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MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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State Picnic To Be June 7

Forces of jollity and gaiety will band together Monday, June 7, when the Minnesota state extension division has its annual picnic at Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis.

A committee of five extensioners are formulating plans for the annual event and sub-committees have been appointed to carry out the various events of the day. There will be golf for everybody in the morning, with a number of varied events and contests to come following the lunch hour. Games will be put on a competitive basis. Picnickers will be divided into two camps, and there will be a struggle between the opposing groups for the day's supremacy. Special committees have been appointed to look after men and women's athletic events and games for the children.

County extension agents are invited to the picnic, and in order that the committee in charge of food may know just how many to provide for, all those who plan to attend are asked to make reservations with J. F. KUEHN by June 3.

• • • DIRECTOR F. W. PECK recently received word from the board of governors of the Federal Reserve system notifying him of his appointment as agricultural representative on the board of directors of the ninth district Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis. His term will continue through to January 1, 1939.

• • • From C. W. Warburton, national director of extension, comes information that the National Association of County Agents is planning a meeting for professional development in Washington for early June. It is planned to have the group spend a day at the Beltsville Research Center and to have a dinner at which Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture, will speak.

• • • "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," written by DIRECTOR F. W. PECK, is the lead article in the April issue of Extension Service Review. Director Peck gives a word picture of extension work in Minnesota during its youthful days and then presents the picture today. Among other things, he remarks that "there has been a significant development in the use of publicity as an aid in furthering the influence of the Extension Service." He cites the notable improvement in the organization of programs, of time, and of people, as well as marked progress in developing superior extension methods and procedure. Tomorrow's problems are also discussed by Director Peck.

• • • In connection with the Red River Valley regional sheep project, 10 counties are planning countywide tours to be held during May. Certain major features to be studied during the tour include drenching and sheep dipping demonstrations, wool exhibits, sheep type studies, comparisons of good and poor ram types and comparisons of offspring.

Coming Events

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 7	State Extension Picnic, Lake Nokomis
June 14-16	State 4-H Week
June 16-23	National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D.C.
June 17-19	District 4-H Club Week, Grand Rapids
June 17-22	District 4-H Club Week, Crookston
June 21-22	District 4-H Club Week, Morris
June 22	Summer Picnic Meeting, Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association

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

Tree Planting In Spotlight

Although considerable interest has been shown in shelterbelt and windbreak planting over a large part of the state, DISTRICT COUNTY AGENT LEADER C. L. McNELLY reports that agents in west central Minnesota have been particularly active in promoting the work this spring.

AGENT WAYNE WEISER, of Lac qui Parle county states that cooperators have purchased 20,000 tree seedlings, a good share of which have been recommended varieties. In Clay county eight tree planting meetings have been held, five of which were given assistance by EXTENSION FORESTER PARKER O. ANDERSON. News articles and talks to 4-H clubs supplemented the work.

Forty-one farmers and 4-H club members in Mahnomon county obtained seed of hardwood trees for starting tree garden nurseries. Thirty of these farmers attended meetings at which Mr. Anderson outlined the standard windbreak plan. In Stevens county AGENT SIG MARTENSEN reports a heavy toll of trees taken by drouth and rodents. Nearly 17,000 trees have been ordered by 38 farmers in connection with the windbreak project.

AGENT GEORGE GEHANT, Yellow Medicine, asserts that as a result of extension tree planting meetings, about 28,500 trees are being planted this spring. Most farmers are adapting the standard windbreak plan to their present groves.

In Swift county, AGENT H. W. SODERBURG held a meeting on the farm of Axel Haakinson where there is a splendid example of what can be done with the windbreak. Mr. Haakinson has his own tree nursery, in which most of the trees were planted from seed. During drouth years this farmer has been successful with his plantings.

• • • Announcing the birth of a daughter, AGENT EDGAR C. ROGERS of Cottonwood county says, "This is to inform you that the new models are out—but are not for sale. They may be seen at the Windom Hospital show room for a few days, and then will be exhibited at 91 Ninth street. The baby is a girl, Anne Elizabeth, born April 30, weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces."

• • • County agents may obtain a supply of not more than 25 copies of a booklet "Electric Service with Safety" from the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, Public Relations Committee, 85 John street, New York City, announces J. F. KUEHN, assistant to the director. A limited supply of this booklet is being distributed to educational groups.

• • • MARKETING SPECIALIST D. C. DVORACEK writes about discussion meetings in Minnesota for the April number of the Extension Service Review. Among the notable results of a survey to ascertain the feeling of local leaders about the kind of meetings they felt worthwhile, 79 per cent of 200 leaders stated that they preferred the discussion method, 17 per cent preferred talks followed by discussion, while only 4 per cent wanted talks alone.

• • • A frequent caller at University Farm and county agent offices in southeast Minnesota is H. O. "ANDY" ANDERSON, former Houston county agent. Andy is now heading up a farm management research project with the Soil Erosion Service at La Crosse, studying the effects of following erosion control practices on farming returns; that is, finding out whether soil erosion control actually adds to farm profits. The family residence is 2283 Alden Place, St. Paul.

Comings, Goings In the Counties

JASPER I. SWEDBERG, after having served as extension agent in Watonwan county since December, 1929, went to Redwood county in a similar post May 16. Agent Swedberg succeeds ADRIAN M. WILSON who resigned his position in Redwood county.

J. RUSSELL GUTE, assistant agent in Faribault county since April, 1936, was transferred to Watonwan county following Mr. Swedberg's resignation. Mr. Gute went into his new county May 1 as assistant agent.

Three extension workers became regular county agents when their counties were transferred from the emergency to regular extension basis. These include MAX McMILLIN in Pine county, MARTIN H. OSTREM in Becker and GEORGE B. HILDRE in Grant. All their appointments were effective May 1.

Rutford Begins Extension Job

SKULI H. RUTFORD, known to extensioners the state over and formerly member of the Minnesota extension family, returned to the staff May 16 as agricultural conservation specialist, succeeding Frank J. Brown who resigned to become state director of insurance for the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation.

Skuli comes back to the extension staff after a 2-year absence during which he was state director of rural rehabilitation. Previous to that, he served as county agricultural agent in St. Louis and Yellow Medicine counties, from 1924 to 1935.

In his new position, Skuli will supervise the educational phases of the agricultural conservation program in the state and will be extension representative on the Minnesota Agricultural Conservation committee.

Nutrition Workers Tell of Problems

Too few greens, not enough fruit, vegetables and milk in the diet were the most serious local nutrition problems in Waseca county, according to a report of the nutrition project carried on in that county, says INEZ M. HOBART, extension nutritionist.

The Waseca nutrition project reached 1,704 homes with 27 groups enrolled and all of the groups reporting. To remedy this lack in the diet, the homemakers who participated in the project urged that more fruits and vegetables be canned during succeeding years.

Learning food values and gaining experience in preparing family foods of most value were stressed as two of the most important parts of the nutrition program. Seventeen of the 27 groups expressed a desire for further help in meal planning, preparation of meats and vegetables and planning the family food supplies and community meals.

Nutrition check-up days were held in Freeborn county, May 11, in Waseca, May 12 and Meeker, May 13. Others will be conducted in Big Stone, May 20, and in Stevens, May 21.

• • • Funeral services for Henry Churchill, father of COUNTY AGENT LEADER L. A. CHURCHILL, were held in Fredericksburg, Iowa, April 21. The elder Mr. Churchill passed away in St. Paul, April 19.

• • • The death of Jeremiah J. Falvey, 73, father of ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR E. J. FALVEY, occurred in St. Paul Monday, May 2. Funeral services were held in the Church of the Nativity, Wednesday, March 5, and burial was in Calvary cemetery, St. Paul.

• • • JAMES HARRISON of Excelsior, who was formerly connected with the farmers' institutes conducted by Minnesota, died April 23.



FLASHES from AFIELD

BIG STONE. AGENT C. A. BENTON reports a new departure in relaying 4-H club information to mothers of 4-H club members. Training schools, similar to local leader training schools for home demonstration work, are being held at which the mothers learn about club work. STATE CLUB AGENT AMY WESSEL assisted in the first training meeting of this sort. Interest shown so far indicates that the venture will be successful.

CLEARWATER. Six sheepmen have enrolled in the Minnesota lamb production contest. Clearwater has a good many sheep producers and in the past some of these have given a good account of themselves in this contest, says AGENT H. E. BALK.

EAST POLK. At a sheep drenching demonstration (part of a regional sheep improvement project) organized by AGENT RUDOLPH STOLEN, 26 stock owners were in attendance. W. E. MORRIS, extension animal husbandman, conducted the demonstration. A drenching chute, built to conform to Agent Stolen's suggestion, enabled inexperienced workers to drench 43 sheep in 30 minutes.

FARIBAULT. AGENT C. G. GAYLORD announces that during a 3-weeks period county agent headquarters were established in various towns of his county. A number of banks and civic organizations made possible headquarters for one member of the county agricultural conservation committee and the county extension agent. Many farmers, during the busy spring planting season, found the plan much to their convenience. If necessary, these headquarters will be established at other times during the year.

FREEBORN. The agricultural extension force of Freeborn has moved to quarters in the new postoffice, Federal Building, says AGENT WILLIS LAWSON. Five rooms have been provided for extension offices. They include a large general office, a private office for each of the extension agents, a work room and a storeroom.

HOUSTON. Ten 4-H plays and twelve musical numbers were presented by 4-H club members in the annual one-act play and music contest held at three places, Caledonia, Spring

Grove, and Hokah. Two new 4-H clubs have been enrolled during the past month. The present 4-H club enrollment is now standing at 564 members.

JACKSON. AGENT ROSS HUNTSINGER tells that much has been done in his county this spring in getting more desirable seed planted. Six co-operators were located for the barley project, and were supplied with enough seed to sow 1 acre of velvet barley by the division of agronomy and plant genetics. As a result of the questionnaire sent out to all farmers whose samples had not been recommended as seed, 62½ per cent of these farmers changed to Wisconsin No. 38, and 37½ per cent recleaned their own seed to remove undesirable grain. Much information in regard to hybrid corn adaptation in the county has been distributed.

LYON. The principal theme of all talks given by AGENT F. J. MEADE at extension meetings during April was "windbreaks" and "shelter belts." The Rehabilitation Corporation maintains a state nursery in Lyon and trees were offered to farmers at very reasonable cost. Numerous farmers took advantage of these prices and many trees are being planted throughout the county.

MARTIN. ASSISTANT AGENT C. G. POWELL states that he attended the conference on office organization held at Windom recently, after which VIRGIL FENCL, of the state office, visited the Martin county office to help outline methods of reorganization.

MEEKER. One of the new developments in the Meeker REA project is the setting up of a demonstration farm by the Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D.C. This demonstration is on the Charles Ness farm near Litchfield where approximately 50 different electrical appliances have either been installed or are in the process of being installed in

preparation for the opening, June 1. The plan includes the installation of electrical equipment by various companies for a 1-year period, during which the farm owner, Mr. Ness, agrees to keep the place open to visitors. This will afford an opportunity not only to Meeker county farmers, but to all farmers of the state, to see the appliances in operation. The farm, located on good roads, is easily accessible to visitors.

MURRAY. ASSISTANT AGENT A. B. HAGEN states that 250 people from five townships heard how the rural electrification project was progressing at a meeting in Lake Wilson, April 27. At the same time AGENT C. E. STOWER of Nobles county explained methods of establishing windbreaks, and AGENT C. H. SCHRADER talked on the weed situation in Murray county.

NICOLET. Recognizing that their pasture mixtures have not been capable of withstanding drought conditions, farmers have become widely interested in experiments to be carried on in the county this summer, and in experiments which were conducted in 1936. Last year in six different plots practically the only grass to make a satisfactory growth was alfalfa with sweet clover ranking second. White clover, red clover, and alsike clover came through poorly and not much more could be said for brome grass. On two different farms this year a mixture including 5 pounds of alfalfa, 5 pounds of sweet clover, 4 pounds of timothy, and 7 pounds of brome grass will be used. Two farmers are seeding strips of this mixture through their fields with their own pasture mixtures on both sides. These strips will be used to check the value of the mixtures. Other experiments will be carried on to determine the amount of feed furnished by a typical blue grass pasture.

OLMSTED. The annual Frontenac 4-H club camp sponsored jointly by 4-H club people of Olmsted, Wabasha,

Goodhue, and Dakota counties is to be held June 17-20, states AGENT RAY AUNE. The number of club members in these four counties totals almost 3,000. It is expected that the camp enrollment this year will be larger than ever before.

PENNINGTON. Three hundred 4-H club boys and girls were feted at an annual banquet by the Thief River Falls Civic and Commerce association for having completed their 1936 club projects. The banquet was held this spring with the idea of inspiring club members, now starting projects, to finish them. DISTRICT CLUB AGENT H. A. PFLUGHÖFT, Crookston, presented the awards and medals earned by various members during their 1936 work.

PIPESTONE. A rural electrification meeting was held in cooperation with the local Kiwanis Club Farmers' Night held in the courthouse early in April with L. P. ZIMMERMAN, extension rural electrification specialist, as the speaker of the evening. Approximately 300 farmers attended this meeting, at which temporary committees were confirmed and officers were elected.

WATONWAN. Construction on the new 4-H club building began during April, and by May 1 the foundation and piers had been put up. The building is being erected in cooperation with the Works Progress Administration, county and private organizations. A total of approximately \$2,800 in money and materials is available.

WINONA. AGENT H. C. PEDERSON says, "Some promising educational material both with respect to barley and oat varieties and seed treatment has been worked out with R. C. ROSE, extension plant pathologist, that should prove interesting for one or more crop tours next summer. This project has been started on the Guy H. Pierce farm, and it includes plots with five varieties of barley and three of oats. Each variety has two plots—one sowed to treated and the other to untreated seed. In obtaining the seed for these plots an effort was made to get it from farms where no seed has been treated for 3 or more years. It is hoped that a definite comparison will be noted between the treated and untreated plots."

• • • The marriage of Miss MURIEL CLAUSEN to Clifford Rovick of Minneapolis was solemnized in Bethel church, Minneapolis, Saturday, May 1. The former Miss Clausen, an employee in the extension stenographic department for the past 4 years, was file clerk at the time of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Rovick are touring the west and will make their home in Minneapolis following their return from the coast.

• • • A special tree planting ceremony was held in Waseca county, May 1, to commemorate the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the constitution of the United States. Before the actual planting of the tree, Fred W. Senn, judge of the fifth district, addressed Waseca 4-H club leaders and other people. Club members cooperated with musical numbers. At Clear Lake park an American Elm tree, donated by the Cashman nur-

series, Owatonna, was planted by four club boys under the supervision of R. E. HODGSON, superintendent of the southeast experiment station. Mr. Hodgson also spoke regarding the satisfaction to be found in tree planting. A bronze marker, designating the tree as a memorial to the framers of the constitution, was presented by Alvin Krause of Janesville in behalf of the county 4-H Club Federation. Alvin is president of the leaders' council. Both the tree and the marker were presented to J. P. Coughlin, chairman of the park board, by AGENT CLETUS MURPHY. The tree was registered on the honor roll of the American Tree association as a sesquicentennial memorial. The planting ceremony was one originated at the first National Club camp in Washington, D.C. Appropriate music was presented by 4-H members at the park ceremony.

SECTION 562 P. L. & R.

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