

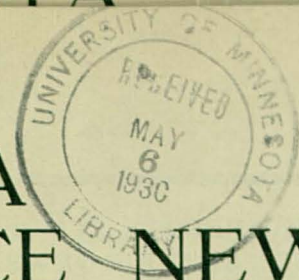
MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 8



State Has Hired 264

Men As County Agents

SINCE county agent work was first inaugurated in Minnesota with the appointment of Frank Marshall, September 1, 1912, as county agent of Traverse county, there have been 328 appointments in the county agent service in Minnesota up to and including December 1, 1929. This included a total of 264 different individuals, 255 of whom served as county agents and nine of whom served as assistant county agents without reaching the rank of county agent.

Fifty-one of these individuals served in more than one county; 41 in two counties; eight in three counties, and two in four counties. The two men who served in four counties are Henry Werner and A. W. Aamodt. The eight who served in three counties are as follows: Julius Ausen, L. M. Bond, Lyle Churchill, Fred Idtse, A. W. Jacob, J. J. McCann, W. L. McFetridge, and William A. Peters. Of the 51 men who served in more than one county, 24 left the work to go into other work and later came back into the county agent service and 27 passed from one county to the other on direct transfers.

One Returns to Work

There is one county agent not included in the 51 who left the county agent work and came back. This is K. A. Kirkpatrick, who has served twice in Hennepin county. Incidentally, he is the only man who ever left county agent work and then returned to his original county. In this connection it is interesting that although counties are often heard to declare when the county agent leaves them that they will never be able to get another one as good, no county except Hennepin has ever felt it necessary to go back and rehire a former agent of its own county. Of the large number of men who have been engaged in county agent work in Minnesota, only two have died while in service. They were Ross White of Pennington county and Silas Sampson of Traverse.

Every county in Minnesota has had a county agent, most of them more than one; four counties have had one agent each; 18 counties have had two each; 32 counties have had three agents each; 14 counties have had four agents; 16 counties have had five, and seven counties have had six. These figures do not include assistants who have served with the regular agent.

The four counties that have had but one agent each are: Anoka, Cass, Cook and Stearns.

The 18 counties that have had two agents each are: Benton, Blue Earth, Dodge, Douglas, Isanti, Itasca, Kandiyohi, Marshall, Mower, East Ottertail, East Polk, Pope, Sibley, Wabasha, Watonwan, Winona and Wright.

The 32 counties that have had three agents are: Aitkin, Becker, Beltrami,

Bigstone, Chippewa, Crow Wing, Dakota, Faribault, Fillmore, Grant, Hennepin, Kanabec, Koochiching, McLeod, East Marshall, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Murray, Norman, Olmsted, West Ottertail, Pennington, Pine, Pipestone, Ramsey, Red Lake, Rock, Roseau, North St. Louis, Scott, Todd and Wilkin.

The 14 counties that have had four agents each are: Carver, Chisago, Clay,

Jackson, W. Polk, Hennepin Get Assistant Agents

THE Minnesota Extension Service is well satisfied with the plan initiated a year ago, of training men for county agent work. The three assistant agents engaged during 1929 were all placed at the close of the year, Russell Morgan going to East Polk county; F. A. Douglass to Stevens county; and Joseph Paulson to a county agent situation in Iowa. Three assistant agents have again been selected and placed for 1930, as follows: Clement C. Chase, West Polk county; Eugene Stower, Hennepin; and Henry J. Van Metre, Jackson. Each of these men began service in his respective county on April 1.

Mr. Chase is farm-reared in Dakota county. He was enrolled for seven years in 4-H club work, has had special experience on a number of the best livestock farms in Minnesota, and completed his work at the university in animal husbandry last winter.

Eugene Stower is a native of Wisconsin, completed the course in the School of Agriculture at University Farm in 1925, and is a candidate for graduation from the College of Agriculture, June, 1930. He has specialized in animal husbandry, and during 1929 was a member of the University of Minnesota livestock judging team. During the four summers of his college work, from 1926 to 1929, he has been employed at the Coon Creek experimental fields in Anoka county. In this connection he accepted voluntary leadership in the training of a 4-H dairy judging team in Anoka county in the summer of 1929.

Henry J. Van Metre is farm-reared in South Dakota; graduated from the South Dakota State College in 1928, where he specialized in animal and dairy husbandry. Like Mr. Chase, he has been employed on a number of the leading livestock farms in Minnesota. During the past year he was doing graduate work in dairying at the Iowa State College.

As in 1929, the services and expenses of the assistant county agents are being paid by the state and federal departments. The assistant agents are responsible jointly to the local committees, the county agent and the agricultural extension division. The assistant agents will be particularly concerned with the 4-H club work in their respective counties, but their training will cover the entire range of county agent work.

Stork Compliments Hammargren

An announcement received by Mr. Cleland at the state office heralds the arrival of Shirley Ann, seven and one-half pound daughter, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Hammargren, Pine county. The date was April 7, 1930.

BIRDS—BEES—ALFALFA

WHEN F. E. Balmer remarked in the April Extension Service News that Minnesota has 7,000,000 head of livestock that eat alfalfa, or will if given the chance, Cora Cooke arose to remark that Minnesota also has somewhere near 10,000,000 hens that will consume alfalfa, if given the opportunity, not to mention the delight of turkeys, hens, and chicks for alfalfa pasture range.

Miss Cooke also reminds that possibly the bee population ought to be considered in planning the state's alfalfa acreage. If Miss Cooke wants to go into the "higher mathematics" of the bee business, some figures from Dr. M. C. Tanquary of the division of bee culture are pertinent. He states there are approximately 8,000 beekeepers in Minnesota with from 10,000 to 15,000 hives of bees. The population per hive ranges during the year from 10,000 to 50,000, or a total ranging from 100,000,000 to 500,000,000 bees. The production of honey in Minnesota is about 70 pounds per hive, or likely 7,000,000 pounds in total, some of which is derived from alfalfa.

Minnesota, no doubt, had better begin to get ready for two million instead of one million acres of alfalfa.

Cottonwood, Freeborn, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake, Mahanomen, Morrison, Nicollet, Sherburne, Wadena and Waseca.

The 16 counties that have had five agents each are: Brown, Carlton, Clearwater, Goodhue, Houston, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Renville, Steele, Swift, Traverse and Yellow Medicine.

The seven counties that have had six agents each are: Jackson, Nobles, West Polk, Rice, South St. Louis, Stevens and Washington.

Sanitation Being Stressed

Sanitation in chick raising is being emphasized again this spring in the project groups being conducted by local leaders. At their first meetings, the leaders in Cottonwood county signed up 39 demonstrators for the plan in 22 groups. Waseca county with 16 groups has 33 demonstrators enrolled at the first series of local meetings. At a series of meetings in February in Pennington and West Polk counties those who followed the sanitation plan last year reported not only greater success in rearing, but greater ease as well in caring for the chicks.

F. L. Liebenstein, Mower county, has turned in 44 entries in the 1930 pork production contest—more than all other counties combined. He also has four ton-litter entries.

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MAY, 1930

Repeatedly we have emphasized the fact that the real purpose of extension work is the development of people, which means not only improving economic practices, but also improving social and cultural attitudes and conditions. In this connection, the following quotation is deserving of attention. It is an excerpt from a bulletin on Rural Adult Education by John D. Willard and published by the American Association for Adult Education, New York City:

"A discouraging aspect of the extension service in agriculture and home economics is the failure of many agents to sense the opportunity for promoting intellectual growth in non-technical fields. Some even regard all non-technical interests as quite trivial and unnecessary. Some extension workers feel that effort outside the technical field is not authorized by the nature of either federal or state appropriations, and in some cases this feeling is doubtless justified. Many more see the opportunity and feel the desire to guide their communities in cultural development, but are unable to do so. The teaching of technical subjects requires all their time and energy. Some lack training in things cultural. No extension specialist staff in arts, comparable to that in agriculture and homemaking, has been developed in any institution in the United States.

"Yet a new chapter is opening. Rural people are requesting a broader cultural service from the existing technical agency. The momentum of interest developed by agricultural and home economics teaching, together with the newly discovered leadership in rural life, constitute the greatest present opportunity in rural adult education. Leaders in the extension organization have recently expressed the belief that the program can be broadened to include a liberal arts content also. Change will be gradual, but not difficult; much of the technical subject matter in the present extension program leads quite directly to physical, economic, social, and psychological sciences."

—F.W.P.

Nicollet County 4-H Club members are kept interested by having the county program organized on a highly competitive basis.

Farm Management Study Points Way to Profits

PROF. M. L. MOSHER of Urbana, Illinois, at the recent Minnesota Land Management Course described the results of 15 years of consistent farm record keeping by a group of Illinois farmers, cooperating in the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service. Minnesota set up a similar plan in 1928 with a group of farmers in Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Rice, Steele and Waseca counties. Some major benefits from this service, as outlined by Professor Mosher, may be summarized as follows:

The financial records show the real earning power of farms and help increase the earning power of individual farms. These Illinois records reveal that farmers who began a farm management study of their business in 1916 had an annual net income per farm for the three years, 1925, 1926 and 1927, of about \$1100 more than similar farms that began keeping records in 1925.

Returns from farming vary widely between farms. A big value of farm management records is to enable each cooperating farmer to know how he is operating his farm as compared with the average, the best and the poorest. Then he is in a position to study the records to learn where his greatest strength is so that he may build on it, and learn where his leaks are so that he may stop them.

From the farm management data certain principles of good farm organization and management have been evolved. Certain of these, as noted by Professor Mosher, are stated in Illinois Experiment Station Bulletin 329 entitled "Organizing the Corn Belt Farm for Profitable Production" as follows:

- Good crop yields reduce production costs
- Higher profit crops add to total farm profits
- Farms with livestock show larger earnings
- Large volume of business necessary for best return
- Livestock efficiently handled reduces cost of production
- Good system of farming helps use labor to advantage
- Power should fit farm needs and be efficiently handled
- Equipment costs must be kept under control
- Well arranged fields and farmsteads save time
- Diversity of production helps insure long time profits
- Production should be planned to meet market demands

Profitable Farm Practices

The real meat of the farm management service lies not only in knowing how well the farm is being operated, but also in learning the farm practices used on the most profitably managed farms. In connection with the Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Service the fieldman records information as to the soil treatment, kind of seed used, seed treatment, thickness of seeding and cultivation on each field of each crop. Corresponding information regarding livestock production is recorded. These data are tabulated and the results furnished to the cooperators. A few of the more profitable farm practices which have general application in corn-belt counties are as follows:

- Good drainage—both tile and surface drainage

Carefully planned field arrangement and crop rotations

Keep from 20 to 30 per cent of the tillable land in some deep rooted legume

Keep from 70 to 90 per cent of the tillable land in the more profitable crops for the area

Use limestone, phosphates and potash where tests show that their use would be profitable

Careful use of all available manure

Timely and thorough seed bed preparation and cultivation

Use of known high yielding seeds

Select, test and treat seeds to avoid disease

Careful storage of crops after harvest

Keep livestock healthy by sanitation, vaccination and disposal of diseased animals

Feed known good rations—largely of home grown and home mixed feeds

Produce in accordance with market demands

Conservative investments in buildings, fences and large machinery

Studied care of machinery

Studied use of available labor

Finally, Professor Mosher spoke of three personal characteristics common among the most successful farmers. First, they like their jobs as farmers; second, they are constantly studying their jobs; and third, they have formed habits of doing many things which farmers must do in good ways at the best times.

"Undoubtedly, the foregoing principles and practices have equal application to Minnesota farming," says F. E. Balmer, state county agent leader. "Any Minnesota county agent should find the discussion worthy to present in his county and better still to use to secure more cooperating farmers who wish to study the management of their farms."

Layman Writes New Ag. Education Book

"AGRICULTURAL education in the United States" is the title of a book just published by the Macmillan Company of New York City. The author, Whitney H. Shepardson, is an active business man. He left his business to make the study for the report and since has returned to his business. The study was directed by the General Education Board.

This is not in any sense a text book type of production. Rather it is a fresh story that may be said to be both sympathetic and critical. It deals primarily with the system of agricultural education as developed through the research, teaching, and extension of the Land Grant Colleges. Mr. Whitney made many observations, personally visiting more than 20 of the colleges.

The study made by Mr. Shepardson may be characterized as somewhat incomplete. For example, he states that the chief duty of the agricultural college "is to prepare men and women for responsible posts in agricultural research, teaching and extension" and indicates that all other duties should be subordinate to this. The Land Grant College Act of 1862 rather had for its purpose "to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life."

The report nevertheless is an interesting study and well worth reading. The list price of the book is \$1.50, but the publishers advise that a 25 per cent discount will be extended to any agents desiring to secure a copy.



**Temporary 4-H Leaders
To Serve 34 Counties**

THIRTY-ONE part-time 4-H club leaders have been named for duty in 34 Minnesota counties this summer to assist county agents in carrying out their programs of boys' and girls' club work. Most of these people began work April 1 or 15 and will continue until after the State Fair, or in some cases until after the local county fairs. The list follows:

**Temporary Club Leaders
In Agent Counties**

Aitkin and Crow Wing, Fred Johnson
Beltrami and Blue Earth, C. J. Arnold
Carlton, Roy Lennartson
Cottonwood, Emma Thorin
Dakota, Henry Langenfeld
Fillmore, Ruth Utley
Goodhue, Olga Kolsrud
Houston, Elsie Hempstead
Lyon, Arletta Ness
Martin, Irene Hanson
Meeke, Kenneth Hanks
Mower, Marjorie Perrizo
Murray, Esther Peters
Nicollet, Hilda Bartelt
Nobles, Etsie Reistroffer
West Ottertail, Arthur Anderson
East Ottertail, Evelyn Bierbaum
Pipestone, Sophia Boerboom
Redwood, Marcella Wittwer
Scott, Lily Drews
Waseca, Lucille Oothoudt
Washington, Alma Josephson and Alice Hooley
Wilkin, Gertrude Anderson
Winona, Della Marie Blakeslee

In Non-Agent Counties

Benton and Douglas, Arvid Sponberg
Grant, Viola Ellison
Isanti and Kanabec, W. H. Turner
Kandiyohi, John Peterson
Pope, Arthur Grove
Stearns, Fred Welch

Journal Renews Support

Club boys and girls throughout Minnesota will rejoice to learn that the Minneapolis Journal has promised its splendid support for 4-H club work again this year. T. A. Erickson, state club leader, has prepared a lengthy statement showing how greatly the Journal has helped since 1923 when it first gave scholarships and educational trips to dairy calf members.

A few facts from the summary is all space will allow us to present, but they tell volumes. Each year about 40 boys and girls have been given trips to the National Dairy Exposition. In this way 275 outstanding wide awake young people have visited this great exposition as

guests of the Minneapolis Journal.

Some other things the Journal has done—given 35 scholarships of \$100 each to dairy club members, given free junior short course trips to University Farm to 1,350 county winners in baby beef, pig, sheep and poultry projects, given 33 scholarships of \$100 each to winners in the four lines of work named, and last, but not least, has carried columns upon columns of wonderfully helpful news and publicity for the 4-H cause.

**District Contests for
Southern Minn. Slated**

DATES have been designated for six sub-district contests in southern Minnesota to select 4-H club exhibitors and demonstrators who will take part in state fair competition this year. This is in accordance with the plan agreed upon at the state extension conference. Following is the schedule:

- Winona, July 29, Winona, Houston, Wabasha and Goodhue
- Austin, July 31, Mower, Fillmore, Freeborn, Dodge and Olmsted
- Owatonna, August 1, Steele, Waseca, Rice and LeSueur
- Mankato, August 4, Blue Earth, Faribault, Nicollet, and Watonwan
- Sleepy Eye, August 6, Brown, Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin and Redwood
- Pipestone, August 8, Pipestone, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Rock and Nobles

To carry out this plan, each county will hold its own achievement day to select the individual bread winners, and the individual clothing representatives, and also the following teams, individuals and exhibits for the district contest:

- Two bread teams—one Class A, one Class B (advanced teams will be either Class A or Class B)
- Two clothing teams—one Class A, one Class B
- One room furnishing team, with exhibits.
- One cake individual demonstrator
- Also county champion exhibit.
- One thrift member with exhibit

Each member must turn in complete records and story at district contest.

**Reduce Trip Fare for
Junior Short Course**

THE State Club Office has been notified by the Western Passenger Association that reduced rates of one and one-third fare for the round trip will be in effect for the Junior Short Course, June 3-4-5-6. The tickets will be on sale June 1-4 and the final return limit June 9.

County agents and club leaders should be sure to tell the boys and girls who are coming from their counties to buy the round trip ticket taking a receipt, as no refunds can be made except upon presentation of a proper receipt.

**4-H Enrollments and
Completions Defined**

Enrollments

Enrollment consists of signing enrollment cards and beginning work on projects.

Enrollment lists are due in the state club office July 1. As far as possible, check enrollment lists before July 1.

For purposes of records and representation at state events, every boy or girl signing the card and starting his project should be counted as enrolled.

Completions

Completions consist of four definite things:

- (1) Doing the work of a project as outlined in rules. (Note: Circumstances over which the club member has no control such as loss of animal, crop, etc., should not bar completion in regard to this point.)
- (2) Keeping record as required by outline. (Note: While every member should be encouraged to keep complete records, an honest attempt to report should fulfil this requirement.)
- (3) Exhibit at local or county achievement day. (Note: Circumstances over which the club member has no control such as sickness, weather, etc., shall not bar as to this point.)
- (4) Write a story of his work. (Note: While every club member should be encouraged to write a complete narrative, an honest attempt shall fulfil this requirement.)

Basis of Representation

County representation at the state and national club events will be based on the number of club members who are enrolled and actively working in accordance with the above principles.

Basis of Records and Percentage of Completions

For purpose of total enrollments in the annual report, the number enrolled and the number completing should be based on the above principles, using the number of different boys and girls enrolled and not the number of project enrollments.

**St. Louis Co. Plans
State Potato Show**

ST. LOUIS county will sponsor a State Potato Show this winter for the second time, according to H. J. Aase, county club leader, who visited the state club office at University Farm recently. He also reported that the Hibbing and Proctor county fairs plan to erect some up-to-date 4-H club buildings and dormitories this year. The St. Louis county board has appropriated \$300 to defray living expenses of any members coming to a state club event.

Few T.B. Reactors Found

J. W. Taylor, of Roseau, reports the county T.B. area test complete, with 25,000 head tested and 189 reactors, or one-tenth of one per cent. A retest of infected herds will be made in March.

Chisago Lines Up Strong For More Clothing Work

EVERY Chisago county group which took the clothing project in 1929 is again participating in the advanced project being conducted by Miss Eves Whitfield. One past leader and often both from the former project have been retained by each group. It will be remembered that Chisago county completed the 1929 clothing project with the phenomenal record of 96 per cent of the group members finishing.

Typical Chisago county spirit is shown in the following excerpt from one of the leaders' reports on the "silk and wool finishes" meeting: "Our members came back very eager to continue their project work. They have been making good use of the instruction received in the first course, as more than 200 garments have been reported made since we met last fall. Savings are to be reported at the next meeting."

Another leader reported that her group had made 210 garments during the lull between projects. The same group had passed on project suggestions to 55 other women.

Cow Test Work Aims To Make Real Dairymen

IN a foreword to a booklet on "Dakota County Cow Test Associations," County Agent W. E. Watson brings out the real significance of cow testing work to the dairyman. We quote:

"The greatest value to be secured from cow test work is not the culling of the herds, it is not the feeding of a balanced ration, it is not continuous records that point quite definitely to certain families of cows in your herds that should be used as foundation stock.

"The greatest value to be gotten from cow test association work is the awakening of the spark of desire and determination in the dairyman, the man who cares for the cows, to be a better dairyman, to be a real dairyman. When this is accomplished the other things will be cared for as fast as conditions will permit. . . ."

The booklet consists of 28 pages plus an attractive green cover. Numerous local illustrations of high producing cows lend interest and tone to the articles which deal with membership of the associations, annual production reports on high cows and high herds, feeding, management and other vital topics. Ramer Leighton and Frank B. Astroth are special contributors.

Who Has Cleanest Office?

Mike Donovan suggests a "cleanest office" contest among county agents. This is very appropriate just now with all the clean-up, paint-up activities going on. Just to be constructive and to get things going, Mike nominates J. B. McNulty, since the Winona county office has just been newly papered and treated to a brand new coat of paint as well as having its windows washed. Miss Della Blakeslee, Winona club leader, deserves a large measure of credit for having selected the paper and paint. Let's hear from others who are giving their offices new spring dresses.

Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

Farmers To Pay for Accounting Work

By DR. G. A. POND

THE farm management service project in southeastern Minnesota will be put on a fee basis in 1931. This was decided at the district extension conference at Rochester, April 22 and 23. This work was organized in 1928 in Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Rice, Steele, and Waseca counties. Two hundred farmers are now keeping records in these six counties. The work was originally organized on a three-year basis as a combined research and extension project, the service being offered free to the farmers in return for the research data they were furnishing. It was planned to discontinue the work in this locality at the end of three years and transfer it to some other section of the state.

After receiving the benefit of this service for two years, however, the co-operating farmers feel that it is too valuable to lose. The records they have been keeping have brought to their attention the weaknesses in their plan of operation. The suggestions growing out of the interpretation of their reports by the county agents and the farm management workers have enabled them to increase their earnings by strengthening these weak points. The average labor earnings per farm in 1929 were more than \$600 larger than that of the same farms in 1928. Much of this increase the farmers ascribe to the lessons brought to them through this farm management service. The county agents also find the work useful to them in planning their programs of work. It gives them a comprehensive picture of the principal production problems of the county and shows how successful farmers are meeting these problems.

The plan for continuing the work as outlined at the extension conference calls for a reorganization on a three-year basis. Each farmer receiving this service will pay \$16 per year, or about one-third of the total cost of maintaining the work. Individual farmers have expressed their willingness to pay the entire cost rather than be deprived of the service. The agents in the six counties named will be given first chance to bid for the work. At least 200 cooperators are necessary to insure its continuance. Each county must offer at least 25 subscribers in order to be included under the reorganization. If these six counties fail to meet the minimum requirement, the service will be offered to adjoining counties. Already seven agents in counties not now in the work have asked to be included.

While the six agents now cooperating are confident that they can meet the requirement and retain the project, they will have to act promptly after the membership lists open—October 1—in signing up their members, or their enterprising co-workers will bid it away from them. It is hoped that as time goes on this

work can be extended to other sections of the state. At least 25 farmers enrolled in a farm management service project in every county in the state would provide an invaluable basis for county extension work, and at the same time would furnish farm management research workers with needed information.

Cavert Discusses

Farm Lease Project

THE farm project was discussed by W. L. Cavert at the Marshall and Crookston conferences. He called attention to the fact that in most counties in southwest Minnesota, 40 to 60 per cent of the farms are operated by tenants. Problems of increasing importance in connection with rented farms are the division of fertilizer expense between landlord and tenant and the question of suitable arrangements between tenants and landlords for an adequate alfalfa acreage. In the case of half and half livestock leases, the landlord furnishes half the horse feed from undivided feed, but when part of the power is furnished by tractors, trucks and automobiles some adjustment is needed whereby the landlord will share in the expense of running these power machines that operate on gasoline instead of oats and hay.

Mr. Cavert suggested that counties desiring to undertake a farm lease project arrange a county wide meeting of landlords to discuss their problems. This could be followed on the next day by a county wide meeting of tenants at which rental problems would be considered from the standpoint of tenants. In some cases it might be desirable to appoint a joint committee of landlords and tenants to make recommendations on such questions as equitable arrangements for sharing fertilizer expense, provisions for seeding alfalfa, control of weeds and furnishing fencing for hog pastures. He stated that the most suitable time for such meetings would be in June or early July as rental contracts are usually made in August.

Southwest Agents Will Visit Cost Route Farms

AT the Marshall conference, agents of the southwest district voted to spend Monday, May 26, visiting farmers of the Rock-Nobles cost accounting route for study of the 1929 reports on cost of raising baby beeves and producing hogs.

Dr. G. A. Pond and Prof. G. A. Sallee will have charge of the instruction. This will be the first extensive material on the cost of baby beef production released by the division of farm management and agricultural economics.

Director F. W. Peck enthusiastically approved the action taken by the agents. He stated, "How best to reach large numbers of our farmers with such basic material as is furnished by the southwest cost route and the southeast accounting project is one of the important problems confronting all agents."