

Misc Rub 1919

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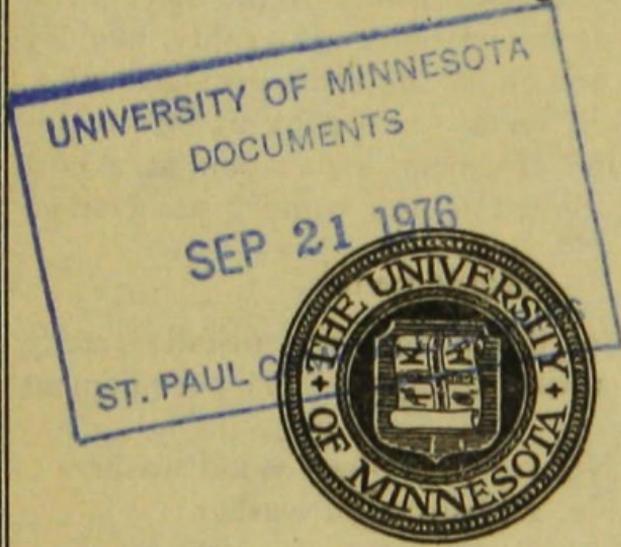
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The University of Minnesota

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DIVISION

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Start a Cooperative Laundry



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START A COOPERATIVE LAUNDRY

A coöperative laundry in connection with a co-operative creamery is no longer a speculative theory.

The people of Chatfield community have proved that such a laundry is possible, practicable, profitable, and closely related to the comfort and well-being of the family and community.

The Chatfield Coöperative Laundry Association was organized in 1912. It was incorporated, and capitalized at \$5,000.

The laundry association is separate from the creamery association tho some of the officers are the same in both associations. In reality, laundry and creamery are under the same management.

The laundry is housed in a wing of the creamery built by the creamery association at a cost of \$2,000 and rented to the laundry association.

Equipment

Equipment for the laundry was installed ready for work at a cost of \$3,000. This equipment consisted of:

- Two 36x62 No. 11 plain 3-part wood washers
- One 32x30 No. 2 plain wood washer
- One 26-inch S. C. extractor
- One 60-gal. iron soap tank
- One 25-gal. H. R. starch cooker
- One 1-section dry room
- Three plain metal trucks
- Three vertical steam coils and fan
- One No. 11, 8x18 combined ironer, tilt boards, shirt boards with clamps
- One 100-inch five-roll ironer, ribbon feed, automatic stop, belt drive

One collar board
One Litchfield gas burner
One No. 5 shoe band ironer
One barrel-framed starcher
One No. 24 Shaw collar shaper
One gas machine
Later a form ironer was added.

Funds

To meet the expense of installation of this machinery, funds were secured by sale of stock at \$5 per share. Each stockholder is entitled to one vote whether holding one share or more than one.

Operators

Operators necessary for this laundry are one superintendent, one foreman, five or six girls, and one deliveryman. A competent man, experienced in laundry work, is essential to the successful operation of a coöperative laundry. The superintendent of the laundry and the superintendent of the creamery jointly care for the heating plant.

Business

Country work is brought in and taken away by owners on cream days. Town work is collected and delivered. Country work costs 6 cents per pound for family wash, the flat work mangled. Town work costs 6 cents per pound for family wash, plus 10 per cent to cover cost of delivery and collection. The average number of patrons each month is 200.

Of the work done, 38½ per cent comes from the country, 39 per cent from Chatfield, and 22½ per cent from near-by towns.

The work of the laundry is very satisfactory. Clothing is clean, white, and not torn or other-

wise injured. About eighty family washings are done each week at an average cost of \$1.37. Fully half of these are from the country.

Business in 1917 amounted to..... \$6,750.85

Average per month..... 562.57

Expenditures for 1917:

For help 66½ per cent

For rent, supplies, repairs, etc... 29½ per cent

Reserve4 per cent

The statements given here are taken from a survey made in October, 1918, by Mary L. Bull of the Extension Division, Department of Agriculture, and seem to us to show that our slogan should be "A coöperative laundry with every good coöperative creamery in the state."