

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 2

## EXTENSION CONFERENCE AT "U" FARM NOV. 14-15

### Farm Bureau and Extension Methods to Be Considered—Dinner and Evening Meeting on Main Campus.

The annual conference at University Farm Nov. 14 and 15 of the extension and farm bureau forces of the state will bring together a company of several hundred persons. Director F. W. Peck will preside. Following a dinner at the Men's Union on the main campus the evening of the first day, addresses will be given by Dean W. C. Coffey of the department of agriculture of the university and by Rev. Henry Stafford of the First Congregational church of Minneapolis. W. A. Lloyd, in charge of county agent work north and west, is coming from Washington to give two addresses. The program for the two days follows:

#### Monday Forenoon, Nov. 14

- 9:30. Announcements and outline of plan of conference—F. W. Peck, director of agricultural extension.  
10. "The Farm Bureau in the Community." The township unit—what has it done—what shall it do and how.

The entire forenoon will be devoted to this latest development of the farm bureau movement. What are the achievements, what are the difficulties and how met, how to maintain interest and activity among the units, how best to determine and prosecute a program of work that will be of real service to the community, how to develop local leadership and how to plan programs for worth while meetings.

A committee consisting of L. E. McMillan, W. E. Watson, Miss Sarah Hough, Mark Abbott, B. R. Houser, Miss Genevieve Burgan, and F. J. Brown, will make a special study of the local organization problems and present a report of its findings and recommendations. Everyone attending the conference is asked to come prepared to discuss the subject.

#### Monday Afternoon

### "The County Farm Bureau as an Extension Organization"

- 1:30. A question box will be ready to receive questions not on the program.  
2. The county farm bureau program of work—what factors should determine the program? What should it contain? What are its limitations? When and how should it be prepared, and how should it be prosecuted?

These questions have been referred to a committee consisting of W. J. Corwin, C. C. Turner, Miss Nora Hott, A. J. Kittleson, and L. V. Wilson. Demonstrations and written

recommendations made by the committee will be the basis for discussion of this subject.

- 2:45. "How to Plan and Conduct the County Annual Farm Bureau Meeting and the Annual Farm Bureau Picnic"—L. E. McMillan and P. W. Huntmer.  
3:15. "Our New Relationship with Various Agricultural Organizations"—W. A. Lloyd, in charge of county agent work, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.  
3:45. "Maintenance of Membership and Securing Membership Collections"—J. S. Jones, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation.

#### Monday Evening

- 6:15. Dinner at the Men's Union on the main campus. Addresses by Dean W. C. Coffey and Rev. Henry Stafford of Minneapolis.

#### Tuesday Forenoon, Nov. 15

- "Extension Methods"  
9:30. "Balancing Production and Marketing Programs"—Director F. W. Peck.  
10. Report of committee on organized service of specialists. A committee, consisting of W. E. Morris, L. V. Wilson, A. A. McPheeters, W. L. Cavert, Adele Koch, and N. E. Chapman, is considering the organization of the projects of specialists, the distribution of their work and a uniform method of scheduling. Its report will be the basis of discussion of this important subject.

#### Tuesday Afternoon

- 1:30. Continuation of question box discussion.  
2. "The Importance of the Demonstration Method"—W. A. Lloyd.  
2:15. How to organize and conduct demonstrations. Committees have been appointed to bring in reports on how to organize and conduct demonstrations with reference to the following topics:  
1. Feeding schools—Prof. C. H. Eckles, Prof. W. H. Peters, H. G. Zavoral, Wm. Dietrich, L. M. Bond, J. B. McNulty.  
2. Soil demonstrations—C. L. McNally, J. J. McCann, Dr. F. J. Alway.  
3. Crop demonstrations—R. F. Crim, W. V. Longley, E. M. Torblaa, R. S. Mackintosh, A. C. Army.  
4. Land clearing—A. J. Schwantes, Aug. Neubauer, D. C. Dvoracek, S. B. Cleland.  
5. Home economics—Miss Julia Newton, Miss Esther Ferris, L. O. Jacob.  
6. Boys' and girls' club work—T. A. Erickson, H. M. Coe.  
7. Conservation of rural social forces—Prof. G. A. Lundquist.

## STATE FAIR MEN VOTE \$8,800 FOR CLUB WORK

### All Requests of the Leader of the Juniors for 1922 Appropriations Are Promptly Granted.

Time was when the Minnesota state fair board hesitated to give \$300 for boys' and girls' club demonstrations and exhibits at the fair. It hesitated but in the end it "came across" and a beginning was made.

Just the other day when T. A. Erickson, state leader of the juniors, appeared before the board, he was quickly granted all he asked—a grand total of \$8,800, or \$600 more than was allowed for the 1921 fair. A member of the board who has been impressed by the good work of the young club members whispered as Mr. Erickson was leaving, "Why didn't you ask for more?"

Counting prize money coming from other sources and the usual articles and trophies offered by firms and individuals, the juniors will have a \$10,000 mark to shoot at next year. Indeed, more than that sum is already assured, says Mr. Erickson. The fair board's \$8,800 will be divided as follows:

Farm boys' camp.....	\$4,000
Breadmaking club work.....	1,100
Pig club exhibits.....	1,000
County club exhibits.....	700
Canning teams and canning exhibits	700
Crop and stock demonstration teams	600
Garmentmaking teams and exhibits.	400
Corn club prizes.....	300

\$8,800

Six hundred sixty club boys and girls from urban and country homes were at the 1921 fair either as members of camps or to take part in demonstrations and contests.

## WOMEN AGENTS WILL CONFER AT "U" FARM

While the program for the conference of home demonstration agents to be held at University Farm Nov. 16, 17, 18, and 19 has not been completed, requests from the field show there is unusual interest in poultry, clothing, nutrition, and home management and organization problems.

The program will include discussion of poultry diseases, particularly tuberculosis. A comprehensive report of the nutrition conference will be given, so the agents may benefit.

Besides the discussion on subject matter, some of the organization problems which the agents have asked for will be taken up.

#### Watson Booms Colt Show

About \$400 in premiums were secured by W. E. Watson, Dakota county agent, for a colt show on the farm of Walter Otte, near Randolph.

## HOMEMAKING VITAL TO SUCCESSFUL FARMING

Home Atmosphere Has Direct Effect Upon Business Side of the Farm, Says Director Peck.

Director F. W. Peck addressed the annual meeting of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs at Owatonna Oct. 6. The following paragraphs have been taken from his remarks:

"Rural, social, and home problems await study, support, interest, and finally action.

One of the main elements in making either a rural or an urban home is the attitude of mind. The desire for higher things in life is essential and this desire, however unconscious it may be, is present in the divine scheme of women. Call it instinct, inspiration, knowledge, or what you will, this desire for a better plane of living is fundamental. A little knowledge, a few ideas, a sympathetic interest awaken the desire for more instruction.

### Women's Work All Important

"Home comforts, social intercourse, exchange of ideas, experience of meeting people, the cultivation of the desire to read good books and magazines and to educate the children—these are component parts of an ever-rising plane of living. There is likely no measure of mind toward better rural life except as it is manifested by increased interest in the women's work.

"The home life of the farm is inseparably linked with the business of farming. An old axiom states that 'a farm is a business with a home attached; but the best farms are homes with a business attached.' There are so many tasks on the farm that are linked up so closely with the home and home life that the two cannot be separated from a business and social standpoint. The proper kind of home atmosphere has a direct effect upon the business side of the farm, and upon the relations that exist between the parents and the children depend the permanency of farm ownership and economic operation.

### Farm Bureau's Opportunity

"The American Farm Bureau, which is the greatest farm organization America has ever seen, has a tremendous opportunity to place farming on a par with other lines of activities which are competing now for the services of young men and women. Linked with this opportunity is a tremendous responsibility. Part of this involves specifically the problem of homemaking.

"The effects of any standard of living are seen in the years to come—they are not so noticeable now. A vision of a desirable agriculture for our state and nation places in the foreground a contented home life that breeds permanent ideals and enduring lofty ambitions. The common attitude toward many vital problems is to take no interest unless it affects us directly and then it is felt most if it hits our pocketbooks first. But this movement of homemaking lays sincere claim to our interest, however it may be manifested. It is not a problem in which patronizing interest will serve

any useful purpose. It is not a question of being 'sorry'. That is the wrong sentiment. It should be the generation of an interest in an educational activity that is of public concern and one that holds a significant influence on our own social and industrial future."

## TEN POULTRY CENTERS DESIGNATED IN STATE

Ten county poultry demonstration communities, on the order of the one that put Barnum on the map, have been designated by poultry specialists of the university.

Five of the 10, which will be under the direction of N. E. Chapman, have been located as follows: Long Lake in Hennepin county, Kingston in Meeker county, Milaca in Mille Lacs county, Askov in Pine county, and Walker in Cass county. The remainder, which will be under the direction of Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist of the office of extension work with women, have been located at Orchard Gardens in Dakota county, Brookston in St. Louis county, Elmdale in Morrison county, Freedom in Waseca county, and Fairmont in Martin county.

The object is to demonstrate the profit to be derived from poultry keeping as a part of the farm business. The membership must not be less than 10 or more than 30. Accurate records must be kept of production and costs, in coöperation with the county farm bureau and the agricultural extension and farm management divisions of the college of agriculture at University Farm.

A uniform system of accounts for all the communities will be put into effect by W. L. Cavert, farm management demonstrator.

## PIG CLUB BOYS-GIRLS COMING TO NEXT FAIR

With the appropriation of \$1,000 for pig club exhibits by juniors at the 1922 state fair, an important change has been made in the regulations governing this annual contest. Heretofore the money has been used in paying premiums and the express charges and feeding expenses of the stock. In 1922, for the first time, the traveling expenses of the boy and girl exhibitors to and from the fair will be paid from the appropriation, as well as the premiums and shipping expenses of the pigs. In order that the appropriation will meet the added expense it has been provided that there must be at least 15 juniors in pig club work in a county to secure representation in the state fair competition. It is felt that the change will encourage the young pig raisers and be the making of the new pig showing event. The pigs, too, if a survey could be taken, would no doubt voice approval of the innovation.

### Fighting the Bran Bug

To eliminate the grain weevil and bran bug found in elevators and farmers' bins in Kandiyohi county, E. L. Rodegeb, county agent, called county and township meetings and circulated information from his office.

## FARMERS CLUBS MAKE FAIR GREAT SUCCESS

Twenty-four of 32 Clubs in Martin County Exhibit—"Something That Counts Big," Says Sentinel.

The outstanding feature of what the Fairmont Daily Sentinel calls the greatest county fair ever held in Minnesota—the Martin county fair—was the display of farm products made by 24 of the 32 Farmers' clubs in that county. Twenty of the clubs found room for their booths in a building set apart for them; the overflow had to be cared for in a second building.

Competition between the clubs added immensely to the interest and attendance. The receipts for the first day doubled those of the corresponding day the year before; 12,000 paid admissions were taken the biggest day. Of the exhibits the Sentinel said:

"As one looks over the beautifully arranged grains, grasses, vegetables, fruits, and other products of our soil, embellished in many cases by patient handiwork and even paintings, he will appreciate that the good farm club people have done something, not only for their own communities but for Fairmont and the entire county—something that counts big. The booths are more than mere fair exhibits, they are art.

"Twenty-four is the largest number of club booths ever exhibited at any county fair in Minnesota, and it is doubtful if there ever were as many booths on display at any county fair in the United States."

All the clubs shared in the prize money which was apportioned according to number of points scored. The winning club scored 1,093 points, the lowest 982 points. The judges were R. E. Olmstead of the university's agricultural extension staff, R. F. Crim, Cottonwood county agent, and Miss Knott of Minneapolis.

## RAIN INSURANCE PUTS \$2,500 IN CASH BOX

Because it rained more than one-tenth of an inch before 8 a.m. of the opening day of the Pope county fair, the fair association received \$2,500 insurance, A. P. Henderson, Pope county agent, reports. Under the terms of the agreement the fair association was to receive the insurance if it rained more than one-tenth of an inch on any day of the fair between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. For this protection the fair association paid \$200.

### Big State Poultry Show

Preparations are being made for the annual meeting and show of the Minnesota State Poultry association, to be held in the Armory, Minneapolis, Dec. 1 to 4. At the same time a campaign to increase the consumption of eggs and poultry will be put on in business districts of the city. About 2,000 birds will be exhibited at the show. A four-day poultry institute will be in charge of N. E. Chapman, assisted by extension workers from University Farm.

**MINNESOTA DAIRY COW AS MARKET FOR FEED**

**Government Chart Shows That Home Dairy-men Can Feed to Unusual Advantage Right Now.**

On this page is reproduced a chart which appeared in the exhibit of the United States Department of Agriculture at the National Dairy show and interested many visitors. It shows the margin between the price of New York extras and the price of feed on Minnesota farms. The upper line on the chart shows the price of creamery extras at New York; the lower line, the cost of feed to produce a pound of butter; the space between the two lines, the margin above feed cost.

The chart terminated with May, 1921. At that time the chart shows a margin of 13.2 cents a pound of butter above cost of feed to cover labor, overhead expenses and profit. During May, creamery extras at New York averaged 31.8 cents a pound. Since May the price of feed has declined while the price of creamery extras is now (Oct. 18) around 47 cents.

If the chart were continued to date it would show that the present margin between the feed cost of a pound of butter and the price of New York extras is about 30 cents. According to the chart this margin between feed and butter prices has been exceeded only twice in the seven years shown on the chart. In other words, if the dairyman charges his feed at market prices, he is getting almost as much for his labor as at any time during the last seven years.

The chart emphasizes the fact that the present is a time when the dairyman will realize unusual profits from liberal feeding and attention to balanced rations. Many farmers are likely to feel that with home grown feeds so cheap, it will not pay to buy high protein feeds. However, the most liberal feeding will not give a large production without an adequate amount of protein feeds in the ration, and with such a good margin between feed and butter prices, it is important to secure a maximum production from each cow even though it involves a little extra outlay for relatively high priced feed.

In comparing the margin between feed prices and butter prices, the dairyman will do well to keep in mind that the dairy cow is a market for labor as well as feed and that the big profits from dairying come to those farmers who without their dairy herd would not have an opportunity to market to advantage the labor which they and their families put on the milk cows. If all costs are included upon the basis of present prices of feed and labor, the feed cost of butter would be about half the total cost.

**Settlers Need Help**

Unless they secure adequate financial aid, many Mahnomen county farmers will be forced to leave their farms this fall, according to a report of F. L. Behling, county agent, to W. E. Morris, assistant state leader. Mr. Behling is making efforts to secure aid through the federal farm loan act and the War Finance corporation.

**NUTRITION MEETINGS HELD IN 2 COUNTIES**

October saw the close, reports Miss Lucy Cordiner, of the series of meetings with home demonstrators in nutrition in Washington and Steele counties. Approximately 100 women attended the meetings in Washington, and about 60 furnished records as home demonstrators. Meetings were held at Withrow, Oak Park and at various farm homes of members of the Priscilla and Mothers clubs. In Withrow the mothers expressed a desire to have hot lunches served at noon in the school, and, through the leverage of the Mothers' club, will probably succeed. The general attendance was excellent and was sustained throughout the series.

In Steele county there were four groups or "clubs" of home demonstrators. Both Havana and Pratt desiring to take the work, they decided to hold meetings alternately in each place. Mrs. McCready was the local chairman, and as several women missed the first meeting and are anxious to have the subject matter, she has volunteered to discuss it with them. Mrs. A. P. Bartsch will do the same thing at Crane Creek, which organized for nutrition work after the first meetings were held. Miss Cordiner found a splendid spirit of community cooperation throughout the groups. Women who could drive cars never came with unfilled spaces; sometimes the specialist wondered how one small car could accommodate so many.

The reports from both counties show constipation overcome, children gaining in weight and improving in health, and several women adopting "mothers' daily half hour." "Mrs. Partridge, county project leader," says Miss Cordiner, "is to be congratulated for the interest taken, reflecting as it does her own splendid enthusiasm."

**New Clothing Specialist**

Miss Eunice Ryan, who is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and who was given a Master of Arts degree at Columbia university, is the new clothing specialist. Miss Ryan has had several years' experience in teaching of clothing and textiles and comes well equipped to continue the high standard of clothing work already begun.

**FARM BUREAUS WILL HOLD ANNUAL JAN. 3-5**

**Drafting of a State Agricultural Program for Action by the Federation Already Started.**

The third annual meeting of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation will be held in St. Paul Jan. 3, 4, and 5. The matter of drafting an agricultural program for the state for 1922, to be passed upon at the annual meeting, was discussed by a committee representing the state department of agriculture, the college of agriculture, the agricultural extension service of the university, and the farm bureau. Improvement of farming conditions will be the general purport of the program.

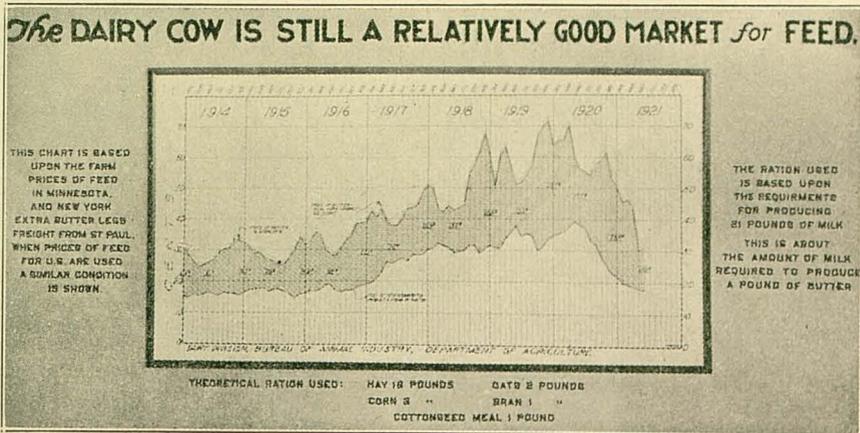
The committee is composed of L. E. Potter, president of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation; N. J. Holmberg, state commissioner of agriculture; W. C. Coffey, dean of the college of agriculture; F. W. Peck, director of agricultural extension work; W. A. McKerrow, manager of the Central Coöperative Commission association and secretary of the Livestock Shipping association, and Thomas E. Cashman and V. E. Anderson, members of the executive board of the state bureau. An active sub-committee, composed of Messrs. Holmberg, Anderson and Peck, has been appointed by President Potter to draft the program.

Proposed articles of the 1922 program, if ratified, will put Minnesota farmers on record as opposed to a sales tax, committee members say. The articles also will call for drastic reduction in railroad rates, government action toward opening the Great Lakes to ocean traffic and developing traffic on the Mississippi, and legislative and coöperative business action to provide better credit facilities for farmers both on a national and a statewide scale.

Details of the program will be worked out in a series of conferences with representative farmers and public men of Minnesota.

**Marshall Grows Good Corn**

Yields ranging from 30 to 36 bushels to the acre of the first ripe corn Marshall county has produced, were reported to R. B. Houser, Marshall county agent, by 13 coöperators in seed corn work. The 1921 season was very favorable for growing corn in the Red river valley.



## MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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NOVEMBER, 1921

### REDUCTION OF FREIGHT RATES

The recent announcement of the interstate commerce commission's order for the reduction of freight rates on wheat and hay amounting to approximately 16 per cent, with a reduction on coarse grains, is welcome news to northwest farmers. Though the relief comes too late to many farmers this year, the principle concerned is fundamental and of great importance to the farming industry.

One of the significant phases of the decision is that of the interest and support being given by public men and government bodies to those factors that are radically affecting the farmers' business.

A considerable part of the credit for the forceful, convincing presentation of the farmers' case should be given to the state railroad and warehouse commissions for their excellent direction and organization, and to the national and state farm bureau federations for the support of their sustaining evidence.

This is tangible, positive evidence of the value of collective action through organization. Successful prosecution of such measures and solutions of problems depend largely on unified, forceful action. Individual effort would have been worthless in this instance.

### COUNTY AGENT INTEREST IN CO-OPERATION

Certain commercial publications are giving space to the idea that the activity of county agents in cooperative marketing is detrimental to the public good and should be prohibited by state and government authorities.

It is apparent that the small minority, interested in more or less antiquated methods of marketing farm products that are specifically jeopardized by the advent of cooperative methods, is seeking publicity channels to further the idea that the public is best served by the old methods.

Perhaps all that is needed in reply to such articles is the promising growth that cooperative organizations

have made in the last few years. The cooperative idea has been proven sound and practical when placed on an economic business basis and its history has shown that a distinct service is possible to both producers and consumers.

The particular danger from an extension standpoint is that certain classes may be led to believe that the county agent is interested in furthering a form of marketing that is entirely disadvantageous to the consumer. Authorities on the meaning and intent of the Smith-Lever act, which made possible the placing of county agents in agricultural counties, agree that cooperative marketing of farm products is distinctly within the province of a county agent's functions and that a distinct public service is given by his constructive activities along this line.

To develop profitable farming, to promote a higher standard of farm living and to place the business of farming on an equal plane with organized industries is the huge job with which the county agents are actually concerned in their respective communities. Surely the promotion of safe economic cooperative marketing is a service to this end and should be considered as distinctly a part of the county agent program of work as those activities that are concerned with a greater quantity and a better quality of production.

### WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES

The following August figures from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics show the relative prices of different kinds of goods for August as compared to 1913:

Commodity Group	Price Index, 1913 equals 100
Farm products .....	118
Food, etc. ....	152
Cloths and clothing.....	179
Fuel and lighting.....	182
Metals and metal products....	120
Building materials .....	198
Chemicals and drugs.....	161
House furnishing goods.....	230
All commodities, average.....	152

The country may expect a condition of general prosperity only when the prices of different goods become adjusted so that the farmer's cattle, hog, and wheat money will again buy the customary amount of groceries, machinery, clothing, building material, furniture, etc. When will conditions be evened up? This is hard to say, but farm products are certainly eventually to get in line with other goods, for business can be carried on in no other way.

### FLOWERS ALONG THE WAY

Some flowers are occasionally dropped along the stony way of the county agent. Read this from a southern publication and take heart: "Where the county agent has been at work, there we find that the southern farmer has met the deflation crisis most successfully; there it is that the farmers have more nearly paid their debts, and are enjoying a greater measure of prosperity than elsewhere—all because the county agent has introduced a new and better farming program."

### ALL MINNESOTA FOR IT

All Minnesota is getting behind the movement for a deep waterway from Duluth, at the head of the Great Lakes, to the gulf of St. Lawrence on the Atlantic seaboard. Trade and civic organizations of the state sent their representatives to a state waterways congress held in the capitol at St. Paul. Resolutions indorsing the project were adopted unanimously.

C. P. Craig of Duluth, whose voice was among the first raised in behalf of this project, said that its cost, enormous as it may be, will be fully repaid by the water power that will be developed.

Various speakers said a waterway such as proposed would bring the Atlantic 1,200 miles closer to the northwest, and would mean an immense saving in transportation charges. It was estimated that grain export transportation charges would be reduced from 5 to 10 cents a bushel. "On wheat alone at 5 cents a bushel," said Carl D. Jackson, member of the Wisconsin railway commission, "North Dakota would have saved \$5,000,000 in 1918, and at 10 cents a bushel, \$10,000,000; South Dakota, \$3,600,000 at 5 cents, and \$7,200,000 at 10 cents; Minnesota \$4,000,000 at 5 cents, and \$8,000,000 at 10 cents."

### THREE SHOWS IN ONE

"Minnesota's Best" will be shown at the big crop show which the State Horticultural society, the Crop Improvement association and the Potato Growers association, cooperating with the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce association, will put on at the Minneapolis armory Dec. 13 to 16. This will be the first time that these three important crop organizations have united in the staging of their annual meetings and exhibits.

Extension workers are urged to bring this show to the attention of their people in order that everyone in Minnesota will have an opportunity to compete for the \$4,000 in premiums that are to be distributed for the best grains, potatoes, field seeds, corn, apples, vegetables and other products grown in Minnesota.

### LOSS TO AGRICULTURE

University extension people heard with deep regret of the death at his home in Duluth of A. B. Hostetter, who was one of the first men in the United States to do the work of a county agent. Burns which he received in the northern holocaust of three years ago contributed, it is said, to his death.

Mr. Hostetter had an abiding faith in the future of agriculture in north-eastern Minnesota. As supervisor of county agricultural agents for that section, and president of the St. Louis County Potato Growers association, he became well known to extension leaders here and worked shoulder to shoulder with them.

He specialized in potatoes and forage crops, for which the northern country has become famous, and for many years served the Duluth Commercial club as agricultural expert. Owing to physical disabilities he had led a retired life in recent years.

**MINNESOTA FARMER'S DOLLAR LOSES POWER**

**Cavert Finds a Decided Loss in Purchasing Ability, While Taxes and Interest Charges Have Mounted.**  
(By W. L. Cavert)

The following figures show the average Sept. 1st Minnesota farm price of leading products compared to the average figures for the five years, 1909 to 1914, inclusive. The figures are taken from the United States Crop Reporter.

Product.	Sept. 1, 1921, price on Minn. farms	Av. 1909-1914 price on Minn. farms
Wheat (bu) .....	\$1.05	\$0.90
Corn (bu) .....	.40	.51
Oats (bu) .....	.21	.35
Barley (bu) .....	.39	.61
Hogs (cwt) .....	8.50	7.13
Beef cattle (cwt)...	4.80	4.80
Rye (bu) .....	.86	.64
Chickens (lb) .....	.17	.10
Eggs (doz) .....	.26	.20
Butterfat (lb) .....	.44	.31

Note: The figures for butterfat were taken from the New York quotations for creamery extras.

On the average for the United States, all kinds of commodities are 152 per cent of the average prevailing in 1909-1914 inclusive. Wheat at \$1.05 a bushel on Minnesota farms is 116 per cent of the pre-war average. One hundred fifty-two is 76 per cent of 116, so that a 60-bushel load of wheat on the average would enable a farmer to take home about three-quarters of the usual amount of groceries, coal, lumber, clothing, machinery, etc. This is what economists mean when they say that the purchasing power of wheat is 76 per cent of the pre-war average.

**Purchasing Power of Products**

The following figures show the Sept. 1st farm price of leading products in per cent of the 1909-1914 price and also their Sept. 1st purchasing power compared to 1909-1914:

Product	Price on Sept. 1, 1921, compared to pre-war, 1909-1914 equals 100%	Purchasing power on Sept. 1, 1921, compared to pre-war, 1909-1914 equals 100%
Wheat .....	117	77
Corn .....	78	53
Oats .....	60	41
Barley .....	64	57
Hogs .....	119	80
Beef cattle .....	100	67
Rye .....	134	90
Chickens .....	170	115
Eggs .....	130	88
Butterfat .....	142	93

From the foregoing, it appears that the Minnesota farmers' oat money will buy only 41 per cent of the groceries, clothing, fuel, machinery, etc., it would before the war. Corn, beef, cattle and oats all have a purchasing power of two-thirds or less as compared to the 1909-1914 average. Hogs are also now in the same class (Oct. 15) as they have declined about \$2 a hundred since Sept. 1. Wheat and rye show up better than the other grains. The only item on the list which has a purchasing power above that of the 1909-1914 figures is chicken. Butterfat is next highest with an ability to buy 93 per cent of the goods that it had before the war.

The foregoing figures as to comparative purchasing power do not paint the picture as bad as it is, due to the fact that taxes are much higher than in pre-war years and also for those farmers who use considerable borrowed capital, the interest charge is

much higher due both to a higher rate and a larger average indebtedness.

**All Bound to Feel It**

What of the future? Economists are much better at depicting the history of economic movements than in telling us what to do in order to be prepared for the future. However, all past history tells us that no one line of business can be continuously expected to give profits that are much larger than other lines, for the greater the temporary profits in comparison to other lines, the greater will be the scramble to realize these profits. Likewise no one agricultural product can be expected, over a period of years, to yield unusual profits or great losses in comparison with other products that might be equally well suited to the conditions.

It is also a general principle that when once a business depression is well under way, each business and each product is almost certain to be included, although the depression in some lines may not come until others have pretty well recovered.

**Time-Tried Methods Safest**

If the foregoing principles are correct, it would seem well for farmers in the main to hold fast to the types of farming that have proven well adapted to their needs in the past. The man who gets into potatoes, hogs, dairy cattle or beef cattle when prices are high, is apt to find that by the time his increased production is ready for market, many other farmers had the same idea, and the result is that by the time he gets adjusted to the new conditions, he finds that other farmers have had the same idea and he gets out on a low market. Likewise a farmer who gets out when prices are low, usually finds that other farmers have been getting out, too, and that he would have been better off if he had continued to produce about the usual products in the usual quantities that experience had shown to be best suited to his conditions.

**Change in Lyon County**

A change will be made Dec. 1 in the office of county agent for Lyon county. On that date Louis Kelehan will succeed Al Malcomson, who has resigned to take charge of a Hereford cattle farm at LeRoy. Mr. Kelehan was graduated from the Minnesota college of agriculture with the class of 1919, and since then has been teaching in the Tracy high school. While at University Farm he took up work in agricultural education in order to prepare for teaching, and has made a fine reputation as a teacher. In addition to school room work he concerned himself in the agricultural activities of the community and has popularized club work among boys and girls.

**Three Nutrition Clinics**

By cooperating with the Pennington County Public Health association, the Pennington county farm bureau arranged for nutrition clinics at Thief River Falls, St. Hilaire and Goodridge, according to a report of J. J. McCann, Pennington county agent. A farm bureau director of his county has been appointed county Christmas seal sale manager, he reports.

**NICKERSON PLACED AT HEAD OF COMMITTEE**

**President of Cooperative Creameries Association Will Study Marketing Phases for Farm Bureau.**

H. B. Nickerson of Elk River, president of the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries association, Inc., has been appointed chairman of a special group of the Committee of Eleven to study the marketing of cooperative creamery and cheese factory products for the American Farm Bureau Federation. The appointment was announced at a meeting of the committee at the National Dairy show.

Addressing an open meeting of the committee, A. J. McGuire, organization director for the creameries association, said that nearly 250 creameries of the state have joined the state service and marketing organization. He declared that centralized marketing is necessary if American dairymen are to meet foreign competition and the competition of butter imitations.

"There is a wider spread," said Mr. McGuire, "in the prices received by farmers for butter than for any other product of the farm. The variation, due directly to differences in quality and unequal efficiency in marketing, amounts to 5 to 10 cents a pound. Cooperative marketing through central selling agencies can eliminate that difference in price and give direct financial benefit to the farmer who is receiving the least for his products. To the farmer who is receiving high prices for dairy products, cooperative selling means cheaper distribution and a better and steadier market."

H. R. Leonard, manager of the Twin City Milk Producers' association, told the committee that cooperative marketing of 80 per cent of the milk consumed by Minneapolis and St. Paul has resulted in an absolutely fair margin between the price received by the farmer and the price paid by the consumer.

"The Twin Cities milk price is recognized as the standard fair price," he said. "That is the first benefit. The second benefit is better milk. Constant work by inspectors, employed by the farmers, has resulted in a marked improvement in the quality of the milk supply."

**DAIRY SCHOOL SERIES NOW BEING PLANNED**

The dairy extension section is planning to promote a series of dairy schools the coming season. The schools will last at least two days and will be held in central sections of communities desiring assistance. Cow testing association communities will be used as nuclei for encouraging attendance. Afternoon and evening sessions will be held at which such subjects as feeding for production, the value of better sires, how to operate, and the value of a cow testing association will be discussed. The evening session will be devoted to pictures showing the value of dairy products as food, the best individuals of different breeds and comparisons of types.

## MINNESOTA SCORES AT NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW

State's Dairy Cattle Breeders and Buttermakers Awarded Highest Honors at the Annual Classic.

Held for the first time in the northwest, the National Dairy show commanded absorbing attention, first to last, from all Minnesotans who have at heart the development of dairy husbandry.

Entries of blooded cattle numbered more than 1,000. Manufacturing and supply firms to the number of 225 made displays of modern equipment. A horse show and separate state exhibits by Minnesota and Wisconsin were added features given general attention. The dairy division of the United States Department of Agriculture, represented by its chief, Dr. C. W. Larsen, and a corps of staff men, laid emphasis on the improvement of dairy stock in what was pronounced the most comprehensive array of figures and facts ever presented at a show of the kind.

### Country Attendance Large

Paid admissions, exclusive of advanced season ticket sales, numbered more than 50,000. "We were pleased with the rural attendance," said W. E. Skinner, the general manager. "It was especially a splendid quality crowd."

Many who have attended all past shows of the National Dairy association pronounced the 1921 event the biggest and best of the series. "It is way above the mark," said one such, "the best aggregation of appliances and equipment peculiar to the dairying industry that this country has ever seen, and all under one roof, compact and yet well displayed. Likewise, the display of blooded stock has never been surpassed."

Managers expressed their satisfaction over results of the first show held in the northwest. The Twin Cities are bidding for the 1922 show; Philadelphia is also after it. The location will be determined at an executive committee meeting at Chicago this month.

### U. S. Exhibit a Strong Feature

The unit system was employed for the first time by the United States Department of Agriculture to drive home the truth that dairymen must improve their stock to reap the richest rewards which the industry offers. Miniature fields and herds, charts, pictures and rows of statistics were presented in an impressive line of 25 booths. Costs of milk production and of marketing, the butter inspection service, market report system, successful coöperation, and the utilization not only of milk but also of by-products were explained with definiteness and precision. Other booths illustrated dairy cattle breeding, cow testing, feeding dairy cows, marketing organization, the significance of better sires, and the treatment of diseases. The value of educational milk campaigns was emphasized, and the relation of foreign markets explained. A federal dairy laboratory was operated on a small scale and was a center of interest.

The dairy division of the university, the state health department, dairy and

food commission, Minnesota Dairy Council, Twin City Milk Producers association and the National Milk Producers association were housed in a separate building where they presented many novel features in sectional displays. Across the aisle Wisconsin depicted 50 years of progress, divided into periods of 10 years, in the dairy business.

### Sixteen Junior Judging Teams

Sixteen states sent teams of three club juniors each to take part in the judging of dairy cattle. Glenn Peacock of Pope county, Minnesota, won a gold medal for being the best judge of Guernsey cattle. The North Dakota team won first place for judging all breeds, with Nebraska second, Ohio third, South Dakota fourth, and Maryland fifth. Minnesota's team stood in eighth place. Members of boys' and girls' judging teams from the 16 states and their coaches were the guests at a dinner party in the University Farm cafeteria. T. A. Erickson, the Minnesota state leader, presided, and addresses were given by H. E. Van Norman, president of the National Dairy association, and other leaders.

Harold Aiton, Clarence Bunnell and Emil Erickson, members of the dairy demonstration team from Grand Rapids, made such a good impression at the state fair that managers of the National Dairy show engaged them to give two demonstrations daily through the week. With these demonstrations as a beginning, there is strong probability, it is said, that the management will provide prizes for competitive dairy team demonstrations another year.

### Guernsey Herd Prize to Minnesota

For the first time Minnesota won a state herd prize—the class for Guernseys. Wisconsin was second, Iowa third, Illinois fourth, Maryland fifth and Michigan sixth. Owners of the cattle comprising the Minnesota herd were D. D. Tenney, Crystal Bay; University of Minnesota; E. R. Frissell, Hopkins; Hageman & Sons, Hastings; R. L. Bruer, Osakis, and the Radisson farm, Anoka. Mr. Tenney's herd captured the royal purple for both the male and female classes of the breed.

Minnesota buttermakers, as usual, scored heavily in the butter contests and carried off a generous share of the prize money.

Postponement of the World's Dairy Congress in the United States from 1922 to 1923 was decided upon. Dr. C. H. Eckles, chief of the dairy division, University of Minnesota, is a member of the board which will make the preparatory plans.

### THE SUCCESSFUL HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

A successful home demonstration agent has facts at her fingertips, sunshine in her face, the courage of conviction in her heart, sand in her shoes, and steel in her backbone, which she uses as a lever to pry pessimistic plodders and organized opposition out of the path of progress.—South Carolina Handbook.

## ORCHARD GARDENS EGG CIRCLE DOING THINGS

Women Manage Successful Coöperative Marketing Business, Increase Production of Poultry Flocks.

Coöperation in agriculture has proven its value to one more community, following closely upon a definite effort to improve methods and increase production.

About a year ago Miss Annabel Campbell, then state poultry specialist, put on a five-months' poultry project in Orchard Gardens, a small farming community about 25 miles from Minneapolis. As a direct result of the organized work done by this club in improving methods of production, the members formed in April an egg circle for the coöperative marketing of eggs. This community is favorably situated for such an enterprise, as it has almost direct contact with the consumer through the grocer who handles its product.

Each member agrees to stamp the eggs with the name of the circle and his own serial number, pack them in cartons, and take them twice weekly to the home of the president. From this place they are shipped by automobile to a high-class grocery in Minneapolis. The price paid for these fancy eggs keeps well ahead of the highest market price, and there is always a demand which cannot be met. Besides receiving a higher price than is possible under ordinary methods, the members keep production costs down to the lowest point by coöperative buying of feed and supplies.

This form of organization is well suited to ordinary farm conditions. In this case the flocks are small farm flocks and cared for in most cases by the women who are, also, the active members of the egg circle. The enterprise was started on a small scale, but is in a position to grow rapidly as others in the community realize its success, because nearness to the city makes the demand for this high grade product almost unlimited. The high price stimulates a keener interest in better, more efficient methods, so that poultry raising promises to furnish an ever increasing part of the income of the community.

## HIGHER STOCK PRICES COMING, SAYS CLAGUE

A shortage of livestock which will result in a 100 per cent increase in prices within a year was given as a reason by Congressman Frank Clague for telling farmers to "stick to the farm" in recent addresses to Redwood county farmers, according to Max R. H. Treu, Redwood county agent. Farmers were urged to retain their livestock, Mr. Treu says, the congressman insisting that prices have probably reached the bottom.

### Bankers and Breeders Aid Clubs

To stimulate interest in boys' and girls' club work, McLeod county bankers and the McLeod County Holstein Breeders association donated cups to four prize winners in pig and calf contests.

## LEARNED TO CAN TO HELP U. S. WIN WAR

Mary Forrest, Junior Champion Canner, Tells How She Climbed to Top After Many Discouragements.

Canning as a means of helping her country win the war started Mary Faith Forrest of Clearbrook, Clearwater county, on her boys' and girls' club work career. It was after the county agent had brought a canning demonstrator to her town that she saw the possibilities of canning, she says. Now, by the awards made at the recent state fair competition, she stands at the head of the list of all junior canners in the state.

"It seems to me another way of helping Uncle Sam, as before this time I had only bought thrift stamps, gone without sugar in my cocoa and eaten barley bread," she declares. "I did not do much canning that year because it was late in the season, but the next year I began in earnest."

### Setbacks at the Start

Despite a serious canning accident which marred her first public demonstration she was placed on a canning team that competed for district honors, she says, but another team was chosen to the state fair.

"The next season," she continues, "we went about our canning with greater determination to win. My mother, who was our club leader, insisted on more team work and a more thorough knowledge of canning."

"We went to the state fair and were given apples and tomatoes to can. Because we had never canned apples we were very slow about preparing them. Tomatoes were almost as new to us and we filled our cans with water, not knowing we should not do so. Although we came a long way from winning in this demonstration we kept our eyes open and learned many things. However, we went home happy. We had taken first premium on our exhibits."

### Traveled 300 Miles to Compete

"This year we thought we could not go to the fair, so most of our canning was done individually. During the summer we put on two public demonstrations. Judith Bergland, who was our oldest and speediest member, went away to school. Although this left only two, Alice Anderson and I went about 300 miles to the fair. Teams of two are accepted."

"This year our exhibit took second premium, being two-tenths of one point behind the team receiving first place."

"Canning has proved a great help to us. We have canned about 1,000 quarts of fruit, vegetables and meats and have learned a great many things from experience and from reading articles on cold pack canning. I like club work very much and next year intend to join the breadmaking club and help train another canning club."

### Crop Show for Lakefield

Plans are being made by W. C. Dunlop, Jackson county agent, working in cooperation with the Lakefield Commercial club, for a corn and crop show at Lakefield in December.



MARY FAITH FORREST,  
Of Clearbrook, Minn., Who Won Highest Honors in Boys' and Girls' Canning Club Contest at the Minnesota State Fair.

## FARM BUREAU WOMEN SPREAD THE GOSPEL

Local leadership among women need not be limited to work within the community itself, but can easily be carried on into neighboring territory. This work not only teaches a practical lesson, but gives to the women who teach the satisfaction of sharing a good thing. Miss Laura Jones, home demonstration agent for Martin county, has sent in the following report:

"On Oct. 4 four prominent women of the home department of the Martin county farm bureau drove 60 miles by car to Nobles county to assist farm bureau women there in making gummed paper dress forms."

"Mrs. George Rosa, vice chairman of the Martin county home department, and Mrs. H. C. Schmidt held a meeting with the women in the town of Rushmore, while Mrs. E. R. Thompson, Rutland township director, and Mrs. Henry Meinhardt, honorary member of the home department, met with the Worthington women. Night dress forms were made during the afternoon at a cost of \$1.24 each, which represents a saving of \$13.76 to each woman having one."

"The Fairmont women feel that their day's work was more than repaid, for they say it is indeed a pleasure to work with women who are as keenly interested in home demonstration activities as the Nobles county women are."

### Johnson's Work Appreciated

A good deal of the success of our county fair dates back to County Agent Paul Johnson.—Fairmont Daily Sentinel.

## 5 NEW COW TESTING GROUPS BEGIN WORK

The importance and value of cow testing associations is shown, says E. A. Hanson, in charge of field work, by the recent demand from half a dozen different localities for experienced testers to take charge of newly organized associations. It is especially encouraging, he adds, that in these times, when farmers are more than ordinarily conservative, response is made so readily to efforts to organize.

The 20 associations now operating in Minnesota are serving more than 500 members and are finding the production and feed records of more than 8,000 cows, according to Mr. Hanson.

By Nov. 1, five new associations will be in operation, or 25 in all, as many as has ever been under way at any one time in Minnesota. The splendid cooperation and support given in this work by the county agents is a great help in advancing the interests of better dairying, especially along the line of weeding out the poor producers.

The associations added to the list are: Cannon Falls, Goodhue county; Dover-Chatfield, Olmsted county; Litchfield, Meeker county; Renville, Renville county, and Winona, Winona county.

### Clover Leaf Midge in Seed

After farmers in his county had reported a pest in their clover seed, Earl H. Martin, Clearwater county agent, secured specimens which the state entomologist identified as clover flower midge.

## BULL ASSOCIATION WORK IN MINNESOTA

"Since 1918 the fire swept regions of northern Minnesota have presented great opportunities for the advancement of 'bred for production dairy sires,'" says L. V. Wilson, livestock specialist. "Opportunity afforded to establish a certain breed in a community has prompted a demand for purebred Guernsey and Holstein bulls. From Duluth to Thief River Falls much good work has been done by the forest fire relief commission, the extension department and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating."

"Many of the bulls in the organized blocks have been moved, and in a few cases new individuals have been purchased. During the last two months Theodore Winkjer of the department of agriculture has been successful in organizing blocks in the southern part of Beltrami county. These blocks were organized just before the Beltrami county fair. During the fair the organization purchased five purebred Guernsey bulls from good herds on exhibition. Orders have been placed for more to fill requirements and in a few weeks at least four associations will be operating in the county. Mr. Winkjer is now working in Cass county."

"A plan has been adopted whereby the bull associations are incorporated and stock sold, instead of soliciting contributions or assessments. This is to comply with the cooperative law of the state and also to put the associations on a more stable financial basis."

## FEED COSTS IN HOG PRODUCTION ANALYZED

Wide Spread Found in the Figures Derived from Owatonna and Windom Route Studies.

The following figures, compiled by Prof. G. A. Pond from the 1920 records on the cost accounting routes at Owatonna and Windom, show the pounds of pork produced on each of 19 farms and the feed required per hundred weight of gain:

Farm.	Lbs. pork produced on each farm in 1920	Feed used per cwt.	
		Grain, lbs.	Milk, lbs.
Owatonna No. 1..	7428	288	521
Owatonna No. 2..	21062	308	204
Owatonna No. 3..	23394	393	178
Owatonna No. 4..	8307	398	257
Owatonna No. 5..	10314	432	198
Owatonna No. 6..	16080	457	117
Owatonna No. 7..	14881	464	409
Owatonna No. 8..	9506	478	272
Owatonna No. 9..	13169	497	258
Windom No. 1..	21282	498	98
Windom No. 2..	14729	530	140
Windom No. 3..	4358	530	320
Windom No. 4..	11485	571	173
Windom No. 5..	13790	582	37
Owatonna No. 10..	11488	593	218
Owatonna No. 11..	7179	603	367
Windom No. 6..	6511	605	91
Windom No. 7..	11401	684	20
Windom No. 8..	8681	819	116
Average.....	11977	493	196

### But Little Tankage

"In each case," says W. L. Cavert, "the feed requirement was determined by adding together the weights of hogs on hand at the end of the year, hogs sold and hogs butchered for family use. From the total were deducted the weights of hogs on hand at the start of the year and hogs bought.

"Windom farm No. 3 was the only one that had any appreciable loss from disease.

"The grain in every case was largely corn. In no case were any appreciable amounts of tankage or other high protein concentrates purchased, so that the skimmilk shows practically all the protein feeds that were used to balance the corn. Most of the farmers used more or less pasture. Several of those who made the best showing had excellent pastures of rape or clover. However, in several cases, the pasture was a much better place in which to secure exercise than forage.

### Wide Variation in Costs

"The figures are very instructive as showing the wide variation in the feed cost on different farms that have similar conditions. If one prices corn at 28 cents a bushel and skimmilk at 25 cents a hundred on Owatonna farm No. 2 the feed cost, except pasture, would be \$2.05 a hundred, while the last farm on the list would have a feed cost of \$4.39 a hundred. With feed so cheap as compared to pork, the last man on the list would be making a little money on his hogs, but Owatonna farm No. 2 would be making \$2.34 more on each hundred weight produced.

"Over a period of years, the Minnesota farm price of hogs a hundred is equal to the farm price of 14 bushels of corn. Upon this basis, the last farmer on the list would not get the market price for his feed under average conditions, as he uses 14.5 bushels of corn and 116 pounds of milk for



IDA M. SICHLER,  
Newly Appointed Home Demonstration Agent  
for Dakota County.

each 100 pounds of gain. Owatonna farm No. 2 used only 5.5 bushels of corn and 204 pounds of milk for each 100 pounds of gain and so would have a handsome profit under the normal corn-hog ratio. Under normal conditions feed is about six-sevenths of the cost of producing pork.

### Better Feeding Worthy Project

"The last farm on the list, by providing a good rape, clover or alfalfa pasture and five to eight pounds of tankage with each two bushels of corn, could secure as good results as Owatonna farm No. 2, although it does not have the advantage of a liberal supply of skimmilk. Of course large vigorous litters are an important factor in economical pork production, but again, feeding the brood sow on a balanced ration is a big factor in getting large litters.

"The foregoing figures would suggest that the farm bureaus in counties where pork production is a leading source of income, could materially improve the financial condition of many farmers by making 'the better feeding of hogs' a leading project.

"The figures in the table if put in chart form on a blackboard should be helpful in interesting farmers in better feeding."

### 21 Acres; 200 Bushels to Acre

The certified seed potato plot of Alfred Hvidsten, of Stephen, consisting of 21 acres, the largest in Marshall county, produced 200 bushels to the acre, according to a report of the county agent. Mr. Hvidsten is a graduate of the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston.

## JUNIORS PREPARE FOR SOUTH ST. PAUL SHOW

Pick of Young Stock Fed by 2,600 Boys and Girls Will Be on Exhibit Three Days.

Nearly 2,600 club boys and girls of Minnesota have been engaged for several months in fitting livestock for the fourth annual Junior Livestock show, which will be held Nov. 16, 17, 18 at South St. Paul. Juniors in 30 or more counties have been feeding 600 baby beef animals, of which probably 200 head will be shown at South St. Paul following elimination contests at county fairs and elsewhere.

Also the juniors in 35 counties have been feeding and grooming 700 dairy calves, the best of which to the number of 70 will be exhibited at South St. Paul. Seventy pigs, the best of 1,000 which juniors in 70 counties have been feeding, will also be exhibited, and 45 lambs from more than 300 fed by juniors of 15 counties will also be entered in the contest.

Meanwhile the South St. Paul business interests are rebuilding and doubling the capacity of the show pavilion, adding a new barn to the complement of buildings, and otherwise preparing for the greatest boys' and girls' livestock show ever held in the United States.

### Prizes for Everybody

Minimum prizes have been established so that each and every exhibitor will be rewarded. The juniors showing the best baby beef, the best pig and the best sheep will win free trips to the International Livestock exposition in Chicago next December in addition to the cash prizes and trophies which will be distributed.

Various agencies are giving either their money or their services to this great junior enterprise. Coöperating with the agricultural extension service of the university are the business men of South St. Paul, the Minnesota Livestock Breeders association, and instructors in agriculture of high schools over the state. The breeders association has given outright the largest part of its funds for this constructive piece of livestock development work, the total cost this year being estimated at about \$9,000 for prizes and expenses of the contestants. Agricultural high school teachers have materially aided the project by organizing clubs and giving instruction in the care and handling of animals.

### Started by Breeders Association

Junior livestock production work had its beginning four years ago when the Minnesota Livestock Breeders association realized that more progress could be made in livestock development by the organization of boys' and girls calf clubs. The first annual show consisted of about 35 baby beef calves. The second year the show was expanded to take in growers of pigs and lambs. The dairy calf contest was added the third year, and has become so popular that the number of dairy calves owned by the juniors this year exceeds by about 100 the number of beef animals. In the four years the Junior Livestock show has practically quadrupled its working force of boys and girls.