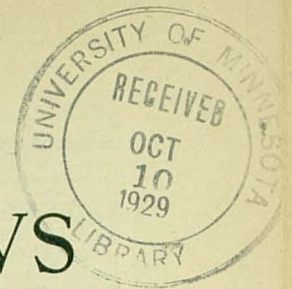


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MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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Vol. IX

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MINN., OCTOBER, 1929

No. 1

Farmers and Testers Vie In Dairy Judging

WITH ten county teams of three men each entered, competition in the Farmers' Dairy Cattle Judging contest, conducted by the agricultural extension service at the State Fair, was keener this year than ever before, according to H. R. Searles, who was in charge. The highest number of teams enrolled in any previous contest was six.

First place was won by the Hennepin county judges, and since this was the team's third successive victory, it was awarded permanent possession of the Northwest Dairy association trophy. Other county teams placed as follows: Freeborn second, Winona third, Wright fourth, Clearwater fifth, Faribault sixth, Kittson seventh, Wadena eighth, Jackson ninth, and Redwood tenth.

Keen competition likewise prevailed in the dairy judging contest for cow testers, in which 35 testers competed. Lloyd Siverson, Henning, won first place; Arthur Viste, Spring Valley, second; and Elmer Haase, Mora, third. They were awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals by The Farmer, and Mr. Siverson also received the silver trophy given by L. V. Wilson, former dairy extension specialist. Following the contest, the testers held a luncheon and meeting, electing the following officers of the Minnesota Cow Testers' association: Arndt Anderson, Fergus Falls, president; W. H. Whiting, Dodge Center, vice-president; and W. C. Johnson, St. James, secretary-treasurer.

CHAMBERS SUCCEEDS ALDRICH IN CARLTON

S. A. ALDRICH who has served as county agent of Carlton county since July 1, 1922, severed his connection with the service on September 1 and was succeeded by George Chambers, October 1. Announcement has been made that Mr. Aldrich plans to go to California.

An unusual piece of work has been underway in Carlton during the service of Mr. Aldrich in relation to the development of community organization. He has specialized in developing local leaders in several townships who have taken unto themselves the management of the respective organizations.

Mr. Chambers, after completing his college work at the University in 1928, served as assistant county agent of Carlton county. He was transferred to Clearwater county as agent in December, 1928 and, when the vacancy developed in Carlton, was asked by the local people to become a candidate for the position. During the five years preceding his service in Clearwater county, the extension service operated without a county appropriation. In the nine months Mr. Cham-

Joins State Staff



Mrs. Belle O. Fish, new child development specialist, who begins her project work in three counties this month. Mrs. Fish came to University Farm, August 1, from Iowa State College, Ames.

bers has been employed as the agent of Clearwater county, however, the county has renewed public support of the extension service.

ANNOUNCES CONFERENCE

The annual state conference of county agents, home demonstration agents, supervisors and specialists will be held at University Farm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 10, 11, 12, and 13, according to an announcement by Director F. W. Peck.

The theme for the conference has not yet been made known, but as usual it will provide opportunity for the extension workers to become better acquainted and to discuss mutual problems. Every member of the extension service is urged to note the dates and plan definitely to be present.

Many Counties Plan Hog-Outlook Meetings

ABOUT 20 counties have engaged livestock and farm management specialists to conduct swine-outlook meetings in October and November. Farm Management Specialists W. L. Cavert and R. L. Donovan will discuss the hog situation from the standpoint of markets and probable prices, while Livestock Specialists W. E. Morris and H. G. Zavoral will deal with sanitation, feeding, breeding, and other production problems. The specialists will work in teams, one farm management and one livestock specialist being on the program of each meeting.

Counties scheduled at the time of this writing include Carver, Renville, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Martin, Faribault, Goodhue, Mower, Scott, Lyon, Dodge, Murray, Nicollet, Brown, Rock, Nobles, Waseca, and Winona.

HALE GOES TO KANSAS; THORFINNSON SUCCEEDS

PRESTON HALE, county agent of Goodhue county since December 1, 1923, returned to Kansas, October 1, where he again enters county agent service in that state, going to Leavenworth county in northeastern Kansas.

M. A. Thorfinnson, North Dakota graduate, formerly county agent in Montana and who ended five years of very successful county agent work in Kittson county in 1928, is already on the job in Goodhue succeeding Mr. Hale.

A well balanced and very successful program of extension work is in operation in Goodhue county with emphasis on soil and crop improvement, livestock development, boys' and girls' club work and community activities. The best wishes of the extension service are extended to both agents.

HAS INFORMATION ON AUXILIARY FOREST LAW

PARKER O. ANDERSON, extension forester, says that considerable interest is being shown by farmers in various parts of the state in the Auxiliary Forest Law which was amended by the last legislature.

This law provides that under certain conditions farm woodlots may be designated as auxiliary forests and made exempt from all taxes except for an annual levy of five cents per acre and a yield tax of 10 per cent of the value of the timber crop grown. The law also contains provisions relating to larger tracts of timber land.

County agents who are receiving requests for information about this law may write Mr. Anderson who has prepared mimeographed material explaining the law in full and stating how farmers may take advantage of it.

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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OCTOBER, 1929

The writer, with Mr. Wallace, editor of *The Farmer*, and Dean Coffey enjoyed a two day automobile trip into a number

A Trip Into Southern Minnesota

of southern Minnesota counties calling upon farmers and discussing farm problems in the various communities.

There was evidence on every hand of a bountiful harvest of small grains, hay, roughage crops and corn. Not only were large yields reported, but the quality in most instances was reported as being considerably above the average. Along with the optimism relative to crops was noted a healthy attitude toward livestock prices and livestock prospects for the next few years.

In spite of the optimism over good crops and satisfactory livestock conditions, however, the writer was impressed with the great need for improvement in the general problem of livestock sanitation. There were evidences of difficult problems of contagious abortion in cattle, of necro in swine and disease problems in poultry. It would seem that there should have been many more examples of the McLean county system of swine sanitation, of the attempt to control common diseases in poultry, and a general indication of an earnest effort to improve the quality and production of the livestock enterprises.

Apparently, this is a common weakness in farm organization in many counties which points the way toward extension projects that should receive our earnest consideration and efforts during the next few years. Every extension program in southern Minnesota, therefore, should have as prominent projects the means and methods of improving the sanitation of hogs, poultry, and cattle.—F. W. P.

Four-H club work in Minnesota was recently paid a splendid tribute in an advertisement of the Mapleton State Bank, published in *"All Hail the 4-H Clubs"* the Blue Earth County Enterprise at Mapleton. The advertisement, which was written by Mr. McGregor following his visit to the State Fair, summed up some of the things which impressed him there. Below we quote two paragraphs from this advertisement which will interest all extension workers. From this write-up it is evident that Mr. McGregor

not only has a remarkable grasp of the aims and scope of 4-H club work but, that he also foresees far-reaching results from it that will be most beneficial to agriculture:

"But the thing that caught our eye was the exhibits by the 4-H Clubs. It seems that they had a Holstein and a Guernsey calf from nearly every county in the state. Also there were numerous Jersey, Brown Swiss, and Ayrshire calves. There were pigs and lambs of many breeds. There were corn and garden vegetables galore, canning exhibits, fancy work, and other things. The exhibits of these young people didn't show up always on a par with the finished products of their experienced and long-tutored elders. But the seed of love of competition has been firmly planted in the fertile soil of their ambitions. They are learning. They are eager to learn and know. And all that, at an age when the acquisition of useful information becomes part and parcel of their lives. As they learn, they will do better. They are serious. Their gaze is into the future. Let the dead past take care of what was good enough for Dad. Let Dad look well to his laurels. He will soon need to be up and doing in every line of farm endeavor, or he will find those laurels 'copped' by one who is now only a 4-H club member.

"Just about a dozen years hence, the present 4-H club members are going to be 'THE' exhibitors at the State Fair. They are going to put the farming game on a different basis. Their zeal, their training, their efficiency, their knowledge and ambition is going to put farming on such a basis that all others will have to follow safely and swiftly in their wake, or get into other lines of human endeavor. God speed the work of the 4-H clubs."

WINS BABY BEEF PRIZE 3 TIMES IN 4 YEARS

JAMES ELLSWORTH of Magnolia, Rock county, has again captured first place in the Minnesota Carload Baby Beef contest sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders association and conducted by W. E. Morris, extension livestock specialist. This is the third time in four years that Mr. Ellsworth has won the contest.

Mr. Ellsworth's 15 Hereford calves averaged 934.8 pounds at the age of 410 days. In recognition of his achievement, Mr. Ellsworth will receive the gold medal and \$100 in cash given by the livestock breeders' association. About \$400 will also be distributed among the other winners who are as follows:

H. C. Hansen, Evan, Redwood county, Herefords, 880.75 pounds; E. D. Karlen, Le Roy, Mower county, Angus, 879.66 pounds; Elmer Bendixen, Morgan, Redwood county, Angus, 864.5; Cox Bros., Adrian, Nobles county, Herefords, 853.3; Balstad Bros., Winger, Polk county, Herefords, 822.5; John C. Wister, Adrian, Nobles county, Herefords, 816.5; Walter Oelke, Blue Earth, Faribault county, Angus, 806; Daly Bros., Granada, Martin county, Herefords, 792.5; and C. O. Gilfillan, Redwood Falls, Redwood county, Herefords, 788.

Nineteen horses and cattle belonging to the University captured three championships and many firsts at the State Fair.

Try New Scoring Plan For Community Booths

COMMUNITY booths were scored according to a new plan at a number of county fairs this year by S. B. Cleland and R. C. Rose of the extension staff. A large score board was used upon which the ratings of each class within the exhibit were posted as soon as scoring had been completed on that class.

At the Itasca county fair at Grand Rapids, a score board about 3 by 5 feet was posted on the front door of the exhibit building. Columns were provided for the 11 booths exhibiting, with the various classes arranged at the left, such as: threshed grains, sheaf grains, potatoes, vegetables, and so forth. In judging, as fast as any class had been scored the results were posted. Thus the respective scores on potatoes were posted on the score board while the vegetables were being judged and the public had a chance to study the comparative merits of the potatoes on exhibition in the various booths during the judging of the next class.

Much interest was aroused by this method of scoring and the public seemed to get a great deal of value out of the study of the different classes. Whenever the results on any class were to be posted, 15 to 25 persons were sure to be gathered about the score board to watch the judge mark up the results. The value of this method lies, first, in the greater interest created in the scoring of the booths and, second, in the educational value afforded by the thorough study of one class at a time.

ENGINE IS NAMED NEW AGENT IN CLEARWATER

OLE J. ENGINE, 1929, graduate of the college of agriculture, has been elected successor to George Chambers in Clearwater county.

Mr. Engine is a native of Houston county, was farm reared and attended the School of Agriculture at University Farm, following which he completed the farm management course in the College of Agriculture.

Mr. Engine was a member of the dairy judging and general livestock judging teams while attending the University. During the summer and early fall he was employed by the School of Agriculture, to supervise student project work throughout the state.

Poultry, Dairy Train To Visit 18 Counties

EIGHTEEN counties in Minnesota will be visited by a special dairy and poultry train, to be operated over the Northern Pacific and the Minnesota and International lines, starting October 21. The counties scheduled are Clay, Wilkin, Ottertail, Wadena, Becker, Koochiching, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Kearns, Polk, Sherburne, Washington, Aitkin, Carlton, Pine, and Chisago.

Among the extension service staff members who will accompany the train are F. W. Peck, H. R. Searles, E. A. Hanson, F. B. Hutt and W. A. Billings.

News and Hunches from the County Workers

Hold Home Talent Tournament. One of the outstanding features of the Ramsey county fair was a home talent tournament for 4-H clubs, says Mrs. Clara M. Oberg, county club leader. All the clubs in the county were eligible to compete in the elimination meetings held at the various townships in July. The five winners then represented their townships at the county fair, and the club which won was permitted to exhibit before the grandstand in the evening. The winning club presented a pageant of nations.

Business Men Join Club Tours. Details on three interesting St. Louis county club tours, arranged largely for the benefit of R. A. Turner of the national 4-H club office, are contained in the report of Harold J. Aase, county club agent. Mr. Turner visited St. Louis county during August, collecting material to use in a 4-H club radio broadcast program. One of the tours was at Hibbing, where the business men of the Kiwanis club joined the 4-H clubs in a pig tour, visiting about 20 farms, where they saw some of the 40 pigs which were sponsored this spring by the Kiwanis club members. At noon a special program was arranged at the Kiwanis luncheon, and in the evening the club members were hosts at a chicken dinner at Island Lake. The next day the Duluth Chamber of Commerce held their first calf club tour, a large number of business men joining club members and their parents in a 75-mile tour, visiting farms and community centers where calf club members exhibited their calves. At a picnic dinner the business men held a calf judging contest, and there were talks by Mr. Turner, Mr. Kittleson, and visitors. The subject of the third tour was the potato project, and it was arranged through the Biwabik American Legion, which had furnished 150 bushels of certified Irish Cobbler seed to 40 club members last spring. Members of the American Legion, Biwabik Chamber of Commerce, and 4-H clubs made a trip of 120 miles, visiting many fields. The bus furnished by the Biwabik high school carried extra visitors, and at noon the Biwabik folks entertained with a luncheon, the city band furnishing music.

E. C. Torrey to Address Home Chairmen. Although E. C. Torrey is no longer headquartering at University Farm, we note that he has by no means deserted the cause of extension publicity. Mrs. S. R. Shiras, urban home demonstration agent at Minneapolis, reports that she has engaged Mr. Torrey to speak at a meeting of home chairmen in November on the subject of "Getting Home Center Activities Before the Public." Having heard Mr. Torrey speak on similar topics, we know that the home chairmen will get something worthwhile from his talk.

Wilkin Farmers Certify Alfalfa. O. R. Grover of Wilkin made a number of inspections of alfalfa for certification during August, since numerous requests came in after the state inspector had already been in the county. Weather was favorable for the setting of seed, but very unfavorable for the growth of hay, and consequently many farmers who had used certified seed applied for inspection and certification.

Announce Clothing Check-Up. Check-Up day for the clothing project in Chisago county is to be held October 26 at Taylors Falls, says George W. Larson, county agent.

Plan Shepherds Meeting. H. O. Anderson says that a meeting of Houston county sheep raisers will be held in November to study the results of this year's lamb production contest and lay plans for lamb production next year. The lamb production contest was closed during August with four out of five enrolled competing the project. Data have been sent to University Farm, to W. E. Morris, for correction.

Chlorate Results Questionable. After spending several days during August visiting farmers who had used sodium chlorate in the eradication of thistles, C. M. Kelehan of Ottertail county states there is a big question in his mind as to whether or not the sodium chlorate treatment is effective. In the trials made, he says, directions were followed carefully, but in some instances new plants were coming up quite vigorously even after the third application.

Banquet for Local Leaders. Local 4-H club leaders of West Ottertail held a banquet at one of the Fergus Falls hotels on the evening of September 10, according to F. A. Douglass, assistant county agent, who says this event gave the local leaders a fine chance to become better acquainted. They also discussed plans for the county fair.

Purebred Sires Campaign Approved. The purebred sires campaign put on in Renville county under the auspices of the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association has received more favorable comment than any other project in years, says Frank D. Svoboda. During August, two salesmen completed working approximately one-half of the county, placing over 80 purebred beef and dairy bulls. The project received wonderful support from the county bankers' association.

TELLS EXTENSION PROGRESS

REVIEWING the progress made in the extension program in agriculture and home economics, Dr. C. W. Warburton, director of extension work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, recently stated that one of the important developments has been the gradual growth of a service to assist farmers in their marketing problems. Co-operative extension workers are giving help to groups of farmers in the formation of co-operative marketing associations, are making information available to farmers on price trends, on probable supply, and on demand for agricultural products. They are helping farmers to standardize their products and adapt their agriculture to meet market demands.

Farm women, too, in increasing numbers, are obtaining the assistance of trained home demonstration workers in their problems of homemaking. In the training, in the last 15 years, of more than 5,000,000 4-H club boys and girls, in better agriculture and homemaking, more than in any other one thing, the Extension Service has justified its existence, said Director Warburton.

Erects Unique Health Home Exhibit. Among the exhibits at the recent Ramsey county fair was a health home, dealing with the nutrition project which is to be presented this fall. The house was stuccoed with oatmeal, blinds were made of toast, casings of windows and doors were of raisins, and the shingles were of graham crackers. A macaroni fence, with carrot posts, and a flagstone walk of carrots with vegetable shrubbery and fruit dolls, made an attractive setting for the house. Following the fair, the exhibit was set up in the windows of a prominent St. Paul business house, says Mrs. Agnes M. Erkel, urban home demonstration agent.

Tightens Up Enrollment Rules. More rigid rules have been adopted in signing up group members for Home Management II than during the organization for Home Management I, says Miss Marion Hagstrom, Blue Earth county home demonstration agent. The idea was to avoid signing up any members who were not really interested. Township chairmen were urged to have group members sign the enrollment slips themselves, and the duties of group members were thoroughly discussed at the organization meeting, special emphasis being placed upon regular and prompt attendance.

Chlorate Proved Effective. Frank D. Svoboda says that there is a continued heavy call for sodium chlorate for use on Canada thistle and quack-grass in Renville county. Plots being worked co-operatively, under the county agent, are bringing out interesting results. Three sprays have killed quack-grass completely, while two sprays seem to have eradicated thistle patches.

St. Louis 4-H Work to Be Broadcast. Miss Elizabeth Spriestersbach, assistant club agent for St. Louis county, reports that she spent a week during August with R. A. Turner of the Washington 4-H club office, in conference and tours. Mr. Turner was gathering some material for use in the noonday 4-H club broadcasting program on October 5th, at which time he will tell of his visits to project members in St. Louis county. All members of St. Louis county clubs

will be notified through the rural schools and local leaders several days before, in order that all who have radios or who can reach them, may hear of their own work broadcasted from Washington.

Drought Boosts Interest in Alfalfa. Drought during the past summer, which caused a lack of good quality hay, has given considerable impetus to alfalfa growing in Washington county, says A. L. Sjowall, who reports that the acreage is being materially increased through seeding done during August, at which time the agent gave assistance to a number of farmers on this problem.

Roseau Has Bumper Crops. Roseau county has the best crops it has had in eight years, says J. W. Taylor. There was a large acreage of flax which yielded well and Alsike clover yielded from five to 12 bushels per acre. Although winter wheat is not advocated for this county, one farmer has been raising the crop for the past few years and had a field which yielded 50 bushels per acre this year.

Liven Up August Meetings. Brown county farm bureau units, realizing that August is usually a very slack month, made special efforts this year to have attractive programs at their meetings. School or 4-H programs or movies proved to be good drawing cards, in many cases being educational as well as entertaining, says Paul W. Kunkel, county agent. One of the township units had a picnic at which approximately 2,000 people turned out, the occasion rivaling the county picnic held a couple of months previous.

Co-operate on Clothing Exhibit. Miss Helen M. Gillette and Miss Florence M. Lang, the two St. Louis county home demonstration agents, co-operated this year in preparing an exhibit which was on display at the Proctor and Hibbing fairs. This exhibit dealt with some of the major features of the clothing project, and the type of organization that made possible the carrying out of this very extensive piece of work in St. Louis county this year.

Studying Soil Erosion. Many Rice county farmers are becoming interested in the subject of soil erosion, says Harry A. Hass, county agent. H. B. Roe of the University Farm agricultural engineering department and D. G. Miller of the U. S. Department of Agriculture recently spent a day in the county visiting farms where soil erosion is a serious problem and made a study of land which might be suitable for demonstration farms.

Glabron Barley Yields High. Reports of members of the Pipestone County Crop Improvement association indicate that Glabron barley made yields averaging 45 to 60 bushels on various farms this year, says C. C. Hickman, county agent. A large number of farmers, Mr. Hickman says, have been interested in Glabron barley, and have already asked for reservations for seed next year.

Norman County Turkeys Diseased. Many Norman county turkey flocks were infested with diseases and parasites during August, according to County Agent J. J. McCann, who was called 11 times during the month to identify causes of mortality. Some of the turkeys were badly infested with tapeworm, while others were suffering from blackhead. Some flocks had been entirely free from disease while they were kept confined according to the Billings plan, Mr. McCann said, but they looked so thrifty that their owners let them run, and after a short time the birds were dying in large numbers from blackhead.

Furnished 122 Farm Hands. M. H. Ostrom of Cook county gets the banner for having placed the largest number of laborers during August, when 122 men were supplied to farmers needing help. While this was not as large a number as last year, says Mr. Ostrom, it was sufficient to supply the demand. The men were mostly brought in from Grand Forks and the iron range.

Program Innovation Pleases. Short recreation periods, held at intervals throughout the

day, proved a big success when substituted for the usual afternoon program of club stunts at the 4-H home economics achievement day in Brown county, says Miss Amy Wessel, home demonstration agent. The conduct of these recreation periods was in charge of a committee composed of adult leaders. The Brown county fair 4-H club camp was larger than ever, with a membership of 95, and Miss Wessel took the camp members on an educational trip, Saturday morning, to a local provision market. Not only were there fine exhibits in bread, cake and canning at the fair, but a new feature that created much comment was a large 4-H garden exhibit.

Phosphate Doubled Alfalfa Yield. In checking some plots on which phosphate had been applied to alfalfa, R. A. Fischer of Nicollet county found that the phosphate had greatly increased the yield of hay. In several instances the alfalfa was twice as heavy as where no fertilizer had been applied. Phosphate applied to oats and barley also increased yield, Mr. Fischer says.

120 Sewing Exhibits Shown. More than one hundred sixty 4-H club girls and leaders were present at the Freeborn county 4-H home economics achievement day, according to Miss Therese Pfaender. The sewing displays included 120 complete exhibits, and while none of these were particularly outstanding, all of them were of a high caliber. Twelve demonstrations were given; two in baking, one in home furnishing, one in home beautification, and the rest in sewing.

Debates Promote School Interest. C. Nash says that many Aitkin county youngsters signed up for the Minnesota School of Agriculture at University Farm after hearing the dramatic debates or dialogs put on by representatives of the school, W. H. Dankers and Ole Engene. Three of these performances were put on in the county.

Airplane Advertising Helps Fair. At the suggestion of County Agent Kirkpatrick, and over a route which he laid out, an automobile booster tour was put on in the interests of the Hennepin county fair. About 40 persons made the trip, stopping for some 10 to 20 minutes at each of 15 different points where a vocal quartette attracted attention and entertained the crowds. Another plan proposed by Mr. Kirkpatrick which was followed out was the soliciting of about 300 merchandise prizes from retailers in several villages of the county. These prizes, together with the donors, were listed on a coupon poster and distributed over the villages by airplane. Parties picking up these posters were asked to tear off the coupons and present them with paid tickets at the fair gates in order to participate in the drawing for prizes before the grandstand each evening.

Demonstration Gardens Wane. Demonstration gardens in St. Louis county were not very successful this year, according to reports from both Miss Gillette and Miss Lang, the reason being the severe drought and heat. However, both ends of the county are planning to complete the project this year and to try it again next year, in hopes that their gardens will be more truly demonstrational, say the home demonstration agents. The demonstration gardens are a follow-up of the nutrition project which was carried on in 1928.

Stages 2 Club Fairs. Two special 4-H club fairs were held in Crow Wing county, according to E. G. Roth, who says that \$262 were raised in cash and merchandise among the business men of Brainerd as prizes for the fair held in the western half of the county. Over 250 boys and girls made 105 entries and more than 3,000 people attended. Three hundred dollars in prize money was furnished by the Cuyuna Range Fair association for the 4-H club fair at Crosby. An original and very clever program was put on by the clubs and about 250 boys and girls took part. The total attendance was about equal to the fair held at Brainerd. The regular Crow Wing county fair was held at Pequot at which all the first, second, and third winners in club work competed.

Large Nutrition Enrollment. Four hundred sixteen Freeborn county women have signed up for Nutrition II this fall. There are 37 groups, averaging something more than 11 women each, says Miss Therese Pfaender, home demonstration agent.

Doubts Chlorate Treatment. F. L. Liebenstein of Mower reports that recently he visited a number of fields that were being summer fallowed and worked for the control of quack grass and thistles, also inspecting several patches where sodium chlorate was being used. In some cases he found good results and in others only partial eradication. In his opinion, much is to be learned before sodium chlorate can be positively recommended for use on the average farm.

Canning Crops Profitable. Raising of peas and sweet corn in Waseca county for the Wa-

seca canning factory has proved very successful, according to Martin C. Hansen, who says that on the average farmers have received excellent returns for their crops.

MISS WESSEL TITLED

MISS AMY WESSEL, Brown county home demonstration agent, is Extension Service News' candidate for the title of "Miss Extension Service."

This suggestion is prompted by a statement of Paul W. Kunkel, county agent, who in telling of a recent township unit picnic said that special mention should be made of the fact that Miss Wessel placed high in a swimming contest from an island to the shore of Lake Hanska in a novel aquatic event.

If any of the other extension women care to contest Miss Wessel's right to the suggested title, we propose a contest to be staged at University Farm during the annual conference. Do we hear a second?

Makes Unusual Showing. One of the outstanding features of the 4-H exhibits at the Hennepin county fair was the canning exhibit of the St. Anthony club, which was organized in July, and has taken up 4-H work this year for the first time, says Miss Anna Olsen, home demonstration agent. Every one of the 21 members made her exhibit, consisting of eight jars of fruit and vegetables, and the quality of these canned products was outstanding for an inexperienced group. Some of the girls in this club have canned more than a hundred jars of fruit and vegetables for home use, Miss Olsen says.

Cattle Owners Pleased. The first area test of cattle for tuberculosis in Freeborn, since the county became accredited three years ago, was conducted during August with only about two-tenths of one per cent reacting of the 70,000 head tested, according to Willis Lawson. He says that cattle owners of the county are very well pleased with the way the test was conducted and practically no complaints were received.

Club Tour Succeeds. Scott county's 4-H club tour held late in August worked out wonderfully, according to John Sheay, who says that a complete circuit of the county was made with visits to 14 club members. At each of these places the boys and girls of the township brought their calves, pigs, chickens, sewing, canning, garden and other exhibits for inspection.

Scott Remains Accredited. John Sheay states that 31,231 head of cattle have been given the three-year periodical test for bovine tuberculosis in order that Scott county may remain on the

ELEVEN NEW FILM STRIPS

ELEVEN new film strips have been secured from the U. S. Department of Agriculture and are now available to county agents. Application may be made to J. F. Kuehn, University Farm.

Following are the numbers of the various slides and titles indicating the subject matter of each:

- 52 Swine Management
- 194 Round Worms and Swine Sanitation
- 173 Marketing Feeds Through Dairy Cattle
- 17 Farm Poultry Raising
- 234 Chicken Lice
- 113 Growing Small Fruits
- 150 How to Get Rid of Rats
- 180 Insects of Garden Vegetables
- 231 European Corn Borer and His Work
- 230 National 4-H Club Camp
- 242 Seeing Washington

The above slides will be loaned without charge for a period of two weeks and each one will be accompanied by a descriptive circular.

accredited list. The per cent of reactors in this test were .0032, or 103 head out of the more than 31,000 tested. This was a striking reduction from the results of the first T.B. test when 831 head reacted, or 2.61 per cent.

250 Attend Garden Event. Robert Freeman of Ramsey co-operated with officials at University Farm and with the St. Paul Vegetable Growers' association in promoting the annual Vegetable Crop and Field Day at University Farm in August. Two hundred fifty men and women inspected the vegetable crops at the experiment station and heard talks by Professors Krantz, Currence, and Hutchins who explained the various projects under way. The event was also the occasion of the St. Paul Vegetable Growers' annual picnic and a demonstration of garden machinery was held in the afternoon featuring a new transplanting machine, several makes of garden tractors, cultivators and other implements.

Parade Features Extension Work. About 150 farm bureau members representing the 14 units in the county, together with 400 club members and local bands, staged a spectacular parade before the grandstand at the Lyon county fair as a means of bringing extension work to the attention of a large number of people, says W. A. Peters, county agent. Each township unit was represented by a float or stunt showing some phase of extension or farm bureau work. Four-H club members and organized clubs entered floats and stunts or displayed the entries which they were showing at the fair. Another interesting feature of the fair was a contest staged in connection with the thrift project in which 12 groups, including 240 women, displayed their wares made of flour-sack material in competition for \$100 in cash and other interesting prizes. Besides the group displays, each woman exhibited at least one article of her own making. A cooking school secured by the county agent was another attraction of interest to women, the equipment being furnished by the local businessmen.

Stands Test of Fire. According to some testimony contained in the report of Miss Artaxa Denniston, Itasca county home demonstration agent, the home management courses are right there when it comes to an emergency. At a recent meeting of the Bustinton local group in Home Management I, one woman came whose home had burned down the night before. This woman told the group she was certainly glad she had taken the home management course, for now in her new home she could have things put in right, instead of trying to fix over after one plan had been made. We hope this doesn't start an outbreak of arson among Itasca county women, but it certainly does speak well for extension work in home management.

Weed Control Interest Increasing. L. E. McMillan of Blue Earth notes an increasing interest among farmers in weed control. Farmers, he says, seem more willing and anxious to do the right thing in the control of such weeds as Canada thistle than ever before. They are cutting the weeds and Mr. McMillan has records of 30 men who are using sodium chlorate principally on Canada thistle. One of the local township weed inspectors reported that of 150 farmers visited only two refused co-operation in weed control.

Liked Public Address System. Loud speaking equipment installed for the Dodge county farm bureau picnic this year made a real hit, says M. L. Armour. In the opinion of the county board no other feature ever added quite so much to the real value of the picnic as the public address system, this having made it possible to dispense with the expense of a band since Victrola music was broadcasted. By actual count, 5,147 persons passed through the gates and 800 cars paid admission.

Phosphate Speeds Maturity. Phosphate fertilizer shows marked results on many farms in maturity of small grain and corn, says C. G. Gaylord of Rock county. On one farm where lime was applied to a new seeding of red clover in the barley crop, phosphate was also applied alongside of the limed strip. The barley straw where the lime had been applied was much stiffer than where no fertilizer was used and the same was true on the phosphate plot but not to quite so great a degree. Several years ago the soil on this farm was tested and found to be somewhat acid in nature, Mr. Gaylord says.

Fertilizer Increased Forage Growth. Trial plots on corn and potatoes in Washington county, dealing with various kinds of commercial fertilizers, have shown uniformly that the addition of a complete fertilizer caused an increase in forage growth of from 4 to 24 inches on the various plots, says A. L. Sjowall. Phosphate, he says, showed some response in the way of increased forage growth.

Activities of Gopher 4-H Club Boys and Girls

1929 Fair Sets New Records In 4-H Attendance and Quality

FROM a 4-H standpoint, the Minnesota State Fair for 1929 may briefly and best be described by the trite phrase, "bigger and better than ever." More than 1,200 4-H boys and girls were present on paid trips, this being more than 100 increase over the last two years, when about 1,100 have attended annually. Most of this additional attendance was due to holding both the preliminary and final judging work at the State Fair, instead of only the finals as in previous years.

Improvement was evident in the character of virtually all of the exhibits, and judges were enthusiastic in their comments on the progress being made. In this regard, the statement of Mrs. Frances Howe Satterlee, who placed the canning exhibits, was typical. Mrs. Satterlee declared that the exhibits of the 54 demonstration teams, consisting of 12 jars each, were at least 25 per cent better than formerly, explaining that she based her opinion on the variety of fruits and vegetables in each exhibit, as well as on the quality of the work.

Below are notes on various departments, together with the names of boys and girls who will receive outstanding trips or other awards of special importance. Several scholarship winners are omitted because not all of the awards were determined at the time this list was compiled.

AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION TEAMS

Thirty-eight demonstration teams in agricultural projects competed.

Champion Dairy—Goodhue County. Team members, Ralph Grant and Cletus Hallquist, Red Wing. Trip to National Dairy Show, St. Louis, by De Laval Cream Separator Company, to compete in national contest.

Champion Poultry—Blue Earth County. Team members, Chelsea Pratt and Ernest Stanford, Mankato. Trip to National Dairy Show, St. Louis, by The Farmer and Blue Earth County businessmen, to compete in national contest.

First Home Beautification—Freeborn County. Team members, Ada Moore and Margaret Moore, Albert Lea. Trip to annual meeting of State Flower and Garden Society.

Champion Swine and Grand Champion—Scott County. Team members, Arthur Bohnsack and Walter Scharf, New Prague. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, by Cudahy Packing Company, to compete in national contest.

DAIRY CALF EXHIBIT

Eighty-three of the 87 counties were represented in the dairy calf department, with 223 exhibits, including all five of the principal dairy breeds.

Grand Champion Dairy Calf Club Member—Joseph Ries, Rollingstone, Winona. Trip to National Dairy Show, St. Louis, by Blue Valley Creamery Company.

Champion Showman—Clarence Bramer, Lake Park, Becker. Awarded Stewart Clipper.

SHEEP EXHIBIT

There was an increase of nearly 100 per cent in the sheep exhibit this year, 40 purebred ewe lambs being shown as compared to 23 last year.

Grand Champion—Delores Lippert, Bertha, East Ottertail.

COLT EXHIBIT

Grand Champion—Agnes Hanson, Worthington, Nobles. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, by Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association.

PIG EXHIBIT

Eighty-three pigs were exhibited this year, which was an increase of about 20 per cent over any previous year, the largest number formerly shown being something less than 70.

Grand Champion—Warren Johnson, North Branch, Chisago. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Hormel Packing Company.

Most Complete Record—Lillian Gehrke, Alexandria, Douglas. Scholarship of \$100 by Minneapolis Journal.

Showmanship—First, Vernon Gronfer, Frost, Faribault; second, Howard Ballard, Wabasso, Redwood; third, Iona Schreyer, New Ulm, Brown. Gold, silver and bronze medals by Extension Service.

DAIRY JUDGING

Champion Team—Carlton County. Team members, Melvin Larson, Barnum; Harry Lehtinen, Cloquet; Fred Norberg, Barnum. Trip to National Dairy Show, St. Louis, by Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association, to compete in national contest.

High Individual—James Wirth, Winona County.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Champion Team—Rock County. Team members, Morten Kolsrud, Hills; Vernon Kvale, Werner Stegemann, Beaver Creek. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, by Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association, to compete in national contest.

High Individual—Morten Kolsrud.

BREAD DEMONSTRATIONS

Champion Class A and Grand Champion Team—Hennepin County. Team members, Thora Eglund and Florence Peterson, Bloomington. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, by Russell Miller Milling company.

Competition in the individual bread demonstrations was unusually keen with 117 girls competing and many of the better ones running an almost even race for the honors.

Grand Champion Individual—Theresa Rico, Keeuwatin, Itasca. Scholarship of \$100 by Russell Miller Milling company.

Champion Class A Individual—Cecilia Mattson, Cloquet, Carlton. Scholarship of \$100 by Royal Baking Powder company.

Champion Class B Individual—Alice Kvasnicka, Bigsbee, Steele. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress by Russell Miller Milling company.

CAKE DEMONSTRATIONS

Champion Team—Hennepin County. Team members, Olive Smith and Delores Swenson, Long Lake.

Champion Individual—Nadine Bennett, Ellendale, Steele. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago, by The Farmer's Wife.

GARMENT DEMONSTRATIONS

Class A Champion and Grand Champion Team—Scott County. Team members, Marie Trnka, and Ida Picha, New Prague. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago to compete for European trip by Chicago Mail Order company.

Champion Individual—Verona Zenk, Winona County. Awarded Singer Sewing Machine.

CANNING DEMONSTRATIONS

Grand Champion Team—West Ottertail. Team members, Esther Kronemann and Bernice Schultz, Fergus Falls. Trip to State Club Short Course, University Farm.

Champion Individual—Marie Severson, Nobles County. Trip to National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, to compete for \$300 scholarship by Kerr Glass company.

Champion Tin Can Exhibit Team—Rice County. Team members, Helen Miller and Grace Tripp, Northfield. Awarded \$35 silver set by Burpee Sealer company.

Junior Livestock Show Offers New Features

A SHOWMANSHIP contest, similar to the one conducted in 4-H dairy calf club work at the State Fair this year, will be one of the new features of the 1929 Junior Livestock Show to be held at South St. Paul, November 11, 12, 13, and 14, according to T. A. Erickson, state club leader. All baby beef, pig and sheep exhibitors at the junior show will compete in this contest, for which special prizes have been provided.

Two new features will be of interest to poultry club members, one of these being a breeding poultry exhibit, taking the place of the one formerly held at the State Poultry Show in January. Every county with 25 or more poultry club members enrolled will be entitled to send one breeding poultry entry in addition to its fat poultry exhibits. Seventy or more of these exhibits are expected to be shown and special prizes will be given.

The other outstanding new feature for poultry club members will be the poultry judging contest, winners of which will be eligible for the national contest at the National Club Congress in Chicago in November.

A total attendance of about 750 boys and girls, approximately 100 more than last year, is anticipated, according to Mr. Erickson. Most of the increase will be due to the exhibits of breeding poultry, although there will also be some increases in certain departments.

FIRST STATE 4-H SPUD EXHIBIT AT BIWABIK

FOUR-H potato club members all over the state are urged to send in exhibits of 32 potatoes to be shown at the state 4-H potato club exhibit, which will be put on in connection with the St. Louis County Potato Show at Biwabik, October 24, 25, 26, and 27. This will be the first time that a state 4-H potato exhibit has been held. If possible, the state potato club champion will be chosen in connection with this show, while the champion 4-H potato exhibit will be sent to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago.

The show at Biwabik is being sponsored by the business men especially for St. Louis potato club members, but the state 4-H club office has been asked to co-operate with the show management in putting on a state exhibit, and special prizes will be provided for contestants from outside St. Louis county.

Marketing School Slated

First hand knowledge of market practices and a chance to observe in detail the operations of a large central livestock market will be given 25 older members of Minnesota 4-H livestock clubs who will be selected to attend the second annual school in livestock market practice to be held at South St. Paul and University Farm, October 28 and 29. The school will be in charge of W. E. Morris, extension livestock specialist.

Personal Items

Announcements have been received at the state office of the wedding of Miss Elvira Henrietta Samuelson to Mr. Fritz B. Peterson, the ceremony being performed on September 16. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson will be at home at Ivanhoe after October 20. Friends of the Lincoln county agent at University Farm were inclined to be skeptical when the above news was received, due to the oft-expressed attitude of Mr. Peterson on the subject of connubiality, but the formal authenticity of the announcement card was hardly to be questioned.

On October 1, Joseph Paulson, who has served during the summer as assistant county agent in Carlton, goes to Worth county, Iowa, as agent. Mr. Paulson, in connection with his county agent service in Carlton county, has been specializing on boys' and girls' club work and in the development of community organizations. He is a graduate of the South Dakota State College, served as Smith-Hughes agricultural instructor in South Dakota for two years, and before going to Carlton county had a teaching position in the Minneapolis public schools.

Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, is planning a trip to Ames, where she will address the 12th American Country Life Conference, on October 18, on the subject: "Services of County Home Demonstration Agents as They are Related to the Program of Farmers' Organizations."

R. R. Smith, first county agent of Yellow Medicine county, later staff member of the Crookston Experiment Station; for several years county agent of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, and at present connected with the Aluminum Manufacturing Company at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, was a recent University Farm visitor. Although Mr. Smith expressed himself as very much interested in his new line of work, he has in nowise lost his interest in the field of agriculture.

Whenever anyone says "brother" to FRANK BROWN, Frank is puzzled to know whether the speaker has reference to a farmer, canning factory owner, co-operative livestock shipper, lumber retailer, teacher, or general merchant. There are seven boys of the Brown family, including our own Frank of the state supervisor staff, with vocations as indicated. Who says environment has anything to do with the selection of an occupation?

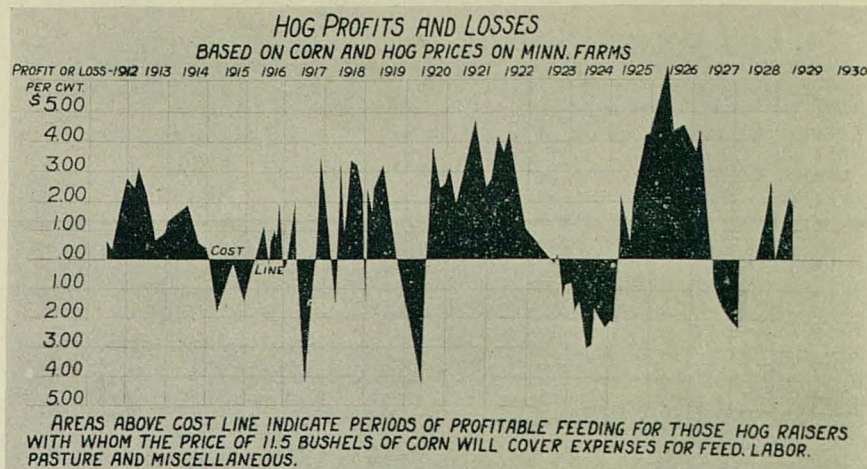
K. A. Kirkpatrick, Hennepin county agent, enrolled in the fall semester of the University of Minnesota and intends to take part-time graduate work throughout the year. An assistant agent is being employed who will specialize on the field work during the fall and winter.

Unusual interest was created by the County Project Exhibits at the 1929 State Fair. More about these will appear in the November issue. The 1930 exhibit is expected to show further advancement. Already seven agents have applied for space as follows: E. G. Roth, Crow Wing; Raymond Aune, Sherburne; A. R. Karr, Martin; Martin Hansen, Waseca; H. C. Pederson, Traverse; Fred Idtse, East Polk, and L. E. Hudson, Watonwan.

Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

HOG PRICES AND THE PLACE OF HOGS IN MINNESOTA



THE foregoing chart shows the estimated profit or loss in dollars per 100 pounds on hogs from 1912 to July, 1929. The profit or loss has been estimated by assuming that the average farmer receives market prices for his feed, wages for his work and covers miscellaneous expenses when the farm prices of hogs is equal to that of 11.5 bushels of corn. The method of computation may be illustrated by the following example. For July the United States Department of Agriculture reported the Minnesota farm price of corn to be \$.79 per bushel and the price of hogs to be \$10.40 per hundredweight. The value of 11.5 bushels of corn at \$.79 would be \$9.08, leaving an estimated profit of \$1.32 per hundred.

Cost records in Steele and in Cottonwood-Jackson counties showed that the average amount of corn or equivalent amount of other grain fed per 100 pounds of gain was 8.2 bushels. Then 11.5 bushels less 8.2 bushels would leave the price of 3.2 bushels of corn to cover the value of labor, skim-milk, tankage and miscellaneous items. Three and two-tenths bushels of corn at 79 cents would make an allowance of \$2.53 for these other items. It is apparent that this method has value as a means of picturing long time trends rather than as a means by which an individual may estimate his own profits.

would be kept in each year, he would have had decidedly more hog profits than if he had followed the natural inclination to raise more whenever the financial results had been especially favorable. The farmer who raised a uniform number each year would have occupied an intermediate position.

Outlook for 1930

Based upon past performance, one would expect that hogs would show a profit for the average producer during all or most of 1930. The short 1929 corn crop will almost certainly discourage any large increase in the number of sows kept for farrowing in the spring of 1930. The September 1 report forecasts a corn crop of about 2,450,000,000 bushels compared to a six-year average of over 2,750,000,000 bushels. One would expect that the effect of a short corn crop would be to cause the present period of hog profits to continue longer than the average, but for corn prices to be sufficiently high to prevent any extreme profits—\$4.00 to \$6.00 per hundredweight such as occurred in 1926. In other words, the outlook is that the 1929 corn crop will bring better than average prices, whether sold to the elevator, or in the form of hogs, but that the total income from the crop will be somewhat greater for those who send it to market in the form of hogs.

FEED AND LABOR REQUIREMENTS OF HOGS PER 100 POUNDS OF GAIN

County	Years records were kept	Pounds pork produced per farm	Feed per 100 pounds gain				Labor per 100 pounds gain	
			Corn	Other grain	Total grain	Tankage		Skim-milk
Cottonwood-Jackson	1920-21	11,546	446	45	491	3	98	3.5
Steele	1920-23	13,098	284	141	425	3	358	5.5
Pine	1925-27	1,914	90	145	235†	—	1100	10.0
Polk	1926-28	8,755	54	429	483	*	240	3.2

* Not reported separately.

† In addition to the grain, 174 lbs. of potatoes and rutabagas were fed.

Ups and Downs Come Regularly

A glance at the chart indicates that periods of profit and loss follow each other with surprising regularity. It is apparent that if a farmer, over a period of years, had used such a chart as this to assist him in deciding upon the number of sows that

The data in the table indicate that in southwest Minnesota, hogs are mainly a method of marketing the corn crop. The production of 11,546 pounds per farm is less than one would expect for this region, partly because the years 1920 and 1921 were a period when farmers had less than the usual numbers of hogs.