

MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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Short Courses
Well Received

"The Brown county Rural Youth short course held at Sleepy Eye, January 27-29, turned out about as complete with satisfaction as any extension agent ever expects." This was the way Paul W. Kunkel, Brown county agent, described a new extension effort carried out under the direction of Miss Ruby Christenson, rural youth agent, and County Agent Leader L. A. Churchill.

The short courses, held in Brown, Cottonwood and Goodhue counties, were designed to give young people, now planning to begin farming and homemaking, information they most need. Substantial and reliable information regarding many perplexing problems was revealed by W. L. Cavert, of the Farm Credit Administration; Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader; S. B. Cleland, farm management specialist; Miss Jessie Marion, home management specialist; E. J. Falvey, administrative advisor.

Themes of the program for the 3-day courses were: 1. What should be considered in financing the farm and home business? 2. How should the farm and home business be planned? 3. How should the farm and home business be protected?

Full account of the program could not be told here, but a few quotations in Kunkel's report indicate the type of information the young people received. Cavert: "Farming is a business that cannot be blamed for farms lost in speculative ventures by farmers themselves." Miss Newton: "Farming should be a partnership of the whole family with everyone knowing the status of the business." Falvey: "Before signing on the dotted line, be sure you are getting what you want and are not just being sold by the other fellow." Cleland: "Lack of desire to save part of the yearly income in actual savings or in built-up productive inventory is the fundamental reason for more people not attaining farm ownership."

• • • The Minnesota way of keeping 4-H clubs on their toes is told in the January-February issue of National 4-H Club News by T. A. Erickson, state club leader. Mr. Erickson reveals the many activities and projects which hold the interest of club members. On the same page in this issue a local leader, Mrs. Ernest Carlson of Graceton, Minn., tells how the high interest of her group is due to enlisting the parents in the work.

• • • Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, gave two addresses on the Thursday and Friday women's meetings of Northwest Farmers Week and Red River Valley Winter shows at Crookston.

• • • Kenneth Ingwalson, state 4-H club agent, has been elected secretary of the Minnesota Wild Life Federation, according to an announcement made February 6.

Coming Events

Feb. 28-Mar. 5	State Home Demonstration Conference (County Home Chairmen Attend Mar. 3-5)
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
Apr. 19-20	District County Agent Conference, Owatonna
Apr. 21-22	District County Agent Conference, Marshall
Apr. 26-27	District County Agent Conference, Grand Rapids
Apr. 28-29	District County Agent Conference, Crookston

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

Director Miller
Greets Staff

Director Paul E. Miller, who became our chief February 1, takes this opportunity to greet staff members. Following is a personal note from Director Miller:

"In assuming the position of extension director I do so with a full realization of the fine service that the entire staff has given to the rural people of Minnesota in the solution of their farm and home problems. That this is the result of a splendid personnel and a sound educational program, I fully realize. I am also aware that any large and worthwhile program has its problems. Often their satisfactory solution requires time and patience. In order that I may be more helpful in aiding the progress of your work, I shall ask the indulgence of the staff until I become more intimately acquainted with the complete picture of extension work and with the personnel in the county offices.

"While the farm enterprise is perhaps our major concern, I believe that extension teaching is essentially a family matter. My aim will be to continue this method of approach, and by so doing, to make it possible to move forward on all fronts in the achievement of our objects. Naturally, I am looking forward to many pleasant and happy relationships with the members of the extension family, to the end that our collective effort may assist farm people in building a permanent plan that will ultimately give them greater security than they have had in the past."

(Signed)

Paul E. Miller

• • • Called to University Farm by Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, the county home demonstration agents studied various phases of girls' 4-H club work at a conference, February 4 and 5. The first day Miss Eva Blair, nutritionist, and Miss Amy Wessel, club agent, conducted the work. Miss Eyes Whitfield, clothing specialist, and Miss Mildred Schenck, club agent, were responsible for the program of the second day.

• • • Two home demonstration agents, Miss Pearl Sims of Stearns county, and Miss Myrtle Bang of Nicollet, have resigned their posts.

• • • With E. C. Torrey holding the reins, readers of The Dakota Farmer and the Milwaukee Journal recently took a jingling sleigh ride back through melody lane. In a full-page article entitled, "Horse-and-Buggy-Day Songs," Mr. Torrey cracks the whip over many a favorite of the gay 90's and the decades preceding—among them, many that are still popular, including the recently revived "Man on the Flying Trapeze." Incidentally, we learn that E. C. was an enthusiastic yodeler as a gay young blade attending Albion Academy and later at Lawrence college, Appleton, Wisconsin. The piece makes most entertaining reading and exemplifies the fact cited by the Dakota County Farmer editor that although Mr. Torrey is on the retired list, "the old bean is still active." E. C. was extension publicity specialist at Minnesota for 10 years, up to 1929.

Men Are Men,
But What Else?

Comment of women enrolled in Beltrami's home furnishing project, quoted in the January report of Miss Ada Todnem, home demonstration agent, indicates that women appreciate the interest of their menfolk in their work, or maybe they don't, depending on how you look at it.

Said one homemaker: "One of our members had a piece of veneer that her husband wanted to use in making a piece of furniture. It had several stubborn coats of enamel on it. With much patience and strenuous labor, however, she finally got down to the veneer. Her husband was very much enthused, his only objection being that she didn't get it all done. His satisfaction in her work was great enough that he asked to be shown how he might help her finish the rest of the board. *When a man will ask a woman to show him how to do any kind of work, I really feel we have accomplished quite a bit.*"

That, gentlemen, can be taken as you please. Figure it out for yourself.

• • • "The Outlook for Livestock Breeders in 1938," was the title of Dean W. C. Coffey's address before the livestock meeting, Wednesday, February 9, at the Red River Valley Winter shows.

HDA Conference
Program Planned

Family economics will headline the program of the 1938 home demonstration conference to be held at University Farm, February 28-March 5, according to Miss Julia O. Newton, state leader.

Two out-of-state speakers who will be on the program are Miss Grace E. Frysinger, in charge of home demonstration work for the central states, and Dr. Howard F. Bigelow professor of economics at Western State Teachers college, Kalamazoo, Mich. Some of the subjects which these and other speakers will discuss include the "rediscovery of the family," the "long time planning of family affairs," a "higher strategy of family finance," and "being an intelligent consumer."

Miss Frysinger, with the assistance of home demonstration agents, will lead two discussion groups. One will be concerned with what constitutes achievement in home demonstration work and the other with "how a home demonstration agent may best serve all the people in the county."

Director Paul E. Miller will appear before the group Thursday, March 3, to talk on problems of Minnesota farm families. The same day, Mrs. Lewis Minion, state home and community director, will consider "right family relationships and successful community cooperation" as being fundamental to world peace. Friday forenoon, March 4, Miss Wylle McNeal, chief of the division of home economics at University Farm, has been scheduled to address the conference on trends in adult education.

Nearly 60 county home and community chairmen will attend the last three days of the conference.

• • • The Faribault Daily News, sponsors of the Rice county farm community program contest, gives proper credit to Don Marti, agent, and other farm leaders, for cooperating in its successful completion. In a recent editorial, the News said, "Although the Faribault Daily News originated this contest and nursed it through its period of infancy, this publication alone could never have made it successful. It required the wise counsel of Don Marti, county agricultural agent, and of numerous farm community leaders of the county to perfect the plan of the contest, and the sacrifice of much time by a committee of judges to score the program and select the winning contestants." This contest is designed to assist farm community organizations of Rice county in developing more interesting, more constructive programs for their monthly meetings.

• • • F. W. Peck, former director, now president of the St. Paul Federal Land Bank, was the speaker at the opening assembly of the Central School of Agriculture's forty-sixth homecoming. The homecoming celebration was at University Farm, Saturday, February 5.

FLASHES from AFIELD

Big Stone. Hybrid corn trials conducted in this county the past 4 years and a state variety trial carried on in 1937 have stirred the interest of farmers in raising hybrid corn. Judging from the inquiries received in the office, it is expected that many more farmers will purchase seed for planting small acreages in 1938.—C. A. Benton, agent.

Carver. Guns for this county's war on weeds are already being loaded. The agent has contacted five township chairmen for assistance in completing the field bindweed map for county and state use. During 1938 this map will supplement another used in the county office, and will be effective in noting the progress of weed eradication.—George A. King, agent.

Crow Wing. The Brainerd fair association has decided to erect fair buildings on a 7-acre plot of ground adjacent to the city. Improvements on it are worth about \$4,000, and arrangements have been made with the WPA office and the park board to transfer the buildings of an abandoned C.C.C. camp to the new fair grounds.—E. G. Roth, agent.

Faribault. The local Kiwanis club will sponsor the 4-H potato program in 1938 by furnishing each member with 200 pounds of tubers. Members will plant these and each will return the same amount of potatoes to his donor next fall. The encouragement given each member will help in the care and completion of projects.—Paul J. Moore, assistant agent.

Fillmore. A number of elevator managers, contacted by the agent on the use of the Minnesota seed grain treater, agreed to keep on display this popular piece of treating equipment. Various methods of getting the treater into the hands of the farmers were also discussed.—Walter W. Thompson, agent.

Freeborn. Two hundred fifty of 600 farm tenants, circularized as to their interest in the Farm Security Act, answered that they would be interested. A member of the state committee on farm security used this information in establishing Freeborn as one of the six original counties affected by the act. At present the agent is helping to select a county farm security committee.—Willis Lawson, agent.

Goodhue. Maynard Street, district insurance agent at Red Wing, explained types and needs of insurance for the Rural Youth group at Zumbrota, January 12. This was the first of a two-series group of discussions; the second will deal with the analysis of the policy contract.—Evelyn M.

• • • Pinch-hitting as general superintendent of the 4-H club division of Northwest Farmers Week and Red River Valley Winter shows, Crookston, and doing a good job of it, too, was Mrs. H. A. Pflughoeft, wife of District 4-H Club Agent H. A. Pflughoeft. The latter has been confined to his home since a recent illness.

• • • J. J. "Daddy" Drew is in Midway hospital, St. Paul, as a result of a recent fall in which he sustained a hip injury. Mr. Drew's fall prevented him from attending the farewell party given for F. W. Peck, January 29.

• • • Director Paul E. Miller was the main speaker at the annual all-Ag stag in the Minnesota Union,

Sell, home demonstration agent.

Hennepin. Six senior home economics girls from University Farm got a preview of home economics extension work when they attended local leader meetings recently. As far as group representation goes, leader meetings were attended 100 per cent. Three members of the home committee also were in attendance.—Anna S. Olsen, urban home demonstration agent.

Martin. A meeting of all junior and adult 4-H leaders was held at which they heard Kenneth Ingwalson, state 4-H club agent, give first hand information about projects and programs of work for the coming year. About 130 leaders were present.—Clarence G. Powell, agent.

Mower. In an attempt to find a way by which farm wiring jobs could be done at reasonable rates, the matter was taken up with the state fire marshal with reference to getting a statement of requirements for inspection. A mimeographed form will soon be ready for distribution. About 120 additional miles of lines have been laid out and included in the county's application.—F. L. Liebenstein, agent.

Murray. Through the rehabilitation nursery at Marshall, windbreak seedlings will again be obtained for planting next spring. From 80 to 85 per cent of those planted last year survived. Extension Forester Parker O. Anderson has been scheduled for a series of windbreak meetings this month.—A. B. Hagen, agent.

Nicollet. January brought the close of a 5-year program for the improvement of the dairy industry of this county. One of the goals set in 1932 when the program began, was that of increasing the alfalfa to an acre for every producing dairy cow. If the acreages of sweet clover, soybean hay and other crops outside of wild hay are counted, the total of 16,400 acres would almost match the 16,900 cows 2 years or over, as of 1936.—E. M. Nelson, agent.

Norman. The good crops of 1937, and resultant better times, has renewed interest in a rural electrification project. Early in January representatives of six communities met to organize the Red River Valley Power cooperative association. Later meet-

Wednesday evening, February 16. At the dinner the college livestock and crops judging teams were presented and winners in the annual college judging contests were named.

• • • Agricultural Conservationist Skuli Rutford has been on the "at home" list since Saturday, February 6, as the result of a difference with a much more than indifferent dog. Skuli was on the University golf course skiing with the youngsters of his family when he met a dog that took serious objection and left teeth marks on Skuli's right leg. In an attempt to avoid the animal, Skuli seriously wrenched his right knee. After spending several days in the hospital, he has remained at home where he is recovering.

ings were held, and an application for a grant will be sent to Washington, D.C., late in February. The project, if approved, will provide 300 miles of lines.—George C. Landsverk, agent.

Olmsted. Dr. Carl Schlotthauer, of the Institute of Experimental Medicine, discussed livestock disease and control at a meeting sponsored jointly by the Rochester high school agricultural department and the county Farm Bureau. At a second meeting, to be held this month, animal parasites will be the subject.—Ray Aune, agent.

Pennington. Based on a summary made at the completion of the Bang's test, there are 1,176 herds in the county, of which 1,114 or 94.17 per cent, have been tested. The exact number of reactors has not been summarized, but a preliminary estimate indicated that about 4 per cent would react to the test. By spring it is expected that 98 per cent of the herds will have been tested.—Howard E. Grow, agent.

Pope. A major activity in January was the organization of a dairy herd improvement association, with 24 farmers signed as members. The tester, Merle Sloneker, began work January 31.—N. P. Hanson, agent.

East Polk. Growers of Bliss Triumphs have found spindling, or hair sprout, among their potatoes. The disease, which tends to weaken the tubers for seed purposes, is manifested by several hair-like sprouts which grow in the place of the normal, individual sprout. According to Dr. A. C. Voegelé, in charge of horticulture at the Northwest School and Station, Crookston, infection in a number of trial lots of potatoes varied from 5 to 33 per cent.—Rudolph M. Stolen, agent.

Redwood. A portion of a \$500 revolving fund turned over to the extension office by a friend of 4-H club work has been used to purchase five brood sows and five purebred ewes for club members. Additional livestock will be purchased as needed. In some cases, short time loans are made to

members. This fund permits the purchase of livestock whenever attractive opportunities present themselves.—J. I. Swedberg, agent.

No. St. Louis. A check on land clearing operations was made on 88 farms during January. About 1,200 acres have been broken up and seeded in 1937. This report will be sent to the highway engineer.—August Neubauer, agent.

So. St. Louis. The garden committee met recently and in addition to voting to sponsor a clean-up campaign this year and making plans for each family to plant a garden of adequate size, recommended that all families on relief plant a garden. It was suggested that the two agents contact the relief office and urge that this be made a requirement.—Clara E. Farstad, home demonstration agent.

Wadena. Organization of a cow testing association was completed in January with 23 herds under test. John Beving was employed as tester.—John W. Dysart, agent.

Waseca. Special aids for meat canning were demonstrated for 120 homemakers and high school home economics students in connection with a 2-day institute last month. Many questions had been raised relative to canning meat after it had been frozen, and in the demonstration cuts of beef, pork, and mutton were canned after being frozen. Methods for canning unfrozen meats were also shown.—Juanita F. Silcox, home demonstration agent.

Watonwan. Chick rearing and management is coming in for increased interest this year. Several persons have requested recommendations for brooder houses and a number of others have asked special help on feeding baby chicks and purchasing equipment.—Evelyn Morrow, home demonstration agent.

Winona. What one homemaker did with a chair is indicative of what the lessons on slip covering are accomplishing. One dollar and forty cents and 6 hours of work was all that it took Mrs. H. L. Haskins of Utica to make a slip cover for a large living room chair. The chair, a new one that was being given "the works" by three youngsters, was so easily covered that Mrs. Haskins plans to cover her davenport also.—Beatrice A. McGrath, home demonstration agent.

SECTION 562 P. L. & R.

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