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### BOY CORN GROWER SETS MARK FOUR TIMES THAT OF MEN, AT 136 BUSHELS

Club Winners Raise Potato Crops at 8.25 Cents, and Pork at 1.63 Cents a Pound.

A yield of 136 bushels to the acre is the answer of Vern Johnson, 15 years old, of Cokato to whether scientific cultivation of corn pays. The yield was made in the boys' corn contest, in which nearly two thousand boys tried to raise a better acre of corn than their fathers had been raising. Vern Johnson's result shows the effect. While every farmer in the state was raising his share of the 33.5 bushels average, according to the estimate of the United States Department of agriculture this year, the boy was finishing his fourth season of corn improvement, for he entered the contest when 11 years old, and was harvesting more than four bushels for each one that the men farmers gathered.

The corn was raised under the instructions sent out by T. A. Erickson, University farm, St. Paul, state leader of boys' and girls' clubs, and the instructions were interpreted and local conditions judged with the aid of the county agent and the instructor in the agricultural high school. There was a reason for every operation in preparing the ground, planting the corn and cultivating the crop, and this reason was assigned in a story of how the crop was raised at the end of the year.

### Ten Yields Beat 100 Bushels

Ten boys in the contest made yield in the field of more than 100 bushels, which yields were discounted for moisture for entry on the club records. Vern Johnson's yield is recorded as 123.96 bushels of dry shelled corn. Vernon G. Adams of Winnebago made a yield of 107.4 bushels dry shelled, and Harry C. Johnson of Houston made 101 bushels. James Cole of Pelican Rapids demonstrated that the corn belt may be widened to include the northern part of the state, by making a yield of 93.2 bushels in Otter Tail county.

Forty prizes were given in the corn contest for the first ten places in each of the four sections of the state. A free trip to the state fair next fall will be given sixty-four boys who made the best and second best records in fifty-four counties. The first and second place winners in the different sections are: South central—George Laumer, Danube, 99.2 bushels; Roland Hessine, Jordan, 99.05 bushels. Southern—Vernon C. Adams, Winnebago, 107.4 bushels; Harry C. Johnson, Houston, 101 bushels. North central—James Cole, Pelican Rapids, 93.2 bushels; Hilmer Carlson, Detroit, 84 bushels. Northern—Morris Belzer, Crookston, 76 bushels; John Croy, East Grand Forks, 72.4 bushels.

### Pork at 1.63 Cents Wins

With a score of 87.5 per cent on gains, feed economy and reports of progress, Hilmer Carlson of Detroit won the state championship in the boys' and girls' pig clubs. His pig gained 2.18 pounds a day at a cost of 1.63 cents a pound. Purebred pigs or cash prizes were given by the Duroc-Jersey association, the American Berkshire association, the Chester White association and the American Yorkshire association. These prizes were given for the best records made with the different breeds of pigs. First honors in the four sections of the state in the pig contest were won by: Delvina Terrian, East Grand Forks, northern section, with a gain of 1.86 pounds a day at a cost of 2.17 cents a pound; Hilmer Carlson, Detroit, north central section, with a gain of 2.18 pounds at a cost of 1.63 cents; Melvin Sansness, Farwell, south central section, with a gain of 1.52 pounds at a cost of 3.1 cents; Owen Roberts, Austin, southern section, with a gain of 2.14 pounds at a cost of 3.67 cents. Free trips to the state fair next fall will be given the county winners in this contest.

### Potatoes Cost 8.25 Cents

Ruth Ehnstrom of Carlton is the state's champion potato grower, having made a crop which produced at the rate of 440 bushels to the acre at a cost of 8¼ cents a bushel. Prizes of \$15 and \$10 for the first and second places were won in the different classes by: John Stillwell, Bemidji, and Elizabeth Tofte, Tofte, Green Mountain class; Lowry Heikkela, Bovey, and O. Helmer

Hedin, Two Harbors, Rural New Yorker class; Laura Hoines, Nary, and Arthur Carlson, Nashwauk, Early Ohio class. Prizes of \$5 for the third place and of \$2 for the next seven places were given in the potato contest.

Laura Hintze of Spring Valley won the championship in the garden and canning contest. A free trip to the annual meeting of the Minnesota Horticultural society last November was her prize. Winners of the first place in each section of the state were: Phoebe Darling, Aitkin, northern section; Edna Burch, Mora, north central section; Carl Potthoff, Jordan, southern section, and Mary Ramey, Maple Lake, south central section. The best club records in the different sections were made by the Carlton, Mora, St. Peter, and Maple Lake clubs.

More than 12,000 boys and girls are enrolled each year in the boys' and girls' club work.

### TWENTY SENIORS TO TEACH

Students Will Do Teaching in Schools of Three Cities

Four seniors in the college of agriculture who are taking the course in supervised teaching have been at work in the South St. Paul schools. Each man spends an afternoon there. One has taught general agriculture to the normal training class of the high school. The others have each had two classes of grade pupils each week, mainly from the fifth and sixth grades, and to whom they have been giving fundamental lessons on soil, weeds, insects and plant studies. These lessons are designed to prepare the pupils for their personal garden work next summer where the results of the study during the year are to work out in practical application.

After April 1 there will be fifteen or twenty of these senior students at work in the schools of South St. Paul, St. Paul and Minneapolis, giving instruction in elementary agriculture and aiding in applying this instruction in garden work done by the children.

Already South St. Paul has requested a continuation of the work throughout the year next year, asking for similar help.

### CADY ASKS GROUND PLANS

Horticulturist Seeks Pictures of Well Planted School Yards.

LeRoy Cady, associate professor of horticulture in the college of agriculture, is desirous of obtaining photographs of various school buildings and grounds, especially those illustrating well planted or poorly planted school premises. His purpose is to make up a set of lantern slides illustrating the proper methods of landscaping school grounds. Many agricultural instructors who may have, or can obtain, such photos will confer a favor on Mr. Cady and will do a service to all interested in the improvement of school grounds by forwarding such pictures to him.

### MAPLE LAKE WINS IN JUDGING

County Contest of Six High Schools Conducted at University Farm

The annual corn judging contest of the high school agricultural departments of Wright county was conducted at University farm Saturday, December 16, under the direction of A. C. Army of the college of agriculture. The schools represented were Maple Lake, Cokato, Howard Lake, Buffalo, Annandale and Monticello. Each school sent a team of five boys, accompanied by the agricultural instructor. Each contestant was required to judge a ring of four single ears and a ring of four 10-ear sets, representing Minnesota No. 13, Murdock, Rustler White and Silver King corn, placing the corn and giving reasons for placing. The placing sheets were graded on a basis of 60 for placings, and 40 for reasons, making a possible score of 100 for each contestant. The corn was collected by the corn judging association and shipped to University farm the day before the contest. The rings were made up for the contest by members of the college of agriculture faculty.

Maple Lake won first place in the contest with a score of 2,735, Cokato second place with a score of 2,642, and Howard Lake third place with a score of 2,583. Robert Jude of Maple Lake made the best individual record, scoring 631; Lundman of Buffalo was second with a score of 621 and Walter Milhie of Howard Lake third with a score of 607.

Some of the agriculture instructors took their boys to visit the First National corn show and the South St. Paul stock yards.

### PUPILS HAVE DAY IN JUDGING CONTESTS AT NORTHERN CROPS DISPLAY

High Schools Make Rules for School Teams to Follow in Placing Exhibits.

The agricultural high schools included in the territory of the Red River Valley Development association held their annual judging contest for Monday, February 5. The contest was conducted at Crookston and was featured as part of the farm crops show program, scheduled for that time. There have usually been about a dozen schools in this contest. The Visitor publishes the rules governing this contest for the benefit of other schools which may have formed or which may wish to form associations for judging contests.

### Four Members on Team

1. This contest shall be for bonafide agricultural high schools included in the territory of the Red River Valley Development association.

2. There shall be four bonafide agricultural students from each school composing a team, actually enrolled in a class in agriculture in the school which they represent. Students regularly enrolled in students' winter short courses are eligible.

3. A student, who has taken part in a previous school stock judging contest at the farm crops show, or any state or national livestock judging contest shall not be eligible to become a member of a team.

4. The team scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the winner.

5. There shall be at least two judges appointed and such appointment shall be left to the executive committee of the development association.

### Placing and Reasons Equal

6. Fifty per cent shall count for placing and fifty per cent for reasons.

7. The placing of animals shall be written on cards. Notes may be taken while examining the animals, but oral reasons shall be given. No communication whatsoever between members of a team, or between members of a team and any outside person, or members of a team and their coach. Penalty for this will consist of barring the entire team, to which the offending member belongs, from the contest.

8. The stock shall be looked over carefully and fifteen minutes allowed for placing each ring. Three minutes will be allowed for giving reasons on each ring.

9. Not more than four or less than three animals shall constitute a ring.

10. The judging shall be from the standpoint of utility only.

11. The rings shall be: Dairy cows; beef cows; breeding sows; breeding ewes; draft horses. Each ring will count equally in this contest.

### Silver Cup for Winner

12. Prizes for 1915 contest: Silver cup, to become the property of the school that wins it three times, first; \$12.50, second; \$10, third; \$7.50, fourth; \$5, fifth.

13. Teams shall draw numbers at 9 o'clock. The squads for judging shall be chosen consecutively by superintendent in charge. One man from each of the first four teams shall constitute squad No. 1; one man from the next four teams squad No. 2, etc., until all men are placed in squads.

14. Contestants shall not reveal the identity of school they represent to any person or judge, nor shall judges ask for such information.

15. All members of teams and persons connected with same shall be barred from the stables of the northwest experiment station at Crookston the day of the judging contest until such time as the judging is completed.

16. The person in authority at experiment farm shall have charge of teams from time the contest starts until contest closes. Any member of any team breaking any rule of the contest disqualifies the whole team, barring them from final standing.

### Corn and Potato Contest

The general rules governing the stock judging contest also govern the corn and potato judging contests with the following special rules:

1. Corn judging shall count two-thirds of the final average and potato judging shall count one-third of this average.

2. The time allowed for placing and securing notes shall be ten minutes.

3. In the contest each member shall be required to:

Place the five best ears of corn in order of merit in an exhibition of

ten ears of two varieties of corn, and give reasons for placing of three.

Place three ten-ear exhibits of corn of each of two varieties in order of merit and give reasons for placing of two.

Place five potatoes in order of merit in an exhibit of ten potatoes giving reasons for placing of the best three.

Place three one-half peck samples of potatoes in order of merit, giving reasons for placing of the best two.

Three varieties of corn will be furnished the contestants, Minnesota No. 13, Minnesota No. 23 and Northwestern Dent. The contestant may have any two for his work. The contestant will choose one early variety and one late variety from Early Ohio, Burbank and Rural New Yorker.

4. The judges shall be chosen by the executive committee of the farm crops show.

5. Teams shall draw numbers at 9 o'clock. The squads for judging shall be chosen consecutively by the superintendent in charge, one man from each of the first four teams constituting a squad.

### Wisconsin Growers Help Schools

One of the interesting and important features of the annual Wisconsin Potato Growers' association at Eau Claire, Wis., recently was the part taken by the young people who are studying agriculture in the schools. More than 125 pupils exhibited potatoes and 89 took part in the potato judging contest. One day of the convention was given over entirely to the young people. Short talks, demonstrations, songs and moving pictures made up the program.

One of the good bits of promotion work at this meeting was the presentation to all teachers present of a selected box of eight of the leading varieties of potatoes grown in Wisconsin. These will be of great value in teaching the potato in school work.

It is possible that Minnesota has not been realizing the value of the potato work in its agricultural instruction and a lesson might be taken from the Wisconsin practice.

### Porker Weighs 312 in 8 Months

Lee Winters, one of the boys in the pork production contest under the direction of F. L. French at Redwood Falls, produced 312 pounds of dressed pork in 8 months and 7 days. At the close of the state contest his pig had made a gain of 172 pounds in 3 months and 23 days. The pig gained on an average 1.8 pounds a day.

### Meetings District Clearing House

The work of the Litchfield central school in the associated schools of Litchfield has aroused much enthusiasm this year. Miss Lydia Broecker, who has charge of the home economics work in the Litchfield high schools, has been working out programs for work in sewing in the rural schools at the Saturday meetings of the rural school teachers. These meetings are the occasion of a social hour, at which a hot lunch is served. Teachers are given an opportunity to bring up their problems and to exchange ideas. Miss Broecker spends one-fourth of a day with each teacher in her school each month. During the first two weeks of December, meetings were conducted in the evening in the six associated schools. G. A. Amidon, agricultural instructor, and Superintendent S. E. Hargis gave talks, illustrated by lantern slides, at these meetings. An electric illuminant was used in the lantern, the current being furnished by four auto storage batteries connected in series. Superintendent Hargis reports that the illumination was practically as good as when a commercial current was used. These programs were attended by as many persons as the school houses could accommodate.

### McLeod Farmers Plan Pageant

The Hutchinson high-school's agricultural department, J. P. Sheay, instructor, is making still further progress in its extension work among the farmers. Early in December, fourteen of the farmers' clubs in McLeod county decided that they would give, next June, a pageant representing the history of the county. Some of the features planned for this pageant are the Hutchinson Indian massacre and the folk songs of the Danes, Swedes, and Germans. The farmers' clubs have been federated and have joined the state association of farmers' clubs. Mr. Sheay has issued in mimeographed form a program of the farmers' club meetings as a means of stimulating interest and attendance at the meetings.

### SCHOOLS CHANGE TEACHERS

Canby, Wykoff and Hector Get New Men for Agricultural Departments.

At the request of the city superintendent, seniors from the college of agriculture who are specializing in agricultural education are assisting in the short course at the Albert Lea high school this winter. Lawrence B. Miller, Walter Frested and John F. Mueller are each teaching four weeks. This work puts them in touch with real conditions and is accepted as part credit in the course in supervised teaching in the college of agriculture.

Bernard Ostrolenk, who for the last three and a half years has been agricultural instructor at Canby, has recently resigned his position to accept the principalship of a secondary school of agriculture near Philadelphia, Pa.

The position of instructor in the agricultural department at Wykoff, left vacant by the resignation of J. A. Hendricks, has been filled by the election of August Neubauer, a first semester graduate of the college of agriculture. Mr. Neubauer took up the work early in December.

O. M. Kiser, who has been 3 years in charge of the agricultural work at Hector, has resigned and accepted a position in connection with the West Central school of agriculture, Morris, Minn. He has been succeeded at Hector by William Peters from the college of agriculture.

At the request of the West Central school at Morris, assistance in the teaching of farm crops is being given through seniors in the college of agriculture, who are carrying the course in supervised teaching in the Division of Agricultural Education.

The poultry division of the University of Wisconsin has issued in mimeograph form an outline of a poultry feeding project suitable for high school work. This outline points out the possibilities of using such a poultry project as a means of demonstrating the principles of feeding and fattening stock in general. The outline recommends a feeding period of ten to fifteen days, assuming that the class buys young poultry for feeding purposes. Agricultural instructors may get a copy of this outline for future use in poultry and stock feeding work.

During the poultry show at Montevideo January 24 to 26, a special course of lectures on poultry and beekeeping were given. N. E. Chapman and Prof. Francis Jager of the college of agriculture were the speakers. A poultry judging demonstration under the direction of Prof. A. C. Smith and a picking contest in charge of Mr. Chapman were features of the program. One-half of the \$100 in premiums offered for grain, corn and potatoes were given to boys and girls. A special poultry premium was offered the boy or girl entering the best scoring bird.

### BULLETINS FOR AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTORS

- 2.0 Bacterial activities and crop production. Research bul. 25, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Soil. Bacteriology.
- 2.0 Water table variations. Bul. 144, Agr. exp. sta., Logan, Utah. Soil. moisture.
- 2.10 Fertilizing lawn and garden soils. Circular 24, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Soil. Fertilization. Lawns. Gardens.
- 3.31 Late potato blight in Iowa. Bul. 163, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Potatoes. Diseases and pests.
- 4.11 Fruit tree root systems. Bul. 143, Agr. exp. sta., Logan, Utah. Fruit culture.
- 5. Renewing the shelter belt. Cir. 27, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Shelterbelt. See Windbreaks. Windbreaks.
- 7.3 Successful swine rations for the cornbelt. Cir. 23, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Swine. Feeding.
- 8.2 Studies on the creaming ability of milk. Research bul. 31, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Milk.
- 8.1 Influence of environment and breeding in increasing dairy production. Bul. 165, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Cattle. Dairy. Breeding.
- 8.2 Studies on the clarification of milk. Research bul. 28, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Milk. Bacteriology.
- 8.2 Studies of the numbers of bacteria in milk showing various changes. Research bul. 29, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Milk. Bacteriology.
- 8.2 Studies on the market milk of Iowa. Bul. 164, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Milk. Testing.
- 12.2 Community hog houses. Bul. 166, Agr. exp. sta., Ames, Iowa. Swine. Houses.

The agricultural department of the Hutchinson high school, J. P. Sheay, instructor, taught field selection of seed corn through laboratory work in a ten-acre field near town. Each boy was assigned a row of corn and was expected to select as much seed as he saw fit. From this he selected the ten best ears. A small cash prize was awarded to each of two pupils selecting the best and the second best ten-ear sets. Twenty-four boys participated in the exercise.