

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS



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Some More Changes In Extension Service

Leave of absence until July, 1929, granted W. L. Cavert has necessitated several changes on the extension staff. R. L. Donovan will on October 1st take over the farm management demonstration work carried on by Mr. Cavert. E. A. Hanson, now in charge of testing associations, will succeed Mr. Donovan as dairy extension specialist, and Ramer D. Leighton will succeed Mr. Hanson. Mr. Donovan was once with the Illinois extension service as a farm management specialist, and also had charge of extension activities connected with demonstration farms in Minnesota. Messrs. Hanson and Leighton have won promotions by good work in the dairy service.

On October 1 Mary May Miller will become home management specialist to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mary Bull. She comes from the Kentucky Agricultural College where she has been home management extension specialist since 1921. She was born on a South Dakota farm and is a graduate of the North Dakota Agricultural College. She also studied at Columbia University. Her experience includes several years as a teacher in high schools in Minnesota and North Dakota, and as supervisor of the practice house at the State College for Women at Denton, Texas.

Copies of the Waynesboro, Va., News, an eight column folio paper, all home print, which was established the last of July by W. P. Kirkwood and M. W. Myers, have been received at University Farm. Mr. Kirkwood is on sabbatical leave and purposes to spend the year in practical newspaper work. The News is issued every Monday and Thursday and, if the town develops as expected, a daily edition will be printed. The du Pont Rayon company will build a plant at Waynesboro and other enterprises are going in.

Club Boys' Potatoes Certified

The acre fields of 11 of the 12 boys composing the Forest Lake Potato club passed certification when an inspector dropped in recently. The boy who failed was handicapped by a quack infested piece of ground. Some of the patches were hand hoed and most of them were sprayed three times with a high pressure outfit. The boys grow Ohios and Cobblers. Orvie Anderson, who knows his potatoes, is club leader.

One Less Bachelor Agent

M. C. Hansen, agent in Waseca county, and Miss Hazel Mattson, clerk and stenographer in his office, were married at the home of the bride's parents at Hallock on August 1. They will make their home at Waseca. All join in wishing them a long and happy life together.

1928 AN EVENTFUL YEAR FOR DR. O. B. JESNESS

Congratulations for Dr. O. B. Jesness, by reason of his selection as chief of the division of agricultural economics, were soon followed by condolences from many friends because of the death of his wife which occurred in a hospital in Pine City. Mrs. Jesness had been ill some time, but friends and acquaintances were unprepared for the news of her untimely death.

Dr. Jesness is well known to many in the extension family. He is a native Minnesotan, a graduate of our state university, and has spoken before the annual extension conference. He has visited Minnesota regularly and only recently completed work at University Farm for a doctor's degree. Of him Dr. Andrew Boss says:

"College men know Dr. Jesness as one of our sound economists. He has been active in research and is rated as an excellent teacher. Combined with these qualifications is his familiarity with farm problems and his grasp on the marketing and co-operative fields. Minnesota is extremely fortunate to secure him."

TURKEYS DOING FINE UNDER MINNESOTA PLAN

Billings and Kelehan, visiting the turkey project co-operators in West Ottertail, found the turks thriving and everybody happy. One farm woman has 600 birds as compared with 98 last year and all are doing well. Another woman has 450 in the enclosures. A Pelican Rapids man told of his losses last year when he permitted his turkeys, 250 of them, to run in the chicken yards and lost all but 77 by blackhead. This year he is sticking to the Minnesota plan, and of 198 turkeys in two enclosures, where they can't even look at chickens, he has had no losses.

Minnesota and Iowa Confer

Messrs. Balmer, Erickson, Cleland, Brown, and McNelly motored to Mason City August 5 to confer with corresponding leaders of the Iowa extension service. A wide range of subjects bearing upon the county agent program of work were discussed informally. The Iowa service was also represented by its director, the state leader of home economics work, and the president and secretary of the county agent association of the state.

Wolves Absolved; Dogs Blamed

Taylor of Beltrami makes the frank observation that "most of the sheep killed by wolves in this county are killed by dogs."

Building Bee on Fair Grounds

Poultry keepers of the Bemidji area organized a building bee to make a substantial addition to the poultry building on the county fair grounds.

New Club Building Named for Erickson

That was a fine surprise—a real heart warmer—for T. A. Erickson, state club leader, when in introducing him at the dedicatory exercises of the new club building on the Nicollet county fair grounds at St. Peter, R. A. Fischer, county agent, said the structure would be christened the Erickson 4-H club building in honor of the man who has made club work go in Minnesota. Mr. Erickson had been kept entirely in the dark as to the name until the county agent spoke and displayed a plate engraved with the name of the new building, a statement of the dedicatory ceremonies, and the names and stations of all active clubs in the county. The plate is to find a permanent place in the building.

The exercises were held in the presence of thousands in front of the grandstand. Walter Schultz, president of the county club organization and vice president of the state association, gave the welcoming address. Speakers who followed were R. A. Turner of the Washington office, J. S. Jones of the State Farm Bureau, Mr. Erickson, and F. E. Balmer. Mr. Jones spoke for the livestock interests and pointed to the record made by two Nicollet county club boys who exhibited the grand champion and reserve grand champion baby beeves at the last Junior Livestock Show.

The new building was filled to overflowing with exhibits and other club features at the recent fair. It is a large brick and frame structure built especially for junior club members by substantial subscriptions from business men of St. Peter, by money raised at entertainments and socials by the 4-H clubs of the county, and by a small appropriation by the county board. All club activities except the work in home economics will center in the new building. Upper rooms will be used as dormitories for club boys attending the fair.

One Area Test Sufficient

Just the once over was sufficient to put Carlton county on the modified accredited area list. The cows of the county were tested by 16 veterinarians in two weeks and only one-half of 1 per cent reacted. Nine of the townships had no reactors at all and several had only one or two each, says the county agent. Only 58 farms in the county had reactors and only one of them was heavily infected. "Of 27 counties tested we have the lowest percentage of reactors," the agent adds.

Clover Seed Outlook Fine

More clover seed to sell than in 1927 and at a better price is the outlook for Koochiching county growers, says Bibelhausen.

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STAYING QUALITIES

To clinch his point in a recent semi-editorial article in Farmstead, Stock & Home, that county agents who stick are of greatest value to the people and the service, H. M. Harden, associate editor, pointed to the long term record of County Agent L. O. Jacob in Anoka county and the conditions under which the work has been carried on there. Laying the premises for the Anoka county illustration, Mr. Harden said:

"County agent work, like many other activities, is a specialized business. It requires the closest attention to details, the acme of tactfulness, and a thorough knowledge of the local problems to be attacked.

"I have sometimes thought that it was really essential that a county agent remain at a single post for a period of years in order that the best results might be accomplished. I think I have noted the shifting of agricultural agents from county to county when I was convinced that each was just beginning to get grounded where he was capable of the best service. Therefore, the growing tendency to retain county agents from year to year, until they become fixtures in the agricultural activities in their respective counties, I am greatly inclined to welcome. It seems to me that the agents who stick year after year are bound to be the most valuable to their communities."

F. E. Balmer, state leader, says there are ten Minnesota county agents who have served individual counties ten years or longer and that each of 22 others has served a single county for periods ranging from five to nine years. Thus fully half of Minnesota agents have been engaged in their counties for a period of five years or more.

FOR BETTER COWS, NOT MORE

Agricultural extension work is supplemented by outside interests in various commendable ways. One of the latest is the Cream Can Contest originated by Farmstead, Stock & Home for the purpose of cutting costs of butterfat production and popularizing the keeping of records. It is hoped to reach many patrons of creameries who are not members of cow testing associations. The publishers have prepared a handy herd record book for the use of those entering the contest and will present certificates to

creamery patrons making an average gain of 20 or more pounds of butterfat sold per cow and to the patron of each creamery making the largest average gain in number of pounds of butterfat sold per cow.

Drew Going to Boy Scout National

J. M. Drew of the extension staff has accepted an invitation to be the guest of the fifth national training conference of the Boy Scouts of America while assisting as advisor and executive in putting over the program of rope work. The conference will be held at Ithaca, N. Y., seat of Cornell University, September 5 to 12. Mrs. Drew will accompany her husband and they will revisit old scenes at Cornell where they were students together. A coach load of scout executives will go from the Twin Cities to the conference.

U's Dynamometer at Seven Fairs

The university's dynamometer, a machine for measuring the pulling power of horses, has been used this season at county fairs at Hallock, Wadena, Laverne, and Jackson, and will be used at the Appleton fair September 14 and 15, at New Richland on the 20th, and at Northfield on the 27th. Contests for light and heavy teams are arranged for suitable cash prizes. The world's record for the light class, or teams weighing less than 3,000 pounds, is 3,100 pounds, and for the heavy class of teams weighing 3,000 pounds or more, 3,475 pounds.

36 Flocks in New Lamb Project

Thirty-six flock masters or firms have enrolled in the lamb production contest, which started along the lines of carload baby beef work to locate efficient sheep raisers and to demonstrate the best methods of breeding, feeding and managing. Pennington and Roseau counties have four entrymen each, and Fillmore, Kittson, and Lake of the Woods counties have three each. Twenty-one counties have at least one entry. Results will be announced soon after the expiration of 135 days, the time limit of the contest.

New Land Clearing Specialist

B. H. Gustafson has gone back to the north country, having resigned as land clearing specialist to represent a dynamite company out of Duluth. He has been succeeded in University employ by Alvin Stinson, a graduate of the River Falls, Wis., normal school, who was associated some time with M. J. Thompson at the Northeast Experiment Station. Mr. Stinson will continue the field research and investigational program of the land clearing section and will do extension work from time to time as needed.

First Calf Club in Lake

Lake county has its first 4-H calf club, members of which are being sponsored by business men of Two Harbors. The organization meeting was attended by all the sponsors and by County Agent S. A. Aldrich of Carlton and some of his best club members who gave a demonstration of calf club work. Speakers from Duluth were also present. Later all the sponsors turned out for a day to join calf club members in a tour. From this beginning County Agent Grinager looks for a great increase in membership next year.

Carload Contest No. 3 Ends; No. 4 Started

The third Minnesota carload baby beef contest was brought to a close ten days ago when official figures were given out by W. E. Morris, livestock specialist in charge. As the feeding period had been changed from 450 days to 410 days, the calves were not as heavy as most lots in the previous contests.

James Ellsworth of Rock county had the heaviest load and was declared the winner. His calves averaged 953 pounds. He won the first contest in 1926. Walter Oelke of Faribault county was second again with a load that averaged 885.7 pounds. O. A. Solvie of Stevens county, who placed first last year, was third this year, his 15 baby beeves averaging 883.1 pounds. T. B. Hicks of Redwood county, a new entryman, had the fourth heaviest lot, 870.25 pounds average, and F. J. Sheffield, also of Redwood, the fifth, 863.25 pounds. Other winners in their order were Ed Karlen of Mower county, Daly brothers of Martin county, H. C. Hansen of Redwood county, John C. Wester of Nobles county, and C. O. Gilfillan of Redwood.

The Ellsworth calves received grain three times daily. When sold in the Sioux City market they netted Mr. Ellsworth \$120 a head not counting the shipping expenses. He believes that early feeding of grain helped materially to get the weight that won the contest, and that his practice of raising his own calves contributed to the financial success of the enterprise.

"Raising one's own calves and feeding grain to them early are important practices brought out by the third contest," says Mr. Morris. "The third contest demonstrated, as did the others, that big thick, meaty calves carry the most weight and are the most profitable, and that successful baby beef feeders are getting their calves from medium to large cows and are using large type bulls."

Preparations for the fourth annual contest, with 30 entries, are well advanced. County agents organize the project, confer with the entrymen from time to time, and help to weigh up the loads when the 410 feeding days have expired. Eight individual farmers or farm firms in Redwood county have been enrolled by Agent Lynn Sheldon for the 1928-29 race. Nobles county has four entrymen, and Cottonwood, Martin and Mower three each.

Poultry Sanitation Contest

The United States Egg Society and the Poultry Research Society of America are sponsoring the second national poultry farm sanitation contest for agricultural agents. Some \$3,000 in cash prizes will be awarded during the three-year period of the contest. The object is to better conditions on farms where poultry is raised. A Kansas county agent won the contest last year. The egg society's address is 192 North Clark st., Chicago.

Can You Make Use of These?

Multigraphed copies of the standard ration for egg production are available for county agents in lots of 100 or more. Address the Bulletin Room, University Farm.

130 Club Teams to Demonstrate at Fair

Three hundred thirty-five home economics teams in boys' and girls' club work had taken part as this was written in elimination contests for the high honor of representing their districts in state contests at the Minnesota State Fair and Northwest Livestock Show. From this number 40 teams had been selected to compete at the fair.

The garment making teams, four from each district, will represent 6,800 members of sewing clubs. The baking teams, also four from a district, and individual bakers, are the pick of 2,700 members in bread and cake making projects. The district canning champions will come from the ranks of 3,000 canning club members.

Some 110 individual bread makers have won the right to demonstrate at the fair and from their number, as the result of their demonstrations, will be selected the state grand champion and the Class A and Class B champions.

Elimination contests in the canning project are in progress, with 50 or more teams to be chosen for the finals at the fair. For the first time the canners will be represented by their champion team at the National Boys' and Girls' Club Congress in Chicago next fall.

Agricultural teams, selected at county fairs, will number 35 to 40. Dairy demonstration teams will lead in numbers, followed by poultry, potato, pig, home beautification, etc.

Every contestant at the fair will take part in the judging contests. From all indications the program throughout will be one of keen competition. The order of the demonstrations has been changed somewhat. Advanced bread and room furnishing teams will lead off on Monday, the other teams following throughout the week.

The districts will be represented by home economics teams as follows:

Southern

Advanced Bread Team—Orelle and Muriel Merkel, Brown county.
 Champion of A and B Bread Teams—Ruth Lohmann and Harriet Marvin, Goodhue county.
 Class A Bread Team—Carlene Rose and Mildred Kolouner, Winona county.
 Class B Bread Team—Carol Hempstead and Geneva Anderson, Houston county.
 Cake Team—Helen Nysteun and Verna Cody, Rice county.
 Individual Cake—Gladys Sennes, Houston county.
 Class A Garment Team—Helen and Vivian VanDeer, Freeborn county.
 Class B Garment Team—Enger Matson and Esther Madison, Nobles county.
 Room Furnishing—Helen Christensen and Finetta Saggau, Martin county.
 Thrift Individual—Elva Gardner, Olmsted county.

Central

Advanced Bread Team—Laura Mae Dawson and Grace Gillen, Dakota county.
 Champion of A and B Bread Teams—LaVerne Wittwer and Gina Torrens, Pope county.
 Class A Bread Team—Florence Peterson and Thora Eglund, Hennepin county.
 Class B Bread Team—Mabel Schendel and June Baker, Wilkin county.
 Cake Team—Evelyn Morell and Mildred Swanson, Isanti county.
 Individual Cake—Laura Mae Dawson, Dakota county.
 Class A Garment Team—Ida Picha and Marie Trnka, Scott county.
 Class B Garment Team—Carol Johnson and Helen Noreen, Hennepin county.
 Room Furnishing—Lorraine Nelles and Delrose Dahlheimer, Hennepin county.
 Thrift Individual—Bernice Bredeson, Kandiyohi county.

Northeastern

Advanced Bread Team—Siamie Koski and Genevieve Lewson, Itasca county.
 Champion of A and B Bread Teams—Mona Roose and Eva Peterson, Itasca county.
 Class A Bread Team—Rosalie Phelps and Audry Barkla, Itasca county.
 Class B Bread Team—Genevieve Roy and Dorothy Kleckner, Carlton county.
 Cake Team—Josephine Carpenter and Ruth Ball, Itasca county.
 Individual Cake—Vincent Bovitz, St. Louis county.
 Class A Garment Team—Marvel Showalter and Viola Piper, Itasca county.
 Class B Garment Team—Florence Hillman and Martha Backa, St. Louis county.
 Room Furnishing—Toini Lampi and Ruth Mohrath, St. Louis county.
 Thrift Individual—Frances Boatman, Aitkin county.

Northwestern

Advanced Bread Team—Evelyn Riederger and Ruth Hall, Clay county.
 Champion of A and B Bread Teams—Annie Peterson and Edythe Johnson, Hubbard county.
 Class A Bread Team—Lily Peterson and Olive Hendrickson, Kittson county.
 Class B Bread Team—Lucille Naugle and Elizabeth Meyer, Norman county.
 Cake Team—Coral Hemmings and Avis Jensen, Kittson county.
 Individual Cake—Florence Travnick, Clay county.
 Class A Garment Team—Ruth Anderson and Helen Olson, West Ottertail county.
 Class B Garment Team—Emma Schroeder and Isabell Zuehlsdorff, West Ottertail county.
 Room Furnishing—Lorna and Ruth Griffin, Kittson county.
 Thrift Individual—Gladys Hamm, Wadena county.

MILLINERY PROJECT IN CROW WING CULMINATES

Millinery project leaders of Crow Wing county met with Miss Eyes Whitfield, extension specialist in millinery, for the last and summary local leader meeting. Each of the 36 persons acting as local leaders had made hats for immediate or fall use, thus demonstrating their ability to their local club groups.

Toward the close of the meeting each leader was given opportunity to wear her finished hat for group inspection and criticism. The group in turn placed an approximate store valuation upon the hats. The approximate valuation ranged from \$4 in the simplest to \$10 in the more elaborate hats worn. The actual cost of the hats varied from 98 cents, where only a foundation shape was purchased, to \$3.50, where all new materials were used.

Mrs. Josephine McQuid of Crosby used all new materials costing \$2.50 in her hat which was valued by her fellow workers at \$10. Mrs. E. N. Dally of Pequot invested 98 cents in a foundation shape and with renovated velvet from her scrap bag made a lavender panne velvet hat valued by her group at \$8.

Crow Wing county leaders expended an average of \$2.27 for materials and made hats averaging in store value \$7.17.

Mother of L. E. McMillan Dies

The many friends of County Agent L. E. McMillan of Blue Earth were pained to hear that he was called to his old home at Vinton, Iowa, recently by the death of his mother. The News regrets his loss and extends its sympathy.

Blue Earth Planning More Alfalfa

Increased plantings of alfalfa in Blue Earth county are foreseen by the extension people. A campaign for October is being planned.

Taxes Reduced and Extension Retained

Last month a suggestion was made to the commissioners of Cottonwood county that they might reduce the taxes by withholding support from the county agent service. The commissioners did a little figuring and found that if they eliminated the appropriation for the county extension service it would reduce taxes only 58 cents per quarter section in the county. They did not think this would help much. They themselves are large tax payers; they believe in the future development of the county; they have been staunch supporters of the county extension service in the county for a period of ten years, so they decided to make the usual appropriation for the county extension service. Then to meet the tax burden of which many are complaining in the county they voted to reduce the county road and bridge levy by the sum of \$20,000 in comparison to last year's levy. This action, they determined, would result in a saving to each improved quarter section of land in the county of \$6.48.

The following editorial from the Mountain Lake Observer of July 12, indicates the appreciation felt for the county extension service in Cottonwood county:

"It is the belief of the writer that the county agent is an important factor in the progress of Cottonwood or any other county. He is the backbone of club work in the county, first of all. How many of our farmers do not wish their children to become farmers, and to keep them on the farm with them? Club work is the surest way to arouse their interest, to teach them the principles of farming, and cultivate that love for the trade of their parents which shall arouse within them the desire to follow it. Does one not feel a rise of admiration to see a group of young people competing with each other in the raising of better stock, in the production of better crops, in the making of better homes? And that is but a small part of the county agent's work during the year.

"Any farmer in the county, whether he is a member of the farm bureau or not, can call for his aid, and his advice, and be sure to receive it. The county agent, working together with the university extension service, can furnish the farmer with better seed, better varieties, and, during the past several years, he has introduced many varieties of seed, and furnished aid and advice to hundreds of farmers.

"The county agent is responsible for the farmers' institutes, at which sessions every one is welcome to come and listen to specialists, and receive their advice, which they have gained through years of study, without charge. He has offices and telephone calls by the thousands. He has conducted hog testing schools, and other schools, which are of benefit to the sons and daughters of the county.

"And still, the tax payer pays so little for the upkeep and maintenance of this office. It has been figured out that the average cost per quarter section of land for the maintenance of the county agent is only 58 cents. It cannot be denied that any saving which would result through discontinuing this office would be negligible. This 58 cents can well be saved in some other manner."

Rose Says 1928 Spud Tour Best Yet Held

Education along the lines of better seed, practical use of fertilizers, spraying according to the modern method, cultivation, management, and all new practices which make for a better product and more efficient production was to be had by those who joined the Minnesota potato tour for 1928. R. C. Rose of the extension division and A. G. Tolaas of the state department led the way from University Farm to the peat lands of Anoka and Sherburne, to Beltrami, and then through the western part of Polk on a line drawn between East Grand Forks and Crookston.

According to Mr. Rose the tour was the best yet held, even though rain and bad roads prevented a visit to fields in Kittson county, as had been planned. Of changes for the better noted in the territory traversed Mr. Rose said:

"Eight years ago there were no high pressure sprayers in the Red river valley and not more than a dozen in the rest of the state. Today there are several hundred—one or more in about every important potato growing district. Eight years ago growers began taking active interest in the control of leaf hoppers, plant lice, and blight. Today farmers discuss these pests and the measures of control as readily as any teacher.

"Interest the last two years has turned more to the control of running-out diseases and the operation of seed plots. Many are becoming interested in the tuber indexing work and some are making use of the tuber unit and plot methods. Advancement is to be seen all along the line."

One man who has not missed a potato tour in eight years said he could gather more information and new ideas by going along with the bunch than in any other way.

Rotarians to Provide Free Trips

The Albert Lea Rotary club will send the outstanding club member of each organized club in Freeborn county to the 1929 junior short course at University Farm. Other organizations are offering similar trips, and the county agent is of the opinion that more than twenty boys and girls will win free trips.

Interest in Extension Work Increasing

Hammargren of Pine county has been spending much of his time of late in organization work, he says. At least six new farm units have been completed. More interest is being taken in extension work at the present time than has been shown during the five years that Pine county has had the service, he says.

Rightly Named

Pederson of Traverse says that Velvet barley is showing up exceptionally well in his county. Other agents say that Velvet is meeting all expectations.

Weed Awakening

Weeds are more plentiful, or more is being said about them, or both. Patter-son of Lac qui Parle, for one, says there have been more calls for information about weeds this year than for any two previous years.

Club Boys to Study Marketing Practices

Minnesota 4-H club boys who have made superior records in advanced live-stock projects are to have opportunity to take a practical course in livestock market practices. The boys have been studying and demonstrating production until they are qualified to take up phases of marketing in the opinion of their leaders.

The first school will be held at South St. Paul October 24 and 25 under the joint auspices of the agricultural extension service of the University, the Union Stockyards company, and the South St. Paul Daily Reporter. Twenty-five club boys will be chosen from county winners in advanced junior club projects to enter the school. No tuition will be charged; traveling expenses and subsistence will be met by the South St. Paul interests.

The program will include a study of all of the operations in the handling of livestock for the market, from the time of shipment from the farm to the completion of the packing processes, including the functions of commission houses and the livestock exchange. Lectures will be given by L. W. Kube, traffic manager of the Stockyards company; J. S. Montgomery, general manager of the Central Co-operative Commission company; C. E. Totten of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington; W. P. Dolan, secretary of the Livestock Exchange, and others. Market reporting will be taught by Wilbur Fisk of the Daily Reporter.

Organization of the school was suggested by W. E. Morris as a logical step in the training of advanced livestock project members. On the extension committee with Mr. Morris is T. A. Erickson, the state club leader. The South St. Paul committee on arrangements is composed of L. W. Kube, J. S. Montgomery, Walter Williams, and W. P. Dolan.

YOUNG MEN IN DEMAND FOR COW TESTING JOBS

Another short course for young men who want to get into cow testing work will be held at University Farm September 10 to 15. Applicants must be at least 20 years of age, and those who have high school training and dairy farm experience are preferred. There is no admission fee or charge for the course. Students can obtain board and lodging at the farm. Ramer D. Leighton, chief of the cow testing service in Minnesota, says that positions for those who qualify will be available within a few months after the course.

How Gaylord's Calendar Helps

Gaylord's club calendar for Rock county has had a noticeable influence, apparently, in prompting young folks to keep records and to maintain the general interest in the projects. In fact, club members feel that the calendar has helped them to keep up to date in their work.

Acid Phosphate Great Stuff

Use of acid phosphate on fertilizer plots has brought about outstanding results in every instance, says Kelehan of West Ottertail.

Will Feature Soils, Spuds, Turks, Weeds

Four county agents, Matthews of Cottonwood, Frick of Itasca, Douglass of Pennington, and Jacob of Wadena, who will have county extension project booths at the coming State Fair, spent most of Monday, August 13, at University Farm to organize the details of their exhibits. Conferences were held with leaders and specialists.

The Cottonwood county booth will portray the soil improvement program with special reference to the use of phosphate fertilizer. Potato improvement will be the motif of the Itasca county booth, the Minnesota turkey raising plan of the Pennington booth, and weed control of the Wadena exhibit. Nesom will assist in soils; Rose and Tolaas will furnish ideas to be worked out for the potato booth; Billings will submit original designs for the turkey exhibit, and Bull and associates will help to drive home the importance of weed control.

Instead of being assembled in one part of the Argicultural building, as was the case last year, the booths will be located in various wings of the building.

Of a possible score of 1,000 points a county booth must score at least 500 points to receive a cash premium of \$150 offered by the fair management. A banner will be awarded the county whose booth has the most effective arrangement. Awards will be based on power to attract attention, the extent to which the exhibit creates a desire to adopt the practices portrayed, and for general appearance and attractiveness.

This will be the second year of these extension project exhibits. A high standard was set last year for the 1928 exhibitors to shoot at.

Corn Gives Good Response

The use of commercial fertilizers on corn has aroused much interest, even enthusiasm, says Lawson of Freeborn. Where fertilizer was applied, the corn has shown much more growth than the unfertilized corn in the test plot. The complete fertilizer has shown the best result to date, says the agent.

Canada Thistle Startles Pipestone

The Canada thistle has obtained such a hold in Pipestone county, says the agent, that there is great danger of the entire county becoming infested. This is the first year, he says, that the weed has been taken seriously by township officers and the public at large.

Churchill Organizes Club Band

Churchill of Houston county has organized and is leading one of the first 4-H club bands in the state. All the 15 members are carrying club projects. The band furnished a lot of snappy music for the club camp at Hokah July 25 to 27.

\$700 in Lump for Building Fund

The net proceeds of the Fourth of July celebration at Albert Lea amounted to \$700, all of which goes into the fund for a new 4-H club building on the county fair grounds.