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# MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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## Knuti Named To State Office

LEO L. KNUTI, who for the last 6 years has been principal and county supervisor of agricultural education in St. Louis county schools, became state supervisor of agricultural education with the Minnesota State Department of Education on April 1, succeeding Paul Calrow.



KNUTI

Mr. Knuti was reared on a farm near Aurora and finished high school there. He was graduated from the University of Minnesota in June, 1926. Thereafter he was agricultural instructor at Granite Falls for 2 years and for another 2 years at Thomson township, Carlton county.

He has served as vice-president and director of the Minnesota Vocational Agriculture Teachers association and has practically completed work for a Masters degree under Dr. A. M. Field. Mr. Knuti's coming to the helm finds the number of Smith-Hughes schools at a high point with 114 departments employing 117 men. This is about 20 more than a year ago.

Steele county's Pratt Hustlers 4-H club, which achieved prominence in 1936 by winning the state and North Central Region social progress contest, took over the radio spotlight March 21 when it broadcast over the RCA Magic Key program on the National Broadcasting company hook-up. Participating in the broadcast were a vocal quartet including Magdalene Hartle, Violet Sette, Joseph Racek and Sidney Wilker, all of Owatonna. STATE 4-H LEADER T. A. ERICKSON was heard in a short interview with Mrs. Walter Rypka, the club leader, Luverne Springer, club president, and Jerome Rypka, secretary. Mr. Erikson states that he has received letters from the states of Washington, Florida, New Jersey, New York, Wisconsin, South Dakota and Minnesota and from the city of Honolulu in the Hawaiian Islands, written by people who had heard the broadcast. The letter from Honolulu was written by Miss Olive Cunningham, former secretary to DEAN W. C. COFFEY.

W. P. KIRKWOOD, retired editor, has been called in by Dr. George Mecklenburg of Minneapolis to serve as advance publicity chairman for the Twin Cities in connection with the National Preaching Mission activities. Recently Mr. Kirkwood acted as chairman at the annual convention of the American College Publicity association, held at Macalester College, St. Paul. He was president of the group for several years.

## Coming Events

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| May 6-8    | Editor's Short Course                          |
| May 11-12  | District county agent conference, Marshall     |
| May 13-14  | District county agent conference, Owatonna     |
| May 18-19  | District county agent conference, Grand Rapids |
| May 20-21  | District county agent conference, Crookston    |
| 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.

## New Program Well Received

A successful home management program, during which the new phases of the work were stressed, has just been completed in Faribault county, according to MARY MAY MILLER, home management specialist.

The six-lesson course was based on trends in family life from colonial days to the present, Mrs. Consumer and her problems, guides to household buying, business transactions of the family, reducing home hazards, planning and recording farm-record accounts.

"Business Transactions of the Family," presented by E. J. FALVEY, was given at four points in the county and proved to be the most popular of the meetings, said Miss Miller.

Since the course featured household buying, a bus tour to the Twin Cities will be held on April 30 when 80 leaders from Faribault will visit mail-order houses and factories in order to get first hand information regarding qualities to be found in household furnishings. The tour will replace the annual achievement day. Miss Miller and MISS MAYBELLE GAME, Faribault home demonstration agent, will be in charge of the tour.

DR. GEORGE S. WEHRWEIN, University of Wisconsin economist, will be on the Friday, May 7, program of the annual editor's short course to be held at University Farm, May 6, 7 and 8. This demonstration, of keen interest to extension workers, is being made possible through the joint efforts of the extension service and the short course committee.

H. R. SUMNER, with whom many extensioners became acquainted during the past 8 years when he served as executive secretary of the Northwest Crop Improvement association, recently severed his connections with that group and, commencing April 1, became manager of the agricultural service department of the F. H. Peavey company. In Si's new capacity, he will continue to work very closely with extension service forces, and according to his own statement, his work will not be greatly different from what it was before. The field work of the new agricultural department will be in connection with the Monarch Elevator company, the National Atlas Elevator company and the Van Dusen-Harrington company.

A son, Elliot John, was born to AGENT and MRS. RUDOLPH M. STOLEN of East Polk county, March 6.

EXTENSION DAIRYMAN H. R. SEARLES left the fore part of April for a spring vacation in Mexico.

## Personnel

PAUL LINDHOLM, who was formerly assistant agent in Carlton county, became agent in Benton county, effective April 1. ELMER ISAKSEN resigned the Benton post March 31 to accept a position with the Rural Rehabilitation Administration.

Following Swift county's transfer from an emergency to a regular extension basis, H. W. SODERBURG became regular agent April 1.

Appointed assistant agent in Carlton county, beginning April 1, was LAWRENCE A. REIFEN, who comes originally from Petersburg, North Dakota. In 1932, he was granted a bachelor of science degree from the North Dakota Agricultural college at Fargo, N.D., and since then he has been agriculture teacher at Fosston, Minn.

VICTOR T. SANDER went to Mower county March 16 as assistant agent. Mr. Sander's home was in Nebraska and in 1929 he was graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Neb. From 1929 to 1931 he was instructor in animal husbandry at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and from 1931 to the present, instructor in animal husbandry at North Dakota Agricultural college, Fargo, N. D.

LOREN E. McMARTIN of Claremont, Minn., who was graduated from the College of Agriculture, University Farm, in 1935, has been appointed assistant agent in Hennepin county. Since his graduation, he has been agriculture teacher in the high school at LeRoy, Minn. His appointment was effective March 23.

DUANE LONG, who was granted his degree by the College of Agriculture, University Farm, in March, began his duties as livestock field agent in Fillmore, Houston and Olmsted counties April 1.

## Brown Resigns Extension Post

FRANK J. BROWN, widely known to extension workers and rural people of the state, has resigned his position as district county agent leader effective May 15 to become the new state



BROWN

director of insurance for the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation. He succeeds W. D. STEGNER who has held that post for the past 3 years. Mr. Brown will terminate a long experience as extension worker, which began in 1916 when he served as assistant farm management demonstrator for the Minnesota agricultural extension service. In 1917 he went to Murray county to become county agricultural agent and remained there in that capacity until April, 1921, when he came to University farm as assistant state county agent leader, as district leaders were then called. During the time that DIRECTOR F. W. PECK was in Washington, D.C., as cooperative bank commissioner for the Farm Credit Ad-

To county extension agents: A dinner in honor of MR. BROWN will be held May 1 in the main dining room of the college dining hall, University Farm. County extension agents and their wives are invited to attend and should make their reservations with J. F. KUEHN not later than April 24.

ministration, from April, 1933, to December, 1935, Mr. Brown served as assistant director of extension. Since February, 1936, he has been a member of the Minnesota State Agricultural Conservation committee, in direct charge of educational work for the state program.

Mr. Stegner is leaving the St. Paul post to become agency supervisor for the State Farm Life Insurance company, which has national headquarters in Bloomington, Ill. For the past 3 years the Minnesota State Farm Mutual Insurance company, under Mr. Stegner's direction, has been awarded the sales supremacy cup.

Here is a hearty THANK YOU to the agents who responded to a recent circular sent out by H. L. HARRIS asking for the return of bulletins. A goodly supply of sheep fattening bulletins was returned, but so far not enough copies have been received of Bulletin 300, "Selection and Purchase of Feeders and Rations for Fattening Beef Cattle." Any agent having copies of this publication is asked to send them to Mr. Harris, Office of Publications.

**BLUE EARTH.** AGENT L. E. McMILLAN states that the enrollment for 1937 4-H club work has passed the 500 mark. Two new clubs have been organized in the county, and two assistant club leaders will aid with the work in the county.

**EAST POLK.** AGENT RUDOLPH M. STOLEN reports a newly organized home poultry project with 16 groups cooperating. Splendid interest is being shown in the project which is carried on under the supervision of Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist.

**FARIBAULT.** Sixteen Farm Bureau units in the county have planned programs on a year basis, 15 of which have cooperated in making up mimeographed copies and supplying them to 827 Farm Bureau families in their township. Such programs were developed as the result of two program planning meetings held in early December and follow-ups in individual cases where groups were not organized at that time. The same number of 4-H clubs in the county have mapped out programs for the entire year and each 4-H club family, totaling 242, has received mimeographed copies of the program.

**FILLMORE.** During the period from March 14 to March 27 all cattle in Fillmore county were subjected to T.B. tests, reports AGENT WALTER W. THOMPSON, who set up the entire organization for the work. Forty-six assistants aided the veterinarians in making the test. More than 80,000 cattle were tested, and only 55 were shown to be reactors.

**FREEBORN.** EXTENSION DAIRYMAN H. R. SEARLES addressed the annual meeting of the Freeborn County Livestock Breeders association at Albert Lea, March 6. The association entertained the 4-H club members during the noon lunch, and voted to appropriate \$50 for the promotion of 4-H club work in the county.

**JACKSON.** Following a series of barleys days, all elevators and high schools were supplied with plans of the new seed treater in addition to 45 other plans which were distributed elsewhere. One of the treaters, devised by M. B. Moore of the plant pathology department at University Farm, was on display in the office for a time and one Smith-Hughes instruc-

## FLASHES from AFIELD

tor carried a treater with him on his project visits.

**KITTSON.** The seed exchange list compiled in the county extension office includes 30,000 bushels of oats, 15,000 bushels of barley, and 20,000 bushels of wheat. Approximately 85 per cent of this list consists of varieties recommended by the state experiment station. AGENT J. A. SALISBURY estimated that approximately two-thirds of all grain seeded in Kittson this year will be treated with the organic mercury dust through new treating outfits.

**LAC QUI PARLE.** AGENT WAYNE WEISER reports approximately 400 inquiries regarding farm shelterbelt planting. With satisfactory moisture conditions, a great deal of windbreak replanting is expected in this county this spring. Much interest is likewise being shown in the 4-H club tree planting project.

**LE SUEUR.** Setting their goal at 550 members, 4-H adults and junior leaders so far have enrolled 450 members in 4-H club work for 1937, leaving only 100 yet to be obtained. One new club has been organized and two new local leaders have been obtained. Twelve clubs are preparing one-act plays for the play contest.

**MCLEOD.** AGENT R. A. FISCHER reports continued progress with the rural electrification project. To date, 1410 farmers have signed service agreements for current; 160 miles of line have already been constructed; 361½ miles of line included in the project are now practically completed, making a total of 521½ miles to be completed this fall. A banquet was tendered the officers and committeemen of the cooperative power association by the Hutchinson Kiwanis club on March 9 in recognition of the work that has been done.

**MEEKER.** HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT CLARA BLY states that more than 325 families attended the fruits for the home garden school conducted

by E. M. Hunt March 12 and 13. Mr. Hunt emphasized the importance of hardy, disease free stock and many other recommended practices.

**MURRAY.** Special efforts on the part of the county to complete the Murray county part of the Murray-Nobles R.E.A. project resulted in 911 Murray farmers becoming members of the Rural Electrification Association. An engineering firm has already started work and at present has completed the initial engineering survey of three townships.

**OLMSTED.** Three farmer's institutes held at Byron, Eyota, and Stewartville during the past month in cooperation with the business men in each of these places met with considerable success, and people in each community are looking forward to similar days in the future, states AGENT RAY AUNE.

**PENNINGTON.** The Thief River Falls Livestock Shipping association has been operating in Pennington for 15 years. However, during recent years business transactions have decreased greatly owing to changes in transportation methods, and in May, 1936, the association was reorganized on a trucking basis and as a result shipments were greatly increased. Approximately a million pounds of livestock will be shipped during the year. This change in method has renewed interest in the association and a better year is expected in 1937.

**RED LAKE.** A cooperative creamery is being organized in the Red Lake Falls district, according to AGENT E. A. PALMER. Farmers owning about 1,000 cows have already been signed up. The organization was completed and articles of incorporation adopted April 10.

**REDWOOD.** Twenty-three of the 26 townships in the county were represented in the annual weed meeting held March 23 at which preparations for another war on weeds were mapped out. "Interest was high, and it promises to be a tough year on weeds,"

said AGENT ADRIAN M. WILSON, "It was decided that more weed sprayers should be put to use, and the county board is to be approached on that subject at their next meeting."

**ROCK.** AGENT J. KENNETH KING reports that 40 farmers received instruction on the eradication of rats at two demonstrations held in the county by H. L. PARTEN, extension specialist, March 6. The use of Cyanogas and other poisons was explained.

**SIBLEY.** At meetings in three towns of the county, business men were invited to hear about the Agricultural Conservation Program. The attendance was good and the guests seemed to appreciate the opportunity to obtain information on the aim and provisions of the program.

**STEARNS.** ED LENSMEIER reports the prospect of an early approval of the rural electrification project, covering 475 miles, largely located in southern and western Stearns.

**TODD.** The first organized home project work in the county for many years is being presented during April. AGENT C. L. BLAKESLEE reports an organization of 20 interested groups. EVES WHITFIELD will present the work to local leader groups.

**WABASHA.** AGENT C. D. NELSON reports a great many requests for lime. Following conferences with the county board of commissioners and the county engineer, plans are being made for a lime project. Farmers in the vicinity of two quarries have requested a total of 2,500 tons of lime and indications are that pulverizing will begin May 1.

**WILKIN.** Seventeen potato growers have arranged to obtain choice certified potato stock to plant from 1 to 4 acres, from which they will be able to plant their commercial fields in 1938.

**YELLOW MEDICINE.** AGENT G. M. GEHANT reports two very successful series of meetings during March. RALPH F. CRIM, extension specialist, and Mr. Gehant conducted one series of meetings on pastures with a total attendance of approximately 400 farmers. With PARKER O. ANDERSON, extension forester, a second series of meetings, attended by 100, was concerned with windbreaks and tree planting.

• • • A committee to formulate plans for the observation of the twenty-fifth year of county agent extension work during the 1937 extension conference has been appointed by Director F. W. Peck. The group includes C. L. McNELLY, chairman, M. LOIS REID, H. R. SEARLES, S. B. CLELAND, T. A. ERICKSON, H. L. HARRIS, GEORGE LARSON of Chisago county, MAYBELE GAME of Faribault county, and K. A. KIRKPATRICK of Hennepin county.

• • • The county extension offices of Mahnomen, Clearwater and Becker counties are cooperating in special 4-H club work with the Indian boys and girls. Indications are that there will be an enrollment of approximately 150 Indian youngsters in this work. Projects will be adapted to their needs. A group of Indian women are also participating in clothing work in the home project in Mahno-

men county. Results should be really interesting.

• • • C. L. McNELLY reports the change from emergency to regular county extension work in Grant and Becker counties. Five other counties, Traverse, Pope, Yellow Medicine, Kandiyohi and Swift, have likewise changed over since January. Douglas and Chippewa counties are the only counties not now on the regular basis in the northwest district.

• • • "The Redwood Plan of Weed Control" is an article written by AGENT C. H. SCHRADER, Murray county, for the March issue of the Agricultural Leaders Digest. Publicizing the Redwood county plan for the control of weeds, the author also uses some of the pictures taken in Minnesota last August, 1936, by George Ackerman, U. S. Department of Agriculture photographer.

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