food, clothing, and shelter. Undoubtedly, they could be much more completely met if we were to give more thought to the matter.

Starvation and misery, especially in childhood, sow the mental seeds for future wars, the psychologists agree. (Science Newsletter.) People aren't always starved from lack of food but from eating the wrong food.

I believe home economists should limit themselves to such subjects as are of great significance to homemakers, subjects they can handle expertly and subjects not likely to be available from sources better equipped to handle them and subjects concerned with things homemakers as such can do something about.

Most food is eaten in homes; homemakers are responsible for selection and care of family clothing and household equipment and furnishings, for almost the entire care of small children, and to a considerable extent for maintaining satisfying relationships.

We have been captivated by the possibilities of better human relations and better mental health, and we have

**"Let's not be afraid of the words, freedom, democracy, peace, one world, spiritual energy—even truth, goodness, and beauty, remembering that, in miniature, many, and perhaps most, of the problems that beset the world beset the family, and as the families try to solve their problems so do nations try to work out their destinies."**

forgotten that these do not operate in a vacuum but are connected more often than not with the very things we've been studying and teaching for these many years.

Our heightened emotions and our tortures of uncertainty and anxiety caused by the war have turned us to family life with almost fanatical faith in its power to heal, guide, and comfort and make life worth living. At the same time we see marriages dissolved, family life disintegrating and degraded before our very eyes.

With disciplined minds and hearts we must join the search to distinguish the eternal from the outworn. This calls for more research in all areas. Our faith and hope tell us that there are eternal values in home living.

We need to limit our field to the most important things that we can reasonably expect to do well.

With courage and imagination we shall need to drop out the things we are convinced are either too little or too big for us to include and apply every test for soundness that we know to the subject matter we use. The world is everybody's business. What is our unique business as home demonstration agents?

We shall need to remind ourselves that though they make few banner headlines, homes are important. There is ample proof that family living is one of the chief sources of human happiness. I believe Mr. Hoover was right when he said: "The unit of American life is the family and the home. It is the economic unit as well as the moral and spiritual unit. But it is more than this. It is the beginning of self-government. It is the throne of our highest ideals. It is the source of the spiritual energy of our people."

Let's not scorn food, shelter and clothing, and house furnishings. With them as our instruments let us build toward finer human relationships which seem to be the greatest single need of the moment. Let's not be afraid of the words, freedom, democracy, peace, one world, spiritual energy—even truth, goodness, and beauty, remembering that, in miniature, many, and perhaps most, of the problems that beset the world beset the family, and as the families try to

solve their problems so do nations try to work out their destinies. We need to remind ourselves, too, that friendships are between people before they can be between nations; and they are likely to be built up in rather old-fashioned ways.

A county is a large piece of ground with many homemakers, and you are just one person. Sorting out the most important things to be done is always one of the hardest jobs of an administrator, and it must be one of yours. I believe the functions of a home demonstration agent should be more carefully studied and a sort of professional standard set up for her guidance—and protection, I might add.

You need an over-all picture of social and psychological problems and as many data as you can get regarding your own county. You could safely assume that mental health is one of your problems; and without being a psychologist or a psychoanalyst you can slant your work, all of it, in the direction of the health, comfort, and happiness it means for all family members. You can do more reading in this field, not with the idea of becoming an expert but in order that you may have more understanding of this complex problem. You will need poise and the ability to help people see relative values without saying this is right and this wrong.

It seems to me that home economics has possibilities of interpretations that touch in a vital way man's basic needs—physical, mental, emotional. We need to work from where we are with what we have. In other words, we need to reconsider and enrich our subject matter with contributions from psychology and sociology.

We need to think about home demonstration agents as professional workers, and we need to consider what kind of future we should set out to make for them.

Make no mistake. They are exceedingly important and influential people. They can do and are doing much to improve the homemaking and the happiness of farm people. They will probably have to do more on the happiness side in the future—helping people to keep their poise and faith and hope.

# Develops new farm lease plans

■ Modernized forms for leases have been developed in Indiana by the department of agricultural economics at Purdue University and are now available for distribution, reports Prof. O. G. Lloyd, head of the department.

The department has recently put out three new and three revised forms for written leases, contracts, and agreements between landowners and tenants and operators. Three of the forms will be of particular interest to returning war veterans or others who are short on capital and perhaps experience, but who wish to go into farming on a business-like basis. All six of the forms will be of interest to men who wish to retire from farming before long and lease their land, or share the responsibility of the farm operations with others.

Of the six different forms, some are leases, some are contracts, and some are agreements. The Income-Sharing contract recognizes a common situation where the landowner desires to supply the livestock, machinery, and pays all bills. The owner guarantees the operator a certain wage up to a fixed amount; and "if the income were more, he receives one-third of the net income less the amount paid in wages." This plan has proved its worth on a number of Indiana farms managed by experienced landlords or by professional farm managers.

The Purdue economists offer two types of father-son agreements, one for the son without capital and the other for the son who has accumulated capital and equipment and will share in the financing. The cash-lease, crop-share lease, and livestock-share contract have been expanded to employ principles of scientific farming.

The paramount consideration in framing the leases was that "the ideal farm tenure is the owner-operator who is not heavily in debt, who has adequate capital, who cultivates his farm to conserve soil fertility, and who has organized his farm to use labor, management, and working capital to the best advantage. Renting should create incentive to encourage these practices."

The work of revising standard Indiana leases was begun a year ago by the Purdue agricultural economists. With the first announcement of the availability of the leases, some 500 farm operators throughout the nation wrote to the department for forms. Copies are on file at the offices of the county agents in Indiana.

## 4–H Club girl has eye for future

Good examples of both short- and long-time planning are shown in the 4–H Club work of Faye Lakey of the Stecoah 4–H Club in Graham County, N. C.

With a college education in mind, which will begin in 1950, Faye decided in August 1944 that she would like to have a purebred O. I. C. brood sow as a 4–H Club project. The county agent helped her to get a pig from the County Lions Club pig chain. That sow on September 9, 1945, produced nine healthy pigs, seven of which were sold and yielded a profit of $87.50. In addition to this money, Faye has also sold a cow and calf which she raised on the farm, and the total amount has been deposited in the bank to go toward her college expenses in 1950. Faye hopes that her brood sow will bring even greater profits in the coming year.

Of great importance in the realm of short-time planning for herself and her family was Faye's victory garden for the summer of 1945. In this garden, she planted, cultivated, sprayed, and harvested 20 different kinds of vegetables. She canned and stored for winter 260 quarts of these vegetables. The canned goods included 14 different vegetables, so that there will be greater variety in the family meals during the winter. Faye's garden also contained collards, parsnips, and turnips, which will be good as fall and winter garden crops.

Miss Lakey is the 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lakey, who are demonstrator farmers of the Tuskeegee-Sawyer's Creek watershed area. She has been a member of the Stecoah 4–H Club for 2 years and is looking forward to many more years of active club work.

# Reaching every home in Newtown, Conn.

■ For 18 years Helen L. Clark, home demonstration agent in Fairfield County, Conn., declared in her annual reports that she intended to reach more families during the next 12 months; and for 18 years she has been able to record enough of an increase to show she had carried out her aim. In 1945, however, Miss Clark decided to concentrate her expansion efforts in one town. She decided to concentrate in Newtown, Conn.

Her success is marked by the fact that between April and October 658 Newtown families, 465 more than previously approached, learned about the Agricultural Extension Service. Out of this came a petition from 30 mothers of children under 8 years of age for a mothers' club, requests for more than 5,000 extension publications, 86 requests for help in planning more convenient kitchens, and 36 requests from women who had definite problems and needed the home demonstration agent's personal advice. The Hopewell neighborhood homemaking group which discontinued meetings in 1943 reorganized with 20 members instead of the 7 attending when the club disbanded, and another, which had been slipping, enthusiastically met to plan a new work program.

### Canning Committee Helps

Newtown, a village of 800 families, is only 8 miles from the Danbury extension headquarters—an important point during gas rationing—and is one of the most agricultural towns in the suburban county. It also had an excellent canning committee.

In April, Miss Clark and Mrs. R. T. Clark, State home demonstration leader, called a meeting of the 16 members of this canning committee and asked them to cooperate in a project to acquaint all of Newtown's 800 families with the Extension Service. Miss Clark pointed out that at that time only 76 families attended extension meetings regularly, and only 24 more were on the mailing lists.

The 16 canning leaders immediately organized a committee to tackle the project. They elected as their chairman Mrs. B. G. Damerest, a retired home economist who once taught in Constantinople and had been active in national home economics associations before her marriage. Mrs. Roger Howson, chairman of the canning committee for 2 years, volunteered to take charge of publicity through articles in the weekly newspaper, the Newtown Bee.

Each of the 16 leaders promised to get in touch with possible neighborhood leaders so that no one individual would have to visit more than 10 families. They enlisted 65 of their friends to help conduct the survey by calling on neighbors with sample extension publications (selected by the committee of 16 leaders), information on extension services, and a list of questions to determine what new services were particularly needed.

### Teaches Technique of the Visit

Before personal visits were made, Miss Clark conducted a sample interview before the leaders' and neighborhood groups to teach them the techniques of surveying. She stressed that each should explain that the Extension Service is an educational agency which supplies rural people with free information on agriculture and home economics. Extension's interest in helping housewives have more convenient homes, provide better food, guard the health of their families, and employ better sewing techniques was emphasized.

On their visits to the individual homes, the neighborhood representatives found that nearly 400 of Newtown's 470 family gardens produced enough vegetables for summer eating, canning or freezing, and storing. Three hundred and sixty homemakers were anxious to receive Gardengraphs, a periodical Extension Service publication written by A. E. Wilkinson, vegetable specialist. More than 400 were added to the mailing list of the Connecticut Homemaker, a monthly publication put out by the extension home economics specialists at the University, and 262 to Dear Ann, a monthly letter written by Lisbeth Macdonald, rural health specialist.

The leaders discovered there were 174 boys and 171 girls of 4-H age. They also kept a record of newspapers most frequently read to determine which would take extension news to the greatest number of Newtown residents.

### Leaders Vote to Continue Work

In mid-September, Miss Clark and State Home Demonstration Leader Clark met with the neighborhood leaders at an afternoon tea to discuss future work. All except 1 of the 65 women were anxious to continue serving as a center for extension work in their respective neighborhoods, to receive sample publications, and to order bulletins for their neighbors. They reported that in carrying out the Reaching Every Home in Newtown project, they had developed a spirit of neighborliness among people who hadn't taken time to get acquainted with each other during the war years. An average visit lasted 2 hours, they declared, because after they had presented the extension material they always stayed to talk.

Miss Clark reports that neighborhood leaders are still bringing in cards from people who previously had not been at home. Newtown now has three good-sized groups holding regular meetings, in contrast to one last year. In addition, Miss Clark estimates that telephone requests from Newtown to the home demonstration agent's office are at least 50 percent greater than they were before the survey.

■ Piscataquis County, Maine, has a boys and girls 4-H Club which has won 24 seals of achievement. The club is the Jolly Workers' Club of East Dover. It was organized in 1920 and has been active every year since, except one. National seals of achievement are awarded each year to the 4-H Clubs which have met the high standard of achievement set by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Maine Agricultural Extension Service.

# Tennessee counsels her veterans

FRANK J. WALRATH, Specialist in Agricultural Planning, Tennessee

The Agricultural Extension Service in Tennessee is cooperating with other agencies in advising veterans both on their rights and privileges and also as to the opportunities open to them. More than 30 county meetings with an average attendance of more than 250 persons have already been held. Some meetings have been attended by more than 500 persons, with many unable to find seats. About 80 percent of the group consists of veterans of World War II.

These county-wide meetings were arranged by the director of the personnel office of the University of Tennessee and a group of local people in each county. The local committee is composed of representatives of the American Legion and other veterans' organizations, bankers, lawyers, superintendents of schools, the county agricultural agent, and businessmen. This group usually meets about 3 weeks in advance of the actual meeting and has charge of making arrangements for the meeting and handling publicity.

### Discussion Team Developed

A team or discussion panel has been worked out which includes two representatives of the State Selective Service, two representatives of the Veterans' Administration, two representatives of the University of Tennessee, one representative of the United States Employment Service, one representative of the United States Civil Service Commission, one representative of the Smaller War Plants Corporation, and one representative from the American Red Cross. In many of the meetings there are also representatives of the State Division of Veterans' Affairs, the Farm Security Administration, and other agencies.

The procedure followed in these meetings is to have the chairman call upon a local minister for invocation, after which the chairman turns the meeting over to the director of the personnel office of the University of Tennessee, who acts as discussion leader. He in turn calls upon the various members of the discussion panel to present their information in 6 minutes. Immediately after this short talk, the discussion leader calls upon the local committee that sponsored the meeting for any questions they may wish to ask the speaker. He then turns to the audience for questions.

A question-and-answer period of 2 to 10 minutes usually follows, after which another speaker is asked to present his material and stand ready for questions. At the close of the meeting anyone in the audience who has questions that have not been answered has the privilege of going to the person who has the information on his subject for help with his particular problem.

### A Typical Meeting

A typical program starts with a statement from one of the representatives of the State Selective Service, in which he calls attention to the fact that there are a number of Federal agencies, to say nothing of State, local, and voluntary organizations that are ready to serve veterans of World War II. Attention is called to three agencies in particular, namely, the Selective Service, to which the veteran must report and to which the veteran who wants his old job back looks for help; the Veterans' Administration, which has the responsibility for guaranteeing veterans' loans and providing education and training service for veterans; and the United States Employment Service, which has the responsibility of assisting veterans to obtain satisfactory employment. He also points out that the veterans must work for the right kind of peace. If the services they receive are not satisfactory, the public should "needle" the agencies that are failing to render the services required and see that the services are supplied.

The second speaker usually represents the Loan Guarantor of the Veterans' Administration. He explains the Veterans' Administration does not lend money but that it will guarantee a part of loans for the purchase of homes, farms, and small businesses. These loans must not carry more than 4 percent interest; and the guaranty may not exceed more than one-half of the entire loan up to $4,000, and for loans above that figure, must never be more than $2,000. He explains how applications are made, how the property is appraised, and the difference between a full-time and a part-time loan.

For veterans who are interested in farming, the representative of the Agricultural Extension Service points out the hazards in buying land at inflated land values and advises veterans who want to start farming immediately to rent a good farm or else work on a successful farm to gain additional experience. Attention is called to the opportunity for veterans to take training "on the job" and qualify for the GI subsistence allowance while working for an approved successful farmer.

The opportunities for work in the agricultural field as compared with farming are also pointed out. Custom work, repair services of various kinds, marketing, cabinet and woodwork, and professional services for farm people are cited. Three pamphlets printed by the Agricultural Extension Service for veterans who are interested are: Farm Aid for Veterans, Do You Want a Jalopy Farm? and Jobs With a Future. These leaflets are distributed at the meeting, and others may be obtained at the county agent's office.

### GI Bill Explained

The fourth speaker is usually a training officer of the Veterans' Administration. He explains the length of the training service available to veterans under the GI bill (Public Law 346) and to the vocationally handicapped veterans under Public Law 16. The opportunity for training on the job, apprenticeship training, is discussed. The veteran is told whom to go to and how to apply for these benefits.

The fifth speaker, representing the State Selective Service, tells how veterans may obtain their old jobs if they want them. In addition, he calls attention to the veterans' manual put out by the Selective Service and the information or referral service that the local selective service offices can supply.

The sixth speaker, representing the United States Employment Service, deals with the question of how a veteran applies for a new job. Emphasis is placed upon the veteran making known his experience and availability. Employers are urged to provide the United States Employment Service with a list of the job opportunities they have available, both for veterans and for other civilians.

### Opportunities in Civil Service

The seventh speaker, representing the United States Civil Service Commission, explains how veterans go about obtaining Federal employment. He calls attention to the fact that in addition to post office jobs, the Federal Government has many opportunities for jobs as painters, plumbers, automobile mechanics, hospital ward attendants, and numerous others. He explains that a veteran with a vocational handicap is given 10 points additional on his official grade in any civil-service examination. The same privilege is extended to widows of World War II veterans and to wives in instances where the veterans are unable to work. Veterans who have no vocational handicap have 5 points added to their earned ratings. Attention is usually called to the fact that education, experience, or training, or a combination of the three will materially assist a veteran to obtain employment.

The eighth speaker usually represents the Smaller War Plants Corporation and discusses the procedure whereby veterans can apply for surplus war property.

### Other Facilities Available

The last speaker is a representative of the American Red Cross Division of Home Service who points out that the Red Cross is still striving to assist veterans to rehabilitate themselves. Attention is called to the Red Cross Handbook which is available for information. The veteran may select the American Red Cross to represent him on appeals for readjustment. Under certain conditions the Red Cross will also give the veteran financial aid until he can repay the loan.

In some meetings a representative of the Farm Security Administration briefly explains the provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Tenant Purchase Act; but if not present, this phase of the program is discussed by the representative of the Agricultural Extension Service. When other persons who are in a position to make some contribution to the meeting are present, or representatives of the State Division of Veterans' Affairs or anyone else who has a message on veterans' rights, they are also heard.

The significance of the meetings as outlined lies in the fact that the representatives of a number of agencies are working together on an entirely voluntary program aimed at assisting veterans to help themselves and also to help their buddies who are still in the service. The value of this type of meeting is demonstrated by the fact that applications for loans and applications for training education increase rapidly in any given county immediately after the holding of such a meeting. Most of the information presented at these county-wide meetings was given to the veterans before they left the separation centers. However, veterans retain very little of the information. This may be due to the fact that they were mainly interested in receiving a discharge; secondly, the information had to be of a general nature, whereas the information as presented in county meetings is tied in closely with the local situation. The representatives of local offices that seek to serve the veteran are specifically named; and if a representative is present, he or she is presented to the entire group.

Other meetings will be held as rapidly as possible; however, as the people who serve on the discussion panel are voluntarily giving their time and have definite responsibilities to meet, they are unable to give more than 1 week out of 3 or 4 to this type of program.

### Brings Problems Into the Open

Another result of these meetings is that the problems with which veterans are confronted and the opportunities which the veteran and local people have in solving them are brought out into the open. Misunderstanding is cleared up, and both the veterans and the public are stimulated to take some positive action on them.

## Maine girl is successful bond salesman

■ Uncle Sam has a sucessful, although youthful, salesman of war bonds in the person of Carolyn Harmon of Perham, Maine. Carolyn, a 16-year-old 4-H Club member, began selling bonds in the Fourth War Bond Drive, when her sales amounted to $4,000. In the fifth drive her sales were $11,000; in the sixth, $22,000; and in the seventh, $85,500, making a total of $122,500. As a reward for her success in the last drive she received from a local organization a trip to Washington, D. C.

Carolyn also was selected as the most outstanding 4-H Club girl in Aroostook County in 1945. At the Presque Isle Fair she won first honors in the garden and sewing projects. She also won first prize in the Aroostook County 4-H Style Dress Revue for 1945.

Miss Harmon has been a member of the Salmon Brook 4-H Club of Perham for 6 years. Her twin sister Marylyn is also a 4-H Club member and has won many honors and prizes.

■ Fifty-nine persons, all but 11 of them war veterans, were enrolled in the 10-week courses in farming at Rutgers University. This is the second session of short courses in farming held by Rutgers during this academic year. One hundred and twenty-five persons were graduated from the first, which ended December 22.

# Town forest solves a land-use problem

CLARENCE A. DAY, Extension Editor, Maine

■ Six years ago the town of Troy, Maine, population 582, set aside 963 acres of abandoned farm land and wood lots as a town forest. Since then, through good management, the forest has returned a net profit to the town double the returns from taxes on other land of similar value. Laboring men in the town have earned more than $8,000 working in the town forest. Some 175 acres of old, unused fields have been planted to valuable forest trees, mostly pine and spruce, and a hundred acres of cut-over woodland thinned and weeded according to approved forestry practices. Profits from the forest, amounting to about $4,000, have been invested in war bonds as part of a fund for building a much-needed consolidated school building. And the trees in the forest have made 6 years' growth.

The Troy Town Forest contributed pulpwood toward the war effort.

Like many Maine towns, Troy gradually has been acquiring small abandoned farms and cut-over wood lots from which the merchantable lumber on which the taxes have not been paid. Most of these rough, broken farms ought never to have been taken from the forest in the first place and cannot produce a living under modern conditions. So the owners decline to pay taxes on the farm or wood lot has been stripped, and they become the property of the town.

These tax-delinquent lands present a tough problem. If the town keeps them, they yield no tax revenue; if the town sells them, the taxes will not finance the schools, roads, and other services that the town must provide for the new owners. Often they can be sold only to families who are ne'er-do-wells and become liabilities to the town themselves.

As the Troy town fathers studied their problem, they called on two extension men for assistance and advice. They were Phil Parsons, then Waldo County agent and now county agent in Penobscot County, and Albert D. Nutting, extension forestry specialist. They made a land-use study and came up with the answer—a town forest.

The next step was to hold a series of discussion meetings to inform the voters. Then an article was inserted in the town warrant to set aside certain lands as a permanent town forest. This article was acted upon favorably at the March meeting in 1940, and the forest came into being.

The forest is not all in one block but includes several plots in different parts of the town. This was partly because the blocks owned by the town were scattered and partly, as the first selectman, Seavey A. Piper, said: "Because we don't want to run the risk of having the whole forest wiped out by a forest fire." Since then the town has bought fire-fighting equipment and paid for it from the returns from the forest. The equipment can be used not only in the forest but anywhere in town that a grass or forest fire may occur.

### Fuel and Pulpwood Marketed

Next step was to work out a careful plan for forest management with the assistance of the extension agents. Several old buildings were torn down and sold as second-hand lumber. A forest manager was employed and a start made in reforesting the old fields. To date, nearly 200,000 trees have been set, chiefly pine and spruce. Plans were made also for thinning and weeding the wooded areas. Trees removed were marketed chiefly as fuel or pulpwood. About a hundred acres have been cut over, and the best trees have been left to develop. This phase of the program has not gone as fast as was hoped because of the scarcity of labor during the war.

The town received some assistance from the Agricultural Adjustment Agency in the form of refunds on the cost of planting young trees as a forestry-improvement project, and the National Youth Administration gave part-time employment in the forest to several of the youths of the town for the first year or two.

The boys and girls 4-H Clubs in Troy have held several tree-planting bees and transplanted many of the young pines and spruces now growing so lustily. "It's their forest," says Mr. Piper, "and they are being educated early in what can be done."

Needless to say, the young people will take a lasting interest in the forest that they have helped to plant with their own hands.

Cash returns? We have already said that the forest has paid some $8,000 to local laborers and provided about $4,000 toward the fund for the new schoolhouse, besides furnishing lumber and fuel when they were badly needed in the war effort. The fact that the forest has provided work for local people and will continue to do so is highly important.

Other towns in Maine have adopted the idea and started forests of their own, and Mr. Piper frequently receives requests from service clubs and other organizations to speak at their meetings on the subject of town forests. He says that any rural Maine town can have a profitable town forest if they will adopt the right methods. He is too modest to say that they need someone who has an abiding interest in the forest to act as the spark plug that will insure success.


**Signs are posted in prominent places where young trees are planted in the Troy Town Forest.**

# Missouri farm folks discuss future extension program

■ Farm folks representing practically every county in Missouri came together at a recent series of five sectional meetings held for the purpose of reviewing recent progress made by farm families, to discuss the needs for the future, and to elect members of the State extension advisory committee. Appearing on each of the programs with the farm people were Director J. W. Burch, J. E. Crosby, Jr., and State agents.

Speakers at the meetings pointed out the steps that had been taken along the lines of home and farmstead improvement, balanced farming, rural youth, and rural policy. They emphasized that balanced farming has proved its value beyond any doubt and now should be taken to as many farm families as possible. They stressed the importance of local leaders and sufficient extension workers in putting the program across.

Speakers indicated that balanced farming should be of first importance, with other activities fitting into it. They also pointed out that soil conservation was inseparably a part of balanced farming.

Those talking on rural youth repeatedly told of the need for extending 4–H Club work so as to include a greater number of farm boys and girls. They also pointed out the need for an older youth program which would include returning veterans and war workers. An end result will be communities that will work with youth so that this youth will be interested enough in farming and be equipped to stay in rural communities.

In home and farmstead improvement, farm families indicated they needed more in the way of workable plans and cost sheets. They also emphasized the importance of tours to improve homes in giving other persons ideas on how to make changes. Those present indicated that they plan many improvements in their homes during coming years to make them better places in which to live.

Director Burch and Mr. Crosby emphasized the fact that while a 36 percent increase in food production had been achieved by farm families in the face of decreased farm population during this war, the consumption of products in this country had risen only 10 percent. If full employment and production are obtained they will tend to prevent inflation in the years ahead. They pointed out that checking accounts and savings built up by farm families during the war were largely at the expense of the soil and by families doing without needed improvements and equipment. They discussed the need for holding back on the purchases of temporarily scarce articles in order to prevent inflation.

Other problems confronting farm people in the reconversion period which these leaders discussed were the reestablishment of veterans and war workers who formerly lived in rural areas; the readjustment of production of various commodities to peacetime demands; the reestablishment of foreign markets for some farm products and maintenance of foreign purchases for others; and continuation of profitable production in spite of mounting costs and increased competition from other areas.

## Corn borer control via farm boys

■ Corn borers are an increasing threat to the corn crop on many farms in Richland County, Wis., and this is of concern not only to the farmers of the county but to the businessmen as well.

Cooperating with efforts of the county agricultural committee and County Agent A. V. Miller, officials of the Richland Center Chamber of Commerce offered any farm boy who, as a demonstration of corn-borer control, would plow under satisfactorily the corn stalks on at least 3 acres on his home farm, an all-expense trip to a university basketball game.

Each boy was required to have one of his parents and a neighboring farmer sign a statement that he had done the job. In this way the attention of another farmer was brought to this method of controlling the borer.

Thirty such statements were presented to the county agent, so the chamber of commerce will pay the expenses of 30 boys to attend a basketball game at the University of Wisconsin. On their trip to Madison, they will visit the College of Agriculture, where they will talk over corn borer control with H. D. Bruhn, agricultural engineer.

# Extension Service flourishes in Peru

■ Peruvian farmers, whether they live on the long, dry coastal plain, in cool Andean valleys, or on the bustling new frontier at the headwaters of the Amazon, will long have reason to remember a kindly, soft-spoken Virginian.

He is J. D. Guthrie, who fathered a Peruvian national agricultural extension service and helped to guide it through its first years. Today the "Servicio de Extension Agricola Rural" is becoming one of the most popular institutions in a country of 7 million people, most of whom make their living from the soil. It is standing firmly on its own two feet and is now manned entirely by alert young Peruvian agricultural college graduates who are enthusiastic about the ideas and methods which Mr. Guthrie brought to them from the United States.

Moreover, it has been, and will continue to be, a "people to people" means of giving some of these millions a true appreciation of the "North American" way of life.

Mr. Guthrie gave up his job as an extension agronomist at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute back to 1943 to take a wartime job with the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, an agency of the Office of Inter-American Affairs.

### U. S. Needs Peruvian Crops

This job was not based on altruism—it was an extremely practical one. Japan had cornered most of the world supply of rubber, tin, quinine, rotenone, hemp, and many other vital war materials.

Peru, which despite her exposed position in the Pacific, had unhesitatingly aligned herself with the United States just after Pearl Harbor, could supply many of these things and more: Natural rubber, without which the synthetic product is useless; scarce alloy metals like vanadium, antimony, mercury, molybdenum, and tungsten. It could produce pyrethrum and rotenone to protect United States crops, and quinine to help United States soldiers fight a jungle war. It had copper and petroleum and iron and anthracite, and leather for soldiers' gear.

To get her metals out of the ground, Peru needed more food; food for miners in remote towns of the Andes and for rubber "siringeros" (tappers) in the jungle backlands. The Institute of Inter-American Affairs sent a small but select group of United States experts to work with Peruvian agricultural authorities on that problem. Guthrie was a member of this food-supply mission.

### Problems Carried Back to Farmers

He found himself in a far different world from the green Virginia countryside when his plane arrived at the 400-year-old colonial capital of Lima. On one side towered the "Sierra," with white peaks 20,000 feet high. On the other, melting away in haze, was the "Costa," a desert as arid as the Sahara. As soon as he stepped into the air depot, he discovered that the smattering of Spanish he got in Washington didn't help him to understand a word of the rapid-fire conversation going on around him.

But a far different culture, and a strange language were difficulties which Guthrie surmounted with patience and good will.

The Peruvians soon learned to like a "cientifico"—a scientist—who talked common sense and could step out in a field and demonstrate how to put his ideas into practice.

Above all, they liked the democratic way in which he went about organizing an extension service for Peru. As far as he was concerned, this was no "made in the U. S. A." idea imported just to meet a wartime crisis. It was to be a permanent proposition and to rest on the understanding and acceptance of the people. Guthrie took the matter directly to the farmers themselves, just as it would be done back in Virginia.

Rich hacienda owners and sturdy peasant villagers, Limenos with proud Spanish names, and highland wheat farmers equally proud to have Inca blood in their veins, listened together to the story of how farmers worked democratically to solve their problems in Montgomery and Hanover Counties.

They discussed the question and agreed that the farmers of La Libertad and Arequipa provinces could profit by the experiences of their "North American" counterparts. Not one community where the story was told turned down Mr. Guthrie's idea.

Committees of farmers and stockmen were set up in these provincial centers. To each of these areas, young Peruvian agronomists who had worked with Mr. Guthrie were assigned.

Peru had plenty of intelligent young men who were well trained in the technical and theoretical side of agricultural science at her national school at La Molina. She also had agricultural experts educated in Chile—and even at Texas A. and M.

What she really needed was, as Mr. Guthrie puts it, "to carry the benefits of scientific research to the farmer and to explain things in words that he could understand."

This was the practical goal that Guthrie set for himself and the Peruvians who worked with him.

### Peruvians Take to Cooperative Idea

The agents of this new "Servicio de Extension Agricola Rural" went regularly to the farmer committees to find out the needs of the communities and decide what could be done about them. Problems were more difficult than they are in the United States. They included great difficulties in transport and marketing as well as the matters of insects and disease.

However, they tackled all of these problems boldly, and they have licked many of them. Tons upon tons of good seed—wheat, barley, and potato—moved directly from one community to another where seed was needed. The extension agents acted as the middlemen.

Peruvians are confirmed individualists, but they took to this cooperative idea and carried it further. One example: A group of farmers who needed heavy tractors but who hadn't been able to buy them because of the machinery shortage—and the price tag,

with its big freight charges—got together and purchased one.

SCIPA (Servicio Cooperative Inter-Americano de Produccion de Alimentos)—the joint Peruvian-American planning and development organization set up during the war—brought in good Brown Swiss bulls and Holstein heifers; purebred Poland China and Duroc boars to improve the native "Criollo" hogs. It brought in good strains of seed and insect sprayers. Peru sent back more and more metals and raw materials to win the war.

Townspeople as well as country people got into the spirit of the thing. Peruvians have been accustomed to the heavy, starchy diets that an older generation of North Americans once favored. They had never been enthusiastic about the vitamin-giving qualities of what they considered "rabbit food."

However, soon after SCIPA began considering the problem of increasing food production for the war, victory gardens began to burgeon from Trujillo to Arequipa. President Manuel Prado himself planted the first packet of vegetable seed from the United States, and huge Spanish banners and clever placards everywhere helped launch the Nation-wide campaign for more production and better nutrition.

In all of these efforts, the Peruvians trained by Mr. Guthrie played a vital role, imparting the enthusiasm and the "know-how" to carry through to success.

### Building for the Future

The war is over now, and some of the war crops are no longer needed. But the need of the Peruvians for better farming and a higher standard of living remains just as great.

In some 20 regional offices, the "Representantes Rurales," as they call extension agents, are working to build this better life for all the rural people. That, of course, will mean a better life in the new industrial centers, like coal-rich Chimbote, which are beginning to stir with activity.

One of the notable accomplishments of the Peruvian Extension program was the sending of three extension district agents, Mr. La Barthe, Mr. Summers, and Mr. Talleri, to the United States for a training period in extension work. Each of these gentlemen came to the States during 1945 and completed a 3 months' schedule of training which provided ample opportunity to observe our extension program as it is carried forward in the various States.

The training outline for these "Good Neighbor" extension agents was planned by the Institute of Inter-American Affairs in cooperation with the Extension Service. These men studied extension work in California, Colorado, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

Beyond the ideas and concrete techniques which these men brought back and used in developing extension work in Peru, it is probable that for years to come the extension program in that country will be reaping benefits from what these district agents learned on visits in the United States. What they saw of 4-H Club work, livestock and crop production, irrigation methods, and farm organization will pay dividends in more modern agricultural methods for a long time. The immediate benefits are many. One of these is making possible the development of 4-H Clubs, plans for which have been made.

That work will continue to grow, year after year, long after the "norte-americanos" are gone—but the "North Americans" will not be forgotten.

The kind of international action program carried on by SCIPA in Peru, Mr. Guthrie believes, is an important corollary to understanding between diplomats of different countries. It pays dividends in the lasting esteem and friendship of one people for another.

■ DR. T. B. SYMONS, University of Maryland Extension Director and Dean of Agriculture, received the Distinguished Service Award of the American Farm Bureau Federation for "his years of untiring work in behalf of farmers."

In accepting the award, Dr. Symons, who has worked with Maryland farmers since he joined the staff of the Maryland Agricultural College in 1902, pointed out that the aim of the Extension Service is always to demonstrate facts, increase income, and make more happy homes in rural America.

## Poultry debeaking

Upon the suggestion of R. V. Page, prominent Toms River, N. J., poultryman, a poultry-debeaking machine was purchased for the Ocean County Extension Service office for demonstration purposes. Before purchasing the machine, Agricultural Agent Herbert C. Bidlack corresponded with W. E. Newlon, poultry specialist of the California Extension Service, and found that the practice of debeaking the birds to prevent cannibalism was used widely in the State of California and was highly recommended. Mr. Bidlack says that since about a year ago he has held 25 demonstrations and has debeaked more than 5,000 laying birds.

Birds from 4 months of age up to 2 years, laying anywhere from 15 percent to as high as 85 percent, were debeaked. In all cases picking was stopped immediately; and, with few exceptions, no loss in production was reported. The few exceptions affected production 5 percent to 10 percent for a week or 10 days, after which time the birds came back to their normal rate of laying.

For economy as well as good management, there is no comparison between this type of antipick control and the use of specs, goggles, shields, and other antipick devices commonly used. There is no reason why the machine cannot be used for many thousands of birds before replacement is necessary. In fact, the heating facility is probably the only part of the machine that would need replacement over a period of years.

# Have you read

HOME PLAY, OUTDOORS-INDOORS, PARTIES A TO Z, DAY CAMPING. National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

■ These four new bulletins have just come from the National Recreation Association. They are intriguing in their appearance and offer some really useful ideas for Extension.

The first one, HOME PLAY, emphasizes the fact that the family whose members have fun together finds life closer and smoother. The booklet contains 91 pages of suggestions. The pen drawings should stimulate families into action.

OUTDOORS INDOORS starts out with the question: "Has it ever occurred to you that it isn't necessary to go out of doors to enjoy nature? . . . There is something very intriguing about the ideas of nature through a window, and it opens up a whole new field of fascinating activities." This booklet provides 45 pages of interesting nature activities that families can carry out in their homes or 4-H Club members can enjoy at some of their meetings.

PARTIES A TO Z contains 96 pages of detailed directions for conducting many kinds of parties. The activities are grouped under such headings as Preparty Activities, Musical Games, Mixer and Scatter Activities, Songs and Song Ideas, Mental Games, Spectator Activities, Small Group Activities and Stunts, and so on through all the possibilities of recreation as we have known it. The interesting paragraphs on organizing the party will be very helpful for community and neighborhood meetings.

With the spread of camping interest and the complexity of everyday life, making it difficult for even the children to get away from home for a long camping period, DAY CAMPING offers some suggestions for a pleasurable experience for youngsters and adults as well. This could be easily carried out by a 4-H Club or a family or neighborhood group.

All four booklets are interesting reading and so well arranged that they can be very easily used.— *Mrs. Lydia Ann Lynde, extension specialist in parent education.*

AGRICULTURE IN AN UNSTABLE ECONOMY. A research study for the Committee for Economic Development. *Theodore W. Schultz.* 299 pp. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1945.

■ As the title of this interesting and easily read book implies, primary consideration is directed to the interrelationships of agriculture and other segments of the national economy. The author indicates the main purpose of the book "is to lay the foundations for a national policy with regard to agriculture." In so doing, only passing attention is directed to numerous problems within agriculture in relation to which farmers themselves, individually or collectively, can adopt remedial measures.

Attention is directed primarily to those causative factors contributing to economic distress in agriculture which have their origin outside of agriculture. The two basic causes to which the author ascribes most of the so-called "farm problem" are an excess of workers engaged in agriculture and the instability of agricultural income. He indicates that satisfactory solutions to these problems cannot be found within agriculture itself and that progress can be made only through a direct attack upon the underlying causative difficulties.

As a background for specific suggestions regarding principles which should govern the development of public policies affecting agriculture, brief but analytical reviews are included of (*a*) prospective conditions affecting agriculture, (*b*) some fundamentals of the agricultural problem in a fluctuating economy, and (*c*) government programs and controls which were used during the depression and war years in an attempt to cope with emergency situations.

In part IV, specific consideration is directed to problems in agricultural policy. Suggestions are made as to measures which should be avoided and those which should be employed in attacking the problem of underemployment (surplus of workers) in agriculture. In relation to stabilizing farm income, two major methods of attack are proposed. These are stabilization of nonagricultural employment at a high level and a system of compensatory payments to farmers when business becomes depressed and a significant degree of unemployment prevails.

Interesting and thought-provoking chapters are included which deal with principles which should govern the development of (*a*) production adjustment policies and programs, and (*b*) price policies for agricultural commodities. The need for "forward" pricing is stressed.

This forward-looking book is a valuable contribution to the literature on the economic problems of agriculture. It is well worth reading by all those having an interest in this field.—*P. V. Kepner, Assistant to the Director, Cooperative Extension Service.*

## Women make accident surveys

"Let's see" was an appropriate motto for 640 Arkansas home demonstration clubs in which fire and accident surveys were made this year in communities throughout the State.

According to reports of Mrs. Ted Wright of Logan County, farm women in more than 1,000 clubs studied prevention or elimination of minor hazards in homes. Mrs. Wright was 1945 chairman of the safety committee of the Arkansas Council of Home Demonstration Clubs. Time was devoted to demonstrations on construction and use of kitchen stepladders to provide convenient access to high shelves and to avoid needless falls.

Lois Scantland, northwest district agent, University of Arkansas College of Agriculture, says a survey in one county showed that the most serious accidents among adults resulted from dangerous fire-building practices.

4-H Club skits added action to the story of safety in Columbia County. A club in Crittenden County furnished a community first-aid room at the school.

Phillips County club women put up warning posters in dangerous public places.

# We Study Our Job

## 4–H Junior-leader study

In a 45-page booklet, T. T. Martin, Missouri State club agent, brings together the findings of research on junior leaders in the 4–H Club program, principally in the Central States. The 675 junior leaders and other mature 4–H members, consisting of 258 boys and 417 girls, who assisted the adult voluntary 4–H leaders of their clubs in five States studied, are considered as typical of the junior leadership of the Central States.

Such factors as the objectives of junior leadership, kinds of junior leaders and their responsibilities, and the place of the junior leadership system in 4–H Club work are analyzed.

The author emphasizes training 4–H junior leaders and suggests a procedure in training. He lists some of the most difficult 4–H training jobs or situations, such as occupational information and vocational guidance, the cooperation of parents, training 4–H members to demonstrate and to judge, and keeping records and making reports.

In summarizing the study, Mr. Martin points out,

"One of the big problems in this adult leader or adviser—junior-leader relationship is that of guidance and supervision. Often adults try to do all the leadership activities themselves because they have not learned how to direct others. This job requires special training in short courses or in county conferences under the instruction of specialists.

"The training of junior leaders consists of in-service training, based largely upon their own 4–H Club experiences; and special training in short courses and county conferences in order to learn how to assist with the most difficult leadership jobs. This training procedure includes demonstrating to the junior assistants, or planning with them, how to do the specific jobs; an opportunity to do these leadership jobs under supervision; and finally, being placed on their own and their performances checked.

"It is difficult to measure the results of junior leadership; however, it may be done as follows: The benefits to the club will be reflected in the improved activities and morale which can be evaluated by questions or a weighted score card; the activities of each junior assistant can be measured by having blanks filled out on what was done; and the personal development of the junior leader can be evaluated by a self-checking list of leadership characteristics recognized, developed and improved."—JUNIOR LEADERS IN THE 4–H CLUB PROGRAM by T. T. Martin, Missouri Extension Service. Extension Study 2, Oct. 1945, College of Agriculture, University of Missouri.

## County extension workers' time patterns

The different types of county extension workers report approximately the same relative amount of time spent in the field and in the office. However, as has been noted, in the 3 previous issues of the REVIEW, they use their time in a different manner. The most striking differences are in the amounts of time devoted to method demonstrations, farm-and-home visits, and office calls.

The average home demonstration agent spent relatively four times as many hours on method demonstrations as the average county agricultural agent. In turn, county agricultural agents used four times as much time on office calls. The home demonstration agents spent two-thirds as much time on farm-and-home visits as did county agricultural agents.

Over a period of years the statistical reports reveal certain changes in this pattern. The home demonstration agents have decreased the proportion of time devoted to both result and method demonstrations and increased the proportion devoted to farm-and-home visits and office calls.

The decrease in the county agent's time given to both method and result demonstrations was even more marked than for home demonstration agents. The increase in time devoted to office calls, on the part of county agricultural agents, was the most marked of all the changes.

The reported changes in the proportion of time employed in the different subject-matter phases of the extension program may partially explain the changes in methods used.

Most home economics subject matter taught through the extension system lends itself readily to the method demonstration, while the agricultural subject matter, in early days of extension work, was taught primarily through result demonstrations. However, as the agricultural extension programs evolved, meetings, farm-and-home visits, and office calls were used much more frequently.

During recent years the home demonstration agents reported they increased their activities in all phases of their programs. The county agricultural agents reported they decreased the amount of time devoted to corn, wheat, cotton, and tobacco but increased their activities relating to legumes and pastures. Apparently when another agency becomes active with reference to certain crop enterprises the county agricultural agents lessen their activities in this field and increase them in others.

This is further illustrated by the change in distribution of use of time in the agricultural economics field. The amount of time reported as devoted to farm-management and outlook problems increased, while activities on the part of county extension workers with reference to farm credit decreased. Similarly, extension activities with reference to all types of livestock increased, with the exception of swine.

The reported changes in the use of time patterns raise the question as to whether the shift from the use of demonstration methods to individual services through farm-and-home visits and office calls has increased the efficiency of the Extension Service or not.

# *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.**

### Medicine From Buckwheat Plants

■ After a 2-year search for a good source of the valuable drug, rutin, the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory has discovered that the green buckwheat plant yields enough of it to make it an economical commercial source. Rutin has been found valuable in the treatment of weakened capillaries associated with high blood pressure. Bursting of such weakened blood vessels in the brain may cause apoplexy.

Buckwheat has proved superior to other plants as a source of rutin. Flue-cured tobacco leaves are the next-best source, but buckwheat contains 8 to 20 times as much rutin as the tobacco and costs so much less that Department scientists have said that "Ten dollars' worth of buckwheat will produce as much rutin as a thousand dollars' worth of tobacco." The rutin is found in the leaves and blossoms of buckwheat, with little in the stems and none in the grain.

For highest yield of the drug, the crop is harvested 5 weeks after the seed has sprouted. Producers growing buckwheat for rutin could harvest two or more crops a season. It has been estimated that 50,000 acres of buckwheat will be required annually to supply the drug, which has possibilities as a nutritional supplement similar to Vitamin C as well as the medical use.

The University of Pennsylvania Medical School cooperated with the laboratory in proving the clinical value of rutin. At least four pharmaceutical companies are planning commercial production in 1946.

### Improvements in Cheese Making

■ It is possible to speed up the ripening of Cheddar cheese by curing it at a higher temperature than has been the general practice, say Department dairy scientists, provided the milk is of good quality and is pasteurized. Cheeses held at 60° F. were as fully ripened in 3 to 4 months as others held at 50° for 6 months. Moreover, the flavor of the cheeses that were aged faster was generally better.

Earlier studies showed that Cheddar cheese of uniformly high quality can be made from pasteurized milk, and the cheese industry has widely adopted the Department's method for making cheese with pasteurized milk. As a result, the proportion of top-grade cheese produced has increased, and that of the lower grades has decreased markedly. Several States have recently passed laws requiring that all cheese sold be made from pasteurized milk. In view of this, a method recently developed by the Bureau of Dairy Industry for determining whether the milk used in making a cheese was pasteurized will be of great practical value. The method is a modification of the phosphatase test commonly used to determine the adequacy of pasteurization of milk. In testing cheeses by this method, a decrease of only 2° in the pasteurizing temperature or the presence of as little as 0.1 percent of raw milk can be detected.

### Hard-shells

■ For more than 9 years, the Bureau of Animal Industry has been studying the hereditary factors in poultry that affect eggshell quality. In this breeding work, poultry scientists have developed two lines of chickens—one that produces eggs with good shells and one whose eggs have poor shells. There is a pronounced difference between the two. The good shells are thicker, less porous, and harder to break. It took 6.3 pounds of pressure, on an average, to break the stronger shells and only 4.2 pounds to break the weaker. Because the poor shells are thinner and have more and larger pores, those eggs lose weight more rapidly. As a consequence it has been shown that loss in egg weight can be used as a measure of shell quality. An egg with a good shell is not necessarily an egg of the highest grade, but it has a better chance of getting to market. More than three times as many eggs were broken in the poor-shell line as in the good-shell line in routine collections; and the thinner, more porous shells permit a quicker loss of egg quality. Breeding chickens for improved quality of eggshells should benefit producers, distributors, and consumers.

### Alfalfa Silage vs. Alfalfa Hay

■ Tests made by the Bureau of Dairy Industry have shown that the milk-producing value of alfalfa is greater when it is preserved as silage than when it is field-cured. The protein content of dry matter was found to be 21 percent in the silage and 15 percent in the hay. Cows on the silage produced about 7 percent more milk than those on hay. At the beginning of the trials, the silage contained 9 times as much carotene as the hay; but at the end, because the hay lost carotene at a higher rate, the silage was 14 times as rich in carotene. Because of this higher carotene content the milk from the cows fed silage was higher in vitamin A potency.

### New Varieties of Crop Plants

■ Plant breeders of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, in cooperation with the State experiment stations, released 28 new varieties of crop plants during the past year. The new plants have been bred for improved yields and resistance to disease, heat, drought, or cold. They comprise 6 new wheats, 3 corn hybrids, 5 varieties of oats, 2 barleys, 2 cantaloups, 2 onions, 2 peaches, and 1 new variety each of cotton, crimson clover, vetch, lettuce, sugar beets, and strawberries.

**NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK will be observed March 31–April 7. Negro agents are using this opportunity to mobilize their forces for a stronger health program for rural Negroes.**

# Among Ourselves

■ GLENN W. LYCAN, Sheboygan County, Wis., agricultural agent, has been named the 1945 winner of the traveling trophy awarded annually for the most outstanding county extension project plan in eastern Wisconsin. The winner was picked by a committee of State extension specialists.

Sheboygan County won the trophy on its small-grain program. This consisted of trials of varieties and fertilizers for adaptation to local conditions. The trials were made on the Sheboygan County farm. Lycan cooperated with maltsters and feed dealers in developing and carrying out the program.

A series of 30 meetings is being set up by Lycan throughout the county this year in order to give the results of the trials to all farmers of the county.

Lycan was also honored at the national convention of county agents in Chicago in December for long service as a county agent. He has been Sheboygan County agent since January 1, 1935. Previously, he had been county agent in St. Croix County from February 1, 1927, until his transfer to Sheboygan County.

J. F. Thomas, Waukesha County agent, held the traveling trophy during the last year, awarded him for his 1944 poultry program.

■ MARGARET NELSON, a Missouri home demonstration agent for 26 years, retired from full-time duty December 31, 1945, in Cass County, Mo., where she had served for more than 21 years. She was responsible for organizing the first county council of rural women's clubs in Missouri.

Miss Nelson attended Central Missouri State Teachers' College and the University of Missouri. She is a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity, and was named outstanding home demonstration agent of Missouri in 1944 by the National Home Demonstration Agents Association.

She taught home economics at Beaver Dam, Wis., before entering the Extension Service in Missouri. She served 4½ years as home demonstration agent in Linn County, Mo., and assumed the same duties in Cass County in March 1924.

When she came to Cass County there were only 7 home economics extension clubs, with a total membership of 146. A hard worker and devoted to her job, Miss Nelson rapidly expanded the number of extension clubs. Now there are 40 active units with a membership of 917.

On December 6, 1928, Miss Nelson called together representatives of 29 neighborhood women's clubs, 3 standard community organizations, and members of the executive committee of the county farm bureau to establish the first county council of rural women's clubs ever to be organized in Missouri.

A tabulation of 2 decades of Miss Nelson's work in Cass County shows that 37,858 practices were adopted in food and nutrition, 64,066 in home management, 57,888 in clothing, and 10,614 in health. The health project was discontinued in 1933, accounting for the lowest figure.

Not only the women of the county were contacted by her home demonstration program but also the young people. She sponsored a 4-H Club program which has enrolled more than 2,000 rural girls.

Miss Nelson was untiring in her efforts to accomplish her goal that each "farm woman maintain and manage a comfortable, convenient, and attractive home that will meet the physical and social needs of the family."

## T. M. Campbell honored

■ National and State Agricultural Extension officials from Washington and Auburn joined with Negro extension agents of the State and Tuskegee Institute in honoring T. M. Campbell, negro field agent for the southernmost tier of States.

The occasion marked Mr. Campbell's 40 years with the Extension Service. Formal exercises were held in the Institute Chapel in the early evening, at which time a bust of Mr. Campbell was unveiled and presented to Tuskegee Institute to be placed in the extension building on the institute campus.

In the opening chapel program, A. A. Hicks, president of the Alabama Negro County Agents Association reviewed the growth of Negro extension work from Mr. Campbell's appointment as first agent in 1906 until today when there are more than 600 Negro agents.

P. O. Davis, director, Alabama Extension Service, told the students that "forty years ago, Tom Campbell was a student here like you are today, and this testimonial in recognition of his service should be an inspiration to you."

In his tribute to Mr. Campbell, Dr. L. N. Duncan, president of Auburn's Polytechnic Institute, Alabama, and former State extension director, said: "I had the rare privilege of working very intimately with Mr. Campbell from the time he was appointed in 1906 until I left the Extension Service a few years ago. The total length of those years was around 30, about a third of a century; and in those years we were pioneering in a great educational enterprise. Those were rich and rare and delightful years working side by side with him."

On behalf of the Negro County Agents who originated the idea of presenting the bust and financed its making by Isaac Hathaway, director of the Institute's Division of Ceramics, W. T. Gravitt, agent at Huntsville, made the formal presentation of the bust to Dr. I. A. Derbigny who, in the absence of President F. D. Patterson, received it for the Institute.

President Patterson's message of felicitation said that "History will associate the name of T. M. Campbell with those of Seaman A. Knapp, Booker T. Washington, and George W. Carver who made of their lives careers of service to the Nation.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

TO GET FOOD GROWING once again on fought-over land is a big aim of UNRRA this spring. Shipments of more than 50,000 tons of seed speeded to nine European countries and China arrived in time for spring planting. These include wheat, barley, oats, rye, and seed corn; forage crops, grasses, and root crops for animal feed; vegetable seed and seed potatoes; some industrial seeds, principally for oil and fiber, and also beets for sugar.

VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR CHINA are packaged in kits for distribution to farm families. Each contains enough to sow about half an acre with beets, cabbages, beans, carrots, onions, and cauliflower. One hundred thousand packets will be distributed by UNRRA in North China and 50,000 in the South.

TO REPLENISH POULTRY FLOCKS, the first 30 crates of hatching eggs were flown to Czechoslovakia the middle of February. They had to go by air to be placed in incubators within 7 days after they were laid. Incubators were landed previously. In addition, several hundred cockerels and pullets are going forward by boat. Poland, Yugoslavia, Greece, and Albania are among the other countries sharing in the poultry program this spring.

TO FEED THE CHILDREN OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, the 4-H Club delegates at the National 4-H Club Congress, held in Chicago early in December, voted to donate the balance of their ambulance fund. The check that went forward last month to UNRRA was for $3,325.46. Each carton of food will be marked "For the Czechoslovakia Child-Feeding Project from the 4-H Club Boys and Girls of the United States of America."

MORE ABOUT UNRRA and the work of rehabilitating agriculture in war-torn countries will be given in an article to be published next month.

THREE CASES OF FRUIT TREE CUTTINGS contributed to Russian Relief by the New York State Experiment Station, the Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station, and the Department of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota were sent last month via S. S. *Minsk*, along with 160 tons of other urgently needed relief supplies. The cuttings included 100 varieties of apples, 22 grapes, 26 cherries, 25 pears, 31 peaches, and 45 plums. Grafting and setting will be done under the supervision of Soviet agricultural and horticultural experts.

NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK is set for the week of May 5. Special radio programs, magazine articles, and meetings will tell of the work of home demonstration clubs in meeting the problems of the American rural home in wartime and the plans for helping the rural family to make a better peacetime world. The idea was suggested by the National Home Demonstration Council, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, last fall and was approved by the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant College Association.

THE RURAL HEALTH JOB is a big one on which the Extension Service is helping to focus attention. Elin Anderson, who has been loaned by the Farm Foundation to help in launching rural health plans, arrived in Washington the middle of last month. She is well-known as a pioneer in this field, having helped to develop a successful system of rural hospitalization and medical service in Nebraska.

FLYING FARMER AND RANCHER session of Organized Agriculture—the Nebraska Farm and Home Week brought out 450 people on February 4 in spite of bad weather. Seventy-five planes were flown in to the meeting by farmers. Nebraska followed the lead of Oklahoma in organizing a "flying farmers club."

SPRING CLEAN-UP TIME is here. Beginning this month in the South and finishing in the North in May, special weeks are being designated in local communities to mobilize the clean-up forces to prevent disease, fire, and accidents. A farm-and-home check-up sheet is available for the 1946 spring clean-up to measure effectiveness of the job done and give suggestions for what more needs to be done.

TWENTY-THREE AGRICULTURAL MISSIONARIES attended the Seminar on Extension Education held in Washington February 5–15. There were 13 men and 10 women at home on furlough from all parts of the world—Angola, Burma, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, and Syria. They studied extension methods in agriculture and home making. This is the second year for the seminar in cooperation with Agricultural Missions, Inc. This group proved to be experienced extension workers in foreign countries sponsored by their respective church organizations. They were particularly interested in getting new bulletins and reading material to replace that lost and destroyed by invading armies.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to T. J. W. BROOM, county agent in Union County, N. C., who celebrates his eightieth birthday on March 18. He began county agent work about January 1, 1908. Director Schaub says of him: "I doubt if we have an agent in North Carolina who has exerted a greater influence on the life of the people than has Mr. Broom during the 37 years or more he has served in Union County." Many happy returns of the day, Agent Broom!

PAN-AMERICAN DAY will be April 14. Plans for widespread observance are being made by the Federal Government, including the Department of Agriculture.

REGIONAL FARM LABOR CONFERENCES held at Salt Lake City, St. Louis and Baltimore, January 24–February 8, brought members of the Federal Extension staff into contact with extension, farm labor, and land-grant college representatives from all States and served to help get the organizations squared away for what looks like another difficult year. The youth program, revised to postwar years on the basis of work experience and educational values for city and town boys and girls, will be an important factor in helping bridge the labor gap in at least 25 States. More accent on better labor utilization through training and job simplification programs also will be important in getting the farm food production job done.


## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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# Home demonstration work highlighted, May 5–12

■ With National Home Demonstration Week less than a month away, plans for observance are being completed throughout the 48 States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

Although initiated as a national event for the first time this year, preliminary reactions being received from rural women, extension workers, magazine writers, and radio program directors indicate the idea has met with instant popularity.

Four major radio networks—American, Columbia, Mutual, and National Broadcasting Companies—have agreed to schedule programs on home demonstration work during the week of May 5 to 12; and queries from magazines requesting additional materials and pictures are coming in daily. Home demonstration workers, extension editors, and rural women are pooling their ideas and efforts in the development of observance plans to achieve the goals of—

The international aspect of the theme—Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World—has been accentuated by recent international developments and the famine relief drive. Reports coming in from the States indicate that emphasis on the home in the world community will be used to give impetus to the many hands-across-the-sea projects now under way.

Program features will also stress problems here at home, with health, medical facilities, housing, education, and recreation heading the list. Progress made to date by individuals and groups in solving these problems will be featured in exhibits, tours, meetings, radio shows, and news stories.

On display will go such concrete results of the home demonstration program as new and remodeled homes; landscaped grounds of homes and civic centers; renovated and reupholstered furniture; handicrafts; modish home-tailored and remodeled wardrobes for the entire family; improved storage facilities for food, clothing, and household equipment; time- and labor-saving devices; and home-canned, cured, and frozen foods.

In Washington, D. C., an exhibit on home demonstration work will occupy the patio of the Department of Agriculture during the full week. A luncheon on Monday, May 6, sponsored by Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Honorary Extension Fraternity, will acquaint national leaders with home demonstration activities. An Extension Institute on Wednesday will feature the program of national women's organizations working on similar objectives as home demonstration workers. And on Thursday the regular monthly meeting of the District of Columbia chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi will be devoted to home demonstration work. Representative rural women will participate in all these activities.

Selection of the dates, May 5 to 12, for National Home Demonstration Week is opportune for many reasons, two in particular. The anniversary of the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, May 8, falls within the week. During the same dates, religious groups will stress the importance of the home in observing Family Life Week.

# Peace depends on food

■ Every extension worker has a part to take in cutting down starvation among the war-weary men, women, and children throughout the world. It is the immediate job ahead in building a lasting peace. Hungry people are not a peace-loving people. Food production is particularly the field of rural Americans. It is where they can make a vital contribution to the building of the peace.

One step to meet the emergency was Secretary Anderson's request that farmers increase their goals for planting of wheat, corn, grain sorghums, soybeans, and smooth, dry, edible peas. Wheat, the staff of life, is most important. The spring wheat States, principally North and South Dakota, Montana, and Minnesota, have done their best to increase the seeding of wheat to the goal of 1,000,000 additional acres.

The goal of 1,110,000 more acres of soybeans recognizes the need for more fats and oils in war-torn countries.

Conservation of feed grain is particularly important for farmers right now. Poultry culling and the marketing of cattle and hogs at lighter weights are practices which will help.

Farmers are urged to market their wheat as rapidly as possible, and city consumers are urged to save wheat, fats, and oils—to make every bit count. Victory gardens and the preservation of the produce carried on so successfully by patriotic Americans during war years will be continued this year to insure the peace which has been so dearly bought. The National garden conference held in Washington, D. C., March 26, 27, and 28 mobilized garden organizations and gardeners behind the 1946 garden goals.

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# Farm people can help streamline extension

HAROLD C. PEDERSON, Hennepin County Agricultural Agent, Minnesota

Agricultural extension work in Hennepin County, as in hundreds of other counties in the United States, has grown, like Topsy, during the past 30 years. Beginning with a small group of progressive, foresighted farm people and an agent possessing the same characteristics, it has developed into a sprawling network of nearly 200 organized groups.

Nearly every product sold from the farms of the county benefits from marketing work done during the 30 years. The crops are better because of improved varieties, seed treatment, and soil improvement. Dairy products, livestock, and poultry net more money. Yes, and many homes reflect the influence of successful home project courses. Many young farm couples who obtained their early inspiration and subject matter from 4-H Club work are now established farmers and community leaders. Indeed, there are signs all around us that extension teaching can improve the farm way of life. Public acceptance speaks well for extension's success, and the county staff has increased from one agent to three—agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H Club.

In recent years, however, this constantly enlarging program has overwhelmed me with a large number of tasks, and I find other agents facing the same problem. It seems that something must be done, but just what to do is not clear. Recent studies on county extension organization somehow fail to give the answers. Suggestions from State and Federal sources are well prepared but too general, hence difficult to apply in a specific county. One reason is that they usually fail to give adequate consideration to existing local organization. Trying to streamline the work by adding more organization invariably results in further duplication and confusion. I suppose every agent has wrestled with this problem. Many, no doubt, have worked out plans for simplification, but generally progress in this direction has been discouraging.

Recently, it occurred to me that our own farm folks might help with solving these organization problems. This idea originated from a satisfying experience with a detailed land-use study. The ease with which farmers handled knotty problems intrigued me. It seemed that the county program advanced several years during that 5-month period we worked on land use.

The challenge was how to prepare an exhibit that would enable farm folks to get a quick and accurate picture of the total county program. Several possibilities of a visual nature were considered, and the plan finally decided on was the preparation of a calendar chart for each agent, showing nature of work performed each day and another chart that amounted to an annual report in diagram form.

### Charts Visualize Total Program

The calendar charts were prepared from each agent's monthly report. Cross-hatched bars were used to designate meetings. The location of the bar indicated whether it was a forenoon, noon, afternoon, or evening meeting. The nature and place of the gathering were also indicated. Other notations reported such things as office calls, telephone calls, farm visits, news items, and radio scripts prepared. Colors were used for contrast and to add emphasis. These charts really explained the "when, what, where, and why" of each agent's activity for every day of the year.

The fourth chart, titled Hennepin County Agricultural Extension Program for 1945, gave a composite picture of the year's extension efforts. No effort was made to separate the work as to agents. The county program was divided into five divisions—office services, 4-H Club work, Farm Bureau, home project activities, and cooperatives and other organized groups. In the office section of the chart were eight rectangles, each containing information relating to the past year's work, such as 1,701 office calls, 5,907 telephone calls, 280 news items, 141 radio scripts, 66 days at conferences, and 29,594 bulletins distributed.

The 4-H Club section contained 50 squares. Thirty-two of them represented local clubs along with their names and enrollment. The other 18 listed the county and State events associated with the 4-H program.

The Farm Bureau organization was illustrated by 12 squares, each representing an organized local unit, or a county or State event. Eighteen extension topics were listed as examples of program material featured at these gatherings.

The home demonstration program for the year was shown by 42 squares, 34 of them representing the organized local groups enrolled in the major project. Three others represented minor projects involving 72 local meetings. Topics at all meetings were included. The five remaining squares indicated other cooperating organizations such as PTA's, churches, Red Cross, and State economics association.

The final section of this chart related to cooperatives, special commodity groups, and other farm organizations. This group totaled 42 and involved 162 meetings for the agent. This list was interesting because it represented practically every phase of farm, home, and community activity in the county and included nearly every farm family. Some of these organizations are older than extension work.

### 200 Sets of Officers at Work

Reviewing this chart reveals that 969 extension meetings were held during the year with a total attendance of 39,648. This labyrinth of organizations included nearly 200 sets of officers or committees, which leads one to conclude that the county extension organization is far more complete than it is usually given credit for.

When these charts were completed, county and community leaders were given their first opportunity to review them at the county program planning meeting. Their response was interesting, and their surprise at the total size of the county program


**Agent Pederson explains his calendar chart which shows graphically the total county extension program.**

was distinctly evident. They studied the charts carefully and commented on the rigorous schedule necessary to service such a large program.

Here are a few of the statements made by those present:

"Here is an instance where an agent attended meetings and made home visits at both ends of the county on the same day and followed a similar schedule the next day. Couldn't a more logical schedule be planned so as to save time and mileage?"

"Here's a community meeting all three agents attended. Wouldn't it be better to have just one agent on the program at a time?"

"Look at this string of night meetings, 12 in a row! That's a heavy schedule considering each day's work starts at 8:30 in the morning and lasts until midnight or later."

"Here are neighboring units with entirely different programs where local conditions seem quite similar. Perhaps they ought to get together."

The discussion that followed and continued at later meetings shows that these leaders were truly interested in streamlining the county program. A few of the most pressing problems were listed:

1. The increasing number of cooperating groups and assignments are not offset by a corresponding reduction of other groups or assignments.

2. Unexpected office and telephone calls frequently require so much time that carefully planned programs are interrupted and sometimes forced from the schedule entirely.

3. Lack of sufficient office help forces agents to do chores that are not productive.

4. Numerous evening and other meetings prevent the agent from taking adequate time for preparation of material for keeping abreast of current developments and completing reports.

5. Agents do not have time to assume community responsibilities in their own sphere comparable to those which one encourages and expects farm folks to assume.

6. It becomes nearly impossible to take advantage of the vacation privilege.

7. There is very little detailed information on how other counties may be solving their problems.

These are some of the problems that face my colleagues and me. What can we do about it? I think we should seek the solution not in radical changes in organization but rather streamlining what already exists. Here are a few suggestions that seem especially worth considering:

1. Sponsoring of more local and county-wide farm and home programs patterned after the State Farm and Home Week so several farm groups might participate without losing their individual identity. This should result in fewer but larger and more effective gatherings that will save time of rural people, agents, and specialists.

2. Where possible and advantageous, emphasize farm family programs where all meet together instead of in individual groups.

3. Urge local communities to lend increased support to the local leader training method of home project and 4–H Club work, thereby using more local leaders in these phases of work.

4. Insist on better-planned programs by all cooperating groups, especially township units and the numerous other organizations with which cooperation is expected.

5. Obtain a substitute either locally or someone through the State office to carry on the agent's work during vacation periods.

6. Provide opportunity to review in more detail "agent success stories" from the counties that have well-rounded programs.

The above suggestions are in line with the thinking of our own farm leaders who, by the way, are almost as busy as extension agents and will surely lend a hand in the streamlining process if given the opportunity.

## 4–H'ers dip 10,000 sheep

From Sumner County, Kans., comes the story of a valuable community activity conducted by eight 4–H Clubs of that county. In 1945, the county farm bureau financed the construction of a portable sheep-dipping vat and ordered the dip. Assisted by the county agent, Raymond Frye, the club members contacted the sheep growers and prepared a schedule for the use of the vat.

A charge of 10 cents per head was made to cover the service of the club members and the cost of the dip. Approximately 10,000 head of sheep were dipped in this program.

The various clubs ranged up to $91.40 as their income from this activity. Farmers were so happy over the program that the clubs will repeat the activity in 1946.

# Spring comes to a war-torn world

■ With a large volume of emergency food supplies now flowing to Europe and China, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is laying final plans for the second part of its gigantic task—helping war-stricken countries to get back food production approaching their prewar levels.

UNRRA agricultural experts are attached to missions in all the countries where the agency is working. This spring supplies for the rehabilitation of agriculture, such as draft animals and dairy cattle, fertilizers and pesticides, seeds, hand tools, and farm machinery are going forward to help farmers with their 1946 crop production.

Already, substantial quantities of agricultural rehabilitation supplies have reached the recipient countries through UNRRA, and the farmers there made excellent use of them as far as possible in the 1945 crop year. But in many places, battles were still raging through the 1945 planting season, precluding any crops there. Furthermore, last summer brought one of the worst droughts in the history of Europe, which cut down food production.

### Rehabilitation Is Tremendous Job

These conditions, with the dislocation and destruction of the war years, have made the agricultural rehabilitation job an enormous one, according to E. R. Hanson, director of UNRRA's agricultural rehabilitation section.

UNRRA is now operating in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece, Italy, Austria, and China.

In all these countries, farm methods and equipment before the war were far more primitive than in the United States. But such equipment as there was has been cut down seriously by theft and destruction, and constant use without replacements. Dairy herds, draft animals, and poultry flocks have been cut in half. Fields have gone untended, or at best unfertilized and poorly cultivated. What seed is available in Europe tends to be of low grade and weedy. These are the conditions which UNRRA must meet.

To meet some of the need for draft animals, UNRRA bought thousands of mules from American and British army surpluses, principally in Italy.

How precious these animals are to the destitute farmers is shown by the way they are handled in Greece. In each nemos, or county, committees of farmers meet to make allocations. The size of the mule, the amount of land to be cultivated, the fodder supply, and the individual farmer's ability to make good use of the animal, all are considered. In many cases, a number of farmers make joint use of the mules and some horses which UNRRA shipped in. One Greek woman who lost two sons, her farm animals, and her cottage during the occupation wept and publicly gave thanks to God when she was awarded a mule for her farm. A Greek farmer who had expected to receive an animal was sent home empty handed. With a few too many drinks the night before he had let slip his intention to sell the animal after he received it. The committee heard of this and turned him down.

To begin restoration of dairy herds, Greek agricultural authorities have launched an artificial insemination program. At the start of it, six bulls were received as a gift from the United Brethren Service Committee, an American organization. They are kept at an agricultural school near Athens. When they arrived, the Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church came out in full vestments to bless them.

### Draft Animals are Village-Owned

In Yugoslavia, most of the farm holdings are small, and the farmers live in compact villages. There, the draft animals become the property of the villages, and farmers take turns in using them. They are delighted with the animals, calling them the best they ever have had. They say they are able to plow deeper and faster than ever before the war.

The first horses sent to Poland by UNRRA, all of them bred mares, were taken to a large estate near Danzig, formerly operated by a Polish nobleman as a horse-breeding farm. The first cattle were unloaded at Danzig and driven under armed guard to another State-owned farm.

Milk production has fallen to such a level that the milk from the UNRRA cattle is reserved for children and sick persons. In the prewar milkshed of Warsaw and Lodz, the highest ration is less than half a pint per day for children under 2 years of age. There is none for adults. UNRRA workers returning from the field to the United States cannot get enough milk to drink in their first few days at home.

### Polish Underground Saves Seed

Winter rye is normally the most important grain crop in Poland. During the German occupation, every bit of grain was confiscated, even seed grain. But the Polish underground stole substantial amounts from the invaders and returned it to farmers who planted it at night so they would not be discovered. In some instances, the plantings were done in no-man's land between the contending Russian and German forces.

In Yugoslavia, winter grain plantings were impossible last season because of the occupation. But UNRRA provided seed corn in the spring, and this was substituted in many sections for wheat, making an important contribution to the Nation's food supply. UNRRA flew in 50 tractors as well as some other implements to aid in the planting. They were rigged with lights and used 24 hours a day as long as necessary to get in the crop.

Since then, UNRRA has provided thousands of other tractors in all the countries where it has major operations. It also has set up special schools to train operators in the use and maintenance of these machines. Tractors will be concentrated only in the most fertile sections and they will not entirely make up for the loss of livestock there.

### To Establish Key Hatcheries

UNRRA also is planning to provide brood stock to begin reestablishment of poultry flocks in the various countries where it operates. UNRRA experts report that poultry flocks are down to a comparatively lower point all over Europe than are farm animals and dairy herds. The program calls

**Bishop Pandeleimon and the attendant priests intone the prayers and bless the audience gathered to witness the first Greek demonstration of artificial insemination, using one of the breeding bulls brought over by UNRRA. This is part of a nationwide scheme of restoring livestock to a war-torn country.**

for 2 million hatching eggs to be provided in the first 5 months of 1946. Several key hatcheries probably are being established.

With the recovery of agriculture overseas, some of the American farmer's market for relief food will naturally close up. But no nation is self-sufficient; farmers abroad able to raise a portion of their crops for export again will in turn create a revived market for American farm products. For example, Greece and Italy able once more to raise and sell olive oil, can then buy wheat and other grains.

**Agricultural rehabilitation is one of the big jobs of UNRRA. In doing it they are using extension techniques. Particularly helpful is the report of the conference on the contribution of extension techniques in the rehabilitation of war-torn countries held in the fall of 1944.**

# Every Boone County 4-H'er completes project

■ All? All. Every last one. From the youngest to the oldest, every 4–H Club member in Boone County, W. Va., completed a project in 1945.

But that's only half of it. This is the second straight year that Boone County has had 100 percent project completion.

There's another goal to be chalked up to Boone club members. Last year they also had 100 percent "community project" completion. That means that each of the 34 clubs finished a piece of work aimed at community betterment. It may have been a salvage program, or planned recreation, or tree planting, or sponsorship of a hot-lunch program at school, or upkeep of the church and grounds.

On April 1, there were 760 4–H Club members in Boone County. By the end of October, 802 members had completed projects, of which 177 earned blue ribbons. Thirty-two won the MacArthur gold medal on their gardens, awarded by the National Victory Garden Institute, New York.

The greater number of completions over the April enrollment is due to the fact that many older members who had been away from their communities joined 4–H Clubs when they returned in the summer.

"Only by all of us working together have we done this job," said Mrs. Gladys S. Meadows, county club agent. "Of course the leaders and officers voted early last November that we could do no less than we did the year before, so we set out in the club year with our goals clearly established."

Mrs. Meadows paid tribute to the Boone County Board of Education for its most helpful cooperation.

Boone's record beats even that of the preceding year. The first 100 percent completion record was reached with 746 members—56 fewer than this year's record of 802 completing.

Partly responsible for the high interest in reaching 100 percent completion is the definite plan of work for the club year that the Boone County 4–H Leaders' Association had and that 25 clubs had adult councils.

Thirty-two clubs were represented at the 2 banquets and training meetings for officers and leaders. There were 277 members at the county camp.

Community projects included 73,150 pounds of scrap paper shipped and 10,000 evergreen trees set out. One club operated a book exchange in the community. One had members' teeth checked and repaired, and another provided for the distribution of milk at school.

There are still challenges before Boone 4–H'ers, and they are determined to raise the quality of their work.

■ Genesee County, Mich., 4–H Service Club, 75 strong, held its program planning meeting in the fall. S. H. LaTourette, county 4–H Club agent, says that each member will have some committee assignment, also each member will assume some responsibility for the 4–H Club program in his community.

FINDING THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXTENSON AGENT is made easier in Maine with new and uniform signs. The new sign reads "Agricultural Extension Service," and the names and titles of the extension agents follow. Confusion has been caused in the past because these offices have been known by various terms. Telephone directories will also carry the uniform address.

# Foreign extension trainees report after return to their native land

■ "See you at the first International 4–H Club Congress—in Santiago."

That departing promise, first made by Guillermo Rolando, tall dark Chilean trainee with the genial personality and expansive grin, is becoming a familiar farewell phrase as foreign students board the Miami Special for their native countries south or east or west of the border.

Only variant in the departing quip is the name of the city in question. Naturally, trainees from Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Honduras, Haiti, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, and China claim their own national capital as the location for the first International 4–H Club Congress.

The 4–H Congress, however, is only one of the future international gatherings envisioned by the enthusiastic young men and women whose study of extension work has directed their footsteps up and down the corridors of the Department of Agriculture in Washington . . . across the campuses of land-grant colleges in the 48 States and Puerto Rico . . . down the streets of county seat towns . . . around the plowed fields of American farms.

### International Group Organized

Another is the hoped-for annual conclave of the International Society for Studies in Extension Work. This organization, formed by the trainees in May 1945, now has members in Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Haiti, and Venezuela.

Both plans, however, will probably remain only plans for some time for, as one of the trainees wrote Dr. Fred Frutchey who is in charge of the foreign student training program: "Everything does not go as fast as I like to see . . . As you told us, extension work is not done overnight, and it may require years to get really good results."

Plans that are already taking shape, however, in the countries to which trainees have returned include the organization of 4 H Clubs, expansion of extension organizations and programs, development of home demonstration work, and the establishment of courses in extension organization and methods in colleges of agriculture.

From Brazil, returned trainees Eduardo H. Frota and Julio Nascimento report the organization of 4–C Clubs in the States of Paraiba and Marahao. Frota is now a member of the Federal Staff for the Development of Irrigation Projects, attached to an experimental irrigation station in Paraiba. Nascimento is now State Secretary of Agriculture and Director of Extension and Agricultural Service for the State of Marahao. Members of his staff include former trainees Demostenes Fernandez, Jefferson Carvalho, and Amelio Smith.

Cristobal Ruiz, now combining statistical and extension work in Ecuador, writes that he has helped organize several clubs for young people near Quito.

### 4-H Clubs for Peru

Plans are already completed for organizing 4–H Clubs in Peru where Enrique LaBarthe, Enrique A. Summers, and Alfredo Talleri are back on the job with the Peruvian Extension Service after completing 3 months' training in the United States.

Headed back to Venezuela with ambitious plans for early expansion of existing 5–V Clubs and development of home demonstration work are Miss Ana Carvajal, Miss Elda Marquina, Miss Adela Rodriguez, and Miss Luz Uzcategui. A helping hand in the organization of home demonstration work will be provided by Mrs. Josefa Bursian, one of the first home demonstration agents in Puerto Rico and at present a staff member of the Venezuelan-American Food Supply Commission. The four feminine trainees, together with Angel Capobianco and Mario Perez, are in Puerto Rico at present. They are using the final 2 months of their year's training to study Puerto Rico's adaptation of U. S. extension methods.

Other students who have wound up their training with a stay in Puerto Rico are Guillermo Rolando and Hernan Frias of Chile, Jorge Zuluaga, Alvaro Chaparro, and Antonio Penate of Colombia; and Felix Araque, Luis Ramon Sanchez, and Miguel Vivas of Venezuela.

Home demonstration work in Brazil is expected to begin taking shape soon under the capable hands of four attractive trainees who returned to their native land last fall. They are Miss Cilda Gomez, Miss Elleryza Ellery, Miss Heloisa Gama, and Miss Aracoeli Moreno.

### 27 Chinese Now in Training

Reports of home demonstration work are also expected soon from China to which Miss Teh-yin Ma will return shortly. Her carefully formulated plans for helping Chinese homemakers help themselves will emphasize nutrition, food production, and preservation, child care, and home industries. Other Chinese trainees who have recently returned home to help expand extension programs are Dr. Martin Yang, author of A Chinese Village and recently appointed senior technologist in the National Agricultural Extension Commission; and Dr. C. S. Hsieh. Twenty-seven other professional Chinese workers are still in this country receiving extension training.

In Chile, Hernan Frias and Guillermo Rolando have been conducting 6-day training schools in extension methods, stressing 4–H and home demonstration work for *agronomos* in all sections of the country. Frias and Rolando, chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the extension section of the Ministry of Agriculture, are now canvassing alumnae rolls of Chile's College of Home Economics in the search for prospective home demonstration personnel.

From Haiti, Gabriel Nicolas and Rodini Conte, who returned home in August, report that the "idea of the home agent has been well received by the staff of the Department of Agriculture." Both trainees are now district directors of agriculture, Nicolas being stationed at Saint Raphael and Conte at Gonaives.

Courses in extension philosophy, organization, and methods are now being taught or are in process of development in a number of colleges by

former trainees. These include Jorge Zuluaga, Universidad Nacional, Medellin, Colombia; Hugo J. Bastos, College of Agriculture, Ceara, Brazil; Benjamin Gastal, State College of Agriculture, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; Euclides Martins, Lavras Agricultural College, Minas Gerais, Brazil; Joaquim de Mello, now Secretary of Agriculture, and staff member of the College of Agriculture, Paraiba, Brazil; Eudes de S. Pinto, College of Agriculture, Pernambuco, Brazil; and Domingos Pellegrino, College of Agriculture, Piracicaba, Sao Paulo, Brazil.


**World peace is their business, agree Ming-chin Ma of China, Luz Uzcategui of Venezuela and Reva J. Thurlow of Kansas. Mr. Ma and Miss Uzcategui were two of the extension trainees attending the National Club Congress in Chicago.**

Other returned trainees are serving either governmental or commercial organizations as technicians, or are converting their own farms into demonstrations of the improved practices they learned in the United States.

Forty-five students from seven countries—China, Costa Rica, Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Argentina, and Haiti—are still in training here.

Fellowships under which the students have received their training have been provided by several sources. These include the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, 70 fellowships; the U. S. Department of State, 6 fellowships; Chinese Supply Commission, 21 fellowships (taken over from the Foreign Economic Administration at the end of the war); governments of Argentina, Jamaica, Peru, and Panama provided a combined total of 10 fellowships; United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, 4 fellowships; and the China Institute, 1 fellowship.

The extension concept of helping people help themselves is one of the major objectives of the training program. The development of trained human resources, in Dr. Frutchey's opinion, is the only certain and sure method of insuring the development of any country's natural resources.

Hopeful indication of the success of this long-time goal is seen in the attitude of returned trainees as expressed by Gabriel Nicolas:

"I thank you very much for the opportunity to be helpful to my country. I am going to work very hard for the welfare of my countrymen."

Considering the responsibility of the U. S. Extension Service only partially discharged when the trainees board the Miami Special, Dr. Frutchey spends a great deal of time thinking up ways of improving the methods and morale of the returned students. The newest in extension and USDA leaflets and in visual aids are dispatched to them posthaste—often by diplomatic pouch. Personal letters and the processed publication, Trainee Trails, authored by Dr. Frutchey's assistant, Georgia Gardner, are other morale builders. Other ideas, including an evaluation study, are kept on tap for more careful consideration if and when a lull occurs in Dr. Frutchey's full schedule.

From the requests that pour in almost daily for extension assistance in providing training for actual or prospective students, no lull is likely for some time to come.

## For 4–H development

The 4–H Development Association or Foundation recently organized in Edgecombe County, N. C., is primarily for the purpose of seeing that 4–H Club members who attempt out-of-the-ordinary work with pedigreed seeds or pedigreed animals do not lose money on their projects.

For instance, should 12 club members feed as many purebred steers and send them to a fat-stock show where the steers might sell below the cost of production, the association would see to it that bidding for the steers brought enough to repay the club members for their expense.

The organization also plans to sponsor and encourage all kinds of worthwhile activities sponsored by the county 4–H Clubs. Each individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or association that joins the organization pays a $10 membership fee to the treasurer and signs a statement that he will make himself liable to $25 for any 1 year in upholding the purposes and objects of the association. Should the association find cause for purchasing a 4–H project, the cost would be equally divided among the members.

■ The interdependence of agriculture and industry and the importance of national and international affairs in the future prosperity of any farmer in Oregon were facts stressed over and over again by speakers at the State-wide conference on marketing and distribution. The meeting held in mid-January was sponsored by the division of agriculture at Oregon State College.

# Cuisine by labor staff

■ New York's county agricultural agents, gathering at Cornell University for their annual conference at the State College of Agriculture, got a happy surprise and had a bang-up good time when State Farm Labor Supervisor Bob Polson and 15 associates in the extension farm labor staff prepared and served the annual dinner.

The affair was held at the Slaterville farm labor camp, a former CCC center recently vacated by PW's, about a dozen miles outside Ithaca. The rustic dining hall was decorated with Christmas greens and other seasonal trimmings, including a big tree for Santa's use. The secretarial staff which took care of these details included Agnes Dewey (wife of Extension Entomologist Jim Dewey), Florence Lennox (wife of 4-H's John Lennox), Mrs. Mary Adesso, Mrs. Jessie Browne, and Mavis Davenport.

Planning, preparation, and serving of the meal was directed by Dorothy "Tossie" George, expert in food and kitchen management at foreign labor camps, with the assistance of Cook Richard Grant and three of his aides. The menu started with relishes and included seafood cocktail, consomme, rice, mashed potatoes, roast beef, peas, turnips, chef salad, coffee, apple pie à la mode, and cheese, with plenty of each item.

Other members of the staff, in chef's aprons and hats, filled the plates and served the courses while Seneca County Agent "Dusty" Rhodes and his Ramblers played lively tunes and County Agents' Association President Sherburne Fogg of Warren County led the singing of lusty numbers. Headed by State Supervisor Polson, the serving group included WLA Supervisor Martha Eddy, Information Specialist Betty Burch, Assistant Supervisors Elton Hanks, Ralph Nelson, William Thompson, Seymour Vaughan, and Charles Collins; Percy Richards, migrant-housing supervisor, William L. Webster, labor utilization supervisor, and the secretaries. Between courses, Hanks, former Rensselaer County agent, who is known as "The Rose of Rensselaer," informally emceed a lively program; and after dinner the farm laborites—less Hanks—retired to the kitchen for their dinner while the 150 agents and their assistants and former agents held their annual meeting and initiation.

The county agents voted it the best party they had had in many years.

**Agricultural musicians. "Dusty" Rhodes, Seneca County agent, and his Ramblers enlivened the party with stirring music. Left to right, the Ramblers are: I. D. Perry, Cortland County agent; Lucien Freeman, Onondaga assistant county agent; James Q. Foster, Onondaga County agent, and H. L. ("Dusty") Rhodes.**

**Polson does his stuff. In chef's apron and hat, State Farm Labor Supervisor Bob Polson (Dr. Robert A. Polson, extension rural sociologist, to many of you) served the "head table." (Left to right): President of the county agent's association, Sherburne H. Fogg, Warren County agent; State Extension Director L. R. Simons; Fred B. Morris, State county agent leader; and Herbert E. Johnson, Monroe County agent.**

# An extension program measured

■ In 3 years the cropping system followed by farmers in the white-fringe beetle area of Florida has been drastically changed, in accordance with recommendations of the State Agricultural Extension Service and the USDA white-fringe beetle control project. Farmers have learned how to live with the beetle—and get along, even if they don't like it.

Research by the Division of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations had shown that when the beetles feed on such crops as peanuts, velvet beans, kudzu, soybeans, crotalaria, and beggarweed—primary food plants—the pests lay numerous eggs and thus build up the infestation. Peanuts and velvet beans—alone and between corn rows—are the only primary crops widely grown in the area.

### Cropping Recommendations Evolved

Following publication of these results, J. Lee Smith, agronomist with the Florida Extension Service, and others interested evolved cropping recommendations which included (1) more winter cover crops—oats and legumes; (2) peanuts grown on only about 25 percent of the farm land and rotated; (3) solid corn on about 35 percent of the farm land; (4) cotton and miscellaneous crops could occupy the rest of the farmed land; (5) improved pastures would furnish more cheap feed for livestock and not increase beetle infestation.

Of the winter crops, oats could be used for grazing and feed; and legumes would improve the soil to the extent that corn could be grown without interplanted legumes. Neither oats nor winter legumes build up beetle infestation. Peanuts, being a primary crop, should not be grown on the same land more often than once in 3 or 4 years.

### Cropping Practices Changed

Early in 1943 the Extension Service and Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine launched an intensive campaign to induce farmers to change their cropping practices in accordance with the recommendations. County Agents Mitchell Wilkins, of Walton County, and Fred Barber, of Okaloosa County, in the Florala area, and E. H. Finlayson of Escambia County, in the Century area, staged meetings at which the program was discussed, conducted tours, wrote letters, made farm visits, and carried the information to farmers in others ways at their disposal. They arranged for distribution of Pangola, Coastal Bermuda, and Pensacola Bahia grasses, all excellent for pasture.

A recent survey by William Dickison, of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, showed the following percentage changes in cropping practices between 1942 and 1945: Corn and legumes dropped from 46 to 23.9 percent; corn grown alone rose from 9.5 to 21.2 percent; peanuts dropped from 20.7 to 10.5 percent; cotton dropped from 16.5 to 7 percent; miscellaneous crops dropped from 7.3 to 4 percent; winter crops rose from practically none to 33.2 percent.

"The progress made during the past 3 years in infested areas in Florida," says Mr. Dickison, "can best be appreciated by recalling that prior to the commencement of the extension program in 1943, 66.7 percent of the total tilled acreage was planted to crops known to be most conducive to producing maximum increases in beetle population; that only 9.5 percent of the total tilled acreage was planted to solid corn; and little, if any, acreage was planted to winter crops. This is in marked contrast to the condition now prevailing in the same infested areas.

### Success Shows Farmer Confidence

"The unusual success of the program apparent to date can only be attributed to a keen interest and confidence on the part of the farmers in the recommendations, and to the untiring efforts of county agents, under the leadership of J. Lee Smith, to area and district supervisors of the project and others working in infested areas in the State of Florida."

# A look ahead

EDMUND deS. BRUNNER, Agricultural Adviser, Extension Service

■ My goal for Extension in looking ahead is the maximum development of all our resources in the Nation and in each county, economic and social, human and inanimate, for the achievement of the highest level of life possible for rural Americans.

In contributing to that end we have much in our past that will help. We have, and must maintain, our democratic educational procedures in Federal-State and State-county relationships. We have, and must maintain, our plan of using volunteer leaders. We have begun, and must vastly increase, cooperation with all like-minded agencies in the efforts to raise the rural standard of living and of life. We have devised methods to meet the needs of the past. We can continue courageous experimentation in methods and techniques for teaching the newer, less tangible, but desperately urgent, content demanded by new needs and emphasis.

We must be tireless in our efforts to help achieve an optimum economic basis for rural life and for winning social parity as well for everyone.

We must continue a functional approach through the whole program, involving constant program determination on the basis of ascertained needs and problems, rather than contentment with stereotyped activities, once good, now less needful because of changed situations and our own progress. As we look ahead, we can already see some serious problems looming up. We know there are others we cannot see, but we also know that in Extension we have a tested institution with a worthy purpose and a record of substantial, not to say phenomenal, achievement.

# *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.**

### Greenhouse Substitute

■ Home gardeners who want to start plants indoors but do not have access to a greenhouse can use a home-made case or box equipped with ordinary fluorescent lamps for light. Cuttings or seedlings can be propagated in this unit in the basement or a storage room. The box is 6 feet long, 3 feet high, and 3 feet wide, with two doors hinged at the top and two 40-watt fluorescent tubes. It was designed and tested at the Plant Introduction Garden, Glenn Dale, Md. Waterproof composition board is suggested for the building material.

In an air space below the rooting medium a heater may be installed if necessary, and another space above the lamps prevents excessive heating at the top. If the temperature of the room is fairly high and is steady, a heating unit may not be needed. No ventilation is necessary. For rooting cuttings, a light rich in orange-red rays is best, whereas for growing seedlings the blue-violet rays are more favorable. Vermiculite, a mica-bearing material available at most building-supply stores, is recommened as the rooting medium for cuttings. This material can also be used for germinating seed and growing seedlings, but sphagnum moss is considered somewhat better for this purpose. Specifications for building the unit can be obtained from the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Beltsville, Md.

### DDT for Lousy Pigs

■ A single application of DDT proved effective in ridding swine of heavy infestations of lice in recent experiments by research veterinarians of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The results must be considered preliminiary because only a limited number of tests were made under farm conditions and without scientific controls. Both sprays and dips were prepared, with the DDT in emulsions of mineral oil and water. Sprays containing 0.1 percent and 0.5 percent of DDT were tested on 8 animals each and destroyed all lice on the hogs. However, these sprays failed to kill the nits and all the young lice that hatched later, though the hogs treated with the 0.5 percent spray had only a few lice on them when they were examined 8 weeks after the treatment. For the dip, 0.75 percent of DDT was used. This treatment killed all lice on 300 heavily infested pigs within 4 hours, and enough DDT remained on the hair and skin of the dipped animals to kill the young lice as they hatched. The herd was entirely freed of lice by one dipping with the DDT solution.

### The Why and How of Fortified Foods

■ A new leaflet, intended especially for home demonstration leaders, nutrition committees, and teachers, rounds up information on some staple foods to which essential nutrients are now added or restored. Foods—Enriched, Restored, Fortified is the title of this 16-page pamphlet, issued by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics as U. S. Department of Agriculture, AIS–39.

The foods covered are bread and flour, cereals, oleomargarine with vitamin A added, vitamin D milk, and iodized salt. B vitamins and iron are added to white bread under a War Food Order still in effect, and much flour is similarly enriched on a voluntary basis.

The new 80-percent-extraction flour is not discussed in AIS–39, which came off the press just before the President's order was issued. This flour, as milled, will have a higher content of iron, B vitamins, especially thiamine, and better quality protein than unenriched white flour. The new flour, however, is not up to the standard of enriched white flour in the vitamins and iron, and therefore, under the War Food Order mentioned, commercially baked bread will have to be brought up to that level by addition of these nutrients if the flour from which it is made is not so enriched.

### 2,4–D Not Harmful to Grazing Animals

■ One of the questions regarding the use on pastures of 2,4–D, the weed killer, has been answered by tests made by two bureaus of the Agricultural Research Administration. Scientists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering and the Bureau of Dairy Industry made the studies to determine whether it would be safe to destroy the weeds in pastures by spraying with 2,4–D because of possible harm to grazing animals. The results show that the chemical is not injurious to cows or sheep eating treated vegetation.

The investigators even added purified 2,4–D to the grain ration of a cow at the rate of $5\frac{1}{2}$ grams a day for more than 100 days, and she showed no ill effects in weight, milk production, or appetite. A calf fed on the milk of a cow receiving 2,4–D with her ration developed normally. Some of the chemical was found in the blood serum of the cow, but none was transferred to the calf. The investigators caution that their conclusions cover only pure 2,4–D and 2,4–D mixed with a commonly used spray spreader called Carbowax, and they cannot say that proprietary mixtures made with other materials are harmless to animals.

### A Delicious New Canned Dessert

■ Developed by the Western Regional Research Laboratory for the Army, a jellied fruit dessert put up in cans may be available for civilians before too long. In response to the need for a fruit dessert for field rations, to satisfy the soldiers' appetite for fruit and supply vitamin C, chemists at that laboratory produced a pineapple jellied dessert and a mixed fruit jelly. The jellies were stiff enough to come out of the can in one piece and to hold their shape and not drip juice when eaten from the hand. The flavor, color, and texture were retained both in tropical heat and in Arctic cold.

# Radio plays vital role in helping city women

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

A forced change in the time and length of her successful radio program brings new opportunities to the home demonstration agent in the city of New Orleans. An account of her early broadcasting experiences was given in the March 1945 issue of the REVIEW.

■ Keeping on the air when air waves are busy and radio stations have people waiting in line to buy commercial time is quite a problem for a home demonstration agent. It's nothing to have your program sold from under you, and that's what happened to me in December 1944.

The 15-minute time at 6 a. m. over Station WWL on Saturday morning was no longer available. This was not too disastrous because this time was suited to rural rather than to urban listeners. The only other time offered was a 5-minute period at 8:55 which was the period for local news following the national program, Country Journal of the Air. To fill these 5 minutes I wrote an original 4½-minute script each week to appeal to the urban housewife. The subjects covered were concerned with consumer problems and presented with the assistance of the farm service director.

As a result of 46 broadcasts, 941 written requests were received, and approximately 2,200 agricultural bulletins were distributed.

Significantly, only 12 States were heard from at the 9 a. m. period, as against 20 States heard from on the previous program given at 6 a. m. Of the 941 total requests received, 455 were from Louisiana and 230 from the city of New Orleans. In addition to this, many telephone calls originated from the city of New Orleans as a result of the program.

Aside from this regular broadcast which is given weekly over station WWL, I have had offers to write and give broadcasts featuring home demonstration work on the 4 other stations in the city. In food preservation, 10 community leaders helped me broadcast lessons in the preservation of food to 6,000 block leaders of New Orleans community volunteer service. Broadcasts on meat alternates proved valuable at a time when the nutrition of city people was in danger of being impaired through lack of sufficient meat protein. Special broadcasts assisted in moving surplus foods from the markets and encouraged the use of sugar alternates.

Writing 4½-minute broadcasts presents problems in concise and condensed writing. A person using this shorter type program has a greater opportunity to obtain radio time at the best listening periods of the day. It is almost imperative for a city home demonstration agent to be able to write her scripts as well as to give them so that she will be able to meet local needs which arise quickly in urban areas.

### Food Is Still Popular

The subjects used and the number of requests from each broadcast were as follows:

Food selection and preparation: Cook That Turkey Right, 54 requests; Making Candies with Sugar Substitutes, 14; The Basic Seven Meal Planning, 16; Nutrition of Children, 7; Cooking with Honey and Syrup, 63; Utility Beef, 6; Egg Cookery, 29; Soybean, 29; Cooking Sea Food, 13; Cheese Cookery, 7; Cooking Green Vegetables, 12; Eat a Good Breakfast, 9; Milk Cookery, 7; Cooking with Honey and Molasses, 15; Fish Cookery, 17; Tomatoes, 13; Potatoes, 7; Whole Grains in Meals, 6; Root Vegetables, 8; Packing the School Lunch, 18. Total, 326.

Home management and family economics: House Cleaning, 15; Closet and Storage Space, 46; House Cleaning Management, 12. Total, 73.

Clothing and textiles: Clean and Adjust the Sewing Machine, 41; Cleaning and Pressing Clothes into Service, 6; Proper Fitting of Dresses, 46; Making Slip Covers, 58; Renovation of Clothes, 14. Total, 165.

Mrs. Louise Neely, home demonstration agent, Orleans Parish, La.

The house-furnishing equipment and surroundings: Curtains for the Home, 13; Buying Linens, 8; Laundry, 22; Camellias, 75. Total, 118.

Nutrition and health—home production of the family food supply: Growing Vegetables in Town and City, 26; Victory Gardens, 30; Garden Insect Control, 13; Fall and Winter Gardens, 22; The Mirliton Pear, 22; Strawberry Planting Time, 11. Total, 125.

Food preservation and storage: Care of Pressure Cooker, 27; Jar Closures, 9; Canning Fruits and Vegetables, 47; Canning Without Sugar, 14; Quick Freezing of Food, 7; and Canning Fruit Cake, 30. Total, 134.

## Radio help for home planners

Kansans planning to build, remodel, or refinish their homes listen to the "Bildrite Hour" conducted by Prof. H. E. Wichers of the Department of Architecture at Kansas State College every Saturday morning at 10:15 o'clock on Radio Station KSAC.

Wichers asks listeners who have special problems about building or remodeling to write him in care of KSAC. The problem is discussed over the radio or, if the writer prefers, the inquiry is answered by letter.

# We Study Our Job

## Publications workshop leads the way

■ Look for better news copy and more readable extension bulletins from Connecticut.

County agents, specialists, and editors from the Nutmeg State have been through a stiff course of training in how to write so people can read it. All took part in a program planned around their problems in preparing bulletins, news stories, and circular letters.

The Connecticut Publications Workshop, January 30 to February 1, was the first held by any State Extension Service. Sixty-five people registered in a snowstorm at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. They may have thought it was just another extension conference. It turned out to be a workship with emphasis on the "work."

### Experts Called In

During the morning of each day there was a 3-hour lecture session, packed with concentrated information. Dr. Irving Lorge of Columbia Teachers' College set the pattern for the workshop in his opening talk on The Psychology of the Adult. It was, some said, equal to a full semester course. Visiting lecturers included T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, USDA; Dr. George Gallup of the Public Opinion Polls; and Dr. Rudolf Flesch, author of the now-famous readability formula. His new book, The Art of Plain Talk, which discusses his formula at length, came out the first day of the workshop.

As native talent, Connecticut produced Curtiss Johnson, weekly newspaper editor. Mr. Johnson demonstrated that the complicated story of type and how to use it can be told in a way that anyone can understand. Maurice R. Cronan, city editor of the Hartford Courant, told the extension people why some of their copy goes into the wastebasket and how they can get more of it in the paper. Dr. Joseph Baer of the Connecticut State Department of Education proved by census figures that the average farm reader of extension circulars and bulletins has had no more than an eighth-grade education.

In the afternoons, the group broke up for round-table sessions on news writing, circular letters, bulletins, typography and design, evaluation and readability formulas. They shed coats, unbuttoned vests, and went to work.

The bulletin group, for example, took the text of a Connecticut bulletin, on its way to press, tore it apart and put it together again. The typography group took sample bulletins from several States and decided how they should have been designed. The readability formula group learned how to measure the language, especially the abstractness of the language of their manuscripts, by the Flesch formula.

The news writing group found typewriters and a copy desk set up in city-room style. For 3 days they wrote, edited, and mimeographed a daily newspaper. Reporters from the news-writing group covered all other workshop sessions as well as the talks, and the Workshop News became the official record of the conference.

Bouquets for arranging the Workshop have been falling on the desk of Mrs. Ruth R. Clark, State home demonstration leader. Mrs. Clark attended the Columbia University Publications Workshop last summer (see August 1945 REVIEW) and upon return urged that a similar workshop be given in Connecticut. Other Connecticut staff members who were active in planning the workshop were Harold Baldwin, Walter Stemmons, Esther Barnett, and Margaret Hammersley.

Of great help in the planning and the running of the program were people from the Washington Extension Service office. Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky,

**Editors do a clinical job on the typography, layout, and design of publications, under the direction of Harry P. Mileham, until recently extension editor in Vermont and now publications specialist with the Federal Extension Service. (Left to right around the table): Henry A. Krebser, Litchfield County club agent; Harold W. Baldwin, Connecticut extension editor; Harry P. Mileham; Radie Bunn, new editor in Massachusetts; and Donald Donnelly, Hampden County (Mass.) Extension Service.**

Ida Mason, and Mrs. Nellie von Dorster, of the Division of Field Studies and Training; and Harry P. Mileham and Anna J. Holman, of the Division of Extension Information, were in the delegation.

Extension editors came from Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New Hampshire to attend the Connecticut Workshop and went home with ideas for running workshops in their own States.

Pounded into the heads of everyone who attended was the gospel of readability, stated by Dr. Flesch, and emphasized by almost every speaker.

Boiled down by a Workshop News reporter, it was this:

1. Use short sentences.
2. Use simple words.
3. Make your writing personal.

*—Frank F. Atwood, assistant university editor, University of Connecticut.*

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The Flesch formula was used in analyzing Connecticut's extension publications. Of 180 samples from 52 bulletins, 61 percent of those in agriculture were written on a high-school level or above and 42 percent of the home-economics bulletins. Publications for youth were a little better with 73 percent on the seventh- and eighth-grade levels and 21 percent about sixth grade.

## Whole county backs 4-H

■ Folks up in Fond du Lac County, Wis., are united in promoting 4–H Club work. City as well as rural people pitched in to make this a banner 4–H year. The results are 12 new clubs and 87 more members than last year. The county now has 41 clubs with a total of 573 members.

Assistance in the 4–H program came from several sources. Included in these were the Fond du Lac Kiwanis Club, the Fond du Lac Association of Commerce, the Fond du Lac County Holstein and Guernsey Breeders' Associations, the Fond du Lac County Swine Breeders' Association, the County Fair Board, the Pomona Grange, and the staff of the State 4–H office.

The 41 clubs were led by 63 leaders. A total of 835 projects were carried, and 472 boys and girls became achievement members, all finishing the projects they started.

At the beginning of the year, 4–H rallies were held for leaders, parents, and members to encourage club enrollments and the proper selection of projects. Early in the season, a county-wide leaders' meeting was held to obtain the recommendations and requests from the various communities as to what should be included in the program. Later the leaders' council reviewed the recommendations made at the county-wide meeting and made definite suggestions for the year's program. A second county-wide leaders' meeting was held after the organization work was well under way.

County Agent George Massey says that during the year club members contributed considerably to the war effort. They raised feed and food for farm and home use, preserved, stored, and canned food for family use, contributed toward their clothing needs, collected salvage materials, and took part in a program that is assisting in the better development of young people in rural communities.

## A tree windbreak as a top-side foxhole

J. WHITNEY FLOYD, Utah Extension Forester

■ The expression, "talk turkey," is quite common; and if turkeys could talk, they would be everlastingly grateful for the trees that farmers plant for their protection. A case study of this comes from San Pete County, Utah. Chris Peterson, a well-known Utah turkey grower, decided 6 years ago that his turkeys when pastured out in the field ought to have some protection. Trees were a quick and easy source of protection; so, at a cost of about $4.50 and with the advice and counsel of the Utah Extension Service, he obtained sufficient trees from the State-Federal Clarke-McNary Nursery at Logan, Utah, to plant a two-row windbreak several hundred yards long. Mr. Peterson gave the same care to the trees, a row each of black locust and Russian olive, that he gives his turkeys; and the trees grew into a fine windbreak, making a splendid canopy for protection to his turkeys from sun, wind, and rain.

But the pay-off came last year when in this particular windbreak field Mr. Peterson kept 2,700 fine young turkeys worth, at that time, $4 each on the hoof. Mr. Peterson was off at lunch one day when he saw a blitzkrieg storm coming up—a hailstorm. He rushed back to his turkey pasture and got there just in time to see the damage the storm did. Two thousand turkeys reached the shelter of the two rows of trees and were talking turkey to him, thanking him for the trees. Seven hundred did not make the windbreak and perished. Says Mr. Peterson: "That windbreak saved me $8,000.

Mr. Peterson was recently elected president of the Utah Turkey Growers Association and is talking plenty of turkey windbreaks to his associates.

## 4–H'ers look ahead

Rural young people are doing some serious thinking about the problems they face in this changing world; problems that will probably be theirs to solve. This is brought out in a recent study made of 159 young people in Oregon and Washington. They were interviewed to find out what activities they wanted in their 4–H program.

In addition to the present program, these 15- to 21-year-olds want more of the following to be included in the 4–H program:

1. Club composed of one or more communities large enough to permit group participation with from 15 to 25 in a group.
2. Plan own program with adult assistance.
3. Mixed groups (young men and women).
4. Challenging projects available—opportunity to make some money.
5. Meetings twice monthly separate from school, meetings to be held generally in evenings.
6. Considerable recreation.
7. An opportunity to attack significant and large community problems that they recognize.
8. Group discussions on topics like:
   *a.* Personal improvement.
   *b.* Choosing a lifework.
   *c.* Civic and national problems.
   *d.* Economic affairs.

The final report of this study, What Do 15–21 Year Olds Want in a 4–H Program, made by Kenneth W. Ingwalson of the Federal Extension staff, has not been completed.

# Among Ourselves

■ JESSE M. HUFFINGTON, for 19 years extension vegetable specialist in Pennsylvania, resigned February 1 to assume charge of production for the Chef Boy-ar-dee division of the American Home Foods, Inc., at Milton, Pa.

At the same time he ended 4 years as secretary of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association (membership 2,500) and editor of its publications. His "Vegetable Growers News" was widely known. He was originator and for 10 years editor of the "Ten Ton Tomato Club" reports, and 2 years ago started the Pea Clubs of Pennsylvania, serving as editor there, also.

A native of Salisbury, Md., Mr. Huffington was graduated from the University of Maryland, did graduate work there and also at Clemson College, S. C. In 1924 he joined the Maryland Extension Service as county agent for Anne Arundel County, with offices at Annapolis, Md. Three years later he went to Penn State as extension vegetable specialist, continuing in that capacity until his recent resignation.

Much of his work in recent years concerned educational aspects of improving the production of vegetables for processing, a growing industry in the Keystone State. He won Nationwide recognition for his summary of growers' practices and records to improve the production of processing vegetables.

In his new position, Mr. Huffington plans to edit a new publication to continue crop production, emphasizing quality as well as quantity of vegetables for processing.

■ J. H. McLEOD, vice-director of the Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, has been named "Man of the Year in Service to Tennessee Agriculture" by the Progressive Farmer magazine. The announcement, with an outline of McLeod's service to Tennessee, is made in the January issue of this farm publication.

Each year the magazine "seeks to honor one man from each of 12 States for outstanding achievement in service to agriculture," the announcement points out. These awards are made in recognition of outstanding service during the 12 months, or on the basis of the cumulative value of the man's work over a long period of time.

Mr. McLeod joined the Tennessee Extension Service early in 1921 as swine specialist. In 1936 he became assistant director in charge of specialists, program planning, and farm management, a post he filled until his recent appointment as vice-director of the Extension organization.

■ J. O. DUTT, fresh out of an army uniform, joined the staff of the Pennsylvania Extension Service in February as the new vegetable specialist. Dutt is a Penn State graduate, having majored in horticulture as a member of the class of 1939.

A native of Northampton County, the new specialist spent 2 years following his graduation as assistant extension specialist in horticulture in Nebraska, and then took work in vegetables and plant breeding at the University of Minnesota. He had a total of 43 months' service in the Army's Ordnance Department, entering as a private and being discharged as a first lieutenant. He spent 20 months overseas, much of that time in Hawaii at an ordnance depot.

■ MARY E. KEOWN, State home demonstration agent for Florida, is one of two "women of the year" in service to Florida-Alabama-Georgia agriculture named by Progressive Farmer in its January issue. The other is Erna Proctor, now with the Georgia Extension Service but until recently with the Farm Security Administration.

"While she is Florida's own State home demonstration agent, Miss Keown is known and respected both nationally and internationally," says an editorial by Miss Sallie Hill, home department editor. "She has had successful experience in both home demonstration work and the commercial economics field."

■ DR. A. F. CAMP, vice-director in charge of the Citrus Experiment Station, Lake Alfred, Fla., has been named by Progressive Farmer, well-known southern farm journal, as outstanding man of 1945 in Florida agriculture. He is honored for his forward steps in a study of tristeza disease of citrus in South America and for his fertilizer coordination program.

■ GEORGE E. FARRELL, for many years active in extension work, particularly the 4-H Clubs, retired from the Government service at the end of 1945. Mr. Farrell, first appointed in 1914, took an active part in the development of extension work during the First World War and was well known for his practical canning demonstrations. He was 4-H Club field agent for the Central States and had charge of the National 4-H Club Camps held in Washington from 1927 until 1934 when he joined the staff of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Later he went to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics where he was working at the time of his retirement.

■ To M. K. MacGregor, 4-H Club agent of Hillsdale County, Mich., goes the credit for training two outstanding 4-H tractor demonstration teams, the first in Michigan, and probably among the first in the United States.

## Farmers fly to conference

A group of eight farmers and homemakers from Vermillion County, Ind., were probably making Indiana history when they flew in their own planes to attend the annual agricultural conference at Purdue University in January.

The group landed at the Purdue airport a few minutes after they had finished their morning chores at their farms near Perrysville and returned via air each evening, thus solving traffic and housing problems.

During their visit at the university members of the group were featured on the WLS Dinner Bell program which was broadcast from the university.

# Home demonstration clubs buy cooperatively

LOIS SCANTLAND, District Home Demonstration Agent, Arkansas Extension Service

Cooperative buying through home demonstration clubs has been a major activity of rural women in 49 Arkansas counties this year. Most plans started under the sponsorship of county home demonstration club councils with local home demonstration clubs cooperating, but some were successfully organized on a neighborhood club basis.

The cooperative venture has meant cash savings of thousands of dollars and has brought needed materials and commodities, unaccessible to farm women, to homes throughout the State. Pooled orders for materials range from feather-proof satin to dairy thermometers but also include tufting thread, footstool bases, recommended varieties of garden seeds, jar lifters, chair - bottoming material, paint for stenciling, sewing machine parts, peaches from orchards in neighboring counties, fruits not produced locally, shrubs for landscaping, and woolen yard goods.

### Agents Give Support

Home demonstration agents have helped councils locate sources of needed articles and have advised with club members on organizing a workable system for obtaining and distributing the goods. They have given method demonstrations on home use or home construction involving commodities bought. These have included instructions on making feather and wool comforters from the satin, on shrinking the woolen goods, and tailoring and pressing garments made from it, on canning pineapples and plums, and on reupholstering furniture.

The satin has proved to be the most popular item purchased. From 43 counties come reports that 5,053 members in 644 clubs have bought 67,158 yards. In addition to being used for feather and wool comforters, which require approximately 10 yards each, the 80- to 100-yard bolts have provided house coats, pajamas, gowns, slips, bedspreads, linings for coats, draperies, and upholstery for boudoir chairs.

The comforters have been filled with home-produced wool or feathers from old featherbeds and extra pillows, as well as new feathers, that have been cleaned.

In 16 counties, 5,606 yards of woolen cloth were purchased cooperatively this fall. In Benton County alone women ordered 1,141 yards. Seventy-two inches wide, it is suitable for single and double blankets and for dresses, suits, skirts, and children's coats.

### Polk County Trys Cooperative Use

In Polk County, cooperative effort in purchase of butchering tools and sickroom equipment resulted in sets or kits being kept in one place in the community and lent to people who needed them.

Most of the councils active in cooperative buying have set up a buying committee or have the executive committee temporarily acting in this capacity. Clubs have a designated representative, sometimes called a buying chairman, who, if the orders are placed in her name, is bonded. In some counties, a special account is established at a bank, and all payments are made by individuals to the account and orders paid from it.

### Adds Interest to Program

In all counties, first orders are filled first. The willingness of members living near central shipping points to help prepare individual orders from shipments received has made it possible for the least accessible clubs to participate in the plan.

Home demonstration agents are confident that cooperative buying among home demonstration club members has solved many consumer problems and has increased interest in proper methods for use and care of materials and equipment. One agent stated, "This has been a worthwhile project, by bringing in many new members who frankly joined the club in order to buy satin, stockings, and woolen materials but who have been carried into the realm of good membership by the impetus of the program."

## Veteran agent evaluates campaigns

A county agent of 30 years' service, D. F. Eaton of Crowell, Tex., evaluates some of the campaigns he has seen come and go. He says:

"By way of remembrance, here are some of the many movements in my time which within themselves sought to save the country and reform and redeem the service:

Farm accounting and record keeping . . . Good.
Agricultural councils . . . Good, but too early.
All excited about publicity . . . Good if you have done something worthy.
The fireless cooker . . . Good at the time.
Cooperative buying and marketing . . . Lots of casualties but good.
Farmers' organizations . . . Good, but still weak in public favor in Texas.
Meat killing and curing plants . . . Good only on farm.
Community work centers . . . Good when we have rural churches and schools.
Bull circles . . . Good, but not popular.
Victory councils . . . Good, if properly used very effective.
Cotton classing and cotton pools . . . Good, but impractical.
Land use planning . . . Fundamentally sound.
Rural electrification . . . Has real and popular merit.
Farm labor . . . Too early to venture an opinion.
Trench silos . . . Results excellent.

We always came back to fundamentals and found real work such as crop and livestock improvement, soil conservation, improved machinery, better buildings, 4-H Club work, developing community leaders, needful rural organization, and improvement of citizenship.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**SUMMER SCHOOLS** are in the air this spring. Eight different land-grant colleges are offering special courses for extension workers, including most of the fields in which agents are feeling the need for more training.

**COLORADO A. & M. COLLEGE** at Fort Collins offers courses in extension research and methods, farm and home planning, and extension publicity from June 24 to July 12. A rural housing workshop is being arranged for the second week.

**CORNELL UNIVERSITY**, Ithaca, N. Y., offers a 3-week session beginning July 20, with courses in public relations and information service, objectives and over-all programs of extension work, public problems in agriculture, sociology and psychology for extension workers, and public speaking.

**FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE** at Gainesville contemplates a special course for extension workers from June 10 to June 29.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE** offers an intensive course on planning and development of the Agricultural Extension Program from June 3 to June 22.

**MISSOURI UNIVERSITY** at Columbia, Mo., offers two 4-week courses beginning June 10 and July 8. Among the subjects to be taught are the organization and planning of extension work, group relationships, extension methods, international affairs, illustrations and photography, and the preparation of agricultural articles.

**OREGON STATE COLLEGE** at Corvallis, Oreg., begins the extension summer course June 17, giving special emphasis to housing. Maud M. Wilson, well known for her research work in storage and housing, will teach there, and a workshop will be featured during the second 3 weeks.

**UTAH STATE COLLEGE** at Logan plans a course on extension methods running from June 10 to June 28.

**TWENTY-ONE HEAVY WOODEN BOXES** are being dispatched by UNRRA to 7 European countries and to China. In each are copies of farmers' bulletins, circulars, and a complete file of the Journal of Agricultural Research. These 84,000 books and pamphlets given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture are being sent to schools and libraries in war-torn countries which have been cut off from the exchange of scientific and technical information.

**UNRRA** scurried around last month looking for additional European seed supplies of grain seeds and seed potatoes for Poland and Austria. These additional requests came in too late to procure in this hemisphere before spring planting. More than 30,000 tons of seeds for growing foods have already been landed in seven countries.

**OFF FOR CHINA** is Benton L. Hummel, well-known extension sociologist in Virginia. He will serve as agricultural extension adviser for the UNRRA program in China. He left recently for Shanghai with 31 other UNRRA specialists on the S. S. *General Scott*.


## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.


**A GROUP OF CHURCH LEADERS** met with U. S. Department of Agriculture agencies in Washington last month under the auspices of the Extension Service. Thirteen different denominations were represented and considered their mutual problems. The church group was interested in the various programs of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and suggested ways of getting information about them into their own literature and programs. They also suggested that county agents learn more about the program of the church for rural areas.

**MEMORIAL TREES** are beginning to grow in Kentucky for former 4-H Club members who gave their lives for their country. In 21 counties 4-H Club members have planted 317 trees on the school grounds where club meetings are held or on the church grounds where the 4-H boy was a member. Before this year is over the other Kentucky club members will have made their plantings in memory of their 4-H fellows who are gone, writes N. R. Elliott, professor of landscape architecture in Kentucky.

**HOME-GROWN FOOD—PRODUCTION—PRESERVATION. No. 663.** Prepared by the Extension Service. Illustrates the great variety of ways in which farm and urban families have responded to the Nation's call for increased production and home preservation in accordance with recent research findings. (64 frames: Single $0.55; double $1.25.) A copy for inspection is deposited with the extension editor at your State agricultural college.

**PAN AMERICAN DAY**, April 14, is being marked by special observances throughout the 21 American Republics. The slogan is "Free and United—The Americas Go Forward." Agriculture is the great common denominator of the peoples of the Americas, and the Department of Agriculture has been active in technical collaboration and training as well as joint action in facing agricultural problems. Farmers' clubs, home demonstration clubs, 4-H Clubs, community nights are celebrating Pan American Day with special programs.



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# The hinge of the gate

M. L. WILSON, Director of Cooperative Extension Work

**In observing Home Demonstration Week, Director Wilson calls attention to work well done and points out some of the problems still ahead.**

■ There is one matter of policy to which all true believers in democracy subscribe. It is that the farm family is the hinge of the gate that leads to the kind of rural democracy that has brought and maintained steady progress toward an ever-ascending standard of living among rural people in the United States.

National Home Demonstration Week, May 5–12, 1946, gives recognition to the contributions made, in a period that extends beyond 30 years, by two very important groups in our rural society. The first of these is the corps of many thousands of rural women leaders who have through the years served as volunteer local, community, county, and State home demonstration and 4-H Girls' Club cooperators. They have sensed the problems of rural families—and they have done something to meet them.

The second group comprises the relatively few professionally trained State and county agents who have worked with the volunteer groups in bringing new developments in homemaking science within the reach of millions of farm families in the Nation. They have done, and are doing, such a good job that Congress has, through the Bankhead-Flannagan Act, urged that more be cooperatively employed so that there is no rural county without their services. Among some of the essential jobs being done in home economics extension programs are those of meeting problems of farm family food supplies; encouraging farm fruit and vegetable gardens; food preservation and food preparation; and safety on the farm and in the home.

As farm and other rural women—and that means all rural families—take up the task of recovery from a war which brought supreme sacrifices to many, and great sacrifices to all, it is important that the home demonstration cooperators of the Nation get together in their respective communities to take up the problems that lie ahead. These may vary in a degree, depending on local situations. Many of the problems will center on the family and home, in improving living conditions, including improved nutritional standards, better clothing, better marketing services, homes and housing conveniences suited to the needs of families who are to live in them.

Others will be community, county, State, and Nation-wide problems concerning health, roads, rural electrification, recreation, and improved educational opportunities to meet the needs of children and the oncoming generation of rural youth. Still others will deal with matters of moral and spiritual advancement and cooperation in efforts to solve future international problems through peaceful means.

Now that the period of wartime sacrifices has ended, farm families are looking forward to a gradual realization of those higher standards of home and living which they have a right to expect in an advancing civilization. Cooperative home demonstration extension work, through local cooperators and resident home demonstration agents, should plan and organize its continuing services along lines that will best help rural families find a practical and intelligent way toward meeting immediate problems of better living.

### Secretary Anderson says:

**It is fortunate that we Americans realize that, amid the problems of war and readjustment, our greatest strength and hope for the future lie in our homes. That is why I am happy that you in home demonstration work are focusing our attention on the contributions of the rural home to progress and world peace during National Home Demonstration Week, May 5–12.**

### Representing the United Nations:

**Freeing the people of all lands from the fear of hunger is the high goal of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. . . .**

**The homemaker is the most important link in the long chain of food handlers from the farm to the dinner table. Her ability to get the food she needs for her family, to select the right foods for health, to prepare foods properly for eating, and to preserve them for future use—these are the end results toward which all the rest of our activity is aimed.**

**And so, in this National Home Demonstration Week, I am happy to greet the rural women of America and to offer my congratulations to them for the progress they have made toward accomplishing the goals for better living which the FAO hopes may be made a part of family living throughout the world.—*Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General.***

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# What is extension responsibility in the field of agricultural policy?

PAUL E. MILLER, Director of Agricultural Extension, Minnesota

**Director Miller impressed extension workers attending the national outlook conference with his discussion on extending economic information to farm people. Some of the forward-looking ideas he presented there are in the following article.**

As an Extension Service we have the very real responsibility of bringing to farm people the basic economic information that they will ask for in their consideration of the many proposals that are being advanced to maintain agricultural income after the present support prices are withdrawn. In bringing this kind of information to them it is not our province to tell farmers what to think or how to think, or to give them ready-made answers. It is our responsibility, nevertheless, to give them the kind of information that is essential to a full consideration of the basic facts that must underlie any agricultural policy. In so doing, Extension, as the educational arm of the Department and the land-grant colleges, will be carrying out an assignment which falls clearly within its responsibility. It is, without reservation, the most important assignment that should engage our resources in the years immediately ahead. This is true because the framing of an agricultural policy is the most important problem facing farm people.

### Educators Recognize Problems

The importance of this problem was recognized in the recent report of the Policy Committee of the Land-Grant College Association. On a broader scale than ever before they define the obligations of the land-grant colleges in this field. They have challenged the Extension Services so to organize themselves that they can undertake their full share of this task. Their report makes the following positive statement concerning postwar extension teaching:

"It is especially necessary that those who are responsible for extension policy make certain that in the years ahead their programs give emphasis to these public policy questions. In most States this decision will require broad adjustments in the whole extension program and will necessitate the allocation of more personnel and funds to this field. It will also mean that special attention be given to determining how this type of educational material can best be made available to farmers and families."

This is a responsibility that the Extension Service cannot take lightly. It will call for courage and conviction; but well done, it will be the most significant contribution that extension workers can make to the welfare of farm people in the immediate future, and one that will have an even greater influence in the years ahead.

If we are to accept this challenge and seriously attempt to carry out this important assignment, it will be necessary for us to take stock of our resources and begin to strengthen ourselves where necessary. Very frankly, we will have to admit that we are not as well equipped as we should be at the present time to assume educational leadership in presenting economic information to farm people. Too many of our agents lack the necessary basic training in economics, political science, and related subjects. They are not trained to discuss these subjects with the same confidence with which they discuss livestock and crop production, plant and animal diseases, and farm management.

If the handling of economic information is to assume an increasingly important place in the agent's program, and I think it is, we must take the necessary steps to better prepare him for such work. From the long-time viewpoint we must begin now to overhaul the undergraduate training for county extension work. We must ask for more than the 4-year training period. A 4-year course is no longer sufficient to equip the present-day extension worker. He needs the present 4-year course to get his basic training in the agricultural sciences; and he needs at least an additional year to give him the necessary foundation in economics, political science, marketing, and distribution.

There is much that we can do now if we have the purpose to do so. For one thing, we can strengthen our specialist staff in economics and marketing. This obligation is pointed out to us in the recent Bankhead-Flannagan legislation. Strengthening the specialist staff is a matter of immediate concern and is perhaps the first step that we can take that will be of positive help at the present time.

We have other tools with which to work. We have personnel in all agricultural counties in the United States. We can do much through in-service training to strengthen our county workers. We have at our disposal the resources of the land-grant colleges and the Department of Agriculture, and we can call upon the subject-matter people in our respective colleges to help train our present staff. We also have the confidence of farm people. They have come to recognize the extension worker as the source of unbiased information. We have large numbers of intelligent volunteer leaders. We have a far-flung organization that reaches down into almost every rural neighborhood.

### We Have Great Resources

These are all resources of great value. Many of them have been years in the building. If we will use the resources now at our disposal, imperfect though they be in some respects, we can make a worth-while contribution and be reasonably effective in handling economic information and discussing economic subjects with our farm people.

I am convinced that this is possible because of some experiences we have had in our own State. During the past several years one of our specialists has conducted what we called a group discussion project with farmers on economic subjects. One of these topics dealt with the farmer's interest in foreign trade and specifically the reciprocal trade agreement policy. Recently one of our farm organizations was asked to sound out farm opinion on the continuation of the reciprocal trade agreement program.

When they polled all of their county officers as to farmer thinking on this question, they were told that Minnesota farmers were in favor of a continuation of the reciprocal trade agreements program on the basis of its contribution to increased total trade and larger farm markets. We took some pride in the results of this poll because we thought it demonstrated the effectiveness of the discussion method of presenting educational material on economic subjects. Given the facts and an opportunity to discuss them back and forth, farmers will generally come up with an answer that is not based solely upon selfish interest but, rather, is keyed to the national welfare.

We have also carried on similar discussion on the subject of inflation, especially in its relation to land values, as, of course, you have done in your States. We believe that our farmers are holding the line reasonably well on farm land values and that their judgment is based on sound economic information. I think we can carry on the same kind of discussion on such questions as parity prices, support prices for agricultural products, the relation of consumer purchasing power to farm prices, and the other subjects that are fundamental to an intelligently conceived agricultural policy.

If we are to go into this program, it will mean much work on the part of our economics staff to develop subject-matter outlines for discussion meetings, to train our county personnel in using the discussion method and in handling the subject matter, to strengthen our specialist staff to give leadership to this program, and to enlist the full support and cooperation of the subject-matter people in our respective colleges.

We are in a transition period as far as extension is concerned. The pressure for maximum war production is past. Efficient production will, of course, always be a major extension goal. Soil conservation, farm management, and marketing will assume increasingly important places in our program, but above all of these the major issue now confronting farm people is in the field of agricultural policy making. If we do not accept this responsibility in extension, we will be abdicating the most important educational job to be done with farmers in the immediate postwar period. Upon the right kind of a policy that will bring to agriculture its rightful share of the national income will depend the standard of living that we can expect for farm people. It will determine how much education their children will receive, what contributions they can make to society in general, the extent to which they can be the customers of industry, and whether or not a share of the capable young people growing up on our farms will continue to look to farming as a desirable occupation.

# House planning by radio

■ "Tomorrow's Farm Home"—or house planning by radio—is the latest program series used on one of Purdue University's regular women's programs, "Homemakers' Club of the Air," directed by Mrs. Virginia Berry Clark. As the University Radio Station, WBAA, has good coverage of most parts of Indiana, the program was planned to help Indiana families who cannot be reached rapidly enough through the Extension Farmstead Improvement Schools.

The radio series consisted of 15-minute interviews every Monday for 13 weeks—starting in early January when farm families have more time for listening. The same specialists who conduct the Farmstead Improvement Schools helped plan the programs and were the most frequent guests on the radio series. They included specialists in landscape architecture, agricultural economics, agricultural engineering, home economics, and forestry. Some additional extension specialists and research staff members assisted with the radio programs.

In general, the programs were confined to the planning of the house itself. However, the first broadcast was concerned with how family savings should be invested—whether in a house or in a barn. Farmstead arrangement and landscaping were also discussed at the beginning of the series.

The first broadcast about the house considered the question of whether to remodel or build new. As there will be more remodeling than new building in Indiana, problems of remodeling were given greater emphasis in the later programs. Included in these were special discussions on the homemaker's workshop, living areas, sleep and rest areas, utilities, heating, building materials, and interior finishes. The group of programs closed with the topic, "Farming as a Mode of Living," a summary of the advantages of comfortable living on the farm.

As for listener response, a number of leaflets and bulletins were offered on some of the broadcasts. Requests for them were four to five times greater than requests for other timely material offered on the same radio program. In every discussion, listeners were encouraged to plan their remodeling work on paper—making several plans and choosing the best. Although personal service was not offered, some requests for help in making plans for a specific house came in as a result of the programs. These questions were referred to county extension workers who may receive help from State specialists. Many of the questions can be answered by county workers, for they have had the help of specialists in State and district conferences.

■ GOV. R. GREGG CHERRY of North Carolina announced in January the appointment of a 33-man steering committee, representing business and professional interests in every section of his State, which has been detailed to evolve plans for the development and guidance of rural industries and services in North Carolina.

The committee, which includes former Gov. Melville Broughton, is headed by Dr. L. D. Baver, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College. The committee met in February to complete formal organization of plans for the promotion of rural industries, a mission launched in November at a session of the State Rural Industries Conference.

# To visualize the new house

K. H. HINCHCLIFF, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Engineering, Illinois Extension Service

■ Appeals from farmers and homemakers to extension workers for housing information have multiplied greatly since the end of the war—as was to be expected. Housing specialists are being called upon to give more help in a variety of ways.

In Illinois the procedure has been to strengthen the hand of county representatives and leaders by providing them with low-cost mass-produced visual aids. With some background training and these aids, the local worker can usually do a creditable job of presenting housing information.

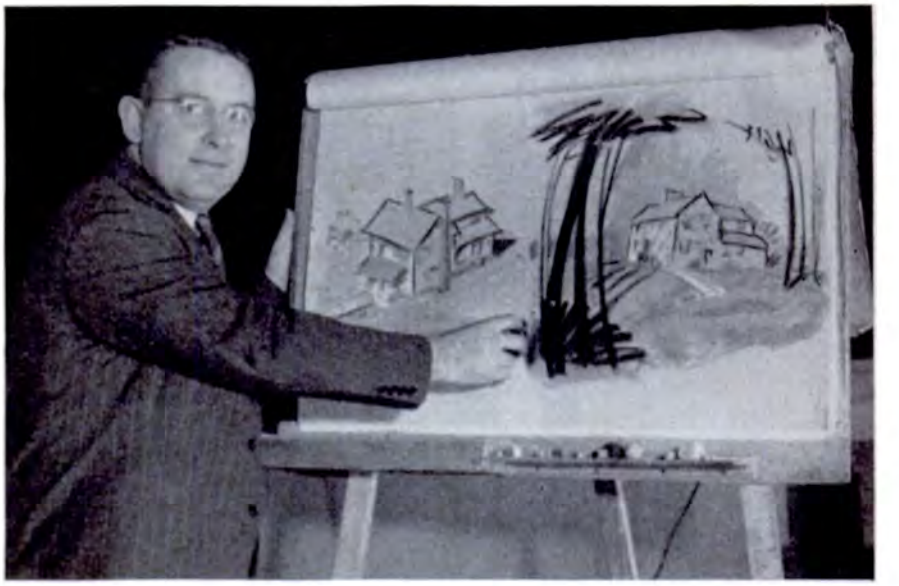
Techniques in producing these visual aids can be adapted to the use of standard blueprinting equipment. Models and charts have been the two principal types of aids used in Illinois. The policy has been to include a model wall chart, discourse outline and working drawing as a "package" unit. These provide the material for either method demonstrations or office exhibits.

The package units now being used include models of a farmhouse, a farmstead arrangement, and a movable hog house. Kitchen- and closet-planning units are being prepared. The farmhouse unit is patterned after U. S. D. A. Plan No. 5542; and the demonstration features compactness, kitchen-dining space relationship, storage space, ventilation, and room proportions. The aim is to stress principles rather than specific plans.

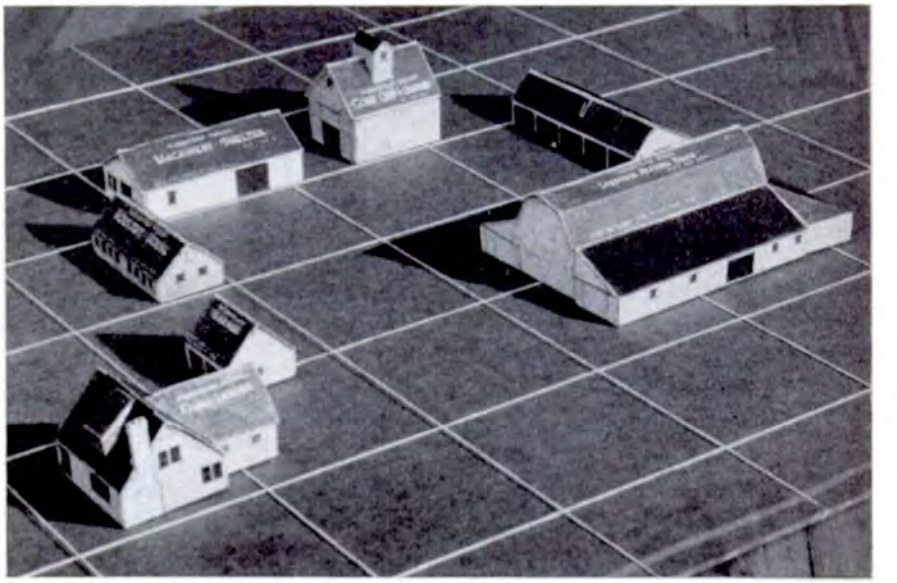
The complete farmstead set was produced to help farm people visualize the location of the house in relation to other farm buildings. All the building models were constructed at the same scale, one-eighth inch to the foot. The models include a 1½-story farmhouse, garage, general barn, machine shelter, livestock shelter, granary, and poultry house, with alternates for use in various types of farms. Instructions are included for preparing a piece of wallboard to serve as a base or grid on which to arrange the buildings, drives, fences, and walks. The discourse information provided as part of the package unit was prepared jointly by the agricultural economics, horticulture, and agricultural engineering departments.

Farm people apparently find inspiration, or at least fascination, in setting up the models to represent their own farmsteads. In this way they can visualize future additions which they wish to make, and the outline helps them to keep in mind the special consideration for each new building. Local leaders can demonstrate the principles of farmstead planning before fairly large groups by arranging the models on a movable blackboard tilted toward the audience. The exhibits will stay in place even at a rather steep angle if the bottoms are cemented to cheesecloth or muslin.

It is not difficult to prepare these



Prof. Hinchcliff demonstrated his chalk-talk board and model buildings at the quarterly extension conference of the staff in Washington. The chalk-talk board with its spotlight and box for the chalk attached folds into a package that is easily carried.



visual aids, but experience has shown the advantage of using certain techniques. Simplicity of design is the keynote. There should be as few pieces as possible, with a maximum number of folds to make the models strong and durable.

Sometimes county workers purchase the visual aids in the cheaper unmounted form and have the finish-up work done by their office staffs, but most of them prefer to receive the models ready for use.

The chalk-talk board is ideal equipment for a demonstrator, whether he uses it for its intended purpose or not. As it has legs and a splotlight, it can be used as a stand for charts, posters, and the like. The spotlight is invaluable in focusing attention on the subject. For chalk-talk purposes the board has a partitioned crayon box permanently attached in a convenient location. Having all equipment attached to the board eliminates the danger of forgetting some necessary detail.

Inasmuch as most people seem to enjoy watching ideas develop, a set of slidefilms, including some color slides of chalk-talk subjects used by specialists, has been prepared for loan to county offices. The sets include script for use with each slide.

The house-planning game is another device that has helped county workers guide farm families in their planning. Essentially it is a set of cardboard room plans of average size and shape. Guidance is provided by means of a score sheet to evaluate the resulting arrangement.

Low-cost demonstration equipment as prepared for use in Illinois has served two purposes: First, using local leaders to teach by eye as well as by ear makes it possible to provide more subject matter for those who desire it and also gives greater opportunity to attend to individual problems. Secondly, when used as an exhibit in farmstead planning, the visual aids serve as an eye-catcher to direct attention to general problems. Making it possible for farm people to visualize good design improves the chance for good design to be adopted.

# Tobacco growers expand acreage

■ Tobacco growers of the five counties of southern Maryland face both a golden opportunity and a crisis in production of their crop this year, says Dr. T. B. Symons, director of the Maryland Extension Service. The demand calls for all the type 32 Maryland tobacco they can produce for the making of cigarette blends, for although production of the flue-cured and burley tobaccos used in cigarettes has increased since 1940 by about 43 percent, production of Maryland-type tobacco has stood still.

As a result, Maryland tobacco, prized for its quick-firing quality in the cigarette, has dropped from about 4 to 1 percent of the standard tobacco blends. Buyers are anxious to get Maryland type 32 tobacco, but if the supply does not increase, there will not be enough of this special type to make it worth while for cigarette manufacturers to purchase.

This year the Extension Service, together with the Agricultural Experiment Station, is working on a concerted program with five or six thousand tobacco growers in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince Georges, and St. Marys Counties to increase the acreage of Maryland tobacco from its static 38,000 acres to at least 50,000 acres. Land is available; in 1945, there were 76,000 acres of unused cropland and 123,000 acres of plowable pasture in the five counties. Grower committees have been chosen in each of the five tobacco-growing counties to study the production problems and the research needs of the tobacco industry. Anne Arundel County growers already have planned a 30-percent increase in acreage.

In a series of meetings this winter, requested by the growers, they have been studying the ways to produce more and better plants in plant beds; methods of control of blue mold, a serious tobacco disease that wiped out a huge part of the tobacco plant supply in 1945; and better methods of planting, growing, harvesting, and marketing a crop which takes a huge amount of hand labor.

## Negro work expands

More than 30 million quarts of food were canned last year by Negro farm club women and 4–H girls, says a recent report on extension work among Negroes in the South by John W. Mitchell, extension field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

According to the report, Negro farm women and 4–H'ers of North Carolina led the South in the average number of quarts of food canned per person. In that State, 25,000 club women and girls canned 4,534,000 quarts of fruits and vegetables, or 180 quarts each. In Alabama, 31,000 club women and girls canned and otherwise preserved $2,505,700 worth of food. Arkansas club members canned 2,888,000 quarts of fruits and vegetables; Louisiana members canned 2 million quarts of food, and Texans canned 3,300,000 quarts of food.

The report points out how county and home demonstration agents stepped up their program and worked with more families, helping them to increase their wartime production of food.

In Oklahoma, for example, 4,300 families improved their diet last year, and 3,800 South Carolina club women sold $92,500 worth of poultry and eggs and $32,500 worth of milk. In one Tennessee county, the Negro farmers produced $200,000 worth of food. In Mississippi, Negro farmers sold $302,000 worth of milk and $105,000 worth of poultry and eggs.

The report indicates a significant wartime shifting over partly from cotton and tobacco to food crops. These crops have played an important part not only in improving the diet of Negro farmers but also in providing year-round cash income.

Also included in the report is the enlarged list of Negro extension workers numbering 784 (including the emergency workers) who have helped 671,586 Negro farm families to step up their production of food. Mississippi leads the list with 134 permanent and emergency agents serving 159,000 Negro farm families. Texas comes second with 113 agents for its 52,000 Negro farmers, and North Carolina third with 88 agents for its 57,000 Negro farm families. 4–H enrollment was 277,563.

# Two birds with one stone

**Writing a local poultry story for magazine, with help of specialist, supports county extension program and brings agent up to date on poultry practices.**

■ Washington's county extension workers monthly tell a story of successful poultry operation to farmers of their State through the medium of an illustrated article in Washcoegg, the magazine published by the Washington Farmers' Cooperative.

The arrangement which makes this possible has been in effect for 4 years, and 39 poultry success stories have been carried to virtually every major poultry producer in the State, as the magazine has a circulation of 30,000 copies. Every one of these stories was developed by a county extension worker and appeared in the magazine under his name.

The program of cooperation started in March 1942 when an agreement was made with Washcoegg publisher that the magazine would reserve space every month of the year (except February, when the annual edition is published) for a county agent poultry success story of from 700 to 1,000 words with illustrations.

Fred W. Frasier, State extension poultryman, has charge of the overall planning of the articles. All stories are planned 1 year in advance, giving the agent ample time to work with the farmer, study the operations, and discuss plans for the article. At some convenient time during the year, Frasier and the agent preparing the story make a trip to the farm, look over the situation, discuss feature angles, and take pictures to be used for illustrations.

The pictures are taken by Frasier who has them printed and returns one copy to the agent for use with the story and another to be given to the farmer.

With the pictures at hand and the data gathered, the county agent writes up the article and sends it to the poultry specialist for checking as to technical information. The story is then forwarded, under the agent's name, to Washcoegg for consideration for publication.

The value of the stories to farmers is shown by a recent comment by Richard Bell, editor of Washcoegg and former Washington acting extension editor, who said that on a recent visit to a successful poultry farm he was told that virtually all the plans had been derived from Extension Service information published in the magazine.

The value of the articles is not always localized, as is shown in results of a story published during war years by Dino Sivo, Kitsap County agent, concerning the use of lime in litter for saving labor and litter cost. The lime kept the litter dry and usable longer.

The story appeared at a time when labor and litter were critically short and was based on 8 years successful use of the practice by the farmer. The practice of using lime in the litter was practically unknown to the industry as a whole at that time.

The interest in the article resulted in a series of experiments at the State College branch experiment station in Puyallup. These experiments resulted in a college recommendation that the use of lime in litter was not only satisfactory but a very economical method of litter management in poultry laying houses. During the winter of 1945–46, it is estimated that 50 percent of the poultry industry of the State followed the practice at a saving of approximately a quarter of a million dollars.

Not only do the stories have a great value to poultrymen, but they are also of benefit to the agent writing them. They give him training in preparation of such material and the careful study of the subject matter necessary, and add to his prestige in the county. No agent has ever turned down an opportunity to write one of these stories.


## Poultry course for the blind

Nine students enrolled for the 9 months' poultry course for blind adults at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. The poultry course is only one of many job-training services offered to the blind, but so far as is known it is the only agricultural course of its kind being offered in the Nation at the present time. H. L. Matthews, instructor of the course, says his students are learning to handle all the necessary jobs on the poultry farm. They can vaccinate and cull chickens, clean poultry houses, and are especially adept at grading eggs.

Two of the students took part in a broadcast on January 31. The purpose of this broadcast was to acquaint the adult blind of Texas with the help the State Commission offers. It aids them in making emotional and intellectual adjustments to blindness, provides vocational training, and directs the handicapped to sheltered workshops sometimes called Lighthouses for the Blind.

# Agents devise methods for improving Minnesota's pastures

HAROLD B. SWANSON, Assistant Editor, University of Minnesota

Pastures are finally receiving their due recognition in Minnesota. The Extension Service, with the cooperation of farm organizations, seed and supply firms, and the farm press, recently intensified its drive for better pastures. In 1944 Paul M. Burson, extension soils specialist, and Ralph Crim, extension agronomist, were chosen chairman and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the Minnesota Pasture Improvement Committee. This over-all committee planned a pasture-improvement program for the State, and then county agents and local committees of farmers in more than 40 counties developed the program on a local basis.

Recently, a recognition dinner and conference was held at St. Paul for the Minnesota farmers who participated in the program. An all-State pasture team of 5 men was selected, and 70 farmers were presented certificates of merit for their work. Latest developments in the field were discussed, and individual farmers told how they improved their own pastures.

Briefly, the plan calls for the county agent and local committees to work with the individual farmer in planning a pasture-improvement program for his own farm. The farmer, in turn, agrees to carry out certain recommended practices and to submit monthly reports indicating his success in increasing yield and palatability in his pastures. Road signs indicate the cooperators in the area, and their farms and pastures serve as examples to the rest of the neighborhood.

In Clay County in the Red River Valley, County Agent G. E. May's program increased the acreage of a good grass-legume mixture from almost nothing in 1941 to 12,000 acres in 1945. May had noticed that farmers in the area were having poor luck with their pastures, mostly sweetclover alone. Palatability of the pastures late in the season was low; stands were poor, cattle were bloating; and a host of other troubles were cropping up.

In 1941, May set out nine experimental plots on nine different soil types. These plots were seeded to a grass mixture of 4 pounds of meadow fescue, 4 pounds of brome, and 5 pounds of alfalfa.

The plan was given wide publicity in local newspapers, and farmers were invited to see how these experimental plots compared with nearby fields using older pasture crops. The result was a rapid shift to the mixture and further evidence that demonstration pays in extension work.

May and his local committee extended the program to include comparison of the palatability of various pasture crops grown in Clay County. With 100 percent to represent the top palatability, they ranked pasture crops in this order: Meadow fescue, 100 percent; alfalfa, 80 percent; bromegrass, 75 percent; sweetclover, 55 percent; and Reed canary grass, 20 percent.

Down in another corner of the State, another progressive agent, George Chambers, worked out his own unique plan. He established one of the first pasture-improvement 4–H projects in the Nation. In 1945, the second year, more than 20 4–H'ers had signed up for the project.

The SCS technician assisting the local soil conservation district and County Agent Chambers visited the project members early in the spring. There they discussed the pasture program with both the father and the son and helped them work out a long-term pasture-improvement program for their farm on a partnership basis.

Later these improved pasture plots were used for demonstration purposes.

Club members were scored on the following basis: 60 points for permanent pasture, including 20 for application of manure; 15 for testing soil and applying lime; 10 for applying phosphate; 10 for renovation is necessary; 5 for clipping weeds and avoiding overgrazing; and 40 points for following an all-season program.

Each year cooperating businessmen of the county arranged for recognition of the 4–H boy who conducted the best pasture-improvement program. One year a banquet was held honoring all 4–H members of the project; another year the winners were awarded war bonds at the county fair.

The boys did so well that 2 of their members were among the 70 farmers in Minnesota awarded certificates of merit at the State recognition dinner in St. Paul.

Elsewhere through the State each cooperating county agent worked out his own program to meet his own circumstances. Farmers everywhere showed interest in the project, and many now plan to improve their own pastures as a result of the demonstration given by their neighbors.

## Winter grazing

Eleven farmers of White Oak community of Marshall County, Ala., have 192 acres of winter grazing crop. This is a good acreage of winter grazing crops when it is considered that the total farm land in their 11 farms is only 577 acres.

This acreage of grazing crops is composed of 60 acres of crimson clover and rye grass, 65 acres of small grain and legumes, and 67 acres of small grain alone. These farmers have 146 head of cattle, 64 head of hogs, and 11 sheep that have been grazing these crops this fall and winter when weather conditions permitted. The cattle range from small calves to mature cows; the hogs range from pigs to mature sows, and the sheep are about mature.

In fertilizing these grazing crops, 11,520 pounds P 205, 3,600 pounds K 20, and 6,080 pounds nitrogen have been used. About the first of March most of these crops were top-dressed again with 36 pounds of nitrogen per acre. The livestock were taken off the small grain and the small grain and legumes at this time. These crops were then saved for grain or hay. The crimson clover and rye grass will continue to furnish grazing until the middle of May or the first of June.

These farmers will tell you that winter grazing is the cheapest way of feeding livestock during the winter.—*W. L. Martin, Marshall County agent, Alabama.*

# The rural youth shall lead them

FRANCIS MURRAY, Assistant Extension Editor, Indiana

Benton County, Ind., county agricultural agent, E. M. Christen, was standing at the corner of a great prairie field planted to corn and soybeans when he told me this story:

"There was a time when this land was producing 75 bushels of corn to the acre without fertilizer or any other top dressing. Our county was tops in the State as a corn producer. The soil was making its operators rich from the corn crops that came from it year in and year out. It looked as if the land would go on forever producing great quantities of fine corn. The farmers literally never had heard of soil conservation. They saw no erosion problems. Practically no one had tile ditches. The broad, flat prairie fields of black fertile soil soaked up the rainfall, and what ran off seemed to do little erosion damage.

"But there was erosion. It was stealing the topsoil, little by little. The blackish water that ran into the streams was carrying away the wealth of our land. World War I came, and the farmers cropped heavier than ever. Few people noticed any damage from erosion. Land prices skyrocketed with the prosperity that was everywhere during the war. There were farms selling for up to $400 an acre. Then the bottom dropped out. Many farmers went broke. Others were forced into a desperate struggle for existence. They began to notice the fertility going down. Still, there was little notice of what this blackish water was taking from the soil. Only shrewd and clever farmers were holding the line now, where once it was no trick at all to make money farming these acres. Farm land was selling in the county for less than $100 an acre, and there were few takers at that when the depression hit bottom.

"When the possibility of establishing a soil conservation district in the county was suggested I was willing to cooperate, but I didn't know about the farmers. I had been reading reports that our county was down in yield of corn per acre from near the top to forty-second among 92 in the State. I was aware that other counties had already cut their corn acreage to the most fertile land, and our county continued strong in corn acreage. Soybeans came into the picture as a 'soil-building legume;' but the impending Second World War turned the trend from bean-hay to beans-for-grain, so the 'salvation' became a new source of trouble in holding our topsoil and fertility. That blackish water ran deeper after each 'goose drowner.'

"I was pleased to find that our farm leaders in the county were responsive to an offer of help in working out a plan to restore the fertility of the soil that remained. When we got into the thing, we found much that could be done in reclaiming the land we once thought would be fertile forever.

"The job isn't finished by a long way, but we are making progress. You can see numerous places where we haven't got to the job of contouring and terrace building and grass waterway construction, where farmers are attempting to work out their own plans. Some of these are successful, and some are not; but the farmers see the handwriting. They have discovered the answer, and they want to apply it. But this war emergency cropping is keeping us on the jump. It's hard to talk resting land and wide grass waterways when food is needed so badly."

### Youth Catches the Message

Christen's Sunday afternoon story was interrupted when a caravan of some 8 or 10 cars came into view from the north. In the lead car was County Agent Frank E. DeLaCroix who had been Christen's assistant and who was appointed 2 years ago to his job in adjoining Jasper County. Frank had learned the fine art of his trade under Christen, and he has "preached the gospel" of soil conservation in his assignment in Jasper County. Last winter the farmers voted in favor of having a soil-conservation district established in their county. DeLaCroix's crusading may have helped to sell them on the idea. They may have seen, too, results of efforts already made in their neighboring county.

DeLaCroix had gone into the county burning with a desire to see the topsoil restored to a good level of fertility and to see the erosion problem whipped. But he has employed a unique approach.

"Maybe the rural youth can take the lead in the job of rebuilding Jasper County's soil," DeLaCroix decided. Anyhow it was worth a try. His first task was to rebuild the rural youth organization which had flourished earlier but which had dropped to a total membership of around 20. Harold Schmitz, who has been a member of the group for several years, is a discharged veteran. He says it was nothing at all in prewar days to get 100 out to a meeting. But the call to arms took many of the boys from the club, and then many of the girls lost interest. Others were stymied by transportation difficulties. DeLaCroix found the club struggling for existence. By scraping up volunteer cars, pooling rides, organizing neighborhood meetings, and by much campaigning, he has helped Club President Paul Branson to hike the membership to more than 70 enthusiastic young people. Most of the boys are farm operators, and some are big-scale operators as far as Indiana farms go—up to and more than 400 acres. Wisely the leaders planned a program for the club that would merit both the commendation of the members and their elders at home.

Their monthly meetings are rotated to six different communities in the county, and the organization acts as one club instead of six or more smaller groups. One meeting each year is held in a big house on the farm where a member lives, and at this meeting there is a barn dance.

### Social Recreation

That's the way the club can show a successful year. There's something new being planned for every meeting in the way of social recreation. But the big project the club has tackled started a year ago and will not be finished for another year. This is the job they have undertaken. They are painting every mail box in the county.

Town merchants staked the group with money and materials to buy the stencil material and paint. Grateful farmers, happy to have their mail boxes painted, are also donating to the fund for the job.

**The Sunday afternoon tour took the members of the Jasper County Rural Youth Club to adjoining Benton County to observe early stages of a sod waterway construction that will eventually carry great volumes of water harmlessly off this sweeping prairie slope by way of a contour diversion ditch. Shown pointing is County Agent E. M. Christen, while Glen Howell, Soil Conservation Service assistant, helps hold the map.**

When the rain stops work in the fields, small groups of neighborhood boys and girls don their painting clothes and hie themselves over the nearby roads, painting every mail box as they go. The job is about one-third finished now, and they hope to finish some time next year.

Voting the county into a soil-conservation district last winter has now given the young future farm owners a new idea. They want to be in on the ground floor in the soil-saving and soil-building program so they can be in the driver's seat when the war is over and the big push comes for getting the program into maximum use. That's why they wanted to take the tour into Benton County.

County Agent Christen obligingly showed them in a carefully planned tour the problems that would prove similar to their own county conditions, and he showed them how they were being solved. He explained in on-the-spot brief lectures the function of the terrace, the diversion ditch and grass waterway, control outlets, strip cropping, and all the other practices his county is employing; and, in addition, he hammered the plea across for soil-saving crop rotations to go along with the erosion-control measures.

A long trek through the prairie fields terminated at Oxford community park where the rural youth played, swam, and sang and then sat at a huge picnic table where the girls had spread great helpings of home prepared food that farm boys and girls like best.

Meanwhile, a good many routine chores back home were late getting done, but Frank DeLaCroix knows better than ever what it takes to make his rural youth group lead the way in building Jasper County's acres back up to the productive potentiality they had in the good old days.

# A message to youth of Norway

■ Norway's National Association of Agricultural Clubs (the L. N. J.) celebrated their tenth anniversary last month with a rally in Oslo to which Director M. L. Wilson sent the greetings of the 4-H Clubs of America. The young Norwegians asked for information about the 4-H Clubs, as they want to join with the rural young people of this country in building a democratic peace and in using modern methods in their farming. The association is composed of 17 different rural societies.

Director Wilson wrote in part: "The enrollment lists of 4-H Club members in America are generously graced with the names of young people descendant from the hardy stock of your countrymen. We in America owe much to the sterling qualities of character that the large number of Scandinavians brought with them to our shores. And I am confident that the love of liberty, of rural life, of democratic action, spiritual values, their zeal for cooperation—as well as their initiative—hard work and intellectual achievement with which the Norwegian people are so richly endowed has had a significant influence not only on the development of 4-H work in this country but on our entire national life.

"Now the hope of mankind is turning, as though with a final effort, toward finding a democratic design for living. Everywhere there is growing awakening of the need for learning to live with one another in harmony and cooperation as a way of matching the power unleashed by physical science. And this we can do in many simple ways. As we strengthen our homes, improve the science and business of agriculture, find enduring values in rural life, and make Christian principles our code of ethics for everyday living, we move closer to a more certain way of enduring peace.

"It is toward these high goals that 4-H Clubs in America and L. N. J. in your country have marched. Now they must increase their tempo. And in so doing they will march with the confidence that in their everyday life they are making a worthy contribution to world peace.

"I know, therefore, that I speak for our entire 4-H membership, their leaders, and sponsors in extending the hope that your meeting will give increased strength and enthusiasm to the work of L. N. J. so that it may move forward in the service of all Norwegian youth in the critical but hopeful years ahead."

# Visual aids important in postwar extension work

GERALD R. McKAY, Extension Visual Aids Specialist, University of Minnesota

The use of visual aids in extension teaching will be just as important in postwar farmer and homemaker classes as it was in hundreds of GI training camps during the war.

This statement briefly summarizes a survey made by the writer during the past summer. The survey covered the present and anticipated use of visual aids in the agricultural extension services in all but 10 of the United States. The term, "visual aids," was used rather than "visual education" because it seems logical that these various devices which help to make teaching easier, more effective, and more thorough are in themselves only aids to the larger total goal of education.

### 33 States Answered Questionnaire

A two-page questionnaire was sent to the extension editor in each State, and replies were received from those in 38 States and Hawaii. The editor did not in every case handle the work in visual aids but did have the information necessary to answer the questions which centered around three types of aids, namely, 2- by 2-inch color slides, 35-mm. strip films, and 16-mm. movies.

About 42 percent of the county agents are equipped to take 2 by 2 color slides, and more will get 35-mm. cameras as soon as they become available, according to this survey.

Most States keep a supply of slide sets in various fields already made up for the use of county agents and subject matter specialists. The number varies all the way from zero to 125 sets. Three States have none, and Pennsylvania listed 125 complete sets. One office keeps a large number of individual slides available and puts sets together as they are needed. The average number of different sets on hand is 20, and the average number of duplicates of the most popular sets is three.

Apparently there is some trend toward integrating State sets of color slides and the individual slides taken by agents for use in their own counties. That is, many agents fit their own pictures into the State-supplied skeleton sets to add local interest and bring out local facts. Only one reply indicated unsuccessful efforts in this direction. There seems to be no definite trend toward more State-made sets than county-made sets. The number of both in almost every State is on the increase.

In the States where a visual aids specialist is employed, the work of taking the slides is divided between subject-matter specialists and the visual aids man. Cooperation is the order of the day in this respect. Mounting, filing, and distributing, however, are handled under the direction of the visual aids specialist. Of 24 States which have a visual aids man, 12 indicated that he spends more time with subject-matter specialists than with agents; 8 showed the opposite to be true, and 4 indicated the time is about equally divided.

### Eager To Buy Equipment

A few States have a fair amount of projection equipment, but a large majority plan for a big expansion in the field of new machines. As might be expected, the 2 x 2 slide projector is the common item with 65 percent of all agents supplied. Only 45 percent are equipped with movie projectors, and about half of these are silent ones. Comments on the questionnaire indicated a definite trend toward buying only sound projectors.

The lending of State office equipment to agents does not meet with favor in 18 of the 34 States which answered this question. However, 8 of the States do have their programs set up to allow for loan to agents, and 8 others have a plan for furnishing a limited amount of equipment to agents under certain conditions. Transportation presents the biggest problem. Subject matter specialists and express companies handle most of the shipments.

Very few States produce any film strips. Out of 35 who answered the question relative to this, only 3 had made any number, and 12 had made a few from time to time. Twenty indicated that they definitely did not make any. In those States where any work has been done, it has been handled by the regular University Photo Laboratory or by the Photo Lab in Washington. Charts, graphs, and maps are being copied on 35 mm. or 2 x 2 glass and used quite extensively as slides material. As agents become more familiar with the possibilities in this field, this type of visual aid will likely increase.

### Movies Made in Half the States

Although movies are being used quite extensively in about half of the States, not much is being done in the others. Two answers in the first group suggest a circulation of 30 to 50 films per month, practically all of them being sound films. Most States do not produce movies on a very extensive scale, but there seems to be a trend toward picture production in States having a visual aids man on their staff. According to the reports, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New York, Georgia, and Oregon are leading in producing movies within the State.

Various methods of booking and servicing films were mentioned; the most common is to have the film library of the General Extension division take care of it. The average number of films available from the State offices is 139, about two-thirds of which are USDA films. Commercial and State-produced films made up the other third. The problem of having films returned promptly seems rather general. It is handled in several States by sending a double post card with each shipment and asking that one copy be returned with the film.

Almost every State plans to expand the work in visual aids when equipment and personnel become available. The addition of a full-time visual aids man, a training program for agents, and an increased budget will be early steps in this direction. The work is now being done mostly by extension editors. One said of the visual aids work: "It is a full-time job, plus."

Another answered: "It is more than a full-time proposition, but under the present shortage of help, other activities are covered; I edit all extension publications and take pictures for both experiment station and extension, and am responsible for radio." A typical answer regarding the postwar work was: "We are planning for a big expansion at the county level, both in the use of visual aids and the taking of good photographs. Also planning for expansion in the State office."

### Summarizing Statement

In summarizing the answers to the 22 questions, the following conclusions might be drawn:

1. Extension people are showing an increased interest in the use of visual aids and will expand their work in this field.

2. Most emphasis is being placed on building 2 x 2 kodachrome sets for distribution to the agents. There is a trend toward making these loan sets flexible enough so that each agent may add to the set.

3. Several States are planning to produce their own 16 mm. movies on a limited scale when personnel and materials again become available.

4. A large amount of equipment will be purchased for county use when it can be procured. The goal seems to be "a 16 mm. sound projector and a slide projector in every county."

5. Most States are trying to make provision on their staff for a full-time visual aids man.

6. Film strips are being displaced to a large extent by 2 x 2 kodachrome slides, but there still is a place for film strips in such work as photographing charts, graphs, and drawings.

7. Each type of visual aid has certain uses for which it is best adapted, but it doesn't follow that those aids for which the uses are limited are absolutely worthless and should be thrown into the discard.

8. A comprehensive training program in the use of visual aids will be provided for the agents by most State offices as soon as conditions will permit.

9. Only a limited amount of service is given to agencies outside the extension field, but this service may expand as local conditions seem to warrant.

# Tractor school spark-plugs care of farm machinery

■ Maryland's first 4–H tractor school, attended by 28 leaders and 7 assistant county agents at the University of Maryland, February 4, 5, and 6, was an unqualified success. Six tractors were put into good running order. The 35 persons attending, many of whom had been running tractors for 10 years or more, said that they learned more about tractors than they expected could be taught in 3 days; and, as a result, probably 500 4–H Club members in 18 different counties this spring will be learning how to take good care of their farm-power machines.

One of the younger leaders who came to the school expecting it would be a pleasant 3-day visit with old friends confessed at the banquet on the second night of the school that he had his eyes opened to a great many things he had not known about a tractor. It wasn't all in the fuel, lubrication, cooling, ignition, and the operation of other parts of the tractor but in learning why the tractor should be handled well that he got his real lessons. That night he already had plans to go back to his home county to teach tractor care to five different groups of farm boys.

In these days of old machinery and worn-out tools, keeping the farm-power unit in good shape proved to be a really interesting work unit for the 4–H leaders. Under the direction of A. V. Krewatch and Guy Geinger, extension agricultural engineers, and Charles R. Lund of an oil company, the boys absorbed grease in their hands and ideas and expert knowledge in their heads.

Tractor schools similar to that in Maryland are being held in 8 Northeastern States, 14 Central States, and some Southern and Western States.

In past years, a farmer who loved his team of horses worked them hard but took good care of them and enjoyed his outdoor jobs with these willing workers. The young farm boys of today are growing up in a world where farm tractors take the place of horses and where they in turn will learn to take good care of machinery that plays a vital part in food production today.

One student explains to others the lubrication system

# Among Ourselves

■ COUNTY AGENT A. V. HAY of Albany County, Wyo., has received the community service award for outstanding service to the community.

"Without Mr. Hay, agriculture in Albany County could not have carried on during war years," was written on one nomination coupon for County Agent Hay.

A letter written on his behalf by County Farm Bureau describes his year's work, made even more difficult and diverse by wartime pressures and regulations. It said:

"With a regular full-time job on his hands, he has yet found time to serve on the rationing board and to be the backbone of the community garden project. He has helped actively in every major drive. He has served as a member of the Farm Bureau Executive Committee and as an active member of the County AAA Committee. He was instrumental in the establishment of soil conservation districts for this area and served as secretary of the War Board until that group was superseded by the USDA Council, of which he has been made president.

"But his major service to the community has not been through the organizations he has headed or the clubs in which he has taken an active part. His greatest service has been in the modest, cheerful way in which he has given his time, his help, and his advice wherever and whenever needed.

"No matter whether it was a puzzled 4–H Club child, a point-frantic housewife, a tire and gasolineless car owner, a ranchman with a subsidized headache or an income tax tangle, a homesick Navajo sheep herder, or an imported Mexican national, they somehow all looked to Art to iron out their difficulties. And he did. Each was met with the same kindly attention and friendly help. He was never 'too busy' or 'too tired' . . ."

A. V. Hay was graduated from the University of Illinois in February 1924. He first worked in Hancock County, at Carthage, Ill., where he was assistant farm adviser in the Extension Service for 2½ years. He later became manager of the Farm Bureau cooperative for 1½ years.

He came to Wyoming in 1928 when he was appointed county agent in Weston County. After he had served in Weston County for 8 years, he came to Albany County where he has worked for the last 10 years.

Major projects which County Agent Hay has emphasized during the last year are labor, 4–H Clubs, community gardens, cattle parasite control, and soil conservation districts.

"We are planning to do more 4–H Club work this year than ever before," said Mr. Hay in a recent discussion of his plans for next year. "We are also beginning a program on weed control work in Laramie districts. This will be a community-wide project on the eradication of Canada thistles by using 2,4–D with a power sprayer." In a lighter vein, he added: "I might even do a little fishing this summer."

■ PAUL M. DRAKE was named assistant agricultural agent in Park County, Wyo. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Wyoming in 1942 and has recently been discharged from the Army Air Corps.

■ MILDRED B. MURPHEY has been appointed State leader of 4–H Club work in New Jersey, and former Army Lt. Louis Gombosi, the assistant club agent leader in charge of the older youth program.

Miss Murphey, who has been serving as acting State leader of club work for the past 2 years, has been a member of the New Jersey Extension Service staff for more than 20 years. During that time she has been a district home agent and State leader of home agents. She is a graduate of Boston University.

Mr. Gombosi, recently released from the Army after 42 months of service as a member of the American Commandos, Fifth Ranger Infantry Battalion, graduated from the State College of Agriculture in 1941 and did further work in vocational guidance at Columbia University. He was born and reared on a dairy and poultry farm at Baptistown and was a 4–H Club member and junior leader for 5 years before he entered college.

As a member of the Commandos, Lieutenant Gombosi saw active service in four major campaigns in the European Theater of Operations. He was awarded the Silver Star by Gen. George Patton and the Presidential Unit Citation of two oak leaf clusters. At the conclusion of hostilities he took courses at the Army Intelligence and Education School, Paris University, and then returned to his battalion to establish vocational courses in mechanics, agriculture, radio, and languages.

■ PAULINE BUNTING was appointed home management specialist in Wyoming. She succeeds Mrs. Ellen Bramblett, who has resigned. Miss Bunting was graduated from the University of Wyoming with the degree of bachelor of science in home economics in 1926. She served as home demonstration agent in Lincoln and Big Horn Counties for a total of 8 years and has worked as assistant State club leader of the Montana State College for the last 13 years.

## Tribute to Norma Brumbaugh

NORMA M. BRUMBAUGH, State home demonstration agent, was honored by the Oklahoma home demonstration agents at their annual association dinner meeting held in Stillwater, November 8, 1945.

They presented her with a gift of silver as an expression of their appreciation for her 25 years of loyal service to the extension organization in Oklahoma.

In recognition of her service, one of the home demonstration agents paid tribute to Miss Brumbaugh as a leader who sees the goal far ahead but never forgets to keep one hand in the hand of her followers to lead them on toward that distant goal which they may not see.

It was during the First World War emergency that Miss Brumbaugh came into Extension Service. In June 1920 she was appointed assistant State home demonstration agent. She was responsible for work with 4-H Clubs—particularly in food preparation with girls. August 1, 1921, she was appointed district agent; and on December 11, 1926, she was promoted to acting State home demonstration agent. In July 1927, she became State home demonstration agent, in which capacity she now serves.

Norma M. Brumbaugh

Under her supervision the home demonstration program in Oklahoma has grown from the early tomato clubs and the canning of vegetables and fruit to a well-balanced farm and home program. The program has been extended to all counties in the State of Oklahoma, with a home demonstration agent in each county and an assistant in about one-fourth of the counties.

■ GLADYS OLLER, who has worked as home demonstration agent in Fremont and Laramie Counties, Wyo., and assistant State 4-H Club leader from 1935 until 1945, has been appointed home demonstration agent in Natrona County. Miss Oller completed a course in occupational therapy work with the United States Army during 1945.

■ ROBERT MYLROIE was named assistant county agent in Big Horn County, Wyo. He was graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1938 and was discharged a lieutenant colonel from the Army Air Corps. Before he entered the Army, Mylroie was assistant county agent in Fremont County and county agent in Weston County.

■ WILLIAM CHAPMAN, who was county agent in Weston County for 6 years before he went into the Army, was named county agent in Converse County, Wyo. Mr. Chapman was graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1935.

# 1,006 women write feature stories

■ Winners in the State Feature Story Writing Contest sponsored by the West Virginia Farm Women's Council were announced recently from the Agricultural Extension Service, West Virginia University. The contest met with enthusiastic response, stories having been submitted from 37 counties by 1,006 women. A total of 1,185 stories were written by these entrants. Berkeley County had the largest number of entries, with 199 women submitting 207 stories; Mercer County had 99 stories, and Pocahontas County had 95.

Stories were written by both young and old, several stories being from women around 20 years of age and ranging to one written by a woman 82 years old. Some of the women have been in club work for 20 to 25 years; others have belonged to their club only 1 or 2 years. A few stories were by farm women who are not club members.

Judging of the entries was on the basis of the choice of subject, its human interest, and description of the actual practice put into effect, whether written in simple, concise, and forceful style, and whether or not it was complete and accurate.

Many of the stories were exceptionally well written, showing originality of expression and a real ability in giving a clear description of the home or community activity used as a theme. The stories as a whole reflected a genuine sincerity in the subject about which they centered.

These stories revealed that homes and communities throughout the State have derived much benefit from farm women's club work and home demonstration work. They also showed that many county-wide and community-wide projects have been promoted by farm women's clubs, bringing about better rural living for all families in the area whether or not they are members of the farm women's club. The fact that 499 women wrote on the subject of What Club Work Has Meant to Me Personally is evidence of its benefit to them as homemakers and in their own personal growth and development.

Most of the counties held county contests to select the winners to be entered in the State contest. First-, second-, and third-place winners in each class were selected for competition in the State contest.

# *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.**

### Triple-Purpose Spray

■ Because 2,4–D cut down the rate of growth of desirable grasses in pastures where it was used to kill weeds, scientists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering tried a spray mixture containing the weed killer, a fertilizer, and a fungicide. The fertilizer was used to make the grass resume growth rapidly. The fungicide, though not needed where the experiment was made, was included to test its effect on the grass and on the effectiveness of the other ingredients of the spray.

For the fertilizer, the experimenters used enough urea, a common source of nitrogen, to provide 60 pounds to the acre. Within a few days after application, the grass took on a bright green color. The yield of herbage increased 40 to 131 percent in 2 months, whereas the weeds were killed as effectively as by 2,4–D alone. In one experiment in which 90 pounds of urea to the acre was used, however, the grass was severely injured. Further tests are to be made to determine whether the fungicide—Fermate—used in the spray mixture will kill fungi as well when used alone. It was shown that the Fermate did not interfere with the action of either the 2,4–D or the urea.

The results of these experiments indicate the probability that this spray combination will be an economical method of doing three jobs at once.

### Run-around for Roundworms

■ An effective drug for use against roundworms, or ascarids, in swine is sodium fluoride, the Bureau of Animal Industry reports. Dosage with this chemical eliminates about 95 percent of these worms, whereas other known drugs are only about 50 to 75 percent effective. Sodium fluoride, widely used as an insecticide for household insects, especially roaches, is a poison; but in very small quantities it can be used safely for pigs.

The treatment found most efficient in the Bureau's experiments consisted in including in the pigs' feed, for 1 day only, 1 part by weight of sodium fluoride (technical grade) to 99 parts of dry ground feed. If the animals to be dosed are not accustomed to this type of feed, they may be given some of it without the sodium fluoride for a day or two before they receive the medicated feed. The quantity recommended is safe because the pigs are not likely to eat too much of the medicated feed; and, if they do, they tend to vomit to excess.

### How To Be a Home Tailor

■ A popular new bulletin gives directions for tailoring a woman's suit that can be easily followed. Any woman who has had experience in other types of sewing should be able to give a suit that custom-made look with the aid of Miscellaneous Publication 591, How to Tailor a Woman's Suit, issued by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. Many women who are used to making dresses and other clothes are afraid to tackle a suit. Tailoring is, in fact, not a job for the amateur; but a woman with sewing experience and patience will find it easy to follow the simplified professional tailoring techniques presented in this pamphlet. Single copies may be obtained from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

### Progress of Bee Research

■ The importance of bees as pollinators of many valuable field and tree crops has been brought to public attention more than ever in the last few years. The honeybee is the only pollinating insect that can be obtained in any desired numbers and placed where needed. Recent studies by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine in Utah, in cooperation with the State experiment station, have shown the importance of honeybees in pollinating alfalfa in that State. Wild bees that are of value as pollinators were found to be so widely scattered that they could not be depended upon for pollinating the commercial crop.

Studies on resistance to the serious bee disease, American foulbrood, have been accelerated through recent progress in the technique for artificial insemination of queen bees. The length of time between emergence of the queen and egg laying has been reduced from 30 days to less than 15½ days. Colonies headed by artificially mated queens and selected drones showed a higher rate of resistance to foulbrood than those of naturally mated queens.

In studying the cause of foulbrood, *Bacillus larvae*, it was found that this organism produces an antibiotic—that is, it kills or inhibits the growth of a number of other bacteria, including those that cause brucellosis, tuberculosis, and other infections.

Another discovery that has immediate practical application is that enzymes produced by *Bacillus larvae* hydrolyze milk. Based on this reaction, a test for field use for determining American foulbrood has been developed. When suspected material is placed in milk at 70° F., curdling occurs in less than 1 minute if the disease organism is present. Hydrolysis of the curd then begins and in 10 minutes is usually completed, leaving a watery yellow residue. Equipment for making this test is very inexpensive.

■ The Hamburg Home Demonstration Club, Chambers County, Ala., has started a club library. Mrs. E. B. Coggin started it by lending 12 books for 1 year. Each club member has been asked to donate a book to the library. A librarian will check books in and out in the usual manner.

# We Study Our Job

## What is the proof of extension teaching?

All extension workers hope their work will be successful. Often they wonder; they have no criteria by which to judge their success or failure.

As extension workers study their job they are coming to the conclusion that "a change in behavior" is the most satisfactory criterion by which to determine the results of their activities. This recognition naturally leads them to ask, "What change in behavior do we desire to bring about?" This change in how farm people carry on their work is the objective of their extension program.

One of the most difficult problems confronting an extension worker is to devise a valid, reliable, and simple method of evaluating or measuring this change in behavior. To relate an extension activity to a desired outcome should be a part of all extension program-planning.

Many extension agents are using such evidence as attendance at meetings, number on mailing list, and number of office calls and farm-and-home visits as evidence. These are satisfactory evidences of extension activities but generally are not evidences of desired change in behavior. Unless the farm people change their ways of doing things the extension worker has not taught effectively.

Every good extension plan should provide for a measurement of accomplishments. No piece of extension work is really complete until the accomplishment has been checked and accurately recorded. Without reliable facts as to past accomplishments upon which to base a plan of action for the future, progress in extension teaching is bound to be slow and frequently unsatisfactory.

Narrative and statistical reports are not ends in themselves, but just one device for improving the judgment of the extension worker himself, his superiors, his successors, and other professional workers. Good records are essential in determining how the plans for the year have been carried out and in revising plans for the year ahead.

Other devices, such as the survey by farm-to-farm interview, spot-checking, the opinion of a group of leaders, census and trade data, all help to improve the judgment of the extension worker when he evaluates the success or failure of the year's activities.

The subject-matter specialist generally has the responsibility of determining these measuring devices. He has to keep in mind two other groups in addition to himself. It is a part of his job to devise a plan of recording change in behavior that will not only improve his own judgment but also that of farm families and of county extension workers.

If the farm families are not given some device whereby they can determine for themselves the satisfactions coming from the improved practice advocated, they are not likely to want to keep a record or a report. Similarly, county extension agents also must know how to get information from these family kept records or reports if they are to help additional families to adopt the practice.

Each specialist will probably have to decide at what point in the evolution of the farm family's thinking he wishes to measure:

1. What people know.
2. What are their attitudes.
3. What action they took.
4. Was it satisfactory?
5. Did it become a habit?

The school teacher may desire to measure what the pupils know. The public opinion polls measure attitudes. Changes in behavior taken during a certain year as result of extension activities are measured in our annual reports. However, when the cultural anthropologists study human behavior they make a record of the habits, customs, and mores of the peoples.

Both farm families and county extension workers have a right to know what evidence to look for to prove that the desired change in behavior is going to be satisfactory to them.—*Eugene Merritt, Extension Service.*

## 4–H potato club wields wide influence

One of the questions frequently put to extension workers and also one that extension people often ask themselves is: Does the work of 4–H Clubs have a wider influence in a community than among the immediate members of the clubs and their parents?

An answer to that might be found in a thumbnail history of the Wide Awake 4–H Potato Club of Dawson County, Mont.

This active and enterprising club has just completed 15 years of certified seed potato production, and during that time it and other 4–H potato clubs have produced seed stock valued at more than $10,500 with profits to club members totaling more than $6,600 according to O. A. Lammers, county agent.

But actually the benefits of this one project have been more widespread than club records alone indicate. Lammers estimates that as the result of this one project farmers not only in Dawson County but in adjoining counties have become enthused about raising high-quality seed potatoes. In Dawson County alone there are more than 100 acres of certified seed potatoes grown on a commercial basis. The largest commercial grower in the county is Frank C. Eaton. As might be suspected, Eaton served his apprenticeship in the Wide Awake Club.

Looking beyond the borders of Dawson County, Lammers estimates that almost 100 percent of the potatoes grown in communities adjoining the county can be traced back to the original certified stock of this 4–H Club project.

In the 15 years since the club was started by H. F. Purdum and Don Gibson, farmers in the Clear Creek community, the Wide Awake Club has not missed a year of production and Don Gibson has been either club leader or assistant club leader each of those years. In 1945 two clubs in the county had 2.9 acres of certified seed valued at $547.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

TODAY'S HOME BUILDS TOMORROW'S WORLD, and so the problems of today's home are getting careful consideration during Home Demonstration Week. The observance varies from State to State, but the family is the keynote.

THREE GENERATIONS of a Georgia home demonstration family are being featured, while in Connecticut a two-State quiz between a Massachusetts and a Connecticut home demonstration family will bring out the high points in their home demonstration work.

GRATITUDE for the things home demonstration club work has brought to Texas homes induced the women to give some special Home Demonstration Week gift to their fellow club members in the Philippines and to families in Europe and the Far East. Clubs are sending to the Philippines one or more cotton garments, bath towels, and feed sacks (with needles and thread attached) for each member of the club. These are being sent to Miss Presentacion Atienza, in charge of home demonstration work there, who received some of her training in Texas. Clubs are also giving one or more cases of canned food for the hunger areas of the world.

FAMILY NIGHT with recreation, supper, and short program are features of Home Demonstration Week in Hawaii. In both Hawaii and Michigan, as well as other States, the annual achievement days are being held during the week of May 5–12.

PIONEERS in home demonstration work are being honored in many States. Dr. Jane McKimmon, the beloved matriarch of home demonstration work in North Carolina, and Dr. Ruby Green Smith, of New York, are among them. Dr. Smith retires from active service on June 30. During the First World War in 1918 she was called to New York to mobilize the homemakers groups for wheatless days, sugar rationing, and other plans for food conservation, and became the State leader of home demonstration agents. Another veteran worker honored is the home demonstration agent in Nassau County, N. Y., Adelaide A. Barts, who has the longest service record in New York State rural areas.

TRAVELING CARAVANS have marked the spring season. The Washington State exhibit toured the State from January to March with the theme, "Guides to Successful Farming." The total attendance was approximately 41,000. The food preservation exhibit had a carnival motif. On a gaily colored, moving, and well-lighted merry-go-round were samples of good canned food and spoiled and discolored canned food found in the local county. On the ferris wheel were samples of good freezer locker containers. Previous to the exhibits, leaders were trained by the specialists or the local agent to stand by the exhibit on the demonstration day and explain it to those attending.

FLYING FARMERS are coming to the front. Colorado's first rural aviation conference will be held on July 16. Air-minded Iowa farmers held their first State-wide flying meeting on March 18 at Iowa State College. Emphasis was on the development of permanent farm landing strips and the promotion of safe flying. Both States are planning to send delegates to the first annual convention of the National Flying Farmers Association at Stillwater, Okla., August 2.

4–H RURAL LIFE SUNDAY observance on May 26 uses as a theme "Serving as citizens in maintaining world peace." The 4–H Clubs in many communities are taking part in the church services. They are emphasizing their 4–H Food for Famine Relief Program, recognizing what their sharing now may mean in world peace.

FOR LONG AND CONSCIENTIOUS SERVICE three Pennsylvania county agents were recently honored by their county people:
J. H. "JACK" KNODE, county agent of Franklin County; J. P. "Jim" Winslow, county agent of Jefferson County; and Ellwood H. "Fred" Fulton, county agent of Washington County, all started their present extension positions early in 1921.

Winslow and Fulton are graduates of the Pennsylvania State College. Knode, native of Maryland and graduate of the University of Maryland, started as a county agent in that State before moving across the Mason-Dixon line 25 years ago to Franklin County, Pa.

At his recent annual meeting which turned into a personal testimonial for him, Knode was presented with a substantial purse by his people and a traveling case by his fellow extension workers. Washington County farm folk and others gave Fulton a handsome gold watch. His coworkers had a brief case for him. Perhaps suggestive that there should be less strenuous days head, Winslow was presented with an inviting-looking easy chair, also a certificate of appreciation. Fulton's office secretary, Mrs. Caroline Mayers, also was honored for 25 years of service and received an attractive handbag from the Washington County Agricultural Extension Executive Committee.

All three agents were cited for their community leadership as well as for their professional work with farmers in which development of leadership among their farmers has been one of their main accomplishments.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# New York's demonstration train shows to 68,500

An 8-car special exhibit train toured the rails in New York State for 3 weeks in April, making about 40 stops and showing approximately 68,500 people some of the latest and most practical developments in farm and home research.

This is the first time in about a quarter century that such a demonstration train has been sponsored by the State colleges and the railroads. The first demonstration train was sponsored in 1909 when professors and their assistants gave short talks at scheduled stops during a period of 3 or 4 days to a total audience of about 25,000 people. The next year, in 1910, the first fruit special toured the northwestern part of the State for 5 days, with an attendance of 15,000. Four other specials were sponsored that same year carrying exhibits of cattle, poultry, and other livestock, as well as numerous crop exhibits. Lectures and demonstrations were given on dairying, cow testing, butter making, poultry raising, alfalfa growing, and pasture improvement.

Sixteen specialists lived on the train to explain the exhibits, answer questions, and were ready to describe some of the new things in research. Their schedule ran something like this: Up around 7 a. m. each working day; breakfast, 7:45 to 8:30; open for business at 9 to 12; dinner 12:30; another showing, 1:30 to 4:30 p. m.; supper, 5:30 to 6:30; and on some days an evening performance started at 7 or 7:30.

As the train came to a stop the county agent of that county boarded the train and assisted the specialists in explaining the educational exhibits.

The train was made up of a flatcar with a full-size buck rake mounted on a truck and a long hay blower. A baggage car came next with an agronomy exhibit of hay and pasture mixtures and models of hay-making equipment. Next, a coach featured plans and methods on a modern dairy farm. The vegetable car showed, among other things, new weed sprays, new varieties of potatoes, and a home-made freezer. The poultry car featured labor-saving arrangements, poultry house ventilation, and egg handling.

The home economics cars always had a full house. One car was devoted largely to labor efficiency in home work centers: A wide ironing board, an improved sewing cabinet, and ideas for an efficient dish cupboard. Comments overheard ran something like this: "I could easily do that in my kitchen," or "I'm certainly going to try that."

The last car was a rural housing exhibit with a model of a farmhouse as it now stands and as it could be improved. It also had a model tenant house. This car, too, proved almost a bottleneck, vistors were so eager to look at the plans and models there.

At many points school was dismissed so the agricultural and home economics students could visit the Farm and Home Special, and often the

Associate Professor F. S. Erdman, of Cornell University, screws in the lid fastener on the Flamglas and corkboard-insulated freezer which was exhibited on the Farm and Home Special.

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**The housing car showed a model of a farmhouse as it is today and as it might be remodeled.**

railroad siding was lined with school busses bringing them from near and far.

The soil test showing laboratory apparatus in the agronomy exhibit attracted considerable attention, as did also the dairy, poultry, and vegetable cars. The train received wide publicity as it rolled along. Officials of the Canadian National Railways came from Montreal to board the train at Malone, as they are planning a similar train next year in Canada. The New York Times requested 15 pictures for an overseas edition which will carry the news of New York's Farm and Home Special even to foreign countries. Life magazine spent a day and a half taking pictures.

An illustrated printed report and a detailed statement are being prepared for general distribution for the benefit of other States wanting to know how the project was organized, the cost, and what to avoid, as gained from the experience in New York.

# Producer-consumer institute proves successful in Jersey

■ With nearly a million people in the county and only 225 farms (census-counted), Extension Service agents in Essex County, N. J., are keenly aware of problems of the consumer as well as those of the producer.

It is natural that much of the work of the 2 agricultural and 2 home agents should be concerned with city people. Their 1945 annual report shows 14,778 telephone calls, 20,820 letters, 3,584 office calls, and 698 meetings attended by 22,894 people.

It is also natural that they should be keenly interested in helping producers and consumers understand each other's problems. To promote this objective they decided to experiment with a producer-consumer institute. They felt that representatives of consumer groups with which the home agents work could tell farmers what they look for when they buy food, how they have been disappointed in such purchases, and which ones they were satisfied with, also what they like to get for canning and freezing. Likewise it was felt that consumers are interested in farmers' problems and that both groups would welcome a discussion of the current and future outlook for food production.

The institute was held on February 27 and was opened by the new technicolor movie, Prepackaging, produced by Ohio State University and the A & P Stores. The Walt Disney film, Something You Didn't Eat, opened the afternoon session. An agricultural economist from Rutgers appeared on both the morning and afternoon sessions. Of most interest, however, were two lively exchanges between producers and consumers, each one featuring a woman consumer and a farmer producer. Interesting topics were brought out, and both groups got a new insight into each other's problems. Movies on quick freezing and dehydration filled out the program. Although no attempt was made to get out a crowd, 51 people attended.

The Essex County agents, R. E. Harman, Mrs. Margaret Shepard, James W. Gearhart, and Anna A. Cole, are planning to follow this up next year with a similar institute for which they will attempt to get out a larger crowd, possibly holding two meetings—one at each end of the county.

■ The Rocky Mountain Rural Library Institute is scheduled for August 19–31 in Cameron Pass Club Camp, Gould, Colo. It is an ideal location for outdoor activities with the opportunity to study library services especially as they apply to sparsely populated sections. The institute will be conducted on the discussion basis and designed for rural educators and leaders in rural life. James G. Hodgson, Librarian, Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College, Fort Collins, Colo., and Harriet E. Howe, Director, School of Librarianship, University of Denver, are in charge of the institute.

**A HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT** has been appointed in Georgia to work with the wives of veterans on the college campus. These young homemakers who are getting started under crowded conditions and in strange surroundings welcome the help of the agent.

# Mississippi plans for organized cooperation

■ The organized production and marketing program of the Mississippi Agricultural Extension Service is estimated in 1945 to have brought Mississippi farmers an additional $2,200,000 from sales of around $26,000,000 worth of farm products, including cotton and cottonseed, livestock, poultry and eggs, forest products, dairy products, seeds, fruits and vegetables, and other miscellaneous products.

An intensified organized production and marketing program was launched during the war to provide more food and to give Mississippi farmers a ready market and fair prices for their farm commodities, especially on the postwar market where the demand will be for uniform quality products.

The plan is to help farmers know what the market wants, how it wants it, where it wants it, and when it wants it.

Special areas which are already doing a good production job or could produce certain commodities are chosen for development. Extension Service marketing and subject matter specialists and county agents work to organize the interested farmers into cooperative associations. Their job then is to give the educational assistance and advice necessary to grow and market uniformly high-grade products that will bring additional cash income.

The 1944 Mississippi Legislature gave the State-organized marketing program a decided boost when it passed the Agricultural Marketing Act, with an appropriation of $135,000. This act encourages farmer cooperation in the development of marketing programs and acquiring marketing facilities.

Under this act, 10 or more farmers can organize under State Agricultural Association Law regulations. If they feel the proposed project is needed, is practical, has the right plans, and is sufficiently supported by dependable people, the Extension Service marketing specialists submit their recommendations concerning the program to the State Marketing Commission. This Commission may then approve a grant, not to exceed $10,000, for the cooperative.

One of the most active producer associations, the South Mississippi Poultry Producers Association, was organized by a small group of farmers in the winter of 1941 with the help and encouragement of extension marketing and poultry specialists.

Now, eggs are picked up once a week from 750 farms along 5 truck routes that cover 13 counties. The eggs are graded at the Forrest County Cooperative (AAL), which operates the association. If an unreasonable number of a producer's eggs grade low, the Extension Service offers suggestions for improving the quality of the eggs.

These attractively cartoned "A" and "B" grade eggs are delivered daily to grocery stores in Hattiesburg, where they sell for an average of 7 cents more than open-market eggs.

The Extension Service has worked with producers in cooperative lamb sales at Macon, Greenwood, Natchez, and Jackson; wool sales at Columbus, Greenwood, and Natchez; and feeder calf sales at Port Gibson, Edwards, Macon, and Summit.

### Sales Teach Good Methods

These sales have been organized and conducted to emphasize desirable production and management practices that will gradually increase livestock income. The total value of all cattle, lamb, and wool sales the Extension Service assisted with in 1945 amounted to approximately $148,487.

Five years ago only about 250 lambs were sold at the Macon sale, and about 80 percent of these graded common. In 1945 about 80 percent of the 1,225 lambs brought to the largest lamb sale in Mississippi's history graded medium, good, and choice. The lambs sold for $10,275.

The sweetpotato program in which 577 4–H Club members from 12 counties in the Laurel area participated last year is demonstrating to club members and adult growers the need and value of following recommended practices on an organized and cooperative basis.

These 4–H Club members received $37,853 for the 1,499,470 pounds of sweetpotatoes they delivered to the Sweetpotato Growers, Inc. This organization, which operates a dehydration plant in Laurel, agreed to store, process, and market all No. 2 grade and better potatoes grown in the demonstration. About 45 percent of the potatoes were No. 1's.

Although the sweet corn crop in Mississippi might be termed a "war baby," the Extension Service has already made plans to enlarge the program which in the past 3 years shipped 29 cars for a return to farmers of $25,022. This project was started in an effort to help supply fresh food to Camp McCain and other Army camps.

### Develops Sweet Corn Market

Mississippi sweet corn was sold on the open commercial market for the first time last year in 6 States—Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Ohio. Ten counties in north Mississippi are planning a much larger program in 1946 with a tentative goal of 50 to 60 carloads. It takes about 3,000 dozen ears of corn to fill one car.

Fifty-five Smith County farmers, all members of the Smith County Melon Growers Association, which was organized at Mize early in 1945 to develop a market for farm products, made almost $14,000 from the 50 carloads of melons they sold this past summer.

The association plans to produce and market Irish potatoes, watermelons, cantaloups, sweetpotatoes, seed crops, including lespedeza and oats, and possibly sweet corn in 1946. To handle the 1946 products, they plan to build a warehouse and packing shed at Mize, at a cost of approximately $10,000.

With some 200 acres planted in cucumbers in Clarke County by 175 cooperating farmers, the enterprise which started 5 years ago has added about $12,000 to the cash income of small farmers who are not able to grow other cash crops satisfactorily.

# Work in Ozark Mountain county brings Addie Barlow national recognition

■ Addie Barlow, home demonstration agent in one of Arkansas' most interesting but mountainous counties, has been awarded the General Education Board supervisory fellowship given annually to district agents or prospective district agents in the South.

Under the 12 months' grant, Miss Barlow will work toward a master's degree in rural social organization and adult education at Columbia University. Following the academic year of 1946–47, she will be enabled to study extension programs in selected States for a 3-month period before returning to Arkansas.

Although Miss Barlow's academic record figured in, it was her work as a home demonstration agent that counted most in the award. This latter record began in September 1943 when a very small, determined young woman came to Jasper (Newton's railroadless county seat of some 250 population) as the "new home demonstration agent." Fresh from college and with 3 months' experience as an apprentice agent in another county, this young woman had some ideas of what a home demonstration program ought to be. More important maybe was the fact that she had a lot of enthusiasm and was willing to learn. The ideas came fast enough.

### Learning Ways of Mountain Folk

Her tutors, as had been the case of many another home demonstration agent, were the farm men and women of this rural county. From them she learned the patience she needed when plans were slow to mature. From them she came to know the ways of hill folk—their strength of character, their inherent abilities—their loyalty to people they respected—their goodness.

She had known that through the years many of Arkansas' leaders had come from this and similar mountainous counties of the State. Now she was to know first-hand the reasons why. She was to find men and women—tired through working a soil, rocky as it was hilly—but possessed of the philosophies that breed leaders.

Working, learning, playing—Addie Barlow did many of the things any home demonstration agent does.

Working cooperatively with W. H. Freyaldenhoven, the county agricultural agent, 4–H Clubs were increased until there were 20 with a membership of 286 boys and 350 girls. Home demonstration clubs soon numbered 15 with 307 members—exactly 21.2 percent of all the farm women in the county.

Although Newton is a small county, Miss Barlow looked upon leader development as one of the first aims. Consequently, leaders were trained to take over much of the instruction at both 4–H and home demonstration meetings. A typical year for leader training included a training meeting in cutting and canning beef, two demonstrations in poultry culling and disease control, two in training home demonstration club officers for their jobs, and two in canning fruits and vegetables.

The problems of the county are reflected throughout her work. Milk being greatly needed in the county, both the county agricultural and home demonstration agents have urged the growing of a great many more milk goats. These thrive even on thin hilly soils. Miss Barlow uses goat's milk in some of her cheese-making demonstrations.

During 1945, she gave 27 demonstrations on community meals throughout the county. These were examples of what a well-planned meal ought to be.

Other activities included: "Hat" schools in which old hats were cleaned, blocked, and redecorated—home-made hat blocks were also a feature of the day's work; a housing survey in which it was found that 23 families plan to build new homes, 16 to use native building materials, and 13 to do most of the work themselves; a housing school in which farmers and their wives came together to learn about plans, building practices, and the laying of stone and logs; 4 sewing machine clinics in which 53 machines were cleaned and adjusted; a nutrition course given by the home demonstration agent to 26

**Addie Barlow, home demonstration agent, works with her 4–H Club girls on some of the mountain crafts.**

rural teachers of the county; assistance in getting a school-lunch program under way in 4 out of the 5 high schools of the county; helping 2 4–H girls set up a rat feeding demonstration showing importance of milk in the diet, viewed by more than 2,000 people; 4 county live-at-home demonstrations studied by 133 families during the year; citizenship programs held by home demonstration clubs in 15 communities; quilt lovers of the county were started on a campaign for better quality of quilts; assistance with 3-day camp with supervised recreation a main feature.

Miss Addie likes church work. She also knows the value of recreation. So she has organized a weekly get-together in the Jasper church parlor for young folks. Attendance has grown to 40 or more each week. The town has no movie. Families have been helped to beautify their homes by the use of native shrubbery—azaleas, redbud, dogwood, cedars, junipers, and many other native shrubs and trees which abound throughout the county.

Miss Barlow has a keen appreciation for the countryside with its waterfalls, interesting caves, and lofty mountains. Some of her enthusiasm has been transmitted to the inhabitants who sometimes take for granted the gift with which nature has seen fit to endow them.

The foregoing accomplishments have not come without a lot of hard work. And there have been plenty of difficulties. Take the county itself, for example. Although Miss Addie wouldn't trade it for any other, still it doesn't have a railroad in it (Jasper is 21 miles from one); it has one of the lowest incomes per capita in the State; the soil is thin and subject to heavy erosion; and there are hairpin curves on high mountainous roads—alternately rocky and slippery! But the people! Well, Miss Addie vouches for them.

Of the young woman herself, perhaps the best description was given by an Ozark writer, Marge Lyon. Says Marge, "Miss Addie's whole heart and soul are given over to her work. She loves it like a professional golfer loves his game—like a newspaper man loves his work—like I like writing! It's not only a living—it's recreation and enjoyment as well. She is loyal, honest, and unselfish through and through—a person of absolute integrity."

Last summer, Marge made Miss Addie the subject of one of her weekly feature stories from the Ozarks in the Chicago Tribune.

The people of Newton County will, no doubt, look upon Miss Barlow's fellowship not as an unmixed blessing. They will be glad that this recognition has come to her, but they will deeply regret her leaving the county of which she has become so much a part.

# Working out the county schedule

■ Extension work is being done in Jefferson County, Wis., at a saving of time and travel. This means that members of the extension staff are able to reach more individuals and groups each week than formerly.

This more efficient use of extension agents' time has been brought about by staff meetings which have been held each Monday morning since January 1. Taking part in the meetings are County Agent Chester A. Dumond, County Home Demonstration Agent Blanche Moy, Assistant County Agent Robert Gerhardt, and Don Neindorf, soil conservation agent.

The staff plans its work for the week ahead. If two or three night meetings are on the calendar, a meeting is assigned to different agents so that each club meeting or other gathering will have an extension agent present and there will be no duplication whereby one club meeting would have more than one agent and another none.

If it is found that one agent is going to a township and another staff member has planned to go there, it is arranged at the staff meeting that one agent can take care of matters for the other.

Each staff member brings her or his schedule for the week to the meeting and explains it to the others. Then changes are made in the proposed schedules to avoid duplications and to provide for one agent to take care of work in an area that two agents had planned to visit.

The extension agents say that the staff meetings have worked out very welll. They help each agent to know what the others are doing. The work can be coordinated better. Duplication is avoided, and time and travel is saved.

The staff meetings have been found to be of particular value in club organization work because a certain district can be assigned to each agent and all can work on club organization without duplication.

In this way it has been found that much more territory can be covered and agents can attend many more meetings.

In other instances, some agents are better able to cover a meeting than others, as in the showing of moving pictures and the handling of equipment. At the staff meeting, the week's work is planned so that such meetings are assigned to the agent best qualified for the program.

The staff meetings also give the agents an opportunity to exchange information which they have picked up about the county which may be of interest to each other. For instance, it gives Miss Moy, the home agent, an opportunity to find out from Dumond, the agricultural agent, where he has contacted people who want help in home economics projects.

The soil conservation agent confers with the others on soil projects, particularly 4–H work. At times he substitutes for other agents at meetings, particularly meetings on soil topics. He has also been called upon for other meetings.

■ A series of 14 county homemakers festivals were featured during Home Demonstration Week in Oregon. These festivals were annual achievement days to community women in counties with home demonstration agents. The women prepared the program, entertainment, and exhibits, inviting the county home extension committee and county court to attend festival luncheons.

# The human side of agriculture

**The following example of how cultural practices were changed in Poland was written by Boleslaw J. Przedpelski, prompted by the lectures and writings of Dr. Brunner of Columbia University. An Extension Service consultant, Dr. Brunner was immediately interested in his extension story and sent it in for publication.**

■ For centuries there has not been enough attention given to the human side of agriculture.

The development of agricultural technology — that is, technological education should be followed by the education of man if not preceded by it. Many a technological invention cannot achieve the proper progress because of the inadequate education of the man who is designed to operate it. For example, a farmer has to know numbers if a drill plow has a numerical dial; he has to read and write if he wants to belong to the Dairy Herd-Improvement Association; he must have an idea of hygiene if he wants to produce clean milk; and he has to have a social preparation in order to be a member of a cooperative.

My experiences on a dairy farm in Poland brought me to the conclusion that the human side of agriculture is very important in agricultural progress.

### I Build a Model Dairy

I bought a farm, built a barn, bought 10 tested, registered Fresian-Holstein cows (In Poland we call this breed Polish White-Black Lowland), made all necessary technical and hygienic improvements, and started to produce milk in 1932. For 3 months, however, I could not get proper, clean milk. My cows produced proper, clean milk; but my milkmaids spoiled it by unhygienic milking and, later, improper treatment. I could not solve that problem for quite a while.

After a long search for errors I finally came to my milkmaids and started to analyze them, their job, and their social position. I found that they were recruited either from among the wives of agricultural laborers or from workers who could not find other "better" jobs. To milk a cow was considered the lowest possible occupation.

My barn was on a much higher level of hygiene than their houses. It had a hot and cold running water system, canalization, and ventilation. Their houses were without these facilities, as was mine.

My barn had cultural recreation—radio. Their houses had not. I had heard that good music, harmonious like a Strauss waltz, not jazz, influences the quality and quantity of milk given by the cow. They are in a better mood. I wanted to check that by trial.

My barn should have silence, except for the music, during milking. Cows are very sensitive to noise. Noise makes them nervous. The houses of my workers were crowded, and no one had privacy.

The doctor checked the health of my milkmaids each month. When their children, parents, brothers, and sisters were sick, the doctor was called.

I required them to wash their hands after milking each cow and before starting on another. They did not wash their hands before and after their own meals at home because of the lack of understanding or sometimes even the lack of enough soap at home.

The veterinary doctor visited my barn each week and checked the health of my cows.

### Barns Are Sanitary

In my very modern barn, even by American standards but exceptional for Poland, which was created to produce excellent milk from all points of view, there were many other things which were not in the houses of my milkmaids or even in my own country house. When I came to my farm from Warsaw during the wintertime, I would spend all my time in the barn and not in the house.

After analyzing all these things, I drew the conclusion that the cultural, hygienic, educational, and health conditions were on a much higher level in my barn than in the milkmaids' houses. Because of this, the milkmaids could not understand all those improvements, and some of the rules seemed even silly. I have to confess that even my wife partly joined them in this estimation of my ultra-modern dairy business.

The final result was that there was no power to force the milkmaids to use all those improvements.

Then I decided that I would have to change the social life of my milkmaids in order to produce the type of milk I desired. Perhaps in this way I could reach a goal, a very simple and, simultaneously, a very complicated goal, namely, not to spoil the clean milk given by a cow through improper milking and later treatment by the milkmaid. I realized that I could not change the social life of all milkmaids of Poland at once, but I tried to do it for my own milkmaids.

### Supports Social Change

Bearing in mind that social change should be supported by economics, too, I made the following changes: I chose only single girls and built two-room houses—bedroom and living room, with hot and cold running water and bathroom (shower only) for them. I supplied them with an unlimited amount of soap. I increased by 50 percent their salary, or rather wages, and gave them 1-year contracts. Their income was, therefore, 50 percent higher than that of the other working girls on the farm, and they had all-year jobs. Besides paying wages, I bought them boots, white coats, and towels. For the summer I bought bathing suits for all. This was very important. They had them for the first time in their lives. I explained to them through regular lectures the danger of contagious diseases, especially those spread by milk. I paid them a bonus for clean milk. Analyses were made by the independent Bacteriological Institute of Warsaw. I showed them that Monday's milk was the poorest because of the lessened work and care on Sunday. Many other things stimulating their social life, hygiene, and their partnership in my dairy were introduced.

Little by little, these new, unknown ideas in Polish farming started to work. After a period of 1 year I had

the best milk in Poland, perhaps even in Europe. It was sent to different cities by planes. Among my customers were babies from all classes and nationalities, from the poorest to the richest, with the diplomatic corps at the top.

My milkmaids became famous, too, and pictures of their way of life were in the professional and general press.

Because they were healthy, clean, educated, and knew the dairy business, they found many candidates for marriage, mostly among my neighbors, breeders, and dairy farmers. I had many candidates for this underestimated job which had been so degraded, and I think that this big achievement in such a short time was due to the increase in their standard of living and the change in their social life.

The axiom that only by teamwork of milkmaids, cows, and myself the final goal—that proper milk for our children could be obtained—found its realization.

I did not make money on this enterprise during the first 7 years though I could have done so. I did not make money because I loved too much my farm and my customers—beloved children. There was no limit in my race for improvements on my farm in order to nourish 300 to 500 children daily.

This 7-year experiment was a proof of how sociology and economics work hand in hand, helping each other, in spite of claims to the contrary.

Many other interesting conclusions could be drawn if the time of the experiment had been longer. The war event, however, cut it. Half of the cows were taken away during the period 1939–1945, the remainder in the fall of 1945.

■ More than 3,000 quarts of meat have been canned by Butler County, Kans., farm women for overseas relief purposes under the direction of Vernetta Fairbairn, county home demonstration agent. Nineteen pressure cookers were assembled at a central location for the canning operation.

Women of the Mennonite Church at Brainard, Kans., took the lead in this charitable enterprise. Miss Fairbairn tested the gages on the cookers and instructed the women in the use and care of the cookers.

# Singing along the way

HAROLD ENGEL, Assistant Director, WHA Radio Station

■ There's music in the air. Extension workers are helping to put it there. But music teaching by radio is nothing new to Prof. E. B. Gordon of the University of Wisconsin. Regularly for the past 15 years he has been on the air each week during the school year with a radio singing lesson for children. He started teaching music by radio back in 1921 in the "ear phone era" of broadcasting.

Journeys in Music Land, as the radio course is known, is a part of the Wisconsin School of the Air and is broadcast over the State-owned stations, WHA at the University in Madison and WLBL at Stevens Point. Broadcasting simultaneously, they take the broadcasts to children in thousands of rural, village, and city schools throughout the State.

Professor Gordon is known to school people throughout the State as a master teacher—a music inspiration in person. He is able to project his radiant personality through the microphone and so make available to even the least privileged rural school music talent such as only the most favored could otherwise have. He teaches children to understand, enjoy, and sing good music. The effect of his 15 years of broadcasting cannot be estimated.

### Coming in on a Wing and a Song

The parents of one of his former students who became a flier in the war said that their son had written from his air base that as the plane would return from bombing missions over Germany the crew would sing Professor Gordon's songs—which he in turn had taught them. It is easy to imagine how those songs are being retaught today by parents who, as children, joined in the broadcasts 15 years ago.

A teacher's manual and a student songbook are prepared by Professor Gordon and distributed at cost by the university station. These contain a variety of songs—jolly and serious—dance songs, marches, rounds—folk music—familiar music. Many are special arrangements with the words written by Mrs. Gordon who shares

the professor's enthusiasm for good music.

Each Wednesday afternoon Professor Gordon and his assistants—a small group of university students who demonstrate how the songs should be sung—gather in the studio. When they broadcast, a composite class, estimated at about 50,000 children in fourth- to eighth-grade classes around the State, is listening. It has been called the world's largest singing class.

Each spring, to climax the year of singing, a huge radio music festival is held at the university. Attendance is limited by the capacity of the pavilion, and reservations pour in early. District festivals are held for those who cannot attend the one in Madison. At these festivals the children from many schools sing together the songs they learned by radio.

Now, after his retirement from active teaching in the university, Professor Gordon is able for the first time to devote his entire time to radio. In addition to his broadcasts, he spends several days each week traveling about the State visiting schools, speaking at teachers' gatherings, and consulting with music educators. Wherever he goes he is among friends. It is doubtful if anyone is more widely known or better loved among school children of Wisconsion than is Prof. Edgar B. Gordon.

# Maryland senior 4-H councils hold young farmers' institutes

■ Young farmers of Maryland have been attending institutes during the past winter to consider whether or not they should be farmers. The first Institute for Young Farmers, sponsored by senior 4-H people, was held at Highland in Harford County in February, with an attendance of 32.

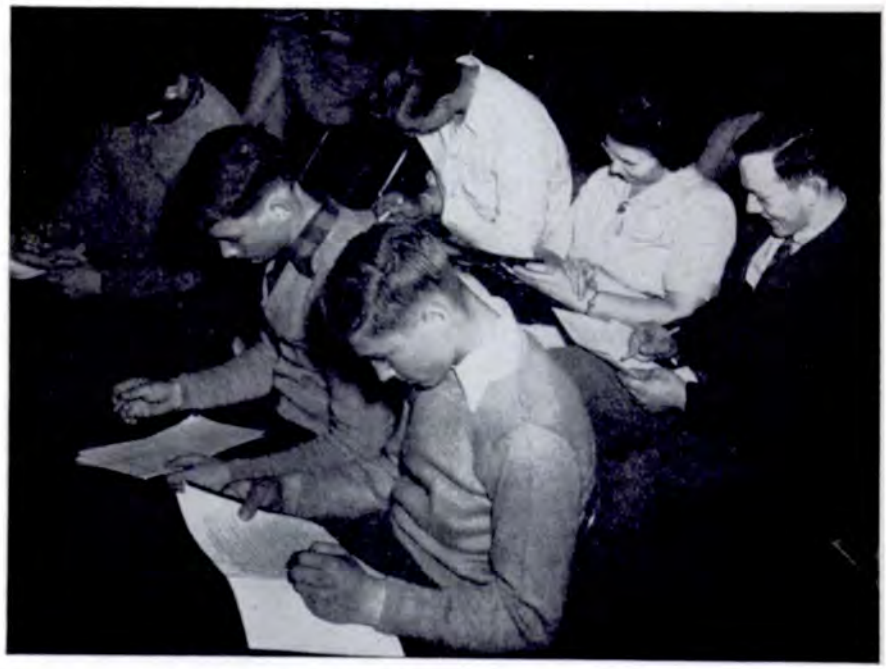
In spite of a warm, sunny day, which was perfect weather for plowing, 35 young people went to the institute held at Easton in March for Talbot, Dorchester, Queen Annes, and Caroline Counties. R. S. Brown, county agent of Talbot County, presided at the morning meeting, which had as its theme "Getting started in farming."

Prof. Arthur Hamilton, of the farm management department of the University of Maryland, discussed the topic, Farm Family Partnerships and Leases. He described family partnerships that have been successful and outlined principles that must be followed in drawing up a farm lease. He brought out the importance of sharing in the responsibility as well as in the income, and he emphasized that a lease must be fair to both parties if it is to work. He advised young people to sit down with their families and talk things over.

Farming to Live or Living to Farm was the subject of a talk given by Edward W. Aiton, field agent of the Federal Extension Service. Two of the most important decisions a young person has to make, he said, are "What am I going to do?" and "Who am I going to do it with?" He also said that on the average farmers live longer than city people, have an opportunity to eat better—more meat and high-protein foods, wholesome milk, vegetables, wholesome fresh air. They are more independent and have security of employment but have small chance of making a large amount of money.

On "Selecting the type of farm," Professor Hamilton outlined the advantages and disadvantages of six different types of farming. He advised that they consider the personal factors, available capital, experience, markets, production in the area, and income required.

"It is not always how much money you make that is important but how wise is the use of what you have in money or its equivalent," Helen Irene Smith, home management specialist of Maryland Extension Service, said when discussing the topic, Rural Family Home Dollar and Where It Goes. She said that United States



**(Top) Boys from the four counties discussed their farming problems with Prof. Hamilton. (Lower) These young folks "agreed or disagreed" to the statements on *Musts for Success in Farming.***

women are responsible for spending as high as 80 percent of the family money. On the farm, however, the spending seems to be more evenly divided, with many decisions being made by the man who goes to town more often. Those who learn to do simple repairs in equipment and housing save expensive labor and reduce the costs. The more a person can do for himself in this respect the freer he is from dependence on others."

Miss Smith also said "The most successful farm families have a money record and spending plan that helps to guide the thinking in money matters from year to year. The income tax program has helped to stimulate this practice. This doesn't mean that a farm family won't be successful if they don't have a written record, but it gives them self-reliance and a comparative basis for decisions."

In the final group discussion on the "Musts for success in farming" the young people entered into a lively debate on such statements as "A farm boy who intends to be a farmer should not marry a city girl," and "A farmer should carry on the type of business he and his wife enjoy, although some other farm enterprise may be more profitable."

## Former seaman succeeds with calves

Back from the Merchant Marine, a 4–H member in Hot Springs County, Ark., decided to see if he could make some money feeding beef cattle. County Agent Titus Manasco describes the experiment and its result.

Leonard Tisdale of the Bismark community put eight calves, valued at $50 each, into a feeding pen. His father, with whom he lives, helped him. After 90 days of feeding, four of the calves were sold for $95 each. The feed cost only $25 per calf, leaving a labor return of $20 on each animal.

Leonard plans to feed the other four calves the remainder of the winter. Then he and his sister, Laurese, who is also a member of the 4–H Club, will show them at the spring livestock show in the county.

# Britain's 4–H Clubs take a plow to church

■ Young farmers give new meaning to an ancient ceremony, and from the British Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries comes the following story:

Among the good things that have come to Britain from the United States are the 4–H Clubs, called by us Young Farmers' Clubs. Lord Northcliffe, the well-known newspaper proprietor, encountered them when he was in the United States in 1921. He immediately recognized their social and educative possibilities and caused the first club to be started in Britain in the same year.

Now there are nearly 1,200 of these clubs with a membership of more than 53,000, and they are expanding at a rapid rate as part of a Youth Movement in Britain emerging from the wreckage of war. Among many other activities, they are spontaneously developing an interesting new angle. It is not in any narrow sense of the word what could be called "religious," for the clubs are strictly nonsectarian and nonpolitical. But some of them are beginning to show evidence of a consciousness of the spiritual side of life and to recognize that it has a bearing on the practical. To explain it, one might roughly paraphrase it like this. "We are interested in farming. Farming deals with nature. Nature is an aspect of the Divine Power that has created the universe, of which man is only part. Therefore, we shall probably be better farmers and better and happier inhabitants of the world if we recognize this Power in our daily job."

### 44 Clubs Take Part

Last summer, a Young Farmers' Club revived the observance of Lammas Day, in which a blessing was asked for the first loaf of bread from the first sheaf of wheat to be cut. Thus was invoked God's blessing on the labor of the harvest. On January 14, members of the 44 Young Farmers' Clubs of West Sussex went in procession through the streets of Chichester, drawing a plow with them. They took it into Chichester Cathedral, where they asked the bishop, Dr. George Bell, to bless it as "the sign of all our labor in the countryside." This was a modern interpretation of the centuries-old ceremony of "Plow Monday," the first day after the Christmas festivities when men in olden times began plowing again. It is about 300 years since anything like that happened in Chichester.

The service was specially written for the occasion. First the bishop and choir welcomed the plow on the cathedral steps. A farmer then led the people in remembering before God their shortcomings. . . . "When we have been ungrateful for the rain and the sun, the snow and the frost in their due season, and forgotten they were God's gifts. When we have been careless with the beasts and forgotten they are God's creatures. When we have ill-treated the land and forgotten it is the splendor of God." A Young Farmers' Club member expressed thankfulness for God's gifts. . . . "The rich soil and smell of fresh-turned earth. The clatter of the tractors and the gleam of a cutting edge. The seamed hand, the knotted arm, the sweat of the brow, the skill of the plowman." Hymns and prayers of thanksgiving followed, and a plowman thereupon asked the bishop to bless the plow, that had been carried to the chancel steps. Around it were kneeling eight young farmers in their white milking coats and the plowman in his dark jacket. The plow was painted silver and blue and red; and the bishop, his hand raised in blessing, stood above it in a shining cope of green and gold. Behind it was the many-colored east window of the cathedral, through which a shaft of winter sunshine gave added color and meaning to a simple, age-old scene.

■ SYLVESTER WEST was appointed assistant county agent in Fremont County, Wyo. A graduate of the University of Wyoming in 1942, Mr. West was recently discharged from the Marine Corps.

# *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.**

### DDT Can Increase Meat and Milk Products

■ Flies have always bothered cattle in the summer, and nobody ever realized to what an extent the pests were cutting down beef and milk production until last summer. Then, during the 100-day fly season, entomologists of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, in cooperation with State experiment stations and other interested agencies, used a DDT spray to control hornflies on cattle in Kansas. The result was an average increase in beef production of 30 pounds for each animal. Dairy cows treated with the DDT gave 15 percent more milk during the season. These increases mean that damage to cattle by hornflies in Kansas alone had been causing an annual loss of 86,040,000 pounds of beef. Translated into dollars, together with the loss in milk production, this amounts to about $10,000,000 a year.

As a result of last year's trials, Kansas officials say that at least a million cattle in that State will be treated with DDT this summer for the control of hornflies.

### "Cadet" Marches in

■ In this spring of 1946, the size of the United States wheat crop is of great interest to the world. The release of a new variety of wheat—cadet—by the United States Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station should mean the production of additional bushels through its superior qualities. Moreover, the new wheat promises to excel other commercial varieties in milling and baking properties.

The superiority of new and better wheat varieties developed and introduced by the Department in cooperation with State experiment stations contributed 150 to 200 million extra bushels to the 1945 crop of 1,123,000,000 bushels—about 13 percent of the total—according to Department estimates. Cadet is the latest of a group of hard red spring wheats to be developed. New varieties of these wheats distributed to farmers since World War I added about 300 million bushels to the Nation's harvests during World War II.

It took 10 years of breeding work to produce Cadet. The first cross, using the Merit and Thatcher varieties, was made in 1936 in a greenhouse on the roof of the South Building of the Department in Washington. It has been increased and tested since then at 24 agricultural experiment stations in 8 States. Cadet has outyielded other beardless wheats and compares favorably with all other varieties of hard red spring wheat in resistance to stem and leaf rusts. It has strong straw and does not shatter. It is 2 to 4 days later than most of the other awnless varieties and therefore should yield well in the northern part of the Wheat Belt.

### Super Penicillin

■ Scientists at the Northern Regional Research Laboratory, where large-scale commercial production of penicillin was made possible, have been seeking to increase the supply of penicillin X, shown to be twice as potent in some respects as the now familiar form of the drug. They have already reported the isolation of a new strain of the *Penicillium* mold that gives a relatively high yield of the X form.

According to the results of medical research, penicillin X has shown strikingly superior results in treating some infections and diseases as compared with other drugs, including commercial penicillin. Another advantage of the X form is that it does not seem to be eliminated from the body as quickly as the other penicillins—F, G, and K—and therefore tends to check infections more effectively.

The workers at the Northern Laboratory isolated the new strain by exposing to ultraviolet radiation a culture of the mold derived from a strain developed at the University of Minnesota. Instead of one-seventh to one-fifth of penicillin X, the new mold yields one-half of X, which is easily separated from the F, G, and K forms because, unlike them, it is not soluble in chloroform. The new strain thrives in the same nutrient solution as the older strains—corn steep liquor and lactose, the medium devised at the Northern Laboratory early in the war. Cultures of the new mold have been made available to commercial producers who wish to supply penicillin X to physicians and hospitals.

### Jungle Parents Promise Better Rubber Trees

■ Two plant scientists of the Department of Agriculture, doubling as jungle explorers, have located more than 100 rubber trees in South America that promise to be useful in breeding superior rubber producers. Richard E. Schultes and Russell J. Seibert have been ransacking the wild regions of the upper Amazon in Colombia and Peru for 3 years to find high-yielding trees from which to obtain propagating material. The native rubber gatherers, they found, knew the trees yielding the most latex, or "milk," so they followed them and harvested budwood from the most promising. A Brazilian botanist originated a method of obtaining budwood from the tallest and widest trees by shooting twigs out of the tops with guns, and the scientists sometimes did this. After the cuttings were gathered the explorers had to give them good care and get them under propagating conditions as soon as possible.

The cuttings from these wild specimens of *Hevea brasiliensis*, the Para rubber tree, are being tested in plantation nurseries at several places in South and Central America. The trees grow to producing age in about

4 years, by which time they are approximately 18 inches in girth. Tapping tests at that age will determine to what extent the high yield and disease resistance of the wild parents have been inherited. If 10 percent have really superior qualities, the explorations will be considered highly successful. Natural rubber is still needed, as the substitutes are not yet good enough or cheap enough for exclusive use. An assured supply of rubber is considered desirable for strategic reasons.

# A library serves Montana ranches

IVA L. HOLLADAY, Home Demonstration Agent, Valley County, Mont.

Valley County, Mont., has 3,245,680 acres of big outdoors bounded by the Missouri River and Fort Peck Lake on the south and Canada on the north—a county larger than the State of Rhode Island—and there was not a library book available for any of the 1,200 farm and ranch families living within its borders. Glasgow, the county seat town of 4,000, had a small Carnegie Library, but it served only those within the city limits of Glasgow. That was the library situation up to 1944.

In the spring of 1944, home demonstration club women of the county in planning their next year's program included a question: "Would you read good books if you had access to them?" Answers came back yes, yes, yes, from all corners of the county. The following summer when the Valley County Home Demonstration Council met, the county superintendent of schools and the county home demonstration agent discussed the steps necessary to establish a county library under Montana State laws (10 percent of resident taxpayers of a county must sign the petition asking for establishment of a library). The council voted unanimously to sponsor a county library; and the council chairman, Mrs. Lloyd Henningson, appointed a library committee to start working on it. The home demonstration clubs appointed library chairmen to assist the library committee.

A meeting with county commissioners was first on their agenda. "If you get the signers, we'll do our part," promised the commissioners.

In the spring of 1945 they got the signers. Community meetings, public sales, AAA sign-up days, ladies' aid, or any gathering was pretty likely to have a woman or two there asking: "Don't you want a county library?" Most of them did, for on check-up day more than 100 over the necessary number of names were on the library petition.

Mrs. W. K. Wittmayer, Nashua community, 15 miles from the county seat, had turned in 117 names. Mrs. H. Flickinger, 55 miles from Glasgow, turned in 88 names. Postmasters in the far corner of the county where ranches are 10 to 15 miles apart turned in 10 signatures.

Next, public hearings were held. Mrs. Flickinger drove around 75 miles over muddy roads, coming in the day before the hearing to be sure to be present to tell why rural folks needed libraries. As a result, there was no opposition to establishing a library.

The county commissioners, county clerk, county superintendent of schools, and home demonstration agent all visited the neighboring county where Carnegie Library facilities have been made available to all in the county.

In the summer of 1945, the local paper published the contract worked out between city and county in which the county would provide funds to increase facilities and personnel of the city library if it in turn would make books available for every farm and ranch family in the county, bringing book stations to every community with place and personnel to care for books.

In the winter of 1945, Valley County ranch and farm families enjoyed all the facilities of the library, checking out books by mail if they are far from Glasgow or a book station; and Glasgow town people enjoyed additional new books they couldn't afford when carrying all the cost of the library themselves.

In the spring of 1946, 10 branch stations were in operation in the county. The central library has new shelves, new paint, new books, and 500 new users. To get the children's room remodeled and establish a community rest room and children's story hour are next on the docket. Home demonstration women will make new draperies, and 4-H girls will assist with the story hour.

And so they all read happily ever after because a group of women with a dream weren't afraid to wake up and work to make the dream come true.

## A Dutch nursery adopted

Playing fairy godmother to a Holland nursery gives the Nassau County, N. Y., women a chance to try out their skill in making stuffed animals and dolls for which they had a training school last summer. At the same time, they put into practice the good neighbor policy. Last Christmas they heard of a valiant Dutch woman, Dr. Bader, who, though her life work with a nursery had been destroyed, was gathering her staff together again and starting over with very little except an indominable spirit.

The women first thought of the toys they had learned to make, and each one donated one to the cause. They decided that each one should also donate a can of food—the food to go to UNRRA, the toys and children's clothing to Holland; then they decided just to adopt the nursery.

The annual Christmas party when the gifts were to be brought in was a huge success, and when the gifts were counted there were 1,550 cans of food and 225 stuffed toys and dolls. Directly after Christmas the women began collecting children's clothes. So far, 3 boxes of 11 pounds each have been sent.

Some groups have set aside days "when we sew for our nursery." The Dutch nursery has sent word that they are so happy to be adopted and are eagerly awaiting the first box. Adelaide A. Barts is home demonstration agent in Nassau County.

# Health movement grows in Nebraska

■ The Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service, reaching into communities of every county in the State through the home extension clubs, has performed a most important role in the educational phase of the health and medical care program for rural areas.

A study of health and medical care needs of rural people in Nebraska was inspired in a large part by the interest in health expressed by members of the Home Demonstration Council in 1939. The financial assistance through the Alexander Legg Farm Foundation of Chicago made possible the bringing to Nebraska of a trained person, Miss Elin Anderson, to direct a study of health needs.

The Home Demonstration Council of Dawson County, Nebr., initiated the study because of interest which arose from a situation in that county where $18,000 was being spent in a year for medical care for families on relief. The goal of the study was to work toward a health and medical care program to meet the needs of all rural people of the State. This was one of the few studies in the United States concerned with adequate health and medical service for purely rural areas. Through this study, information was obtained from a large sampling of people. The facts revealed by the study served as the basis for the preparation by Miss Anderson of an extension circular, Do We Want Health? This circular was presented through trained local leaders to all project clubs in the State as a part of the educational program regarding the status of health of rural people.

### Circular Arouses Interest

As a result of the study of this circular, the interest of extension project club women of the State was aroused, and leadership was found in the development of health projects in various parts of the State.

In 1941, in view of the lack of physicians and nurses, a study and demonstration known as "If Illness Comes" was presented to all project clubs. In 1942, the importance of good health and physical fitness for people on the home front was forcefully recognized as a responsibility in time of war or peace. Two circulars were prepared for use as a discussion demonstration entitled Health on the Home Front and Family Health Plan. These were presented to all home demonstration clubs of the State.

In the spring of 1943, a State-wide health conference was held in Lincoln, the slogan of which was "Nebraska Needs a Citizen's Army on the Health Front."

Participation in these various studies and meetings concerning health has given homemakers of Nebraska an understanding of the need and the importance of health. Extension club women have become aware of the need for mobilizing forces for a health campaign and accepted the challenge to promote permissive legislation in Nebraska which would protect their families and make possible public health and medical care organization.

### Public Health Law Passed

This interest in health continued so that as a result of efforts of homemakers the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature of 1943 passed legislative bill No. 295. This was an act enabling counties or groups of counties to establish public health departments. The passage of this permissive legislation may have seemed unimportant to many people, but to men and women who have worked to gain more adequate health service it marks a milestone of progress in the development of a public health program for Nebraska.

In August 1941, a State Health Planning Committee was set up. During the following year, membership of this committee was increased to include the Director of State Health Department, a State representative of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Farm Security Administration.

Because of the interest of people from the Sandhill region in providing for themselves more adequate medical service, and because of the unavailability of services in that area, the committee decided to give first consideration to medical plans that were applicable to sparsely settled areas. The activities and program carried out in the Nebraska Sandhill Medical Care Program proved that, even though State and Federal funds may prove necessary to start a program, it is of utmost importance that local people discover and assume their rightful responsibility and leadership in developing such programs.

Late in 1942, medical specialists who had observed the Nebraska health and medical care program advised that other States in the Great Plains area be encouraged to develop programs and plans for rural health and medical services.

During February 1946, series of meetings were held in six districts of the State sponsored by the State Health Planning Committee. These meetings brought before leaders interested in promoting a health program inspiration and information which will be of help to them in their program planning.

## Wildlife conservation pays Texans

Texas wildlife, directly and indirectly, earned more than a million and a quarter dollars for landowners and trappers and hunters in 1945. According to figures gathered by R. E. Callender, extension game management specialist, sportsmen paid landowners an estimated $762,441 for hunting and fishing leases; and adult trappers received an estimated $620,070 from the sale of furs last year. In addition, members of Texas boys 4–H Clubs caught and sold furs valued at $47,073 during the 1945 hunting season.

Organization and cooperation among landowners and good management and protection of wildlife have been responsible for the maintenance of the large game population in the State, Callender says. There were 1,542 adult and 93 4–H Club game management demonstration areas involving about 12 million acres in 1945, along with 334 adult and 15 4–H community cooperative game management associations of landowners.

# We Study Our Job

## Where do extension funds go? For what services have extension funds been used?

During the last 5 years between 35 and 40 million dollars was reported spent annually for the various types of extension services. Approximately one-third was paid out at the college and two-thirds in the counties. Of the funds used at the college $1,300.-000 was spent for various administrative purposes; over 3 million dollars for supervision of extension work in counties; and 7 million dollars for subject-matter specialists.

There were several services performed partially at the college and partially in the county—such services as editing, printing and distributing publications, circular letters and news stories. For this written material between a million and a half dollars was expended each year. Between 6 and 7 million dollars was spent annually on planning the entire extension program and planning how to carry out the program. The greater part of this money was spent in the counties.

Of the 25 million dollars or more spent for services in the counties 28½ percent goes for work with youth and 71½ percent for work with adults. Over 4 million dollars was used to pay the expenses in connection with 3,400,000 farm and home visits and a like amount for 11,350,000 office calls.

During the last 5 years between 3 and 4 million dollars was spent annually for work with method demonstrations. A slightly larger amount was used for result demonstration meetings. Travel and other expenses in connection with general meetings cost 2 million dollars. Expenditures of about a million dollars each were used for leader-training meetings and for the preparation and other work in connection with exhibits.

What was the average cost for some of the individual extension services? A farm and home visit has cost the public one to one-and-one-half dollars per visit; an office call, 25 to 50 cents. For a result demonstration the public has paid $10 to $15 for the Extension Services' contribution; $5 to $10 for a general meeting; twice as much for a leader-training meeting.

It has been estimated that it costs, on the average, $5 to change a farm or home practice but that the benefits to the people making the change are many times this amount.

This rounds out a series of eight analyses of county extension reports prepared by Eugene Merritt of the Federal staff who retired April 1 after 40 years' service. Titles of preceding "We Study Our Job" articles published each month starting in October 1945 are:

Extension has a reconversion problem.

What is the function of the result demonstration?

How county extension agents use their time.

Extension contacts through meetings.

Do we need more or less farm or home visiting?

County extension workers' time patterns.

What is the proof of extension teaching?

## Louisiana Almanac study

An interesting account of the understanding and use of the Louisiana Farmers' Almanac by 216 farm families is given in Extension Service Circular 434, AN EVALUATION OF THE LOUISIANA FARMERS' ALMANAC prepared by Marjorie Arbour, Louisiana extension editor, and Ida Mason of the Federal staff.

The report tells how the Almanac was distributed; how many understood it and how many made use of it. Three-fourths of the persons interviewed still had their copies of the Almanac available for use. Seventy-two percent had read some parts of it; 93 percent had glanced through it; 88 percent considered it useful; and 30 percent had recommended or given it to neighbors or relatives.

The study also brings out the importance of presenting information clearly and simply; more details on this were given in December REVIEW.

## Agricultural Extension as a profession

Generally expressing it, a profession is one's principal calling, vocation, or employment. In a very early day before the so-called natural sciences were developed, there were only three professions: Theology, medicine, and law. Each was based on the philosophy of that day, or empirical knowledge concerning diseases and remedies or the legal codes laid down by the Romans, or Napoleon, or Blackstone.

In a restricted sense a profession is a calling or occupation in which one professes to have acquired some special knowledge used for instructing, guiding, or advising others, or in serving them in some art. Agriculture and Home Economics Extension certainly conforms to such a definition.

But more must be added: It is not alone our knowledge of the material sciences but a working knowledge of the laws of learning, the characteristics of human beings that may be used systematically to discover problems on the farm and in living, and the procedure necessary to make new practices acceptable and to revise old habits to meet new demands and desires for satisfaction. Such is the more modern definition of a profession, especially that of Agricultural Extension.—*A. B. Graham, formerly subject matter specialist, Washington, D. C.*

■ FRANCIS A. CHISHOLM, who has been acting State 4-H leader in Wyoming for the last 3½ years, was appointed agricultural extension agronomist at the University of Wyoming, effective March 1.

# Crook of Newlands project

T. SWANN HARDING, Office of Information, USDA

**T. Swann Harding, editor of the Department of Agriculture house organ, *USDA*, recently took a trip to four Western States to visit extension activities. This story of a veteran county agent is the first of four stories reporting on some of the things he saw.**

■ While the Government still owns about 90 percent of the land in Nevada, and while a good deal of this acreage is good for little except as exercise ground for jack rabbits and to hold the rest of the country together (or apart, as you wish), agriculture also flourishes here. For instance, Nevada's Elko County has as many beef cattle in it as any county in the United States.

Then there is the Newlands (formerly Truckee-Carson) irrigation-reclamation project, mainly in Churchill but partly in Lyon County. It was the first project of its kind established (in 1903) in the United States under the Reclamation Act of 1902. Here the Truckee and Carson Rivers produce a bank of fertility in some 87,000 acres of green fields, perhaps too largely lush alfalfa.

### Settlers Look for Quick Wealth

The original idea was to irrigate 300,000 acres, but this was cut to 87,000, of which some 40,000 are now in cultivation; 10,000 acres are in mixed grasses and ladino. In early days water rents had been set too low, and they had to be raised. Extensive advertising campaigns brought in successive groups of settlers, many of whom expected to get rich quick by growing alfalfa and dairy herds in the sagebrush without much work. They hoped to stay only a few years and then go back where they came from, rolling in wealth.

Profits were uncertain then, there being too much one-crop farming, tied to alfalfa. Twelve or more years ago a quiet, unassuming chap came into Churchill and Lyon Counties from irrigation agriculture in Utah. He was the new county agent, Royal D. Crook. He surveyed his territory, assayed his job, and the results were anything but reassuring.

For one thing, the depression was then at its worst. For another, there were many disgruntled people on the project, and a well-knit community had yet to be created. For still another, Crook *was* the Department of Agriculture there, as no other agencies were then operating locally, the banks were failing, and wilt was attacking the alfalfa. Few county agents ever faced such discouraging prospects at the start of their work. But Crook knew irrigation farming; he knew how to meet farmers on common ground, and he could successfully bridge the gap between research and practice.

So he sat himself down and made a plan. This plan he just about carried to complete success by the time of his retirement, February 1, 1946, still young but a victim of failing eyesight, to a 600-acre irrigated farm of his own, right there on the project. In putting his plan into execution, Crook threw the entire book of methods at his counties. He promoted pastures, fought wilt, helped organize cooperatives and effect dairy-barn improvement, and fostered cow testing.

There are about 600 operators on the project, but that is a good many when you remember there are only some 3,500 farmers in all Nevada. First of all, Crook arranged to have Government farm loans written for many of his clients. Next, he saw that pasture and higher milk yields must be promoted to replace this exclusive feeding with alfalfa hay. Immediately he called in Oliver F. Smith of the then Bureau of Plant Industry to help conquer alfalfa wilt. But, above all, he saw that high-production dairy herds could never be built up so long as they were dissipated whenever it paid better to sell than to feed alfalfa hay.

Probably few county agents have ever so fully achieved the definite plan they made for their territory in the beginning. The wilt was slowly conquered, and as much alfalfa is now produced on a greatly reduced acreage as was produced on many more acres when Crook went to Newlands. But the wilt proved in part a blessing in disguise because it forced some diversification and helped Crook to establish a growing acreage of permanent pasture. More barley, wheat, and corn were introduced, and considerable grain is now raised locally to feed beef cattle. Oddly enough, many Corn Belt immigrants want to get away from corn and refuse to raise it, while others, unused to the crop, have to be taught how to shuck it.

Triple A and soil conservation came in and helped greatly. Strong cooperatives were organized, maintaining good relations with other business interests from the start. Extension workers made and rented out plyboard forms so that cement dairy barns could be poured and built in any size required. Future Farmers and 4-H Club enrollments grew, and the two work together amicably and effectively. Poultry was introduced.

### Pastures Support Sound Agriculture

The war set things back some. Feed went up; labor was scarce; cow testing lagged; butter production, the main thing here, was limited. But barley and corn acreage increased some. Flax was tried and found wanting. Pasture acreage has increased from practically nothing to 10,000 acres. Much ladino is grown, introduced by Nevada visitors to California who learned its virtues there.

This increased pasture has placed a firm foundation under the entire Newlands project farm enterprise. It reduces labor needs and promotes soil conservation, land rehabilitation, and the use of feed right where grown. The people have learned to use their irrigation water more efficiently. Ground is better leveled and sloped; puddling and leaching are prevented. Now Crook is on his own farm in the project following the sound principles he inculcated into others. He may look back upon work well done, a sound plan completed and implemented, and his praises are generally sung throughout the project.

# Among Ourselves

■ EUGENE MERRITT retired on February 28 and MIRIAM BIRDSEYE on March 31 after more than three decades of active extension work, during which time they saw and shared in the evolution of the Cooperative Extension Service, from the States Relations Service to the organization as we know it today.

Mr. Merritt entered the Department in 1905, joining the States Relations Service in 1913 as assistant to its director. In 1923 when the States Relations Service was dissolved, he was assigned to the newly created Extension Service to assemble and analyze agricultural economic information for the use of State Extension Services in formulating programs bearing on economic problems.

Mr. Merritt applied his talents to almost every phase of extension educational work. He pioneered in bringing to the attention of extension workers the need of solving the problems of out-of-school youth who had not yet begun to carve their career. He also has the distinction of being the first person to help Extension relate economic facts to the home in home management programs.

The wealth of knowledge and experience which he gathered through his years of service with such pioneers in extension education as Dr. Alfred C. True, Bradford Knapp, and C. B. Smith remained a fountain of sound advice and help to be tapped, and frequently was, by the veteran as well as the novice in agricultural work.

Mr. Merritt will continue his connections with the Extension Service in an advisory capacity.

Miss Birdseye entered extension work with the Department in 1917 as a nutrition field agent, from the New York State College of Home Economics of Cornell University, where she had served for 4 years as the State's first full-time nutrition specialist. Possessed of a keen awareness of the need for improving the nutrition and living standards of rural people, she followed closely the progress of science and research in this field, assimilating and adapting it as quickly as practicable to the extension program and helping to organize sound, effective, and badly needed nutrition programs in the States and counties.

Her leadership and untiring efforts in this field contributed much to the present nutrition program. "You have had an important part," wrote Secretary Anderson in tribute to Miss Birdseye's service, "in the development of the present program carried on by almost a hundred specialists in food and nutrition and about 3,000 county extension agents . . . When the history of the war effort is written, your name will be found on many committees to safeguard health and make more efficient use of food."

The many friends and associates of Eugene Merritt and Miriam Birdseye wish them the same success in retirement that they enjoyed in their long years of active extension educational work.

■ WARREN E. SCHMIDT, for 3½ years assistant rural sociology specialist in Ohio, has accepted a position as community organization and recreation specialist in Connecticut. Mr. Schmidt graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a B. S. and received his M. S. from Ohio State University. He has recently returned after serving with the Navy for 3 years. He was a lieutenant in the Navy Supply Corps.

■ BURTON W. MARSTON, who has been on military leave from the Wyoming Extension Service for 4 years, resumed his position as State 4-H Club leader on March 1. Marston, a veteran of both World Wars, was graduated from the College of Agriculture at the University of Wyoming in 1920. He entered the Extension Service the same year and worked until 1942, when he was called into the army as a reserve officer.

During World War II, Marston was with the army service forces, first in

Burton W. Marston.

administration work in the army reception center at Camp Dodge, Iowa; later in prisoner of war camp administration at Weingarten, Mo.; and for the last few months with the New York Port of Embarkation.

Marston began extension work as assistant county agent in Platte County, Wyo. The following year he was transferred to Johnson County where he worked as county agent for 8 years. In 1928 he was appointed to his present position at the University.

■ WALTER S. WILSON has returned from the Army as an infantry major to his position as assistant State boys' club agent in Maryland. Mr. Wilson is a graduate of the University of Maryland, and before accepting a position as assistant in boys' club work in 1943 was an assistant county agent in Howard and Harford Counties, Md.

■ CARLETON P. DORSEY has returned to his former position as assistant State supervisor of emergency farm labor and associate State club leader in West Virginia. Mr. Dorsey has been with the Victory Farm Volunteers of the Extension Farm Labor office in Washington for a year.

# The Once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

THE NUMBER ONE ORDER OF BUSINESS is still the emergency food program. Victory gardens are again booming with a goal of 20 million home gardens to save food needed in famine countries. Food preservation activities have taken a new lease with community canning centers being revived and new ones organized. Wheat-saving ideas are being passed around, recipes are popular with home demonstration clubs, ideas for wheatless livestock and poultry rations interest farmers. The Secretary's call for close cooperation from extension workers in poultry culling to save grain started a wave of activity in this field.

HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK activities highlighted the need for food. For example, in Texas each home demonstration club or girls' 4-H Club donated for famine relief. Women in Delaware, Massachusetts, Kansas, and South Carolina contributed to the fund to be sent to Norway to assist in the rehabilitation of home demonstration work there. In New York local groups sent boxes to Holland, Finland, Belgium, and England.

HONOR COMES to George F. Johnson, Pennsylvania extension visual aids specialist, in an award of merit at the Second San Francisco International Color Slide Salon. The San Francisco exhibit, one of our international salons to exhibit photographs by Johnson during the past winter season, gave its award of merit to his picture "Susequehanna Sunset." The same slide and "Guernseys at Attention" were accepted by the Second Chicago International Color Slide Salon. The First Chicago International Exhibition of Nature Photography, and the Second Canadian International Color Exhibition of Photography held in the art gallery of Toronto also showed some of his color slides.

CORNELL'S DEMONSTRATION TRAIN broke all attendance records with late figures set at more than 68,000. Approximately 8,000 persons asked for more than 36,000 bulletins. For historical record, the Visual Aids Service of the Department of Extension Teaching and Information completed a movie, and a bulletin is being printed to fill the many requests for information about the operation of the Special.

PENNSYLVANIA WILL AGAIN hold its annual 4-H Club Week, August 12-15, for the first time since the war. More than 1,000 boys and girls from about 50 counties are expected to attend.

THE DATE FOR THE OPENING of the Cornell extension summer course was given in the April REVIEW as July 20, although the school actually starts July 1 and runs through July 20.

THE RECORDS OF THREE VETERAN COUNTY AGENTS of South Carolina all having served in the same county for more than 30 years was sent in by J. M. Eleazer, information specialist. The oldest in point of service is R. H. Lemmon, of Fairfield County, S. C. He was appointed March 16, 1912, and has served 36 years in his home county and is reported to be as active and effective an extension worker as ever. T. A. Bowen, of Pickens County, appointed September 1, 1912, now in his thirty-fifth year of service, is an active wheel-horse in his county. His son T. O., who was born after his dad's appointment, was Mr. Eleazer's assistant for 12 years in Sumter County and took over as agent when Mr. Eleazer left to accept a position as roving reporter for the State. S. W. Epps was appointed county agent in Dillon County on June 1, 1914, and is this month completing his thirty-first year of continuous service there.

A BOOK WAGON is being given the State of Vermont by the 320 home demonstration clubs there. This will make the fifth book wagon to serve rural Vermont under the State's "traveling library" program. They also have pledged a replacement when necessary probably in 3 or 4 years. This book wagon will bring the facilities of a public library to remote areas. It will be on the road continually, bringing books to certain designated stops once a month or so.

THE FIRST OREGON INSTITUTE for rural pastors is being held at Oregon State College July 22-27, sponsored by the Oregon Council of Churches, the Archdiocese of Portland, and the Home Missions Council of North America. The purposes are to increase the contacts of rural pastors with trained leaders, to acquaint them with tested methods of town and country work, and to introduce them to available social, economic, and educational resources of the community, State, and Nation.

FIFTY-SEVEN COMBINE SCHOOLS were held last month in South Carolina with county agents and local machinery dealers cooperating. The school gave combine owners and operators special instructions on methods of operating and adjusting their machines to give the best possible service.

IN 18 ORGANIZED MARKETS 473 home demonstration clubwomen in Mississippi last year sold home-grown and home-processed products amounting to $232,460. Eight of the markets had an increase in sales last year. The products most in demand were poultry, butter, eggs, milk, and cake.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# Education for Great Living in the 4-H Way

DR. C. B. SMITH

**Dr. Smith, author of this article, retired as Chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work 8 years ago. Well-known and beloved by extension workers everywhere, he has been active in the development of the Extension Service from the very beginning. He has had time in the last few years to stand back and survey the work with a little perspective. This paper was first given to State 4–H Club leaders attending the National 4–H Club Camp in Washington D. C., in June.**

The purpose of 4–H Club work is in its essence, as I take it, the education of rural youth for Great Living. We want rural youth to know their job of farming and homemaking and to know these things at their best. Satisfaction comes to a man or woman when he or she has superior knowledge, and superior knowledge comes from experience and contact with things and operations. Hence, we give 4–H youth experience in growing corn, growing gardens, feeding poultry, making clothes, organizing clubs, conducting meetings, making exhibits, putting on fairs, and like matters. We do not do these things in 4–H Club work the ordinary way, but in the best way, and as gleaned from both science and the experiences of the best farmers and homemakers. The only way people grow and attain to Great Living is to do things in the best way. There is no Great Living unless men and women are proud of their occupation, and they are proud of their occupation only when they are superior workers. The first step on the way to Great Living then is superior workmanship.

There are thousands of rural youth that can be helped to Great Living by being taught the art of seeing and listening to the things of nature all around them. Things thus learned constitute unforgettable knowledge. You are educating yourself when you give attention to these things. Youth should know this and learn that all education does not lie in books, but much of it comes from their own observation and experience, and in the acquiring of this knowledge comes Great Living.

My hope is that 4–H Club extension forces may make the purposeful club camp and nature trail an ever-increasing part of the future 4–H Club program; and add to that the awakening of each soul to the beauties of the honeysuckle hedgerows of Maryland, of fields of yellow corn in Iowa, of wheatfields in the Dakotas and Kansas, of cottonfields in Alabama, of the white birches of Maine and Minnesota, of pine forests and open plains. The youth, man, or woman, who sees beauty in these things has something satisfying in his soul.

The second step, therefore, in Great Living is to know and appreciate the things of nature around you in which you are daily immersed. Great Living comes from understanding association with nature and can be had even when you are alone.

The third essential in Great Living and the concern of 4-H Club work is to season the daily work of the farm and home with recreation—song, music, story, pageantry, social life, discussion, and debate. These things exhilarate both mind and body and are essential to Great Living.

We are of the view that the Extension Service, which doesn't make recreation a part of all its extension program and teach and train local community leaders in these fields in large numbers, is not quite meeting the needs of its people or the needs of the Nation. When people play and sing together they are more readily minded to cooperate and work together. And this is an era when we must learn to cooperate and work together or possibly disappear from the earth. We are on the road to Great Living when we play and sing and have social communion with each other.

I see also in the future program ahead great homes. The whole Nation is asking for more homes in which there is Great Living. If we are going to have better homes, training for them needs to be given men and women in their youth. One of the purposes of Cooperative Agricultural Extension, as I see it, is to give rural youth the concepts and ideals that go into the making of great homes.

Extension should prepare itself to give increasing help in home building, not only in the fashioning of a house and its furnishings and embellishment of its surroundings but also in the things that constitute the heart of the home—love, kindness, hospitality, justice, ideals, culture, work, responsibility, the brotherhood of man.

Efficiency, nature study, recreation, home building; and the greatest of these is home building. May 4–H Club work ever have a passion for building understanding, cultured homes.

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# Looking ahead

CLARIBEL NYE, State Home Demonstration Leader, California

■ Home demonstration work will always have as a first responsibility to make available to rural families quickly results of research of practical help in day-by-day family life.

Universities, experiment stations, colleges, and laboratories of commercial firms are rapidly increasing and extending the areas of knowledge. Many of their findings can contribute to health, economy, and "good life of the family in the country." Today's knowledge is not enough for tomorrow's family. The farm family represents consumer as well as producer. It wants current information on which to base its own decisions. The continuing flow of practical, authentic, up-to-the-minute information from laboratory to family, always a first responsibility of home demonstration specialists and agents, will be an even more complex and difficult task than in the past.

### A Building Boom Is Before Us

In subject-matter fields, we all see very clearly where home demonstration work can be most helpful. Before us is a building boom. Building and remodeling houses and the selection of new furniture and furnishings are subjects of conversation in many thousands of California homes today. Will they be planned for California living today and tomorrow? Will the best available information be theirs through the home demonstration program? This may be called the "year of planning"; perhaps next year can be the year of building.

What of information available on work simplification, working heights, and equipment for the maidless home? There are those who believe that the homemaker in tomorrow's world can look forward to little outside help. The pooled experience of homemakers, combined with the ingenuity of designers and manufacturers, can do much to make household tasks less arduous and time-consuming. These are problems for home demonstration programs ahead.

What of the great concern over the increase in the lawlessness of youth, the many unhappy, unstable homes? There is a body of subject matter, helpful in the guidance and development of children in the home; there is an increasing amount of factual material available to those who are students of happy family life. Perhaps this is a field of paramount interest to farm families, in which the home demonstration program can make its contribution.

Perhaps the most thought-provoking question in looking ahead is how can home demonstration work be made available to thousands of newcomers to California, to those young veteran families, and to racial groups whose standards of living and family customs will influence the California home life of tomorrow.

It will take the best combined intelligence, judgment, good will, the most conscientious help of thousands of volunteer leaders, and a devotion that goes beyond salary and minimum hours of work to make the home demonstration program of greatest helpfulness to the largest possible number of California families.

### There Is a Common Bond

Always of equal importance as a source of helpfulness is the spread of information of sound practices and customs developed by the people themselves. In simple words, the job continues to be to get "practical, reliable information to families where they are, in a form in which they can use it, at a time when they need it."

Some people think that home demonstration work is for the privileged few. Others have the idea that it is a kind of uplift movement to help underprivileged farm families. Interest in home demonstration work has no relation to income, age, or size of family, or to previous education. Among all cooperators there is only one common bond—a love of home and family, a desire continuously to have and to use new knowledge and new skills for the health, happiness, and security of the family and for their satisfaction in their home.

We recognize the capacity and desire of human beings to progress, to learn, to improve, to grow, throughout life. Home demonstration work assumes these characteristics. It is based on a relatively new field of education—home economics—and this means to use food and human nutrition, clothing and textiles, housing and home furnishings, home management and family economics, child development and family life. It means chiefly the education of women and girls. It is a home-centered education.

The financial investment of Federal, State, and county governments in this "on the job" educational program has brought recognition to the work of women in the management of the home and in the conservation of life. It has been recognized that character and citizenship are developed in the home. It is here that democratic living can first be learned. By the way, democracy in family life in the 1840's was quite different, according to a poet of those days who wrote:

"The father gives his kind command
The mother hears, approves;
The children all attentive stand,
Then each, obedient, moves."

In 1834, when Oberlin College opened its doors to both men and women, it announced as one of its purposes "the elevation of female character, by bringing within the reach of the misguided and neglected sex all the instructive privileges which hitherto have unreasonably distinguished the leading sex from theirs." Only a little more than 100 years later, in May 1946, three and a half million women cooperated with their universities in a lifelong program of education. We did indeed celebrate "progress in the application of science and art to homemaking."

■ ISADORA WILLIAMS, Tennessee assistant extension marketing specialist, has been working during the fall and winter with officials at Oak Ridge and with county agents of the vicinity to keep a good supply of produce on the Oak Ridge Farmers' Retail Market throughout the winter. In an 18-week period, 110 different people sold 943 times at the market, with a total income of $40,009.43.

# This is house-planning year

■ The housing program of the Extension Service in West Virginia originated last fall at a State meeting of farm women leaders. The housing situation in various communities was discussed, and great interest was shown by these women in bringing their houses up to date. The leaders stated that farm people were keenly aware of the need for remodeling, installation of water systems and bathrooms, getting electric service, having improved kitchens, and better storage space.

At the annual conference of extension workers held later in the fall, the home demonstration agents asked for training in housing so as to be able to give the kind of information and help farm families are asking for.

Shortly after this conference the director of extension appointed a committee on housing, which included the specialists in agricultural-engineering, home-management, rural organization, and forestry; the extension economist; and the State county agent leader. The State leader in home demonstration work serves as chairman of the committee. This committee decided that the first step toward a better State housing program was to hold training schools for county extension workers, giving them the best information available on current housing problems. As housing is a family and community problem, the county as well as the home demonstration agents were invited to attend.

This State housing committee obtained the assistance of West Virginia extension workers and of Miss Mary Rokahr and Mr. A. T. Holman of the Extension Service in Washington who were called upon to give counsel and advice on the housing program and the training schools in particular. They came to the State and spent 2 days with the housing committee and other members of the extension staff discussing the West Virginia situation and possible approaches to the solution of problems. Previous to their coming, letters were sent to all county workers with a questionnaire to be filled in giving the major housing problems in the county and the types of help needed by the agents.

Three regional 3-day housing schools for county workers were held. In attendance were 23 home demonstration agents, 22 county agents and a few assistant agents, 4-H Club agents, and Negro workers. One session of each school was devoted to giving background information on the housing situation in the State and in the counties represented in that particular area. The general economic situation was discussed and possible sources of credit in case farmers found it necessary to borrow for housing improvements. Another session was devoted entirely to the planning of new or remodeled homes. The principles of planning were first discussed. The remainder of this session was a workshop in which the agents used architectural templets or "cut-outs" as a method of easy house planning.

A session was devoted to building materials, major emphasis being given to native materials and the use of family labor. West Virginia is rich in woods suitable for building material and for making furniture. It also has much native stone that can be used for house construction.

At another session the agricultural engineer discussed a step-by-step plan for installing a water system, beginning with a kitchen sink for those who could afford only that much the first year. Later as materials, funds, and labor are available, families may add a hand-force pump, hot-water tank, power pump, septic tank, and bathroom.

Considerable attention was given to the landscaping of grounds and the use of native materials for this purpose.

The last session was devoted to a discussion of methods for getting the 1946 housing job done. A panel composed of county workers, specialists, and supervisors led this discussion.

In all these schools it was emphasized that this is a year of planning for the remodeling of homes and for the building of new homes. It is the Extension Service's job to give farm families the information they need in building and remodeling houses that will be in keeping with their income and suited to their own particular needs over a long period of time.

The results of the schools are encouraging, as several county workers have followed up the housing schools by holding meetings with county groups on specific housing problems.

**Housing is under discussion by a West Virginia group and the Extension specialist assisted by the county agents.**

# County agent in Albania

**Frank Woodward dropped into the office while home in the United States on leave to tell us that working in Albania isn't much different than working in North Carolina. "Why, I am doing extension work all over again," he said. "Some of the customs in Albania are different, and of course the language is different; but the Albanian farmers and the folks up in Mitchell County are essentially the same."**

■ Frank Leon Woodward, once Mitchell County agent in North Carolina and now Director of Agricultural Rehabilitation for UNRRA in this tiny Balkan State of Albania, rubbed his hands, a supremely contented man.

He had completed the second of two United Nations jobs essential to setting on its feet this nation, comparable in size and population to the 15 western counties of North Carolina and in topography to parts of the Rocky Mountains but curiously isolated from the rest of the world.

He was standing at a crossroads on the main highway a few miles south of here, and the job he had done was one that he could look at from where he stood. UNRRA had been getting into a jam. This would break the jam. Food, clothing, medical supplies, and farming equipment had been pouring in through the small harbors of the country until warehouses were stuffed to the roof. Shallow draft ships could bring in this kind of material; but shallow draft ships could not carry, and their derricks could not unload the number of heavy motortrucks needed to get the supplies back into the hills where they were needed for the winter.

Woodward had the trucks there in the road, 127 of them; 20 big 6-wheeled 10-tonners; 100 6-wheeled trucks that would carry a load of 8 tons each, 4 big ambulances, 2 tank trucks, and a wrecking car. There they stood, the longest peacetime convoy of motor transportation Albania had ever seen, lined up along the road for more than half a mile where one could see them, and there were more around the bend. Over a hump beyond the curve, Woodward could see more vehicles coming in; mere brown bugs they looked, each in sight for a few seconds only but appearing and disappearing as regularly as the tick of a clock, the way motor convoys should always move and so seldom do.

"Who's hawngry?" Woodward grinned, biting off a corner of North Carolina plug and lighting a two-burner stove on the tailboard of the carry-all which he had brought along with the trucks over the mountains from Yugoslavia where heavier cargoes are unloaded. A can of bacon, a can of beans, another two cans of Vienna sausages spilled into frying pans and sizzled. Into a coffeepot went the usual quantity of brown powder; and the UNRRA people from the Tirana office, down by jeep to see the long-awaited convoy roll in, sniffed the aroma of bacon, coffee, and frosty air. It was cold at the crossroads, and where in America would stand three filling stations stood three bombed-out ruins. Woodward poured the excess bacon grease on the ground, and an Albanian mongrel with corrugated sides smelled it and began eating the earth to get the fat.

Woodward's other successful and essential job was seeing that Albania had a crop of winter wheat to stave off next year's famine and help get the country "off relief." That, too, was a job whose results he could see; and just before he went to Yugoslavia for the trucks, he saw it. All the way from north to south wherever there are flat spaces among the mountains he saw United Nations winter wheat, no higher than lawn grass now, but strong and healthy and promising a fine harvest if the weather is reasonably cooperative.

Woodward came to Albania with the rest of the United Nations Mission late in August to find the country suffering from ruthless destruction by the retreating enemy and the worst drought in a quarter of a century. Roads were bad. Bridges by the hundred were out. There never had been a railroad, and the country was in a state of mild revolution. But Albania had a cooperative Minister of Agriculture who, Woodward says, "speaks American," and a population as hardy and energetic as any in the world.

The mission had their seed-wheat with them, and what motor trucks the Germans and Italians left rushed it

**Former County Agent Frank Woodward, now Director of the Agricultural Division of UNRRA in Albania, explains to Albanians working on one of the State farms the working of a new tractor.**

to the 10 prefectures (like county seats) of the country. There the convoys scattered to the 52 subprefectures.

And to the subprefectures came the farmers from the hills and nearby valleys with their donkeys, ponies, and oxcarts ready to distribute the seed to where it could go into the ground.

It was planted in time. That was the rehabilitation job. The relief job, the feeding and clothing of the population until the wheat crop and other crops come in is also under way; and the convoy of new trucks Woodward brought from over the mountains, barring earthquakes, pestilence, or a new war, assures its success.

# They build their own homes in Utah

T. SWANN HARDING, Office of Information, USDA

**Second in a series of four articles by Mr. Harding based on his recent trip to the West to observe extension activities there.**

■ You will not drive far in the inhabited parts of Duchesne and Uintah Counties, southeast of Salt Lake City, without coming upon yards with gravel and sand heaped in them, or lumber piled up to season, or a foundation hole. You may find a family living in what looks like a cow shed, or a lone man in a sheep wagon, or a group in the basement of a house-to-be, which is taking shape overhead.

If you look at all closely, you may also find a vigorous and indefatigable lady poking around the yard—unless she is in the house diagnosing a senile chair and advising on its complete rehabilitation. That would be Mrs. Effie Smith Barrows, in charge of home improvement for the Utah State home demonstration office for more than two decades.

Possibly also a man is present, looking to see whether the underpinnings of a floor in the making will prevent the furniture from precipitating itself into the basement, or examining the installation of a heating plant. That will turn out to be Prof. Joseph Coulim of agricultural engineering at Utah State, now assigned to Extension to help extension workers and farm families thread their way through a remarkable rural building boom.

The country around Vernal and Roosevelt looks bleak enough, but you'd better not say so, for local patriotism runs high here, and every spot where a man lives is the best spot in the world. But somehow the people have managed to get hold of bricks, cinder blocks, doors and windows and the frames, varicolored gravel and beautiful sand—these last, theirs for the hauling. The lumber comes from the mountains. The people log it themselves, and a custom sawmill turns it into lumber, giving the client back the lumber from half the very logs he brought in. It is well seasoned before using.

Some of the houses are humble; some approach $10,000 in value but may be built for a cash outlay of $4,000. For the people build their own homes from their own plans as advised by extension workers. Farmers' Bulletin 1738, Farmhouse Plans, proves a boon in many instances.

The housing program was planned before the war but postponed owing to lack of labor and materials. But Extension made a complete survey of intentions to build and now follows through with advice. Meanwhile, many families have brought their materials together, and building is under way in all rural Utah, but especially in the two counties mentioned. Like all of us, these people tend to make mistakes in building unless they are well advised.

For one thing they make simple line drawings without allowance for wall thickness, and that can cause much trouble. They forget the need for storage space, laundry, utility rooms, and closets and pantries. They often make the bathroom or other rooms inaccessible, inconveniently locate or plan the kitchen, or forget to sprawl the house out where they have plenty of land but build up instead, and fail to put in picture windows overlooking hills ever changing in beauty with the hours and the seasons.

Structural defects can also occur, like the forementioned weak floor supports. Laying heating pipes in the floor can cause much trouble unless the work is done with great skill. Bedrooms may be made too small to hold the requisite furniture, or new gadgets and equipment of little use may be purchased. So Home-planner Barrows and Structural-engineer Coulim have plenty of useful work to do, just so their advice is requested early enough.

It is more difficult to right things after a family has bungled into a lot of snags, but they try. Woman's influence on the architecture is outstandingly beneficial, for women think of the many little conveniences and of uses for otherwise lost space that never occur to men or to professional builders. The home demonstration agents can also advise the housewife about drapes, wall finishes, lighting fixtures, and the mysteries of making a badly wrecked article of furniture stronger and more serviceable than it was when new.

A surprising number of these people learn to build their homes as they go along and make a better job of it than the common run of careless and unskilled rural labor because their heart is in it. Many of them have a few materials, some vague ideas, and a hole in the ground, and need someone to tell them expertly what kind of functional home they require. Exteriors of vertical logs brought to a pleasing finish with linseed oil are common, and they do away with the necessity for 2 by 4's inside.

These people have great pride in their homes as well as strong local patriotism. They are a sturdy, self-reliant lot, and are building into many of these homes of theirs permanent monuments to the patience, diligence, and expert competence of their Extension Service advisers whom they always greet with eager cheerfulness. A visit here gives renewed faith in the extremely far-flung activities and accomplishments of Department personnel.

# The advantages of farm life

H. C. SANDERS, Director, Agricultural Extension Service, Louisiana

In the past we have given the stay-at-homes on the farm a pretty raw deal. We have made them buy the farm over again in each generation and pay off their brothers and sisters who moved to town. What is worse, we too often have made them feel that they lacked brains, ambition, spirit. We have made them feel that they had chosen a second-class occupation, something that did not challenge the best within them. They cannot make their greatest contribution to the Nation, they will not be able to live up to their responsibility, unless they appreciate themselves; unless they appreciate farming as a way of life and a way of making a living. Farm life does have its advantages. Why not teach our boys and girls the advantages of farm life? Why not give these stay-at-homes at least an equal opportunity with those who go to town?

We do have some things city people do not have: Good food—the best that can be had; a pleasant and healthful place to work; long life; a permanent year-round job; good health—particularly mental health; stable family life; an opportunity to save and to accumulate and acquire property. Are these things worth while?

### Better Than Money Can Buy

I said good food—the best that can be had, and I am adding *better than money can buy*. Go down to any grocery store and look over the vegetable counter about the middle of the day. See how it looks after it has been pawed over by a group of bargain-hunting housewives. See that mass of iced, slupped-in, picked-over, culled, wilted, washed, pinched, bruised, and bleeding stuff that was once fresh, and fit for a king.

Green vegetables, milk, lean meat, fruits, eggs, sweet and Irish potatoes—these are some of what the nutritionists call the basic 7, and they are more abundant on the farm than anywhere else. Good food—proper food—is a big factor in good health.

Several thousand men in this country now—men who were prisoners of the Japs and Germans—can give you a real testimonial on good food and what it means to life.

The farm is a pleasant and healthful place to work. Working in the open air, in the sunshine; plowing the earth which we know to be teeming with life; planting seed that have in them the power of life; cultivating, watching growth—there is the working place of the farmer.

It has always seemed to me that a human being could get a little closer to his Maker in the country than anywhere else in the world. You don't see people climbing to the top of a city skyscraper to watch the sun rise, and you don't see people on Main Street admiring a beautiful moon. On the farm too often I know we have been so engrossed in the struggle to imitate city life that we have failed to appreciate the work of the Master Artist and Artisan. No human hand has yet copied a sunset; and no master musician has yet written a symphony quite so beautiful, harmonious, and appealing as that produced by our native feathered songsters around the average Louisiana farmstead.

Farming is a permanent year-round job. We didn't think much about this until the early thirties, when 13 million wage earners pounded the pavements in every city and town in the Nation, looking for work, standing in the bread lines, on relief, and some, I saw, searching in garbage cans for food. No; that sort of thing doesn't happen on the farm.

### Easier on the Nerves

In spite of poorer medical facilities, farm people enjoy better health than most other occupational groups. This is especially true of nervous diseases. The human body, particularly the nervous system, has not become adapted to the speed age. The rush, slam, bang, the din of the traffic, is taking its toll of the human race in untimely deaths from diseases of the heart, nervous break-downs, and insanity.

The rural homes of America are one of the basic hopes for the continuity of the Nation. The farm family is a unit. Its members have the same interests. In most cases the farm and home are one and inseparable. The family works together, plays together, and worships together. This is not the rule in the city. Dad works at the office and stays at the club for supper. Mom has her interests in bridge, books, or gossip. Sis works for another firm and has her social fences to build and maintain; and if there are other children, as often there are not, they too have their special interests and groups. The house, often not a home as we think of it, is just a place to take a nap and eat a snack on the way from "here to yonder." Too often the stopping place isn't a house, just an apartment—and an efficiency apartment at that—where everything folds up, tucks in, slides under, and dovetails with something else.

### Offers a Chance to Own Something

Farm people have a better opportunity to save, accumulate, and acquire property. The instinct to own something—to have something that we can call our own is fundamental. Strange as it may seem, that opportunity is greater in the country than in the city. Not riches. No! If you can become a captain of industry, the country is not the place for you. The city is the land of extremes, great riches, abject poverty. You won't get rich farming, but the chances of saving, of accumulation, are greater than in the city.

We can say to our boys and girls: "If you want to have good food, a pleasant and healthful place to work, to live a long, long life, to have a permanent year-round job; if you want to stay sane and avoid a nervous breakdown; if you want to marry one woman, stay married to her, and rear a family; if you want to work, save, and accumulate some property; if you want your relationships with your fellowmen to be personal, to know the people you see and meet and live with, your opportunity is greater on a farm than in a city."

To those who decide to go to town I wish you would say something like this: "There is opportunity where you are going and great responsibility. Remember that out there many have

forgotten God and have never learned about the brotherhood of man. I have taught you to work, to be honest, to tell the truth, to pay your debts, to be kind to and considerate of others; I have tried to train you for your job. Out there some are doubting that the Golden Rule can be applied to life and that a democracy is sufficiently efficient for modern times. They have forgotten that Thomas Jefferson said in a democracy human rights must take priority over property rights. Also remember that an upright life always has its reward and this form of government of ours with all of its faults has offered to more people an opportunity for full development and satisfying achievement than any other government that has as yet existed on the earth. Accept and use your privileges and accept and discharge your duties and responsibilities as a Christian citizen."

And to those who stay at home I wish you would say something like this: "Well, Son, we shall be together. In a little while I want you to marry the girl you love and bring her here. Right now I want to make you a partner in this farm. Before too long Mama and I will be getting old. Then we will build an extra room back there, and pretty much retire to it and turn things over to you and your wife. I want you to rear some more boys and girls—some to go and some to stay. I want you to teach them, as I have tried to teach you, to work and to be honest, thrifty, and clean, but to enjoy life. I want you to teach them about this country, its glorious past and more glorious future; teach them about democracy, which is basically Christian, and point out to them that only in freedom can the human being achieve that stature which Paul had in mind when he said 'Quit you like men'; teach them about God and Christ and abundant living."

If we say and do those things, then I believe that "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

# New workers trained

■ For 5 days in May, approximately 32 World War II veterans were briefed on their duties as county and assistant county agents in Arkansas. They toured three of the State's five experiment stations as the secondary phase of an in-service training course designed to prepare new employees to carry out an effective extension program this year. The latest research information available was reviewed under the discussion leadership of college faculty members.

The first phase of the in-service training was a 4-day training school for all new workers, held at Little Rock February 18–21. Through discussions and demonstrations, county and assistant county agents with less than 6 months' service were presented with subject-matter information on agronomy, animal husbandry, soil management, cotton, poultry, forestry, horticulture, farm labor, marketing, and rural housing.

Home demonstration agents and assistants with the same length of extension experience were brought up to date with homemaking information through discussions on food preservation and spoilage, a food demonstration on making of vegetable salads, and subject matter on gardening and family food supply.

In joint sessions the extension agents were instructed in various phases of extension policy and procedure by members of the State staff.

As a further step in assuring the professional efficiency of new employees, the Guide for Arkansas Agricultural Extension Workers, a handbook of policy and procedure, is being revised to be made more complete and to contain a calendar of work activities for new agents.

Of the 47 men hired by the Arkansas Extension Service since June 1, 1945, 39 are veterans. Thirteen who were on military leave are reemployed. They include Floyd Cannaday, Roy Keeling, C. M. Lamkin, Jack Coleman, E. A. Hansen, R. R. Musselman, Howard Kidd, Rudolph Setzler, Jack Carter, Joe Cox, Ewing Kinkead, and Negroes V. O. White and William Barabin.

Of the others granted military leave, Lt. Lowell Goforth was killed; Reece Dampf, Gerald Wright, and Walter Massey accepted other employment; Glynn McBride has not yet reported for work; and Loyd Waters and W. P. Billingsley were rehired but have resigned.

Of the veterans employed who were not with the Extension Service prior to the war, 3 are on the State staff, 7 are county agents, and 16 are assistant county agents. They include: Editor, Glenn C. Rutledge; assistant agricultural engineer, James L. Gattis; farm forester, Robert Nelson; county agents, Paul Inzer, Paul Barlow, John Cravens, Henry Z. Holley, Mack McLendon, Jr., and Negroes Clemoth Prewitt and Major E. McCoy; and assistant county agents, Mabern F. Hendren, John B. Piper, Odell N. Stivers, Jack T. Hale, Amos H. Underwood, Woodrow M. Wilson, Raydus James, Binom J. Raley, William O. Hazelbaker, Thomas L. Brown, Raymond E. Hunter, Ritchie Smith, Robert W. Anderson, A. Wade Bishop, Runyan Deere, and Billy Dunlop.

## 4-H members make air tour

Six Chatham County, Ga., 4–H Club members recently had the opportunity of making an air tour of Savannah and nearby Savannah Beach, County Agent A. J. Nitzschke reports.

When one of the Delta Air Lines "Super Deltaliners" stopped at the Savannah airport on its way to Atlanta to be placed in service, representatives of the various youth agencies in Chatham County were invited to make a half-hour flight over Savannah and the Atlantic Ocean at Tybee.

4–H Club members selected by Mr. Nitzschke to make the flight were Billy Benson and Catherine McCreery, president and vice president of the county 4–H council; Billy McKenzie, national winner in the farm safety contest; and Edward Brinson, Hubert Ritch, and Billy Morris of the Bethesda Orphanage 4–H Club.

# Veterans' wives study homemaking

JOYCE REEVE, Albany County Home Demonstration Agent
and
JANE BEMIS, Teacher Trainer University of Wyoming

■ Wives of veterans at the University of Wyoming crowded home-economics classrooms last quarter to attend what they felt were much-needed courses in homemaking.

The course was initiated by seniors in home economics who wanted to get practical experience in adult education. It was designed to meet the needs of veterans' wives who have to struggle to make livable small apartments, trailer houses, and tiny prefabricated homes. At each meeting the wives decided what instruction they most needed and selected a subject for the next meeting.

Greatest interest was shown in family meals and home management, but more than one-third of the women asked for classes dealing with child development. Subjects used in class discussion and for demonstration included meat buying, high-altitude cookery, use of sugar savers and alternates, preparation of pie crust, making curtains and draperies, and making slip covers.

After the women who attended the organization meeting found that these classes would meet the problems confronting them every day, they showed so much interest that twice as many class meetings as were originally intended had to be scheduled. Most of the meetings were held at night so that the veterans, while they were preparing their own lessons, could take care of the children.

Laboratory lessons, demonstrations, discussions, slides, and films were used so that the young wives could more clearly understand systems by which their homemaking could be made easier. Since many were interested in improving their buying habits and in stretching the family income, the *Consumer Speaks* materials were used.

Afternoon conference hours were arranged for girls who asked for extra help. Students also arranged hours in the university high-school sewing room when they could assist the veterans' wives in clothing construction.

All the young homemakers reached during the time the class was held found they could actually put the information into practice. Many have asked for special assistance, for they know now where they can get help when they need it.

During the entire winter quarter, meetings were scheduled to include streamlined meals, making pastries, art in the home, purchase and preparation of meat, selection and construction of children's clothes, furnishing and equipping the small apartment (including making draperies and storing materials), tailor tips for adults' clothes, stretching the family dollar, child care and training, and making partial slip covers.

When the senior girls and their instructor found that interest was virtually snowballing, they asked other home economists to give demonstrations and lead discussions. Three meetings were conducted by the county home demonstration agent. The lesson dealing with construction of children's clothing was taught by Miss Helen Roberts of the university clothing and textiles department. Reference materials and teaching aids were contributed by specialists at the agricultural extension service.

During the organization period, the senior girls in the methods class invited a few representative women from the community to meet with them as an adult homemaking council. Together they considered the problems of the veterans' wives and outlined a possible course of study. The county home demonstration agent also cooperated in planning and conducting classes.

An announcement at the veteran's auxiliary meeting, posters at the trailer village, and newspaper articles informed the prospective class members of the home-economics course, which was designed especially for them.

A stream-line meal is prepared under the direction of the home demonstration agent.

Sixty young homemakers were reached with an average attendance of 20.

## Sponsored dental clinics

Better health for the grade school boys and girls of Harrison County, Mo., has been found through a series of dental clinics reported by Miss Charlotte Lagerstrom, home demonstration agent. The movement was planned and sponsored by the county council of home-economics extension clubs.

Of the 1,559 students examined, only 36 percent had no tooth cavities or other dental defects. All defects of the other 64 percent were marked on dental charts and given to the children to take home to their parents. Newspapers followed up with educational articles and news of the campaign.

A check-up of dentists' records reveals that many of the children have taken their charts to family dentists and are having their teeth cared for. They are also using better home care of the teeth and eating better balanced food.

In the clinics, the Extension Club Council had the assistance of the county superintendent of schools, grade-school teachers, and five dentists who gave entire days of their time to the series. They visited every town in the county, checking the teeth of all grade children and of high-school students as well. Arrangements were made for rural school children to attend the clinic in the town nearest their own district.—*Cleta Null, home demonstration leader for northwest Missouri, and Mrs. Rose S. Florea, assistant State extension editor.*

# Building future county programs

C. G. BRADT, Extension Animal Husbandman, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

■ When county project committees sit down to discuss and draw up the county programs for next year and the years following, how shall they proceed? They have a great responsibility. Not only are these committees looked upon as the guiding bodies for the county's agricultural thought, but they are entrusted with the task of making constructive suggestions which will lead to the wise expenditures of county extension funds.

The county committee, whether it is the livestock and dairy committee, the fruit committee, the potato committee, or the poultry committee, should not take its job lightly. It should have its objectives firmly in mind at the outset. It should be provided with all the available facts concerning farming trends, economic and social, business trends, and Government programs, which may or may not be favorable.

Nation-wide factors as well as local factors should be taken into account. Local information alone will not suffice. The forces that govern agriculture today are often worldwide. Our committees must extend their thinking beyond the bounds of their own farm businesses if the right kind of programs with far-reaching results are to be built.

The problem of proper interpretation of the facts, assuming they are derived from reliable sources, is the biggest task the committee will encounter.

Unbiased data are essential to a successful project committee meeting. Survey material is useful. Census figures are valuable. But these figures and the trends they may portray cannot be accepted without careful thinking. Just because the trend in the past has been upward or downward is no guarantee that it will continue in that direction indefinitely.

The committee must guard against drawing hasty conclusions that an enterprise is "on its way out" or is due for a period of greater expansion. The forward-thinking committee will attempt to determine when a change may take place and make its program accordingly. But a wise committee will avoid forecasting which may lead to embarrassment later.

Another point which I wish to raise is, "Should the program be constructed to flow with the tide, or should a forward-looking program attempt to change the course of the stream?"

To illustrate, we have seen the automobile traffic death toll mounting year after year, war years excepted. Should we take for granted that this trend in deaths will continue upward and do nothing about it? Class I and class II lands (poorer classes) we may say are doomed for abandonment or must be converted to forest and recreational use. Sheep, we might conclude from the census figures of the past 50 years for dairy regions, will soon be seen only in New York zoos. Labor has been leaving the farm. Will this continue?

The question is, should committees hastily accept apparent conclusions without a study of the factors responsible for these trends? A solution of the problem may be found if an effort is made to turn the tide. To say the trend is upward or downward and stop there is another way of merely evading a problem which may be affecting the lives of many farm families. If social or economic benefits can be made to accrue to those individuals most affected, then our committees should attempt to draft programs which will retard these adverse trends or change their direction. If careful study proves it impossible to alter these courses, then the program should be made to guide the county's agriculture in the light of the conditions that seem inevitable. Perhaps the present direction of some trends ought to be hastened in the best interests of all concerned. That needs thought, too.

In the last analysis, it is the job of those county project committees to construct programs based upon the economic and social needs of farm people. County agents and extension specialists can offer guidance and leadership and supply data, but they should not endeavor to think for the committee.

Most county committees can be relied upon to do their own thinking. Given the facts, our committee's judgment is usually sound. That has been my experience in working with farmers in program building.

# Egg facts for the consumer

■ The Wisconsin quality egg program has some new slants that are proving successful. In addition to the usual holding of egg-grading schools on farms and work with homemakers and producers, it was decided to bring in the consumer. Though it is customary to think of the out-of-State markets first, a number of relatively large cities did offer opportunity. To reach these consumers, a combination of "A Good Egg" show and a cooking school was planned for several counties.

The show included panels and other materials giving an explanation of why some eggs have brown shells and some white; why a laying flock must be confined; how vitamins in feed are converted or carried over into eggs; and such factors in quality as collecting, wire baskets, cooling, marketing, buying on grade, selling on grade, and refrigeration in the home.

The Federal Grading Service and the egg dealers cooperated in making an exhibit showing each of the grades of eggs under the candle and then packs of each in dozen cartons and in 30-dozen case lots. There was also a display of dressed poultry by grades. An egg show included one class for adults and one for students.

The cooking school was held in the afternoon with door prizes of such donated articles as roast turkey and angel-food cake. Admission was by ticket only from local stores, butchers, or others who supplied the consumer with eggs. One of the striking things about the venture was the cooperation of industry. For example, in one instance the power company ran a special cable to install an electric range. The Association of Commerce in each city sponsored and cooperated with the activity. It usually turned into a civic enterprise. Every store carried cards naming the day.—*J. B. Hayes, extension poultryman, Wisconsin.*

# 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.**

### Increased Milk Production Linked With Hybrid Vigor

■ Cross-bred cows are producing more milk than their dams in a cross-breeding experiment with four dairy breeds at the Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

And three-breed heifers are exceeding their two-breed dams in milk production. This experiment, being carried on by the Bureau of Dairy Industry, shows a striking characteristic of the cross-bred animals—their persistency of milk production throughout the lactation period. The monthly butterfat production of many of these cows varies less than 10 pounds in the high and low months.

The experiment, begun in 1939, was designed to find out whether hybrid vigor and increased milk production would result from crossing breeds of dairy cattle. Thirty-two females, representing various combinations of two breeds, have completed production records. They averaged 12,842 pounds of milk and 592 pounds of butterfat a year; more in most cases than their dams produced. Some increase was to be expected as a result of the influence of the proved sires, but the actual increase was approximately 20 percent more than the expected increase. Hybrid vigor probably is responsible.

The experiment plan calls for continuous introduction of new genes through the use of proved sires of different breeds. The breeds used are Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, and Red Dane. Two-breed females—Holstein-Jersey or Red Dane-Holstein, for example—are mated to a sire of a third breed. Only a few matings between the crossbred animals have been made so far in this study.

Application to farm or commercial dairy herds may be expected to produce similar results if certain conditions are fulfilled. The stock used must be of high quality, and the sires must have been proved for transmission of milk-producing ability.

### A New Growth Factor in Poultry Feeding

■ Workers in poultry nutrition research have found that 5 to 8 percent of dried cow manure added to chick diets containing no animal protein has a growth-promoting effect equal to that of 3 percent of fish meal. When the manure was added to more complete diets the effect was not evident. Investigations of the nutritional value of cow manure for chickens were begun following the discovery that material from the rumen, or first stomach, of the cow has a higher vitamin content than the feed given the animal. Bacteria in the digestive tract apparently are able to synthesize thiamine, riboflavin, and other vitamins from feed that does not contain these factors as such. Poultry nutritionists of the Bureau of Animal Industry who made the experiments with chickens concluded, however, that the factor in cow manure that promotes growth is neither a protein nor any of the known vitamins. Concentrates of the unknown growth-promoting factor have been prepared from cow manure. The most potent of these thus far obtained had a significant effect on growth of chicks when fed as 0.004 percent of the diet.

The investigators found that dried manure had a marked beneficial effect on growth of chicks when added to a diet deficient in riboflavin. It also stimulated comb growth in both male and female chickens. Manure fed to laying hens increases hatchability, but it should first be heated to about 175 F. to destroy a factor that appears to reduce egg production. A small percentage of dried manure in the feed does not impart any flavor or odor to the flesh of poultry.

### Revolution in Sugar-Beet Growing

■ Since 1941, when a method was developed to increase the proportion of single seedlings in stands of sugar beets, mechanization of sugar-beet production has advanced by leaps and bounds. Possibly from 80 to 90 percent of the sugar beets to be grown on a million acres in the United States in 1946 will be planted with single-seed planters. This new planting method means a large saving in the labor of thinning and makes mechanical thinning possible.

Use of labor-saving machinery for planting and thinning has been stimulated by the discovery of a way to separate sugar-beet seed balls into single seeds. Planting the whole seed balls, as was formerly the practice, produced clumps of plants that had to be thinned by hand—a tedious and expensive process. A method of shearing the seed balls into segments containing a single seed was developed in 1941 at the California Agricultural Experiment Station. When the segmented seed is planted, the rows have a high percentage of single plants. Engineers of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, who were already experimenting with methods of planting to obtain stands of single plants, developed several types of single-seed planters and adapted old-style plate-type planters to the new method.

Rows of single sugar-beet seedlings can also be thinned by machinery. Yields from mechanical and from hand thinning are about equal, but labor costs are reduced $5 to $10 an acre by the use of the machines. Single-seed planting followed by hand thinning saves about half that much.

### Recognition for Scientific Achievement

■ An award for his scientific contributions toward the control of insects responsible for spreading typhus was presented to Edward F. Knipling of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine on May 13. The presentation was made by Secretary Anderson, and Brig. Gen. S. Bayne-Jones, Director of the Typhus Commission, read the citation.

As senior entomologist in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Orlando, Fla., during the war, Mr. Knipling helped to develop methods for control

of insects of most concern to the military forces. Through his knowledge of medical entomology, Mr. Knipling and his associates developed and adapted for military application practically all insecticides and repellents used by the armed forces at home and abroad. Among these products were DDT compounds that gave almost complete protection against transmission of typhus by the body louse, and dimethyl phthalate for the control of scrub typhus.

"These studies, enlarging scientific knowledge, led to the effective use of DDT in the control of epidemic typhus fever," the citation read in part. "Mr. Knipling's contributions served as a basis for preventive measures which were highly effective in protecting troops from disease and in controlling epidemics among civilian populations."

The United States of America Typhus Commission Medal was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The Commission serves with the Army of the United States and comprises representatives of the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service.

# Rural policy considered

■ Policies to guide both public and private agencies in improving rural life were considered by the New York State Rural Policy Committee in its first meeting at Cornell University. The committee is composed of 70 farm men and women who are recognized leaders in their communities and counties.

In their studies they were helped by many members of the university faculty and the State extension staff, and had the benefit of the advice of several prominent representatives of State and Federal agencies, the churches, schools, banks, commercial canners, and the agricultural press. At an early date their findings will be printed as a committee report.

Working through 10 subcommittees to study that number of basic public programs as they affect rural interests particularly, the State committee agreed upon a large number of recommendations that will be included in the printed report. In the meantime, some of the most pressing matters have been sent to all the counties for consideration by the county rural policy committees.

A few of the questions suggested for immediate consideration by county committees are—

How can the efficiency of farm labor be increased in order to compete with the ever-increasing output per man-hour of labor and consequent high wages in city industries?

How can satisfactory arrangements be made for adjusting milk prices with changing conditions and with seasonal differences in supply and demand?

Should the programs of farm organizations and agencies be directed more toward intensive use of land in the higher land classes or toward bringing back into production land not now being actively operated?

How can medical, hospital, and health services be made available to rural people as adequately as to city people?

Similarly pressing questions are raised in relation to the conservation of natural resources, prices, rural housing, education, problems of the family and community, rural government and public services, zoning in rural and suburban areas, extension programs in the arts, and recreation for both rural youth and adults.

In the words of L. R. Simons, State Director of Extension, "this committee can help rural communities mature all of these interests in constructive long-term planning activities."

## A successful refresher course

A 4-day refresher course in animal industry for Iowa county agents and their assistants was enthusiastically received by about 80 attending. The first day was especially for men who had just been appointed or who had been away on military leave.

The course was planned by a joint committee of county agents and representatives of the animal-industry groups. Each agent was asked to suggest problems or subjects on which he would like more information and also give his preference in the manner of conducting the course.

On the campus, heads of departments and members of their staffs took an active part in the course. It was a real demonstration of cooperation between subject-matter groups. The length of time seemed to be just about right for such a refresher course. All sessions started on time, and the schedule was closely followed. The panel discussion worked out successfully in presenting the material.

## Continuous demonstration

As a grand finale to National 4-H Club Week in Denver, a demonstration program was given on a Saturday from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. in a window of one of the large department stores in downtown Denver.

It was estimated that 2,250 people saw the demonstrations.

# Have you read

MANAGING A FARM. *Sherman E. Johnson and Associates.* 365 pp. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., New York, N. Y.

■ Managing a Farm was originally written by Dr. Sherman E. Johnson and his associates in the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the Armed Forces Institute. However, two new chapters have been added, and minor revisions have been made in the others.

Although the practical aspects of managing the individual farm are emphasized, the first three chapters are devoted to taking a broad look at the varied character of agriculture in the United States. In contrast with many farm management books, a national perspective is maintained throughout with the examples, illustrations, and concrete data covering all agricultural regions.

The management problems of the commercial farmer naturally receive major attention in this book, but the peculiar problems of the part-time farmer are treated in some detail. Furthermore, the authors do not assume that the farmer already has a going concern so they devote one chapter to "deciding on size of the farm" and another to "getting started in farming."

The central portion of the book deals with the usual problems of farm layout, farm equipment, the farmwork program, farm planning, and farm records. In fact, more than one-fourth of the book is devoted to the two subjects of farm planning and farm records.

In a chapter near the close, consideration is given to the often-overlooked aspects of modern farm life which the authors have entitled "working with others on management problems." Discussions are centered on the importance of working with neighbors, farm organizations, and governmental agencies. The final chapter emphasizes the contribution of the farm home and family to successful management, as well as the necessity of being able to adjust the business to changing economic conditions.

It should be pointed out that the book treats only briefly certain subjects that are part of managing a farm. These include farm credit, farm leases, and the legal and contractual aspects of farming. Also as a college text the economic principles and concepts relating to farm management would need to be developed largely from supplementary reading. Managing a Farm definitely reaches its avowed objective of being a practical book on farm management and as such should find a wide use on the farm, in the offices of those working with farm people, and in the classroom.—*Leonard F. Miller, Extension Specialist in Farm Management, U. S. D. A.*

THE ART OF PLAIN TALK. *Rudolf Flesch.* Harper & Bros., New York. 1946. 210 pp.

TO GOVERNMENT WRITERS: HOW DOES YOUR WRITING READ. Procedures and Records Committee, Council of Personnel Administration, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. 12 pp. (For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., price 5 cents.)

■ The best way to tell whether a piece of writing is doing its job well is to check with the audience. In the case of Extension Service writing this would usually mean checking its impact on farm people. Can they read it easily? Can they understand it? Are they moved to do what the writing advises?

Interviews in the field can give us good answers to these questions. Usually, though, it isn't practical to check our writing in the field. Often this wouldn't be possible anyway until after the material is published in final form. So there's a need for some way to get from the written material itself an indication of how easy or hard it is to read. Researchers have worked out several methods for doing this. The Flesch method, or formula, is one of the most recent and practical. Directions for using this method are given in both Dr. Flesch's new book and in the Civil Service pamphlet.

The Art of Plain Talk meets a need for a generally available statement by Dr. Flesch of the formula and its application. The Civil Service pamphlet makes an excellent presentation of this information in a nutshell. However, a handy list of common affixes and multiplication tables for use with the formula are omitted from this bulletin. (A footnote states that these are available from the Reference Section, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.) While this pamphlet was in preparation, it served as the basis for the 1945 SCS mimeograph, To Writers of the Soil Conservation Service: How Does Your Writing Read? This mimeograph included the list of affixes and the multiplication table, as well as directions for using the formula.

Let's recognize right now that much written material—including Extension Service material—is too hard to read and understand. The question immediately arises: How *can* we write readably? That's a $64 question—and it's quite different from the question we've just been considering: How can we determine the readability of something already written?

In his new book, Dr. Flesch offers suggestions and rules for writing readably. His "recipe for simplicity" is based on his formula. It is: "Talk about people in short sentences with many root words." He offers a number of other rules. Most of them have a familiar ring. But that's all right; good advice can stand being repeated.

Several "before" and "after" examples of material simplified by Dr. Flesch's methods are given. Some of them seem more successful than others. But as you read the book, you can judge them for yourself. In fact, your reading of the whole book should be careful and critical. After all, here is the proof of the pudding.

Dr. Flesch describes the book as a collection of formulas or recipes for use in working out an exact style for whatever audience you wish to reach Don't expect a miracle, however. Even if you conclude that this book is

the last word in writing recipes, it takes more than recipes to produce effective writing.

Dr. Flesch deserves credit for his convincing plea for more readable writing. Though some of his advice may be open to question, much of it is sound and helpful.—*H. P. Mileham, Publications Specialist, Federal Extension Service.*

# Undergraduate training inaugurated

■ As a step forward in the better preparation of students for future careers in extension service work, Montana State College this spring inaugurated its undergraduate course in extension with 15 junior agricultural and home economics students enrolled in the introductory course.

At the conclusion of the introductory course a limited number of carefully selected students from among the group will do field work for the Montana Extension Service this summer to obtain practical on-the-job training under the supervision of agricultural and home demonstration agents.

Next spring the senior course in extension will begin with students who have completed the junior course enrolled. The senior course will have one section devoted to extension home economics work and the other given over to extension agricultural work.

The course at Montana State College is actually the realization of an idea conceived by Alpha Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi. The fraternity began work on the proposed course a little more than a year ago. A committee made a careful study of the subjects it believed should be included in such a course, and the completed plan was then submitted to the faculty at the college.

The course is being given under the supervision of T. B. Holker, acting county agent leader, and former members of the extension staff do the instruction work. Also assisting with the home economics phases of the course is Martha L. Hensley, former extension clothing specialtist who is now a member of the home economics faculty at the college.

Those who have been planning the course believe that it will serve two very valuable purposes. First, it will give students who eventually go into extension as a career a much broader and more thorough background of extension. Second, it will also give the extension supervisory staff an excellent opportunity to size up the students as potential extension workers. And then, too, by giving students an understanding of extension it may serve to head off those who might otherwise have begun extension work without knowing more about it and then find they do not like it.

## 4-H Teen Tour

■ From the island of Martha's Vineyard by boat and train, from the far-away hills of the Berkshires, up and down and across the State of Massachusetts came more than 300 high school 4-H girls, representing every county of the State, to Boston on April 27. They were pioneering in the first 4-H Teen Tour ever held in the State. Their goals were "to do" Boston up brown, make new acquaintances with older 4-H girls from all over the State and gain experience in traveling. They were identified by a small white ribbon pinned on each shoulder, bearing the words in green, "4-H Teen Tour."

The event started for some of them from far-away counties the night before with the added experience of staying in hotels. One group slept at the 4-H Clubhouse on the State college campus on Friday night and at a hotel in Boston on Saturday night.

The morning program started with an assembly at Simmons College. This was also open-house day for the college, which gave the girls an opportunity to tour some of the classroms. Dr. Elda Robb, director of home economics at Simmons and a former extension worker in Michigan, greeted the delegation.

Tours were arranged at the Museum of Fine Arts, where the girls saw the early American exhibit of furniture and Paul Revere silver. They visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, saw the famous Ware collection of glass flowers at the Harvard University Museum and the Mapparium in the Christian Science Publishing House. Spare time was spent visiting stores and historic spots, of which there are many in Boston.

Alma Becker, a senior in high school and in her eighth year of 4-H Club work, presided over the luncheon program, which was held at one of Boston's oldest restaurants. Another 4-H girl led the singing. The high light of this program included a talk by Mary Carr Baker on "Are you in trim for tomorrow?" Mrs. Baker is director of health education for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is well known in the State for her talks to high school youth. A generous-hearted friend of young people supplied a yellow jonquil for each girl at the tables.

Girls took part in three well-known radio programs during the day, and one station made a recording of several representative members.

It was the 4-H high school girls' own tour. They paid their own transportation, luncheon tickets, presided at the meetings, led the singing, made the place cards for the head table, and took part in radio programs. Only enough adults to chaperon the girls were encouraged to attend the event.

The girls were paid an excellent compliment by the manager of the restaurant. He commented that in all the years he had served groups, whether adult or young people, the 4-H Teen Tour delegation was the finest he had served.—*Tena Bishop, Leader, Girls' 4-H Clubs, Massachusetts.*

A 4-H FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT CLUB recently organized in Dauphin County, Pa., is starting in with the spring clean-up and following with repairs of fences, buildings, and driveways. Their 3-year program includes ornamental plantings, painting, and some new construction. Modern plumbing and such related activities as erosion control will be included. The 21 members are beginning their work with enthusiasm and the staunch support of their parents.

# Among Ourselves

**Dr. Ruby Green Smith (left) shows her special citation to Dean Sarah G. Blanding (right), formerly of the College of Home Economics.**

■ DR. RUBY GREEN SMITH, pioneer in cooperative extension work in New York State, received a special citation from Director M. L. Wilson at a tea given in her honor upon the occasion of her retirement after 28 years of service.

The presentation was made by H. E. Babcock, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, in the presence of the New York Extension staff, members of the College of Home Economics, and leading farm women. The citation reads in part:

"Through two world-wide wars and a period of grave national economic crisis, she has contributed of her professional talents toward inspiring and encouraging great numbers of homemakers to hold fast to the ideals of family and home.

"Her contribution to the field of adult education in home economics will serve as a permanent landmark in strengthening the institution of the rural family, which is the core of rural democracy and society organized for the advancement of human principles."

Mrs. Smith first entered extension work in 1918, when she established local organizations to carry forward the program of wheatless days, sugar rationing, and other plans for food conservation during the First World War. After the war these groups became county Home Bureau units.

Dr. Smith is widely known as the author of the Home Bureau Creed, of which 350,000 copies have been distributed. The creed reads:

"To maintain the highest ideals of home life; to count children the most important of crops; to so mother them that their bodies may be sound, their minds clear, their spirits happy, and their characters generous:

"To place service above comfort; to let loyalty to high purposes silence discordant notes; to let neighborliness supplant hatreds, to be discouraged never:

"To lose self in generous enthusiasms; to extend to the less fortunate a helping hand; to believe one's community may become the best of communities; and to cooperate with others for the common ends of a more abundant home and community life:

"This is the offer of the Home Bureau to the homemaker of today."

When asked what she thought her most important contribution to Extension had been, Dr. Smith replied: "The introduction of community projects. Community life is only a larger housekeeping than that of the home. It is the homemaker's responsibility to take part in the life of her neighborhood, her county, her State, the Nation, and now the United Nations. With these the modern home has relationships unlike the isolated castle of the Middle Ages."

For the last year Dr. Smith has been released from active duty to write a history of the New York Extension Service in agriculture and home economics, which will be published soon.

■ J. M. ELEAZER, veteran county agent of Sumter County, S. C., was presented with a silver service recently at a large community banquet in Sumter. He was leaving the county to become information specialist for the South Carolina Extension Service with headquarters at Clemson.

Mr. Eleazer has served as county agent since September 1917. The past 23 years of that time were spent in Sumter County, where he has done outstanding work with livestock and in the general advancement of agriculture.

Part of his time for the past few years has been given to news work over the State. He has developed a widely published agricultural column entitled "Seen Along the Roadside."

■ MARION B. NOLAND began work as dairy specialist of the Wyoming Extension Service on March 20. This position is being filled for the first time in 26 years.

Noland, a veteran of World War II, was graduated from the Kansas State College in 1935. He entered the Kansas Extension Service in 1935 and worked at Manhattan as county agent for 3 years. In 1938 he became blockman for the International Harvester Company.

He went into the Army in 1940 as a second lieutenant and served in the South Pacific theater. Discharged early this year, Noland had the rank of lieutenant colonel.

■ WILMA C. BEYER, formerly assistant State 4-H leader in West Virginia, has gone to the New York Extension Service as 4-H child development and family relationships specialist.

■ FLORENCE E. HOWARD, formerly club agent in Mineral County, West Virginia, is now assistant State club leader in that State.

■ A BRITISH EXTENSION SERVICE, similar to Cooperative Extension Work in the United States, will be formally established October 1, 1946.

■ 2ND LT. HIRAM SMITH, formerly county agent in Kemper County, Miss., left the Extension Service, September 8, 1943, to enter the Air Forces of the United States. On

March 2, 1945, as navigator of a B–25 (Mitchell) bomber, he participated in a strafing mission to Formosa. According to letters received by Mrs. Rose A. Smith, of Purvis, Miss., the lieutenant's wife, from friends who flew in other ships of his squadron on the same mission, an engine was shot out over the target. The plane immediately climbed to a high altitude—for safety reasons when there is only one engine—and started to throw out everything to make the ship lighter; but it wouldn't make it, so they decided to ditch—land in water and use a life raft until found and rescued. The last anyone heard from them they were flying at 1,000 feet preparing to ditch. On March 7, 1945, Lieutenant Smith's commanding officer wrote as follows to Mrs. Smith:

"On March 2, 1945, Smith went on a mission against enemy installations at Toyohara airdrome, Formosa. His plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire over the target area, apparently in one of the engines, for it was unable to regain the formation and was seen to be losing altitude. His plane was kept in sight for about 48 minutes after it left the target until it finally dropped so far behind the formation that it was lost to view. When last seen it was still on its course but losing altitude rapidly. It can only be hoped that the pilot was able to ditch the aircraft successfully in the sea and that the crew escaped into life rafts. Search missions have been carried out daily for Hiram and his crew, but to date no survivors have been located."

No further official word has been received.

■ DIRECTOR M. L. WILSON, on May 18, received the National Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education. This award has been made annually since 1940 for outstanding service and contribution in the field of education and is sponsored by the Adult Students' Council. In accepting the award, Director Wilson said:

"It is not easy at this moment to put into words the gratitude that is in my heart. I thank the Association of Adult Elementary Schools and the Board of Education of the City of New York for the honor you have bestowed on me. I also want to express my appreciation to the thousands of fellow extension workers throughout the


United States. I sense that today you are honoring them as well as me personally. I shall, in fact, always regard this beautiful medallion as a symbol of recognition of the excellent work done by the many fine men and women of the Nation who have made extension teaching their life's career. They have contributed much toward making the Cooperative Extension Service an instrument of progress, enlightenment, and achievement. They have pursued with steadfastness of purpose the sound principles embodied in helping people to learn by doing, irrespective of age. As a token of their leadership in adult education, as well as with deep appreciation on my own part, I accept the 1946 Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education."

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson sent the following letter to Perry L. Schneider of the New York Board of Education:

"Today, as we tighten our belts to help feed starving millions abroad, we recognize that one of the greatest assets we have is the production know-how of our farmers. United States farmers use a great deal of science in practical farm operations, largely because of the long history of adult education carried on through the Agricultural Extension Service in every State and agricultural county of the Nation.

"I am, therefore, delighted to hear that the Adult Elementary Division of the Board of Education of the City of New York is honoring Director M. L. Wilson, of the Cooperative Extension Service, in presenting to him the National Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education for 1946. M. L. Wilson has been a consistent advocate of adult education as the kind of education that should continue throughout life. He is a man of real intellectual stature and of implicit faith in education as the bulwark of democracy in an age when science plays so dominant a part in the progress of mankind.

"M. L. Wilson is, in every sense of the word, the type of American our Nation can be proud of on the eve of I Am An American Day, a day dedicated to calling our attention both to the privileges and to the responsibilities involved in being an American citizen."

The award was given at a luncheon at Hotel Commodore, New York City, when about 1,000 new citizens, students in New York City citizenship classes celebrated "I Am An American Day."

## Trees and shrubs add charm

Ashley County, Ark., home demonstration club women made much progress last summer with a home-grounds landscaping project. They began it in February when 21 women representing 6 clubs gathered at a home in the Promised Land neighborhood for a demonstration and leader training meeting. They watched Earl J. Allen, extension horticulturist, show the proper method of setting out a tree and of pruning shrubs and roses. They also discussed landscaping problems.

When they went home from the demonstration, they began spreading the information they had learned, reports Josie Benton, home demonstration agent. Four of the leaders gave demonstrations for their clubs on setting out trees, and eight other women showed friends or neighbors how to set out a tree the right way. Four women demonstrated to their local club members how to prune shrubs, and three more, the way to prune roses. Seven told Miss Benton they had taught someone else, though not necessarily a club member, how to prune shrubs and roses.

Adding up the actual landscaping results of the first demonstration, the home demonstration agent reports 26 trees set out and 209 shrubs and 47 roses pruned.

# The Once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

THE SIXTEENTH NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP brought 81 State 4-H Club leaders and assistants to Washington June 11-19. They met for daily conferences on 4-H problems and programs. The 10 Guideposts for 4-H Programs came in for discussion, with the 4-H delegates discussing one of the points each day and serving on a committee which on the last day presented suggestions for implementing their point in the 4-H program. The last day's conference of leaders and delegates when the reports were given was one of the high points of the conference.

"FOR MY WORLD" was the addition to the 4-H pledge suggested by the young campers considering the guidepost, "Serving as citizens in maintaining world peace." The 4-H Club boys from California put this committee report across in fine shape, finishing up with the pledge "for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

THE 10 GUIDEPOSTS were being used in various ways as reported by the leaders. Camps and group meetings often take just one of the points as a theme for discussion. Oklahoma last year used Health as the 4-H theme for the year and this year is featuring production to feed a hungry world.

The 4-H famine relief program was reported as having attained considerable proportion. Generally the clubs are giving locally either money or produce. Iowa raised $2,000 from the State 4-H members for famine relief. New York has found a great deal of interest in the idea of clubs adopting families in Europe.

Eighteen leaders were honored in a special ceremony for 25 years of service to 4-H. They were: A. G. Kettunen, State Club leader, Michigan; A. J. Kittleson, State Club leader, Minnesota; L. F. Kinney, Jr., State Club agent, Rhode Island; Frank Spurrier, State Club leader, California; Elsie Trabue, assistant State Club leader, Connecticut; C. B. Wadleigh, State Club leader, New Hampshire; Allegra E. Wilkins, assistant State Club leader, Nebraska; Allen Baker, State Club leader, Pennsylvania; R. S. Clough, State Club leader, Missouri; Gordon Elcan, State Club agent, Virginia; Dorothy Emerson, State girls' Club agent, Maryland; Marion Forbes, assistant State Club leader, Massachusetts; L. I. Frisbie, State Club leader, Nebraska; R. H. Giberson, State Club agent, Minnesota; Jessie Greene, assistant State Club leader, Nebraska; Mrs. Harriet F. Johnson, State Club leader, Rock Hill, S. C.; H. M. Jones, State Club leader, Massachusetts.

CITATIONS AND MEDALLIONS for distinguished service to 4-H Club work were also presented to the following: U. S. Marine Corps Capt. Taylor Branson, Washington, D. C.; Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas; Maynard H. Coe, Chicago, Ill.; William H. Danforth, St. Louis, Mo.; Theodore A. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.; George E. Farrell, Washington, D. C.; Edwin Franko Goldman, New York, N. Y.; B. H. Heide, Chicago, Ill.; Charles L. Horn, Minneapolis, Minn.; Miss Mary E. Murphy, Chicago, Ill.; U. S. Marine Corps Capt. William F. Santelmann, Arlington, Va.; and Clyde W. Warburton, Washington, D. C.

DR. C. B. SMITH, whose article on 4-H education for Great Living appears on the first page of this issue, was given a special plaque honoring his great contribution to the development of 4-H Clubs during the past 45 years. He also received a special award for distinguished service from the Washington, D. C., Club of the Michigan State College Alumni Association.

AMERICAN REPRESENTATION at the executive committee meeting of the Associated Countrywomen of the World, meeting in London on June 26 and 27, was Mrs. Helendean Dodderidge, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Spencer Ewing, of Bloomington, Ill., chairman of the American branch. They formulated plans for the triennial meeting which it is hoped can be held next year and spent a day considering world food problems. Mrs. Ewing extended the invitation to meet in this country. A further report on this meeting will be carried in an early issue.

ON HER WAY TO DENMARK, Mrs. Louise S. Jessen, extension editor for Hawaii, stopped in Washington to see the extension folks and find out more about the U. S. Department of Agriculture Information Service. She will spend several months in Denmark and promises to bring back a report for REVIEW readers.

EIGHT SOUTHEASTERN STATES AND CHINA were represented at the Rural Handicraft Short Course which was held for extension workers at the Penland School of Handicrafts, Penland, N. C., from May 13 to June 1. More than 300 articles were made by the 22 students attending. Miss Lucy Morgan, director of the school, conducted the course and was assisted by Miss Reba Adams, extension specialist in home industries of the Federal Extension Service, and instructors from New York, Connecticut, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Courses included hand weaving, chair seating, metalwork, pottery and clay modeling, furniture upholstering, furniture refinishing, rug making, leatherwork, basketry, lamp shade making, and similar crafts.


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# Policy for health

WALTER L. BLUCK, County Agricultural Agent, Clinton County, Ohio

**Ohio was one of the first States to employ an extension specialist for rural health services, Miss Mildred Anderson. When she gave a fine account of her work at a recent Federal Extension Staff Conference, we asked her to pick out one county for a REVIEW article on the health program from the county viewpoint. Mr. Bluck's article is the result.**

■ Although Selective Service examinations provide a stirring revelation of our weakness in health as a nation, much remains to be done before rural communities achieve the knowledge and facilities for positive health which their importance to the Nation demands.

Bridges of understanding must be built before objective, positive action toward the conservation and upbuilding of human resources can be achieved. The surprisingly larger number of rural young men rejected for physical defects and limitations offers abundant proof that cities have advanced while rural areas have lagged in public health.

Modern life brings the farmer more and more into a position of interdependence with his fellow-townspeople in the broader realm of public welfare. Although the rural communities continue to provide the "seedbed" from which the Nation regularly renews its blood stream and replaces its manpower, these groups still lack much in understanding of their mutual problems, needs, and opportunities for improved health.

Strong as the tradition is to perpetuate traditional attitudes in these rural and small-town communities, those who propose to point the way in rural life advancement have the ever-present obligation for posing the problems squarely before rural people and for lifting the outlook toward better days, better facilities, and deeper appreciations for rural living.

Enlightened and progressive leadership in Clinton County has attempted to reach this objective through the development of the Clinton County Rural Policy Group. This group has achieved a relatively high status of legitimacy in the weighty obligations of rural policy making since 23 rural organizations and agencies named their own representatives to comprise its membership.

The policy group meets with comparative regularity at a dinner meeting on the last Wednesday night of each month in Wilmington to consider problems and opportunities concerning Clinton County rural communities. It does not usurp the function of other organizations; neither does it serve as an action group beyond the function of fact finding and community education.

Competent resource speakers were brought before the policy group and appropriate "fact finding" committees established early in 1945 to deal with the problems of health and hospitalization, soil conservation, and rural fire protection. It is expected that the rural policy group will eventually extend its investigations into many additional fields of activity vitally affecting rural life.

Action was taken by the policy group last year requesting permission to use Farmers' Institute funds in the development of community associations and discussion meetings. When permission was granted, the executive committee and county agent set about to contact the leadership in 6 communities strategically located throughout the county. Officers including discussion leaders, were elected by the community associations, and open discussion meetings on health and hospitalization, soil conservation district, and rural fire protection were held at weekly intervals during February and March in each community. Total attendance at the series was 1,152 persons.

Community leaders who participated in the organization of the community associations and planning for the discussion meetings included representatives of the policy group, Farm Bureau directors, AAA chairmen, 4-H Club leaders, ministers, school superintendents, township trustees, Grange masters and lecturers, and chairmen of the Farm Bureau Advisory Councils.

Numerous meetings previously held by the executive and fact-finding

Walter L. Bluck, County Agent, Clinton County, Ohio.

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committees of the policy group with the County Medical Society, public officials, and civic organizations helped to provide a sound background of understanding regarding the aims and objectives of the policy group and the community associations sponsoring the discussion meetings. These groups rolled up their sleeves and discussed their views frankly and openly and did reach a reasonable understanding before the community meetings where held. By this means it was possible to get the county medical society to provide a representative to present the doctors' point of view at each of the meetings where health and hospital facilities were discussed.

### Facts Brought to Life

Resource speakers were provided by the rural policy group with their expenses paid from farmers' institute funds expended through the local associations. Members of the county fact-finding committee and local doctors named by the County Medical Society followed the resource speakers at each discussion meeting and presented the results of their findings as a basis for group discussion. These reports were documented and distributed to all persons in attendance that there might be no confusion or misrepresentation regarding the facts presented by the committees. The discussion leaders then "took over" and the pros and cons of individual sentiment and opinion were given free, yet orderly, expression under direction of the local discussion leader.

### Local Action Committees Appointed

At the conclusion of these community discussion meetings, the rural policy group virtually "bowed out" of the picture insofar as definite action was concerned regarding the proposals. The local communities, therefore, proceeded to elect their own action committees who were to represent them in cooperation with other groups in the furtherance of any action toward the realization of the objectives set forth in the meetings.

Documented reports of the fact-finding committee were later distributed to local Granges, Farm Bureau advisory councils, and other interested groups for use in their regular meetings. Thus it was possible to eventually extend this information to a large portion of the citizenry of the county.

Positive challenge was found in the revelation that Clinton County, one of the richest agricultural areas in Ohio, provided only 17 hospital beds for a population of 25,000 people. This is less than one-fourth the minimum requirement as recommended by United States Public Health authorities. Only 14 percent of the babies in Clinton County are born in hospitals as compared with 80 percent in Ohio cities of more than 10,000 population. Only those persons who were violently ill or in advanced stages of physical impairment were found to be receiving service through more adequate facilities available only in centers of population some 40 to 60 miles distant.

Handicaps arising from this lack of health and hospital facilities in Clinton County are reflected in an infant death rate exceeding the State average and a death rate among children from 1 to 14 years of age nearly four times the State average. This despite the relatively adequate income enjoyed by most Clinton County citizens, capable of providing health facilities adequate to their needs. That health is closely related to the productivity of the soil is revealed in the fact that 54 percent of the farm boys between the ages of 18 and 26 years failed to pass preinduction physical examinations in the township with the lowest land valuation and most severe soil depletion, whereas only 17 percent failed to pass their preinduction examinations in the township with the greatest soil resources and highest land valuation. Rejections due to physical defects averaged 29.5 percent for the county.

### Study and Fact-Finding Continued

Numerous meetings have been held jointly by the six community committees on health and hospitalization with similar committees named by business and civic organizations and the complete membership of Clinton County Medical Society since the conclusion of the community discussion meetings. Both hospital superintendents and experienced hospital architects have addressed these joint meetings.

A central sponsoring committee consisting of 10 members, including 3 rural leaders selected by the 6 community committees, a direct representation from the Farm Bureau and Grange, and 5 representatives of various civic and business organizations, has been the outgrowth of these meetings. This committee is charged with the responsibility for further investigations and to recommend plans for a community hospital with a bond issue to be submitted in appropriate season to the voters of the county.

Local Farm Bureau and Grange legislative committees plan to canvass every farm home in their community urging favorable action on the bond issue. Similar contacts will be made in the towns by representative committees from the various civic and business organizations. This type of intensive effort and teamwork is also expected to bring favorable action to provide more adequate rural fire protection and to establish a soil conservation district in Clinton County. The latter proposal will be voted on August 17 of this year.

Viewing the accumulative results of the first year's activities of the rural policy group, we know that its continuous study and fact-finding effort constitutes a "must" in carrying on an effective adult educational program in Clinton County.

## Clothing exhibits

What's in the bag? Mrs. Jones or Susie Brown who sees a West Virginia home demonstration agent carrying 1 or 2 suitcases to her meetings may be correct in guessing that it is part of the work clothes or children's exhibits which were made by the home demonstration agents using the USDA patterns. These exhibits belong to the State and are booked to be borrowed by county workers. Already 8 counties have used them in 89 meetings with 1,506 people in attendance.

Last year West Virginia women extension workers were given training in clothing construction and sewing machine care at a regional group workshop. Miss Alice Sundquist, clothing specialist for Extension Service in Washington, was the instructor. It was at these meetings that the exhibits were made.

# Home tailoring proves popular

■ Recent reports from Missouri and Arkansas show that home demonstration clubs are keenly interested in tailoring. In Cole County, Mo., the 18 clubs all studied the subject of tailoring in 1945. Following this in 1946, 2 clubs sponsored a tailoring school of 3½ days taught by the home demonstration agent, Aurelia Klueg. Fitting and altering patterns, cutting and fitting garments, using the sewing machine, making shoulder pads, interfacings, lining and tailoring tricks were part of the course. The meetings were scheduled a week apart so each member could complete at home as much on her coat or suit as had been demonstrated at the meeting.

### Better Fit for Less Money

The women who completed their suits, coats, and dresses figured they saved $162. Some who had had difficulty in getting a good fit in ready-to-wear clothing were enthusiastic about the better-fitting garments they learned to make.

In Arkansas, tailoring schools were held for home demonstration agents several years ago. Since that time, interest in tailoring has been growing, until in 1945, 50 home demonstration agents reported conducting 313 schools on tailoring with an attendance of 4,523. Rural women made 33,513 garments, and 4-H Club girls made 6,179 garments.

In some counties where woolen material was not available, county home demonstration council groups purchased it cooperatively. This material was made into school dresses, skirts, dressmaker suits, and children's garments.

Benton County, Ark., probably is doing one of the best pieces of tailoring work in the State. Three years ago woolen garments were included in the spring dress revue. The garments that were entered showed that some additional work needed to be done on this phase of work, so a 2-day tailoring school was scheduled for leaders that fall. In 1945, Evelyn Severseen, home demonstration agent, reported 946 new woolen garments made and 1,762 garments remodeled.

The rapid progress being made in clothing work in Benton County is owing to the active work of leaders, following the demonstrations given by the agent and assistant home demonstration agent, says Miss Severseen. She gives this example of leader activity: Mrs. Hugh Davis, a county clothing leader and Minervan Club clothing leader, gave the following demonstrations at her local club meetings during the year—setting in sleeves, cutting a woman's suit from a man's suit, making continuous bias tape, mending a woolen garment, making a dress form, making corded buttonholes, shrinking fullness out of tops of sleeves and hems of woolen dresses, and pressing seams. Mrs. Davis earned $76 sewing for others in addition to sewing for her own family in 1945.

**At the Centertown, Mo., tailoring school, Mrs. Carl Osick makes coats for her twin daughters, Arlene and Carlene, thus helping solve the two-alike problem.**

# Following up the outlook

■ After the national outlook meeting, Texas followed through in January and February with 12 district outlook meetings and 1 Statewide Negro workers' meeting. The 2-day meetings included the outlook for the Texas farm business and for farm family living. District 5 also prepared a plan for follow-up in the county, which included planning meetings, radio, news articles, personal letters, and conferences with farm leaders. Workers taking part in these meetings included 529 county extension agents, 102 Negro agents, 24 FSA supervisors, 12 Production and Marketing Administration field men, 2 from the wage adjustment program, a regional OPA agricultural relations adviser, a number of vocational agriculture supervisors, and 10 college home economics teachers who are training home demonstration agents.

Hidalgo County home demonstration agent passed on the information in 16 community meetings, emphasizing the outlook for food in 1946 and how the farm families can have a nutritionally adequate diet. The outlook for housing was held in March. The Upshur County home demonstration agent reported a meeting of 9 agricultural and home workers to plan the agricultural outlook for the county. The meeting was called by the county agent early in the new year with a follow-up in March to formulate activities in line with the outlook.

The county agents' appreciation for the meetings was expressed by County Agent S. L. Neal of Rusk County in writing to members of the outlook team.

"The information contained in the talks, in my opinion, contained a great deal of concerted thought and thinking on the part of those who participated. It brought to my mind the realization that all of us are thinking in terms of what we are going to do from here on out. I appreciated the fact that there seemed to prevail at least a tone of cautiousness in the information given, yet it seemed to contain factual data that we can use to a big advantage in the county. In my opinion, this type of conference is worth while, and each one who participated in bringing this information to the agents did a good job."

# A challenge to us—the living

CLINTON P. ANDERSON, Secretary of Agriculture

■ Must it always take a war to lift the farmer from debt and depression? Can it be that only in time of conflict we shall be able to lift our national standards of nutrition until everyone can know the taste of meat and milk? We found out during the war that full employment at good wages in this country can mean good nutrition for everyone and good markets for the farmer. Can we not learn to apply the lessons of the war toward the betterment of humanity around the world, not only to achieve freedom from hunger but to provide a better basis for a lasting peace? This is the challenge of our day—a challenge to us, the living.

### Production Is Response to Famine Crisis

Surely we cannot allow questions and doubts to put the brakes on production in this hungry world. Production was agriculture's response to the crisis of war, and production is our response to the crisis of famine. Our weapon has become a blessing. And the end of the world food emergency—whether it comes in 2 years or 10—need not transform this blessing into a curse. It need not; but the intelligence, good will, and cooperation of the world's people will be needed to prevent it.

### Can We Set Up New Standards?

Will we make use of what we have learned? Will nations and peoples take up new standards of production, distribution, and nutrition? Will they work together to give themselves a chance at three square meals a day, every day? Or will they build up again a paradoxical system in which unemployed or underemployed go hungry while farmers go bankrupt? Will there be periodical famine in some lands while others burn their food? Will we end our amazing interlude with only a memory of these productive times, or can we make the interlude merely a prelude to a future benefiting the dignity of man?

These are basic matters. They are at the heart of the world's troubles. I have a high regard for the achievements of international diplomacy; but unless people are fed, the best treaties and agreements can come to nothing. Hungry people cannot be satisfied by anything but food.

I am convinced that we have in the world today all the essentials for achieving Freedom from Want. We have the land resources, the techniques, the machines which enable one man on the land to feed 10 or more off the land. We have these means, but they are being utilized in only a small part of the world. We have great facilities for trade and communication that form a network around the globe, but we need to learn to use them better. We have the potential production facilities; and we have the potential demand to keep the world's producers in a steady, powerful upward curve, but we must find and use means to sustain that production and consumption.

### World's Food Front Unites

We now have—at last—the beginnings of international machinery designated to bring about common policies and actions among nations on food matters: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. But that machinery is new and untried. Our job is to make it work.

The Food and Agriculture Organization is, I believe, one of the greatest hopes of mankind for peace and plenty in the future. I want to talk to you about it, for FAO is the first tangible, operating agency the nations of the world ever have set up to attack the problem of hunger at its roots. Its primary objective is to help nations of the world to expand both the supply and the effective demand for food so that the earth's 2 billion men, women, and children may have a better living. It seeks to bring new standards of nutrition to the world, and the means to meet those standards. It hopes to lift the curse which has kept two-thirds of the world's people perpetually underfed.

The job of FAO is colossal. Decades and generations must pass before FAO can hope to say that it has achieved material success. But it is a genesis.

The June meeting for urgent food problems set something of a speed record for international gatherings. Within a week, it saw the creation of the International Emergency Food Council which had its first meeting June 20. It looks at food supplies and food needs on a global basis. It does not give orders, but it seeks export commitments from the exporting nations and puts them in the balance against the import requirements. It provides a common meeting ground where the nations can agree on food-conservation measures and production measures. And if the time comes that exports of any commodity could exceed the import requirements, all of the nations will know it and can use that knowledge to plan appropriate action.

The delegates to the Conference on Urgent Food Problems also asked the FAO to prepare a report on the possible creation of a permanent World Food Action Agency. I can foresee great value in such an agency.

But let us look at FAO's basic job. What we want in the world—and what we hope to promote through FAO and other organizations of the United Nations—is an increasingly productive agriculture, balanced by an increasingly productive industry. Only in that way can there be more food and more products to divide among all of us.

### The Greatest Untapped Market

Another major aim is that of developing the less-advanced countries. Fully two-thirds of the earth's population haven't the facilities or the techniques for producing enough to eat or wear, and people with a low standard of living are a serious threat to the living standards and safety of the rest of the world. From a strictly business point of view, production and markets can be expanded only if those who are now inefficient and underfed are enabled to do their full share of producing and consuming.

They represent the greatest untapped markets in the world.

But there is far more to the FAO job than coordination of production and trade. It must also promote research, education, and production techniques to lift the quantity, quality, and efficiency of agricultural production. This is a very definite, well-charted route toward better living. In the United States a close tie-up between our education, research, and agriculture goes back nearly a century in the work of the Department of Agriculture and the establishment of the land-grant colleges.

Now, in about 3,000 counties, county agricultural agents work with farmers on one hand and keep in touch with agricultural colleges on the other. When a new and better crop variety is developed, it gets into our fields just as fast as possible. Through this extension service system, science is translated into everyday farm practice. There is nothing quite like this system in the rest of the world. But we hope there will be. FAO will stimulate and aid the establishment of similar systems in other lands. And it will act as a global clearing house of agricultural knowledge from all parts of the world.

Perhaps the most important single task facing FAO is to gain wide understanding of its purposes and its methods among all groups of people in every nation in the world. That alone is the first step to success. That knowledge will light a flame of hope and ambition in the lives of millions to whom the future now looks dark; hunger, which has plagued the lives of more than have been well-fed, will be easier to bear if better times can be seen ahead.

# Southampton takes the tour

MARION KENDALL PARSONS, Southampton, Mass.

**Mrs. Parsons describes her reasons for active participation in National Home Demonstration Week thus: "As I am not only the representative from my town on the Hampshire County Home Demonstration Council but also chairman of that council, president of the State Council, and a member of the publicity committee of the National Home Demonstration Council, I felt that something was expected of me."**

■ Any home demonstration agent who feels she is working with the same women all the time instead of broadening her sphere to reach new homemakers might consider the potentialities in a tour of the town such as we had here on an afternoon in May in observance of National Home Demonstration Week.

The tour was planned entirely by the home demonstration town committee of 12 women representing different sections of the town. In order to have it as comprehensive as possible and not show only the work done under home demonstration guidance during the last 2 or 3 years, we obtained attendance lists for long years back, so that our displays included almost everything from the earliest fireless cooker and pictures of dresses made from home-drafted patterns to modern tailored suits.

When arrangements were complete, 10 homes had been selected for visits on the tour, and at those homes were concentrated outstanding examples of work that had been accomplished under the guidance of home demonstration service in reupholstered furniture, slip covers, flower gardens, care of house plants, landscaping of home grounds, recreation and home-made games, care and renewing of rugs, home furnishings, Christmas kit, magic in the home—all sorts of housekeeping tricks and short cuts!—finishing and care of floors, dress forms, and even a house in the process of being completely remodeled with the advice and suggestions of the State home management specialist. We should like to have shown the results of a project in family financial planning, but we couldn't get a peek at anyone's bankbook! At every home there were bulletins pertaining to the work on display, and many women availed themselves of the opportunity given to sign up for the bulletins they would like.

Arranging transportation was a comparatively simple matter. A year ago we had made a house-to-house survey of the town to get acquainted with all the women, tell them the opportunities home demonstration work has to offer, and find out what each homemaker is interested in. Since then each town committee member has been responsible for seeing that women from her neighborhood have had transportation to home demonstration meetings. For the tour it was necessary only to provide additional accommodations to take care not only of women who had previously been interested but also for those who still needed to be shown. The driver of each car was free to choose her own itinerary and the order in which she would visit the homes on her list. One woman chose a committee and invited any mothers who wished to leave their youngsters with her, so the mothers checked their children and enjoyed the tour.

We feel the tour was a great success in every way. Homemakers of long experience were surprised to realize how much information they had acquired and how many skills, long since taken for granted, they first learned through home demonstration work. Women, unfamiliar with the service, were much impressed with what other women had done; and we, who had been acquainted with the work for years, were amazed anew at what had been accomplished.

The tour ended with tea at my house where we served food made according to home demonstration recipes. Our home demonstration agent was guest of honor at the tea, and although she met many new women that afternoon, the complete realization of the increased scope of her work must have come later as she faced the task of sending to each woman every bulletin she had requested. Certainly in our town the home demonstration agent is not working in a dead-end street but has turned the corner to find avenues of approach to other homemakers leading in all directions.

# Radio program means trouble but the rewards are worth it

MRS. MARY ELIZABETH MILLER, Home Demonstration Agent, Wayne County, Ind.

"AMERICA, we pledge to thee
Our HEADS, our HEARTS, our HANDS.
Our splendid HEALTH shall prove thy wealth,
Thou dearest of all lands.
America, our strength and zeal
Thy shining sword shall be.
We pledge our YOUTH to stand for truth,
For right and liberty."

As these words of the National 4–H Club March (PRIDE O' THE LAND) fade for: Good morning, everyone! . . . The 4–H Club Parade is on the air. The 4–H Club Parade is a program for the boys and girls in Wayne County, Ind., who proudly wear the 4–H Club insignia . . . who know the deeper meaning of head, heart, hands, and health . . . who are digging in for peace—4–H Club Parade will have been on the air exactually 47 seconds over Richmond's Mutual Network Station WKBV, 1490 on your dial.

Checking the station clock at this point, the 4–H announcer, Louise Milligan, might continue with something like this: The 4–H stars . . . folks . . . are in the studio this morning as our special guests. They are showmanship champion . . . Jean Moyer . . . blue ribbon winner . . . Firman Riggs . . . State fair exhibitor . . . Otta Lee Orschell, and Willodean Smith . . . who won the personality clothes picture award in the county dress review. . . . To do the 4–H'ing with piano and song . . . Olive Mae Beals and Ruth Shiebla. Now brimming over with 4–H *news* and *views* here are two lovely lassies and a young lad . . . your 4–H reporters, Mary Louise Puthoff (Good morning, everyone!) . . . Charles Rodefeld . . . (Hi! There) . . . and Ann Schelke (Hello Folks.)

4–H Club Parade has been coming on the air in this manner since the first sign of new green leaves in 1945. It is hoped it will still be on the airlanes when the leaves turn brown in 1967.

For 60 consecutive weeks 4–H'ers have been waltzing up and asking the minute they are off the air a four-word question. "How did I sound?"

"Would you really like to know?" is usually the interrogative reply. Before the reply is three words old comes a shouted "Yes." Immediately a "catwalk" parade of 4–H'ers starts down the narrow passageway to the small studio where the transcription can be heard. Excitement is paramount just after the broadcast, but it sometimes changes to a feeling of despair when a 4–H'er hears his own voice for the first time. After listening to a transcription, these are replies that have been heard: "I didn't sound like myself. Riggs sounded scared." "I could hear Jean taking in air." "I didn't know I cleared my throat just before I started to speak." "After all you told us I still said 'git' for 'get'." "I wish I could read as easily as the announcer. Why he wasn't a bit nervous."

Do remarks like these mean that a 4–H radio activity is a hopeless proposition? Certainly not. The 4–H'ers just had the self-consciousness of most beginners, and it showed in their work. They won't attempt to correct at once all the faults in their talk. That would only make for confusion. Instead, they will eliminate their weaknesses one at a time. The joy a 4–H'er experiences when he or she learns to hear his own mistakes and manages to correct them can only be equaled—not excelled.

### Checking the Broadcast

Actual broadcasting experience is learning by doing. Listening to the transcription is an opportunity to check on the doing. The desire to do better next time is uppermost in the minds of the 4–H boy and girl as they leave the studio after hearing a transcription.

There is always a let-down period following a show, and a wise extension staff member can help ease it by being nice to the 4–H'ers who have helped make the broadcast possible. Listening to the transcription helps, but some 4–H youth only hear the wrong things they did. The extension agent's schedule may be very full, but whenever possible time should be allowed for a little post-broadcast period to spend with 4–H Club members who have been on the air. An extension agent must be gracious after the program. He or she is in the position of host and should act accordingly. It is well to remember that, although this may be only another show to the extension agent, it is likely to be an event to the 4–H youth . . . one which he will remember and talk about for a long time. He may have traveled 30 miles on slippery pavement with poor tires with a dad behind the wheel who was only there because "mom" insisted that James be brought to the station. Two farm boys were heard on 4–H Club Parade who were actually drenched while changing two tires on the way to the station. A good radio extension person must somehow sense this importance of such an occasion to the 4–H Club boy or girl and participate in it. Doing this will, if properly handled, create one more and possibly several more loyal listeners.

### How a Program Is Built

To prepare the program, sometimes the group meets with the home agent to get their ideas down on paper. This was true when livestock- and crops-judging teams were on the air. The script is edited by the home agent. Special 4–H guests come to the studio at 9:30 a. m. A rehearsal is held from 9:30 to 9:45. Suggestions for marking scripts, timing with stop watch, place to stand in front of mike, and ways to make it sound like spontaneous talk are worked out. Dress rehearsal is from 9:55 until 10:10. Five minutes for relaxation follows . . . oftentimes it is a period for disposing of chewing gum, collecting yo-yo's and all the other strange possessions that seem to be youth accessories. The program is aired at 10:15 a. m.

Talent, talks, and material for the program are often picked up in local 4–H meetings. 4–H news is mailed in to 4–H reporters, WKBV. Some 592 letters have been sent out on 4–H Club Parade stationery by the 4–H report-

ers asking these 4–H'ers to be their talent guests and thanking them after they were heard. They are asked to reply, and listeners are made in this way. Besides, they learn the importance of mail in promoting radio. If any listener should write in concerning talent heard, that letter is often sent to the 4–H'er. Then the 4–H'er writes back, and so goes fan mail. Besides a 4–H mail box was a 1-minute part of the program during the war when letters were read from 4–H'ers in the service.

Vocational experiences for each 4–H'er is gained through 4–H Club Parade. It acquaints the 4–H boys and girls with the teletype machines. They learn the duties of the announcer. The control operator is an interesting person, and for the boy who is mechanically inclined this might be what he would learn to do in later life. Olive Mae Beals, song leader for the Wayne County Junior Leaders, acts as musical director for 4–H Club Parade; and just recently she was offered employment at the radio station to assist with a Junior Achievement Show this summer.

Without this radio broadcasting experience, these opportunities might be a closed book. Besides this, 4–H'ers with talent have learned about the importance of good posture, the importance of having the words of their song typed, and three have started taking voice lessons since singing on 4–H Club Parade. Talks that 4–H'ers have given on the air have required study and preparation so that they sound spontaneous and not as if they were being read.

For the most part, the 4–H guests have been 4–H'ers from different parts of Wayne County. However, Barbara Bray, a senior at Ball State, told how her 4–H work had helped her in college. Six Rural Youth Club members were guests on one broadcast. The fire chief was a guest during National Fire Prevention Week; E. Merrill Root, author of Lost Eden, Bow of Burning Gold, and other books, read some of his poems on 4–H Club Parade. Eldon Underdahl, a 4–H Club member in Minnesota, was heard by transcription. He gave the talk that won him a $200 scholarship at the University of Minnesota.

Each week for the past 60 weeks at least 8 youngsters or more have had broadcasting experience, and those youth come from different communities and 4–H Clubs. Also, 4–H'ers with talent have been asked to sing or play an instrument or perform in some way. This is a way of finding and developing talent. To appear on the radio several times develops dependability in the child. He learns to arrive on time. He sees the importance of arriving in time for a rehearsal of the entire program. It also gives him an appreciation of the many fine programs he is privileged to hear on the air and the work that goes into a well-timed broadcast with showmanship. What other youth program offers to the rural boy and girl this broadcasting experience? If this number right here in Wayne County could be multiplied by every county in the State of Indiana and the Nation, visualize the number of youngsters awakened to these broader concepts of life. Radio is the center of the family circle, and it has made the world the circumference of that circle. If all 4–H'ers in the United States could have this opportunity, the dream of 4–H International would soon be a reality.

**4–H'ers in Wayne County will soon be able to enroll for radio just as they do for dairying, clothing, or beef projects.**

In summary, if you want to put your 4–H'ers on the air and give them this

# The 4,000th broadcast


■ The 4,000th broadcast by the county extension office at Terre Haute, Ind., over WBOW was the occasion for a special program with participation by members of the State supervisory staff and businessmen of Terre Haute.

For some years a microphone has been in use in the county extension office, thus saving the daily trip to the studios by a member of the county extension staff. The accompanying photograph was taken while the 4,000th program actually was on the air.

Those in the picture are, left to right: C. L. "Speed" Shideler of the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce; Mildred N. Schlosser, home demonstration agent; Charles Brown, county agricultural agent; Ferrell Rippetoe, WBOW announcer; Paul Hoffman, assistant county agent; and L. M. Busche, assistant county agent leader who had gone to Terre Haute to participate in this broadcast.

educational opportunity through radio, the first thing to do is to see the manager of your local radio station or someone on his staff and find out what kind of program he wants. This is comparable to a visit to the newspaper to find out the editor's needs, likes, and dislikes. Radio stations broadcast for the sake of all possible listeners. It doesn't help 4-H to provide a program that is of interest only to 4-H people. Just as a newspaper story must contain interesting, well-written news, so a radio program must contain interesting, well-presented entertainment and informative material. Otherwise you cannot fairly expect the station manager to give you free time on the air or to recommend your program for sponsorship. He is required to give a certain amount of his time to programs in the public interest, but you may be sure that he will give that time to the organizations that have the most appealing material and that are represented by people who know how to put on a radio program with showmanship.

#### Ask Yourself These Questions

But suppose the station manager says he can give you 15 minutes once a month or, in some cases, even once a week, should you take it? Before you take it, better think what you can do with it. Have you enough time, script writing talent, stenographic help (for copying scripts), and available people to put on 12 or 52 good radio programs in the next year? One broadcast a year that is well publicized in advance is worth a whole series of weekly programs that no one but 4-H members listen to.

If you agree to take time on the air at some regular interval, plan to make that time so successful that the station will be glad to renew its offer. In order to be successful you must: First, have a radio committee of two or several persons who are interested in radio and are familiar enough with current radio programs to be able to evaluate 4-H programs. If your committee is limited to two members, they will be the radio publicity chairman and the radio program director. A professional radio person, from one of your stations or your college radio department or speech department, is a great asset, even though he or she may have only time to serve in an advisory capacity. (With a sponsor, we hired Miss Coleman of WKBV to meet with the group each week.) This lessened the time the extension agent needed to spend with the group.

Second, use good scripts. The nucleus of your program is what is said, whether it is a play or a spot announcement, so don't hamper yourself by inferior subject matter or writing.

Try to enlist the services of someone with training in radio to do any script writing that your 4-H committee undertakes. An excellent book on the subject is Max Wylie's Radio Writing.

Third, have a capable director. Your 4-H'ers cannot interpret a script without a director to round out the performance into a single effort. Talk can be greatly improved by a little coaching.

Fourth, be sure to rehearse the broadcast.

Keep high standards for your production. 4-H Club radio shows must compete for public interest with professional commercial shows. You can't afford to accept anything less than the best. Remember 4-H is making the best better.

Last, build an audience. The 4-H reporters have distributed post cards to everyone who writes in after broadcast. These post cards are to be mailed back after the next broadcast. In that way they have built up a tremendous list of listeners who report fairly regularly.

Perhaps all this sounds as if radio publicity were very difficult indeed. If you want regular program time in addition to news coverage and spot announcements, that may come your way. Radio is a serious business; but, like most things that require a lot of effort, the rewards are worth it. Commercial radio has proved to be a tremendously powerful medium for molding public opinion. Your programs can be just as effective if they are just as good. Having time on the air will bring you neither listeners nor friends unless you earn them. And the better your broadcast is the better educational opportunity it is for 4-H boys and girls.

## Service by air

■ It's a long "jump" from the way the first extension specialist "rode his circuit" to the manner in which some of his present-day successors are arriving on time at their meetings.

The recent experience of one extension worker naturally raises this question: "Will the airplane at some future time cut down the long hours now spent on the road by extension specialists.

J. S. Elfner, extension horticulturist at the University of Wisconsin, thinks it can if the specialists learn to fly and small communities develop landing fields. At least he thinks flying beats driving when it comes to "getting there" in a hurry.

Members of the men's club at Dousman, Waukesha County, Wis., are interested in developing a community recreation park which will include a baseball diamond, tennis court, and other proper means of recreation. Their best time to get together for discussion of the project seemed to be on a Sunday. As they went about their planning they soon realized that they needed the help of a landscape specialist. So one of their number, Lyle Owens, a Waukesha County onion grower, telephoned extension workers at the University of Wisconsin for help in getting a landscape specialist to the meeting. Owens agreed to have a plane call for the specialist and return him to Madison.

Pilot Gramling of the Wisconsin Civil Air Patrol, also a Dousman businessman, agreed to fly the plane. Joseph Elfner, returned veteran and landscape specialist, agreed to go. Accordingly, the plane left Waukesha at 12:30 p. m. It took Elfner aboard at 1:20 p. m., and arrived back at Dousman at 2:05 p. m.

Elfner conferred with Mayor Cole of Dousman and about 15 members of the club. He obtained a plat of the proposed field and other data from which he prepared a landscape plan. Leaving Dousman at 3:30 p. m. he was returned to Madison on the plane at 4 p. m.

Elfner is now preparing the plan for the recreation field.

# Manuel D. Chavez

T. SWANN HARDING, Office of Information, USDA

**What Extension means to some of the small Spanish-American farmers of New Mexico is reported by Mr. Harding who visited some of these families with Paul McGuire, extension editor. This is the third in a series of four articles on phases of extension work as seen on a recent trip to four Western States.**

■ Mr. Chavez is a quiet, gentle, courteous soul (probably about 50) who lives near Socorro, N. Mex., in a little Spanish-American village of adobe called Polvadera. His land, and that of the other villagers, is nearby, though they live gregariously clumped together, as is the way of these people. Mr. Chavez settled here on 12 acres in 1921. Since then he has prospered in a modest way, produced a fine family (three sons and two daughters), and developed a satisfying philosophy of life which permeates the entire household. He knows what he wants from life; he is getting that, and he and his are content.

### Mr. Chavez Is More Prosperous

Superficially he makes but one of a group quite similar to himself; actually he is more prosperous than any of the others. Here in this irrigated area it is difficult to make a farm living. Rain is infrequent; but there is plenty of water from the mountains, and disastrous floods occur every now and then. The soil must be leveled, sloped, and cultivated as well. The place looks dry and bleak in the early spring, and it takes a lot of faith in God to succeed. Actually Mr. Chavez probably does better than any of his neighbors simply because he has taken full advantage of his every opportunity.

That means, to a greater extent than you might think, that he has absorbed and heeded all the advice given him by County Agent C. M. Trujillo and his predecessors, advice as freely given his less progressive neighbors but which they did not follow so intelligently. For that reason, in the main, he owns more land and property than any of the others, and his income is greater. But he is happy because he is Mr. Chavez, and his mind and household are at peace now that his two handsome sons have returned from the wars in far parts.

The average annual income in Polvadera Village, including the farm living, is $600. Though the locality looks desolate and barren, Mr. Chavez prospers by growing barley, wheat, vegetables, alfalfa, dogie lambs (orphans from big sheepmen's flocks), a dairy cow, and a few chickens. He has just joined a local cooperative cantaloup-growing plan sponsored by the county agent and intended to enable a group of small growers to produce 100 carloads on 250 acres, enough to market profitably, which no one of them could do alone.

Mr. Chavez has a windmill and a small tractor. He and his sons are mechanically gifted and have adapted much farm machinery to their own purposes. They built their home and have largely furnished it with fine, decorative articles made in a little adobe hut where they have $300 worth of modern wood-turning machinery, to be used for recreation—that is except Saturday nights, when there is poker and the Sunday afternoon baseball games! Today Mr. Chavez has 44 acres under cultivation.

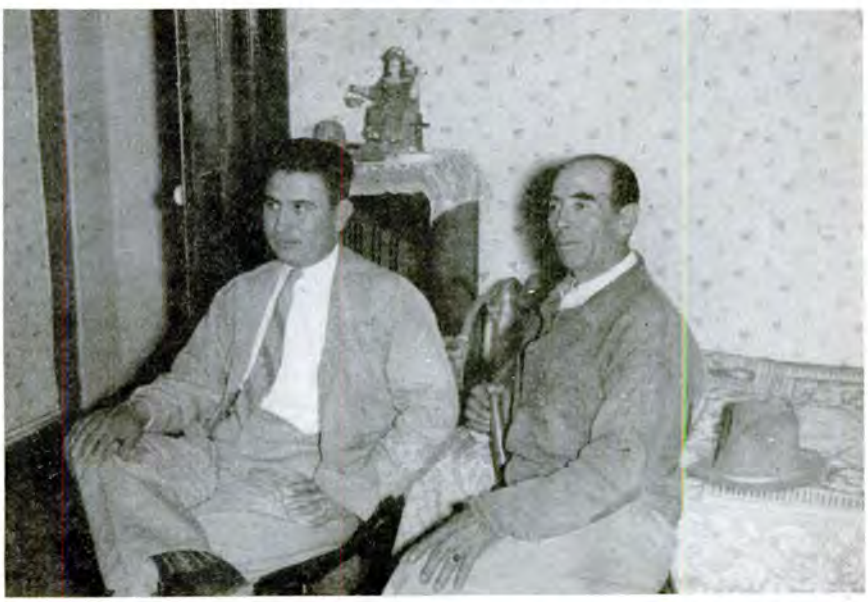
While they were in the Army both sons sent home money to be used to buy land near their father's; and both, now in their early twenties, have returned to the soil, though one goes to the State college to complete his course there next fall. Every now and then Mr. Chavez has, especially in earlier days, supplemented his income by starting the Polvadera post office, driving the school bus from San Acacia to Socorro, working on the highways, or as a carpenter.

### Assisted County Agent

He has also ably assisted the county agent in all projects—organizing farmers for grasshopper control, proving by experimentation that potatoes could be grown here, teaching at farm-machinery-repair schools, holding demonstrations on his land for treating sheep for head grub, culling hens, or pruning trees, for he has a small orchard which does well. He has so planned his farm enterprise as to get the very best out of it through the county agent's advice, calling on other Department agencies for aid as needed.

Above all he has the original recipe for contented living.

County Agent, C. M. Trujillo and M. D. Chavez, farmer.



# North Carolina agents brush up on research

**Do county agents ask questions? Surely, they ask plenty of them, and you learn much from them and the answers they get, reports the associate editor of the REVIEW.**

■ Desirous of knowing more about what research can do for their farmers, about 40 North Carolina county agents and assistant agents visited the USDA Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., on June 20 and 21. Their Director I. O. Schaub and B. T. Ferguson, district agent for the northeastern section of the State, came with them by chartered bus from Raleigh.

The first day was spent on the South Farm, which is one part of the 14,000-acre farm. Here men from the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Bureau of Dairy Industry showed them some of the accomplishments of their work that has been going on for years. Dr. Hugh C. McPhee, Chief of the Division of Animal Husbandry, gave a brief outline of some of their experiments.

While they were being told by J. B. Parker, formerly extension dairy specialist for the Eastern States but now with the research work, that early cut hay and legumes make better roughages than late-cut hay, they saw samples of hay that had been field-cured, cured in the mow, and silage from the same fields at the same time. The experiment showed that the cows actually got 9 percent more protein from the mow-cured hay as compared with the field-cured and 16 percent more when ensiled. There was very little difference in the harvesting cost. In the mow-curing there was an expenditure of approximately 75 kilowatt hours per ton of cured hay.

Mr. Parker also described the breeding of cattle that had been done on the farm since 1919. In this experiment every female had been kept and tested out. No new line of females had been used, but new proved sires had been brought in. Because the average butterfat of Red Danes is 100 pounds higher than in the United States, 20 bred heifers and 2 bulls were brought over from Denmark in 1937. These Danes have been used in a three- or four-breed cross including Holstein, Jersey, and Guernsey. The results have shown hybrid vigor and 15 to 20 percent more production than they had expected. . The agents saw some of these crossbred animals as well as a herd of Holsteins.

From the dairy herds, the crowd went to see poultry where Dr. Theodore C. Byerly and his assistants discussed their breeding work for meat production, egg production, and for improvement of quality. The promoting of growth of chicks by adding dried cow manure to the diets of chicks was also discussed. (See p. 106 of August REVIEW.) The agents were glad to hear that these men did not know of any State that had made more progress in the last few years than North Carolina where the Agricultural Extension Service is responsible for Register of Production records. Mr. Paul Zumbro explained the national poultry improvement plan and showed them an outstanding record in North Carolina of 10 daughters of a dam that laid an average of 272 eggs and thus qualified for ROP.

### Crossing Hogs for Better Meat Cuts

After lunch the first stop was a hog barn which had recently housed 241 head of pigs. Not a fly was in the place because the house had been sprayed once a year thoroughly with DDT and dusting powder used on the hogs.

Next, John H. Zeller told of the crossing of the Danish Landrace hog with American breeds—Poland China, Chester White, Duroc Jersey, and Large Black. The Landrace is a long white hog with a high percentage of valuable cuts of meat. However, it tends to sunscald, which is one of the reasons for crossing with darker color breeds. After seeing some of the crossbred hogs, agents asked if they could get some for their State.

Young pigs in pens made a constant racket poking their snoots into the self-feeders where they are all fed the same ration and eat whenever they please. When the pigs are 8 weeks old two males and two females from each litter are kept until they weigh 225 pounds. The choice is made by drawing numbers out of a hat. This method is fair in determining which crossbreeds gain the most on the same feed and produce the best cuts of meat.

Orville G. Hankins and R. L. Hiner told of the grading of carcasses which were cut by standard procedures so that yields from one can be compared with yields from another. He demonstrated the tenderness of beef by a testing machine. Much interest was shown in the work of preservation—curing and freezing.

### Agents Visit Plant Industry

The next morning Dr. R. M. Salter told the agents that about 80 percent of the research work of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering is carried on in the States. At Beltsville, they have 1,400 acres of land and 4 acres of greenhouses.

Nursery plots of wheat, barley, oats, and forage crops were visited with John W. Taylor, in charge of greenhouses and field work in cereal investigations. The breeding work on wheat and barley is along the lines of disease resistance, in wheat the main problem being rust, especially leaf rust, and stem rust coming in occasionally. They are also working on Hessian fly resistance and trying to improve the strength of straw. An agent asking about a Chinese hybrid barley, Wong, for the Carolinas was told that because it is 4 or 5 days later than Sunrise barley it probably would not do so well.

T. Roy Stanton told of the oats breeding work being started at College Park, Md., in 1904 and shortly after was done on the Arlington Farm by Dr. C. W. Warburton, who was Director of the Federal Extension Service from 1923 to 1940.

Shown forage crops, the agents were eager to know which mixtures would do best in their counties.

Dr. Frank W. Parker's discussion on fertilizers brought forth many and varied questions from his audience.

**Mr. John H. Zoller describes the crossbred hogs as they are paraded before the agents.**

How and when can we get the fertilizer we need? What analysis is best for this and that crop? When told that soils in some parts of the East had been built up by fertilizers and that some soils did not need as much as they were getting, they asked how they could get farmers to drop from a ton to 1,200 pounds of a lower-analysis fertilizer. They realized that it would be necessary to test soils of different fields to know how much fertilizer and what analysis would be needed for certain crops, and that in places where less could be used much money could be saved.

After lunch while showers were falling, Dr. James E. McMurtrey, Jr., showed tobacco breeding work for disease resistance in the greenhouses. Some tobacco plants brought in from Maryland which had been sprayed with DDT showed a 2, 4–D hormone effect, probably the result of the farmer using the same sprayer that had been used for 2, 4–D. Telling of the work in trying to get disease-resistant strains of tobacco, Dr. E. E. Clayton said that he felt sure that they will have a bluemold resistant variety sometime.

In the greenhouses the agents were also shown how hybrid onion seed is being developed and were told that they are getting the same improvement in hybrid onions that we get in hybrid corn. The yield is larger, and disease can be controlled better.

The potato seeds grown in the greenhouses would be planted one seed to a pot, which probably each grow two or three tubers. These tubers will be planted in the field the next year, and a normal crop will be grown. These potatoes are looked at from the standpoint of general quality and if they look good they are put through disease tests.

Dr. Roy Magruder showed the sweetpotato plots and when asked how they could cross sweetpotatoes if they did not bloom, said that in Louisiana where they do breeding work they plant the roots in the greenhouse and grow them all winter in pots and in the spring move these out. In the fall they are run up on a trellis like grapes and then they can make crosses on the blooms that form.

Looking at plots of white potatoes the conversation just naturally turned to DDT to combat insects on potatoes. They were told that DDT apparently has control for the flea beetle, the leaf hopper, and Colorado beetle, but has only partial control for the aphids.

A stop at the lettuce plot where head lettuce had done very well, and the 2-day tour of the Agricultural Research Center was over, with everyone declaring he wanted to come back next year to learn more.

Among these agents were five or six who had given 20 or more years to county agent work and also some younger ones who had recently come back from the war—all wanting to get all the latest information they could in two short days to carry back to their farmers. From different sections of North Carolina their interests in crops and livestock were varied—swine, poultry, beef cattle, dairy cattle, tobacco, peanuts, wheat and other cereals, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and truck farming, including watermelons and cantaloups.

## 4–H training serves WAC

That 4–H Club participation helps build character and teaches boys and girls such highly important qualities as self-reliance, independence, cooperation, and the elements of success is exemplified in the work of Capt. Arlene G. Scheidenhelm, WAC staff director with the Manhattan District, headquartered at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

In discussing her work while visiting friends at the University of Illinois recently, Captain Scheidenhelm credited much of her success to the training she received during her 6 years as a 4–H Club member in La Salle County, Ill. The keen competition experienced in 4–H work, the ability one develops to lose graciously or to win without being overproud are things that pay dividends in later years, according to Captain Scheidenhelm. In her own words, "Everything I did in 4–H Club work helped train me for my position in the Army."

Captain Scheidenhelm is in command of approximately 500 WAC's who participated in the atomic bomb project, handling top secrets for four hidden plants in widely separated States. She hand-picked her personnel, trained these women, supervised their work, and provided them with housing and food, traveling by air to their stations all over the United States.

For this work she was awarded the War Department's Legion of Merit and one of the 10 1945 Merit Awards given by Mademoiselle magazine for outstanding achievement.

As a 4–H worker, Miss Scheidenhelm carried projects in clothing, canning, and poultry. She was named Illinois State Champion Poultry Raiser in 1928 and was a delegate to the 4–H Club Congress. She was a member of the poultry demonstration team awarded State recognition in 1931.

# *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.**

### New Varieties

■ Potato yields in the United States have increased from about 110 bushels an acre to 150 bushels in the last 25 years. The higher yields result in part from the use of 25 new potato varieties released to growers since 1929. Cooperating in a Nation-wide potato-breeding program, 35 State experiment stations and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering have developed and tested these new varieties for yield, market quality, and disease resistance. Some of the varieties are resistant to one disease but not to others. The ultimate aim of the program is to pack into single varieties resistance to as many diseases as possible in addition to other desirable characteristics.

### Improved Storage Method

■ Lower shrinkage losses in stored potatoes and longer life for the storage house have been attained by a new method of storing potatoes developed by the Department in cooperation with several State experiment stations. The new type storage house is constructed to permit cool air to circulate under and around the bins. High relative humidity in the bins helps reduce shrinkage of the potatoes, losses in this type of structure being 1 to 10 percent less than in other types. The air in contact with the structural parts, however, is less humid and, therefore, causes less damage to the building. Eighty percent of the potato houses built in Maine in recent years are reported to be of this type. In Michigan, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Colorado, the new storage method is finding wide acceptance. Ten million bushels of late-crop potatoes are now stored each year in the improved storages.

### Potato-Hay Silage for Dairy Cows

■ Recommendations for making potato silage have been issued by the Bureau of Dairy Industry as a result of experiments with different methods. Running 20 to 25 percent of hay or other dry forage through the silage cutter along with the potatoes makes a silage that can be fed to milking cows in quantities up to 4 pounds daily per 100 pounds of live weight. Its feeding value is approximately equal to that of corn silage. The carotene content depends on the grade of the hay used. The silage will be sufficiently fermented in 3 to 4 weeks but can be stored much longer. To avoid off-flavors in the milk, potato silage should be fed after milking. Instructions for making potato-hay silage are available from the Bureau, and Technical Bulletin 914 describes the experiments.

When a small quantity of cull or surplus potatoes are available for feeding livestock, they can be fed in the fresh raw state, but larger quantities should be ensiled.

### For Home-Freezing Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

■ An attractive booklet and a natural-color motion picture with soundtrack tell how to home-freeze fruits and vegetables and show it being done, step by step. Specialists of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics have prepared these helps on the basis of their latest studies to find the methods by which the freshness, succulence, and nutritional value of fresh products can best be retained by freezing. Scalding is important for most vegetables. A table in the booklet gives the right method (steam or hot water) and the correct number of minutes for each vegetable. How to fill and seal containers, sweetening fruits and treating them to prevent discoloration, and construction of home-made equipment to help in packaging and transporting foods are among the subjects discussed. The title of the booklet is Home Freezing of Fruits and Vegetables, and it is designated AIS-48.

The motion picture, Freezing Fruits and Vegetables, parallels the booklet, showing the preparation, packing, and storing in deep-freeze units of four typical foods—corn, broccoli, strawberries, and peaches. The film may be borrowed from State Agricultural Extension Service and State University Film Libraries for showing at meetings.

### New Bug Chasers

■ Campers, fishermen, picnickers, and hikers can now protect themselves from the biting insects that often take the pleasure from outdoor activities by using one of the new insect repellents obtainable at the drug store. Tests show these new repellents, most effective as liquids and far more potent than citronella, were born of war needs.

One of the first requests made of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine by the armed services was for an effective insect repellent. To find a material that would keep insects from biting men, entomologists at the Orlando, Fla., station of the Bureau, tested over 7,000 chemical substances. Requirements for a satisfactory repellent are that it must not be toxic to man, must not irritate the human skin, or interfere with the respiration or secretion rate of the skin, and must protect the user from the bites of insects for a sufficient time to make applying it worth while. Several substances with varying characteristics were finally selected. Indalone, dimethyl carbate, dimethyl phthalate, and ethyl hexanediol (Rutgers 612) were all known to have insect-repellent properties. Each of these chemicals was a good repellent for some species of insects under certain conditions. One would repel the yellow fever mosquito for 30 minutes and dogflies for somewhat longer. Another repelled dogflies for only a few minutes but the fever mosquito for several hours. Three-way mixtures of these chemicals were also found to be effective repellents against a wider range of different

kinds of insects and on more individuals than any one of the chemicals when used alone. One combination was effective against most insects for more than 3 hours under sweating jungle conditions in the southwest Pacific.

It became known among the grateful men using it as the "skeeter-scooter."

Since all of these repellents are solvents of paints, varnishes, and many of the plastics, they must be used with caution. They will damage such materials, but are harmless when used on cotton or woolen clothing, or on the skin. When selecting a repellent, check the label. Be sure that the one selected contains one or more of the chemicals mentioned. The most effective repellent will be one of the three-way combinations. A few drops rubbed lightly on the exposed portion of the skin and places where the insects bite through the clothing will protect the user for sometimes as long as two hours or more.

## Camp libraries to go to rural areas

The War Assets Administration has authorized the disposal of surplus Army camp libraries in the United States as units for overcoming in part the existing deficiencies of community library service within the States. It is estimated that about 150 libraries will become surplus and that each State will get at least 1, more probably 2 or 3. The libraries are typical collections of general literature and will be turned over to communities complete with catalogs, furniture, and equipment, so they can be set up where they are needed with a minimum of cost and effort.

The plan adopted follows recommendations of the American Library Association and calls for distribution to States on the basis of rural population. Each State will be eligible for a percentage of surplus Army camp library books and equipment roughly equivalent to the percentage of the total rural population of the country within the State's borders.

The U. S. Office of Education will allocate libraries to the States through the State educational agency for surplus property or any other appropriate official State agency.

# Agricultural mission to the Philippines

■ Two members of the Extension Service are serving on the United States section of the agricultural mission to the Philippine Islands which left this country in July to work with the Philippine authorities on a national agricultural program. At the extreme left is John V. Hepler of the recruitment and placement division, Extension Service farm labor program, Manhattan, Kans., and at the right, Harry Clayton Sanders, Director of Extension in Louisiana. The other two members of the mission shown in the picture are Leland Everett Call, Dean of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Kansas, acting as head of the mission, second from the left, and Glen Laird Taggart, social scientist, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. D. A., second from right.

War and Japanese occupation have greatly disrupted agricultural production on the islands. Filipinos are faced with a serious food shortage and a great burden of relief. Problems of agricultural rehabilitation and development of the agricultural economy of the Philippines are of critical importance in assuring peace in that area of the world. Since 80 percent of the prewar population of 16 million people depended upon agriculture for their livelihood, the problems facing the mission are serious and difficult.

They will advise immediate actions which might be taken on emergency problems and will make recommendations regarding a long-range program and parts of such a program in which the two governments may appropriately collaborate.

## Weather broadcast

Last year the South Dakota Extension Service tried its best to provide the farmers with a weather broadcast every day. The idea was to pass out tips to fit the weather which was being predicted.

But the trouble was that the war was still on, and the weatherman was not allowed to make predictions far enough in advance. It was also difficult to get variety and real "punch" into broadcasts 6 days a week.

This year it is working out better. It has been combined with the noon radio program of Tony Westra, extension agent in Sioux Falls.

Each day the predictions of the weather office are sent to the county agent's office at least 2 hours before the radio program goes on the air. This gives Westra time to figure out what to tell the farmers if the weather in prospect should suggest what might be helpful.

When the program goes on the air, the weatherman is on first. He gives the summary and forecasts. Immediately after he is through, Westra comes on. He has known for 2 hours what the weatherman will say and has had time to prepare some helpful hints.

# We Study Our Job

## Rural people like radio

About three out of four rural people interviewed in a Nation-wide survey of farm and small-town people consider radio an important part of their everyday living. Regardless of differences in education, income, and age, both farm and rural nonfarm radio owners in all sections of the country value radio highly. Former radio owners interviewed say they miss their radios very much.

News programs in general are given top rating by the largest number of both farm and rural nonfarm people. Most men, especially farmers, stress the importance of radio as a source of news and information. Farm men also emphasize the value of programs giving market and weather reports and talks on farming.

Approximately two-thirds of the farm people who have radios report listening to weather reports, market reports and talks on farming; many of them listen to such programs several times a week. A large majority of the farm people who listen to these programs feel they are helpful. As might be expected, more farm men than farm women are interested in farm programs.

### Rural Women Better Radio Listeners

Rural women seem to appreciate radio more and listen oftener than the majority of men. Among rural nonfarm women, entertainment is more commonly given as a value of radio than is news; although almost as many farm women prefer news programs.

In general, farm people tune in on the more "serious" programs. News and market reports, hymns and religious music, sermons and religious programs, and farm talks are given high preference by this group.

The program preferences of rural nonfarm people indicate a greater appreciation of the lighter aspects of radio programs than is found among farm people. While many rural nonfarm men and women also list "serious" programs as among those they like best, they do so less frequently (with the exception of news programs). More often than farm people they name quiz programs, entertainment broadcasts with comedians and popular singers, and dance music as among their favorites. More rural nonfarm men than farm men like broadcasts of sport events.

When rural people are asked to name the type of program they don't care for, an additional aspect of rural tastes emerges. Daytime serial stories are the kind of program most commonly named as not liked; they are followed by dance music, and then by classical music. The rural people who dislike classical music say they do not understand it.

### Serial Programs Rate High

Serial story programs occupy an unusual position in the attitudes of rural people. Among women, both farm and rural nonfarm, they stand second only to news in the list of programs they say they would miss most if their radios failed them; yet they are also the type of programs most commonly not cared for by rural women. Rural women who have radios seem to divide into three large groups in their attitudes toward serial programs; those who like this type of program very much and would miss it greatly if they could not hear it; those who neither like nor dislike such programs; and those who actively dislike them.

Very few rural men show any preference for serial stories and, like rural women, they most commonly name this type of program as the kind they do not care for. No other program creates such partisan attitudes among rural people as serial stories.

About one in every four rural households has no radio in working order; about half of these homes have had radios within the last 5 years; most of these households say they have not replaced or repaired their radios because of wartime shortages. Those rural households that have had no radio for over 5 years have usually gone without because they felt they could not afford it.

There is a strong tendency for those households which have had no radio for 5 years or more also to lack the other major means of communication—telephones and daily newspapers.

### 2,535 Rural Homes Visited

These findings are based on personal interviews with men and women in 2,535 rural households, carefully selected to give a representative picture of rural households throughout the country. Households were visited in 116 different counties; some of these households were situated in open country, others in communities of no more than 2,500 population. Whenever possible, two interviews were taken in each household, one with the principal member of each sex (usually the head of the household and his wife). In no instance were two interviews with adults of the same sex taken in the same household. Altogether, 4,293 interviews were obtained, between June 11 and July 28, 1945.

This radio survey was made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. D. A. Complete details are given in a 133-page report entitled, "Attitudes of Rural People toward Radio Service, January 1946."

## Makes money from garlic

Growing garlic is the specialty of Cletus Heck, 18, 4-H Club member of Campbell County, Ky. He sold the crop he grew last summer on a plot 25 by 50 feet for $65. Having garlic ready to market early in the season while prices are still high is an important factor in this enterprise, according to young Heck. He also uses sufficient fertilizer and is careful to set only perfect cloves grown from his home-produced seed.

# Among Ourselves

## Every week for 20 years

Once a week for nearly 20 years, C. L. Messer, county agricultural agent in Cayuga County, N. Y., has presented a 15-minute program over radio station WMBO in Auburn, N. Y. He first went on the air when WMBO began operations in 1926. The exact date is uncertain, because the station has twice lost all its records in fires which destroyed the building where it was located.

Mr. Messer's program features farm news, notices of meetings, and comment and information on timely subjects. He always includes his schedule for the next week. Farmers who have been successful along special lines are often invited to speak on the program, and occasionally he presents local talent in some type of entertainment.

Mr. Messer has found that a period during the noon hour is most satisfactory for his purpose. He tried an evening period for a time but found he had too much competition from news programs.

He regards the radio as an excellent method of reaching farmers who are not members of the Farm Bureau. When he announces a meeting he extends a cordial invitation to all farmers in the county. A check of the persons attending, against the membership list of the Farm Bureau has proved that he reaches many nonmembers. He is convinced of the value of radio in getting information to farmers and that the results of his program make it well worth the time and effort involved. A man who has been responsible for more than a thousand broadcasts should be qualified to judge.

■ DR. JANE S. McKIMMON, founder of home demonstration work in North Carolina in 1914, was honored by the Nash County Home Demonstration Council following announcement of her retirement on July 1, after 32 years of work with the State's rural people.

Nash Home Agent Effie Vines Gordon introduced presidents of the council who have served since its organization in 1923 and cited the expansion of club work among farm women in Nash County during that period from 6 clubs and 150 farm women to the present 21 clubs and 750 members.

## Ginning specialists study their job

A training school for extension cotton-ginning specialists was held in March with specialists from nine States participating. The school was held at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss. More than 85 percent of the active gins in the United States were represented in this group. Most of the specialists were either new in extension cotton-ginning work or had just returned from military leave.

Because of changes in harvesting practices necessitating the use of more elaborate cleaning machinery at the gin, the industry is in a major transition period. Therefore, the course emphasized the fundamentals involved in cotton ginning. Twelve cotton gins in the vicinity of Stoneville equipped to gin machine-harvested cotton were studied. The seven-point cotton program and how the work of the ginning specialists fits into it was discussed.

## Timber-thinning contest

Newberry County, S. C., 4–H Clubs have finished their second successful 4–H timber-thinning contest. Twelve contestants were declared winners and received their share of the $80 in prize money made available by the Periodical Publishers Committee, of Washington, D. C.

The county winner was 12-year-old Carroll Wessinger who had the best 1-acre pine plot properly thinned. He cut 12 cords of wood valued at $10 per cord. Second place went to Monroe Werts, an eighth-grade boy with 4 years' 4–H experience. He cut 7½ cords of crowded and defective pines which he will sell in a nearby town for approximately $12 per cord delivered. Other contestants had done an equally good job. "Cutting trees is strenuous work for young boys," says County Agent P. B. Ezell, "but this is one of the most successful 4–H projects in the county. Their determination to complete their work, though it took in many cases all their spare time during the winter months, is a tribute to their foresight and eagerness to learn."

The judges were the district ranger of the United States Forest Service, the district forester and his assistant of the State Commission of Forestry, and William Barker, extension forester for South Carolina. Walter A. Ridgeway is assistant county agent in Newberry County and had charge of the project.

VISITS TO HANDICRAFT SHOPS showed preparations for the summer tourist business. When in Tennessee and Kentucky in June, the associate editor of the REVIEW visited handicraft shops at Norris Dam, Norris Community House and Gatlinburg, Tenn., and Berea College, Berea, Ky. Among articles made by people in the Appalachian Mountains were such useful things as hand-woven linen and cotton luncheon sets, towels, and scarves, wool neck scarves, handbags, hand-carved wooden articles, leather articles, and pottery.

# The Once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

COUNTY AGENT R. M. COMAN of Copiah County, Miss., was one of the moving spirits in the collection of 1,620 cattle, mostly grade Jerseys, donated by Mississippians to help rehabilitate war-stricken Greece. The cattle were loaded at Gulfport, Miss., July 18, and Agent Coman went along to care for the cattle. More than 6 weeks were required for Agent Coman to make the round trip, and that allowed him some time in Greece to see the families getting the cattle. Each animal carried a rubber plastic tag with the name and address of the donors, which served as a souvenir for the families who got the cows.

THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRYWOMEN OF THE WORLD executive committee meeting in London late in June voted to hold the triennial conference next year somewhere in Europe. It was suggested that the meeting be held in Switzerland or Denmark about September 1947. Delegates were present from 22 countries, including the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Ceylon, India, Burma, N. Rhodesia, S. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Kenya, N. Iceland, Eire, England, France, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Palestine, Scotland, Estonia, and Switzerland. Mrs. Helendean Dodderidge, representing the Extension Service there, writes: "I did feel that some of the leaders, particularly those from countries which had been invaded, realized the importance of international thinking and action." She will give a more complete report later.

FRIENDSHIP BOXES from boys and girls of North Dakota to the youth in liberated countries was a feature of the 4-H summer camps. Empty cigar boxes were painted, lacquered, or decorated with wall paper, filled with school supplies, sewing materials, socks or mittens, tooth brush and tooth powder, soap, and small toys. A friendship letter and snapshots were often enclosed, as well as two sheets of writing paper and an envelope for reply. The boxes went to Belgium, England, France, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Holland, Italy, Norway, Russia, Poland, Yugoslavia, and the Philippine Islands. The finished units were shipped to the authorized relief agencies in the United States for distribution to the designated country.

W. G. SMITH, COUNTY AGENT, Henry County, Ind., was honored by his fellow citizens with the tenth annual award for outstanding community service given by the New Castle Chamber of Commerce. The award was based on Agent Smith's civic record over a period of years and particularly for his work during the war. The fine relationship between business and farm groups brought about by his work was also recognized.

ON HER WAY TO COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Mrs. Velma L. Neely, home demonstration agent in Grenada County, Miss., visited the office and told a most interesting story of a 5-year health program which we hope she will write for REVIEW readers as soon as summer school is over. With 18 community club health chairmen forming a county health council, the home demonstration council is effectively sponsoring a 3-point program based on the needs as shown by a comprehensive survey just completed.

ANOTHER VISITOR TO THE OFFICE was Boleslaw J. Przedpelski, author of the article, "The human side of agriculture," appearing in the June-July issue of the REVIEW. Looking forward to getting his citizenship papers within a few months, he was hopeful of finding a way to bring over his wife and son whom he has not seen since before the second World War. A farmer in Poland, he is anxious to make some contribution to the international food situation and is interested particularly in the Food and Agriculture Organization.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents met in Washington July 10–13 to confer with officials of the U. S. Department of Agriculture on some of the programs uppermost in the minds of county agents. The president and vice president of the National Association of Home Demonstration Agents, Miss Lois Rainwater of Wilson, N. C., and Mrs. Luella M. Condon of Calhoun County, Iowa, also attended. Those taking part in the conference were: V. M. Anderson and Paul B. Barger, Iowa; Edwin Bay, Illinois; E. D. Beck, Texas; Ralph Blaney and Rex Carter, Pennsylvania; E. W. Holden, New Hampshire; Ira Hollar, Oklahoma; C. C. Keller, Missouri; Leonard Kerr, Tennessee; John Logan, Florida; A. F. MacDougall, Massachusetts; F. J. Meade, Minnesota; Ben Morgan, West Virginia; Cletus Murphy, Minnesota; H. M. Nichols, Iowa; J. M. Pierpoint, West Virginia; George Rosenfeld, Iowa; E. V. Ryall, Wisconsin; W. H. Sill, West Virginia; John H. Stephens, Arkansas; Stuart Stirling, New Mexico.

THE SAFE WINTER DRIVING LEAGUE calls attention to the statement of Amos E. Neyhart, of the Pennsylvania State College, and driver training expert for the American Automobile Association, who cautions drivers against the enclosed rear fenders which he feels discourages checking air in rear tires, rotating tires from wheel to wheel, putting on tire chains, and making safety checks for wear and surface defects.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## To vitalize health—the fourth H

**To implement the 4–H Guidepost No. 8, a national health program was adopted by State 4–H leaders attending National camp**



■ Health has always been one of the fundamentals of 4–H Club work. Indeed, the fourth H represents health. Individual health check-ups, the principles of good nutrition, healthful recreation, cleanliness, and other fundamentals of personal health have been common phases of the club activties. It was considered of enough importance to the committee of State leaders who worked out the 10 guideposts to an effective 4–H program in the present world to be included as Guidepost No. 8, "Building Health for a Strong America."

Not only was health made a guidepost, but a committee went to work to formulate a broader national health program. They have been working on the plan for the past 2 years, consulting with Public Health officials State extension health specialists and working with Miss Elin Anderson, extension specialist in rural health improvement.

The objectives of the program as they set it down were: First, to help members and their leaders gain a personal consciousness and understanding of physical and mental health consistent with advancing standards and scientific knowledge; second, to help youth share in the responsibility for improving the home and community health conditions; and lastly, to help youth share in the responsibility for sound bodies and mature personalities.

To make the health program a vital force in the lives of the young folks, it must be based on the major health needs of young people in each community or area, according to the committee report. A program planned on the local needs should be worked out in consultation with local and State health authorities. They felt that these agencies can probably help most by advising and assisting with the health program planned by extension people. Such a program should then be personalized and made meaningful to each individual club member by emphasizing the special features that attract and appeal to youth.

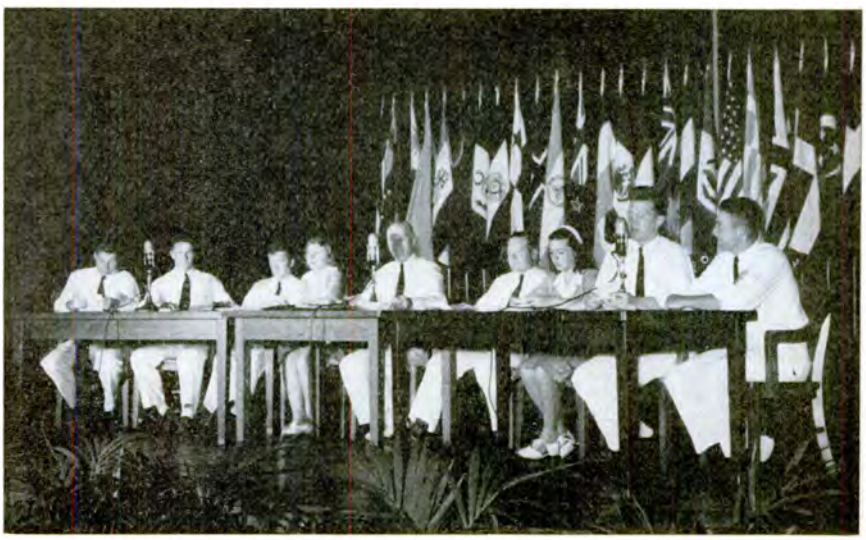
The 4–H health program was divided into two phases, the group or club activities and individual health activities. As recommended by the committee, the group activities might include a survey of community health situations as they affect young people. The young folks should consult with parents and health and community leaders on the major health needs.

Specific activities recommended include the sponsoring of one phase of health education, such as tuberculosis, hookworm, malnutrition, teeth, feet, skin, or home sanitation. The young folks could well assist with a community health program based on facts revealed by a health survey. Their enthusiasm and energy can be used to encourage physical and dental check-ups, safety and sanitation campaigns, and mosquito control.

Such national health drives as the sale of antituberculosis Christmas seals and crippled-children stamps, the March of Dimes, and cancer control offer opportunities for youth participation.

The study of first aid and practical home nursing is a worthy club health activity, as well as putting into practice some practical health rules such

**The panel of young committee chairmen who reported to their fellow delegates at the National 4–H Club Camp on implementing the 10-point 4–H Postwar Program. They studied and recommended the broader group approach to "Building health for a strong America."**



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as good light and ventilation, reasonable hours, light, well-balanced refreshments, and a balance in education and recreation in club programs.

To sponsor or help in getting practical health facilities that are needed in the community, such as an iron lung, an ambulance, or hospital equipment, gives a fine outlet for youthful enthusiasm and energy.

The recommendations for individual health activities follow more along the lines of past 4-H health programs, including the personal health check-up with a follow-up to insure appropriate remedial action; taking advantage of all modern disease-control measures; practicing the four-point safety program; studying home sanitary conditions; and giving demonstrations on good health practices.

This program formulated by the 4-H committee on health was studied and recommended by the 4-H subcommittee of the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant College Association, as well as the leaders attending the National 4-H Club Camp. Young delegates attending the national camp studied the plan and included many of its principal recommendations in the report they made for implementing the 10 guideposts in the local 4-H Club activities.

The committee which studied the problem of broadening the 4-H health club program consisted of Chairman Tena Bishop, Massachusetts; Martha Leighton, New York; Agnes M. Hansen, Wisconsin; A. G. Kettunen, Michigan; and E. W. Aiton, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

# New Illinois 4-H camp to honor war heroes

■ A long-dreamed-of 4-H Club air castle has begun to materialize. Illinois 4-H Clubs now have a site for their memorial camp. One hundred acres of the Robert Allerton estate in Piatt County recently donated to the University of Illinois have been designated for use as the Illinois 4-H Club Memorial Camp.

This 4-H camp will be constructed in the form of a memorial to all Illinois 4-H Club boys and girls who served and sacrificed in World War II. It will be used, also, for other 4-H Club activities and related recreational and educational purposes.

Outstanding boys and girls from every section of the State will attend the camp. In speaking of it, Mr. Allerton said: "I hope they will find inspiration here and develop a keener appreciation of culture and beauty. My father was interested in youth and its education and, I believe, would have wanted me to help Illinois boys and girls."

The need and wish for a State camp has been with Illinois 4-H members and leaders for a long time, but actual work toward it began at the 1945 leadership camp when a club member suggested a memorial to 4-H boys and girls who served in the war. An advisory committee was organized to study the advisability of such a memorial, and all farm and home advisers were asked to canvass 4-H members in their counties for opinions as to the the form it should take. Unanimously, club members voted for the much-needed central camp and at once set about raising the necessary funds.

There are, of course, no buildings on the camp site at present. Financing improvements for the grounds is a challenge to the ability and ambition of 4-H boys and girls. Now that the site has been given, the $100,000 set as the memorial fund goal for 1945-47 may be used exclusively for erecting buildings and purchasing equipment.

Individual counties set their quotas when the camp was first decided upon and have already made progress toward fulfilling them. At present contributions from 61 counties, totaling $17,000, are in the hands of State 4-H Club directors. Additional money is still to come from many county treasuries where it has been held pending selection of the camp site.

The Edgington Go-getters of Rock Island County have a unique way of earning their money. These 14 4-H agriculture club boys and girls had "eyes open" to the tri-city fishing season, and their business was selling angleworms at 5 cents a dozen. Last year they netted $20 for the camp.

The Memorial Committee has for some time been making arrangements for the formation of the memorial camp and attempting to buy equipment and other supplies. The committee is composed of Mary A. McKee, assistant professor of girls' 4-H Club work, University of Illinois; Mrs. Esther K. Thor, home adviser, Champaign County; W. F. Coolidge, farm adviser, Livingston County; and F. H. Mynard, assistant professor of boys' 4-H Club work, University of Illinois.

The new camp will serve as an integrating point for all State 4-H Club activities. Camps, small and large, play an important part in the 4-H program. Last year 85 counties had 4-H workers participating in leadership, district, county, and local day camps.

This year a leadership camp was held July 22-27 at East Bay Camp in Bloomington. Delegates from each county are selected by members and leaders on the basis of their leadership ability and outstanding club work. The delegates were given a program of recreation, study, and leadership training.

Land for a northern Illinois 4-H district camp was recently acquired along Rock Creek near its juncture with the Kankakee River in Kankakee County. A public service company of Northern Illinois, owner of the land, agreed to contribute approximately 50 acres for a permanent camp. A temporary "tent" camp was constructed for use this summer, with more permanent facilities to be built as soon as funds and availability of manpower and materials permit. When completed, the camp will accommodate 300 boys and girls at one time.

A movement has started to obtain a district camp for the southern part of the State. For 14 years the southern Illinois district camp has been held at Dixon Springs, but this area was recently purchased for a State park. Though State authorities agreed to lease the area this year so that 4-H'ers and other groups could hold their camps there this summer, different arrangements will, of course, have to be made for the future.

# What about our health facilities?

## A metamorphosed nutrition committee got the facts for Wyoming

■ Have you ever heard of an "effective" physician?

He's a physician who is conducting an active practice, and in Wyoming a recently completed survey has shown that in each of 6 counties an effective physician is serving more than 3,000 persons! An effective physician should serve a maximum of 1,500 people.

These and many other facts have been gleaned by the State Health and Nutrition Committee, headed by Mrs. Evangeline J. Smith, extension nutritionist of the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service, in its concerted efforts to improve the general health of Wyoming citizenry, make available better general medical and dental facilities, provide more adequate ambulance service, increase hospital and public health facilities and distribute them more evenly, improve controls of milk supplies, set up local health units, and provide more adequate nursing care facilities.

Mrs. Evangeline J. Smith, extension nutritionist who serves as chairman of the Wyoming Health and Nutrition Committee.

### Nutrition Committee Is Nucleus

This committee, originally organized in 1940 and known as the State Nutrition Committee under direction of the State Council of Defense, became the State Health and Nutrition Committee in 1945. Membership includes appointed representatives from State organizations and agencies, which include the Farm Security Administration, State Board of Health, Wyoming State Medical Society, Production and Marketing Association, Department of Public Welfare, Parents' and Teachers' Association, American Red Cross, Division of Vocational Education, State Dental Society, Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, Federated Women's Clubs, Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation, Tuberculosis Association, State Grange, and members of various departments of the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service and Experiment Station.

The survey is the ultimate and revealing report of Wyoming's situation in regard to medical and health needs. Through its informative pages the committee hopes to make Wyomingites conscious of the active part they must play in striving for health improvement through greater availability of health services for individual families, communities, counties, and the State generally.

Outstanding in the conduct of the survey and analyses of the questionnaires was Mrs. Marguerite L. Ingram, field secretary of the health committee of the Northern Great Plains Council. Both she and Mrs. Smith devoted their entire time to a preliminary campaign by consulting the various agencies and organizations in the State to determine the best kind of questionnaire to compile for information. Then, county nutrition chairmen worked with agricultural and home demonstration agents in distributing the questionnaires to persons in every town and rural area in Wyoming.

Particularly notable is the fact that there was a 100-percent return of the questionnaires because of Mrs. Smith's persistent efforts. In some instances, she even sent telegrams, made telephone calls, and personally visited homes to make the survey a completely accurate and reflective picture of the State's situation. The fact must also be emphasized that the people themselves completed the questionnaires; no aid from workers was permitted.

In March 1946 the analysis was complete, and a State meeting of the committee was convened at Cheyenne in April to review the facts and decide on the best procedure to inform the people of the State on what they themselves must do and how funds could be obtained to support the mission.

Decisions were reached for publication of the survey and dissemination of it to the people through organized channels. To support the project, Governor Lester C. Hunt, who is serving on the advisory committee, appropriated State funds, the State Health Department made a contribution, and A. E. Bowman, director of the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service, added still more. As a result, 3,000 copies of the survey are being printed, and as soon as the reports are available another State meeting will be called to train certain committeemen to serve as supervisors for county-wide discussion meetings. In addition, doctors, dentists, ministers, and other qualified individuals in communities will serve at these meetings to help people understand the situation.

### Hospital Survey Started

And to further serve the people of the State, the State Hospital Association, a committee appointed by the Governor, and the U. S. Public Health Service are conducting a survey to determine accurately hospital needs. Because of its importance, Governor Hunt is calling a meeting to discuss the preliminary results of this survey. After making any modifications and changes that might be necessary, the report will be printed.

Mrs. Smith, through leader-training meetings with project leaders in home demonstration clubs, has made homemakers themselves aware of the necessity of safeguards for health. Because of the facts that have been gained through the survey, these leaders are determined to conduct persistent campaigns in improvement of family and community health standards.

# To work with youth, understand them

WILMA C. BEYER, 4–H Club Specialist in Child Development and Family Relationships, New York State College of Home Economics

If we're going to work with boys and girls, we must understand them. That's why a new kind of conference was held for 4–H Club leaders of northeastern New York in Albany, May 9 and 10, 1946.

The idea for this conference began at the Family Life Conference in 1942, when Mrs. Florence Thayer, experienced 4–H Club agent of Rensselaer County, worked with a committee of 4–H leaders to plan such a meeting for that county.

### 132 Leaders Take Part

The next year 12 counties asked to be included, and this year 132 leaders from 17 counties met to consider the program planned by a committee of club agents and leaders on the theme, "Understanding Our Club Members."

The aim each year has been to learn through free discussion how to understand young people so that leaders can guide them to maturity.

This is how the conference was conducted:

Dr. R. J. Pulling, adult education supervisor in Schenectady, opened the conference with a talk on "Satisfactions for Growth." "Our main stock in trade is boys and girls, not pigs or chickens," said Dr. Pulling.

The changes which take place in boys and girls as they grow from children to adults were described by A. D. Woodruff, of the Department of Education at Cornell University. He showed why 10-year-old club members will accept almost any kind of club program and why the older ones need patient understanding and more responsibility in planning their own programs.

### Recreation Puts Leaders at Ease

After the question period with the speaker, the afternoon tea helped leaders get acquainted, as did the evening dinner together. Miss Jane Farwell, a staff member of the National Recreation Association, directed the dinner singing and the evening of games. She explained the values of recreation in personality development and taught games suitable for 4–H Club meetings.

### Talking It Out in Huddles

The freedom and ease with which leaders discussed their club problems during the second day of the conference was due in part to the friendly spirit developed during the evening of fun. The morning discussion on "Why Club Members Behave as They Do" was carried on in 6 groups with about 25 leaders in each group led by a club agent or college staff member. Each group was further divided into smaller "huddles" of 4 or 5 members to agree or disagree with these statements:

1. A 4–H leader has no business telling a boy or girl what vocation he should follow.
2. Record sheets encourage dishonesty.
3. The club member who doesn't fit into the program should be dropped from the club.
4. Demanding a high standard of project work will keep the club members interested.
5. Leaders should encourage club members to work for awards.
6. If the club member fails, the club leader should do the job for him.
7. To keep discipline in the club the leader should rule with an iron hand.
8. It is the job of the club agent to get the parents to cooperate in 4–H Club work.
9. Every 4–H leader should be a recreation leader.
10. It is more important to do a good project than to work well on a committee.

The leaders met together for the final summary discussion led by Miss Wilma Beyer, of Cornell University, and a panel of leaders and agents. The discussion included these questions: What helpful ideas were expressed in your morning discussion? When you get back home, how are you going to work with your club as a result of this conference? How can you share with other leaders in your county the ideas and enthusiasm you gained here?

Spontaneous response from every section of the floor included such practical suggestions as: "I'm going to try to know each club member better"; "I've learned a new way to get club members to finish their records"; and "We want to have a meeting like this in our own county for all our leaders."

Orange County leaders reported that they felt this conference was the most important thing that has happened to them as leaders. Other leaders wrote thus in "thank you" notes to Mrs. Thayer:

### Leaders Testify to Value

"We each think we have problems, but when we hear others ours seem rather small."

"The meeting sure helped me in my club work as well as in my home with my children . . . I got answers to two of the hardest problems I've had since I've been a 4–H leader."

Mrs. Florence Thayer, the club agent who served as chairman, sees these values in the conference:

"4–H leaders value training given them in understanding the how's and why's of behavior because they feel less adequate in this area but fully appreciate its major importance to successful leadership. Leaders who have opportunity for such training feel their jobs are easier because many attitudes and reactions of their members which bothered them, they learn, are quite normal and healthy.

### Training Holds Good Leaders

"They also change their own attitudes and sometimes become concerned about the same youngsters whom formerly they rated as their best members. Leadership training in understanding does more to secure and hold good leaders than any other factor. Incidentally, agents who are exposed to such meetings certainly profit from the good contributions their own leaders make in discussions."

# President of Colombia Interested

■ Extension work in Tennessee was a subject of much interest to President-Elect Mariano Ospina Perez, of Colombia, upon a recent visit to the Tennessee Valley. President Ospina spent 4 days inspecting Tennessee Valley Authority developments in the State and studying the Extension-TVA farm unit test demonstrations.

"This has been one of the most interesting days we have spent in the United States," President Ospina said after a visit to an east Tennessee farm, "because we have seen the real American citizen at work. I think he is the greatest asset this country has."

The extension work was explained by Extension Director C. E. Brehm, who was appointed director of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station on July 1. Brehm has been director of extension in Tennessee since 1936 and dean of the University of Tennessee College of Agriculture since 1943. He is also acting president of the university.

President Ospina and several of his party, including the Colombian Minister of Agriculture, and the Ambassador to the United States, "got to the bottom of extension work" by visiting a farm of the Buffalo Springs community in Grainger County. This community has won second place for the past 2 years in the east Tennessee community improvement contest. The farm visited was that of J. E. Yates, one of the early Extension-TVA farm unit test demonstrators. Yates himself explained his farm management program to President Ospina, assisted by E. C. McReynolds of the extension headquarters staff, and J. O. Cunningham, assistant county agent.

Briefly, Yates told how he had multiplied his farm income several times since he became a demonstration farmer in 1935. This was done, Yates pointed out, by reducing his row and truck crop acreage in favor of hay and pasture. The productivity of pasture lands, he explained, was increased through use of lime and phosphate and by clipping. President Ospina manifested great interest in Yates' program, which follows extension workers' recommendations.

After the tour, officers of the Buffalo Spring community organization explained to the visitors what is being done in cooperation with agricultural and home demonstration agents on farm, home, and community improvement.

**President-Elect Mariano Ospina Perez, of Colombia, is seen (at left) in a tobacco field in Grainger County, Tenn., where he saw the Extension Service at work. Right is Dean C. E. Brehm, of the University of Tennessee College of Agriculture; and center is E. C. McReynolds, Extension Service coordinator of cooperative projects.**

## Institutes for discussion

■ To give farm people a chance to meet together and talk over public questions, the Arkansas Extension Institute for Discussion of Public Questions was inaugurated. The institute provides information on issues affecting farm people as a group and promotes study and discussion on these topics.

"Farmers are one of the three major economic groups in the country, and the necessity for a common understanding of the viewpoints of these groups has prompted the inauguration of the institutes," says Associate Director Aubrey D. Gates.

The general theme is "How Much Market, Where, to Whom, How, and What Price?" Five leaflets give the views of one industrialist on the proper relations between labor, prices, and production; one labor union on minimum wage and work week; two national farm organizations on farmers' income, buying power, and production; the reflections of the committee on postwar agricultural policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities on the amount of Government control needed to carry through the reconversion years; and President Truman's address on the Government's wage-price policy. Each emphasizes that the information is not complete or final but merely furnishes some facts as a starting point for discussion.

One of the first uses to which the new material was put was as a discussion basis for meetings attended by both town and farm people. In one district it was used by a civic organization composed of farmers and businessmen. The home demonstration clubs in another county are using it in conjunction with the business and professional women's clubs.

One agent is training a debating team to tour various communities using the leaflet as a basis for arguments and rebuttals. The agents are finding this material very useful.

# A Workshop that worked

EDGAR A. SCHULER, Social Scientist, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture

**Michigan County librarians work with extension workers and social scientists in setting up research programs**

■ The adult education program of the Michigan Extension Service recently conducted a unique workshop for the county librarians of Michigan. The department of sociology and anthropology at Michigan State College was invited to provide technical leadership for the workshop. The Extension Service, in performing its function of developing local resources, was interested in helping to improve local public library service for rural people. The librarians were interested in getting the help of the Extension Service and the department of sociology and anthropology at Michigan State College so that Michigan people, especially those in rural areas, could have better library service. The department of sociology and anthropology was interested in developing its research activities along fruitful lines and at the same time contributing to the realism and vitality of its college teaching. The experience was exciting and satisfying because it consisted of friendly, even enthusiastic, working together of three distinct groups of specialists, all of whom were interested in helping rural Michigan people to help themselves.

### Social Researchers Meet Librarians

In the discussions between the county librarians, the State Extension Service representatives, and the Michigan State College social scientists, plans were made to place the emphasis in the workshop upon adapting social science research techniques to the practical problems of librarians serving rural areas. The workshop staff included the following: Representatives of the adult education program, Michigan Extension Service, who provided general camp management and secretarial service; a camp librarian, who arranged for exhibits and reference materials; an Extension Service representative who gave recreational leadership; and several social scientists representing the fields of rural sociology, cultural anthropology, and social psychology.

The workshop was held June 5 to 9 at Clear Lake Camp, 14 miles north of Battle Creek. Altogether more than 50 persons took part, including librarians from Ohio, Minnesota, and Maryland, as well as from Michigan.

### The Ground Work Is Laid

To begin with, it was necessary for the social scientists to get a clearer idea of the kinds of problems librarians were up against, the kinds of information they had at their disposal, and how they felt about their job and the problems they were trying to solve. To supply this kind of information the librarians were first asked to fill out a questionnaire, which included such questions as:

What are the major occupational groups in the areas served by your library?

Would you agree or disagree that the typical county agent cooperates closely with the county library system?

What kinds of activities and experiences give you the greatest satisfaction as a librarian?

What causes you the most irritation and sense of frustration?

How do you determine the reading needs of people in your county?

What are the major unmet needs for library service in your county?

The first full day of the workshop was turned over to the librarians, who had been divided into several small working groups, with one of the social scientists assigned to each group. The assignment was for each group to formulate the basic objectives of county library service as conceived by the librarians themselves.

The discussions on this point and the formulation of objectives by the work groups took place in the forenoon. That afternoon the chairmen of the several work groups presented their reports to the entire workshop membership in a series of informal statements. After considerable discussion the work group chairmen were given the responsibility of formulating a finished statement on objectives which would incorporate the group's thinking. Their report, which was endorsed by the group, was as follows:

I. BASIC OBJECTIVES.

To provide and disseminate materials and services for all persons and groups in the community; to discover and serve the educational, recreational, and cultural needs for the promotion of personal life.

II. TECHNIQUES OF REACHING THESE OBJECTIVES.

1. Selection of authoritative materials suitable to the community.

2. Organization of materials for effective use.

3. Interpretation of materials to all ages and interest groups.

III. THE SUCCESS OF THE TECHNIQUES DEPENDS UPON:

1. An aggressive library program sensitive to the community needs.

2. An integration into community activities.

After having discussed objectives, and having developed a fairly clear idea as to where the librarians were trying to go, the next problem was, In what respects are county librarians now failing to measure up to the standards represented by the objective? Also, can these practical problems be stated or restated in terms of research questions to which social scientists could reasonably hope to get useful answers? The second day of the workshop, therefore, was devoted to listing and describing the major problems of the county librarians and defining areas in which social science research was needed. Again, as on the first day, the morning session consisted of lively discussion in small work groups, while the afternoon session was devoted to working out agreement by the entire workshop on the basis of the reports of the work groups' representatives. Altogether, about 40 problems were listed by the spokesmen of the various work groups. An at-

tempt was made to get some basis for agreement on priority among these problems, but it was found difficult in the large group. Again, therefore, a committee was selected to consolidate and arrange the problem statements in such a way that the group could register its priorities.

### Priority Rating Given Problems

The morning of the third day it was first necessary to get a vote on the problem statements, which meanwhile had been clarified and organized into several broad categories. On the basis of the voting, which was done individually, priority rankings were given not only to the categories of types of problems, but to each of the specific problems listed in each category. The two highest ranking specific problems in each of the categories were selected as the basis for taking the next step.

By the time this process had been completed the forenoon was pretty well gone, but there was still time for some work group activity on the next step. This was to define the kind of role the county librarians could and would play in starting a continuing program of research designed to help the county librarians do an increasingly effective job. In this process the social scientists, acting as technical consultants, helped to show what kinds of contributions could be made by social science research in dealing with the librarians' problems.

### What Next?

That afternoon, following the previous pattern, the small work group chairmen presented reports to the entire workshop membership. For example, the librarians were interested in preparing maps that would show clearly which parts of their counties were not now getting adequate library service. Since all details could not be worked out on the spot, a permanent committee, including librarians, Extension Service representatives, and social scientists, was established to prepare and carry out detailed plans for a continuing library research program.

The final session of the workshop was devoted to a presentation by the permanent committee and staff members of tentative plans for a comprehensive and integrated social science research program on Michigan county library systems. Space does not permit presentation of details, but anyone interested can obtain them from Dr. Judson T. Landis, of Michigan State College, at East Lansing.

This workshop experience is worth reporting to extension workers for several reasons. First, several factors apparently contributed to the successful outcome of the workshop: (a) A relatively isolated but very comfortable and pleasant setting which permitted the development of a cumulative group feeling and experience; (b) sufficient duration so that genuine group unity could be achieved; (c) skillful recreational leadership and camp management which capitalized fully on the opportunity for developing good group working conditions; (d) informal and friendly but bold and creative leadership which exploited the skills and abilities of staff and workshop membership to the maximum. Second, this workshop demonstrates that social scientists, given the will and a chance to work closely and cooperatively with people interested in adult education, can direct their skills and techniques in a pointed fashion toward the solving of practical adult education problems. Third, there is a personal reason. At this workshop I saw more clearly than I have ever seen before that we can reach the ultimate goals we are all working toward—world peace, greater security, and better standards of living for people everywhere—only if educators and specialists and citizens work together as a team.

# Extension workers for China

Dr. and Mrs. H. K. Chang returned to China in July to head the regional extension organization at the National Northwest Agricultural College in Shensi. Their interest in visiting the Federal Extension office was particularly in visual aids and equipment. They plan to establish a college radio station and were picking up all the information they could on radio programming and broadcasting. Mrs. Chang obtained her master's and doctor's degrees in home economics at Oregon State College. Dr. Chang obtained his master's degree in agriculture at Iowa State College and his doctor's degree in rural sociology at Wisconsin.

# 136 years of progress rolled into 10 California years

T. SWANN HARDING, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture

**The fourth and last article in a series reporting on Mr. Harding's trip to four Western States to observe extension work**

California is a State in which you must rid yourself of preconceptions and fearlessly learn new things. It is a place of great activity; no one seems to have an impulse just to do nothing. If you are interested in farming, it is well to learn at the start that the dairy industry produces more farm income in this State than any other branch of agriculture, citrus fruit included. The State also has the highest percentage of cows under test of any State in the Union.

### Goal Set High

In 1920, Extension Director Crocheron decided that milk and butterfat production was rising too slowly. California's average was then 182 pounds of butterfat per cow per year. But the lower half of test herds in the Ferndale Association, Humboldt County, averaged 265 pounds. So this goal was set for the entire State, to be achieved by 1930. Achievement of the goal would mean that as much progress had been made in a decade as in 136 years at the rate of increase prevailing from 1900 to 1920.

The goal was set and achieved—hit right on the nose in fact. Cow testing increased rapidly; meanwhile herds were rid of tuberculosis, and vaccination for brucellosis proceeded apace. Cow boarders that didn't pay their keep at the dairyman's ration table were culled; good producers were fed concentrates at a level to maintain production. Scrub bulls were tried in public, condemned, executed, and then barbecued after a proper funeral oration.

### Average Production Boosted

Since 1927, California has had a record number of cows under test. It is only fourteenth among the States in number of cows on farms but stands first in average production per cow. It has about one-fifth of all cows under test in the United States; and, during the 10-year drive, its butterfat production rose at a rate of 8 pounds per cow per year in lieu of a mere 0.6 pound during the 1900–1920 period. This profited dairymen of the State an extra 26 million dollars annually.

Marin County, which San Francisco uses to hold up one end of the Golden Gate Bridge, as a surplus area for suburbanites, and as a milkshed, offers a good example of what was done. Historically a dairy county, with rainfall ranging from 25 to 44 inches annually, it has about 60,000 inhabitants (plus San Quentin), 600 farms, and 2,000 farmers who also produce a few beef cattle and sheep, a small acreage of alfalfa, and some poultry and much milk. Marin at one time had 40 percent of its cows under test, the highest mark any county ever made.

### Marin County for Example

A big, heavy-set, thoroughly capable former world-traveler, M. D. Boissevain, is the only county agent Marin ever had. His offices are in the attractive county seat, San Raphael (12,000 population). He became the county's first and only agent in 1920, before Department agencies other than Extension had taken up work in Marin. He took part in the 10-year plan from the start, realizing that, though California's cows already stood 40 pounds of butterfat a year above the national average, this high mark must be upped 50 percent to stabilize the industry.

How well he succeeded in Marin is indicated by the fact that the county had 24,797 cows in 1920 and 437 fewer than that in 1945; yet its butterfat production was only 3,389,810 pounds in the former year, and it rose to 7,500,000 in the latter! Marin is the most densely populated with dairy cows of any county in California, but it stood ninth in milk production in 1940. Insofar as anything in California can be small, Marin is a small county.

Boissevain campaigned for cow testing, the introduction of purebred sires selected by State dairy specialists from dams of 400 pounds butterfat production or better, the eradication of tuberculosis, vaccination of calves for brucellosis, and more sanitary dairy barns with modern mechanical equipment. He achieved his objectives and then some. He is also getting the farmers to increase pasture and alfalfa acreage to replace the alfalfa hay so long imported into Marin to feed dairy herds.

### What the Cow Tester Does

The cow testers, in case you don't know, carefully weigh the 24-hour milk production of each cow each month, run the Babcock test to ascertain the butterfat content, and calculate the level at which the animal should be fed concentrates. They can each test from 1,400 to 2,000 cows a month, are paid a relatively small annual sum by each herd owner, based on the size of the herd—each one of which must be tested, and earn about $200 a month plus $50 for a car.

As the tester's work tends to slow down the milkers, the latter have been especially uncooperative in wartime. Scarcity of labor has depleted the ranks of both, and the percentage of cows tested in Marin has dropped to 20, though it is now on the upgrade again. Dairymen, if they ever had testing done, are all convinced that it pays, and intend to start it again just as soon as possible.

### Prison Cow Excels

We cannot leave Marin without mentioning an outstanding inmate of San Quentin Prison, No. 104, a remarkable cow. Her final lactation period extended over 5 years after freshening. During that time she produced 82,159 pounds of milk and 3,271.5 of butterfat. During the first year of this incredible lactation period she produced 18,128.5 pounds of grade A milk and 778.8 pounds of butterfat. Needless to say, like all the other agrarian inhabitants, she was a friend and supporter of County Agent Boissevain.

# Planning and appraisal clinic

■ Eighteen Negro county agents and their district extension leaders attended the farm planning and appraisal demonstration conducted recently in Hinds County, Miss., by J. V. Pace, extension economist.

The agents were given training in identifying and classifying soils for their agricultural value; proper land use; planning a balanced farm program for best use of land, labor, and capital; methods in determining normal agricultural values of farms and farm land on a basis of natural fertility and productive capacity.

Mr. Pace stressed the importance and possible implications of rapidly advancing farm prices as related to the future of agriculture, and particularly to the settlement of returning veterans and other young farmers on the land under present conditions.

During the morning the Negro agents visited two farms owned by Negro farmers and studied the different soil types for their best uses. The location with respect to roads, schools, churches, and market centers was noted. The type of community, progressiveness of the people, and availability of public services were recorded.

The afternoon was spent in a classroom at Campbell Negro College in Jackson, developing what the group considered to be a sound long-time organization and program for each of the farms, based on proper land use, soil adaptation, and market outlets.

Other clinics are planned for Negro county agents so they will be in a better position to advise with and assist their farmers in sound farm planning and management as well as guidance in purchasing farm land.

# Statisticians in Denmark

**Louise S. Jessen, extension editor in Hawaii, is spending several months in Denmark visiting relatives. She sent the following story of how agricultural information got out of Denmark in the war years:**

■ Sitting safely at my desk in Hawaii during all the war years, my first job each morning was to attack the pile of Washington mail, those heavy brown envelopes so familiar to all extension editors. Among the mass of agricultural statistics, instructions, recipes, copies of speeches, and radio programs, I would find from time to time a report of crop conditions in Europe. Often there was much agricultural news even from the countries held by the enemy. When I would read, for example, "Danish wheat crop above normal," I seldom stopped to wonder how Danish agricultural writers were able to get that news to me and to the rest of the outside world.

The story of how these men and women collected the figures, compiled and interpreted them, and, under the very noses of the German officers, got their copy across the 18-mile strip of water that separated Copenhagen from neutral Sweden, was recently told to me by one of the men who played an important part in Denmark's underground news service.

"We did it in all sorts of ways," he said, "sometimes by a fast motorboat that moved like an arrow across the water at night. Sometimes an illegal broadcasting station hidden away in some cellar told the news. But these methods were often dangerous and unreliable. The way that worked the best was this:

"A railroad employee working on one of the ferries that carry trains from Copenhagen to Sweden would fasten one of our envelopes to the under side of the floor of a freight car. The same day another worker would casually chalk a number in a careless scrawl on the brake of another train leaving Copenhagen at a different hour. It was a different brake on a different train every day. If a German official saw the number, he probably thought it had something to do with the operation of the train; perhaps it meant that the brake needed to be tightened.

"Over in Sweeden other railroad workers looked for that number every day as they made up the trains. It told them what car they were to crawl under to find the envelope whose contents would tell the world what was happening on Denmark's farms."

Month after month this system worked. Often what seemed like a simple market report might have important military significance. For example, when Danish agricultural reporters told the allied world how much butter the Danish creameries were required to supply to the German army every day, the allies could estimate fairly accurately the number of German troops in Denmark.

# Meeting the needs of GI brides coming from foreign countries

■ Good neighborliness, like charity, begins at home. The solution to the relations-between-nations problem begins and ends with the individual.

That is the belief of many home bureau members in New York State. And they practice their preaching by welcoming into their communities the foreign-born brides of local servicemen. They look on these new American homemakers as envoys of good will from countries where the people have been good neighbors to our boys when they were far from home.

In Broome County a "Neighbor's Day" was held at Binghamton in connection with National Home Demonstration Week. Home bureau members in the communities where the brides lived called on them and made arrangements to take them to the reception.

### How To Cook Like His Mother

There the girl from France, the lass from Scotland, and the 13 English women chatted with American homemakers and looked over exhibits of articles made by home bureau members—lamp shades, hooked table mats, refinished furniture, stenciled hitchcock-type chairs, fabric bags, dress accessories, remodeled clothing, canned fruits and vegetables, and home-made play things for children.

They were enthusiastic about what they saw and were eager to learn "how to do it." But most of all they wanted to know "How to cook like his mother used to." Two of the brides had already attended extension service meetings, and the Lancashire lass had received home bureau help when a local leader went into her home to demonstrate the operation of the washing machine, or "gadget" as she called it.

High point of the afternoon was the presentation of honorary memberships in the home bureau to the new American housewives. All were delighted and indicated that they were happy for this opportunity to learn "the American way."

However, the learning is not all on the side of the foreign brides. They too have something to contribute and are eager to be good neighbors in their new land. One of the English girls was a teacher of home economics in schools for "the age you call your bobby-soxers." Others had attended meetings of the British counterpart of our home bureau—the Woman's Institute.

Most of these GI brides were members of the English Army, Navy, Air Corps, or Nurse Corps. The French girl was a Government secretary, the Scotch lass an aircraft inspector, and the rest were Government employees or school teachers. All had worked hard for peace and were eager to cement the friendships of the war.

Another New York community which believes in beginning its good neighbor policy at home is Buffalo. In this city a special cooking course for brides is conducted by the home demonstration agent and her assistant. Fifteen of the brides attending these classes are foreign-born.

Mixed with a group of American-born brides who are also just learning to cook, the girls from Cairo, Casablanca, and London are not nearly so embarrassed when they find that American girls, brought up in this country, need to learn the same things. And they make their contributions by showing the Americans some of the secrets of their native chefs.

Sometimes there are disagreements about food. "Chicken feed," scoffed the English girls when the home demonstration agent suggested preparing corn. "Wait till you try an old-fashioned corn roast. You'll change your mind," retorted the Americans.

But the arguments are good-natured, and all are learning a mutual respect and liking for their neighbors of another country.

Not so extensive, but a step in the right direction is the program for war brides in Syracuse. In this city the home demonstration agent cooperates with the American Red Cross in an orientation course for foreign-born wives. Among other things, she explains the credit system which operates in American stores and tells the newcomers how to go about establishing a credit rating.

The work of the Extension Service and the individual home bureau members is an example of what Americans can do to improve relations with people of other countries. Ultimately, this improves the relations between nations.

It took a war to bring the peoples of the world together. Now can we be good neighbors. *Gwen H. Haws, Assistant Editor, Department of Extension Teaching and Information, in cooperation with Home Demonstration Agents Katherine S. Doyle and Katherine N. Britt, New York State College of Agriculture.*

**In a mixture of French and English, Mrs. Ward Hinton (right), French bride of the First World War, explains the makings of a lamp shade to Mrs. Anthony Gance of Marseille (center) who recently joined her ex-soldier husband at Endicott, N. Y. Also interested is the French bride's sister-in-law, Miss Rosalie Gance. Mrs. Hinton, a leader in lamp-shade making in the Endicott Club, came to this country 27 years ago.**

# Homemaking club for British brides

■ When Ruth J. Widmer, Boone County, Ill., home demonstration agent, planned her lesson on Women in Foreign Lands last month, she found a good source of information in Mrs. Chester Watts, none other than a British war bride.

By the time young Mrs. Watts had delivered her talk—and a good one it was, too—at all Boone County units, Mrs. Widmer, realizing that there might be many other such foreign brides in her county, was busily organizing a British Brides' Club. At its first meeting the agent demonstrated American coffee-making technique, and the brides returned the favor by illustrating the English method of making tea.

There are now five members in the club with a sixth to join as soon as she arrives. Mrs. Widmer anticipates that the club name will soon have to be changed from "British" brides because many other countries are expected to be represented in the group. American brides have been invited to join, too.

The lessons continue with topics of special interest to the newcomers. The vegetable relish plate was a surprise to them, especially when they found raw cauliflower to be a palatable addition. Freezing foods and preparing them for the table are completely new processes to these young women, and a lesson is soon to cover these subjects.

# Texans welcome with a shower

**An English war bride surveys the array of gifts from her new friends in Grimes County, Tex., after a shower for her given by the Piedmont-Erwin Home Demonstration Club. About 60 neighbors attended the tea and shower to help welcome the newcomer from across the Atlantic.**

## Clothing for the Philippines

A helping hand for the less fortunate homemakers in the Philippines is occupying the home demonstration clubs in Geneva County, Ala. The McNeal Home Demonstration Club has held sewing days and made 6 dresses, sizes 14 and 16, from white 100-pound feed sacks. Twenty-two clubs brought clothing to the June meetings. In addition, the clubs of the county sent 100 yards of lightweight white cotton cloth manufactured in the local mills to Miss Presentacion Atienza, in charge of home demonstration agents in the Philippine Islands. "Miss Atienza worked with me on food preservation in Troy, Ala., when she was studying in the United States. I would like very much to help her during this crisis," writes Home Demonstration Agent Carrie B. Threaton.

## Hatching-eggs to the Czechs

One hundred and fifty-five cases of R. O. P. (record of production) hatching eggs, given by members of the Illinois Poultry Improvement Association, have been flown to Czechoslovakia by UNRRA. So grateful were the people of that war-stricken country that they immediately dispatched a message to F. H. La Guardia, Director General of UNRRA, saying: "The Republic of Czechoslovakia wishes to convey to the people of Illinois sincere gratitude for gift of hatching eggs made by Illinois farmers and poultry raisers through UNRRA. This help in time of need most welcome."

## Letter from Hawaii

4–H Club membership in Hawaii has increased about 30 percent under the leadership of Burns Byram, according to a recent letter from Director H. H. Warner. Other items of interest were Baron Goto's return to the staff as county agent leader, which the director feels will strengthen the organization. Mrs. Alice P. Trimble has been appointed to succeed Miss Kathryn Shellhorn as home demonstration leader. Assistant Director has been appointed to succeed Miss R. A. Goff plans to attend the Madison, Wis., conference on extension administration in October.

# 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.**

### New Vitamin?

■ A vitaminlike factor that enhances palatability has been found in milk and some other foods. A. M. Hartman and C. A. Cary of the Bureau of Dairy Industry got on the trail of this factor in the course of studies of the nutritional values of milk. They call it Nutrient X.

The importance of X in nutrition was shown by experiments with rats. Animals fed a diet relatively high in protein died if X was lacking but lived and made fair growth on the same diet when it was supplemented with Nutrient X. Rats given diets containing all the known nutrients but minus X made poor growth, largely because they found the food unpalatable and would not eat enough to support normal growth. When X was fed in addition to the same diet, they ate the food with relish and soon were growing normally again.

The same result was achieved by injecting very small quantities of liver extract, a rich source of the X factor, into the rats. Surprisingly, the rats thus treated began to eat food they had rejected, though its taste and quality was unchanged.

The investigators have found Nutrient X present in milk and several milk products (including cheese, but not butterfat), in egg yolk, beef muscle and pork muscle, in lettuce, in bluegrass and alfalfa, and in alfalfa and timothy hays. Grain feeds do not contain X, and it is not present in white or whole-wheat flour, wheat bran, corn meal, soybean meal, heated egg white, or yeast.

### 37 Years of Eating

■ Has the diet of Americans changed much in the last 37 years? Some striking differences in food habits are shown graphically in a new report analyzing per capita food consumption in the United States from 1909 through 1945. For example, consumption of citrus fruit has increased 400 percent and that of potatoes and grain products has decreased by 30 percent.

During the recent war, the nutritive value of the average civilian diet actually improved. Among important factors were higher purchasing power and better general understanding of nutritional requirements. A sharp increase in amounts of calcium, vitamins, and iron in the diet since the mid-thirties is due to higher consumption of milk, meat, eggs, green and yellow vegetables, and citrus fruits and to bread and flour enrichment.

These averages appear to indicate a nutritionally adequate diet for all the people of the country, but averages do not reveal the disparities between different income groups, regions, and types of communities. According to the report, though food supplies during the last few years have been sufficient to provide all the people with recommended allowances of nutrients, actually more food and better distribution are needed to reach all groups.

The analysis, entitled "Nutritive Value of Per Capita Food Supply, 1909–45," was prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

### Mineral Reserves in Young Animals

■ As a part of its broad program of studies to learn the subtle and interlocking relationships between soils and plants and plants and animals, the U. S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory at Ithaca, N. Y., has been observing mineral reserves in young animals.

The investigators have found that copper and manganese, two elements needed in the animal body, though in very small amounts, behave in opposite ways. Rats, rabbits, and guinea pigs, they found, are born with a reserve of copper in their livers but with little or no manganese. During the suckling period, however, the copper is depleted and the manganese steadily increases. Milk contains an inadequate amount of copper to add to the supply of the infant animal, the initial store being usually just enough to tide the baby over the suckling period. Manganese, on the other hand, appears to be present in milk in large enough quantities to build up a supply in the suckling.

### Seeking Insect-Resistant Plants

■ Plant breeders and entomologists have been working for many years to develop crop-plant varieties resistant to insect attack. Many new varieties resistant to plant diseases have been introduced and have saved farmers millions of dollars. Intensive experiments in breeding varieties of wheat, corn, barley, sorghums, sugarcane, and potatoes that resist insect attacks are showing favorable results.

Two varieties of wheat resistant to the hessian fly, Poso 42 and Big Club 43, have been released and are being grown commercially in California. Big Club 43 is also resistant to stem rust, bunt, and root rot. These wheats continue to show resistance to the fly under commercial conditions.

Efforts to develop a corn resistant to the European corn borer have not yet produced a strain that can be recommended to farmers. Most good hybrids, however, suffer less damage from the borer than open-pollinated varieties because they have stronger stalks and are more resistant to lodging under borer infestation.

Sugarcanes bred for resistance to the sugarcane borer are being tested, and several show promise.

Factors other than variety, such as soil condition, may affect resistance to insects. Alfalfa plants growing in alkaline soil were attacked by more aphids than plants in the same field growing on more acid soil. Liming the soil greatly increased the number of aphids attacking the alfalfa, and plants with high calcium content seemed to attract aphids. Chinch bugs were found to breed more readily on sorghum growing on soil fertilized heavily with nitrogen than on soil treated with phosphate.

## Yankee agents meet in Vermont

Green Mountain county agricultural agents recently played host to 58 Yankee extension agents at the annual meeting of the New England County Agricultural Agents' Association. The 2-day gathering was held at the Darling Inn, Lyndonville, Vt.

The treat of the meeting was a sugar-on-snow party, when the agents tasted pure Vermont maple sirup on pure Vermont snow. The snow, nearly 300 pounds of it, was collected last winter and stored in a local freezer locker for the occasion. The sirup, another item on the scarcity list this year because of a short crop, was collected early from maples in Vermont's north country. Although one of New England's favorite dishes, many agents confessed that this was their first sugar-on-snow. After eating their fill of maple sirup, doughnuts, dill pickles, and coffee, the agents settled down to an informal discussion of problems of the association and of extension work.

Roll call by States showed that Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont agents were present. Attendance by States was as follows: Massachusetts, 21; Vermont, 12; Maine, 8; Connecticut, 8; New Hampshire, 6; and Rhode Island, 3.

Governor Proctor of Vermont addressed the group and praised the county agents for the valuable help they have given to the cause of agriculture. Emphasizing the need for greater planning in the field of agriculture, he commented specifically on the program now under way in Vermont. Various committees, including commodity and livestock, have been appointed by the Governor to study and plan for the future agriculture of Vermont.

"The job of the county agent in the early days was missionary work," so stated Dr. H. R. Varney, assistant director of Vermont's Extension Service. First, the Agent had to "spread the gospel" and make himself known. He had to gain the confidence of his people in order to be helpful to them. One of the common tools used by the agent was conducting demonstration meetings. Gradually the agent's main job became concerned with matters of production. During the 20's, problems of marketing came to the front, followed during the 30's by the influx of action agencies found necessary because of the depression years. The recent war period changed the work of the county agent tremendously.

"Now, in this postwar period, what is going to be the job of the county agent?" he asked. Varney pointed out that the agent's job might be classified in two categories: (1) Some service work, and (2) education. The primary purpose is education. With this in mind, and through close cooperation with other county agencies, the county agent will continue to hold a responsible position in his county as far as agriculture is concerned.

Verne Beverly, president of the New England County Agents' Association and county agent from Aroostook County, Maine, was general chairman of arrangements. The following Vermont county agents aided him: Local arrangements, T. H. Blow; smoker, R. C. McWilliams; publicity, L. D. Paquette; program, Roger Whitcomb; resolutions, Frank Jones; banquet, T. H. Blow.

The officers and directors of the New England association who were elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Allen Leland, Massachusetts; vice president, Philip Dean, Connecticut; secretary-treasurer, Bertram Tomlinson, Massachusetts; directors, Herbert Leonard, Maine; Allen Leland, Massachusetts; E. A. Adams, New Hampshire; Gardner Tibbets, Rhode Island; Philip Dean, Connecticut; and Earle Clark, Vermont.

## Master forest farmers cited

A stimulus to good wood-lot management is seen in the first public awards made to New York farmers who maintained their woodlands during the war years in the face of terrific pressure to liquidate.

In recognition of their accomplishments, six farmers in two southern tier counties—Tioga and Chemung—have been given Master Forest Farmer awards by the Tioga Woodland Owners Cooperative.

To meet the Master Forest Farmer requirements, they had to be members in good standing during the war years; own and operate at least 20 acres of woods, with not more than 5 acres in forest plantation; protect the woods against grazing and fire; carry out cutting practices in accord with sound forestry principles; and keep good records of operations, including returns.

In addition to an engraved certificate, each of the award winners has received an attractive roadside sign which reads: "Here lives a man who manages his woods like any other crop."

Back of this recognition, says Prof. J. A. Cope, extension forester at Cornell University, is the hope of increasing the number of "woods minded" farmers in the area.

## Equipment makes Kentucky circuit

The Kentucky farm and home equipment show toured 47 counties and attracted 54,580 persons. The show featured more than 100 time- and labor-saving devices and methods and was presented by the farm-labor department of the Kentucky College of Agriculture and Home Economics.

The tobacco exhibits, among them a tobacco-stick sharpener, and stick holder for bulking tobacco, attracted principal interest. Other popular exhibits were a box for wood and kindling, a hay and grain loader, and a weed cutter.

Large numbers of orders have been received at the experiment station for blueprints and plans of the exhibits. One visitor said of the show: "I don't know of any better way to bring extension work to farm people." Another said: "Farmers told me that 1 day of this exhibit was probably equivalent to several weeks of demonstration and other farm meetings conducted by the county agent. Many learned new ideas, and numerous requests are being made for plans and specifications of some of the exhibits.

The farm and home equipment show was first put on at the thirty-fourth annual farm and home convention held in Lexington January 29 to February 1. A road tour of 28 scheduled counties was originally planned. Because of the demand, 19 additional counties were added to the schedule. The road tour opened in Clark County on February 14 and closed in Greenup County, June 5.

# We Study Our Job

## Missouri bulletin experiment

Two editions of a Missouri extension bulletin on gardening, entitled, *The Family Vegetable Supply*, were written at different readability levels. Circular 440 published in 1942 was fairly difficult—about high-school reading level, comparable in reading difficulty to magazines like Harpers. Recently a simplified version of the same gardening subject matter was put out. This was written in the language of the "average" reader—about eighth to ninth grade—the level of Reader's Digest.

These two versions were the basis of a comparative readability study made by Clyde R. Cunningham, former Missouri horticulturist. Mr. Cunningham had worked with Extension Editor A. A. Jeffrey in writing the simplified bulletin, Circular 524. He wished to find out if other people found it easier reading than Circular 440.

After testing the readability of the "before" and "after" versions by the Flesch and Lorge Formulas, Mr. Cunningham tried the two editions out on different groups of people.

He distributed copies of the two circulars to students of a horticulture class at the University of Missouri, and to members of the Deer Park Home-Economics Club of Boone County. Half of each group were given Circular 440 and the others, Circular 524. Thirty minutes were allowed each person—20 minutes for reading and 10 minutes for answering 10 questions on the subject matter in the bulletins.

In both groups, the readers of the simplified edition scored higher in the reading test on the bulletin than those reading the more difficult version. Those reading the simpler edition got more information in a short time—the information was easier to find as well as to read.

Those taking the reading test were of the general opinion that entire publications are not read at one time. The women felt that most of them did not spend 30 minutes on a circular at one sitting; the students allowed about 20 minutes or less. "This indicates a need for a clear, definite, readable index," Mr. Cunningham points out.

Specific, concrete words seemed to be preferable according to those tested. In one question, for example, the word, "fertilizer" (meaning commercial fertilizer) used alone, was confused with barnyard manure.

Mr. Cunningham sent copies of his simplified garden Circular No. 524, together with a questionnaire, to Missouri county and State extension workers. In addition to all the State staff, the group included 10 experienced county agricultural agents, 10 county agents with at least 1 year's service, 10 experienced and 10 less experienced home demonstration agents.

Questions were asked the extension workers to get their reactions on the cover, length of circular, headings, pictures, purpose, and readability of the simplified edition. Most of the workers preferred the two-column lay-out and 10-point type. Some of them preferred colored pictures. They liked the placement of pictures above the legend. More direct statements were suggested and not so much wordy explanation.

### Missouri Study Plan

"This interesting study shows what a specialist can do when he puts a little extra time on a special problem," says C. C. Hearne, who supervised the bulletin experiment. Mr. Cunningham selected this as a special problem for 2 hours' credit at the University of Missouri. The study is part of Missouri's long-time professional improvement program, enabling extension workers to do graduate work in small doses.

More details are given in a short report entitled, "Special Problem—Readability of Missouri Extension Service Circular 524, 'The Family Vegetable Supply,'" June 1946, by Clyde R. Cunningham.

## Michigan checks on apple-pruning bulletins

Last year, Michigan tried an interesting bulletin experiment. A specialist wrote an apple-pruning bulletin in the conventional, informational manner. Then a professional writer rewrote the same material in the popular style of a feature article. Both versions were distributed to a random sample of Michigan fruit growers to find out which they considered the easier and the more interesting to read.

Despite the simpler presentation of the popular writer, the majority of the Michigan farmers polled said they understood the specialist's explanation of how to prune apple trees better than the popular writer's.

"The writer's version sounds too much like a magazine article, which, according to our experience, requires taking with a grain of salt," said one of the farmers polled.

Other comments of farmers ran like this:

"Both are very good. Hard to decide, but the specialist's is best if you are looking for information."

"If the pruning story was to be presented only to the growers who are first to last in the apple business as business, the specialist's bulletin is the choice."

A greater number of farmers, however, considered the popular bulletin more interesting and entertaining than the specialist's; they also felt it might induce more farmers to try pruning their apple trees.

Some of the farmers expressed themselves as follows:

"If I asked a man who was helping with the pruning to take a bulletin home to read, as I have sometimes done in the past, I would choose the one by the writer."

"An experienced horticulture man might prefer the technical one, but I still like the story-telling form, as it leaves a deeper impression more readily grasped."

The majority of county and State extension workers polled in various States preferred the specialst's version because it was shorter, better organized, and more to the point than the writer's. Farmers wanted to know how to prune apple trees. The specialist "tells them what he is going to tell them; then he tells them; then he tells them what he told them." He does this by giving the information in two summaries, a preview at the beginning preparing the reader for what's to come, and a review at the end, in question-and-answer form; questions that the reader might ask himself with the answers right there before him. Between the two summaries the specialist gives a more detailed account of how to prune apple trees—step by step in logical sequence.

The writer wrote the same information in a conversational style; important points on how to prune apple trees were buried in rambling wordiness; not tied together and summarized in 1–2–3 order for the reader to carry away. The writer primerized rather than simplified parts of the publication; he occasionally talks down to farm readers.

It was the consensus of various newspaper editors polled that "the specialist's version from the standpoint of a fruit grower's guide and pruning handbook, is far superior.

"Several of us have read the two versions," wrote one editor. "Agricultural bulletins on the whole urgently need to be written more interestingly. On the other hand, we are frankly doubtful if the popular writer has hit upon just the right formula. In the first place, in adding color to the story, he has made the bulletin almost 50 percent longer than the specialist's version. We have found that in the presentation of practical agricultural information the reader likes to get the meat of the thing in as few words as possible. We have just completed a large readership survey, and it proves this point conclusively."

On the basis of the information received from the persons surveyed, only the specialist's bulletin has been printed for general distribution. It is, "The Thin Wood Method of Pruning Bearing Apple Trees," Circular Bulletin 179, by H. P. Gaston, Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan State College, East Lansing.

## Have you read

GROUNDS FOR LIVING, The Home Dweller's Compleat Guide to His Lawns, Trees, Gardens. *Edited* by *Richard B. Farnham and Van Wie Ingham.* 334 pp. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N. J., 1946.

■ This book is representative of an increasing trend among college and university presses toward issuing books by staff specialists of the college so written as to combine a wealth of scientific and practical knowledge in words understandable to lay readers. Today, information about gardening and landscaping is sincerely sought and appreciated by a large body of the public. *Grounds for Living* represents a well-balanced combination of material contributed by the research and extension people of the New Jersey College of Agriculture of Rutgers University. The book is well edited, pleasantly readable, and does a good job of presenting basic and practical subject matter that country, village, and town people are seeking to help them beautify their home surroundings. Serving all these groups with practical information on gardening and landscaping is becoming increasingly an extension function. Although the book is intended largely for the East Central States, much of the information contained in it would be valuable to extension workers in other areas with large urban and suburban home populations.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

# To better service New York farmers

■ To deal with two different aspects of rural life in New York State, appointment of two committees was recently announced by Director L. R. Simons of that State.

One is the County Farm Management—Agricultural Engineering Personnel Committee and the other the Extension Service Committee on Leisure-Time Activities for Rural People.

The former, according to Director Simons, will consider a State-wide policy to meet requests from counties for in-service training of present personnel and will operate in the combined fields of farm management and agricultural engineering. The need for persons so trained was clearly shown in the war period, and it will continue as long as efficient operations of farms is essential for maintaining good living standards, he said.

The committee is headed by Prof. M. C. Bond, agricultural economics, and includes staff members in 4-H, home economics, agricultural engineering, rural education, public speaking, and agricultural extension.

The Committee on Leisure-Time Activities for Rural People was appointed with the approval of President Edmund E. Day, of Cornell, and the deans of arts and sciences, home economics, and agriculture.

Purpose of the group is to consider establishment of an organized general extension program in the arts and crafts and other recreation activities, as an autonomous unit of the Extension Service and not as part of separate departments of the college.

The committee, headed by Prof. L. S. Cottrell, Jr., includes staff members in arts and sciences as well as the State colleges, and the following interests are represented: Sociology, speech and drama, floriculture, family life, economics, visual aids, engineering, folklore, fine arts, household art, music, and extension.

Considering the committee highly desirable, President Day said: "I hope you will proceed at once with the job."

# Among Ourselves

■ MISS LYDIA TARRANT, formerly nutrition specialist in Pennsylvania, has taken up her new duties as State home demonstration leader, succeeding Mrs. Agnes Brumbaugh Moot, resigned. Miss Beatrice Spiker is nutrition specialist, succeeding Miss Tarrant.

■ HENRY N. REIST, formerly in charge of extension agricultural economics in Pennsylvania, is now in charge of extension surveys, a new office; and Dr. Kenneth Hood succeeds Mr. Reist.

■ HERBERT F. McFEELY, agricultural economist; and Stanley G. Gesell, entomologist; and Robert A. McCall, rural sociologist have been added to the Pennsylvania extension staff. McFeely's work will be in fruit and vegetable marketing, a field in which he has had long experience. From West Philadelphia High School, he entered Penn State, graduating in 1924 with a major in horticulture. After a long tenure with the Federal-State fruit marketing and news services, he left that work to join the New Jersey extension staff in 1941, remaining there until going to Pennsylvania. He is a native of Marion, Ind.

■ R. K. BLISS, Director of Extension in Iowa, was honored on Alumni Day at Iowa State College with the Alumni Merit Award sponsored annually by the Iowa State Alumni Club of Chicago.

Started in 1932, the awards have been bestowed upon Iowa State College graduates for meritorious service to their fellow men.

Director Bliss was born at Diagonal, Iowa, October 30, 1880, and was reared on a farm. He was graduated from Iowa State College in 1905 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. From 1905 to 1906, he farmed in Iowa and then was appointed to take charge of animal husbandry extension work in Iowa. He served in this capacity until 1912. Mr. Bliss was acting superintendent of the Agricultural Extension Service in 1912 and professor and head of the Department of Animal Husbandry at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, from 1912 to 1914. In 1914 he became director of the Agricultural Extension Service at Iowa State College.

During World War I, Director Bliss was secretary of the War Emergency Food Committee; chairman of the State Seed Stocks Committee in 1917; State director of the Boys' Working Reserve in 1917 and 1918. From 1930 to 1939, he was a member of the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant College Association. From 1933 to 1936 he was also chairman of that committee.

Director Bliss is also a member of the Agricultural Adjustment Committee, chairman of the State Soil Conservation Committee, a member of the State Farm Security Administration Committee, and chairman of the State Agricultural Program Planning Committee.

■ J. C. BARNETT, retiring from the Arkansas Extension Service after 39 years, says he found his farm training more valuable than his college degree or his tenure as a foreign adviser.

Two phases of the Extension Service program Mr. Barnett has considered almost as hobbies. These—soil building and live-at-home—he has preached since the early days with the firm conviction that they lead the way to progress and better life for farm people.

Mr. Barnett joined the Arkansas Extension Service January 1, 1913. When appointed district agent, he had just returned from more than 2 years of foreign duty with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He was assigned to northwest Arkansas, at his own request, in an effort to regain his health which had been impaired while he was out of the country. He served in this capacity until June 30, 1938, when he was made supervisor of Negro agents in a newly created set-up.

When Mr. Barnett first went into extension work October 7, 1907, as district agent for northeast Louisiana, the program was in its infancy. His job was more that of a roving county agent for the dozen parishes in his district than of supervisor. But when he left in 1910 he had placed a county agent in every parish.

In 1910 he was lent by the Government to the Siamese Government under a 2-year contract as adviser to the minister of agriculture. The "break" came to him, he says, because he happened to meet these three requirements: He had a college degree in agriculture from Mississippi State; he was familiar with both the State extension service set-up and with the Federal Department of Agriculture; and he was working in a rice area of Louisiana, and Siam was in need of developing its rice farming.

Among practices adopted by Siam at the suggestion of Mr. Barnett were a crop-reporting service similar to this country's, an annual nation-wide agricultural fair officially designated as the Exhibition of Agriculture and Commerce, introduction of American rice machinery and American varieties of seeds, and establishment of an educational system for training young men for agricultural leadership.

In tribute to Mr. Barnett's service, Associate Extension Director Aubrey D. Gates stated: "He will have as his satisfaction the knowledge that untold thousands of Arkansas farm people who know, honor, and love him are grateful for the fine influence he has had in enriching farm family living.


## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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# Agents get ready to answer housing questions

VIRGINIA BERRY CLARK, Extension Home Economist, Indiana

■ No county agent or home demonstration agent would ever claim to be a combination architect, engineer, and financial adviser; but farm families in Indiana seem to expect it! Requests for help in planning improved farm housing, buildings, and farmstead arrangement have been on the increase for more than a year. County workers, in turn, swamped State specialists with questions. To aid in this problem, three training conferences for county extension workers were held during May in southern, central, and northern Indiana.

When State specialists began planning the conferences, they were guided by facts learned in the 16 county farmstead improvement schools held during the previous winter. They knew what questions were being asked most often by the farm men and women. Using this basic information, the conferences for county workers were planned by extension specialists in the five departments (agricultural engineering, home economics, horticulture, forestry, agricultural economics) who are working on the farmstead improvement program and by members of the supervisory staff.

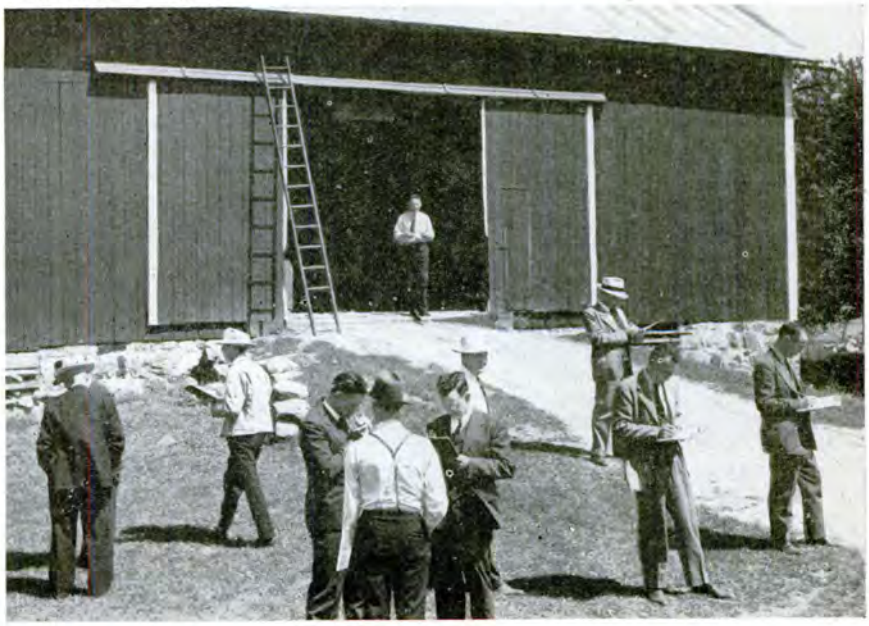
Each conference included a field trip and several workshops, illustrated lectures, method demonstrations, and discussions. Time devoted to each meeting was 2 days and 1 evening. The aim of each meeting was to present general principles in the economics of farm buildings, in modernizing the farm home, in converting the barn to present needs, and in developing a well-unified farmstead plan.

The first day of conference included a field trip to a problem farm previously selected by the specialists. To help in working out remodeling plans for the farm, agents were given facts as to type and size of farm, amount of livestock, cropping system, housing requirements, and the family's preferences and long-time plans. Each agent then scored the entire farmstead by a scorecard supplied by the landscape architect who later analyzed the scoring and pointed out good and weak points in the farmstead layout.

The home demonstration agents worked in groups of three to five persons under direction of the home management specialist in rural housing and an agricultural engineer. They examined the house and obtained necessary information for later planning. At the same time county agents were divided into small teams directed by an agricultural engineer. They obtained necessary information relative to remodeling the principal barn. At an evening workshop, home demonstration agent teams developed plans for remodeling the farm, while the county agent teams worked out plans for remodeling the barn, considering financial limitations and long-time goals of the farm family.

On the second day of conference, members of the forestry and agricultural engineering departments explained and demonstrated techniques of construction, use of materials—both native and commercial—and installation of utilities. Following a discussion of these specialized problems, each team of county agents presented its solution for remodeling the

**County agricultural agents figure the bill of material and probable costs for bringing the barn up-to-date under the direction of C. H. Reed, extension agricultural engineer**



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barn. Each team of home demonstration agents explained its version of the remodeled house. To facilitate group examination of the plans as they were explained by the team leader, the $\frac{1}{8}$-inch-scale sketches were projected on a screen by use of a reflectoscope.

The conference ended with a summary of the work of all the teams by supervising specialists. Specialists in agricultural economics and landscape architecture presented an overall picture—showing sketches—of a practical long-time plan for the problem farm. At the end of the conference each worker was provided with a Farm Building and Farmstead Improvement Handbook containing reference material from the Purdue specialists, as well as pertinent USDA bulletins and supplementary information from other universities and associations that deal with rural housing information. Additional material will be provided for the handbooks from time to time.

Reports from agents indicate that the training school was helpful. It has focused attention on how the county agents and home demonstration agents—together with State specialists—can cooperate best in meeting the existing problem. The training and background material, together with the handbook, has resulted in fewer questions from county workers.

**Frances Rae Opp, home demonstration agent, Lake County, Ind. (center), and another agent, Suzanne Martin, study the problem of draperies in the farm home of Mrs. Owen Smith, one of the "laboratories" for county extension workers.**

# Farmers made aware of plant disease problems

■ Through field teaching and demonstration, work in plant disease control as conducted in North Carolina over a 9-year period has brought forth encouraging results. It is estimated that North Carolina farmers are now adding more than $15,000,000 annually to their cash income from agricultural crops by following practical plant disease control methods.

Howard R. Garriss, extension plant pathologist at North Carolina State College, Raleigh, has devoted full time to the project; however, demands for plant disease control services have increased beyond the reach of a "One man control." The tobacco disease problem is so great that additional extension personnel to work full time is being requested.

The importance of controlling blue mold on tobacco and a new method for the control was outlined this year early in the season in a series of meetings with North Carolina tobacco growers. More progress was made in the control of blue mold of tobacco in 1946 than in any year since the disease made its appearance in the State.

Mr. Garriss explains there are probably two main reasons why the control measures were used more widely in 1946 than ever before. First, heavy tobacco losses were suffered because of blue mold in previous years; and second, practical, simple, and fool-proof methods of control were introduced. Mr. Garriss found that larger tobacco acreages could be planted and earlier plantings could be made from treated beds.

### Other Tobacco Diseases

The variety, Oxford 26, promised a great relief from the previous tobacco losses which resulted from Granville wilt attacks. North Carolina growers needed little encouragement from extension or experiment station workers to use the variety where it was needed. Mr. Garriss received no generally unsatisfactory reports on the performance of Oxford 26, but nonetheless work is being continued on the improvement of Granville wilt-resistant strains.

Before the introduction of resistant tobacco varieties black root rot annually took a heavy toll in a loss of plants, reduced yields, and inferior tobacco quality. The 400 variety is now being used in the infested area of the North Carolina Piedmont section and is giving gratifying results to tobacco growers. Yellow Special, which is also resistant to black root rot, is becoming popular. Mr. Garriss has found that Yellow Special produces a better quality of tobacco than 400 in the heavier North Carolina soils.

### Horticultural Crop Diseases

Last year the North Carolina tomato crop in the upper Piedmont and mountain sections was completely destroyed by late blight, except where a few growers had dusted or sprayed thoroughly.

Demonstrations on dusting and spraying tomatoes were given in the mountain area in cooperation with Dr. D. E. Ellis, associate plant pathologist at North Carolina State College; and commercial mixes of certain fungicidal dust were found to be best for the control.

Mr. Garriss feels the results have been gratifying. Large percentages of home gardeners and growers for local markets are getting a supply of good tomatoes this year that are free of late blight rot whereas before they had no success with the crop.

As a result of extension activities, North Carolina sweetpotato growers have become more plant disease conscious and are giving more attention to using seed treatments, rotation practices, and better handling to prevent cuts and bruises.

The North Carolina county agents conducted demonstrations on fumigating sweetpotato houses with Larvacide (chloropicrin) to kill the rot germs that can be carried to the storage house on old used crates and baskets. Growers were impressed with the Larvacide treatment and the ease with which it could be used without the use of a gas mask.

### Seed Treatment and Dusting Practices

Mr. Garriss reports there has been a great increase in the number of small-grain growers who have treated their seed before planting. Seed treatments are now being done on a large scale by commercial seed cleaners and treaters scattered throughout the Piedmont section. Although plant disease problems on small grains still remain a major problem in North Carolina, seed treatment has been partly responsible for better stands, higher yields, and better quality grain.

Great progress has been made in cottonseed treatment over a period of years, but a recent survey shows that only about 57 percent of the acreage in North Carolina is planted with treated seed. Mr. Garriss says the figure is surprisingly low in view of the beneficial results which have been obtained by growers who treated their seed over a number of years. Further educational work on seed treatment practices will be conducted.

For several years Mr. Garriss has worked with county agents in demonstrating the newest and best methods of treating peanut seed. The results are seen by the improvements and precautions taken by more and more peanut growers of the State. Since 1942, North Carolina has risen from fourth to second place as a peanut-producing State. This rapid rise has been due not only to increased acreage but also to the increased use of experimental findings in getting better yields.

As peanuts are becoming an important crop in North Carolina, farmers are realizing that by treating their seed and by dusting their plants they can produce at a minimum cost more nuts vitally needed for feed and oil, and hay for livestock.

Mr. Garriss tells of an example of the profits that were obtained by dusting peanuts, as recommended by the plant pathologists of the North Carolina Extension Service.

A Richmond County farmer in the southwestern district of North Carolina dusted all of his 100 acres of peanuts and averaged between 1,200 and 1,300 pounds of peanuts per acre. A nearby neighbor did not dust his crop and averaged only 700 pounds per acre. The dusted vines yielded a little more than a ton of hay per acre, and the undusted vines yielded only between 1,300 and 1,400 pounds of hay per acre.

Other work carried on by the Extension Service to stamp out the crop diseases of North Carolina included work on watermelon wilt, bean anthracnose, lettuce damping off, apple diseases, and downy mildew which destroys cantaloups and cucumbers. The demonstrations are proving to North Carolina farmers the many advantages that are derived by using crop disease control methods.

## Canning plants open

Thirty-one school-community canning plants in 23 West Virginia counties are serving the public for canning fruits, chicken, vegetables, apple butter, and many other foods. The centers will continue in operation until next February or March or until after the butchering and meat-curing season. More than a million pints of food were canned by 15,000 patrons last year with indications that the use this season will more than double last year's output.

In order to pay for heat, light, water, and other operating expenses, a service fee ranging from 2 to 3 cents per can is charged. Total cost including cost of cans and service fee averages from 6 to 7 cents per quart. Each patron does his own work.

School-community canning centers are proving very popular with all who use them. The reasons given for this popularity are as follows: (1) They save time and labor; (2) they eliminate drudgery operations; (3) they reduce costs; (4) they provide supervision; (5) they add to safety of products processed; (6) they insure greater variety of foods for home use; (7) they make it unnecessary to provide home food preservation equipment; (8) they improve the quality of products canned; (9) they encourage all members of the family (men, women, and children) to assist with work of food preservation.

## Community improvement

The fire-prevention work of the Johnson, Nebr., 4–H Mechanics Club shows results. The village fire chief says that the village has had but two chimney fires in the past 5 years and those in homes which were not inspected by members of the club or the fire chief. The 4–H Club inspected and helped refill the fire extinguishers of the business places of Johnson.

The Johnson 4–H Mechanics are pledged to improvement of their home community. Their biggest project has been the damming of a stream to create a community fishpond and recreation grounds. Their recreation grounds were opened in July with a big fishing contest.

# Businessmen entertain farmers

JOHN W. SPAVEN, Extension Editor, Vermont

■ "Welcome neighbor, enjoy yourself!" Burlington, Vt., businessmen said that to more than 5,000 rural folks on Saturday, August 10. The occasion was the fourth annual Chittenden County field day held at the University of Vermont Farm where Green Mountain farmers were the guests of store owners, manufacturers, and creamery operators.

From 10 o'clock in the morning until late afternoon, and in spite of frequent thundershowers, the 5,000 guests did enjoy themselves. They took part in more than 30 contests; they looked over new farm machinery, heard spirited band music, saw demonstrations, and relished a free Yankee baked-bean dinner.

### Field Day Is Popular

This Chittenden County field day is the biggest of its kind in New England, and its popularity with farmer and businessman alike has increased steadily since its start. About 5 years ago, Ken Boyden, former Chittenden County agricultural agent, got an idea that his farmers should have a field day. He took this idea to the businessmen of Burlington, Vermont's largest city, and they accepted it wholeheartedly. An example of how they have cooperated is shown by their contributions, which this year ranged from $25 to $250 each. Bob Carlson, Mrs. Helen Lawrence, Jennie Swett, Chittenden County extension agents, and State extension specialists cooperated with the businessmen of the city in planning the 1946 program.

Of the 30 contests held during the day, the milking battle between Gov. Mortimer Proctor, Director J. E. Carrigan, and Burlington's Mayor John J. Burns was the most outstanding. Clarabelle, the cow, really got a workout when these three contestants started squeezing out the milk.

It was a "duel of the dignified digits," and from the starting whistle the contest was all Director Carrigan's. When the final results were weighed, Joe Carrigan took top honors with 4.3 pounds of milk. The Governor was second with 3.8 pounds, and Mayor Burns finished third with only 1.7 pounds in his pail.

Prizes ranging from an electric fence to a baby-bottle warmer, from bags of feed to a silver platter, and from an electric toaster to a set of dishes were carried home by 60 lucky farm folk who won contests. These prizes were contributed by Burlington merchants and were estimated to be worth more than $400.

Boys and girls representing 4-H Clubs from every county of the State attended the field day. Some represented their counties in the State 4-H demonstration contest which was held in connection with the field day.

The young men and women who wear the clover leaf symbol also played an important part in the day's entertainment program, for music throughout the day was furnished by the Chittenden County 4-H band, one of the few such bands in New England.

For the fourth year, Mrs. Helen Lawrence, county club agent, who is known for her ability to whip up a tasty meal for four or five thousand hungry folk, was in charge of the lunch. Yankee baked beans, sliced meat, hot buttered rolls, relish, milk, and ice cream were handed out free of charge to all who attended the field day.

Speakers, including Sen. George D. Aiken; Governor Proctor; David Davidson, director, field service branch PMA; and Director Carrigan, covered such topics for their farmer audience as the new farm legislation, the price of milk, and the feed grain situation.

Another high spot of the field day was a series of demonstrations of new farm machinery. Vermont farmers watched field choppers move up the field, cutting, chopping green grass, and blowing it into a trailer. They inspected new-type hay balers and watched the operation of power manure loaders.

### Radio Stations Broadcast

And for those who could not join their neighbors at the field day, radio stations described the happenings for their listeners. Stations WGY, Schenectady; and WCAX, Burlington, made on-the-spot broadcasts from the University of Vermont Farm. Stations WBZ, Boston; WWSR, St. Albans, Vt.; and WDEV, Waterbury, Vt., used electrical transcriptions of the event; and a recording has been sent to England for rebroadcast by

**"The Duel of the Dignified Digits"—a milking contest between (left to right) Mayor Burns, of Burlington; Vermont's Governor, Mortimer R. Proctor; and Director J. E. Carrigan—drew the attention of 5,000 dairymen at the Chittenden County Field Day.**

the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Despite frequent thunder showers, which sent the crowd running for cover, this year's field day was judged the most successful of any that have been held.

As Edward Robinson, Burlington businessman and chairman of the field day committee said: "Sure it's a lot of work, but it's well worth it. I feel that Vermont businessmen owe a lot to the farmers of this State, and a field day such as this is one way of showing our appreciation for a job well done."

It may well be that the Chittenden event will be the first of a series of such farmer-businessman get-togethers because, on August 21, Worcester County, Mass., held its first field day. Patterned after the Vermont affair and spark-plugged by Ken Boyden who moved from Vermont to become county agent in Worcester County early this year, the Massachusetts meeting was reported a success.

Here in Vermont, plans for the fifth annual field day are already under way; and some Saturday in August 1947, farmers and businessmen will again gather for a day of entertainment and good will.

# Health becomes a vital issue

VELMA NEELY, Home Demonstration Agent, Grenada County, Miss.

When the people of Grenada County, Miss., became conscious of a health record which was one of the lowest in the State, the home demonstration council decided to take the lead in doing something about it. The first step was to make a survey of the health needs. This health program was made a major activity for 1946.

A committee from the council appointed a health chairman from each of the 14 organized home demonstration clubs in the county. These chairmen, with the home demonstration agent, the health doctor, and public health nurse, prepared a survey sheet to be used in obtaining information from each family in the county. This survey sheet asked for information on the family water supply, meat supply, milk supply, and family consumption of milk, excreta disposal, garden vegetable supply, housing needs and repair, prenatal needs, infant mortality, and infant and preschool immunization.

The health chairmen from both the white and Negro clubs took these sheets and made a survey of their respective communities. At the end of 4 weeks a meeting was held and the data compiled from the 865 sheets which had been made out.

The survey brought out many significant facts about the health conditions in the county, but the two which seemed most urgent and which could be worked on immediately were the high maternal and infant death rate and the lack of protection given infants and preschool children against diphtheria, whooping cough, and smallpox.

The health chairman presented this information to the home demonstration council and asked for help in solving these problems. Plans were made to organize ante partum and infant and preschool clinics in the four major communities of the county. These clinics are centered so that transportation is not a great problem; they were set up on regular clinic dates. The home demonstration women help provide transportation and assist the health nurses and doctors to get records, weigh children, and keep children moving into examining room for immunization. The expectant mothers also attended these clinics and received medical nursing information, Wasserman tests, urinalysis tests, blood pressure tests, and chest X-rays. The club women in charge of nutrition discussed diet of the expectant mother, infant feeding, and value of dry skim milk where the raw milk supply was short. Also fresh vegetables from the well-planned garden were exhibited to encourage plenty of vegetables in the diet.

### Baby Layette Made

The home demonstration council members made up a complete baby layette of white bleached cotton flour sacks and exhibited these articles so that expectant mothers could see how cheap and complete baby clothing could be made at home. Besides being correctly dressed, the mothers are also taught correct bed making and how to prepare for a home delivery where necessary.

All communities have shown keen interest in health, as evidenced by the following results of just three examples:

In one family a school child was examined. The doctor advised that a Wassermann test, chest X-ray, and hookworm tests be given the child. These tests proved negative, but from this the entire family had a physical check-up including the chest X-ray, and Wassermann tests.

In another family a chest X-ray was recommended for one of the school children, results positive and active tuberculosis. As a result, the entire family was X-rayed with the mother's X-ray reading as pulmonary tuberculosis, probably inactive.

In an ante partum conference expectant mothers were advised regarding blood pressure, urinalysis, weight, diet, and clothing, also the importance of a physical check-up by their family physicians. Two weeks later one of the expectant mothers came to the health clinic for a medical examination, including Wassermann and chest X-ray, and also brought her husband and two children who were given complete medical examinations.

Two hundred and fifty preschool children have been protected against whooping cough, diphtheria, and smallpox, and every school-age child has been protected against these diseases.

In cases where defects are found, follow-up work is done—tonsillectomies, dental certificates, glasses for the eyes, and the like.

We have had many other interesting results, and we see the anxiety for better health among people who probably have not had a health check-up in their lifetime.

This will be a long-time program sponsored by the home demonstration council of Grenada County.

# Farmers act to save soil after sound educational program

■ Soil conservation has been a going concern in Nebraska for some 8 or 9 years. The practice of soil conservation started slowly, but new districts developed rapidly once the word got round among landowners of the advantages of soil-saving practices. With the coming of peace, interest in new districts has snowballed so that now almost weekly announcement is made of the formation of a new district.

W. H. Brokaw, director of extension at the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, credits D. E. Hutchinson, extension soil conservationist, with no small part in educating farm people to the value of soil-saving practices. Extension soil conservationist for the past year and a half, Hutchinson has contributed much to the education of the Nebraska farmer to the value of the program.

### 74 Districts Organized

The first soil conservation district organized in Nebraska was the Papio district in 1937. Since that time, 74 districts have been organized. These districts cover more than 68 percent of the land area of the State. Ninety-two percent of the farms and ranches of the State are in soil conservation districts.

Director Brokaw, who is also a member of the State Soil Conservation Committee, explains that before a soil district can be organized, farmers and ranchers must know something of the provisions of the State Soil Conservation Act. The value of the soil and moisture conservation program and the assistance which can be made available to landowners through the soil conservation districts must be made known.

It is not the responsibility of the Extension Service to organize soil-conservation districts. The service does have a responsibility to inform farm people of the need for soil and water conservation. The Extension Service also has a responsibility to tell landowners how they may help solve the problems of conservation through organization.

To educate farm owners to the value of soil conservation, county agricultural agents, with the help of Extension Soil Conservationist Hutchinson and district conservationists of the Soil Conservation Service, set up extension demonstration farms. Meetings are then organized to impress farmers with the value of soil-conservation practices.

The next step taken by Hutchinson and the county agricultural agent in the development of a sound educational program is the setting up of a committee of local farmers to head up the program. These local committees have been organized in a number of ways in Nebraska, depending upon the local situation.

In several counties, the county agricultural agent, after conferring with a few of the farmers and businessmen interested in conservation, has invited a select group of from 15 to 40 farmers and businessmen to a discussion meeting.

Hutchinson and the district conservationist in this particular area attend this meeting.

Following a brief discussion of the soil-conservation program from a State viewpoint, a soil-conservation committee chairman is elected. Several counties have also elected a vice chairman. In nearly all instances the county agricultural agent is designated secretary of the committee.

### Committee Members Elected

Committee members are elected from the group to obtain representation for all sections of the county or proposed soil district. The size of the committee varies from 5 to 16 members. Usually a few businessmen are also selected as committee members.

This local committee decides what activities are needed to carry out the educational phases of the local program incident to formation of a soil-conservation district. Most of these committees, believing that there is no substitute for seeing, have arranged a tour of an established district in an adjoining county. This affords prospective cooperators an opportunity to see soil-conservation practices applied to the land and to talk with the farmers and supervisors who know what organized soil saving has done for them.

Other educational activities undertaken by the committee have included community meetings, meetings with businessmen's groups, and radio programs, as well as publicity and sponsored advertising. The committee advises and makes suggestions to the county agricultural agent, as he is generally responsible for publicity.

One of the important activities of the committee has been the appointment by individual members of several neighbors to assist him with the educational work in soil conservation. If the committee member represents a township, he usually appoints four or five other farmers to assist him.

### Committees Promote Program

If the subcommittee member thus appointed does nothing more than talk soil conservation and soil-conservation districts with his neighbors, he does much to promote the program.

When the county or district committee feels that sufficient educational work has been carried out, steps are taken to go ahead with the organization of a soil conservation district. Petition blanks are requested from the State Soil Conservation Committee.

It then becomes the responsibility of the committee members with the assistance of members of the subcommittees to obtain the signatures of landowners to the petitions requesting that the State Soil Conservation Committee hold a public hearing as prescribed by law.

Under the law, at least 25 signatures are required. However, 150 to 300 signatures are often obtained on the petitions.

Continuing their responsibility as committee members, these leaders in the promotion of soil conservation urge their neighbors to attend the hearing and present the need for a district.

If the sentiment of the landowners attending the hearing is favorable, the next step is the holding of a referendum by the State Soil Conservation Committee. The proposed soil conservation district becomes the issue at a special election. The original committee members continue their educa-


**The Nebraska State Conservation Committee discusses the educational program. Left to right, E. G. Jones, State Connservationist; Dean W. W. Burr, of the University of Nebraska Agricultural College; D. E. Hutchinson, Extension Conservationist; W. H. Brokaw, Director of Extension; Dr. G. E. Condra, Chairman, Dean and Director of Conservation and Survey Division, University of Nebraska.**

tional program throughout the referendum period.

Polling places are conveniently established at a number of locations in the county or proposed district so that every landowner has an opportunity to register his "aye or nay."

Following the referendum, the members of the temporary committee become logical candidates for district supervisors. These committee members now have considerable information on soil conservation. They are leaders of the program or have developed into leaders by the time they have guided the educational program to a successful finish. They are, therefore, better fitted to assume the responsibility of being soil conservation district supervisors than someone who has had no experience in guiding the program from conception to realization.

Extension Conservationist Hutchinson says that Nebraska is finding that this educational and organizational procedure in which the inspiration and impetus for the program comes locally is paying off. Nebraska has better soil and moisture conservation programs and better soil conservation district administration because local administrators know what they are doing.

# Dairies start with good cows

**RAY ANTONEN, Assistant Extension Editor, South Dakota State College**

South Dakota farmers are going back into the dairy business. And thanks to R. A. Cave, extension dairyman at South Dakota State College, and the efforts of county extension agents, the farmers are getting started with good cows.

Last summer, cow sales became common. Nobody really knew where the cows came from; and, worst of all, they didn't have records or pedigrees along with them at the sales.

But farmers really went to these sales and bought cows. Bids up to $150, and even higher, weren't uncommon.

Roy Cave figured that if farmers were that anxious to get cows, they might as well get cows from herds with production records behind them. He began writing to breeders in Minnesota and Wisconsin. (This part we hate to put in print; but if they can come out here and shoot up our pheasants, I guess we got a right to go back and borrow a few of their cows.)

Anyway, Roy Cave got answers from many of these pheasant shooters from Wisconsin and Minnesota, and they had surplus cows and heifers for sale from their good herds. And the best part of it was that they didn't want any more for these cows than the prices which farmers had been paying at the sales.

So, wherever Roy Cave went on his winter meetings, he told farmers and creamery men about the deal which could be made for these cows. The extension editorial office also told the story in print.

Farmers began writing to Mr. Cave and also asking their county agents for more information about this cow deal.

Minnehaha County farmers under Tony Westra, county agent, and his noon radio program got the jump on the other counties, and soon there were enough orders to get several truckloads.

To prove that he was genuinely interested in getting the cows and wouldn't back out of the deal, each farmer had to make a down payment of $50 per cow.

Roy Cave, County Agent Westra, and two of the farmers were sent to pick out and buy the cows. Production records were carefully scrutinized. Testing for Bang's disease and TB was either checked or completed. It took several days before the cows were finally ready to go to South Dakota.

At Sioux Falls they were unloaded at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds, fed, and watered until the farmers could come in to get them. The price tag on each cow included the actual price plus transportation and other costs.

Most of the cows were Holsteins and Brown Swiss, and were heifers due to freshen this summer or fall.

Other counties want to do the same thing. Creamery managers are enthusiastic about getting high-producing cows into their trade areas. Testing associations are again being reorganized.

With a big demand for dairy products pointing into the future, South Dakota farmers figure they can afford to take time off to milk a few good cows again.

# Home demonstration agent to the rescue

■ Leave it to a home demonstration agent to fill in the breach in an emergency! Charlotte Runey, home demonstration agent in Chemung County, N. Y., did just that when the Chemung River ran amuck this spring and put most of the city of Elmira and a wide area around it under water.

Mrs. Runey and her home bureau units are still helping families to recover from the flood that came up to their second-story windows and, when it receded, left floors and baseboards buckled, walls slimy with putrid mud, furniture damaged almost beyond repair, and wells unusable.

Here's what happened the day of the flood, as reported by Mrs. Runey:

". . . We closed the office at 10:30 a. m. because water was coming up rapidly around the Post Office Building. I went out to investigate some of the flooded areas to see what was being done for the evacuated families. Nothing had been done to furnish food for those housed in No. 11 School or for the rescue workers. As all telephones were out of commission and the Red Cross headquarters was surrounded with water, I took it upon myself, with the help of a coworker to buy and prepare soup, coffee, cheese, and crackers to feed the people in that building. Before the evening was over, about 30 persons had been served.

"Early next day, L. D. Kelsey, representative of the Extension Service at Cornell, arrived and suggested that I act as agent to get Farm and Home Bureau executives to help. We planned a radio talk to be given at noon of the following day, to tell what was being done for farm families and the extent of the damage. Soon we had a committee working, and a meeting was called of representatives of all farm organizations, the Red Cross, Public Health, and credit organizations to pool our efforts in helping the flooded families.

"Appointed were a committee of Farm Bureau members to make a survey of the damage to farms and one of Home Bureau members to make a survey of damage to homes. Early Friday morning I made a hurried trip to Cornell to pick up 800 of the booklets, 'First Aid for Flooded Homes,' which had been prepared for use immediately after the 1935 flood. A reprint was rapidly put through the mimeograph machine, and the copies were distributed to all the homes surveyed.

"At the meeting on Saturday it was reported by the survey group that soap was badly needed, as well as chlorine tablets to purify the water. These items, supplied through the Red Cross, were packaged by volunteers among Home Bureau members and were distributed to flooded families. Other volunteers made a survey of homes in the suburban area in a day's time."

Mrs. Runey evidently inspired her Home Bureau members to work as hard as she did. A group of them held a cleaning bee in the home of one member, in which the water had been 2 feet deep on the lower floor. To complicate matters, the baby had the measles. In one day these kind neighbors did what would have taken Mrs. Jilson weeks to accomplish alone. With soap donated by the Red Cross, 12 neighbors washed dishes, walls, and woodwork and waxed the floors. They brought food for the day and served it in the home of a nearby member.

**Mrs. Charlotte Runey (left), home demonstration agent for Chemung County, and Mrs. Gladys Wigsten of Horseheads, perfect their technique of slip-cover making at the college of home economics at Cornell. They will help homemakers at Chemung County to slip-cover chairs damaged by flood waters.**

This summer, Mrs. Runey and an assistant attended the training school at the Home Economics College to brush up on the techniques of slip cover making; for many a homemaker will want to hide with slip covers, the damage to water-soaked upholstery on chairs and sofas.

It all goes to prove that the Extension Service is well organized, effective, and Johnny-on-the-spot.—*Mrs. Mary G. Phillips, Editor, New York State College of Home Economics.*

# November records 4–H achievement

■ The first week in November again records an amazing amount of 4–H achievement when the work of the 1,700,000 young folks is totaled. They have planned well in the general framework of their 10 guideposts, worked diligently to a successful completion of a wide variety of activities.

Young people have felt keenly the plight of those in war-torn countries; and, in addition to giving some of their own 4–H stock, or canned fruit and vegetables, or prize money won at the fair, they have put all they had into increasing the food supply so that more could be sent for famine relief. Early reports from State 4–H leaders indicate that about 150,000 acres have been planted in gardens; and, adding the other food crops grown, more than 350,000 4–H acres were planted, cared for, and har-

vested to swell the country's food resources. To save these foods, 32 million quarts were canned, 3 million pounds dried or cured, and 10 million pounds stored or frozen—no mean record for the rural young people in 4–H Clubs.

Because the war brought out the need for better health among rural as well as urban young people, 4–H Clubs have put special emphasis on individual health and community health activities. A new venture in this field was the 4–H Club health camp held in Kansas August 4–7 at the new State 4–H Club camp grounds. Each county sent to camp a boy and girl chosen on the basis of physical examinations and background of club work, as well as interest in health and health leadership.

Each camper was given a physical examination and a personal interview on his health leadership activities. On the bases of their health score, this interview, and their cooperation and participation at camp, 12 boys and 12 girls were chosen as Kansas blue ribbon health winners.

The club program included talks by members of the State Health Department from the division of dentistry, sanitation, and food and drugs. One morning the Lyonsdale 4–H Club of Geary County told the campers what their club did last year to win in the "Health for Better Living" contest which gave to 10 members, 2 leaders, and 1 agent a free trip to the American Royal Livestock Show at Kansas City, Mo.

A concentrated 3–day training school gave this picked group of young leaders in the health field many ideas and helps in making more effective their "Health for Better Living" activities in their own local communities.

One straw in the wind which shows that the boys and girls are putting into practice their knowledge of nutrition and health was the record at the Palacios, Tex., 4–H Club camp when 175 campers consumed 600 bottles of milk, 300 bottles of orange juice, and 300 bottles of milk chocolate during a 2-day encampment.

4–H Clubs have many plans for improving the community health standard. A campaign to get everyone to test the drinking water is a project in Rusk County, Tex., and a club committee is energetically pursuing their objective.

4–H achievement also includes the successes of young folks who got their start in 4–H Club work. For example, near Lowell, Mass., is a young farmer who owes his start in the dairy business to his experience in 4–H Club work. Erwin Lachut at 21, after 6 years of club work, has a herd of 30 Ayrshires. He and his brother have purchased and are now operating a 315-acre farm on which they plan eventually to have "150 purebred, top-notch Ayrshires and the farm and land in good condition."

**A check for $1,382 presented to Paul Stark (left), of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, from the 4–H Club members for famine relief. Presenting the check is Guy L. Noble (center), managing director of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, who has been receiving the 4–H Club contributions. At the right is Ray Turner, 4–H representative of the Youth United for Famine Relief. 4–H Clubs made the first contribution from this organization and gave Ray Turner a real reason for smiling.**

### Former 4-H Boy Gives Turkeys

A Connecticut 4–H winner of a few years back is now one of the biggest turkey growers in his section. To pass on the help he got in getting started, he made available 1,000 poults in the spring to 4–H Club members to grow as a food-production project. About 40 boys and girls are grooming these birds for the Thanksgiving market and growing their own corn to conserve the feed supply. Although the poults were given by Mr. Lucianai the boys and girls paid 50 cents each for the birds, and the money will be used as a scholarship at the University of Connecticut for a junior or senior student majoring in poultry husbandry. Thus do the achievements of one boy multiply in 4–H Club work. At Mr. Lucianai's request, the scholarship is a memorial to Capt. Roger Brundage, AAF pilot, and 2nd Lt. Pierce Brundage, both killed while on duty with the armed services outside the country and both sons of Connecticut's State 4–H Club leader, A. J. Brundage.

To some members, 4–H achievement gives an opportunity for further education. To be added to the scholarships available in practically every State to 4–H achievers are these new ones now open to Puerto Rican members. The Chancellor of the University has agreed to earmark three college scholarships and six high-school scholarships for outstanding club members. In addition the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture has also set apart a number of scholarships for agronomy students and in Ponce, two service clubs have created five scholarships for low-income youth.

These are but a few of the many achievements 4–H Club members are celebrating in every part of the country on November 2–10, National Achievement Week.

# Do you know . . .

**Harriet King, of Arkansas, who has trained 122 young women for home demonstration work, and Virginia Moore, who worked with Seaman A. Knapp—two home demonstration workers whose influence has been felt for the last 30 years, are retiring this year.**

■ Time, 30⅓ years of it, has not dimmed the light in Harriet King's eyes or lessened the spring in her step, particularly when problems of the farm family in "her" county come up for discussion.

Miss King retired on June 30 from a stretch of active extension work begun March 1, 1916. She was the first home demonstration agent in Washington County, and she has served continuously in that county.

Harriet King was born in Virginia, educated in Illinois. Her family moved to Washington County, Ark., and she taught in the Springdale schools for 6 years before her appointment as county home demonstration agent.

Miss King's concern in the early years was with the county canning club girls and individual farm women and their problems. A believer in group action and organization as the most economical way to expand or extend her teachings to the four corners of the county, she rapidly developed 4–H Clubs for farm youth, working always with the county agricultural agent and home demonstration clubs for farm women.

Theirs has been a broad educational program with distinct social and economic aspects. Home demonstration clubs now number 44, with 1,035 farm women enrolled. There are 28 4–H Clubs with 384 girls and 473 boys. These latter clubs are the joint responsibility of the four county extension agents.

The County Home Demonstration Council, organized in 1926 and made up of all home demonstration club members, is active and vocal through its leaders in developing a program based on local situations, problems, and resources.

In 1932 they organized a farm women's market in Fayetteville, the county seat. Annual sales from this market have ranged from $5,000 in 1932 to $12,934.97 in 1945.

An outstanding feature of the Washington County program as it has developed under Miss King's leadership is the continuous participation and initiative of the farm people in planning and projecting its various phases. The family approach to practically all phases has been emphasized. The improvement of homes and home grounds is a definite part of community planning and thinking. Some of the most outstanding examples of homes built of native stone and lumber and with family and neighbor labor are to be seen along the highways and in the remote parts of the county. Likewise, picturesque home grounds and lawns have grown out of the love which the people have for the natural beauty resources of the Ozarks, coupled with lessons in landscaping learned at home demonstration club meetings. Good gardens and efficient farm poultry flocks, orchards and food preservation are all inherent in the well-rounded food-supply or live-at-home program in the county, a program which forms the basis and background of the good nutrition and good health habits learned at their club meetings.

Miss King has been simultaneously student and "laboratory technician" at the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture, located at Fayetteville. All along through the years, she has taken this university course or that, as she felt the need. Since 1925, when a course in extension work was offered to juniors and seniors in the College of Agriculture, a course involving field work as well as lectures, Miss King has given this laboratory training to 122 juniors and seniors. Most of these young women became home demonstration agents.

Arkansas is not alone in its appreciation of Miss King's fine record. At its annual meeting in 1945 the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association gave Nation-wide recognition to her for distinguished service. In 1942, Epsilon Sigma Phi, National Extension Fraternity, granted her a certificate of recognition for outstanding work as a county extension agent. Miss King is the only Arkansas person to have received this recognition.

■ VIRGINIA P. MOORE, Florida home improvement specialist, retired on June 30. Miss Moore was one of the country's pioneer women in home demonstration work, having first been appointed in Tennessee in 1911 as State collaborator. During three decades she has played a prominent part in the establishment of home demonstration work in Tennessee and in home improvement activities in Florida.

Since August 25, 1923, she has been home-improvement specialist with the Florida Extension Service and for the first 7 years of that time was also assistant State home demonstration agent. With unbounded enthusiasm since 1911, she has traveled the highways and byways of both Tennessee and Florida, carrying the gospel of better homes for rural families. She has cooperated with county home demonstration agents in arousing interest in more attractive, more convenient, and more sanitary homes and in helping rural people to obtain them. Thousands of improved homes throughout Florida testify to the effectiveness of her work in that State.

Her pioneering was done over the hills and valleys of her native Tennessee. As State organizer of school improvement associations, she was

Harriet King.

associated with some of the country's outstanding educators of the days when extension work was about to take shape. In 1909 she heard Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, the father of farm and home demonstration work, and was inspired by him.

In 1910 she helped Thomas Early, then working for Dr. Knapp, organize the first tomato club for girls in Tennessee, it having been decided to adopt the tomato clubs as formed in South Carolina the previous year by Marie Cromer as the pattern for girls' club work. Becoming enthusiastic over this new field of endeavor, Miss Moore became State agent in girls' club work, in addition to her school-improvement duties.

On November 16, 1911, she was appointed State collaborator by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In 1912, with tomato club work becoming so widespread, Miss Moore resigned the school-improvement work to devote full time to what was later to become home demonstration work.

After the passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914, the late Dean Leon S. Merrill, of the University of Maine, asked for help in organizing the girls' and women's work; and Miss Moore was asked to go to the University of Maine where she spent 6 weeks assisting some of the men and the woman who would act as State agent.

During her long service she has been honored with the distinguished service ruby awarded by the Epsilon Sigma Phi fraternity of veteran extension workers and a plaque by the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers. She was one of two women invited to speak at the international housing conference in Paris in 1937.

Virginia Moore.

## Missouri cotton growers visit Stoneville laboratory

Cotton planters and ginners of Missouri demonstrated keen interest in improving the quality of their crop, particularly as it is affected by ginning, when on July 16–18 a group of approximately 75, including a number of county agents and other extension workers, made a trip of several hundred miles to visit the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory at Stoneville, Miss.

A special 3-day program was arranged for the group. In addition to discussions and demonstrations of new ginning equipment and techniques developed in recent years by members of the laboratory staff, the program included tours of the station as well as of the Mississippi Delta Branch Experiment Station and nearby cotton-producing enterprises.

Like other producers in the South, the planters and ginners of Missouri are interested in any device or method that will enable them to market better-quality cotton to meet the competition from foreign producers and synthetic fibers.

Many of the recent developments in cotton ginning have resulted from the work at the Stoneville laboratory. Established in 1930, it is the world's largest and most completely equipped of its kind. Its work is intended to cover all phases of picking, handling, ginning, and packaging of cotton with a view to developing improved methods and acquainting growers and ginners with these methods. The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering is responsible for the engineering phases of the work and the Production and Marketing Administration for the fiber technology and quality studies. Charles A. Bennett is the agricultural engineer in charge. At the nearby Delta station, extensive experimental work is under way looking toward possible mechanization of field operations in producing the crop.

## Negro curb market featured

In recognition of the tenth anniversary of the first Alabama curb market operated by Negro farmers, a Birmingham, Ala., radio station featured the market in a broadcast.

The broadcast presented a brief history of the market in Tuscaloosa, Ala., pointing out how Negro County Agent Charles E. Trout, now in Liberia, West Africa, on a special agricultural mission, launched the curb market to provide an outlet for the surplus fruits and vegetables produced by Negro farmers in his county.

The market opened on May 23, 1936, with four sellers exhibiting their wares on kitchen tables and packing boxes in a vacant corner lot. Sales for the first day totaled only $11. This year the market is averaging $100 per day. Then, as now, the market was operated 2 days a week—Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The kitchen tables and the packing boxes in the vacant lot have been replaced by a well-built shed which houses the stands of 34 farmers. These farmers have organized a curb market association with an advisory board and a clerk. Last year the sales of the association totaled $10,000.

Mrs. Belle Bryant, one of the members of the association, was interviewed. She has been selling vegetables, fruits, flowers, buttermilk, eggs, poultry, and smoked meats at the market for nearly 8 years. Her sales average $750 per year. She has used the extra money from the market to help send her children to college, remodel her home, buy furniture, and operate her cotton crop on a cash basis.

The curb market idea is spreading. Negro farmers in North Carolina, Florida, Arkanasas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas have established such markets through which they are protecting themselves against the hazards of one-crop farming.

In Liberia where former County Agent Trout is establishing an extension program to help the farmers in that country improve their production methods, curb markets similar to the one in Alabama are springing up. County Agent Trout reports that the President of the country buys his fresh vegetables from the curb market in Monrovia.

# 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.**

### New Lifeblood for Agricultural Research

■ To give agriculture parity with industry in the field of research is the principal objective of the Research and Marketing Services Act of 1946 which was signed by the President August 14. The act provides additional emphasis on research in marketing and distribution as well as strengthening present research in agricultural production. Though no funds have been appropriated yet, authorizations are made for amounts starting with $8,500,000 in the fiscal year 1947 and increasing to $41,000,000 in 1950. The funds are for work in four categories:

1. Payments to States and Territories for research on improved methods of production, human nutrition, discovery of new and useful crops, expanded uses for farm products, and conservation of agricultural resources. This expands the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935; Federal funds must be matched by State appropriations. $2,500,000 in 1947.

2. Research on utilization of farm products, to be done at the Department's laboratories as far as possible, but which may be contracted for with public or private organizations if that promises more effective or economical results. $3,000,000 in 1947.

3. Cooperative research (other than utilization research) by the Department and State experiment stations. $1,500,000 in 1947.

4. Research to improve marketing and distribution of agricultural products. $2,500,000 in 1947.

The act also provides for the establishment of a National Advisory Committee of 11 members, 6 of whom are to represent producers. The committee will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and will be required to meet at least 4 times a year. It will make recommendations regarding the research and service work and assist in obtaining cooperation between affected groups and Federal and State agencies.

### Poultry Scientists Study Newcastle Disease

■ A highly infectious disease of poultry known as Newcastle disease has appeared recently in several important poultry-producing States. The Department of Agriculture has begun a program of intensive research to find ways to control it. This action was recommended by representatives of the poultry industry and Federal and State officials at a meeting in Washington in May. Poultry shows at six fairs were called off this summer in an effort to check the spread of the malady.

Newcastle disease also called avian pneumoencephalitis was first identified about 20 years ago in Newcastle, England. It appeared in California probably about 1935 but was not definitely identified there until 1942. A filtrable virus is known to be the cause. Symptoms are similar to those of bronchitis and coryza, but there are also nervous disorders and sometimes paralysis. In California, losses of chickens from the disease have been comparatively light, but growth of chicks is retarded and egg production is seriously reduced. In some other countries a more virulent form of the disease has resulted in a mortality rate of 80 to 100 percent.

Since March 1945, when Newcastle disease was discovered in New Jersey, it has been reported in five more Eastern States: Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island. Its presence has been suspected in several other States.

### Labs Spin New Fibers

■ Each of the four Regional Research Laboratories of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry is working on the development or improvement of a synthetic fiber from a different agricultural product. These fibers are not intended to replace cotton, wool, or other natural fibers. Research men believe, however, that the synthetics may have qualities that will improve the natural fibers when the two are mixed.

All the experimental synthetic fibers are low in "wet strength." Many of us will understand that term when we remember that wartime rayon stockings had to be allowed to dry for 48 hours after washing because they were so easily torn when they were wet. One of the objects of the research is to find a way to increase the wet strength of the synthetic fibers.

The Southern Laboratory has a new fiber made from peanut protein that it calls Sarelon. It is a light cream color and has a soft pleasant texture reminiscent of both silk and wool. In heat-insulating and moisture-absorbing properties it resembles wool. It shrinks very little and takes dye well.

A fiber called zein, made from corn protein, appears to be suitable for blending with wool for knitting yarns and woven fabrics. Zein is being produced experimentally at the Northern Regional Lab. This fiber has a rich creamy appearance and a dry strength almost equal to that of wool. The time required for spinning and finishing zein fibers seems to be less than for other protein fibers. A commercial company is preparing to produce zein fiber on a pilot-plant scale.

At the Western Laboratory, chicken feathers are being tested as fiber material. Feathers, like wool, hair, hoofs, and horns, are largely composed of a fibrous protein called keratin. Chicken-feather fiber has been produced experimentally at the Lab. Its chief weakness is that same old low wet strength. Chicken feathers are a waste product turned out in great quantities, and the industrial utilization of part of them would be very beneficial. Chicken-feather keratin can also be used in making excellent plastics.

Casein fiber, known for a good many years, is being improved at the Eastern Laboratory in Philadelphia. Re-

search workers there have developed a continuous-process method for manufacture of casein bristles to substitute for imported hog bristles used in the manufacture of paint brushes and other brushes. This process is more economical and yields a more uniform fiber than former methods. A commercial firm is interested in making casein bristles by the new process.

### Self-Duster for Rats

■ Taking advantage of the tendency of rats to run through small tunnel-like cylinders, H. K. Gouck of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine devised a way to make them dust themselves with DDT powder. He takes building paper, rolls it into cylinders 3 inches in diameter and of various lengths, and stretches inside of them strips of cheesecloth containing the DDT powder. When the rats run through they brush against the cloth and get enough DDT on their backs to kill any fleas they may have on them.

Fleas are said to be carriers of endemic typhus, a type of the disease that is constantly present in certain areas. Research has shown that DDT kills these fleas as efficiently as it kills lice, the carriers of epidemic typhus. The typhus-carrying fleas live mostly on rats, and to control the disease either the rats or the fleas must be eradicated. Rat-extermination has proved so difficult that it appears to be easier to kill the fleas.

The cylinder method has been tried in Georgia in a neighborhood in Savannah where there had been cases of endemic typhus. The little tunnels were placed in several buildings infested by rats. When the rats were trapped a few days later they were found to be almost completely rid of the typhus-carrying fleas. It is also helpful to dust rat holes, rat runs, and cellar floors of infested buildings with DDT.

## Looking ahead with county agents

**W. H. Sill (right) county agent, Wood County, W. Va., and also president of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, looks ahead with Assistant Director of Extension, Reuben Brigham, at their association executive committee meeting held in Washington last July. Extenson staff members and USDA agency heads conferred with them on professional improvemet, retirement, and other phases of their program which will be considered at the annual meeting of the Association to be held in Chicago the first week in December. It is expected that attendance this year will run close to 300 agents, according to County Agent A. F. MacDougall, of Concord, Mass. More than 125 agents throughout the country have been devoting time during the past year to service and committee reports in order that the work of the National Association can take its part in furnishing leadership to the Extension Program.**

## From Texas to the Philippines

More than 32,000 articles of clothing, towels, and feed sacks were collected in Texas for Philippine relief during observance of National Home Demonstration Week last May. Home demonstration and girls' 4–H groups spent $1,535.17 in postage shipping the clothing parcels to the islands.

In addition, 826½ cases of canned food were collected for European and far eastern relief, and $958.42 was contributed for aid in famine areas, according to Maurine Hearn, vice director for women and State home demonstration agent of the Texas A. and M. Extension Service.

■ EDITH CHENAY, of Vinton, Iowa, will be in charge of the music program for South Dakota home demonstration clubs, according to an announcement by Nora M. Hott, State home demonstration leader.

Miss Chenay received her B. S. degree in music from the University of Minnesota, where she majored in piano. She obtained her master's degree in vocal music from Teachers College, Columbia University, in 1945. She also attended the University of Wisconsin and Sioux Falls College.

Included in Miss Chenay's teaching experience is work as director of choruses and bands at State schools for the blind at Bathgate, N. Dak., and Vinton, Iowa. She has directed farm women's choruses at Doon and Akron, Iowa, and taught vocal and instrumental work in grade schools and high schools at Melvin and Akron, Iowa.

While at Columbia University she was soloist with the university 200-voice chorus and served as Tri-State Hostel club president. Miss Chenay's hobby is the hostel clubs which maintain accommodations for hikers and bicyclers in the New England States.

## GI brides organize

GI brides living in Jonesboro, Ark., have organized a home demonstration club to be called the Trailer City Club. These young women are wives of ex-servicemen attending Arkansas State College. Home Demonstration Agent Mary Britzman and Assistant Sadie Gilmore helped with the organization.

# We Study Our Job

## Something new in extension courses

■ It's the last day of school for this group of 53 "evaluating" extension workers from 20 States and Canada. They have just finished a 3-weeks' course in extension evaluation at Colorado's 1946 Extension Summer School where each has planned an extension evaluation project based on his or her work back home.

This is the first extension research course of its kind given for graduate credit. It was planned to help extension workers appraise their extension accomplishments objectively; in this way, each would gain a broader concept of extension program development and teaching.

The course was conducted somewhat like a workshop. A 2-hour lecture and discussion period was held every morning. Each lecture was designed to support a given step in the development of the study outlines; the students developed these different phases of their studies as part of their daily assignments.

Afternoons were devoted to personal guidance by the evaluation teaching staff, Gladys Gallup, Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky, and Paul Leagans of the Federal Office. A definite schedule was arranged for the students to be helped individually on their problems. Four afternoon seminars were held for discussion of studies previously made.

### All Phases of Extension Studied

A phase of rural housing was selected for evaluation by Jean M. Stewart, Arizona home demonstration leader. The objective for study is to help rural women plan the use of storage cupboards in the kitchen. This study was selected in order to assist agents in evaluating their program in rural housing.

V. S. Crippen, Kansas agricultural agent, is evaluating the carry-over of beef feeding practices from Rush County 4–H Club members to their fathers.

Cattle growing is secondary to wheat raising in Rush County. Fathers do not have a good type of beef calves to start feeding. They seem to have little knowledge of good feeding or the profits that may arise from such improved practices. Thirty-eight 4–H Club feeders followed recommended practices for the last 2 years; about two-thirds made money last year. There is about a 10 percent carry-over to dads to date.

Questionnaires will be mailed to the fathers of all 38 members to find out "why better feeding practices are not carrying over to dad." It is hoped that the rating of each boy's calf at the sale can be tied in with why his calf did or did not make a good showing. Also, it is hoped to get dad to understand what combinations of feed go together and how better feeding will pay him.

"A Study of Rice Cookery in Jackson County, Ark." is planned by Home Demonstration Agent Effie Rogers. Rice is one of the important crops in Jackson County; yet very few people like it or use it as food, according to members of 28 home demonstration clubs in the county. The purpose of the study is to determine if methods used to teach farm women different ways of using rice in their family's daily meals have been effective.

To teach and otherwise motivate Connecticut dairy farmers to develop a 6 months' pasture program with Ladino clover as the major pasture crop is the objective on which Roy E. Norcross, New Haven County agricultural agent, is working out an interesting study.

There is not enough feed in pasture lots on most New Haven County farms to fill the needs of the dairy herd. Ladino clover has been experimented with on a few farms and has proved to be a superior pasture crop because it will grow on a wide range of soil.

Members of the county dairy committee will be asked to collect information for this study from different dairymen on the extension mailing list. An analysis of the information obtained will be the basis of future programs on pasture improvement in the county.

These are typical of the studies planned at Colorado's evaluation summer session. When studies are completed they will be reported on this page of the REVIEW.

A few of the other studies outlined by the extension students illustrate the variety of subjects covered:

Measuring the Effectiveness of a Tour—Gladys C. Triplett, Wash-

ington home demonstration agent.

Leadership Ability in Lubbock County, Texas—Clara Pratt, Texas home demonstration agent.

Improving Subject-Matter Files in County Extension Offices—H. D. Finch, Colorado administrative assistant.

To Help Farm Women Conduct Better Club Meetings—Sarah L. Dewing, South Dakota home demonstration agent.

Evaluation of Wheat Improvement Program—Max C. Grandy, Colorado assistant farm labor supervisor.

Evaluating the Teaching of Tailored Finishes—Gladys H. Oller, Wyoming home demonstration agent.

Help Dairy Farmers Produce More Protein in Alfalfa Hay by Cutting Hay at Less Mature Stage—H. A. Sandhouse, Colorado extension dairyman.

Measuring Effectiveness of Officer Training Schools—Anna B. Clawson, Indiana assistant State home demonstration leader.

A Study of 4-H Dairy Club Members—David H. Kennedy, Oregon 4-H Club agent.

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# Preachers of country churches attend institute

■ Pastors of Oregon country churches have a strong common interest with extension workers in finding solutions to the problems of rural life.

That strong common interest was evident in the first Institute for Town and Country Pastors recently held on the campus of Oregon State College at Corvallis. Registered attendance totaled 105, including 39 clergymen representing 10 denominations.

The institute was sponsored by the college in cooperation with the Oregon Council of Churches, the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, and the Home Missions Council of North America. The Extension Service played a prominent part both in organizing the institute and in presenting the program.

### Objectives of Institute

Five objectives of the institute were: (1) To increase the contacts of rural pastors with trained leaders; (2) to acquaint them with tested methods of town and country work; (3) to help them become better acquainted with the significant functions and opportunities of the rural church; (4) to introduce them to available social, economic, religious, and educational resources of the local community, State, and Nation; (5) to develop fellowship among rural pastors by means of planned discussions and informal social and recreational activities.

The sessions lasted 1 week, starting Monday evening and ending Friday evening. A series of lectures was given on each of the following broad themes: Sociology of Rural Life; The Rural Minister and His Work; and Serving the Rural Community.

Extension contributions to the program were presented during the periods on "Serving the Rural Community" and were designed to acquaint the pastors with Oregon's agricultural resources and the relationship between those resources and the standards of rural life. Included were presentations on the following topics: Analyzing community Economic and Social Resources; Oregon Agriculture and the County Agricultural Agent; Better Homes for Better Living; Serving Homemakers through Home Demonstration Work; and Boys and Girls 4-H Club Work. Three 1-hour periods were given to discussion and demonstration on Community Recreation and the Rural Church by the extension specialist in community and social organization.

Time also was set aside for individual and group conferences which many of the delegates used to obtain more detailed information from speakers. Each afternoon program featured a panel discussion on a topic of general interest followed by demonstrations and tours designed to acquaint the pastors with the facilities available at the college. Portions of the program were broadcast by KOAC, Oregon's State-owned radio station.

Visiting speakers featured on the program included the Rev. Laing Sibbet, San Anselina, Calif., representing the Home Missions Council of America; Msgr. L. G. Ligutti, executive secretary of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference; and Prof. F. Alexander Magoun, associate professor of human relationships at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who is teaching at Oregon State this summer.

Typical of the response to the institute was this evaluation by one of the clergymen in attendance: "I feel that we will return to our parishes with renewed vigor and zeal. I know that the inspiration and advice and proofs that it can be done by these able speakers will be an added incentive to all."—*Jean W. Scheel, specialist in information methods, Oregon.*

## Washington State 4-H Club camp

The camp that made itself heard around the State was the 1946 Washington State 4-H Club camp. The theme of this camp was leadership development, and never in the history of the 4-H Clubs in the State of Washington has so successful a State camp been held.

Classes in journalism, handicraft, photography, recreation, the art of being a toastmaster, etc., were offered to the delegates at camp. They were taught not only subject material but were also shown how they might convey what they have learned to others.

During each morning assembly an outstanding speaker was a featured part of the program. After the assemblies the delegates divided into their respective discussion groups to discuss the points that had been brought out in the talk that they had just listened to.

The adult advisers to these groups were surprised at the ready discussion that came from the group. It took little coaxing on their part to get a rapid-fire discussion under way.

# Among Ourselves

■ DIRECTOR JOSEPH E. CARRIGAN, of Vermont, was honored by the College of Agriculture, University of Maine, with an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The official citation emphasized Director Carrigan's leadership in extension work thus: "Joseph Edward Carrigan, Doctor of Laws (LL. D.) born in Pittsford, Vt.; graduate of the University of Vermont in 1914; serving in his native State, successfully as county agent, as assistant county agent leader, director of Extension Service and since 1942 as Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Extension Service and of the Experiment Station; he has won the admiration and confidence of farmers, associates and public officials; his devoted and effective services as educator and administrator have contributed notably to the advancement of agriculture throughout New England."

■ HOWARD GRAYBILL NIESLEY, assistant director of agricultural extension at the Pennsylvania State College, died Sunday afternoon, August 4, of a heart condition after an illness of 6 weeks' duration.

He was born March 22, 1890, at Mechanicsburg, Pa. In 1911 he was graduated from Shippensburg State Teachers College and for 2 years was principal of the high school at Palenville, N. Y.

In 1917 he was graduated from the School of Agriculture at the Pennsylvania State College. He served as county agricultural agent of Dauphin County 1917–23, in charge of agricultural economics extension 1923–27, and assistant director of agricultural extension from 1927. He received the M. S. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1923.

He was a member of Alpha Zeta, agricultural fraternity; Gamma Sigma Delta, honor society of agriculture; and Epsilon Sigma Phi, extension honorary fraternity.

■ MISS VELMA L. CLARK, a former 4-H Club member in Tioga County, Pa., has been appointed assistant 4-H Club leader for that State.

A graduate of the Pennsylvania State College, Miss Clark taught vocational home economics and general science at Canton, Pa. After 2 years of teaching she became home economics extension representative in Mercer County, where she remained until assuming her present position.

For 6 years Miss Clark carried and completed successfully projects in clothing, foods, and room improvement. She represented her club several different years at State 4-H Club Week and took an active part in the Club Week program. Her personal experience as a former club member will be of value in her new position.

■ EIGHT VETERANS of the State College Extension Service who have "contributed greatly to the agricultural progress of North Carolina and helped to build better farm homes" retired July 1.

Dr. Jane S. McKimmon, Assistant Director of Extension at Raleigh; T. J. W. Broom of Monroe, agent in Union; Mrs. Hattie F. Plummer of Middleburg, agent in Vance; Miss Elizabeth Gainey of Fayetteville, agent in Cumberland; R. W. Pou of Winston-Salem, agent in Forsyth; C. B. Baird of Newland, agent in Avery; E. W. Gaither of Raleigh, agent at large; and Oliver Carter of Parmele, Negro agent in Martin County.

Dr. McKimmon and Farm Agent Broom have had the longest periods of service. The former was the founder of home demonstration work in North Carolina in 1914, and Mr. Broom has served 39 years as agricultural agent for his county.

"The heritage which this fine group of workers has left with us will serve as inspiration to the younger men and women who will follow in their footsteps in the future, and the lamps which they have lighted shall not grow dim," Director Schaub said.

In the animal-husbandry field a number of State specialists have returned from war duties to their old jobs although some are still in service.

■ L. L. PHILLIPS has been appointed Negro 4-H Club agent in Arkansas. He assumed duties July 8 with headquarters in Little Rock. This is the seventh State to create such a position.

Mr. Phillips is a native of Speegleville, Tex., and he holds a B. S. A. degree from Prairie View State College in that State.

The appointment places Phillips in charge of directing the program for the 32,000 Negro boys and girls enrolled in 4-H Clubs in Arkansas. The position was created following the retirement July 1 of J. C. Barnett who has been district agent in charge of Negro extension work in the State since 1938. His supervisory duties were turned over to Phillips and 4 Negro district agents. Mr. Phillips has been a county agent for Lee and Monroe Counties since 1937.

■ WHEN A BRONZE plaque honoring those who had contributed to the development of a freezer-locker plant was unveiled at the opening of a plant at Eatonton, Ga., the name of Lucille Dunnaway, county home demonstration agent, led all the rest.

The plant was opened with special ceremonies, including demonstrations on preparing and packaging fruits, vegetables, poultry, and eggs for freezing.


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# Missouri has a rural health program

■ Early this year the Missouri Extension Service organized a Statewide program of health education that is now in full swing. This program is designed to help rural people recognize existing problems and where to obtain help to correct them.

At a district conference during June all Missouri home demonstration agents worked on methods for developing a successful health program. One of the most useful devices introduced was a manual prepared by the Missouri Extension Committee on Rural Health.

This committee, headed by Cleta Null, State extension agent, includes these State specialists: Josephine Flory, nutritionist; George D. Jones, entomologist; and K. B. Huff, agricultural engineer. Specialists in home management, animal disease control, and clothing also assist the committee.

The manual gives general health facts about the rural population of the United States, together with specific facts about the health of rural people in Missouri brought to light by recent surveys. An outline of the USDA publication, Better Health for Rural America, and a series of questionnaires and check sheets which may be used to help determine the community health situation are also included.

The titles and sources of publications containing information which have proved useful in promoting better health in rural America offer help in further study.

The manual finishes with a series of true-false statements with helpful answers regarding health, nutrition, sanitation, and the teeth. This series of statements is for use in health programs.

When Alice May Alexander, home demonstration agent of Pettis County, presented the rural health program to the county home economics council, the council members immediately put into action a local program. Each of the 33 home economics extension clubs in the county has a health leader. Miss Alexander, in cooperation with the county health nurse and health leaders, prepared a questionnaire to be answered by members of the home economics extension clubs. The filled-in questionnaires are used to determine what problems are to receive attention in the county health program.

Late last fall the Extension Service put into action a 4-H health-improvement program for individuals and community. A health yardstick and a health check sheet were placed in the hands of every 4-H Club boy and girl in the State. This material contained information and check space on the following: Vaccination or immunization from smallpox, diphtheria, and typhoid; weight in relation to height; health habits to improve; and foods to eat.

# College 4-H Club trains leaders

■ Leadership has been the outstanding achievement of the College 4-H Club at Washington State College. This club, which had its origin shortly after the end of the First World War, was dormant during World War II but in 1944 again began to function.

With a membership of approximately 100, the club meets twice a month—once for a business meeting and once for a recreation meeting. At the business meetings they have a special feature such as an outstanding speaker or movie.

Members who are interested in continuing in extension work are sent to counties to work in county camps and to assist the county agricultural and home demonstration agents with their 4-H Club work. A group went to the Spokane Junior Livestock Show to help with some of the evening programs, and this fall they have volunteered to assist at the State 4-H Club fair.

It has taken 2 years of hard work on the part of the club members to revive their club, but they firmly believe that it has been well worth their time and effort. They have planned their own programs and carried them out. They have done work on achievement programs in the past and this fall are planning to work out an achievement day program that they can offer to any of the counties in the vicinity of their club.

Another important part of their business meeting has been discussions on such timely questions as the older-youth program, what they can do to help develop an older-youth program, and ways in which they can best serve their home communities.

Folk dancing and games, as well as ballroom dancing, are popular with the members of this college 4-H group; and they generally couple a mixer made up of these activities with light refreshments for their recreation meetings.

Their achievements have been recognized by the Washington Farmer magazine. They were the first WSC campus organization to be featured in a story by a State-wide magazine.

Proof of their capability was the way they planned for the State 4-H Club camp. The whole housing and classroom set-up was handled by members of this college 4-H Club.

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# The role of Extension in meeting rural health problems

ELIN L. ANDERSON, Specialist in Rural Health Services, Federal Extension Service

■ The Extension Service is in an especially advantageous position to help rural people improve their health and medical services. It reaches rural groups as no other educational organization does. It knows how rural people think and how they can be most effectively organized. It can obtain the cooperation of all health organizations and agencies so that the best technical knowledge available can be brought to bear on improving rural health services. The Extension Service can help rural people realize that many of their health problems can be solved only by joint effort with urban groups—industry and labor. It can point out that disease knows no barriers, and the solution of the rural health problem, like the solution of many other rural problems, requires not only effective local organization, but also integrated effort that may be local, State, national, or even international in scope.

The job of the Extension Service in improving rural health and medical services is first to develop an educational program that will enable rural people to know and appreciate what they can do to share more fully in the benefits of modern medical and allied sciences. Then when the people have decided what they can do and want to do to improve their existing health services or to establish new ones, the Extension Service can help the people organize to realize their goals.

This program would be developed by the usual extension methods of providing factual information, and encouraging discussion, experimentation, and demonstrations of various ways and means by which rural people may build a healthier family and community life. The major focus of the program will be on ways and means of doing the following:

1. How to arouse and maintain among rural people appreciation of advancing standards of physical and mental health and well-being.

2. How to acquire and maintain doctors, dentists, nurses, and other health specialists in rural areas.

3. How to plan for and maintain adequate diagnostic centers, hospitals, and health centers.

4. How to establish or expand local public health services.

5. How to develop methods of payment to assure equal opportunity of medical care to all people, and adequate income for those providing the service.

In developing this program the Extension Service should turn to the technical resources available within the college of agriculture, the State health department, and other organizations and agencies—local, State, regional, and national—which can assist the rural people in getting the services they need.

In developing an educational program focused on organization for health and medical services the Extension Service will call upon all the resources at its command within the college of agriculture.

The Extension Service now conducts a number of important health activities. The State extension supervisors, the 4-H Club leaders, the specialists in housing, nutrition, dairying, animal husbandry, and others should determine how they can help best in developing this program to strengthen community health and medical services. This new project, in turn, will facilitate their reaching more and more rural people through effective community organization.

The sociologists and economists at the experiment station can do much to develop this project. They can gather available research data and conduct studies in the field of socio-economic organization of medical services. They can report their findings in such a way that they will be readily used in an educational program to aid rural people interested in ways and means of improving their health services and facilities.

The farm organizations are anxious to undertake health programs for rural people. The Extension Service

**Young Kansas health leaders practice their first-aid methods at the first 3-day camp for health winners. "It is not enough that a 4-H member be merely healthy; he should also do something to improve the health of others," said Mary Elsie Border, assistant State 4-H Club leader, who was in charge of the camp.**

can provide accurate information with which these and other groups may assist in building sound, effective health services.

The State and local health departments may be expected to provide much of the technical information needed to develop modern medical and health services in rural areas. Close cooperation between the health department and the Extension Service at both State and local levels is essential, therefore, to the success of this program.

### Enlist Help of Health Groups

Since the professional societies, including the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, and the American Nurse Association, have expressed special concern with meeting the health needs of rural people, the Extension Service can enlist the cooperation of these professional societies and their affiliated State associations in this educational program.

The Extension Service may turn to many other public and private organizations and agencies especially interested in rural health services, such as the Farm Security Administration, the State public welfare department, the State board of education, the Red Cross, Tuberculosis Association, and the hospital commission.

Within the United States Department of Agriculture itself are several bureaus and divisions which have had invaluable practical experience in administering or appraising health programs which may well guide the development of a health service for all rural people. Among these are the Farm Security Administration, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, Office of Labor, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Extension Service.

Other official agencies ready to give technical advice from their broad knowledge and experience with various types of health and medical services are the United States Public Health Service, the Social Security Board, the Children's Bureau, and the Federal Office of Education.

The Extension Service may also find it desirable to seek advice from some of the many private foundations and groups which have had practical experience in the health field, such as the Kellogg Foundation, the Commonwealth Fund, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Farm Foundation, the Bingham Associates, and others.

A few States have specialists working on some phase of a health program, but only four States—Arkansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio—now have full-time extension specialists in rural health services who focus most of their energies on the economics and organization of rural health services. In the State of Washington, the extension sociologist gives half time to this health program. Montana and South Dakota are planning somewhat similar arrangements. Maine and Oklahoma are looking for full-time personnel to undertake this program. Several other States have set up extension health committees to determine the best procedure for Extension to follow in undertaking this program.

### Getting More Country Doctors

An educational program to help rural people improve their health and medical services is essentially a long-time program. Certain phases of it, however, require immediate attention.

The most pressing need is for rural communities to develop means of attracting returning medical officers to set up practices in their trade areas. Offering a home, office space, diagnostic facilities or a prepayment plan that assures basic income, are simple but important measures that may be sufficient to give returning medical officers confidence in local public support.

Another immediate need is for rural people to study pending State and national legislation so that they may assume their share of responsibility for formulating public policy in regard to legislative measures relating to the improvement of their local health services.

This rural health program falls essentially in the field of economics and organization. It requires a family and community approach. It cuts across all extension activities. Methods of procedure for undertaking the program will vary in different States according to the degree of interest on the part of rural people in improving their health services and the stage of development of these services.

**A physical examination was part of the routine at the Kansas State Health Camp where State health winners were given a concentrated 3-day course in health and health leadership. Their camp record was used as a basis for selecting the State 4-H winners who will attend the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.**

# Agent finds radio brings results

■ "Good morning, neighbors, and a good farm day to you," is the familiar greeting going to rural families in western Washington 5 days a week from KJR and KIRO, two large radio stations in Seattle. The King County Agricultural Extension Service personnel participates regularly in these farm programs.

Pertinent agricultural information for localities, seasons, and farm-home problems has been broadcast over KIRO for the past 5 years and for 3 years over KJR. The time for the broadcast over the former is 7 a. m. and 12:15 noon. The farm broadcasts of the latter are at 7:15 a. m. Sandwiching these programs between popular broadcasts helps to insure good listening audiences. Although no survey has been taken in this area to determine the radio following, county agricultural agents and home demonstration agents in the areas reached by the broadcasts are sold on the radio as an excellent means of spreading extension influence, news, and knowledge.

A 4-H broadcast is given once each month over one of the stations and a home economics broadcast every other week on each program. The agents in agriculture have participated as invited guests, and subjects of interest to farmers are presented. These farm broadcasts have not been regular, but a number of broadcasts have been given throughout the year by each of the agricultural agents.

In the field of farm-home problems a very definite result has been noted, probably due to the regularity of the program given by home demonstration agents. The first result noted has been a very definite increase in requests for bulletins. In 1940 when the programs were started, requests for bulletins were about 3,500 during the year. By 1945 these requests had increased to 12,800. Part of the increase in 1944 and 1945 was undoubtedly due to war stimulus, but many of the broadcasts were planned around food preservation and gardening in order to stimulate people to raise gardens and preserve food. A bulletin or circular giving further information was always offered. A second evidence of results of radio broadcasting has been the ready acceptance by rural groups of the agents who are broadcasting. Communities in which we have not had former contact either feel that they are already acquainted with us or are eager to become acquainted and to participate in extension programs.

The third result has been action by individuals in rural areas in response to broadcasts. As an example of this, the radio farm editor and the home demonstration agent ad libbed on the need for 4-H leaders, following the program planned for the day. Before leaving the studio, two telephone calls came in from individuals offering to lead 4-H Clubs. Later other offers came from rural areas in King County. Agents in nearby counties also reported new clubs organized as a result of this one broadcast.

Such results as these do not come from all broadcasts, of course. In fact, they are quite rare, but when they do come we realize the possibilities if enough enthusiasm, facts, and persuasion are put into a broadcast.

In the future we are looking forward to even better results, for as time passes we are gaining experience in the technique of radio broadcasting.—*Helen Steiner, associate county agent, King County, Wash.*

# 4-H Club girls entertain at luncheons

■ Girls attending 4-H Club camp at Massachusetts State College in July were given some practical experience in entertaining at lunch. Four different groups of 15 to 20 girls prepared and served a lunch during the week. Each luncheon was prepared for 6 people including the host and hostess—one girl and one boy who were members of the 4-H week—and the special guests, who during the week were Willard A. Munson, director of Massachusetts Extension Service, and Mrs. Munson; Dr. Ralph A. Van Meter, acting president of the college, and Mrs. Van Meter; E. W. Aiton, field agent, Federal Extension Service, and Mrs. Aiton; and each day one 4-H agent and one 4-H girl, a friend of the hostess.

The girls were given instruction by Carolyn Kennedy, food demonstrator for a power company, and Mrs. Marjorie Hall McGillicuddy, special

**Carolyn Kennedy, food demonstrator for a power company, shows the girls how to use an electric refrigerator to good advantage.**

Left to right, seated: Catherine Cook, associate county club agent, Norfolk County; Marjorie Johnson, Stoneham, hostess; Louise Herr, Winchendon; Mrs. E. W. Aiton. Standing: E. W. Aiton, Washington, D. C., and James Kenyon, Westfield, host.

worker at the State 4–H Club office.

The luncheon was planned to fit the current food supply, the menu including fruit cup, baked stuffed broilers, baked potatoes, fresh peas, gelatin salad with fruit salad dressing, hot rolls and butter, prune pie, and coffee. The rolls and pastry were made with emergency flour.

A new electric stove and a new electric refrigerator, which had been installed in the Farley 4–H clubhouse by a power company, were used in the preparation of the luncheons. The stove and refrigerator were installed especially for the 4–H week and will become permanent fixtures of the clubhouse.

# Finland 4-H Clubs help the needy

■ From Finland comes word that the 4–H Club work started there in 1926 by Frants P. Lund (formerly with the Federal Extension Service), with help from the Rockefeller Foundation and the International Education Board, has been a complete success in that country.

Miss Elizabeth Beaurain of Helsinki, Finland, writes that there are now 100,000 boys and girls in 4–H Club work in their little country, which has a population of 3½ million people. Their production was of great importance during the war and still is.

Miss Beaurain writes: "Since the work was organized by a specialist from U. S. A., it naturally is much like your work. We hold camps and have meetings. * * * In one respect we have perhaps created something new, our work being aimed as much as possible to the families who have especially suffered from the war, the supporter being killed or an invalid, or the family being evacuated or bombed. The help given such families in the countryside is for a great part given in seeds, manure, compost, wages for workers, rent for the land, or money for buying a domestic animal. We think this is a very good way to help people help themselves."

■ Negro farmers of Perquimans County, N. C., are ordering fruit trees for the home orchards. County Agent W. C. Stroud says that soon there should be enough fruit for about half the families in the county.

## Better homes for Mississippi

District county winners in the 1946 rural better homes program, chosen from records from 75 Mississippi counties representing 12,864 homes, were announced in August.

In the northeast extension district, Alcorn County placed first, with Monroe and Clay Counties receiving honorable mention. In south Mississippi district, Forrest County was first, Pearl River and Jackson Counties received honorable mention; each central district, first, Oktibbeha; honorable mention, Leake and Lauderdale; northwest district, first, Tallahatchie; honorable mention, Tate and Carroll; southwest district, first, Madison; honorable mention, Hinds and Warren.

Interest in this rural home improvement program, which is sponsored by the State Home Demonstration Council, has grown steadily in the past 10 years. This year reports were received from every county, except one, where there are home demonstration agents. This compared with only 39 counties participating in 1936.

The reports listed 1,356 new homes built and 2,331 homes remodeled. Almost 1,400 electric or pressure pumps were installed on Mississippi farms during this report year, and 1,154 wells were improved.

The home improvement listed this year for the first time in large numbers is the installation of 1,294 gas and 736 other heating systems.

Other home improvements included repairs to foundations, roofs, windows, floors, and steps, and painting. Numbers of homes reported storage and management improvements, including built-in kitchen cabinets, rearranged kitchens, sinks added, clothes closets and bathrooms added and equipped.

## New slidefilm

Wild Fruits—For Soil Conservation. No. 668. Prepared by Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service. Planting wild-fruit bearing shrubs in odd areas or wasteland not only protects land, but also produces edible fruits for improved human nutrition much needed in certain sections. (36 frames: single, $0.55; double $1.) A copy for inspection is deposited with the extension editor at your State agricultural college.

# Extension's war record in Hawaii

**H. H. Warner, Director of Extension in Hawaii, here tells of the contribution made by extension workers on these islands which were on the front line of the Pacific theater. It is part of an address at the summer annual extension conference.**

■ This is Extension's first peacetime conference since August 1941.

It seems fitting now that we try to evaluate the contributions our extension people made to the Nation's victorious struggle against the forces that sought to wipe democracy from the earth.

Shortly after the 1941 conference, just 4 months before Pearl Harbor, we began preparing material for the now famous Agricultural Extension Circular No. 130, "Hawaii Farms for National Defense."

The suggestions in Circular 130 were short, terse, to the point. Under the general heading "Follow Proven Methods. This is No Time To Experiment," we gave suggestions on virtually every phase of agriculture practiced in the Territory.

Circular 130 was in the printer's hands on December 7, 1941. On one of the tense days that followed, we hurriedly snatched a moment to write a caption to be imprinted in red on the cover. That caption read: "It did happen here! Farmers of Hawaii are on the firing line. Food for defense now has a stern meaning, and many of the suggestions herein are more to the point than when they were written."

Who among us will ever forget that Sunday morning—the gunfire that at first we thought was practice. Then the screaming sirens, the clouds of thick black smoke rising from Pearl Harbor. The radio announcer's voice, calm in those first few seconds. "We interrupt our program to announce that Oahu is under attack by a hostile air force." The growing tension of his voice as he gave the orders of the military. "Servicemen on leave report to your posts at once, firemen report to your stations, civilians stay off the streets, and don't use the phones." That instant's pause when he said, "I think we should play the Star-Spangled Banner." A girl's voice breaking in breathlessly, "I'll get it!" Then the choking break in the announcer's voice as he said, "The Star-Spangled Banner, folks. We'll keep it waving." The frantic radio appeals for doctors, nurses, and blood donors, and the final assurance that "this is the real McCoy."

Hurriedly gathering in the Governor's office were those who had been engaged in planning for food production, for evacuation of civilians from the city, for the importation of civilian supplies, and for other phases of the emergency program. Iolani Palace became the nerve center of the Territory. Before midnight, the senate chamber with its hurriedly improvised black-out arrangements, became a beehive of activity. Loose telephone wires were strung to every desk. There was no ventilation, and the mosquitoes staged a kamikaze attack. Across the hall in the house of representatives room, weary workers slept on army cots.

These scenes were duplicated all over the Territory, and from that first day, extension workers were in the thick of the struggle.

### Take Food Control Jobs

Four of our staff of specialists were at once called into service by the Office of the Military Governor. For 2 years they worked at Iolani Palace in the governor's office of food control. When an Office of Food Production was established in 1943, they carried on important jobs for that agency.

This threw additional responsibilities on the remaining members of the administrative office. Mr. R. A. Goff, Miss A. Maria Palmer, Miss Kathryn Shellhorn and others assumed these added burdens of keeping the extension organization functioning. Without glamor, publicity, or recognition they carried these added tasks without complaining.

In the rural districts, extension agents cooperated with extension specialists in the governor's office, carrying out under the specialists' supervision many special wartime jobs assigned to them by the military government. It was as if the military authorities had taken over the Extension Service almost in its entirety—taken it over to do the kind of wartime jobs that no other agency in the Territory was equipped to do.

The farm agents took several livestock and poultry censuses. They turned over their figures to extension specialists in the Office of the Military Governor. The specialists classified, tabulated, and interpreted these figures and later used them as a guide for importing feed.

### Making Out Those Forms

Extension agents assisted farmers in filling out a great array of forms that were required before the farmers were allowed to purchase many kinds of materials and supplies. There were forms for lumber, cement, building material of all kinds, farm machinery, spray equipment, poisonous insecticides.

They rationed gasoline, tires, and feed.

Upon request, they supplied information to draft boards concerning the farm activities of farm boys eligible for selective service.

When certain workers, frozen to their jobs by order of the military government, asked to be released in order to go to work on farms, the military authorities, before granting such releases, sought information and advice from the farm agents.

Under authority granted by the Office of Food Control, the agents issued permits that allowed farmers to slaughter sows that were no longer suitable for breeding. Without such permits it was illegal to kill sows. The permit system was established in order to conserve the swine breeding stock of the Territory.

When the Army or Navy needed to take over croplands for military purposes, they asked the county agent to appraise the crops growing on the land. The agent's valuation was used as a basis for compensating the farmer for the crop he had to abandon.

When a hog raiser collected garbage from city homes or when a truck crop grower sold his produce directly to

consumers, he was required to obtain a badge from the Central Identification Bureau. To get such a badge, he had to fill out a complicated declaration. For help in doing this he turned to his friend, the county farm agent.

In those days when every ounce of home-produced food meant another inch along the road to victory, it was necessary to distribute our home-grown food in the most equitable manner possible. Again the military government turned to Extension for help. Extension's agricultural economist was appointed Farm Produce Coordinator. All vegetables and fruits coming from the outside islands of Oahu passed through his hands.

In the effort to have more food to distribute, the entire extension organization encouraged home gardens in rural districts and in Honolulu. Assistant farm agents were placed in plantation communities to teach plantation families how to grow vegetables and backyard-livestock and poultry. As a result of the extension program, rabbits and Muscovy ducks appeared in backyards all over the Territory.

To have more home-grown feed for all types of livestock and poultry, extension agents encouraged the planting of koa haole, pigeon peas, and other legumes. In cooperation with the agricultural experiment station, they told farmers how to use such byproducts as molasses, cane strippings, and pineapple pulp.

In one county the home agents planned menus and purchased food for the inmates of a Government camp for alien internees. In the same county, the extension agents, men and women, cooperated with other groups in the community in arranging a mammoth exhibit of tropical fruits and plants, particularly those fruits and plants that would keep a soldier alive if he were forced to subsist by his own efforts for some days or weeks in a tropical jungle. Included were displays that showed how to use the products of the cocoanut tree for food, drink, and shelter. Thousands of service men viewed this exhibit and came away realizing that no one need starve in a jungle.

When there was no butter in the markets, home economics specialists found a way to make butter from cocoanut oil. To do this, they first had to find a practical way of getting the oil out of the cocoanuts. Directions for the cocoanut butter were passed on to the home agents who demonstrated the process.

Home agents visiting the homes of hog raisers in those days saw garbage swimming with grease that was being thrown away. Knowing the need for conserving fat, the agents showed the homemakers how to utilize the fat by making it into soap.

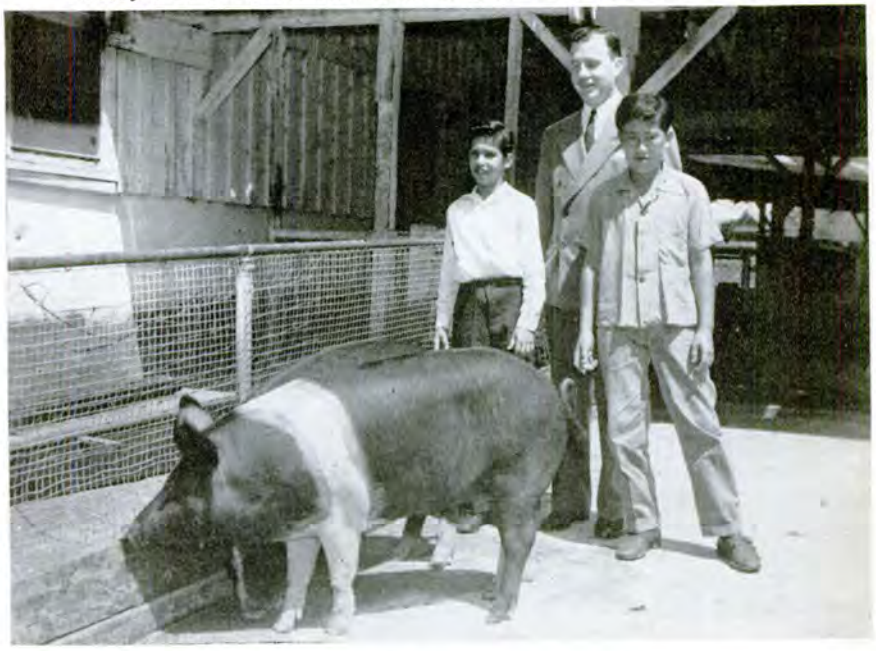
When the people of the Territory tensely feared invasion, feared that fighting might occur in the streets and in their backyards, extension specialists helped homemakers prepare for such an emergency by showing them how to make and equip a simple first-aid kit.

A compact evacuation kit, in which food supplies and necessary personal belongings could be conveniently carried, was prepared for use by families in certain so-called "evacuation areas." These were districts from which the military authorities expected to evacuate all civilians in the event of an invasion.

The results of much of the work I have been talking about can be measured—so many pounds of food produced, so many acres planted, so many gallons of gasoline rationed. But our agents did another kind of war work that cannot be measured. It cannot be measured because its results were felt—not seen—felt in the hearts of thousands of alien Japanese men and women all over the Territory. Bewildered and frightened by countless military restrictions, many of which they did not understand, the alien Japanese turned for help to extension county agents, whom they had learned to trust through years of friendly, helpful contacts. Because several of our agents and specialists spoke Japanese, they were able to explain in detail every order of the military government. By explaining the reasons for the orders, the agents did much to bring about willing obedience.

Will the historian writing of Hawaii's part in World War II remember to describe the home agent sitting in the living room of a plantation laborer's house reminding the homemaker to see that the entire family got to the schoolhouse to be registered and fingerprinted? Or the agent at a club meeting telling the women that their typhoid shots would not make them very sick? Will the historian say how many aliens gave their blood to the blood bank because extension agents assured them that there would be no serious aftereffects?

**When every ounce of home-produced food meant another inch along the road to victory 4-H Clubs did their share to grow crops and raise livestock.**



# Three-in-one conference

■ New York State county agricultural agents are being given additional training in soil-conservation practices. Special study is made of the relationship of these practices to general farm management and crop-rotation problems.

The agents meet in regional groups with an extension conservationist, a farm-management specialist, and an agronomist from Cornell. They gather at a farm with erosion problems, but one which has not yet been planned by Soil Conservation Service personnel.

The extension conservationist, Hugh M. Wilson, then guides them through an approach to the erosion problem in much the same way as a technician from SCS might start making the farm plan. In so doing, the agents learn something of the soil types and become acquainted with symbols on conservation survey maps. They also acquire a better understanding of the soil-conservation program.

After the agents are familiar with the farm and have observed erosion problems, a conservation plan for the farm is discussed. The plan goes into about the same detail as the farm plan that a conservation technician would prepare.

It includes a soils map, colored to indicate the land capabilities, and a written description of each field and recommendations for the use of each field. It also includes an outline of what will be required to put the plan into effect.

The agronomist then presents a complete suggested crop rotation that he has previously worked out. This rotation is planned to produce the maximum feed for the type of livestock on the farm, but it also considers the soil types and the erosion problems found on the farm. The agents discuss both the conservation program and the suggested rotation to make certain that there is no conflict in purpose or in recommendations.

Then the farm management specialist asks the group, figuratively speaking, to step back and look at the plan and the rotation as part of the entire farm management problem. He asks them, for example, to decide whether it is more important for the farmer to put a certain conservation practice into effect or to reorganize some phase of his business. This is done to make sure that agents retain an over-all perspective in discussing conservation problems with farmers.

The result of the meetings is that agricultural agents are much better qualified to conduct educational work on conservation practices. They not only know more about conservation problems and their solution but they have a better understanding of the relationship between the conservation program and the entire farm management set-up on the farm.

# 4-H sponsoring committee

■ The Greater Linton Club of Greene County, Ind., finds a 4 H sponsorship committee very valuable. The club appoints a special 4-H committee from its membership. The chairman gives specific 4-H assignments to the members, and the Extension Service gave similar assignments to the leaders. A newly organized livestock producer's committee selected individual farmer-producers to serve on these project committees. This made an advisory committee of three—a farmer, a businessman, and a 4-H Club leader—serving in an advisory and executive capacity for the six major 4-H projects. The leadership was thus virtually tripled.

Two banquet meetings were held for the committeemen. Each committee was given its assignments including project promotion, enrollment encouragement, visitation of club members, and management of the department at the county club show.

All six project committees, namely, beef, dairy, swine, lamb, poultry, and garden, visited 4-H Club members. The Extension Service arranged the tours, notified club members of the approximate hour of the visit, and accompanied the committee on tour. It was a revelation to see the club members "shined up" and waiting for the "company" to arrive.

Since the committee has been at work there had been a 10-percent increase in members and a 20-percent increase in projects. One new boys' and a new girls' club were organized through the efforts of one member of the sponsoring committee. The club members who were visited showed a 30-percent increase in completions over those not visited.—*Arthur Haseman, county agricultural agent, Greene County, Ind.*

## Michigan 4-H leaders honored

One hundred and forty-one local 4-H leaders were honored at the recent annual Michigan 4-H Club show held at Michigan State College.

Six of the awards—the 4-H award of the emerald clover—were for 25 years of service as a local 4-H Club leader. Eight were the 4-H award of the diamond clover for 20 years of service. Twenty-nine won the 4-H award of the pearl clover for 15 years' service, and 98 4-H awards of the gold clover for 10 years of service were granted.

On the same program, an outstanding Michigan 4-H Club member presented to Harry F. Kelly, Governor of Michigan, and Charles L. Figy, commissioner of agriculture, plaques as citation for outstanding service to Michigan 4-H Clubs. Commissioner Figy and Governor Kelly have aided materially in making possible the annual State 4-H Club Show at which from 1,500 to 2,000 farm youth compete for honors.

■ A new step in the improvement of Negro extension service in North Carolina is the appointment of an eight-man Negro board of agriculture in Rockingham County by the county commissioners.

Serving on the eight-man agricultural board will be four Negro businessmen. These outstanding Negro leaders will work with R. L. Hannon, Negro county agent, in furthering the progress of agriculture in Rockingham.

# Let youth do it

T. T. MARTIN, State 4–H Club Agent, Missouri

■ The young men and women who are returning from war and war industries to the farms and rural villages of Missouri and all over America are joining with other local youth in requesting a larger place in community affairs than youth have ever enjoyed before. This upsurge is a definite challenge to the Agricultural Extension Service to streamline the older rural youth organizations so as to serve this age group of about 18 to 25 years more effectively.

These organizations probably will "stay on the beam" better if they follow in the footsteps of similar youth groups that have succeeded in previous years—especially in terms of the kind of organization needed, the type of programs conducted, and the guidance and counsel desired.

Experience has demonstrated that the local organization unit should be a true social community. To run counter to this principle is to greatly increase the chances of failure. This unit may center at the county seat for a county-wide organization, but usually it will include a much smaller area.

### Stereotyped Programs Out

Groups have found that the larger the community the larger will be the number of interests represented in the group. The general program of recreation and entertainment will hold more members for a while, but particular interests must be met in the end to continue to hold them.

Any youth program should be in harmony with the culture of the local people—with their equipment, skills, attitudes, beliefs, and social organization. In a rapidly changing world, the organization that keeps itself elastic, adaptable, and close to the needs of its members has the best chance of survival. All stereotyped programs and rigid controls handed down will fail, according to past experiences with older youth.

Surveys made by the American Youth Commission show that a neighborhood or community is far more inclusive and reaches a larger proportion of older youth than a county program. Consequently, a number of county youth groups have been broken down and reorganized into neighborhood or community units—after they have been going for some time and have felt the need for smaller action groups, along lines of special interest.

Counties with several older youth groups often want to organize an over-all council to coordinate their community activities. Experience shows, however, that these councils are very hard to administer. Probably their greatest usefulness has been achieved in the annual or semi-annual county-wide planning and recognition meetings.

### Specific Program Suggestions

The experiences of the American Youth Commission with older rural youth, as conducted in 14 States over a period of 5 years, are summarized by Dr. E. deS. Brunner in the Commission's report, "Working with Rural Youth." In this summary, Dr. Brunner evaluated some of these observations in reference to programs about as follows:

1. Older rural youth can diagnose their own needs and, if necessary, make surveys to find what their own needs are—under guidance.

2. They can care for their own social and recreational needs.

3. Discussion groups will not work until a basis of acquaintance is built up. Then, they can proceed to solve some of their most pressing personal and group problems, provided that thorough training is given them in discussion techniques.

4. They can conduct panel discussions, if trained to do so.

5. They can obtain vocational information from people, studies, and books, and explore employment opportunities as needed.

6. They can arrange for special lectures to supply the specific information needed on problems under consideration.

7. They can give community service as leaders of 4–H Clubs for Scouts, Sunday schools, and other youth organizations, and for adult farm and home groups as requested.

Older youth groups usually do not want adult leaders to function in the usual relationship but, instead, generally feel the need for the judgment and counsel of adult advisers or sponsors who have local prestige. This relationship gives the community more confidence in the youth organizations. Also, these adults can temper any impetuous youth without reducing their spontaneity or originality—both of which are very valuable assets to youth.

It has been found that extension workers at all levels of supervision usually are prepared to provide a program for older rural youth but seldom are prepared to give the necessary time to help youth develop a program for themselves.

## The latest in welding

A training program in farm shop welding, the first of its kind in the United States, will be launched in early September by the Texas A. and M. College Extension Service and a welding company of Houston, Dr. Ide P. Trotter, extension director, has announced.

A complete mobile shop, including both arc and acetylene welding units, together with a well-qualified instructor in welding will be furnished to the Texas A. and M. College by the welding company for furthering this training program.

This new program will be under the supervision of M. R. Bentley, extension agricultural engineer, and will include instruction on repairing broken farm machinery parts as well as fabrication of many useful articles for use on farms and ranches.

The program is designed primarily to further train farmers who now operate shops in the newer welding techniques developed during war years. Included also will be hard facing of plowshares and other cutting tools.

A large number of farm shops equipped for welding are in operation in Texas, especially in the High Plains, Rolling Plains, and Gulf Coast sections.—*R. B. Hickerson, assistant farm labor supervisor, Texas Extension Service.*

# An American abroad

**Mrs. Helendeen H. Dodderidge, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who represented the Extension Service at the executive meeting of the Associated Country Women of the World, reports on what she saw in Europe.**

Representatives of 21 nations attended the first executive meeting of the Associated Country Women of the World since the beginning of the war.

The individual reports from the constituent societies were by far the most interesting and informative part of the conference. Many and varied were the stories of delegates whose organizations had continued to function under the watchful eye of the invader. Many of the members reported meetings held in bomb shelters and other meetings which were interrupted by the wailing of the air-raid sirens. Bombed out of their homes or driven out by the Nazi forces, any news reaching them through the Associated Country Women of the World office in London brought light and hope to them during the war years.

Generally speaking, it was my feeling that the women gathered in London for the conference were not as aware of the international programs as are the leaders of women's organizations in the United States. That is understandable, however, when one takes into account that for years it has been a full day's job to obtain enough food and clothing for the family with rationing and inadequate transportation and communication facilities in many areas. Life has been a battle for survival, and they have not had time to give sufficient consideration to international affairs.

### Patience and Tolerance Needed

An American abroad these days must be equipped with an abundance of patience and tolerance, or a quick retort may lead to international misunderstandings.

In my estimation, we have done a much better job of supplying essential foods to Europe than we have done in developing an understanding of *how much* we have supplied them and the figures on American production in the total world food picture. I feel certain that people of other lands and many of our own citizens fail to realize that we do not have *unlimited* supplies.

One has to recognize the fact that probably *ererypone* in England comes nearer getting his proper share of that country's food supply than *ererypone* in the other nations of the world, including America. The food is more equitably divided, and preference is given to children in the distribution of foods which are essential to their welfare. I am certain that is not true of any other country, with the possible exception of Holland.

Fruits and vegetables sell at prohibitive prices, but for the essential staple foods prices are held below those of this country. There is less food sold on the black market in England than in any country I have been in, also including our own. However, it is not free from that plague; and I have seen oranges which were bought on the black market at $8 a dozen, eggs at $6 a dozen, and chickens at more than $2 a pound. These are foods which one seldom sees in the markets, although two eggs a week were on the ration during July.

Potatoes are planted in every yard and in every park—even in churchyards—and cabbage is universally grown. In the southern part of England, Kent particularly, other vegetables and considerable fruit are grown for the market. Fruits and vegetables, being in short supply, bring a tremendously high price.

Bread rationing was introduced in England when I was there. Housewives throughout the United Kingdom were highly resentful and protested against it, possibly because it was the "last straw" in continuing restrictions and regimentation. The Family Assistance Plan was also introduced this summer. It provides for payments of a few shillings to families that have more than two children and serves to increase the food budget of thousands of families.

France's food picture seems gloomier than that of England, particularly in the cities where the black market flourishes. Food prices in shops and in cafes and hotels are prohibitive. Our agricultural attaché in Paris told me that the average French worker's wage is about 200 francs daily or equivalent to about $2 in our money. How they live on that is a mystery to me, as I saw very little which could be purchased for that amount—a little bread, a few wilted vegetables, and perhaps a small piece of rabbit or horse meat. I understand that the average French peasant's diet is better than formerly. Before the war the thrifty peasant family lived principally on bean soup and dark bread, selling the products of the small farm. With the present unstable currency, the family now believes it to be wiser to consume its products and at least have a good living. If long hours and hard work could solve France's food problems, the solution would be found; as one sees men, women, and children toiling long into the night, harvesting their crops or working in gardens which fill every available plot of land.

### The French Are a Happy People

Even a second invasion has not dampened the Frenchman's ardor for entertainment and enjoyment. There is nothing of the "near-martyrdom" which one feels in England. On Sundays they walk or cycle to the country where they picnic on very slim fare and derive much pleasure from their newly won freedom. The beaches are filled with happy people who apparently have grown accustomed to the bombed devastation of their coastal area.

Even with highly inflated prices and a serious black market, Belgium is making a very good come-back. Some food prices are not prohibitive, but clothing and equipment prices are exorbitant. Fruits and vegetables were in abundant supply in late July, and food distribution is fairly well controlled. Meals in restaurants are extremely high priced; and, as is common in European countries, no beverages are included in the price of the meal. U. S. A. canned bacon and other meat products, as well as butter spreads, were on the counters of all the shops of Belgium and Holland.

I saw no large cities in Holland and had only 1 day to observe that part

which immediately adjoins Belgium. The terrain of the two countries is similar; but one can sense that he is in another country by the way the grain is stacked, the houses built, the fences constructed, and the custom of keeping shop doors closed in Holland. The luxury items are missing from the shops. Holland is playing her cards close to her chest and coming back the hard way; but she is keeping prices within bounds and striving very hard to keep her people in the thrifty, sensible groove to which they have been accustomed. Both Belgium and Holland are rebuilding their bombed parts which are their life lines, and Holland is draining her flooded areas and rebuilding her dykes. All the countries I have visited have large numbers of German prisoners who labor in the fields and on the docks.

Switzerland, untouched by war, is a land of beauty. It is enjoying a great tourist season, as this is the first year that people of Europe have felt it safe to take a holiday. Prices are high on everything except watches, clocks, and cameras. Hotels can and do charge very high prices. One marvels at the extreme cleanliness and the lack of slum areas.

My short stay in Scotland and Eire was pleasant. In Scotland one, of course, found the same rationing restrictions which existed in England. The holiday throngs from England were crowding the lake country and the cities, and hotel accommodations were difficult to find. The same meal of fish, meat pie, potatoes, and cabbage which was on every menu in England prevailed there. Independent Eire seemed to have much more abundant food supplies, and they are making the most of the great Shannon Airport where hundreds of people from foreign lands arrive daily. Shops are springing up like mushrooms, and the prices on everything sold are very high.

One appreciates the hospitality extended on every hand, even though serious shortages still exist in most of these countries. I found our agricultural attachés highly interesting and most cooperative. Director Wilson's letter had provided an entree for me which was most helpful. All of them had a tremendous respect for Extension and its director, and Dr. Wilson's picture adorned their walls.

## On the passing of an extension pioneer

■ WILLIAM A. LLOYD, who retired from the Extension Service in 1940 after 27 years' service in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, died on July 10 at his home in Washington at the age of 75.

Mr. Lloyd was born in Sparta, Ohio, and was graduated from the National Northern University, Lebanon, Ohio. He also received a law degree from the University of Texas and was admitted to the bar in Texas and Ohio and practiced before the Supreme Courts there.

After successfully practicing law and serving as editor in Texas, he returned to Ohio to engage in the work he loved most. He settled in Meigs County and became known for his leadership in promoting the application of science to practical farming. As a farmer, he also took a leading part in revitalizing the Grange movement in Ohio. He was called to serve on the staff of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. Mr. Lloyd was placed in charge of the station's fair exhibit and became a prominent influence in making the Nation's State and county fairs the educational institutions they are today.

In 1913 Mr. Lloyd came to the United States Department of Agriculture because of his interest in farm management and was placed in charge of county agent work in the 33 northern and western States. From then until his retirement from active service in 1940 he was one of the outstanding leaders in the growth and development of cooperative extension work.

At memorial services for Mr. Lloyd, sponsored by Epsilon Sigma Phi, Western Province, in conjunction with the Western States Regional Extension Conference at Fort Collins, Colo., on August 5, Director F. A. Anderson of Colorado said:

"That which will be said during this brief period only can be symbolic of that which we feel in our hearts. It cannot adequately express our esteem of him."

At the same services Director M. L. Wilson said:

"In his extension career, W. A. Lloyd left many landmarks that will have a lasting influence. He was a leader and pioneer in developing the idea of agricultural progress through local farmer leadership. He worked out the basic organizational plans whereby State and county farm bureaus were established as farmer groups through which to carry on extension work. He organized the county agricultural system of the Northern and Western States. He spent the year 1928–29 at the University of Hawaii initiating and organizing cooperative extension work on the islands. He was the founder of Epsilon Sigma Phi, professional extension fraternity, with 51 chapters—an organization that brings a challenge and inspiration to all who make a career of extension work. He was responsible for bringing about the act of Congress which named the two stone arches joining the two buildings of the United States Department of Agriculture. It was his idea that one of these be named for Secretary "Tama Jim" Wilson, under whom the Department became a great scientific institution; the other for Seaman A. Knapp, who was the father of demonstration teaching, whereby farmers could learn to use science for a better agriculture."

# 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.**

### Research Lightens Burden of Quarantines

■ To say that research helps evade plant quarantines would sound as if science were conniving in illegal violations. But the evasions in which research has a part are entirely legal and a great help to growers of crops in quarantined areas.

When a new insect pest is discovered in a certain area, shipment of plants or products on which it might be carried is forbidden to prevent the spread of the pest to other parts of the country. This action works a hardship on producers and shippers by denying them markets outside the quarantined areas. Then research steps in and finds means by which products can be shipped with no danger of spreading the insect. These means may be treatments of the soil, methods of cleaning the plants, fumigation, or even the use of heat or cold. When methods of treatment are perfected, their use under supervision is approved as a basis for certification that the products are free from infestation.

The Japanese beetle infestation gives an example of the easing of quarantine restrictions through research. The beetle was first discovered in this country in 1916, in New Jersey. A quarantine was established which prohibited the shipment of certain agricultural products from the infested area without inspection. If beetles, beetle larvae, or grubs were found on the material, it either had to be treated or was not allowed to leave the area. Losses because of restrictions on areas in which nursery stock and potted plants, for example, could be marketed were significant until research men found that paradichlorobenzene and carbon disulfide, in several forms, used as soil fumigants killed the beetle grubs. Hot-water treatment of nursery stock also became a basis for certification for shipment outside the quarantined area.

After 1925, field-grown stock from areas in nurseries where the soil had been treated with specific amounts of lead arsenate was certified because entomologists found that Japanese beetle grubs could not live in soil so treated. Recent research has made it possible to use also specified quantities of DDT for the same purpose. Ethylene dichloride was authorized for treatment of potted or balled and burlapped plants; later it was found that a mixture of ethylene dichloride and dibromide gave even better results.

Farm produce at first had to be inspected carefully for beetles before it could be shipped. Nearly half a million baskets of corn were gone over by hand in 1 year. Now, thanks to research, many food crops, such as potatoes, are certified for shipment in refrigerated cars and trucks after fumigation with methyl bromide gas. Such gas treatment kills the beetles, and the products can be shipped anywhere without danger of spreading the pest.

The Jap beetle quarantine is just as effective as ever, but science has found ways to remove many of the hardships it imposed on those who live in the quarantined area.

### "Linen" From Short-Staple Cotton

■ Finding a way to make short-staple cotton into fabrics for the "consumer trade" is a current project of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory in New Orleans. A large amount of the American cotton crop consists of this short-staple type, which largely goes into industrial fabrics like bagging. Sometimes there is no profitable market for all of it, and it then piles up in the form of surpluses.

Chemists of the Southern Lab took ordinary cotton bag sheeting that is used for making sacks and finished it by the same processes used in the production of higher quality fabrics. The result was a nice linenlike cloth that looks attractive and can be used for clothing, slip covers, draperies, and the like. The method is being tried on a semicommercial scale and seems to promise a new outlet for short-staple cotton.

### More Peaches on Fumigated Sites

■ Rootknot nematodes are enemies of peach trees that cut the peach crop drastically. An experiment in Georgia shows the effectiveness of chloropicrin, used as a soil fumigant, in routing the nematodes.

In the spring of 1944 A. L. Taylor, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, working in cooperation with the Coastal Plain Experiment Station at Tifton, Ga., set out 64 Elberta peach trees on 16 plots treated in 4 different ways. Eight of the plots were fumigated with chloropicrin, and 8 were left untreated; half of the treated and half of the untreated plots were planted to cover crops susceptible to attack by the rootknot nematode; the others were planted to resistant cover crops. Average peach yields per tree of the 1946 crop tell the story:

| | *Pounds of peaches* |
|---|---|
| On untreated plots with susceptible cover crops | 4.85 |
| On untreated plots with resistant cover crops | 6.87 |
| On fumigated plots with susceptible cover crops | 21.21 |
| On fumigated plots with resistant cover crops | 41.89 |

## State forestry camp

The first State forestry camp in Arkansas was held at Petit Jean State Park July 8 to 13. The 25 club members and 25 FFA boys attending were instructed in management of timber crops on the farm to best advantage and for continuous income. The staff of instructors included professional foresters from commercial concerns, professors from the University of Arkansas, the Arkansas A. and M. College at Monticello, and representatives of the State Forest Service and the Agricultural Extension Service.

# United front

**On a recent field trip, T. Swann Harding, editor of USDA and one of the REVIEW'S regular contributors, was much impressed with the cooperative relations a Farm Security supervisor had developed with other agencies in his county. The story as he tells it is this:**

■ The expression, "united front," is Tom Foster's, not ours. Tom Foster believes in the "united front" of all USDA agencies working together in perfect harmony. They work just that way in Butler County, Ohio, where he is Farm Security Administration supervisor and has been ever since the program started in the the dim days of FERA and Resettlement Administration. A Quaker farmer in Warren, an adjoining county, on a farm located about 23 miles from Butler's county seat, Hamilton, he left his plow in the furrow on call to aid rural relief and rehabilitation, and he has not returned to it.

Thomas B. Foster is his full name, and his office is upstairs in the post office building at Hamilton. Next door is the office of the county extension agent—next door, and also in Tom's office, Gerald H. Huffman, just back from the armed forces, is county agent. Norman C. Arnold, who came over from Columbus to fill in during Huffman's absence, is assistant agent, probably only till an agency opens up in some other county. He sits at a desk in Tom Foster's office, because Home Demonstration Agent Fannie Davidson is also in that crowded extension office, and a couple of clerks and stenographers besides.

Tom holds regular meetings for his prospective clients, bringing in USDA experts to help devise a workable plan.

Who are Tom's "experts"? All the extension people, of course. They cooperate with him continually. They sit in on the making of farm and home plans. They visit individual farmers with Tom, or alone. They accompany Tom to meetings with groups of his clients and help him present the facts that have made them the most efficient operators in Butler.

Then there are H. B. Haskins and Harold G. Gibboney of Soil Conservation Service. They work diligently with Tom's clients, giving invaluable information about protecting and building up the soil and warning against the evil of wearing or mining a farm in order to pay for it. Then there is Stanley Hasler, a field man of the Livestock Producers Association (a co-op) who is a tower of strength for Tom whenever livestock comes into the picture. He also attends committee meetings and freely advises and counsels.

Martin Petri, president of the Butler Rural Electric Co-op, chimes in when needed, and his able wife is an FSA committeeman. Farmer Truman Davis represents Production Credit, and John Roll is the AAA chairman; Ray Wilson is president of the Farm Bureau and Ben Van Gorden district Farm Bureau trustee. They all belong to Tom's staff of experts on which everyone serves willingly and voluntarily. Then all the farmers in the county who are up and coming belong, for they are called in to help one another and Tom whenever needed.

Through it all moves Foster, small, sixtyish, neat, unobtrusive, the kind of fellow who inspires people to want to do for others and, what is more, to put the thought into action. He is always there in the background. He rarely takes the platform. He is never bossy. He says he likes human beings and he just can't help it. And for his clients there is his united front.

## New officers for editorial association

The new officers of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors elected at the annual meeting in Auburn, Ala., September 18–20. (From left to right), Calvert Anderson, extension editor in the State of Washington, and newly elected member of the executive committee; Laura Lane, of Texas, secretary-treasurer; C. R. Elder, of Iowa, who as president will head the association activities for the coming year; T. W. Gildersleeve, of North Dakota, vice president; and Herminie Kitchen, experiment station editor from New Jersey, who will serve as a member of the executive committee.

The September meeting was the first since the war and drew an attendance of about 150 extension and experiment station editors from 38 States and Puerto Rico. The theme of the conference was Ways and Means of Getting Better Publications, Better Radio Programs and More Visual Aids.

# We Study Our Job

## New York studies bulletin distribution

Extension information can be distributed effectively to farmers and homemakers by the rural boxholder method. This is brought out in two successive surveys made in several New York counties.

In the first survey, made in May and June 1945, an announcement of current New York bulletins, together with a return order blank, was sent to 11,000 rural boxholders in Orleans, Schuyler, and Rensselaer Counties. The return card was unstamped. No mailing list was followed in distributing the announcements; they were addressed, "Rural Boxholder, Local."

Slightly more than 7 percent of the order-blank cards were returned with the bulletins checked that the farmer and his wife wished sent to them. Names of those asking for bulletins were checked with the agricultural and home demonstration agents' mailing lists; it was found that about 65 percent of the names were not listed. Also a large percentage of those asking for bulletins were entirely unknown to the agents.

New York has recently completed the second rural boxholder distribution survey. The results show about a 13 percent return with about 75 percent nonmembers of the Farm and Home Bureaus.

"It is clear that this method of distribution is tapping farmers and homemakers who desire and need information," William B. Ward, New York extension editor, points out. He believes that returns in the surveys would be even higher if bulletin announcements were sent to farmers during winter months when they are not so busy.

In his opinion, this method of distribution may also be successful with a county agent-college tie-up. Under this system the announcement cards would be published by the State Extension Service and signed by the county agent. The return cards would be addressed to the college which in turn would send out the bulletins. "The farmers and homemakers would connect the county agents with the colleges and possibly both would achieve closer cooperation," says Editor Ward.

In the January 1942 REVIEW, page 16, you will find a report of William Ward's previous study showing the effectiveness of boxholder distribution of bulletins in Wisconsin. In three successive surveys, brief announcements of current bulletins were sent to about 50,000 rural boxholders.

## Radio effective

"Radio is an excellent medium for reaching non-Farm Bureau and Home Bureau members, according to a recent survey we have just completed in a majority of the counties in New York State," reports Louis Kaiser, head of radio services, at New York State College of Agriculture. "For every 100 requests for bulletins clearing through this office, 83 are from non-Farm Bureau members."

Mr. Kaiser goes on to tell how 2,914 requests were checked at random as they cleared from radio stations throughout the State and were separated by counties. Requests from each county were then sent to the respective county agricultural agents for checking against their membership lists. Each agent was asked to report the number of Farm Bureau members represented in his batch of mail. He was also asked to pass the mail on to the county home demonstration agent for a similar report. The return showed 484, or 17 percent Farm Bureau members and 170, or 6 percent were Home Bureau members.

Radio requests for bulletins for the first 2 months of this year totaled 17,540 copies.

A previous analysis showed that 30,845 requests for Cornell bulletins were received as a result of 1,776 agricultural briefs and 671 home economics briefs released twice weekly to 20 to 28 radio stations in New York State. Bulletin requests came from every New York county, several other States, and Canada.

## What WGY listeners think about farm program

As a follow-up to a survey on the amount of listening to WGY's Farm Paper of the Air, a questionnaire was sent out to 1,500 listeners requesting comments on the program. Over a fourth of the questionnaires (415) were returned.

According to the replies received, more farmers listen on Wednesday, Monday, and Friday; fewer listen on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Broadcasting of the Farm Paper of the Air at 12:30 p. m. instead of some other period in the day, should be considered a "must," for 95 percent of the responding audience voted against changing the time. Sixty percent of the farmers listen regularly to the market reports at 12:50 p. m.! 89 percent voted against changing the time of these market reports from 12:50 p. m.

The listeners' opinions of the subject matter presented by the WGY (New York) Farm Paper of the Air are as follows:

| *Subject matter* | *Percentage of audience wanting—* More | Same | Less |
|---|---|---|---|
| Research under way on new methods | 64 | 36 | 0 |
| "How to do it" (improve pasture, cull hens, spray fruit, etc.) | 55 | 44 | 1 |
| Rural church | 55 | 44 | 1 |
| Economic outlook (farming adjustments next year) | 50 | 47 | 3 |
| Farm electrification | 47 | 51 | 2 |
| Farming operational advice (June-October) | 43 | 56 | 1 |
| Weather forecasts (12:29 p. m.) | 34 | 65 | 1 |
| Homemaking | 34 | 60 | 6 |
| Hired Hand Exchange (February May) | 34 | 55 | 11 |
| Commending the farmer | 28 | 63 | 9 |
| Government regulations | 24 | 59 | 17 |
| Bulletin offers | 24 | 74 | 2 |
| Wholesale farm produce market reports | 23 | 72 | 5 |
| Milk production reports (Mondays only) | 19 | 74 | 7 |

# Carolinas hold sewing machine clinics

As clothing became harder to obtain, home demonstration leaders in North Carolina felt that something must be done to help North Carolina farm women solve their problems.

Willie N. Hunter and Julia McIver, North Carolina extension clothing specialists, decided sewing machine clinics would help to teach housewives how to use and care for their machines.

Last spring special training schools were held by Miss Hunter and Miss McIver to teach home demonstration agents and their assistants how to give successful sewing machine cleaning demonstrations in their respective counties. Later in the year, at separate home demonstration meetings throughout North Carolina, the sewing machine clinics were received with enthusiasm. News of the clinic not only spread to club members but out into the neighborhoods where clothing leaders were called upon to show nonclub members how the cleaning was done.

The members brought out old machines that had been stored away because they would not sew, and newer models that were not being used because of one reason or another were also put in good condition. Most of the trouble found was caused by parts being gummed up and corroded with oil, dust, and lint. Some of the parts actually could not move. Many of the machines had had many years of service, having been handed down from mother to daughter; and many had been bought second-hand. When no parts were broken or missing, the machines could be put in usable condition at the clinic. Mrs. Gilbert Bell, Anson County, explained the success of the clinic by saying: "I took a 40-year-old machine that sounded like a tractor and cleaned it up so well it sounds and runs like new."

The women reported that previously they had spent from $12 to $15 to have machines cleaned, and even then some were not satisfactory. The women had been afraid to move any screws or try to get into the parts of the machine before and, therefore, had never tried. They were pleased to find that they could do it themselves.

Clara Bowen Bowder, clothing leader, stressed in her demonstration for the home demonstration women of Stony Point, N. C., "knowing the machine and its parts." The equipment and supplies that she suggested for cleaning were old pie pans, newspapers, a screwdriver, pliers, pint-size cans, a toothbrush, machine oil, and cleaning fluid. First, the needle, presser foot, slide plate, bobbin case, throat plate, cover plate, and face plate were removed and placed in the pan of cleaning fluid. The oil holes of the machines were cleaned out, and cleaning fluid was applied to all the bearings and on parts where one part rubs against or turns within another. Then the machines were completely dried out by wiping with lintless rags and reoiled with a good grade of machine oil, as a poor grade soon dries and leaves a gummy substance which causes the machine to run hard.

When the machines were in perfect running condition the women were taught how to use them correctly. They learned how to select the right type of thread to sew with various weights of materials and were taught to recognize sewing machine troubles with the tensions.

Home demonstration club women are successfully sewing their own clothes and clothes for their families with the use of their sewing machines that were once reported out of order. With the sewing machine clinic, North Carolina sewing machines are now back in good shape and serving their useful purpose.

The most far-reaching clothing project carried on recently in South Carolina has been the care and repair of sewing machines, according to Juanita Neely, assistant State home demonstration agent.

This phase of work was accomplished through community clinics, in connection with household repair clinics. Approximately 3,000 sewing machines were put in good running order last year. Many very old machines were being brought to these repair schools. Ages ranged from 15 to more than 50 years.

It was a hard day's work to clean, oil, and adjust the sewing machines. However, this labor brought its reward as each machine was put to work again.

"This is the best service the Extension Service has given us," was said appreciatively again and again.

# Among Ourselves

■ A. H. WALKER, county agricultural agent, Menard County, Tex., has been announced by Dr. Ide P. Trotter as the first recipient of the Texas Extension Service-Sears Roebuck Foundation Fellowship Fund.

The fund is the first to be established to provide a year's graduate study in various specialized fields for young professional agricultural workers.

Under the plan, the Texas Extension Service will serve as a selection and training ground for future leaders of agriculture. Outstanding agricultural graduates will, as in the past, be appointed as assistant county agents or county agents and, after a period of 4 years or more, those who have shown special promise will be selected for further advanced professional study.

"Upon completion of this specialized training and a few more years of experience, I believe these men will form an exceedingly valuable group for all phases of agriculture, both professional and commercial, to draw upon," Director Trotter said.

Mr. Walker was born in San Antonio and reared on a ranch near Comstock. He was graduated in animal husbandry from Texas A. & M. College in 1936 with distinguished student rating. After a year with the USDA Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, he served 3 years as county agricultural agent for Culberson County and 2 in Menard County.

He entered the armed forces in 1942 and as an Army Air Force captain was shot down while on a raid over Germany. After his liberation as a prisoner of war he was released from the Army and returned to Menard in November 1945. He is married and has one child.

Mr. Walker has selected range management as the subject for his graduate work, which means he will attend Utah State Agricultural College, the University of California, Nebraska University, or Texas A. & M., the four colleges which offer the outstanding courses in this subject.

The Menard County Commissioners' Court has granted Mr. Walker a year's leave to take advantage of the fellowship. In his absence, H. W. Monzingo, Texas A. & M. College '41, will serve as county agent. Mr. Monzingo was assistant county agricultural agent of Dallas County for the period 1941–43, when he was called to the Army. He served with the Coast Artillery in the Pacific and has only recently been released from the service.

■ SILVER WHITSETT, the tall, silver-haired agent from Guadalupe County, Tex., stopped in at the editorial office on his way to England where he represented all county agents on a tour of England as a guest of the British Government. He was one of a group of agricultural leaders whom the British honored on a 2-month tour of England in gratitude for the help given their agriculture during the war.

Agent Whitsett was selected to represent the Nation's county agents, both men and women, who did so much to increase the war food supply, because his long record of service to his farm people is typical of the work agents are doing everywhere.

A native of Oklahoma, a graduate of Texas A. & M. College, and a veteran of the First World War, he was appointed county agent in Llano County in 1924. Moving to Guadalupe County in 1926, he has developed a strong program, both adult and 4-H, in soil conservation, animal husbandry, crop production, and organization during the past 19 years. He received the Distinguished County Agents' Award in 1943 and is director and past president of the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association.

■ MERRILL W. ABBEY recently returned to his post as county agent in Newport County, R. I. In 1944 he was granted a leave of absence to serve in the armed forces and was a lieutenant in the Naval Reserve from August 1944 to May 1946. Most of his 7½ months of overseas duty was in Korea where he served with the Army as a military government officer. His main job was acting as chief of the farm supplies section for Korea. This section had charge of the production and distribution of fertilizers, fungicides, insecticides, and farm tools. During Mr. Abbey's absence, Horace W. French was acting county agent.

■ DIRECTOR H. C. SANDERS, of Louisiana, serving on the Agricultural Mission to the Philippines, writes that he met a former home demonstration agent in Davao, Mrs. Merle Robie, before her marriage Sally Gipson, agent in Vermont and Massachusetts. The world is a small place for extension workers. Director Sanders has visited all the principal islands except two and is finding his experiences very interesting.

■ NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS ASSOCIATION will hold its annual meeting December 3–6, at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Ill. An interesting feature will be the luncheon on December 5 honoring the achievements of outstanding home demonstration agents, according to the President, Miss Lois Rainwater, of Wilson, N. C. One session will be a joint meeting with the National County Agents Association.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