

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

Published Monthly by the University of Minnesota, Department of Agriculture, Extension Division

Vol. I

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MINN., APRIL, 1922

No. 7

## DAIRY STAFF HOLDS

### 72 SCHOOLS IN STATE

#### First Series of One-Day Meetings for Discussion of Improved Feeding Method a Pronounced Success

The first series of one-day dairy schools, launched Dec. 1 by the dairy specialists of the agricultural extension division of the university, was brought to a successful close on April 1, as this number of Extension Service News is issued. Seventy-two one-day meetings were held in more than 30 counties of the state with average attendance of more than 100 to the meeting. Splendid interest, arising frequently to marked enthusiasm, was exhibited at the meetings.

Emphasis was laid this year particularly on improved methods of feeding, better care, and the prevention of common diseases.

#### One Point at a Time

"In addition to directing the organization work of cow testing associations and to some extent of the bull associations, by assisting in the purchase of sires and attending organization meetings, it was felt in the dairy office," says L. V. Wilson, dairy production specialist in charge of the one-day schools, "that at least one of the important factors of dairy production should be given as much concentrated attention as possible.

"Many examples in this and other states where the cart has been put before the horse have led us to believe that we should apply in our work the foundation principles handed down to us by successful dairymen the world over.

"Minnesota is a roughage producing state. Especially is this true of northern counties where the greater number of dairy schools have been held. Roughage is recognized as the cheapest form of feed for the dairy cow.

#### Practical Feeding Principles

"In the cutover country a lack of cleared land has limited the production of legumes and succulent roughages; in other areas of the state not enough seed has been given a chance. Because of these conditions the four months of our first dairy school campaign have been devoted to a detailed discussion of practical feeding principles. It is our plan to give time to the next necessary step as we see it, and that is, the building up of herds by the use of better bred sires. Our 35 cow testing associations are doing wonders in arousing interest in progressive dairying, and by assisting in eradicating the scrub bull we will feel satisfied that the horse is being hitched before the cart.

"I may say that the new plan of organized scheduling of work has worked out very satisfactorily. Time and money have been saved by so directing operations in the field that adjoining counties could be reached in a consecutive order. Under the new plan there is opportunity for more intensive preparation by the specialists."

## NEW APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXTENSION WORK

Several counties make their appropriations for the year beginning Jan. 1 instead of July 1, as is customary in most counties. Itasca county commissioners have appropriated \$3,000 for the year beginning Jan. 1, 1922, the same as granted the preceding year. In Carlton county the appropriation was increased from \$1,200 to \$2,300. Ramsey county continues the same appropriation as granted last year, \$2,500. In Hennepin county, the commissioners increased the appropriation from \$3,000 to \$5,000 annually.

In St. Louis county an appropriation of \$14,000 was made. Two agents are employed, one with headquarters at Duluth, the other on the range at Virginia. A home demonstration agent is employed for the county, and in addition an assistant county agent, who will devote particular attention to the land clearing project, is being employed this year.

Beltrami county has made an appropriation for the year beginning July 1, 1922, of \$4,000 as against \$2,000 for the preceding year. It is understood that \$2,000 of this appropriation is to be applied to the county agent work in the southern part of the county; that \$1,000 is to be used in cooperation with other agencies in the employment of a land clearing specialist for part of the year; \$750 will be used in the north end of the county and \$250 in the west end, cooperatively with Marshall county.

## FARM BUREAU PLANS TO BEAUTIFY FARMS

The Anoka county farm bureau has appointed a special committee to stimulate a greater interest in beautifying farmsteads by the planting of flowers and shrubbery. This committee will select helpers in various parts of the county who are already interested in this work. It will attend farm bureau unit meetings, organize nature study classes of which some local persons will be in charge, assist in securing bulk orders for shrubbery, bulbs and seed after interest has been aroused, and work out a scheme of competitive prizes for the most beautiful farmsteads developed during the season.

## "LET'S GROW" PROJECT

### NOW OFFERED JUNIORS

#### Special Honors to Be Given Club Members Who Build Up Their Bodies While Doing Project Work

Boys and girls club members of Minnesota have demonstrated that they can develop splendid dairy calves, the best baby beeves, hogs and sheep, and that they can grow better crops as well as win high honors in breadmaking, sewing and canning.

However, the real job of every boy and girl is to grow a strong healthy body and to develop minds having real interest for real things and the power to think, plan and judge properly, as well as to be sympathetic, kind and helpful in all their work.

Growing pigs, calves, crops and learning to sew, bake and can should help to do this. But no one is happy and efficient in service without being healthy. The fourth "H" in the club emblem stands for Health and has always been emphasized in club work, but in order to emphasize it still more, a special club demonstration will be carried on this year, where honors will be given to the boy or girl who develops his or her own body as well as carries out a project in livestock, crops or home economics. This project will be open only to those enrolling for other lines of club work.

Honors and prizes will be awarded to the boys and girls making the best effort to grow and be healthy, according to the basis of award, but in order to win the "Let's Grow" contest, a club member must also finish in a creditable manner one of the regular club projects.

#### Rules Governing Project

Under the direction of Miss Lucy Cordiner, specialist in nutrition, simple suggestions will be sent all enrolling for this work from time to time. The general rules adopted are:

1. Any boy or girl enrolled for one of the regular club projects may also carry the "Let's Grow" demonstration by following these rules.
2. Project: Each member enrolling should aim to make his or her own body grow normally, through eating the proper food and to secure perfect health through observing simple health rules.
3. Each member should weigh himself at the beginning of the contest, and every two weeks afterwards and at the close of the contest. The health record must be kept for at least four months.
4. Every member should learn what foods will best develop his own body and how they should be distributed through the day. Every member should try to eat one vegetable other than potatoes each day.
5. Since growth and repair of tissues take place during sleep, it is recommended that contestants give themselves sufficient time for this by retiring not later than 9 o'clock; earlier than this if rising time is earlier than 6 o'clock. As growth and proper development depend upon the blood giving oxygen to all parts, it is essential that plenty of fresh air enter the

sleeping rooms. It is recommended that the windows be opened during the night and that the head of the bed be so placed that air is secured easily.

6. Milk is the best food for developing the young. It is recommended that the contestant demonstrate the greater efficiency of milk over coffee or tea by drinking at least two glasses of milk each day.

7. Each one must keep the record provided and write a short story on the subject, "How I have learned to grow and be healthy as a club member."

#### Basis of Award

1. Proper food and drink..... 25
2. Providing body with proper rest and sleep..... 25
3. Proper care of body, play, exercise, bathing, etc..... 25
4. Story, "How I learned to grow and be healthy by being a club member.... 25

#### "Let's Grow" Club Report

1. Name.....
2. Age..... 3. Postoffice.....
4. County.....
5. What other club project are you taking?.....
6. Date your health record began.....
7. Your height at that time.....
8. Weight on that date.....
9. Record of your weight taken every two weeks after first date.....
10. Date record closed.....
11. Weight on date record closed.....
12. Height on closing date.....

#### Story—"How I Learned to Grow and Be Healthy."

(In this story the following points are suggested.)

Why I enrolled.

How I sleep well, window open.

What I eat to grow. How often do you eat vegetable and fruit.

Why I drink milk instead of coffee and tea.

The games I like to play and why.

Other health rules I have learned to follow.

How I have learned to be healthy in doing my other club work.

The "Let's Grow" project will give good opportunities for demonstrating the importance of health. Three counties taking this health work as a part of the club program will each send a demonstration team to the State Fair, where they will demonstrate some of the results of the project.

### PUREBRED STEER CALF CLASS ADDED TO LIST

A third class of calves has been added to the baby beef clubs. Any boy or girl from 10 to 19 years of age may enroll as a baby beef club member in this class by growing and feeding a purebred steer calf dropped after Sept. 1, 1921. The same rules as for other baby beef club work will govern.

Any county which has at least eight club members growing purebred steer calves under these rules may send those winning first and second places at the county show to the Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul.

Railroad fare will be paid for the club members whose calves are sent, and the calves will compete for prizes of the same amounts as those given in the grade classes. Several counties have already organized clubs in this new class as well as the regular grade classes.

#### Bouquet for Chapman

N. E. Chapman, poultry specialist with the agricultural extension division, proved a "shining star" at poultry meetings in Kandiyohi county, according to the report of E. L. Rodegeb, county agent. "Mr. Chapman did much to improve poultry work in Kandiyohi county by his facts and enthusiasm," Mr. Rodegeb declares.

### LONG PRAIRIE SHORT COURSE CALLED MODEL

#### Club Juniors to Number of 170 Are Guests of Town Folks While Being Drilled in Club Work

Extension service people at University Farm and at Crookston and Morris must look to their laurels.

Long Prairie, seat of Todd county, opened the boys' and girls' short course season by giving a course on March 16, 17 and 18, which is pronounced a model of its kind by those who ought to know. The juniors came in numbers from practically every part of Todd county. Only club members were eligible to attend, but at that 170 were registered.

Long Prairie citizens were equal to the occasion. Not only did they open their homes to their youthful country cousins, giving them free lodging and meals, but business men seemed to vie with one another in extending courtesies. One of the banks gave a special luncheon to the entire delegation the first day. On Friday, March 17, the proprietors of one of the large stores put on a free program of moving pictures, including the club film, "Partners," for the visitors. Friday evening the Long Prairie schools, the farm bureau and the community folks gave the club members what was called a wonderful banquet in the high school auditorium. Many citizens attended to pay their respects to the boys and girls.

#### Work as Well as Play

But let it not be thought that the real objects of the course were forgotten or overlooked for a moment. Several hours of each day were given to instruction in club projects, the growing of calves, pigs, poultry, corn and gardens, the making of bread and the canning of fruits and vegetables. The instructors were T. A. Erickson, state leader; E. A. Hanson, dairy specialist at University Farm; R. H. Giberson, of Morris; J. H. Lefforge, agricultural teacher in the Long Prairie high school; Tony Andrus, agricultural teacher at Swanville, and Julius Ausen, county agent. Superintendent Melby of the Long Prairie school and Messrs. Lefforge and Ausen were in direct charge of the course.

Rev. Mr. Blake of Long Prairie led a troop of boy scouts, who contributed much to the success of the course by directing the young guests about town and doing general service work. The club film "Partners" was twice exhibited and made a decided hit among young and old.

#### Praised By Erickson

"The Long Prairie short course was a fine example of the results which may be obtained in boys' and girls club work when the farm bureau cooperates with the public school in community work," said T. A. Erickson, state leader, on his return to University Farm.

A county club organization was perfected, Mr. Erickson said, and it was decided to organize as many communities as possible into regular clubs.

A second outside junior short course is being held at Milaca as this is written. W. F. Hammargren, county

agent, is cooperating with the county superintendent in putting on this course. Similar courses are also to be held at Owatonna April 12, 13 and 14, and at St. James April 18, 19 and 20.

### TEETER SUCCEEDED BY ROSKE IN ROCK

M. E. Teeter, after four years as county agent in Rock county, returns to his farm in Martin county. Since graduation from Purdue university in 1908, Mr. Teeter has been living and working in the northwest—one year in the high school of Mitchell, S. D., and two years as agricultural instructor of the Canby, Minn., high school. Since 1913, Mr. Teeter has owned and had the management of a good sized livestock farm.

Some very important projects have entered into the county agent work in Rock county. It is an important corn producing county and when Mr. Teeter began work as county agent in the spring of 1918 it was confronted with the most serious seed corn situation of any county in the state. The situation was effectively met and the county has continued as an important corn producing county. Mr. Teeter had an important part in crystallizing the movement for the building of a large livestock sales pavilion on the county fair grounds and it is in use many days during the year for sales purposes. He has also had an active part in county fair activities.

M. P. Roske, who has been county agent in Bigstone county since March 18, 1918, succeeds Mr. Teeter. Mr. Roske was born and reared on a farm in Lac qui Parle county. He received his early schooling in a country school; later attended high school; completed the course at the state normal at Mankato, and in 1916 completed the course in animal husbandry at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture. From 1911 to 1913 he taught in the Waseca high school. After finishing the course at Madison he taught agriculture one year at the Kansas State Normal school.

#### Agent for North Beltrami

H. C. Lende, agricultural instructor in the high schools of Baudette and Spooner, has been chosen county agent for northern Beltrami county by the farm bureau of that district. He will begin his new work on April 1, and will have his headquarters at Baudette. Soon after his graduation from the Minnesota college of agriculture, Mr. Lende taught agriculture for a year in the high school at Lewiston. Then he entered the war service and, after the armistice engaged in farming in Yellow Medicine county for a time. Beltrami county commissioners have appropriated \$1,000 as a land clearing fund and \$3,000 for county agent work.

#### Kienholz a Second Weston

Stormy weather and bad roads did not prevent Ben Kienholz, Carver county agent, from attending meetings in his county. Because he could not secure a livery at reasonable rates, Mr. Kienholz took his fresh air "on the hoof," walking 60 miles to attend four different meetings.

### HALF OF CREAMERIES IN NEW ASSOCIATION

Eleven of the 16 Districts Now Organized, Says A. J. McGuire—New York Office by May

The first annual meeting of the Minnesota Coöperative Creameries association, Incorporated, held in St. Paul March 7, showed that the movement for the coöperative creameries working together through a state-wide organization has the full support of the creameries. There was a total attendance of more than 400 at the meeting.

The report of the first year's work (since June 7 last) showed that 300 creameries have joined the association, or half the total number in the state. Eleven of the 16 districts are organized. Five of these districts have field men and four others will have men at work in a short time. The districts that have field men are shipping 20 carloads of butter weekly as carlot shipments in which a sufficient saving in freight is made to cover the association cost to the creameries.

Improvement of quality and standardization are being taken up, says A. J. McGuire, dairy specialist, who is in charge of organization work. Steps are under way to open offices on the eastern markets. The New York office will probably be established by May 1.

"The most encouraging feature of the whole movement," Mr. McGuire says, "is the way in which the creameries are taking hold of the work. The district organization plan makes it possible for the creameries to work together in local districts and that is what they are doing."

#### New Task for Agent

Paul A. Johnson, Martin county agent, has taken on a new task. He has been assisting the club in his county in rehearsing the play, "Back to the Farm".

### BIG DAIRY SHOW TO FEATURE CLUB WORK

Executive officers of the National Dairy show, which is to be held at the Minnesota State Fair grounds the coming fall, have appropriated \$3,750 for boys' and girls' club work at the show. This appropriation was made at a meeting in Chicago after the committee on club work, of which T. A. Erickson, state leader for Minnesota, is chairman, had made its recommendation to the executive officers. The money is to be used for three different lines of work, namely, judging, team demonstration work, and exhibits of dairy calves by calf clubs.

The appropriation for 1922, says Mr. Erickson, is more than three times as great as that made for club work at the National Dairy show last year. In addition, officers of the show said that an entire building will be turned over for the exclusive use of the juniors.

All this goes to make it appear that club work will be firmly entrenched in the national hereafter. Prior to the show in the Twin Cities last fall, club work had received little recognition at the hands of the dairy show organization.

#### County Club Agent for Mower

Through the coöperation of the county farm bureaus and the public schools in Mower county Miss Jessie Partridge, who has directed boys' and girls' club work for the last two years on a part-time basis, has been engaged on a full-time program. W. O. Lutz, the agricultural teacher at Austin, will have charge of the club work in the territory surrounding Austin. By this plan F. L. Liebenstein, county agent, feels that better club work than ever before will be possible in Mower county.

### WOMEN OF ST. PAUL REPORT ON BUDGETS

Many Outside of Original Groups, Even Husbands, Are Interested in Keeping Household Accounts.

That the women of the home management groups in St. Paul make good use of the instruction given by Mildred Wood, the home demonstration agent, is evidenced by the reports given at a "follow-up meeting" of one of the groups on March 9.

Seven of the 12 women of this group have budgeted their incomes for the year and are keeping accounts in a careful, systematic way. They are all enthusiastic over the plan and report that they have interested 17 of their friends in the subject of budgets.

One of the women who has helped six of her friends with their problems also reports with pride that her husband is a recent convert to the value of the household budget and they have worked out together their plan for the year. This woman has consented to act as a project leader for the budget work in St. Paul.

Another member of the class reports that her husband, who has seemed quite indifferent on the subject, is now advising one of his friends, who is always "behind the game" at the end of the month, to try the budget plan.

Other comments heard at the meeting were, "This work is surely making me more systematic," and "Account keeping is the best means of developing one's memory that I know."

Through the women of this group, plans are under way for organizing home management groups in parts of the city where this project has not been developed.



GROUP OF NINE LOCAL LEADERS AND THEIR ALTERNATES, REPRESENTING NINE TOWNSHIPS IN STEELE COUNTY, HOLDING THEIR LAST MEETING, MARCH 10, AT OWATONNA. THESE MEETINGS WERE CONDUCTED BY MISS EUNICE RYAN, CLOTHING SPECIALIST, AND MRS. ANNA PARTRIDGE. MRS. PARTRIDGE ORGANIZED THE GROUP AND HAS COLLECTED AND COMPILED REPORTS.

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Published monthly at University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., by the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Minnesota and the United States Department of Agriculture, co-operating in the interest of extension work in agriculture and home economics.

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Entered as second-class matter October 4, 1921, at the postoffice at St. Paul, Minnesota, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized October 21, 1921.

APRIL, 1922

### OUR MEAL TICKET

We are all of us so close to our individual job, and so concerned with the absolute necessity of providing means to keep the meal ticket from running out, that we are often in danger of losing the great value and advantage that lie in a proper perspective of the development of our job for the next ten years. Most of us, through necessity, are forced to put practically our entire attention on the immediate pressing tasks at hand, and many of our decisions and methods of doing this work are more or less influenced by this common need of making a living.

We are just raising the question as to whether the sustaining of our meal ticket could be made a little easier, with the service rendered a little more valuable, and the ultimate satisfaction vastly more to our advantage, if we could take time out occasionally and attempt to get a big vision of the larger aspects of our job.

This does not mean that imagination can run wild and constructive policies follow, but a ten-year or even a five-year goal with some definite pictures in the back of one's mind may help to get a little bit more out of this daily grind of providing the necessities of life.

### FARM POPULATION NEEDS

A program for the safeguarding of the health of rural people, provision for adequate free circulating libraries, and the introduction by boards of education of suitable instruction in the principles of coöperation were important recommendations made by the committee on farm population and the farm home at the National Agricultural Conference held in Washington. The chief sections of the report on farm population are given below:

While we recognize the basic importance of financial prosperity the committee desires to express the conviction that more than financial prosperity will be essential in the realization of the "new conception of the farmer's place in the national and social economic scheme."

It is apparent to the committee that it is necessary for federal and state

agencies to continue, or, where lacking, inaugurate the study of such phases of our rural population as are related to a permanent rural life.

The safeguarding of the health of the people in the open country is a first consideration. Any program that looks toward the proper safeguarding of the health must include adequate available facilities for the people in the way of hospitals, clinics, laboratories, dispensaries, nurses, physicians, and health officers.

The committee recommends that the state and federal agencies give attention to problems of providing adequate free circulating libraries for the country people, and also recommends that secondary school facilities be increased so that the country families may have convenient and adequate training for their young people. It is also recommended that our rural educational curriculum be so organized as to be adapted to rural needs and that adequate provision be made for the study of problems of rural life.

The committee recommends to the state boards of education and other similar agencies the importance of introducing suitable instruction in the principles of coöperation as applied to community, social, and business life.

### COUNTY AGENT WORK GROWS

County agent work continues to grow despite occasional inferences emanating in indifferent or hostile circles that defections and losses are being sustained. Upon investigation almost invariably the alleged losses are found to be over in another county or in another state. Inquiry in the "other county" or the "other state" reveals that conditions are perfectly normal there, but that in such and such a state losses, numerically or otherwise, are reported.

How little basis there is for reports of this character was shown in a statement made at a recent meeting of extension workers at University Farm by H. W. Gilbertson of Washington, D. C., field assistant in extension methods in 12 north central states. Mr. Gilbertson said there were 800 county agents in these states on Jan. 1, 1922, as against 734 on Jan. 1, 1921. The number of definite demonstrations increased, he said, from 30,379 in 1920 to 53,140 in 1921, or a gain of about 100 per cent.

Mr. Gilbertson paid a fine compliment to the Minnesota Extension Service News, which, he declared, had no superior in the country.

### AGENTS' FUNCTIONS ANALYZED

The following was taken from the bulletin, "Home Economics Extension Work in Illinois," written by Juliet Lita Bane, state home demonstration leader of Illinois:

"Extension work corresponds in its methods more nearly to the discussion and demonstration methods of teaching, where each individual of a group shares with the others the benefits of her knowledge and experience.

"In every county there are home-makers who are putting into practice

the best information to be had and these women are usually found to be most valuable members of the home department of the county farm bureau. Through the home department they share their experience with other home-makers, and at the same time are enabled to keep in touch with new information in the field of home-making as it becomes available.

"The county home demonstration agent may be said to be the dynamo which keeps the organization operating. She is not the itinerant encyclopedia that some people have conceived her to be. She can, however, because she is in touch with the home economics field of information, and because she devotes her entire time to the work of the home department, furnish the power to mobilize the best home-makers of the county in order to improve the home-making practices of the entire county. It is her part to make available to every interested home-maker such information as shall help her in solving her home-making problems. Sometimes this is done through direct help and sometimes through bringing together this particular woman with another woman who has met the same problem and solved it. It means the capitalizing of all that will make for greater efficiency among the home-makers of the county—not the teaching of isolated facts and figures to selected classes of women.

"The home department of the farm bureau is organized for the purpose of adding to the knowledge, improving the appreciation, and increasing the skill of the home-makers."

### Farm Club Revival Noted

Interest in farmers' clubs is being revived in St. Louis county, according to A. S. Grant, county agent. The Jackson farmers' club, which has a new club house, has a very constructive as well as intensive program outlined for 1922, he declares.

### CLEANUP AND REPAIR TIME NEAR AT HAND

Extension division men at University Farm suggest that concerted action be taken this spring for sprucing up the farms of the state.

Untidiness exerts a demoralizing influence. The farm buildings site can be made spick and span, without expense, by cleaning up the winter's accumulation of dirt and rubbish and by repairing fences, gates, walks and buildings. Time and money will be saved by going over the machinery and repairing broken or worn parts for the busy season. Flowers and even trees and shrubs can be planted at small expense. A little paint will do wonders in freshening and brightening.

Let's all get the cleanup spirit. It makes for a more valuable farm and a happier and better farm life.

## COUNTIES PLAN FOR HOG CHOLERA CONTROL

Farmers and Veterinarians Get Together on a Working System in Nobles and Martin

The Cottonwood County Farm Bureau last year organized a plan for hog cholera control in which other Minnesota counties are becoming interested, especially along the Iowa state line. A supply of serum was maintained by the farm bureau and sold to farmers at cost, or \$1.15 per cc., which covered all handling charges. A local veterinarian was employed to do the vaccinating at a standard rate per head.

A committee of three was appointed to have charge of the project for the farm bureau. Usually one member of the committee accompanied the veterinarian whenever vaccinating was done. The total amount of serum secured and used through the farm bureau was 200,000 cc.; of virus 8,830 cc. A total of 4,150 hogs was vaccinated through the direct services of the farm bureau at a cost of 63 cents per head. The average cost was increased later in the year because of the necessity of vaccinating many heavy hogs due to an outbreak later in the season.

### Drain on Purse Lightened

The average loss in the healthy herds was less than 1 per cent; the loss in infected herds ranged from 5 to 15 per cent. The saving based on the prices paid in adjoining counties for serum was one-half cent per cc. which amounted to \$1,000 on the serum alone. The average saving per head is estimated at nearly 10 cents, making a further saving of \$415. The biggest saving resulted in the standardization of the cost of serum and the price of service in vaccinating through the entire county on a goodly number of herds treated with serum other than that obtained through the farm bureau.

Negotiations are under way to extend the plan to all of Cottonwood county. The county farm bureau and livestock breeders are conferring with the veterinarians of the county in an effort to secure their cooperation on the basis of a charge of 15 cents a head for vaccination, the farm bureau to handle the serum.

### Cottonwood's Example Followed

Pursuant to the action taken in Cottonwood county, meetings were held in Nobles county March 10 and in Martin county March 11, which were attended by farm bureau officials, representative farmers, breeders and veterinarians. Dr. C. E. Cotton of the Livestock Sanitary Board addressed these meetings. In each county a plan of cooperation was agreed upon as follows:

The maximum charge to be made by veterinarians shall not exceed 50 cents a mile for trips of less than five miles and 25 cents for trips greater than five miles; 10 cents a head for vaccination where there are more than 25 head of hogs in the herd, and one-fourth of a cent per cc., handling charge on the serum, it being understood that the serum will be handled by the veterinarians in these two counties instead of by the farm bureau as in Cottonwood county.

## SPECIAL OFFICE DAYS INCREASE EFFICIENCY

In a letter addressed to Assistant Leader W. E. Morris at University Farm, County Agent John W. Taylor of Roseau indorses the proposition of specially appointed office days in various parts of the county, especially when the work is so planned that farm meetings can be attended and farm visits made during the interval. In this way, he finds from his own experience, that the special office days are time and expense savers. He says:

"No doubt you have had many inquiries as to the success of the county agents having special office days in various parts of the county. I adopted this plan while in eastern Marshall county, where my headquarters were not centrally located, and I am sure it added much to the service.

"I have office days at present in Warroad and Greenbush two days a month. I find that the townsmen in these localities feel very kindly toward this plan and do all in their power to cooperate with any movement that is launched in the county. I find the bankers in a better mood for collecting the farm bureau dues. I find the farmers have a better attitude toward the county agent's work and take more advantage of the service. The office callers do not always warrant the county agent maintaining the special office day, but I plan my work so that I can attend meetings in that section at the same time and do special work such as poultry culling, field observation, and farm visits. This not only increases the service of the county agent, but saves time and expense as well.

"I find it rather difficult at times to make the designated office days due to special meetings or unexpected work. At the same time I find this true; if the county agent is not prompt in attending these specified office days, the number of office callers will decrease. In conclusion, I do not believe the office callers alone make it worth while, but where the county agent plans his work to hold meetings and does other special work at the same time, it is a great saving of time and expense."

### Sibley County Women Organize

Three groups of women in Sibley county have been organized to carry on a home management project for a period of five months. Forty-one women attended the first meetings March 8, 9, and 10. The interest and cooperation shown were most gratifying to C. H. Graham, county agent, and Mary L. Bull, the specialist. At least three-fourths of the women attending agreed to study their present schedules of work with a view to saving time and energy, and report results at the April meetings.

### Miss Tikkanen Translates Bulletin

Miss Anna Tikkanen, home demonstration agent for St. Louis county, is translating into Finnish the bulletin, "The Right Food for the Growing Child," which was written by Miss Lucy Cordiner. Since a large proportion of the population of St. Louis county is Finnish, the number of readers of this pamphlet will be greatly increased.

## 4500 ATTEND FARM BUSINESS SCHOOLS

Some 130 Sessions Held in Nearly 100 Localities—How to Lessen Production Costs a Popular Subject

What does it cost to produce a pound of butterfat? How much does it cost to produce a 200-pound hog? How much does it cost to raise a bushel of wheat, a bushel of potatoes, or a bushel of corn?

These were some of the questions worked out by more than 4,000 Minnesota farmers for their local conditions during the winter in connection with the extension division's farm business schools.

In each case, after working out the cost per pound or bushel, special attention was given to the question of methods by which the cost of production could be lessened. For example, at a farm business school in Renville county, the figures prepared by farmers present at the morning session showed that with a 42-bushel corn crop the cost in the crib would be 38 cents upon the basis of 22 cents per hour for man labor and 9 cents per hour for horse labor; while with a 24-bushel crop, the cost would be 60 cents per bushel. In each case the land rent was assumed to be one-third of the crop.

### Keen Interest Taken

Such figures as these naturally stimulated interest in methods by which good yields could be secured with but little additional outlay, such as the careful use of farm manure, the use of good seed, timely doing of the work, and the use of rotations that would maintain yields. Also the question arose as to the best proportion of corn, small grain and hay if one is to have a fairly uniform distribution of man and horse labor throughout the season and thus put the farmer in a position to reduce these big items of expense at a minimum rate per hour.

After a discussion of these points, the question was raised as to whether the elevator or livestock was usually the best market for corn. This led to an afternoon session on the cost of producing pork and a discussion as to the proper place of corn and hogs in a farm plan for that section.

Following are the statistics of the winter's work:

No. of localities visited.....	97
No. of sessions held.....	130
Total attendance.....	4587
Average per session.....	43

### Small Groups Ideal

Those who have experience with this type of extension work feel that a group of 40 to 50 farmers is, perhaps, ideal, especially when it is desired that those present take part in preparing estimates on costs. With larger groups it is necessary to follow the usual lecture method.

Those who assisted in the work, in addition to W. L. Cavert, farm management extension specialist, and the various county agents, were Director F. W. Peck, Professor Andrew Boss, R. E. Hodgson, superintendent of the Waseca station, Assistant County Agent Leaders S. B. Cleland, F. J. Brown, W. J. Corwin and Assistant Professors L. F. Garey and G. A. Pond.

## Notes from Southeast District Conference

Sixteen agents representing as many counties participated in the southeast district conference held at Faribault under the direction of W. J. Corwin, assistant county agent leader. Subject matter topics discussed were swine feeding demonstrations, egg marketing, and farm planning for livestock feeds, cash crops, and soil fertility. Extension methods considered had to do with the agricultural extension service and the farm bureau movement, contact with units and members, program development, grouping units and securing permanent results.

The men assigned to subjects met as committees the first day and agreed upon the ideas which were to be emphasized.

### Egg Marketing

County Agent C. L. McNelly outlined the report of the egg marketing committee, and said that the chief advantages are secured by eliminating waste, by saving on freight and in getting some extra prices. The market wants graded eggs, he said, and the farmer should develop that market. The following recommendations were made.

Pay cash at the creamery according to the local cash price at the stores.

Start the project by loading in with butter cans some of the good eggs from a few of the main egg raisers and, as the community gains experience, extend the collections and grading of eggs at the creamery.

A fund must of course be provided when an egg marketing association is started. A carload of new cases and fillers will be required, also the local market price for eggs and the labor for assembling and grading must be paid. These are the chief items of the original investment. After the car is shipped it is possible to draw on the bill of lading. It was shown that if only eight cases a day were taken in and graded at the creamery, the labor cost would be about one cent a dozen. If forty cases a day were assembled, the cost would be only one-fifth of a cent a dozen.

The farmer will have tangible evidence of the value of cooperative marketing if the fund derived from savings made in freight handling charges and from extra prices are rebated to him in a lump sum at the end of the year. This will be in the nature of a bonus after the close of the year's operations, and in the meantime he has had the local market prices with which to meet his grocery bills. Nine agents reported communities that were practically ready to embark in the egg shipping business. The agents felt that the work should be started locally and put on a firm basis locally before much statewide egg marketing work was undertaken.

### Swine Feeding Demonstrations

County Agent William Dietrich brought out the principal points in the discussion as to the swine feeding demonstrations. Most young pigs receive in the spring, he said, too high a protein ration. This injures the assimilative processes so that slower gains are made in the latter part of the growing and fattening period. He

presented data to show the ill effects of this kind of feed on successive generations. His advice was to select three or four farms, where sanitary conditions were reasonably good and where the farmers agreed to follow the feeding standards and promised to weigh the pigs once each week, and leave the weight posted in the pen so that when the agent arrived he could calculate the necessary increases in the feed for the following week and leave instructions on the weigh sheet.

Mr. Dietrich submitted the following instructions: See that the hog houses and lots are sanitary; that necessary minerals are supplied in the ration obtained from the pasture. Do not feed pure milk; always dilute it with equal parts of water. Where there is a milk shortage, tankage should be used at the rate of one pound for 17 pounds of skimmilk. Demonstrations in Fillmore county last year showed a pound of gain made on three and one-half pounds of feed, valuing six pounds of skimmilk as equal to one pound of grain. It was held that the agent's duty in this project is to select a reasonably sanitary farm, and, when the pigs are first weighed, to outline the combination and the amounts of different feeds that the farmer may have, according to the weight of the whole lot of pigs. Then each succeeding week he should visit the farm and determine the increase in feeding for the following week based upon the increase in weight during the week just finished. This procedure is followed till the last few weeks when the hogs are turned into the feed lot or corn field for finishing off.

### Farm Plans

The matter of planning the farm business so as always to furnish sufficient livestock feed, maintain soil fertility, allow some cash crop and, over a period of years, furnish the maximum farm income, was discussed the forenoon of the second day. In order that a farmer might know exactly what and how much to plant each spring, the following method was suggested: First, determine a good ration for each class of livestock and then compute amounts of feeds that should be on hand each fall. From these amounts and a conservative estimate on the average yield per acre determine the number of acres needed for the different home-grown feeds. With these figures in mind and the total acres under the plot known, it is possible to adjust a rotation that will furnish these feeds each year and maintain soil fertility. To make this method more clear in their minds, each agent present considered an average farm in his county and the average livestock kept on the farm and went through the following steps:

- Determined acres in farm.
- Determined acres under plow.
- Determined average number of cattle, horses, hogs, sheep, hens, etc.
- Determined length of time or number of days to be fed in barn.
- Listed a reasonably good daily ration for each class of stock.
- Computed totals of each feed required to each ration. (Pounds per day times days

of feeding and times no. head.)  
Grouped these totals under corn, grain, hay, etc.

Using conservative ten year average yields per acre, found number of acres needed for the different livestock feeds.

Compared totals of these crop acres with total plow land.

Balance of plow land for best cash crop adapted to locality.

With these figures line up a rotation system.

### Some Farmers Following Method

One agent said that some farmers are following this method in a rough way. He thought it would be well to single out these instances and play them up at community meetings and in publicity mediums. If a county has no good cases to demonstrate good farm planning, then it would be desirable to locate a few good farmers and have the agent counsel with each one individually and plan the livestock feeds and cropping systems that should be followed. Get the farmer as a co-operator on this project and at the end of two or three years have a community meeting on his farm, and let him explain to his neighbors what he thinks of the project, whether or not it facilitates good livestock feeding, better crop yields and a bigger farm income.

Director F. W. Peck closed the meeting by discussing the functions of the farm bureau and the county agent. He touched upon the membership proposition and said that in the future no county will knowingly be allowed to go into debt for county extension service. The relation of farmers and business men, he said, must be one of cooperation based upon a sense of inter-dependence.

## CONFERENCE MAKES

### A HIT WITH AGENTS

County agents of southeastern Minnesota were highly pleased with the recent conference at Faribault, according to comments in their reports.

"It was a big success from our standpoint," V. H. Kingsbury, Goodhue county agent, declared. "We came home with a lot of new ideas and ideals. We sometimes feel we are getting to work in a 'peck measure,' but these occasional conferences help to lift us out."

"Brimming full of business," is the characterization of the meetings made by Ralph W. Bennett, Wabasha county agent.

"We feel that this was a very satisfactory and beneficial meeting," declared C. L. McNelly, Dodge county agent. "Conferences of this sort assist in standardizing the work in the district, and in so doing stimulate interest, and without question better results are secured where neighboring counties are working on the same projects. They also strengthen the morale of the county agent force."

### Community Club Projected

Farmers and business men of Willow River plan to organize a community club, according to Fred S. Idtse, county agent.

## UPSTATE DAIRY HERD MAKES GREAT RECORD

**Koochiching Farmer's Cows Averaged 319 Pounds of Butterfat in 1921—How the "U" Helped Erickson to Start.**

P. A. Erickson, a Koochiching county farmer, gives the university and its dairy specialists credit for helping him to obtain and maintain a profitable dairy herd. The five cows constituting Mr. Erickson's herd in 1921 produced on an average 319 pounds of butterfat during the year. In a letter to W. L. Cavert, farm management specialist for the university, he says:

"In 1913 Prof. A. J. McGuire of the university interested me in securing a purebred dairy sire and assisted me to select a purebred Holstein. Now my cows are all high grade Holsteins. Along with better breeding and in order to determine the production of each cow, I weigh the milk from each at every milking and make a Babcock test once a month. I do not retain any heifer that does not make 250 pounds of butterfat during her first lactation period. For feed, I aim to provide each cow during the season with all the clover hay she will eat, or about 2.5 tons, 100 bushels of roots and 1,200 pounds of grain."

### Receipts and Expenses

Mr. Erickson's statement of receipts for 1921 per cow is approximately as follows:

Butterfat, 319 lbs. at 38½¢.....	\$122.72
Skim milk, 8,000 lbs. at 25¢ per cwt....	20.00
Calf at one week.....	5.00
Manure, 5 tons at \$1.....	5.00

Total.....\$152.72

The total expenses per cow during the year, including feeding, shelter, depreciation, interest at 8 per cent, sire service, taxes, insurance, everything in fact except labor, was \$100.41, leaving a balance or pay for labor on a cow for one year of \$52.31. The return per hour, assuming 180 man hours per cow per year, was 29 cents.

### Essentials to Successful Dairying

"Twenty-nine cents per hour is not a big wage," says Mr. Cavert, "but it is a satisfactory return considering the work is largely done at times when no other job is available, that all costs have been met, and that hay has been charged at \$15 per ton. It should also be said that by reason of the lack of sufficient local product to support a local creamery, the butterfat from Mr. Erickson's cows was marketed through a Duluth centralizer at a loss of five to eight cents per pound as compared to the price paid by well developed cooperative creameries in southeastern Minnesota. Dairymen of northern Minnesota can do no better than to put in practice the following essentials to successful dairying as practiced by Mr. Erickson:

"An adequate supply of home raised clover hay and roots; grain may be purchased if necessary.

"Purebred sires of dairy breeding used consistently over a period of years.

"The keeping of milk and butterfat records on each cow. The purebred sire in the case of a small herd should be owned in partnership with a neighbor."

## BREADMAKING TRIO INVITED TO CANADA

Minnesota boys' and girls' club work, as conducted from the extension headquarters at University Farm, recently received a fine compliment from the extension forces of the Manitoba department of agriculture. This compliment appears in the form of an invitation to Minnesota's champion bread-making team of 1921 to go to Winnipeg next fall and give demonstrations before 150 girls from Manitoba who are interested in club projects.

The Mankato team is composed of Leona Peterson, Evelyn Cuddy and Myra Jones. They not only won the Minnesota state championship at the state fair last September, but defeated home economics demonstration teams from nine states at the Interstate fair at Sioux City, later capturing the grand championship from the best team of boys in the livestock and crop division.

The Manitoba Agricultural Extension News prints a good picture of the Minnesota breadmakers, and says they will be a star attraction at the Winnipeg meeting. About 50 teams from Manitoba will compete for provincial honors.

### Storm Couldn't Stop Them

Sleet covered roads and a blizzard did not keep the women of Watonwan county from meeting the nutrition specialists from the office of extension work with women for the first of a series of discussions on family feeding.

"We signed up and we intend to come," said one of the 21 women who drove, some of them eight miles, in the stormy weather.

## DAIRY SPECIALISTS SPUR SILO BUILDING

The sequel of a meeting conducted near Hill City by E. A. Hanson and Perry Johnson, dairy specialists with the agricultural extension division, will be the building of 12 new silos in the community. Following a similar meeting at Swatara, several farmers indicated their intention of grading up their stock with better sires.

Tests the last year show, according to A. W. Jacobs, Aitkin county agent, that a silo can be filled in any section of the county if the farmer has the inclination. Silage, he says, is considered superior to roots for his section, because farmers do not like to do the hand work necessary for roots. Silage will outyield roots and more of the work can be done with a team on the silage crops. The erection of 50 silos in his county has been set as a goal in 1922, 25 already being assured, he says.

### Another Taylor on the Staff

Another Taylor has been added to the roll of county agents in Minnesota. M. B. Taylor, recently of Thor, Iowa, a brother of J. W. Taylor of Roseau county, has accepted appointment, beginning March 1, as county agent in Le Sueur county. M. B. Taylor was graduated from the Central school of agriculture at University Farm and has had experience as club leader, official tester and agricultural and short course instructor.

Edson Washburn, also a graduate of the Central school of agriculture, is the new agent in Clearwater county where he succeeds E. H. Martin. He was born and reared on a farm near Monticello, Minn., and has been farming for himself since 1905.



MINNESOTA'S CHAMPION CANNING TEAM

This team, composed of Hazel Dohm, Gladys Kephart and Viola Bakalyar, all of Lakefield, Jackson county, won the state championship at the Minnesota State Fair in 1921. Hazel Dohm as captain of the team is entitled to a free trip to the boys' and girls' short course at University Farm, April 3 to 7.

## HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS CITE RESULTS

St. Louis county—Anna Tikkanen, home demonstration agent.

"Meadowlands nutrition class showed appreciable gains. Thirteen children out of 15 had made gains from one-half to four pounds within three weeks. The children are greatly interested in reaching the normal standards of health. They are playing their part fine in the health game."

Martin county—Laura T. Jones, home demonstration agent.

"Three project clothing meetings have been held in three townships. Patterns, dress forms and millinery were the subjects for these meetings. In one group 50 children's patterns were cut out and in the other two 24 patterns were cut. Eight plain shirt waists were drafted in Fairmont township and 10 in Lake Belt township. The group in Lake Belt held another meeting without the presence of the home demonstration agent and drafted six more patterns. The Lake Belt women have planned to have one meeting a month."

Waseca county—Nora Hott, home demonstration agent.

"One local leader conducted and taught four groups and sent a substitute for the fifth. Another leader conducted four meetings, and still a third conducted five. One leader reported five conferences held in establishing work. Another leader reports 'innumerable conferences.' Twenty home visits with reference to work are reported by three leaders. A total number of 255 were reached by local leaders."

### Scholarship Improving

Chisholm and Meadowlands, towns where nutrition demonstration meetings are being held, report that the scholarship of the children is improved since they are considering health and the means of attaining it. "It is making some of our backward students do better work," said one of the principals. Chisholm has offered prizes to those showing the greatest improvement, and the pupils are working intensely to earn them, going to bed at "growing time," sleeping with open windows, drinking milk and eating cereals and vegetables.

### New Full-Time Club Leader

T. A. Erickson of University Farm, state club leader, reports that Ethyle Daily has been appointed full-time leader of junior club work in Steele county. The schools of the county will cooperate with the farm bureau in financing the work for a year. Miss Daily has been connected with Steele county club work since it was started, and has served it as part-time leader. Steele county has always been strong for club work, and has made a splendid record in that field.

### Kittson to Take Test Vote

A test vote on county agent work in Kittson county has been postponed until the general election in November.

### Finds Much Poor Seed Corn

Seed corn from the last season, no matter how well cared for, is far from being as good as was supposed.

This is the assertion of J. W. Lawton, Yellow Medicine county agent, who declares that out of a total of 10-ear samples of corn tested for each of 20 farmers in his county, several showed dead kernels, and that all the samples had many weak germinating kernels. In testing seed corn, take four kernels from each ear and test by themselves, rather than run a composite test, he advises.

### Back in the Harness

I. B. Johnson of Farmington, Minn., formerly a county agent in Indiana, a livestock specialist at the West Virginia agricultural college, and for three years state leader of county agents in South Dakota, has been chosen assistant manager of the Central Coöperative Commission association. Mr. Johnson resigned from extension work to engage in farming at Farmington. He is well and favorably known by extension people at University Farm.

### Marketing Association Planned

Disappointed with the marketing of their potato crop for several years, about 50 farmers near Battle Lake are planning a local marketing association, according to C. M. Kelehan, Ottertail county agent. Unless something can be done to help them market their crop to advantage next fall, many of them plan to go out of potato growing, he says. A committee has been appointed to secure loading facilities at the track.

### Aid of Local Paper Appreciated

Suspension of publication of a news bulletin by the Carver county farm bureau is regretted by Ben Kienholz, county agent. However, he says, local papers are being utilized in place of the bulletin and notices of important meetings are being freely published by all the papers. "We have been highly gratified that our papers are cooperating and giving publicity to all material from the farm bureau office," he says.

### Clarence Johnson's New Job

The appointment of Clarence Johnson as assistant county agent in the offices of Agent A. S. Grant, St. Louis county, is announced. Mr. Johnson was graduated from the Minnesota college of agriculture in the class of 1921. He will have charge of land clearing work in St. Louis county.

### Tidy Saving Made

Because his office has been able to pay farmers from \$1 to \$1.50 per hundred pounds more for clover seed than is being paid on a delivered basis by seed houses of the state, P. W. Huntmer, Stearns county agent, has handled practically all of the clover seed shown last year in the western part of his county. Up to March 1 a total of 26,606 pounds of medium red clover and 6,420 pounds of timothy were shipped to the De Kalb County Agricultural association in Illinois, he says.

## BOOKS AND ARTICLES WORTH THE READING

County Agent Leader Frank E. Balmer, complying with a request made at the recent conference of county agents at Faribault, that he prepare a list of books and other publications which would be of value to members of the organization, has submitted the following books and articles as being decidedly worth while:

"Agricultural Economics"—H. C. Taylor—Macmillan Co., New York (1919). \$2.50.

"Farm Management"—G. F. Warren—Macmillan Co., New York (1913). \$1.75.

"Marketing Agricultural Products"—H. B. Hibbard—D. Appleton & Co., New York City (1921). \$2.50.

"Efficient Marketing for Agriculture"—Theo. Macklin—Macmillan Co., New York (1921). \$3.00.

"Market Statistics"—Bulletin No. 980—U. S. Department of Agriculture. \$0.30.

"Denmark, A Coöperative Commonwealth"—F. C. Howe, Harcourt Brace & Co., New York (1921). \$2.00.

"What Is Democracy?"—L. H. Bailey, Comstock Publishing Co., Ithaca, N. Y. (1918). \$1.00.

"Universal Service"—L. H. Bailey, Sturgis & Walton Co., New York City (1918). \$1.00.

"Rural Life Problem of the United States"—Sir Horace Plunkett, Macmillan Co., New York (1910). \$1.25.

"Report of Country Life Commission"—Sturgis & Walton Co., New York City (1910). \$0.75.

"The Menace of New Privilege"—Geo. W. Alger—Article appearing in Atlantic Monthly for February, 1921. \$0.40.

"Some Aspects of the Farmers' Problems"—Bernard Baruch—Atlantic Monthly for July, 1921. \$0.40.

"The Message of the Farmers of Ireland"—Sir Horace Plunkett—November 26, 1921. issue of Survey. \$0.30.

"The National Influence of a Single Farm Community"—Bulletin No. 984—U. S. Department of Agriculture. \$0.20.

"Fundamental Principles of Coöperation in Agriculture"—G. Harold Powell—Circular No. 222—Agricultural Experiment Station, Berkeley, Cal.

"Rural Primary Groups"—A Study of Agricultural Neighborhoods—J. H. Kolb—Research Bulletin No. 51—Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

"The Farm Bureau Movement"—O. M. Kile—Macmillan Co., New York. \$2.00.

"The Demonstration Work"—O. B. Martin—Stratford Co., 12 Pearl Street, Boston, Mass. \$2.17.

"Growth of the Soil"—Knut Hamsun—two volumes—published by Alfred A. Knopf, 200 W. 42nd St., New York. \$4.00.

Mr. Balmer will be glad to hear from any agent as to any publications or books which he has read and regards as of special value to other agents. He suggests that efforts be made to interest local libraries in ordering more books pertaining to agriculture and rural life.

### Poultry Campaign Gets Results

With the close of a poultry campaign in Crow Wing county, E. G. Roth, county agent, believes that a mark of 20,000 baby chicks, all White Leghorns, will be exceeded.

"We realize that farmers with small acreage cleared, need some cash income, and chickens will furnish this with the least outlay of capital," he declares. "The tourist trade, a strong local market, the conditions of climate and soil, are all for good poultry production."

### Johnson's Appeal Effective

Because of the appeal made by Ed C. Johnson, Becker county agent, the county fair board voted a total of \$300 to be used for premiums for boys' and girls' club work.