



# MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 3

## Swedburg to Succeed Hudson in Watonwan

LLOYD E. HUDSON has decided to leave county agent service, temporarily, at the beginning of the new year. For some years he has been annoyed by a bronchial difficulty and hopes that a change of climate may bring relief. Accordingly he is locating for the present at Brownsville, Texas, to supervise some land interests of the Hudson family.

Mr. Hudson's services in county agent work represent real achievement. He reported for duty November 11, 1918, and at the close of this year will have completed 11 years and two months of service in Watonwan county. He has developed a comprehensive program of work that has been characterized by a well-maintained county extension organization and a strong program in major stock improvement, marketing, boys' and girls' club work, and home projects. The esteem in which he is held by his associates is evidenced by his election last year as president of the Minnesota County Agents' association. It is earnestly hoped that Mr. Hudson's condition may improve and that Minnesota may regain his services at some future time.

Jasper I. Swedberg, Windom, Minnesota, has been elected to succeed Mr. Hudson and will begin his services about mid-December. Mr. Swedberg was farm-reared in Washington county, attended the Minnesota School of Agriculture, and was graduated from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1913. His farm experience has been gained primarily in Washington, Watonwan and Cottonwood counties. From 1910 to 1918, he served as high school agriculturist at Red Lake Falls, Cokato and Madison, Minnesota. For two years thereafter he was extension agent of Grant county, South Dakota. Later, he farmed for three years in Watonwan county, had charge of summer projects for the Minnesota School of Agriculture, and for the last two years has been engaged as the extension agent of the Thompson Lands company at Windom.

## AUSTVOLD IS HENNEPIN EXTRA; 'KIRK' STUDIES

EDWIN AUSTVOLD was appointed to begin his services as assistant county agent in Hennepin November 1, in which situation he is to continue until April 1, 1930. During this period, Mr. Kirkpatrick is on part time duty while doing graduate work at the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Austvold was farm-reared in Pope county, Minnesota. He is a graduate of the Minnesota School of Agriculture, 1921, and completed the course in agricultural business at the University in 1926. Mr. Austvold's farm experience continued until he was 24 years of age,

## Annual Conference Program (Tentative)

December 9 to 13, 1929

**M**ONDAY afternoon the county agents' club committee, consisting of Churchill, Gaylord, Watson and Liebenstein, will meet with the club staff at University Farm. A special committee of county agents consisting of Peters, Lawson and Sheay will meet with the publicity committee of Farmers' and Homemakers' Week in Dr. Storm's office at 2 p.m. All new county agents, both agricultural and home, namely, those who have been appointed since the last conference, are being asked to meet with Mr. Balmer and the county agent supervisors on Monday afternoon, December 9, at 2 p.m.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the mornings will be given over to presentation of various types of material by conference speakers, while the afternoons will be devoted to conferences and meetings of a general nature. On Tuesday afternoon, the County Agents' association and the Home Demonstration Agents' association will hold their annual sessions. On Wednesday afternoon, the members of the staff will be divided into class groups to discuss problems in dairying, beef cattle, swine and sheep, field crops and home economics. There will be three groups of agents with registration in the various classes at the start of the conference.

On Thursday noon, luncheon will be served by the Land O'Lakes association and the afternoon will be spent at its plant with a discussion of the state-wide herd improvement plan and 4-H club recommendations.

Tuesday night is being reserved for the County Agents' association and the Home Demonstration Agents' association, but Wednesday night there will be a party of all extension staff members, their wives and invited guests at the Men's Union on the Minneapolis campus. This will be a dinner party followed by cards and dancing.

On Thursday night, the annual business meeting and banquet of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the extension fraternity, will be held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis.

and upon completion of his course at the University, he engaged in the service of a leading farm implement concern. In recent months he has been field representative for one of the state co-operative organizations.

## County Workers Rewarded

Talks by Berry Akers of The Farmer, St. Paul; A. J. Kittleson, state club agent; Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader; and W. D. Stegner,

district club agent, featured a very successful 4-H club achievement day, November 1, at Blue Earth, Faribault county. Five hundred club members and parents attended.

In token of their appreciation for the work done by A. E. Engebretson, Mary Jane Boyd, and Mrs. Amelia Osmundson, county agent, home demonstration agent, and office secretary, respectively, the group presented Mr. Engebretson with a watch, Miss Boyd with a fountain pen, and Mrs. Osmundson with a handbag.

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## MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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

WALTER C. COFFEY  
Dean of the Department of Agriculture and  
Director of Experiment Station

FRANK W. PECK  
Director of Agricultural Extension

W. P. KIRKWOOD HAROLD HARRIS  
Editors

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DECEMBER, 1929

It is quite obvious to all of us that we must, because of the very nature of our work, have relations with many different types of commercial agencies. So long as the educational function of our work is kept in mind and is thoroughly understood and appreciated by the commercial agencies, very little difficulty will result from these relations. However, when certain interests attempt to take advantage of the opportunity to advertise through or use the extension service in order to reach rural groups, we experience the sort of difficulty that tends to endanger the permanent educational function of our service.

Policies have been established setting out the relations that should exist, and when county agents are approached by commercial agencies with offers of assistance in which the agents personally are made certain promises, and in those instances where commercial advertising seems to be the motive back of assisting 4-H club work or other projects, the full matter should be submitted to the central office for consideration before action is taken.

We want to continue in every way possible to develop the proper type of relations with commercial agencies, but always with the understanding that any assistance rendered is given for an educational purpose and not to further the specific interests of the agencies involved. It is understood, of course, in all such relations, that the agents or other representatives of the extension service are not to receive compensation as the result of such relations.—F. W. P.

### Peck, Balmer at Chicago

Director F. W. Peck and F. E. Balmer, state county agent leader, represented Minnesota at the annual meeting of the Association of Land Grant Colleges at Chicago, the week of November 11. They were particularly interested in meeting with members of the federal farm board and hearing the plans and policies contemplated by the board for co-operating with state extension services in carrying on marketing work.

## SCHRADER TRIES NEW FARM VISITING PLAN

C. H. SCHRADER, Murray county, has adopted the plan of visiting farmers in a specified locality of the county during the day when a township unit or farmers' club meeting occurs in the evening in the community. Mr. Schrader's plan is to address a letter under the frank to all the farmers of the township, stating that he will be visiting farms in the township on the day specified if circumstances permit.

"If you wish to have me call at your farm, return this sheet with your name signed," the letter requests. "Please do not fail to return this sheet even though you have already requested a farm visit, so that requests may be properly filled by townships. Check the subjects you wish to discuss with me, and add further details if you can." The latter part of the letter is devoted to an outline of topics that the farmers may wish to check, the list corresponding largely with the main items of the county program of work for the year.

Mr. Schrader reports that he is securing replies from about 10 per cent of the farmers of the respective communities, either with topics checked, or with more extended statements accompanying. Mr. Schrader points out that he is making a number of new friends for the service by this plan. Essentially he is dealing with a group of people in the community during the day. He arouses interest in the meeting held that evening, economizes on travel and reinforces his information as to the problems of the localities. He feels quite certain that the plan enables him to render more effective service.

## ST. LOUIS CHECK-UPS ON CLOTHING WORK HELD

TWO very successful Clothing I check-up days were held recently in St. Louis county, one in the north end of the county at Virginia, and the other in the south end at Duluth. The project was carried on in North St. Louis by Miss M. Lois Reid, clothing specialist, and Miss Hellen M. Gillette, home demonstration agent. In South St. Louis, the work was conducted by Miss Reid and Miss Florence Lang, home demonstration agent.

The Duluth chamber of commerce was host to the women at the South St. Louis meeting, at which speakers were E. B. Dunning, president of the Duluth chamber; Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader; and Miss Reid. Mark D. Thompson, superintendent of the Northeast Experiment Station, presided. Twenty-six communities were represented.

Sixty-eight women attended the North meeting, and were guests of the St. Louis County Agricultural club.

### Duluth Home Bureau Meets

One hundred persons attended the tenth annual meeting of the Duluth home bureau, November 15, at the court house in Duluth. The program included a discussion on 4-H club work by Miss Elizabeth Spriestersbach, Virginia; the annual report of Miss Dorothy Iwig, home demonstration agent; and a talk by Miss Eves Whitfield, extension specialist in clothing, University Farm.

## Peck Defines Coming Extension Problems

"TOMORROW'S Agricultural Extension Service" was the subject of Director F. W. Peck's address to the annual extension conference in Ohio early in October. Some pertinent paragraphs of his address follow:

"The fundamental function of agricultural extension education is the development of rural people. This can be accomplished only by the building of attitudes of mind and increasing mental capacities for meeting the individual and community problems with which rural people are confronted.

"Public educational service must be rendered impartially to all members of the public and independence of funds is one of the first principles of such service. The successful county extension worker of tomorrow will need constantly more training and preparation in those qualities developed by courses in such subjects as psychology, sociology, economics and problem-analysis. In addition, it will be increasingly important for county extension workers to possess and develop a proper appreciation of the progress being made in the technical and scientific phases of agriculture.

"I see for tomorrow a standard and a standing for county extension workers second to none in the educational specialist field. I see public opinion definitely expressing approval of, and confidence in, an agent's leadership of a county's agriculture and of rural homemaking. To merit this confidence and to measure up to the coming demand for this job, he or she must be fortified with vision, organizing ability, executive direction and engineering qualities for planning and coordinating the work of many leaders.

"Fundamental changes are taking place in agriculture. These changes demand emphasis on types of subject matter unknown to extension workers a few years ago. Special attention has been focused upon the economic factors.

"The economic improvement of agriculture will come from one of two ways, or perhaps from a combination of two; namely, increased prices or a much lower cost of production. In either event the extension service of tomorrow must assume its full responsibility in acting as the educational force to explain essential procedure, to stimulate necessary action, and to assist in the development of the leadership in rural affairs that will be needed to supply the organized force to bring this improvement to its fullest measure of success.

"Coincident with the emphasis upon income-making, there is being developed more and more interest in humanistic and social problems involving the family welfare, home improvements, use of leisure time, social recreation, child health, higher education, community development, and similar projects closely related to standards of living and to the expenditure of farm earnings. I am of the opinion that extension work of tomorrow will be vitally concerned with this latter group of activities, as well as with increasing emphasis upon farm economics. A full life on the farm may well encompass the satisfying of one's thirst for other than technical subjects in agriculture and home-making."

## News and Hunches from the County Workers

**Time Saving Membership Plan.** John Sheay tried out a stunt in Scott county in October which he believes will become an annual event. This was a get-together supper for township and county leaders in extension and farm bureau work. The occasion was the continuous membership campaign which began October 28. Immediately after the farm bureau speaking program, each of the 13 township directors were handed two sets of cards. One set was blue and contained the names of farm bureau members. The other set was white and contained the names of non-members. Upon each card was written the various services that the individual named thereon had secured from the extension and farm bureau work in the past three years. The directors then called their committees together and organized the work. Mr. Sheay reported that the campaign was going along smoothly without taking a great deal of the agent's time.

**500 at Hibbing Husking Contest.** Brown county held its first corn husking contest this year with about 500 attending. Business men of Hanska donated \$50 for prizes. Thirteen entries fought out the contest. Paul W. Kunkel believes this event helped to disrupt faction lines and to create better feeling in the county.

**Blasting Demonstrations Attract.** Seven fine demonstrations on blasting ditches, stumps and rocks were held in as many different townships in Brown county during October, with Mr. B. H. Gustafson handling the explosive. Paul Kunkel reports that some very fine shots were made, and the spectators were much interested, especially in blasting ditches. Fine specimens were blasted 50 to 200 feet long. Approximately 210 people turned out for these demonstrations in spite of inclement weather.

**Corn Huskers Banquet.** Climaxed by a corn huskers' banquet and program sponsored by the Wells civic and commerce association, Faribault county's annual contest proved a big success, in spite of bad weather conditions, says A. E. Engebretson. Sixteen men had asked to compete in the contest, but only 12 could be handled. Frank Brown, county agent supervisor, was one of the speakers at the banquet. Berry Akers, associate editor of The Farmer, St. Paul, presented the prizes donated by the Faribault county farm bureau.

**Brought 30 Farmers.** J. B. McNulty of Winona had the largest county delegation at the recent Swine Feeders' Day at University Farm, having chartered two large busses which brought in 30 or more farmers. In his October report, McNulty says he made 42 farm visits in obtaining the necessary 30 signers, but as everyone was enthusiastic over the trip, he felt the effort worth while.

**Sheep Men Feed Minerals.** A large percentage of sheep men in Beltrami county are now feeding minerals, says M. B. Taylor. Many of the larger growers declare they would not consider raising sheep without feeding minerals continuously during the winter months. Taylor says the past two springs it has been a common occurrence to see 80 to 90 per cent of the lambs dying from goiter or lack of vitality due to mineral deficiency. The mineral feed is being distributed through the farm bureau service association.

**Potash Helps Spuds on Peat.** George W. Larson reports two carloads of ground limestone ordered during October for Chisago county farmers. In checking up commercial fertilizer plots with potatoes on peat, it was observed that increased use of potash resulted in considerably larger yields. Several different grades of fertilizers were tried out on rows 105 feet long. The fertilizers were applied at the rate of approximately 350 pounds per acre.

**Marketing Conditions Improved.** Waxing retrospective, Roy J. Bibelhausen reflects upon the great improvement in marketing conditions that has been made in Koochiching county.

Four years ago farmers had difficulty in selling produce to merchants at International Falls, he says. Local buyers were about the only ones interested in the purchase of livestock. Creameries were not on a sound basis, and had but little volume. Today, however, Koochiching county has two livestock shipping associations; outside cattle buyers are bidding for surplus cattle and sheep; both of the co-operative creameries are on a sound production basis; merchants are buying farm produce; and prospects are that before long Koochiching county will also have a co-operative clover seed association.

**Helps Prepare Show Herd.** Russell W. Seath of Steele reports having spent two days during October at the Waterloo Dairy Cattle Congress. Steele county exhibited the only herd of Holstein cattle at the show and this was assembled by the county Holstein association with the assistance of Mr. Seath. The county agent also spent two days at the National Ormsby Sale at St. Paul.

**Enjoy Weiner Roast.** Holding a weiner roast instead of the usual noonday lunch added variety to a recent meeting of the Blue Earth home and community committee, says Miss Marion Hagstrom, home demonstration agent. Plans had been made to go to a park, but as the day was cold and windy, this idea had to be abandoned. However, no one wanted to give up the roast, so another more sheltered spot was found, and everyone enjoyed the party immensely. After lunch, the group retired to the farm bureau office for the business meeting.

**School Lunches Promoted.** Results of nutrition project work in Freeborn County have shown up in a tangible way in at least one instance, according to Miss Therese Pfander, home demonstration agent. In one school, noon lunches were not being served, and getting somebody to take charge appeared to be a big problem. However, through the efforts of the nutrition group members and the home demonstration agent, the girl reserves took over the job and promised to serve hot lunches once a week. This, Miss Pfander believes, will lead to permanent noon lunches.

**Phosphate Helped Corn.** Twenty-two demonstration plots to show the effects of fertilizers on corn in Lyon county were harvested in October. In checking the plots where phosphate had been applied, it was always very noticeable that the corn was harder, more mature and a better grade than where potash had been applied or where no fertilizer was used, says Wm. A. Peters, county agent. The dry weather prevented any material increase in yields in some of the plots, but on others remarkable increases were found ranging from 6.6 bushels to 16.8 bushels, with about a dozen of them showing increases of 10 bushels or better.

**Tattoo System Explained.** Six meetings with an aggregate attendance of about 400 were conducted in Freeborn county in October to bring out the relationship of tuberculosis in poultry to that of swine. Dr. L. E. Jenkins of the State Livestock Sanitary Board spoke and explained the results of the tattoo system. Besides these talks, two film strips were shown, one on tuberculosis in livestock and poultry and the other on the McLean county system of hog raising.

**To Show Crop Improvement.** Polk county has been designated as a demonstrational county for crop improvement work, this action having been taken at a meeting attended by the crop improvement committees of East and West Polk county, by F. W. Peck and R. F. Crim of University Farm, and H. R. Sumner of Minneapolis, executive secretary of the Northwest Crop Improvement association. Recommendations made for demonstration work included variety standardization, continuation of pure seed production on the plan used last year, tours showing demonstrational plots, and efforts to interest farmers in a better cereal program. Forty demonstrations with the hot water bath performed on Marquette wheat and Glabron barley, and a campaign of local and general publicity, were also suggested.

**Poultry Team Wins.** The outstanding achievement in 4-H club work for October in Blue Earth county was the winning of the National Poultry Championship at St. Louis, says L. E. McMillan. Members of the team were Chelsea Pratt and Ernest Stanford. Their demonstration on "Selection and Fitting of Poultry for Show" was a continuation of their work in assisting 4-H club shows held each year at the Garden City and Mankato fairs, McMillan says.

### Anent Fertilizers, Tests, Signs

**DISAPPROVAL** of the practice of some county agents in using signs on fertilizer demonstration plots which mention specific brands, manufacturers or agencies is expressed by C. W. Warburton, director of extension work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in a recent letter to state extension directors. Says Mr. Warburton, "It is our view that such signs are in the nature of commercial advertising and are undesirable for use by a public agency such as the Extension Service.

"A better type of sign might read as follows:

#### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

##### Fertilizer Demonstration on Wheat

75 pounds nitrate of soda per acre

"It is not believed within the province of extension forces to test and report upon the relative values of different brands of fertilizer. Testing work, as we see it, lies within the province of the experiment station.

"Further, we question whether it is wholly ethical and in harmony with the public interest for extension work to accept gifts of fertilizer or other materials with promises to report results. It is the view of this Service that fertilizers or other material used on demonstration plots should be purchased by the demonstrators, just as they purchase seed grain, purebred livestock, or other demonstration material."

**500 Members in Morrison.** Setting a membership goal of 400 when the county commissioners cut off aid last winter, the Morrison county farm bureau has acquired a paid-up membership of 500, thus insuring continuation of the county organization. Henry Werner states that previously the county units had a membership of some 200 farmers. At the present time members are well scattered throughout every community in the county, and organization of community units will be the next big activity.

**Splendid Corn Show.** Kenyon business men sponsored a very successful corn show this year in co-operation with County Agent M. A. Thorfinnson in Goodhue county. Prizes were given on small grain, fruit, potatoes, vegetables and eggs, as well as on corn. The business men provided a nice program of free acts. There was a parade over a mile long, with special features and many attractive floats. Four bands furnished music and kept things moving. Exhibits were arranged on tables all along the streets on both sides. Frank Brown, county agent supervisor, was official judge.

**Dubious About Glabron.** Two Glabron barley co-operators in Rock county reported yields of 32 bushels per acre while a third reported 34 bushels. The consensus of opinion of the three growers was somewhat unfavorable as the new barley was said to be dark in color, somewhat shrunken this year and suffered considerable smut damage, according to Mr. Gaylord. No comparative yield tests were made.

**Broadcast Phosphate Best.** Phosphate fertilizer increased corn yields on 10 out of the 11 Rock county farms where a check-up has been made. On each of these farms, crops to which phosphate had been applied were compared with check plots, 25 to 50 hills of corn being picked from each plot, weighed, then allowed to shrink for three weeks and re-weighed. Increases range from 2.1 bushels to 11.1 bushels per acre. For some reason or other, Mr. Gaylord says, the larger differences in yield resulted where the phosphate had been broadcast. This agrees with the observation of Mr. Towler of Yellow Medicine county as reported in our November issue.

**Holstein Men Reorganize.** With the assistance of Martin C. Hansen, the Waseca County Holstein Breeders' association has been reorganized after several years of dormancy. A membership of 40 had been signed up by November 1 and a number yet remained to be seen. Plans have been made for a sale of dairy cattle to be held this month at New Richland if a sufficient number of dairy animals can be secured.

**Adult Leaders Recognized.** Through the generosity of the Merchants National Bank of Winona, two adult 4-H leaders from Winona

### LET'S HAVE NEW CONTEST

WITH our alfalfa acreage contest threatening to run out of bounds before long, we think it is about time to start one on the "Biggest Herd of Hogs." As a practice target, we are going to set up a Martin county herd mentioned in the latest report of A. R. Karr. This herd belongs to Chas. Beckendorf and Sons, Fairmont; and was entered in the Minnesota Pork Production contest this year. These farmers kept 62 sows and raised 416 spring pigs.

More details about these are given elsewhere in this issue. In his October report, Mr. Karr modestly referred to this mammoth bunch of porkers by saying that it is "supposed to be the largest herd of hogs in Martin county."

We believe Mr. Karr might have extended the limits of his supposition considerably, and until someone disputes the claim we are going to risk the statement that this is probably the largest herd of hogs in Minnesota. If anyone can muster evidence to the contrary, we crave to hear from you.

county were awarded trips to the National Club Congress at Chicago, according to Russell Morgan. A. J. Kittleson, state club agent, selected two women for this recognition, naming the candidates on October 26, at the county 4-H club achievement day.

**Lake County Accredited.** Torstein Grinager reports that Lake county was accredited after the first area test for bovine tuberculosis. Out of 339 herds, including about 1,900 head, only six reactors were found, or one-third of one per cent.

**Big Trek to State Prison.** More than 150 Olmsted county folks recently visited the State Prison at Stillwater. Special rates were granted by the Chicago, Great Western Railway and special programs arranged for by prison officials. Much interest was shown in the visit to the twine and machinery departments, says County Agent Julius Ausen.

**Contest Called Off.** Kirkpatrick of Hennepin county took his state champion farmers' dairy judging team down to St. Louis in October to compete in the National Farmers' Dairy Judging contest at the National Dairy Show, only to find after arriving that the contest had been called off. The Minnesota Live Stock Breeders' association contributed part of the expense money out of recognition for the fact that the team had thrice been state champions at the State Fair.

**Orders 2 Cars Limestone.** F. L. Liebenstein of Mewer county reports having ordered two carloads of limestone for farmers during October.

**Hands Chairmen School Maps.** At a recent meeting of the Steele county home and community committee, Miss Viola A. Juni, home demonstration agent, handed each township chairman a map of the county, with the school districts in her particular township marked, and giving names of teachers and numbers enrolled. This was done, Miss Juni explains, first, so the township chairmen would know where 4-H club work was being carried on, and second, so there might be close co-operation between teachers or leaders and township chairmen. Miss Julia O. Newton was present and gave a talk on publicitv.

**Hold Local Junior Show.** One hundred fifty Olmsted county club members took part in the Rochester Junior Livestock Show, October 24

and 25, according to County Agent Ausen. This show wound up the year's activities in 4-H club work. Numerous parents and townsfolk attended a banquet given at the Rochester State Hospital, where the club members were guests of Rochester businessmen. Medals and special prizes were awarded, including gold and silver medals given by the Chicago Producers' association for baby beef and pig club work. Several medals from the Chicago, Great Western Railway were also awarded and selections made for delegates to the Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul.

**Culls 100-Per-Cent Loafers.** Three poultry culling demonstrations were carried on by County Agent Grinager of Lake county in October with a total attendance of 110 persons. Approximately 800 birds were culled and in no case, Mr. Grinager says, did the culls lay any eggs during the fattening period.

**Studying Burned Peat.** J. W. Taylor of Roseau county has been gathering information from various counties on soil conditions after burning, especially where peat has been burned off. Mr. Taylor says that a large area in the northeastern part of the county was burned off this year opening up land for agricultural purposes. Peat was burned out from six inches to a foot and a half in places, leaving the ground clear of brush and timber. The subsoil is a good heavy clay. Experiments will be run to determine the best crop to grow and whether plowing is better than disking in these areas.

**Treat Seed for Smut.** Approved growers of East Polk county met in October in County Agent Idtse's office, accepted prices set by the Minnesota Crop Improvement association, agreed to handle all sales through the county agent's office until December 1, agreed to co-operate in furnishing seed for more extensive variety demonstrations next year, and discussed the question of loose smut in Glabron barley and Marquillo wheat. Plans were made to treat seed at creameries and this was later done at Fosston, Fertile and McIntosh, using the hot water treatment with steam to maintain the temperature.

**Sees Influence of Women.** That the women who enroll in home demonstration work very often are instrumental in interesting their husbands in the farm bureau, is an idea expressed by Miss Amy Wessel, Brown county home demonstration agent. An incident proving this came up during a local leader meeting where one of the women asked Miss Wessel if there was an active farm bureau unit in her township. Being told there was not, she inquired how to proceed to take out a membership. The woman explained that she had heard a play given over the radio by 4-H club boys and girls showing that folks receiving the benefits of 4-H club work, home demonstration work and other extension and farm bureau activities were robbers if they were not helping by being farm bureau members. "So we do not want to be that kind of a robber any longer," the woman stated.

**Engene Getting Started.** O. K. Engene, starting his work in Clearwater county, has been busy securing 4-H club enrollments, getting additional members for the Dairy Herd Improvement association, assisting farmers in the purchase of purebred sheep and dairy cattle, and, in general, getting acquainted and laying the groundwork for some real achievements later on.

**Dairy Cattle Bought.** Nate H. Bovee, Redwood county, reports having spent two and one-half days in October at Long Prairie, Minnesota, where two carloads of dairy cattle were purchased for farmers around Milroy. Another outstanding event pertaining to the dairy project was the co-operative dairy calf club achievement day held at Milroy, with Mr. Peters, Lyon county agent, as judge. A good attendance and a fine showing of calves made this affair a splendid success, Mr. Bovee says.

**Boys Study Baking.** Hennepin county schools are taking an active interest in 4-H club work, according to Miss Anna S. Olsen, home demonstration agent. The Minnetonka Mills school is planning to carry the garment project in connection with regular school work, while the Mound Consolidated School has started an extensive program in the home economics project. Three groups of 4-H members are taking up the baking and garment making project. One of these groups is largely experimental, however, as it consists entirely of boys. The teacher reports that they have had several good meetings and done good work so far.

**Club Boy Best Husker.** Pipestone county's first corn husking contest was attended by 130 enthusiastic spectators. It was won by Walter Moeller, 4-H club member who made a net pick of 16.7 bushels. No prizes were offered the winner since it was felt that the county

and the people were sufficiently interested in a corn husking contest to take part without donations from the business men. This opinion, Mr. Hickman says, was justified by the result.

**Give Home Talent Play.** Murray county 4-H club leaders will give a home talent play, entitled "Back to the Farm," at several places in the county and turn the net proceeds into the club work building fund. The decision to carry out this project was decided upon at a 4-H leadership meeting, at which time a check-up report was also given by the several leaders, according to C. H. Schrader, county agent.

**Secures Garden Tips.** Eleven demonstration gardeners in St. Louis county have turned in their questionnaires giving final information regarding their gardens of the past summer, says Miss Florence M. Lang, home demonstration agent. A summary of these reports shows 2,080 quarts of fruit and vegetables canned for winter use and nearly 1,050 bushels stored. Most gardeners expressed hopes of having better reports to submit next year if weather is favorable for good gardening. Some valuable information on varieties planted, fertilizers used, and sources of seed was secured which Miss Lang feels will be helpful to gardeners during the coming year.

**Complete Swine Herd Records.** A. R. Karr of Martin county recently weighed up a herd of hogs belonging to Chas. Beckendorf and Sons which was entered in the Minnesota Pork Production Contest. Karr relates some interesting facts about the system of records which these farmers maintained. Their herd is believed to be the largest in Martin county and includes 416 spring pigs. They have a complete chart on this large herd of brood sows and pigs showing just how many pigs each sow has farrowed, how many she raised to weaning time, and how many she had raised up to 180 days of age. Every pig in their herd has been marked and they are saving for brood sows only gilts from litters of 10 or more and from which eight or more pigs have been raised to maturity.

**Farmers Feted at Corn Show.** Ninety-seven exhibits of corn were shown and over \$250 in premium money awarded at the West Ottertail County Corn Show, sponsored by the business men of Fergus Falls. Frank E. Balmer, state county agent leader, judged the exhibits. All farmers and their families were served free at noon by the business men of Fergus Falls at three of the large churches. Over 1,500 farm people were fed, says F. A. Douglass, assistant county agent, who reports that a new department for 4-H corn club members was opened this year with 11 members exhibiting 10-ear samples.

### FROM ETHER TO PAPER

DICTAPHONE and radio have been combined by a county agent at Corvallis, Washington, to snare market reports from the ether and get them down on paper. As radio market reports come in, they are "caught" on the wax cylinders of the dictating machine.

Thus secured in permanent form, the reports are transcribed in the county agent's office, and copies are made available for every one interested. Those who do not call at the office receive their reports in the next mail.

Under this new arrangement the farmer can profit by market reports broadcast during his working hours, when it is impractical or impossible for him to listen in at his radio. The typed reports also provide a permanent record of market information.

**4-H Sheep Clubs Buy Ram.** R. M. Douglass of Pennington county spent one day in October at Hillsboro, North Dakota, with a representative of the Soo line, selecting 14 purebred Hampshire rams, 7 of which will be placed by the county agent. One purebred Hampshire buck lamb was purchased to be used on 4-H club ewes. The one used last year for the club proved to be a good investment, Mr. Douglass says, as all of the lambs were an improvement over the original stock.

**Culls 2,500 Hens.** Frank Svoboda, Renville county, culled six poultry flocks in October, giving three culling demonstrations. A total of 2,592 birds were handled and 1,116 culls removed.

## Activities of Gopher 4-H Club Boys and Girls

### Livestock Editor, Secretary Hyde Deeply Impressed by Junior Show

"THIS is the greatest livestock show that I have ever seen in my life, and I have seen a great many of them." Such was the comment of Samuel R. Guard, editor of the Breeders' Gazette, Chicago, who spoke before the Kiwanis club at South St. Paul during the 1929 Minnesota Junior Livestock Show.

Likewise, Secretary of Agriculture Arthur M. Hyde was profoundly impressed. He said, "The junior show would have been a great exhibition had there not been a single calf, sheep, pig or fowl shown, because of the interest of the boys and girls themselves and the wonderful educational opportunities presented."

To such expressions little can be added to emphasize the outstanding character of the 1929 junior show. Statistics show that 759 boys and girls took part, exhibiting 609 head of livestock and 724 head of poultry. The total number of counties represented was 79. All counties having county agents were represented except Cook, Carver and Chicago.

#### New Features Please

Three outstanding new features of this year's show met with splendid success, and are to be continued. These were the breeding poultry exhibit, in which 305 birds were shown, the showmanship contest, and the poultry judging contest.

Winners of the poultry judging contest were Alfred Mueller, Rollingstone, Winona county, Enoch Vigness, Wright, Carlton county, and Chelsea Pratt, Mankato, Blue Earth county. These boys have been awarded trips to the National Club Congress at Chicago, where they will compete in a national contest.

Due to limited space for the poultry judging contest, competition next year probably will be limited to one judge from each county, who must be 15 years old or over, and must be an exhibitor of either breeding or market poultry, says T. A. Erickson, state club leader.

Championships were won by the following exhibitors:

- Grand Champion Baby Beef—Royal Campion, Angus, Polk county.
- Grand Champion Lamb—Elmer Fisette, Dayton, Sherburne county.
- Champion Pen of Lambs—Vera Padelford, Austin, Mower county.
- Grand Champion Barrow—Marble Wood, Plainview, Wabasha county.
- Grand Champion Pen of Market Poultry—Minnie Stoker, Warren, Marshall county.
- Grand Champion Pen of Breeding Poultry—Chelsea Pratt, Mankato, Blue Earth county.

In the showmanship contest, Wayne Naugle, Ada, Norman county, won first in showing baby beef; Harold Morgan, Ottawa, Le Sueur county, first in sheep; and Juhl Sorheim, Hanska, Brown county, first in hogs.

#### Won Through Persistence

The winnings made by Royal Campion, Wayne Naugle, and Chelsea Pratt were especially significant and gratifying because these three boys have been in club work for from seven to 12 years, and each is already in business with the kind of livestock represented in his project. These boys exemplify the kind of results that are desired from 4-H club work and the junior show, Mr. Erickson says.

#### Need to Study Rules

Failure on the part of club leaders and members in various counties to inform themselves in regard to the junior show regulations resulted in some very embarrassing situations. Two entrants were prohibited from showing their animals because of participation in previous events which disqualified them. Another boy, who was declared grand champion lamb exhibitor, later was deprived of this award when an appeal was taken and it was discovered that he had substituted a different lamb for the one shown at his county fair. These situations were gross violations of the rules, and could have been avoided by proper attention. Similar situations arose in regard to at least two other counties.

Mr. Erickson points out that such complications are more apt to occur as the show grows larger, and urges club leaders and members to study carefully the rules governing their projects.

### STATE 4-H-SPUD SHOW PROVES FINE SUCCESS

WALLACE ISAACSON of St. Louis county is the 1929 state winner of the potato project, and has been awarded a trip to the National Club Congress at Chicago, where his exhibit will also be shown. Wallace is one of the older club members, and is producing certified seed potatoes. His selection for this honor was made at the first state 4-H club potato exhibit held in connection with the Arrowhead Potato show at Biwabik, October 24, 25 and 26.

The 4-H club exhibit, as well as the entire show, was a big success. Ninety-five club exhibits were shown by members from eight counties, including Beltrami, Aitkin, Itasca, Ramsey, Cook, St. Louis, Carlton and Clearwater. In addition, 50 exhibits of three bushels each were shown by St. Louis county club members in a special contest sponsored by the Biwabik American Legion. The winner of this was Ignace Globaker of Biwabik, who was awarded a purebred Guernsey bull calf.

In addition to the calf and the trip to Chicago, \$300 in cash prizes were given to 4-H exhibitors at the show, which was so successful that plans are being made to repeat it next year. A total of 12 samples of potatoes were selected at Biwabik to be entered in the national 4-H club potato exhibit at Chicago.

### 22 Club Folks Attend State Hort Conclave

TWENTY-TWO garden and home beautification 4-H club members, champions in their respective counties, attended the convention of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society at St. Paul, November 18, 20, and 21. Fourteen counties were represented, and several more could have been, had their reports been in.

While those present made a very fine showing, the feeling was prevalent that the delegation might have been much larger. Mr. Erickson urges county agents and others interested in club work to give more attention to this project in the future. He calls attention to the fact that there are between 3,000 and 4,000 club boys and girls enrolled this year in the garden and home beautification projects, this representing more than one-tenth of the total enrollment.

The home beautification demonstration team, which won first at the State Fair this year, appeared on the regular convention program, giving a demonstration on farmstead layout and plantings. This was a team from Freeborn county, consisting of Margaret Ada and Margaret Moore, Albert Lea.

All club members present were guests of the horticultural society at the annual banquet on Wednesday evening, where talks were given by two representative garden club members and two home beautification members. The boys and girls were also guests of the St. Paul Association of Commerce at a theater party. Walter Lehnert of Blue Earth county was announced at the banquet as state champion gardener, and was presented with a collection of books on gardening, valued at \$10. Educational trips were made to Como Park in St. Paul to see the chrysanthemum show, and to other points of interest.

A number of 4-H potato club members had excellent displays entered in the open classes and captured several prizes.

About a score of reports of county garden and home beautification club champions have been entered in the national contest at Chicago during the National Club Congress. Two scholarships for \$300 and \$200, respectively, will be awarded as prizes.

#### POTATO AND CORN PRIZES

OPPORTUNITIES for members of corn and potato clubs to win prizes and trips are being provided in connection with the State Corn and Grain Show to be held at University Farm during Farmers' and Homemakers' week, January 20 to 25.

Corn club members may exhibit 10-car samples of white or yellow dent, or may enter a third class for any other variety.

Potato club members may exhibit samples consisting of 32 potatoes of any standard variety.

## URGES LARGER CARDS FOR CLUB EXHIBITS

JOHN SHEAY worked out a type of card for posting in front of all individual 4-H livestock exhibits at the Scott county fair this year, which proved highly satisfactory.

Sheay says he has observed in attending many county fairs that a very small card is used for this purpose, making it impossible to read the card from the aisle. The ones he used this year were similar to the illustration shown here and were four by six inches in size.

4-H POULTRY CLUB PROJECT OF SCOTT COUNTY FIRST YEAR WORK			
Class	Lot	Perfect Score	Your Score
a. Percentage of chicks alive at end of 4 months.		30	
b. Quality of pen of birds exhibited.		50	
c. Story, "How I Raised My Flock," and other records.		20	
		100	

Above score appears in your record blank and gives you full credit for your entire year's project. THIS IS REAL 4-H CLUB WORK.

Place won \_\_\_\_\_

Owned by \_\_\_\_\_

These cards increase enormously the amount of interest among the non-club members as well as among the members themselves, says Mr. Sheay, as they show the owner's name, the rate of growth of the club animal or fowl and the results obtained at the time of the county fair.

## THINKS STATE SHOULD GROW MORE ALFALFA

MUCH evidence may be cited to show that Minnesota can with profit have a greatly increased alfalfa acreage, says F. E. Balmer, state county agent leader. Two of the leading alfalfa producing states in the Union, Nebraska and Kansas, have been suffering a considerable reduction of their alfalfa acreages in recent years, in fact, at the rate of about 100,000 acres per year for each state. The July, 1929, Kansas crop report states that the "alfalfa acreage has suffered another reduction of 12 per cent to 720,000 acres compared to 818,000 acres in 1928. This is the smallest acreage of alfalfa Kansas has had since 1906 and it is only a little more than half the peak acreage attained in 1915."

In the order named, the acreage of alfalfa of Nebraska, California, Kansas, Colorado, Montana and Idaho exceeds that of Minnesota. Minnesota, according to the December, 1928, crop report, had 600,000 acres of alfalfa. Minnesota, with its great dairy development possibilities and other important phases of livestock production.

### Chisago Clothing Check-Up

Chisago county clothing project leaders met for their check-up day luncheon October 26, at Taylors Falls. Others present included the township and county project chairmen, members of the county farm bureau executive board, County Agent Geo. W. Larson, and two members of the University Farm staff, Miss Eva Blair, organization specialist, and Miss Eves E. Whitfield, clothing specialist. Among the speakers were Miss Blair, Miss Whitfield, Mr. Larson and Mrs. Geo. Cook, who was chairman.

# Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

## SOURCES OF POWER ON MINNESOTA FARMS

SOME agents will recall that in March, 1928, they assisted in circulating a questionnaire among representative farmers dealing with the kinds and amount of power used on Minnesota farms. In other cases, the questionnaires were mailed by the state farm bureau office or the extension office at University Farm.

Data from these reports indicate that the total horsepower hours per year furnished by horses were 4,499, those furnished by the auto for family use were 2,441 and those furnished by the auto for farm use were 2,237. The total estimated horsepower hours furnished by the auto were 4,678; those furnished by tractors were 3,425, and those furnished by truck were 1,165.

### The Auto As a Source of Farm Power

Ninety-three per cent of the farmers reported one or more automobiles and in addition there were two per cent that had light trucks, but no auto, so that 95 per cent of the farms were equipped with motor transportation.

On 342 farms having one car, the average miles per car were 4,815. Of these miles 2,307 or 48 per cent were on farm business. The miles driven per car varied from 270 to 24,000. Sixty-eight per cent were driven from 1,000 to 6,000 miles. Of a total of 594 cars, 364 or 61 per cent were low priced cars—Fords, Chevrolets, Overlands, Whippets, and Stars. Less than 10 per cent of all the cars were bought at higher prices than Fords, Chevrolets, Overlands, Whippets, and Stars, and were purchased as new cars. As the farmers who reported had much more capital than the average, it is probable that a census of Minnesota farm cars would show an even lower per cent of the higher priced cars. Evidently the auto is a business necessity on the modern farm and farmers as a class are very conservative in their expenditures for automobiles.\* It is interesting to note that the most comprehensive study of farm power that has been made in the United States made no mention of the auto, in spite of the fact that the business use of the auto represents about half as many horsepower hours per year as does the use of the farm horses.

### Motor Trucks

The average mileage which 141 trucks were driven was 2,727, of which 696 or 25 per cent represent work done for others. Twenty-seven trucks or 19 per cent were driven less than 1,000 miles and averaged only 415 miles; 61 or 43 per cent were driven from 1,000 to 2,000 miles, while 53 or 38 per cent were driven from 2,000 to 15,000 miles. Judging from the fact that 62 per cent of the farm trucks are driven less than 2,000 miles, farmers would find it cheaper to hire the bulk of their heavy hauling done rather than to own a truck.

\* Kinsman, C. D., An Appraisal of Power Used on Farms in the United States, U. S. Department of Agriculture bulletin 1348, page 56.

The tendency seems to be toward larger trucks. Of the owners of half-ton trucks, 77 per cent reported that they expected to use a truck of larger size in 1934. Of the owners of one-ton trucks, 63 per cent expect to use the same size in 1934; 36 per cent a larger size, and one per cent expect to use a smaller size.

### Tractors

Tractors, apparently, are used largely to help out with peak loads in the field work and for belt work. The average use of tractors on 233 farms was 29.4 days for drawbar work on the home farm, 16.0 days for belt work and 4.2 days for custom work. Seventy-eight per cent of the use for draw-bar work was for plowing, disking and spring-toothing.

### Electricity

Apparently, farmers are installing electricity as rapidly as they can conveniently finance it. Among 178 farmers who reported the year in which they installed electricity, 40 per cent installed it between January, 1925, and March, 1929; 20 per cent installed it in the years 1921 to 1924, inclusive. Only seven per cent installed electricity prior to 1917. Aside from lights, the most frequent household use of electricity was for operating the washing machine, 90 per cent using electricity for this purpose. Eighty-five per cent used electric irons, 35 per cent had battery chargers and 32 per cent vacuum cleaners. Among the farm uses, cream separating held first place, 46 per cent using electricity for this purpose. Forty-three per cent used it for pumping water, 31 per cent for fanning grain and 15 per cent for operating grinding machinery. Other uses on some farms were grinding feed, shelling corn, elevating grain, brooding chickens, churning, filling silo, shearing sheep, sawing wood, grading potatoes and cooling milk.

### Horses

Abstracts of the material relating to horses will be found in the November issue of Minnesota Farm Business Notes.

More detailed figures from this study of farm power can be found in the October issue of Farm Economics, published by Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

## HOG OUTLOOK MEETINGS

During the latter part of October and early November, swine meetings featuring the market outlook, the economics of swine production, and improved production practices were held in 23 counties. A total of 61 meetings were held with an aggregate attendance of 2,827 or an average of 46.3. The largest attendance was 250, but some of the most satisfactory meetings were those with an attendance of 25 to 40. At meetings of this size, interested hog growers frequently prolonged the meetings for an hour, asking questions on various phases of the subject.