

MN 2000  
MEN 2#8c2  
ns

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

Published monthly by the University Department of Agriculture, Extension Division

Volume 2

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MARCH 1937

Number 8

## New Fruit Project Well Received

"Four-H club leaders over the state are welcoming the new 4-H fruit project with enthusiasm, and it promises to be very popular with 4-H club members for already numerous enrollments have been made," states T. A. Erickson, state club leader.

The project was introduced this spring because of the great interest shown in fruit growing in Minnesota, and it has been designed so that it will fit the needs and resources of all club members between the ages of 10 and 20.

Units of the project have been so arranged that club members whose parents grow fruit more or less extensively on their farms may enter the project with the idea of filling in some gap in the farm's fruit program, or members who live on farms where there is no fruit being produced now may begin a long-time program with the purpose of starting a fruit growing program on the farms. Only fruits recommended by the Minnesota Horticultural society may be grown.

## To Show Home Project Results

"It was an old table that belonged to her grandmother, the wood hidden under many coats of bright rose enamel and its owner said she didn't care if it didn't come out very well—it was just something to work on," stated Home Furnishing Specialist Charlotte Kirchner. "But the combined efforts of two leaders for some 3 hours, removed the enamel and disclosed a maple table which, when sanded and rubbed with oil, brought exclamations of envy from an entire leaders group. Its owner was leader from one of the 87 groups which included the 1400 women who are the first in the state to be enrolled in the newly set up home furnishing project."

Based upon the applied principle of color and design, the project as presented to these groups has included a study of color and design, construction and use of homemade rugs, slip-covers and chair pads, refinishing of furniture and accessories for the home.

Culmination of this project in Nicollet, Steele and Le Sueur counties will come in the form of achievement days in April, at which pageants depicting the work presented in Home Management I and home furnishings will be the main feature.

• • • T. A. ERICKSON, after a long "enforced vacation," during which he held no meetings, is back at the reins of the state 4-H club office. This was the longest period State Leader Erickson had been away from his duties since he entered Minnesota 4-H club work 25 years ago. He was unable to meet with club groups from late December to the middle of February, due to illness.

## Coming Events

March 15-20	Ice Cream Manufacturers Short Course
March 15-20	Home Demonstration Agents' Conference
March 23-25	Horticulture Short Course
April 6-8	Arrowhead Institute
May 6-8	Editor's Short Course
June 4	Annual Dairy Day
June 5-7	Camp for 4-H Leaders, Itasca
June 14-16	State 4-H Week
June 16-23	National 4-H Club Office, Washington, D.C.
June 17-19	District 4-H Club Week, Grand Rapids
June 17-22	District 4-H Club Week, Crookston
June 21-26	District 4-H Club Week, Morris

Unless otherwise specified, events listed will take place at University Farm.

## HDA's Meet at U Farm

The problems of home demonstration extension work in the county, new subjects in home economics, and a host of other topics will receive a full measure of consideration when the annual conference of home demonstration agents and state staff is held at University Farm, March 15-20, states M. Lois REID, acting home demonstration leader.

Space here limits a full account of the extensive program the conference program committee has prepared. The conference will open in the party dining room of the college cafeteria at 9 a.m. Monday, March 15. DIRECTOR F. W. PECK will give the first address at 9:15 when he speaks on "Our Relationships." The Monday program will be given over largely to program planning work for 4-H, rural youth and community groups.

Tuesday afternoon the Minnesota Home Demonstration Agents association, of which MISS MAYBELE GAME of Faribault county is president, will have its business meeting.

Thursday a number of home and community chairmen from various counties will come to University Farm to attend the last three days of the conference. DEAN W. C. COFFEY will address the assembled group, both home demonstration workers and home chairmen, at 9:15 a.m. Thursday morning on "Objectives in Rural Life."

Several off-the-campus speakers have been engaged for the conference. These include Barbara Van Huelen, associate extension specialist, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D.C.; Mary Rokahr, extension economist, home management, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.; John Jones, Jr., general agent, Farm Credit Administration, St. Paul; Thomas Rishworth, of radio station KSTP; Mrs. Louis Minion, home and community director, Minnesota State Farm Bureau.

• • • The State Farm Mutual Insurance companies, meeting at Chicago recently for their annual convention, presented the sales supremacy cup to W. D. STEGNER and his Minnesota crew which were represented at the convention 240 strong. The Gopher delegation chartered a special Hiawatha train and carried a little German band, and a goat tendered by California in acknowledgment of Minnesota's superiority in the year's race for sales volume. This was the third consecutive year that Minnesota has captured the supremacy cup under the leadership of Stegner, former county agent and 4-H agent. The award is based on quality of business sold, the increase in volume compared with the previous year and the ratio of total insurance sales to state buying power. One of the new super salesmen in Steg's organization is WESLEY BROWN, youngest son of EXTENSIONER FRANK J. BROWN

## Plan Special 4-H Contest

A special contest for Northeastern Minnesota 4-H advanced dairy project members of St. Louis, Carlton, Aitkin, Itasca, Lake, Koochiching and Cook counties will make it possible for one club member to receive a trip to the National Dairy Show in Columbus, Mo., next October, announces STATE CLUB LEADER T. A. ERICKSON.

Competition in the special contest will be based on the story and record of feeding, care, management and milk production of one or more cows raised and owned by the 4-H club member. A new dairy record book, much like the regular CTA record book, is now being printed for student use, and will be kept by the contestants.

Awards are being sponsored by the Duluth Herald-Tribune. Besides the trip to the National Dairy show, to be awarded to the club member who has the most outstanding dairy club record from Northeastern Minnesota, every club member will be a guest of the Herald-Tribune at a special dairyman's banquet to be held in Duluth, and each county champion will be awarded a special certificate or medal.

"The usual fine awards will be presented," said Mr. Erickson, "among which will be a trip to the National Club congress in Chicago for the club member who is judged the champion state fruit grower."

• • • MISS JESSIE D. HINTON, former home demonstration agent in Freeborn county, spoke on "Putting the House in Order," Wednesday, March 3, on the home demonstration hour broadcast from Washington, D.C., by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Miss Hinton is now home management specialist at the University of Maryland.

• • • AGENT H. J. AASE of St. Louis county, as one of the February contributors to the Agricultural Leaders' Digest, explains how "Miniature Exhibits Tell the Story of 4-H Club Work." The article and pictures tell how the exhibits tell a graphic story of club work in that county.

• • • Frank Chapman, of the division of program planning, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Washington, D.C., was an official caller at University Farm during the month.

## Personnel

R. E. McMILLEN, formerly assistant county agent in Itasca county, has gone to Koochiching as county agent. His appointment was effective March 1.

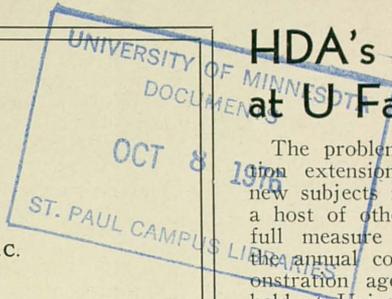
PETER HOLLAND of Cook entered Minnesota extension work March 15 when he went to Itasca county as assistant county agent. Holland attended both the North Dakota Agricultural College and the University of Minnesota, and for the past 10 years has been in Smith-Hughes teaching work.

W. O. WOODMAN has been appointed assistant county agent in West Polk, effective March 15. He is a graduate of Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, and has been assistant agent in West Polk for a year. Formerly he was an agricultural teacher.

MISS MARGARET K. BURTIS is the new home demonstration agent in Dakota county, her appointment being effective March 15. Miss Burtis is a native of Kansas, and she was graduated from Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kan., in 1928 with a degree of bachelor of science in home economics. She attended the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1936. For 3 years she was employed as a nutritionist and home economist in the city of New York and from 1931 to 1936 served as home demonstration agent in Garrett county, Maryland.

CLEMENT CHASE, who has been assistant county agent in West Polk county, has been transferred to Pipestone as regular county agent. He replaces EBENHARD GANDRUD, who resigned.

This year will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of county extension work in Minnesota, and indications point to some special observation of that extension birthday during the 1937 annual extension conference. The first county agent, Frank Marshall, started work in Traverse county September 1, 1912. Mr. Marshall now resides in Grove City, Meeker county.



**BLUE EARTH COUNTY.** A report by AGENT L. E. McMILLAN indicates that the cause of rural electrification is forging ahead in the county. Four hundred twenty farmers in the east portion of the county, covering 150 miles of line, and over 300 farmers in the west portion of the county have been signed up. One hundred miles are covered on the west side of the county.

**BROWN COUNTY.** The adult and junior training meeting held February 24 at Sleepy Eye will be a strong factor in strengthening the club program for 1937, believes AGENT PAUL W. KUNKEL. Twice as many adult leaders turned out for the meeting as ever before. H. G. ZAVORAL and H. R. SEARLES, extension livestock and dairy specialists, assisted in giving the leaders first-hand material about livestock situations, giving each leader a great opportunity to get assistance for the boys club program in his community. The larger part of the afternoon discussion centered on "Things That Club Leaders Can Do to Help the Livestock Club Program." The evening session was given over entirely to livestock subject matter discussion. Sleepy Eye business men furnished a free supper to those in attendance.

**FILLMORE.** AGENT W. THOMPSON, in cooperation with the county board of commissioners, made an inventory of feed and livestock on the Fillmore County Farm in regard to a system of farm management that might be followed. The entire farm will be inspected early this spring in order that a satisfactory cropping system may be established.

**FREEBORN COUNTY.** AGENT W. M. LAWSON reports that two important livestock meetings were scheduled in Freeborn for March. The annual meeting of the Freeborn County Livestock Breeders association was held March 6 with the association giving a dinner to the adult and junior 4-H club leaders at which H. R. SEARLES, extension dairyman, was the chief speaker. A second meeting will be the annual dairy banquet for Freeborn county the latter part of March. It is the second annual banquet of its kind and is sponsored by four dairy breed associations in the county.

• • • JULIA O. NEWTON, home demonstration staff leader on leave, visited the campus March 19. Miss Newton was in the Twin Cities in regard to her work on the Farm Credit Administration.

• • • DIRECTOR F. W. PECK will give the commencement address at the annual graduation exercises of the North Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station March 25.

• • • Seven counties have recently come into the extension fold on regular extension basis—Polk, Yellow Medicine, Traverse, Swift, Kandiyohi, Grant and Nobles. Previously they were on the emergency basis.

• • • LESTER W. JUSTICE, assistant agent in Freeborn county, was married recently. Mrs. Justice, whose home was at Des Moines, Iowa, attended Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. Justice was graduated from

**LINCOLN COUNTY.** Although many roads were impassable, nine veterinarians were able to complete the TB test for re-accreditation by March 1. One veterinarian used skiis and carried his supplies in a carpenter's apron to finish the job. The county was re-accredited with less than one-half of 1% reactors.

**MCLEOD.** The rural electrification project continues to make progress in McLeod county. R. A. FISCHER, county agent, reports the approval by the Washington office of a loan for the construction of 300 additional miles in the second block.

**MOWER COUNTY.** "Considerable work was done toward obtaining a WPA lime crushing project for the county," states AGENT F. L. LIEBENSTEIN. At a meeting with the county board of commissioners and a district WPA engineer, an application for the project was approved, signed and forwarded to Washington, D.C. in an effort to put on another lime crusher project in Mower.

**MURRAY.** A great deal of educational work has been done concerning the marketing of livestock, recounts AGENT C. H. SCHRADER. A movement concerning the possibility of starting a cooperative livestock sale agency is underway. Marketing Specialist S. T. WARRINGTON is cooperating in this work.

**OLMSTED COUNTY.** Indications point that at least 300 women, representing 21 groups, will participate in a home management course under the direction of MISS MARY MAY MILLER, home management specialist. Miss Miller will meet with local leaders at three different training centers in the county, March 23, 24 and 25.

**OLMSTED.** A campaign for the treating of grain for smut was begun. R. C. ROSE, extension plant pathologist, conducted a first demonstration early in February. Similar demonstrations are being conducted at vari-

Iowa State college, Ames, Iowa, in 1934. He went into Freeborn county as assistant agent in January.

• • • Director F. W. Peck, as one of the speakers on the farm structures conference March 5, addressed the group in attendance on the "Importance of Farm Buildings in the Farm Business."

• • • DEAN W. C. COFFEY was one of the speakers for the annual dairy visitors' day sponsored by the division of dairy husbandry Friday, March 5. This year's attendance at the annual affair hit an all time high. On March 8 Dean Coffey, according to his usual custom, appeared before the home management classes of the home economics division to present the man's side of the questions regarding how a home should be operated. He was also among those who gave addresses at the Land O' Lakes annual meeting in Minneapolis March 11.

## FLASHES from AFIELD

ous points in the county in cooperation with elevators and other agencies.

**PENNINGTON.** R. M. DOUGLAS, county agent, reports the organization of Home Management Project II with 20 project groups taking part. First leaders lessons will be held about the middle of April. Organization work has been somewhat difficult, due to blocked roads. But, in spite of adverse weather conditions, about 260 women are enrolled.

**PIPESTONE.** The Jasper farmer's institute held in February was well attended, says AGENT E. S. GANDRUD. Speakers were C. H. SCHRADER, who spoke on weed control, W. A. Dickinson of the Minnesota Farm Bureau, who addressed the group on "Why of Farmers' Cooperatives," in addition to others.

**ROCK COUNTY.** Two outlook meetings, commented upon by those attending as the most educational they had attended for several years, were conducted by W. B. SILCOX, extension economist, February 11 and 12. Even though roads were blocked and some people had to walk to attend the meeting, 18 were present at the Hills meeting and 40 at the Luverne.

**STEELE.** Interest in rural electrification is running high and AGENT G. A. STROBEL states that all papers for the Steele-Waseca Cooperative project have been drawn up and accepted in Washington, D.C. The association is now in the process of employing a manager and letting the contract for the construction of the line.

**STEVENS.** A bulletin setting forth the crop rotations and cropping systems worked out last spring by the county agricultural planning committee in cooperation with S. B. CLELAND and the extension agents, has been prepared for distribution to Stevens county farmers. The bulletin contains an outline of the three recommended rotations suitable for Stevens county conditions and gives a

concise account of different practices considered in putting crop rotations into operation on individual farms. These crop rotations fit in so well with the Agricultural Conservation Program and good farm practices that it is felt that the recommendations should have general distribution.

**STEARNS.** As a result of the second lesson in home management on reporting the farm family expenditures, 98 farm families are keeping the complete Minnesota farm record books and 61 are making records of household and family expenditures. Five open meetings were held during the past month at which accounts were discussed by Extension Specialists J. B. McNULTY and MARY MAY MILLER, and the county extension agents.

**REDWOOD COUNTY.** AGENT ADRIAN M. WILSON states that the county rural electrification organization has received approval for the construction of 70 miles of line. Interest in the project was greatly increased by this news and many new possibilities have been brought to light since then.

**WATONWAN COUNTY.** Eighty farmers attended the barley school held at St. James, February 24, and 58 brought samples of barley for grading. Specialists in attendance at the school were W. P. CARROLL of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, R. C. ROSE and W. W. BROOKINS of the state extension division. Mr. Carroll and Mr. Brookins graded the samples brought in and issued reports on each sample. A county report will be made by Mr. Brookins who kept a complete record on all samples. One of the features that appealed most to the farmers was the home-made seed treater demonstrated by Mr. Rose. This seeder, which can be constructed at little cost by the farmer himself, drew much interest.

**WINONA.** From "rags to rugs" was on the tongue of many a woman in Winona county this past winter, reports MRS. BEATRICE A. McGRATH. Five hundred thirteen women attended the rug demonstrations given by Mrs. McGrath. If all the women hold true to their promises for 1937, there will be 513 more rag rugs adorning the floors of Winona county in 1937.

SECTION 562 P. L. & R.

Library  
Department of Agriculture  
University Farm Campus