

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 8

652 JUNIORS SPEND A WEEK AT UNIVERSITY FARM

SEVERAL new features which proved marked successes were introduced at the recent junior short course at University Farm. Six hundred fifty-two juniors—340 girls and 312 boys—registered for the week. With the exclusion of Ramsey county because of local registration, the Hennepin county delegation of 43, all from the country, was the largest. Pine county was second with 22, Isanti third with 18, and Blue Earth fourth with 15.

Various interests co-operated in making the attendance the largest for many years. The Great Northern, Northern Pacific, Soo, and M. and St. L. railroads contributed funds to help pay expenses of many juniors. The Minneapolis Journal provided transportation and maintenance for 25 dairy calf boys who missed out on their National Dairy Show trips last fall. The Farmer of St. Paul paid the expenses of the winning poultry club members, and the Russell Miller Milling company of Minneapolis did as much for members of advanced breadmaking teams. A good sized delegation from Winona county was furnished expense money by the Winona County Fair association as prizes for demonstrations and exhibits at the county fair last fall. Fair associations in a few scattering counties also sent a junior or two to the course, and sometimes county farm bureaus contributed for this purpose.

Training School for Young Leaders

For the first time a real training school for junior club leaders, principally older members who are qualified to teach others, was held. The daily attendance at the school averaged 60. Director F. W. Peck gave the opening talk, and a pleasant surprise was the appearance of W. H. Palmer, state club leader in Ohio, who gave the prospective leaders a good insight into the organization and management of Ohio club camps. T. A. Erickson, state leader, and his assistants instructed in club organizing, tours, exhibits, judging, rules, records, etc.

Director Peck in his address defined leadership as the ability which enables one to acquire "followership." We are not natural born leaders and we cannot buy this thing called leadership. We must get it step by step, by definite training and by actual experience in club work. We can only keep it by continually exercising it and working at it. Minnesota leads in the leadership project. Development of farming and homemaking offers a real field for leadership work.

Mr. Peck defined extension service as the giving to people the kind of information they can use in their business and in their living. The object of it all is to make a better type of agriculture, a

better citizenship, and a higher standard of living. The young people were told that a real chance to develop leadership is now offered them.

The Girls' Program

A program especially designed to give a wider vision and greater interest in 4-H club work was offered the girls. The "Club Girl," "Her Room," and "Her Club Meeting" were the subjects for study and discussion. As offshoots from these, such things as books, music, beauty of the countryside, everyday courtesies, and styles were studied with the aim of developing a well informed club girl and giving her a knowledge and appreciation of the good and beautiful. Folk dancing given in the music class and a style show put on by the college girls of the home economics division were popular features of this part of the program.

The "Next to nothing corner" and "Remember it with paper" classes gave the girls suggestions for making their rooms attractive with the minimum expenditure of money and time. The girls were instructed in making wrapping paper lamp shades, enamel painted ink bottles and vases, the framing of pictures and the making of attractive laundry bags. To make the program complete suggestions for club meetings were presented under such headings as "A meeting worth having," "Spreading the news," "Lift your voices," "Refreshments for club meetings," "Work's over, let's play," "It's good even though canned." The girls were instructed in the importance of having a well balanced club program including work, singing, recreation and refreshments. They were taught how to organize and conduct a club meeting and how to make and serve refreshments. They also learned songs and games they could use at their own club meetings.

Breadmaking, Rope Work, Poultry

Fourteen counties sent as many teams of two girls each to the contest for advanced breadmakers in the central district. The team from Mound, Hennepin county, composed of Lillian Kelly and Walborg Johnson, placed first and will represent the district at the State Fair. The Anoka team was second. Other teams in this contest came from Clarissa, Wheaton, Farmington, Jordan, Olivia, Lindstrom, Ortonville, Kerkhoven, Villard, Swanville, Waconia, and Grandy. The Polk county team, composed of Helen Gibbons and Cora Walters, won highest honors in the northwest district, second place going to the Fergus Falls team. Other teams taking part in this contest came from Warren, Glyndon, Bemidji, Gerard, and Hawley.

Rope work was a part of the short course for the first time. One hundred

ten boys were enrolled and 102 took part in the halter making contest at the close. Thomas O'Leary of Breckenridge turned in a well made halter in nine and one-half minutes and was placed first. Special prizes were given the first ten, the other winners in their order being Ambrose Simon of Elba, Oliver Mason of Tracy, Paul Dobias of Angus, Aldrich Faltis of Sleepy Eye, Otto Fahning of Cleveland, Herman Summerville of Campbell, Russell Brady of Doran, William Powers of East Grand Forks, and Leonard O'Leary of Breckenridge. Every boy took his halter home with him.

One lone girl and 100 boys made up the poultry class conducted by N. E. Chapman, specialist. Thirty-five entered the contest for judging standard bred poultry. Marvin Mullins of Lake Wilson was first and Clifford Evjen of Madelia second. Judging eggs, 10 entries: Harold Meister of Milaca, first; Kenneth Wing of Bemidji, second. Judging laying qualities, 23 entries: Elmer Haase of Mora, first; Cyril Michall, second. Judging fat poultry, 21 entries: Luke Dusek of Floodwood, first; Vincent Scott of Rose Creek, second. All contestants were given poultry books or subscriptions to poultry or farm papers.

Other class work centered in livestock, the corn field, the vegetable garden, the potato patch, the fruit garden and the bee colony. All classes were well attended.

Banquet and Verbal Bouquets

Dean W. C. Coffey met the juniors officially for the first time when he was introduced as toastmaster at the banquet Wednesday evening. The big dining room was filled to capacity. A. H. Larson, registrar and instructor at the Northwest School, again led the singing. The speakers were Director F. W. Peck, Principal D. D. Mayne, E. C. Leedy of the Great Northern, John Haw of the Northern Pacific, C. C. Lake of the M. & St. L., J. M. Paul of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce association, B. H. Akers of The Farmer, W. H. Palmer of Ohio, J. J. Louis of the Dayton company, and Herman Roe, president of the State Fair association. Miss Nell Merrill appeared in two recitals, and club juniors from St. Louis county and Markville in Pine county presented stunts.

It is not too much to say that the feature addresses of the evening were given by the juniors themselves. Willard Weeks spoke convincingly of club work in Winona county, and was followed by Melvin Campbell, who explained recent club developments in Redwood county, and by Harvey Meyer who described the

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MAY, 1925

CUT AND DRIED EXTENSION SERVICE

After all is said and done about having our work so highly organized and cut to fit definite patterns for various situations it may be well to hesitate and consider other phases of this many-sided extension job. How far can one go in this so-called pre-prepared, pre-digested and often pre-metabolized program and directive directions as to when, where and how to take the various prescribed doses?

How warranted are we in sometimes assuming the efficiency experts' attitude of reducing lost motion to a minimum, of redeeming all wasted moments and of job analyzing all over the plant with the result of a machine-like precision of action that rarely misses fire but too often just keeps running aimlessly—but efficiently on and on?

Is there something to the spontaneity of the worker—to his originality and initiative—so that his personality and his influence, though not always ordered by prearranged and codified directions, shall be found effective in bringing new viewpoints and new incentives to others for their advancement?

Extension work means first of all a human contact, a teaching attitude of purpose, but withal a leadership in human thinking, in social stimulus and in moral intention. Organized effort should not be confused with cold, calculated, prescribed recipes for action with personality and humanizing influences left out, but rather as a more orderly well thought-out plan of procedure and the use of such mechanical aids as will supplement personal efforts but not substitute for them.

Club Goal of 2,000 Reached

The ambition of club leaders in St. Louis county to enroll 2,000 members in 1925 is about to be realized. At the last report only about 50 enrollments were needed to make 2,000. R. A. Turner of Washington, who is in general charge of club work in central and western states, says that with 2,000 members St. Louis will top all other counties in his territory. The 1924 enrollment in St. Louis county was 1,733.

COUNTRY BOOK SHELF

A. B. Graham, in charge of the division of subject matter specialists of the extension service of the United States Department of Agriculture, recommends three books as being of outstanding interest to extension workers. These books are "Principles of Advertising," by Tupper, Hotchkiss, Hollingsworth, and Parsons; "Visual Instruction," by Dr. Freeman of the University of Chicago, and "Humanizing of Knowledge," by James Harvey Robinson.

Of the last named Mr. Graham says that Chapter VI is worth the price of the book. "Visual Instruction," he adds, brings out some very interesting things as to the relative merits of movies, chalk talks, slides, maps, charts, etc., when used independently or in combination, with special reference to their effect and powers of retention.

"Old Homes Made New," a picture book issued by the American Lumberman, 431 S. Dearborn street, Chicago, is nothing short of a gem in visualizing the old changed into the new, says Mr. Graham. He also characterizes Kansas extension bulletin No. 49, on a study of faces, as one of the finest pieces of teaching by contrast that he has ever seen.

What Butterfat Costs Producer

According to calculations made by W. L. Cavert and farmers attending a Winona county extension meeting the estimated cost of butterfat was 46 cents a pound when labor, feed, and other incidental items were included, with the cows producing at the rate of 200 pounds each yearly.

Gets It Across to This Farmer

At the close of a livestock meeting addressed by an extension service specialist a Winona farmer remarked, "I learned more from that talk than I have learned in many years of experience."

FARM RADIO PROGRAM

Monday, May 4, 8 p.m.—"The Editors' Short Course," W. P. Kirkwood, University Farm; 8:15—"Annual Hog Pastures," H. G. Zavoral, University Farm.

Wednesday, May 6, 8 p.m.—"The World's Flax," A. F. G. Raikes, The Northwestern Miller; 8:15—"What Are Certified Seed Potatoes?" A. G. Tolaas, State Department of Agriculture.

Monday, May 11, 8 p.m.—"Shearing Sheep and Care of Wool," W. C. Coffey, dean of University Department of Agriculture; 8:15—"Supplementing Pastures for Dairy Cattle," O. G. Schaefer, University Farm.

Wednesday, May 13, 8 p.m.—"South Dakota," W. C. Allen, publisher Dakota Farmer and Northwest Farmstead; 8:15—"Summer Marketing of Veal and Poultry," Hugh J. Hughes, State Department of Agriculture.

Monday, May 18, 8 p.m.—"Farm Labor Prospects," J. D. Williams, State Industrial Commission, St. Paul; 8:15—"The Crop Outlook," H. A. Bellows.

Wednesday, May 20, 8 p.m.—"North Dakota," J. L. Coulter, president of Agricultural College, Fargo; 8:15—"International Institute of Agriculture," N. J. Holmberg, State Department of Agriculture.

Monday, May 25, 8 p.m.—"Making Alfalfa Hay," member of Deere-Webber company; 8:15—"Getting Rid of the Barberry," E. C. Stakman, University Farm.

Wednesday, May 27, 8 p.m.—"Let's Go Visiting" (one-half hour), W. C. Coffey, dean of University Department of Agriculture.

EIGHT NATIONALITIES IN ONE NUTRITION GROUP

Forty local leaders from iron range towns, locations and neighboring farmers' clubs are carrying the nutrition project to their home communities.

In the Virginia northside group eight nationalities are represented and each member is passing on the work to her own people.

To secure iodine in the diet, the leaders from eight groups reported that Irish moss was being added to the dietary in many of the homes. Some of the leaders served it at their meeting and showed the women how to prepare it. Irish moss was not a new food to many of the foreignborn women, but was not being used by them in this country as they did not know how to secure it.

The Parkville leaders have organized a gymnasium class in connection with their nutrition class. The group meets once a week in the school gymnasium. Exercises and games presented in the nutrition project are used. These evenings are very popular.

At Meyers one mother has become so interested in better food selection that she is keeping a food record for a month, so as to have a real check on the efficiency of the family dietary.

SEED SURVEY SHOWS

THE NEED OF TESTING

County Agent W. E. Watson of Dakota county reports the results of an interesting seed corn survey. Pupils in 72 schools brought in corn from 413 farms. Two hundred thirteen of the samples tested 90 to 100 per cent, 100 samples 70 to 90 per cent, 46 from 30 to 70 per cent, and 54 from 0 to 30 per cent. "We are not urging farmers to use this test as the final test for their seed corn," says the agent, "but rather as a guide to the general situation in the county. The conclusion has been drawn that while there is plenty of seed that will grow there is so much that is poor that it is especially desirable for everyone to test before planting."

BARLEY STRAW MENU

CAUSES LUMPY JAW

Dr. C. P. Fitch, university veterinarian, confirms a report by the agricultural agent of Lake of the Woods county that the feeding of barley straw is a contributing cause of lumpy jaw among cattle. "It is well known," says Dr. Fitch, "that the barley beards injure the gums and tongue and get between the teeth of the cattle and thus give the lumpy jaw germ a better opportunity to grow." The Lake of the Woods agent says that owners of sick cattle are substituting other feeds for the barley straw.

Stegner Turns Artist

Agent W. D. Stegner of Houston is using stencil letters and drawings to help put the message across in his territory.

Poultry House on Wheels

Winona county has purchased the Houston county farm bureau model poultry house and will move it every two weeks from one creamery to another.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES AT DULUTH AND MORRIS

The conferences of county agricultural agents and extension workers at Duluth, Morris, Mankato, and Owatonna last week and this were all well attended and thoroughly interesting. It is not possible to outline in this issue of Extension Service News the important things discussed. That will be reserved for the June 1 issue.

S. B. Cleland presided at the Duluth meeting, and F. W. Peck, director of extension, outlined some of the major problems with which county agents and extension workers are at present deeply concerned. C. H. Hanson, specialist in visual instruction for the United States Department of Agriculture, gave a lantern slide lecture on the uses of photography in the county agent's work, followed by round-table discussion on photographic problems with members of the group.

Other features were a discussion of the grasshopper situation by Stewart Lockwood, representing the United States Department of Agriculture; the availability of pyrotol by A. J. Schwantes of the division of engineering, University Farm, and of publicity by L. A. Rossman, publisher of the Grand Rapids Herald Review, and W. P. Kirkwood, editor's office, University Department of Agriculture. Present were:

George W. Larson, Chisago county; E. G. Roth, Crow Wing; S. A. Aldrich, Carlton; A. W. Jacob, Aitkin; A. W. Aamodt, St. Louis (south); August Neubauer, St. Louis (north); A. H. Frick, Itasca; William Clinch, Cook; J. J. McCann, Pennington; Fred Idtse, Hubbard; W. A. Peters, Wadena; D. C. Dvoracek, Beltrami; W. F. Hammargren, Pine; M. M. Abbott, Koochiching; R. J. Bibelhausen, Lake of the Woods; and B. H. Gustafson, Lake; Miss Julia Newton, state leader of home demonstration work; T. A. Erickson, state leader of boys' and girls' club work; D. D. Mayne, principal of School of Agriculture, all of University Farm; Miss Anna Tikkanen, Virginia, home demonstration agent; Miss Clover Sabin, Duluth, urban home demonstration agent; Harold Aase, Virginia, county club agent, and Miss Edna Bender, Virginia, assistant club agent, St. Louis county.

The Morris meeting, which came next, was presided over by William E. Morris and was attended by the following:

M. A. Thorfinson, Kittson county; L. S. Stallings, Wilkin; A. A. Lund, Clearwater; C. M. Kelehan and Robert Shaw, Ottertail; F. F. Moore, Traverse; W. K. Dyer, Meeker; E. N. Johnson, Renville; C. D. Patterson, Lac qui Parle; Skuli Hrutfiord, Yellow Medicine; John Taylor, Roseau; W. A. Peck, livestock commissioner, South St. Paul; F. L. Behling, Moorhead, representing the American Agricultural Chemical company; Mr. Peck, F. E. Balmer, Mr. Kirkwood, Miss Newton, and Mr. Hanson.

Following a talk on photography by Mr. Hanson, Mr. Peck outlined for the county agents of the district some of the problems confronting the extension service this year. In the afternoon J. C. Morrison, publisher of the Morris Tribune, discussed the question, "What Local Papers Want and Do Not Want," and was followed by Mr. Kirkwood with some

comment on the kind of copy furnished local papers by county agents. Friday was devoted to the presentation of facts with regard to the West Central School of Agriculture, the carload baby beef and the ton litter contests, experiment station work with special attention to phosphate, the boys' and girls' club work for 1925, and similar subjects.

Further information about all four meetings will be given in the June issue.

MRS. THOMPSON'S DEATH SHOCKS MANY FRIENDS

News of the death of Mrs. M. J. Thompson, wife of the superintendent of the Northeast station, and daughter of George F. Howard, an assistant state club leader, came as a shock to extension people and to the many friends of the family at University Farm and in St. Anthony Park. The funeral, which was held Wednesday, April 22, in the church at Woodland, a suburb of Duluth, was attended in a body by extension people called to Duluth by the northeast district meeting. The burial was in Calvary cemetery near by.

Leola Marie Howard was graduated from the high school at Rochester, and in 1911 finished the home economics course at University Farm. Mr. Thompson was a graduate in agriculture the same year and they were married three years later.

Mrs. Thompson is survived by her husband; three children, a girl of 9, a boy of 7, and a boy of 3; her father, and three sisters. As her strength and time permitted she assisted in extension work, one summer judging home economics projects in northeast Minnesota club circles, and frequently being a judge of home economics work at county fairs.

Aldrich's Milk Campaign a Success

The use-more-milk campaign carried on in Carlton county in March won a fair degree of success, says Agent S. A. Aldrich. Publicity in many forms was invoked to give it impetus. Fourteen underweight pupils at Cloquet have averaged a gain of two and a quarter pounds in weight after drinking milk two and a half months.

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work in his home town of Remer in Cass county, and by Blanche Keller who told with splendid effect of her experiences in club work and proposed a new motto, "Do It With a Club."

Received by the Governor

The afternoons were used for sight seeing trips, taken in chartered street cars, and for sports and games both outdoors and in the "gym." When the juniors visited the capitol, Governor Christianson was on hand to do the honors in person. All the juniors were given a chance to visit the prison at Stillwater, the packing plant at South St. Paul, the Historical society building, the Webb publishing plant, the Ford plant, fish hatcheries, cathedral in St. Paul, Minnehaha Falls, Minneapolis Art Institute, and Dayton's department store.

Moving picture programs were presented every evening to a crowded auditorium. An assembly for girls was held at 7:30 a.m. each day, a special assembly for boys at 11:30 a.m. and a general assembly at 12:30 p.m.

CARLTON ACHIEVEMENT DAY ENTERTAINED 200

Nearly 200 persons attended the home management Achievement Day program at Barnum March 17. At 9 a.m. the reception committee was on hand at the high school and as the guests entered they were asked to register and were decorated with a shamrock card bearing their name. They were then invited to inspect the exhibit room where eleven of the fourteen groups had interesting displays.

At 12 o'clock the lunch committee gave the ever welcome call to lunch. A long table, seating about 75 and decorated with large jardinières of arbor-vitae and shamrock cutouts, was set in the main hall of the school building. The 125 who took lunch were served by young girls of the families represented.

After lunch everyone went to the auditorium where a fine program was presented. Mrs. McQuoid, chairman of the day, introduced the mayor, who gave the welcoming address. Music was furnished by the Barnum orchestra, and there was some good chorus singing by leaders and others. Short reports were given by group leaders and demonstrations and playlets by members of the groups. C. H. Welch and Miss Bull, the specialist, spoke briefly. County Agent S. A. Aldrich gave a summary of results of the project. Each demonstration or stunt given by groups illustrated some particular phase of the project. P. E. Bowen, superintendent of the school, was everywhere when needed and contributed largely to the success of the very successful day.

"EXTENSIONERS" PLAN PICNIC FOR JUNE 22

The annual picnic of extension people will be held Monday, June 22, at a place yet to be selected. J. F. Kuehn is in charge of general arrangements. Two committees have been appointed. Miss Marie Eckert is chairman of the committee on food, other members being Mrs. Balmer, Miss Slocum, and Messrs. Billings and Searles. Messrs. Wilson, Drew and Brown, Miss Hott, and Mrs. Randolph will serve as a committee on sports. County agents and former members of the extension staff will be invited.

Debates Maintain Interest

Farm bureau units in Winona county have worked up a lot of interest in debates on the question, "Resolved, that the average farm boy of today will find greater opportunities in farming than in town or city occupations."

Pruning, Grafting, Spraying Studied

Orchard pruning demonstrations are well attended in Winona county. Owners have also been studying bridge grafting and spraying under the tutelage of County Agent McNulty. The oyster shell scale was found in two out of five orchards examined.

Nutrition Project Reaches 332

Several weeks ago 332 persons had been reached by local leaders in nutrition in Lincoln county. All the groups report enthusiastic meetings, says the agent.

LOCAL LEADER WORK IN FARM MANAGEMENT

Minnesota is using the local leader method in farm management extension work.

In April a course of four lessons in farm management was completed in Houston county under the direction of W. L. Cavert, farm management specialist. Sixteen local groups were organized, the leaders of which met the extension specialist once each month either at Houston or Caledonia. In January 185 persons from the 16 communities attended classes held by the local leaders. Twelve classes, attended by 160 persons, were held in the 16 communities in February, and 12 classes, attended by 165 persons, were held in 15 communities in March. The report for April had not been submitted when this was written.

All the lessons centered in four subjects, namely, the economics of hog production, making a net worth statement, the economics of the dairy business, and planning a better cropping system.

"The success of this work may be attributed," says Mr. Cavert, "to the thorough way in which County Agent W. D. Stegner organized and followed up the project, and to the fact that it proved possible to secure capable young farmers with perhaps more than average education to act as local leaders."

ST. LOUIS WILL HAVE 3 COW TESTING GROUPS

Cow testing association work will be introduced in St. Louis county June 1 if plans under joint consideration by the County Agricultural club and the extension forces are carried out. The club has offered to appropriate \$150 a month for the work until January 1. It is hoped to organize three associations—one in the iron range country and either two associations or one large one in the vicinity of Duluth. The farmers themselves will raise \$150, or \$50 for each association, thus matching the dollars given by the club. County Agent Aamodt of South St. Louis says that 600 cows can be signed up for association testing in the Duluth territory. County Agent Neubauer, in the north, will try to sign up enough for a third association. E. A. Hanson, superintendent of testing in Minnesota, reports a total of 87 active associations.

POULTRY GROUPS IN MURRAY ENTHUSIASTIC

The 15 groups in Murray county that are taking the poultry project under Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist, seem to be trying to establish an attendance record. Reports on the first series of local meetings showed an attendance of 100 in six groups with a total membership of 103. Nine other groups with a membership of 167 had an attendance of 158 at their first meetings. Leaders reported good interest. Eight brooder houses had either been built or were in process of construction. Other members plan to build brooder houses and install hard coal brooders. Three members will build laying houses. The Southwest Leeds group reported that nearly all of its 19 members will have standardbred flocks by this fall, although the majority have mixed flocks at present.

LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT DAYS GROW POPULAR

Many communities are holding local achievement days before the county-wide meeting. C. L. McNelly, agent for Fillmore county, says that more than 300 persons attended the local clothing achievement day celebration at Mabel, March 21. The exhibit and program served to measure the achievements of the four groups near Mabel. More than 100 garments were exhibited by the Mabel, Swastica, Willing Workers, and Progressive C. T. N. groups which now are anxiously awaiting county achievement day. The citation for the counties of Brown, Waton—which the 25 groups enrolled will participate, will be held in Preston the latter part of June.

HIGH YIELDING GOPHER OATS SOLD FOR SEED

Gopher oats yielded so well in Blue Earth county last year that the seed has been in great demand this spring. H. P. McElroy of Mankato township, who raised 107 bushels by weight to the acre in 1924, has been shipping Gopher seed oats to Iowa, Oregon, Illinois, Wisconsin, and many points in Minnesota, says Agent L. E. McMillan. Mrs. J. C. Severson, who raised 1,000 bushels last year, has sold it all in lots of five and ten bushels. All of the Fred O. True crop in 1924 was also sold for seed.

Farm Club Edits Paper

Members of the Cameron Progressive Farm club furnished all the copy for a recent issue of the Lake Wilson Pilot. Twelve community meetings in March were attended by 740 persons. Some of the groups, says Agent A. G. Mereness, are making good use of program material supplied by the extension division.

Girls "Adopt" Underweights

Girls in the junior high school class at Delavan, Faribault county, are promoting health work as conducted by club members. Each girl has adopted some child in the lower grades who is under weight, the object being to increase the child's weight by proper food and exercise and also to correct faulty postures.

Insurance Against Failure

Agent Willis Lawson of Brown county reported at the end of March that 375 individual applications for inoculating bacteria for alfalfa had been sent to the United States Department of Agriculture. In Martin county nearly 150 farmers have ordered government inoculation for alfalfa, sweet clover, and soybeans.

Olmsted's Short Course Grows

Two hundred thirty-four country boys and girls, or a gain of about 100 over last year, attended the 1925 Olmsted county short course which had the backing of Rochester business men and the extension people.

Fillmore to Drive Out Bovine TB

The Fillmore county commissioners have adopted the area plan of eradicating bovine tuberculosis and will co-operate with federal and state governments to that end.

THREE COUNTIES JOIN FOR CROP IMPROVEMENT

First organization plans have been carried out for a crop improvement association for the counties of Brown, Watonwan, and Cottonwood. An official name has not yet been selected, but H. O. Reid of Comfrey has been chosen president, W. C. Schwieger of Bingham Lake, vice president, and J. Brogger of Butterfield, secretary. The board of directors consists of two farmers and one banker from each county.

The association will exchange and distribute seeds and hold a combined show which will be alternated in the three counties year by year. It will be affiliated with the Minnesota Crop Improvement association.

What Agent C. L. McNelly calls a better crop campaign in Fillmore county culminated in the placing of orders for 600 bushels of Gopher oats and goodly quantities of Minsturdi barley and Winaona flax for trial this year. Fourteen meetings were held. The agent says the alfalfa acreage increased approximately 700 per cent last year and that another big increase is certain this year.

Selling Like Hot Cakes

When Agent P. W. Huntemer prepared his report for March more than 5,000 pounds of Grimm alfalfa and 3,000 pounds of sweet clover seed had been ordered by farmers. Alfalfa and sweet clover meetings were held in six different communities by the agent during the month.

Pigs Thrive on Spuds and Alfalfa

To conserve grain a Thief River Falls farmer fed alfalfa hay and potatoes to his Tamworth swine herd all winter and says the combination made a fine balanced ration. The facts are reported by Agent J. J. McCann.

"Look as Good as New"

Mrs. C. M. Connor, Carlton county, reported refinishing six chairs and a table as a result of the lesson on "Refinishing Furniture" given in the home management project. "They look just like new and cost only \$2.20 and 48 hours of labor," she says.

Fewer "Weak Points" Another Year

Members of a farmers' club in Le Sueur county are analyzing the weak points in the county's booth at the state fair and figuring out how the exhibit can be strengthened next year.

Land Clearing Contest Started

Business men of Baudette, Williams, and other communities in Lake of the Woods county are co-operating to put on a land clearing contest among settlers.

City and Country Pull Together

The Blue Earth county agent is working out plans with a committee of the Mankato Chamber of Commerce for a big get-together rally of farmers and business men early in June.

Beets and Fertilizers

The American Beet Sugar company will try out various forms of fertilizers on beet plots in Pennington county.