

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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## Farm, Home Plans Progress

With plans for the 1938 Farm and Home Week already shaping up under the supervision of the general committee, several nationally known speakers have been obtained for Minnesota's premier rural event, to be held January 17-21.

Among these is Dr. David Bryn-Jones, head of the international relations department and the Kellogg peace foundation at Carleton college, author, lecturer and authority on world affairs. Equally well known, particularly to agricultural people, is Clifford V. Gregory, co-publisher of Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Iowa, and former editor of Prairie Farmer, Chicago.

Of special interest to extensioners is the tentative acceptance of an invitation to speak by M. L. Wilson, undersecretary of agriculture. Another speaker will be Henry C. Taylor, of the Farm Foundation, Chicago.

Miss Ella Gardner, recreation specialist, U. S. Department, will give discussions of particular value to extension workers. Miss Gardner, who spoke briefly before members of the state staff, November 1, stresses the importance of recreational activities in extension work, particularly those activities which aid in developing people. She is one of 15 recreational specialists working from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

• • • To the 1,350 members of home demonstration groups in Itasca, Cottonwood, and Stearns counties now enrolled in home management projects, perhaps the most interesting subject is "getting your money's worth." These women, observes HOME MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST JESSIE MARION, are realizing that study is necessary for intelligent buying. A recent study of labels proved to be extremely enlightening. Not only did a study of advertising found in newspapers, magazines and on the radio prove entertaining, but it also emphasized the need for research. At December meetings these homemakers, as part of their project, "Preventing Home Accidents," will check their houses in an effort to make them safer places in which to live.

• • • Popeye hasn't a thing on our own BOB DOUGLASS. Bob demonstrated that "he could take it" when he went to the hospital, October 14, for an appendicitis operation, and then, after the operation (when most people haven't a thing on their minds but their miseries) he called the extension office to announce that his schedule would be a bit disrupted for the next few days. Bob, by the way, resumed his multiple duties November 8.

• • • DWIGHT M. GARNER was transferred from Mower county as assistant agent to Sibley county as emergency agent, October 25.

## Coming Events

Nov. 26-Dec. 4	National Club Congress, Chicago
Nov. 27-Dec. 4	International Livestock Exposition, Chicago
Jan. 5-Mar. 2	Creamery Operators' Short Course
Jan. 17-20	State Farm Bureau Meeting, St. Paul
Jan. 17-21	Farm and Home Week
Feb. 7-18	Vegetable Growers Short Course
Mar. 2	Dairy Industries Visitors' Day
Mar. 4	Farm Structures Conference
Mar. 14-19	Ice Cream Makers' Short Course
Mar. 23-25	Horticultural Short Course

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

## Agents Elect New Chiefs

Heading the county agents' association for the next year will be the new officers elected during the annual meeting at the 1937 extension conference.

Officers of the County Agents' association for the coming year include JAMES A. SALISBURY, Hallock, Kittson county, president; F. L. LIEBENSTEIN, Austin, Mower county, vice-president; RAY AUNE, Rochester, Olmsted county, secretary and treasurer. Directors of the association for the coming year are H. C. PEDERSON, Lewiston, Winona county, south central district; JASPER I. SWEDBERG, Redwood Falls, Redwood county, southwest district; E. G. ROTH, Brainerd, Crow Wing county, northeast district; CARROLL L. BLAKESLEE, Long Prairie, Todd county, northwest district.

Those selected to head the Home Demonstration Agents' association are MRS. EVELYN SELL, Red Wing, Goodhue county, president; HAZEL T. ROLLIN, Minneapolis, Hennepin county, vice-president; ADA TODNEM, Bemidji, Beltrami county, secretary; and THORA EGLAND, Albert Lea, Freeborn county, treasurer.

• • • STANLEY B. SIMPSON, formerly of Des Moines, Iowa, was named assistant agent, November 10. A native of Minnesota's neighbor to the south, Simpson was educated at Iowa State college, from which he was graduated in 1933 with a degree in animal husbandry. After his graduation, he was employed for 3 years by the Armour company at Marshalltown, Iowa, and more recently, by the Des Moines Oats Products company, Des Moines.

• • • Friday, October 22, was a busy day in the life of AGENT WALLACE MILLER of Scott county. In the first place, extension conference was winding up that day, and it was about time to think about going home. An event, of the blessed kind, however, hurried Wallace away from University Farm before the conference ended. In short, he had to drop the extension conference flat and hasten home to greet a new daughter, Mary Elise, born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller that day.

• • • MISS MARGARET OPP took over the post of home demonstration agent in Clay county, November 1.

• • • STATE CLUB AGENT MILDRED SCHENCK has been chosen by the national 4-H club committee as one of a committee of four persons to judge records sent in by 4-H club members for entry in eight nationwide 4-H contests including the outstanding home economics girl, food preparation, rural electrification, meat animal production, 4-H leadership and others. Final awards will be announced at Chicago early in December.

## Peck, Coffey To Washington

DIRECTOR F. W. PECK and DEAN W. C. COFFEY are attending the annual meeting of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C., November 15-17. Prior to the general conference, Dean Coffey will meet with a committee to study home demonstration work, with directors of experiment stations, and with a group studying instruction in agriculture in land grant colleges. As chairman of the committee on projects and correlation of research, he will present its report to the executive committee.

The 1937 meeting celebrates the seventy-fifth anniversary of the land-grant college system and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Federal aid to agriculture was made available in 1839. The importance of agriculture in the life of the nation was mentioned by George Washington in his first inaugural address and the bill creating the department of agriculture was signed by President Lincoln, May 15, 1862.

• • • Twenty-five years of extension work were fittingly observed in Traverse county, to which the first county agent was assigned in 1912, when a dinner was held in honor of early farm leaders and extension workers at Wheaton, November 4.

Two hundred people, representing the agricultural leadership of the county, assembled for the anniversary dinner. A guest of honor was Frank F. Marshall, first Minnesota county agent, who regaled the audience with reminiscences of early extension days. H. E. Higer and Fred Moore, successors to Marshall in the Traverse post, were present also. DISTRICT COUNTY AGENT LEADER C. L. McNELLY and Dr. Andrew Boss were in attendance.

## Special Meets Are Scheduled

Answering the request of county extension agents for special subject-matter meetings at which agricultural topics be discussed, COUNTY AGENT LEADER L. A. CHURCHILL announces the schedule and speakers for this series of meetings to be held in four cities during December and January. Interest in these meetings this year, echoing that of 1936, is such that practically all county agents have signified their intention to participate in these special meetings. Cities selected for this year's series are: Rochester, Redwood Falls, Bemidji, and St. Cloud.

Four members of the University Farm agricultural economics division will discuss for agents timely and significant agricultural problems and subjects. At Rochester, Dr. O. B. Jesness, chief of the division, will discuss "Agricultural Policies," December 7 and 21, January 11 and 25. Dr. A. A. Dowell has for his subject, to be discussed at Redwood Falls on these same dates, "Land Values," "Land Tenure," "Land Use Policies," and "Foreign Trade." Dr. W. C. Waite's subject at Bemidji, also on the same dates, will be "Agricultural Prices." Dr. A. R. Root, of the Knox-Reeves Advertising Company in Minneapolis, who stirred such favorable comment on his discussions of human relations at the extension conference, will speak on "Rediscovering Ourselves," December 6 and 20 and January 10 and 24 at St. Cloud.

Each meeting, says Churchill, will start with a 6 o'clock dinner, after which the discussion will follow.

## Purebred Ram Program Succeeds

Three hundred ten choice purebred lambs, placed on farms as a result of a better sire campaign, are now heading sheep flocks on farms in 11 northwest Minnesota counties, reveals DISTRICT COUNTY AGENT C. L. McNELLY.

The campaign was carried on in these counties by COUNTY AGENTS J. A. SALISBURY, MELVIN WANGSNES, R. A. REIERSON, HOWARD GROW, CARL J. ASH, RUDOLPH STOLEN, HOWARD BALK, GEORGE LANDSVERK, W. O. WOODMAN, DONALD PEET, and M. H. OSTREM.

While the plan of having an annual ram sale and exchange day has been used to good advantage in the counties for several years, the plan of giving flock owners the opportunity of making their own selection within the county is new and worked out very satisfactorily in this fall's campaign, says McNelly.

• • • EXTENSION VETERINARIAN W. A. (Doc) and Mrs. BILLINGS are vacationing in the east where they are visiting members of the former's family in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

## FLASHES from AFIELD

**BELTRAMI.** Two new 4-H clubs were added to the list of those already active, during the month of October. The clubs, located at Shotley and Waskish, are making a fine start.—ADA TODNEM, home demonstration agent.

**CARLTON.** A committee of farmers had a meeting to outline the dairy program of 1938 and included as one of the new features for next year is a county bull show, to include all bulls in associations and also other animals in the county. The committee will meet with the fair board to more fully consider this suggestion.—L. A. REITEN, assistant agent.

**CASS.** Flock improvement work, much of which has been accomplished through the Cass County Ram club, has included securing choice rams, and at present there are 10 rams in service through the club and about as many through private ownership. The work has greatly encouraged the use of purebred rams.—OSCAR NELSON, agent.

**COTTONWOOD.** Rural Youth members of the county who attended the conference at Farm and Home Week in 1937 will present a skit depicting conference activities at their November meeting. This is one of the first groups to begin a campaign for a greater 1938 Farm and Home Week attendance.—ALICE BRIGGS, home demonstration agent.

**FARIBAULT.** To give leaders from Farm Bureau units, farmers' clubs, 4-H clubs, and rural youth groups suggestions so that they may hold evening singing and music appreciation programs in their own communities, two "old-fashioned singing schools" were held during the month. Song books, made up of 22 familiar songs, were divided into five periods—the colonial period, pioneer days, the "gay nineties," the World War, and the present era. For each period one person was costumed for the sake of atmosphere, and in some instances histories of the songs were given in the booklet. Suggestions were also given as to how the program could be adapted to whatever type of meeting, place, and number of people who are in these leaders' groups.—MAYBELLE GAME, home demonstration agent.

• • • "Taking Inventory" is the title of a short article written by AGENT J. A. SALISBURY, Kittson county, for the "My Point of View" department of the October Extension Service Review. In the article, Salisbury stresses the better understanding of the economics of the farm business since the advent of the agricultural programs.

• • • WALTER L. BENEDITZ, teacher of agriculture at Hinckley, Minn., since 1935, has been named assistant agent in Wright county, effective November 8. Beneditz was born in Wisconsin and remained on his home farm until he entered the University of Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in 1935. He has done some graduate work at the University of Minnesota.

• • • EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN H. G. ZAVORAL will discuss extension application of the cross breeding of swine during the extension sessions of the American Society of Animal Production in Chicago, November 26-28. Extension Animal Husbandman W. E. Morris is secretary of the extension committee of the society.

**FILLMORE.** With Duane Long, livestock records fieldman, the agent and the state extension department cooperating, a gilt selecting and lamb grading demonstration was held on the farm of Ed King, Sumner township, October 5. The morning was given over to lamb grading and worming and the afternoon to gilt selection. The sows' ability to produce pork was used as a basis for selecting gilts to produce next year's crop of pigs.—WALTER W. THOMPSON, agent.

**FREEBORN.** In 1910 the first cow testing association in Minnesota was started in this county. This year the Clarks Grove C.T.A. gave an annual banquet for its members and friends, which was attended by 180 persons. H. R. SEARLES, extension dairyman, gave the address of the evening. Association officers voted to make this an annual affair.—WILLIS LAWSON, agent.

**HUBBARD.** A check on the yields from trial potato plots showed that in all cases the Chippewa outyielded other varieties, as much as 100 per cent in instances. The Chippewa has proved to be as good and in many cases superior to others for table quality. Its thin skin, however, requires that special care must be taken in digging it to prevent damage.—W. H. OLSON, agent.

**JACKSON.** Whether lime application is profitable in this county is a question which has prompted the initiation of important trials this fall. Working with P. E. McMiller of the soils division, four small plots were located in separate parts of the county on which lime was applied in cross strips. Phosphate will be applied in lengthwise strips next spring.—ROSS L. HUNTSINGER, agent.

**LAKE.** The agent met with the city council of Two Harbors recently where the group discussed the advisability of imposing a compulsory test for contagious abortion and passing an ordinance to provide for pasteurization of milk. Final action was deferred to a later date, but judging from the attitude of the council and the desires of dairymen, it is possible that the test for contagious abortion will be conducted in the near future.—TORSTEIN D. GRINAGER, agent.

**LAKE OF THE WOODS.** Present plans indicate that 25 experimental plots for fertilizers will be run next spring under the supervision of EXTENSION SOILS SPECIALIST GEORGE NESOM. A few plots were set up this fall.—GEORGE H. BERGGREN, agent.

**LYON.** The planting of two-year-old American Elm and green ash trees on the grounds of 25 of the 87 rural school districts was a task undertaken the latter part of the month with the aid of the county superintendent of schools and the county school board association. Trees, paid for by the children at a rate of one cent each, were purchased from the Rehabilitation nursery. Some schools are planting as many as 75 trees; other schools are waiting until spring to carry out their planting programs.—F. J. MEADE, agent.

**MARSHALL.** A series of meetings have been held in five communities on

phosphorous deficiency in feeding, and from the interest shown it appears that there is still a great deal of work that can be done on this important phase of livestock feeding. During these meetings the agent stressed the importance of drenching sheep for stomach worms. Requests have been received for two drenching demonstrations to be held in November.—R. A. REIERSON, agent.

**MARTIN.** In company with D. C. DVORACEK, marketing specialist, the agent visited cooperative creameries and elevators in the county relative to organizing a county cooperative council. Most of the groups favored a meeting to consider the organization of such a council and in December all board members and cooperative officers will meet to talk over this proposition.—C. G. POWELL, agent.

**MOWER.** A scholarship of \$75, to be known as the E. H. Vine award, and to be given to the most outstanding 4-H club members, was announced at a recent leaders meeting. The scholarship will cover about one-half the cost of a 6-month term at the School of Agriculture. The scholarship is provided by Earl Vine, in memory of E. H. Vine, his father, who had been interested for many years in 4-H club work. Based on junior leadership activities, project work and service to the community's 4-H club program, the first scholarship will be awarded in September, 1938.—RAY AUNE, agent.

**WEST OTTER TAIL.** The case for better seed potatoes was advanced in early October when potato demonstration plots were dug. Just on source of seed alone, a difference of 114 bushels per acre was noted; the highest yielding row, one of Certified Cobblers, produced 258 bushels to the acre, and the lowest yielding only 144 bushels. A seed treatment trial proved the value in treating seed potatoes, for treated tubers yielded 25 bushels more per acre than those that were untreated.—R. E. JACOBS, assistant agent.

**RED LAKE.** There are 36 4-H club baby beeves on feed in preparation for the 1938 club year. These calves,

comprising 10 Angus, 20 Herefords and 6 Shorthorns, were shipped in through the Central Cooperative association. The calves have been well-distributed over the county and practically every section has one or more baby beeves.—ERNEST A. PALMER, agent.

**RAMSEY.** Construction of a 4-H building on the Ramsey county fair grounds was a subject of much interest this month. The building is to be 40 by 76 feet, constructed of concrete blocks with a frame roof.—ROBERT FREEMAN, agent.

**REDWOOD.** The coffers of this county's 4-H organization is well-nigh full. About \$940 were the proceeds of a 4-H refreshment enterprise operated by 4-H'ers at the McNamara farm the day of the state corn husking contest.—LENORE GOLDEN, home demonstration agent.

**SOUTH ST. LOUIS.** Convinced that irrigation will take much of the guess work out of berry growing, the Head of the Lakes Fruit Growers association and other organizations, after meeting to discuss an irrigation project for berry culture, decided to contact the University of Minnesota Agricultural Engineering division in regard to supervising such a project. The plan is to obtain five or six cooperators near sources of water supply and to furnish these cooperators with irrigation equipment and electric power so that costs involved will be reduced to a minimum.—D. T. GRUSSENDORF, agent.

**WASECA.** As the result of discussions and demonstrations on hot school lunches, several rural schools districts are preparing to serve hot dishes. The agent, following the request of rural mothers, contacted school teachers as well as the county superintendent of schools relative to hot lunches and a talk was given on the county teachers' institute program on the values of and the method of serving hot dishes under varying circumstances.—JUANITA SILCOX, home demonstration agent.

**WASHINGTON.** The first work done by the United States Soil Conservation Service in conjunction with the county extension office in actually laying out farms to demonstrate the application of contour farming and strip cropping was done this month when preliminary surveys and soil maps were drawn up.—A. L. SJOWALL, agent.

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