

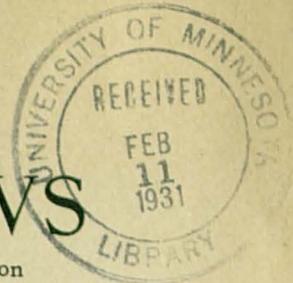
MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 5



F. & H. Short Course Breaks Records In All Respects

A RECORD-BREAKER in every important respect," Dr. A. V. Storm's own phrase, best describes the success of the thirty-first Farmers' and Homemakers' Short Course held last month. Registrations totalled 2,185, as compared with the previous all-time record of 1,951 established last year. In this, of course, the excellent weather was a big factor, and led so many people to drive in by automobile that parking became a problem for the first time in short course history.

County agents, home demonstration agents and other extension workers deserve much credit for the increased attendance. Through publicity, personal visits and other efforts in their counties, these agents are bringing in more people every year. In this regard St. Louis and Houston counties were the shining lights again this year, both counties bringing in bus loads of visitors.

Special recognition was given these two groups at the Farmers' and Homemaker' supper, special tables being set aside for them. St. Louis county gave an old-time square dance, in which four couples executed a long quadrille to perfection, dancing to music by an old-time fiddler and instructions called off by another member of their own group. Houston county entertained with some spirited singing.

Kiwanians Entertain Freeborn Farm Clubs

A PRACTICAL example of contact between a service club and the neighboring farmers' clubs is reported by Willis Lawson of Freeborn. The Kiwanis club of Albert Lea for several years has carried out a very successful plan of putting on one program for each community club of the county.

To give this service, the Kiwanis club divides itself into seven groups of six men each and the dates are divided among the groups so that no one group needs to go out more than two or three times. The program presented by the men vary more or less, but some uniformity is followed. Usually attendance prizes are given, these being donated by some Kiwanian, and are awarded in the usual way by shaking up the names in a hat. Two or three short talks, some special readings or musical numbers, and a good stunt or two, usually make up a program.

The offer has been accepted by the farmers' clubs in the same neighborly spirit in which it has been offered. "Kiwanis night" has meant a full house at the meetings and is looked forward to in the various communities. The business men like it, as it affords a chance to get acquainted with the people of the various communities and to establish many friendly contacts over the county.

Coming Events

February 9 to 13, 1931, Red River Valley Winter Shows, Crookston Station
February 10-11, 1931, Annual Meeting, Central Co-operative Ass'n, St. Paul
March 2 to 7, 1931, State Home Demonstration Conference, University Farm
March 4 to 6, 1931, Land Management Short Course, University Farm
March 12 and 13, 1931, Annual Meeting, Land O'Lakes Creameries, Minneapolis
March 26 to 28, 1931, Horticulture Short Course, University Farm
DISTRICT ANNUAL EXTENSION CONFERENCES:
April 28 and 29, Rochester
April 30 and May 1, Marshall
May 5 and 6, Grand Rapids or Duluth
May 7 and 8, Crookston

Hansen Describes Extension Work and Agricultural Conditions in Denmark

Editor's Note: In the following article, Martin Hansen gives some high spots of his observations of agriculture and extension work in Denmark and other northern European countries visited on his recent trip to the Old Country. We'll bet our Farm Board will be mighty glad if they read this that all our farmers are not Danish. What a surplus problem they would make!

DURING the two months, we made a number of visits to various parts of Denmark and also a trip through southern Sweden and northern Germany. The general impression in the country and especially the agricultural condition was one of progress and prosperity. New buildings, new roads, new bridges, improved communication, general use of electricity, large number of automobiles and more industrial activities showed the enormous progress taking place during the past 20 years and especially the last 10.

Denmark is approximately one-fourth the size of Minnesota but has a population of three and one-half million people, 33 per cent of whom are engaged in farming. The Danish farmer is well known for his efficient dairy and pork production and also for his efficient cooperative marketing system. Nearly all the creameries, packing plants, country general stores, and feed and supply stores are co-operatively owned and operated by the farmers. Much of the professional and legal service needed is on a cooperative basis. Nearly every community has the doctor service on a mutual cooperative plan whereby the doctor is hired by the community organization and the cost of the physician, medicine and hospital is distributed equally amongst members of the community.

The size of the Danish farms varies considerably, the average being about 60 to 80 acres. The valuation of an 80 acre farm is approximately \$32,000 to \$35,000. The average amount of stock on that sized farm is 30 milk cows, 20 head of young stock, 6 working horses (one or two being mares from which the farmer raises colts each year), and 14 to 16 brood sows, the farmer marketing approximately 400 hogs a year weighing 200 pounds each. The average number of pigs raised to maturity from each sow yearly is estimated at 18 to 20. The sows produce approximately two and one-half litters per year. A large number of 8-week-old pigs, valued at from \$5 to \$7 each, are purchased by the farmers from people specializing in selling small pigs. Hogs are all white and paid for on a carcass basis at the packing plants. Black hogs are not wanted. Cholera and Necro diseases are unknown. The average production per cow was estimated at 280 pounds of butterfat.

All farmers belong to the country

(Continued on page 4)

Yeast for Hog Feeding

By E. F. FERRIN, Animal
Husbandry Division

THE feeding of yeast and of feeds fermented with yeast to hogs is receiving a great deal of attention this winter. Yeast is being sold at from \$12 to \$16 per hundred pounds to hog feeders with the assurance that its use will reduce the cost of gains.

Several experiment stations have published reports of feeding trials applying to this question specifically and exactly. The facts can be had from the following reports:
Wisconsin Station Bull. No. 388
Missouri Station Bull. No. 228
Oklahoma Station Bull. No. 165
Iowa Station Report for the year 1922

The general conclusion drawn in each of these reports is that it does not pay to buy yeast for market hogs.

Hanson Back March 1

Ed Hanson, dairy specialist, will probably be back on duty about March 1. Ed has been recovering from an operation performed on his hip, December 30, since which time several of his dairy feeding school meetings have had to be postponed. Although he is making his way about on crutches and says he is feeling fine, his doctor forbids any road work for a few more weeks.

H. R. Searles, dairy specialist, has recovered from his Christmas day appendicitis operation, and has been back at work for the past 3 weeks or more. About the time Hanson and Searles had their operations, it was understood Ramer Leighton was seriously considering some surgical attention to a sinus difficulty, and was receiving much encouragement from his doctor. However, he resisted the attack, and we trust the "epidemic" is over.

Washingtonians To Speak on Home Agents' Program

THREE speakers from Washington, D. C., will be headliners at the annual State Home Demonstration Conference, March 2 to 7, according to the program outlined by Miss Julia O. Newton. During the last three days of the conference, March 5 to 7, the home demonstration staff will be joined by county home-chairmen from throughout Minnesota. The entire group will meet with the Minnesota Home Economics association for a dinner on March 5. The annual conference party will be March 6.

The speakers from the U. S. Department of Agriculture will be Miss Grace E. Frysinger, senior home economist; A. B. Graham, in charge of specialists; and Dr. Louise Stanley, chief of the Bureau of Home Economics. Topics to be discussed by Miss Frysinger will include the greater use of discussion in home demonstration groups, the job of the home demonstration agent, basic program planning and general trends in extension. Mr. Graham's discussions will center around principles of teaching, application of principles of teaching to home demonstration work, why we remember, and home recreation. Making use of white house conference data is one of the subjects to be taken up by Dr. Stanley, and another will be the farm woman and the bureau of home economics.

Other talks will be given by Dean W. C. Coffey, Director F. W. Peck, T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader, and Harold Harris, publicity specialist.

1930 Was Big Year In Minn. Swine Contests

MORE than 100 contestants finished up the year's work in the two swine contests conducted by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association and the agricultural extension service in 1930. Both contests were outstanding successes. They were started off by H. G. Zavoral, but after August were under the direction of A. E. Engebretson.

Forty-seven men completed the Pork Production contest, representing 14 counties. The number finishing was nearly double the previous high total of 29 in 1929. Mower county had the banner number of completions, with 22, and succeeding in capturing second place. Fifty-seven contestants from 29 counties finished the Ton Litter contest, 44 being 4-H club members. The number completing was not quite as large as last year. Winona county led in the number of completions, with seven; Rock county was second, with five; and Mower third, with four. Nobles, Houston and Ottertail each had three.

The Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association gave \$500 in prizes and a medal in each contest. The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home also gave a number of medals and watches.

Minnesota Extension Service News

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FEBRUARY, 1931

In these days of economic uncertainty and instability, with falling prices of farm products and a discouraging ratio between the prices of these products and prices farmers pay for commodities purchased, it may be that one has to be something of a "Pollyanna," or at least have considerable courage to face the future optimistically.

The short time point of view is a discouraging one. If the record of 1930 is the measuring stick in mind, or if we go back to 1921 and note the tremendous drop in farm prices and purchasing power that year, and if one thinks entirely in terms of land values, land foreclosures, delinquent tax movements, and the 1930 cash income to agriculture, he will become a confirmed pessimist.

I appreciate that it is easy enough to write about being an optimist or to shout blindly that prosperity is just around the corner. However, there is a way of looking at this situation that does not disregard the recent experiences and does not ignore the serious consequences of the depression which still grips agriculture, with disaster pending on a number of farms.

The long time point of view does offer a brighter outlook, and on this horizon these seem to me to be signs of encouragement for carrying on in the program for improved agriculture and an improved rural life. From this point of view, which means the next decade, the following encouraging indications may be mentioned:

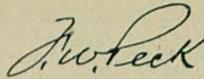
1. There has been a dropping out of marginal land and marginal producers in many types of production, which emphasizes the importance of efficiency measures as strong factors in lowering costs of production and in marketing quality products.

2. Consumer demand will gradually get back to normal with rehabilitation of industry and with adjustment plans that will likely tend towards producing for a domestic market with minimum attention to export marketings.

3. Minnesota farmers on good land have some advantages in dairying and other types of livestock farming over other areas where land values have been higher, where the climate and feed supplies are less favorable, and where, consequently, cost of production is higher.

4. The mechanization of agriculture will result in a larger output per in-

dividual even though it may mean fundamental changes in the number of farms and in the size of area that may be handled per individual. This will include the more extensive types of farming and probably will not be as large a factor in Minnesota as in certain other states.



Uses Publicity To Give Credit to Co-operators

"THERE are many agencies in Rice county that are in accord with the Agricultural Extension program and which have done much to assist the county agent with his program of work," states a recent publicity item prepared by Harry A. Haas for his local papers. It continues:

"The newspapers of the county, of which there are the Faribault Daily News, Faribault Journal, Northfield News, Northfield Independent, Morristown Press, have done a great service to the community by publishing agricultural news items and assisting in promoting worthy projects.

"The service organizations, such as the Faribault Chamber of Commerce, the Northfield Merchants Club, and the Lions and Rotary clubs of Northfield and Faribault, have served in many ways in assisting the county agent with his program of extension work.

"The Rice County rural schools and the high schools of Faribault, Northfield and Morristown have given freely of their co-operation."

The item continues with details about the co-operation given by superintendents of the schools mentioned, by the two agriculture instructors, and the county superintendent of schools. Most agents include statements of this kind in their annual reports, but often fail to make local publicity of them. In so doing, they either overlook the fact that a prime object of publicity is to give credit to co-operators, or else they neglect to take full advantage of the opportunity.

"Necro in Swine" is a new bulletin by Dr. H. C. H. Kernkamp. Ask for Special Bull. 131.

Don't Let "Hybrid" Corn "Double-Cross" You; Master the Correct Usage

JUDGING from its showing in farm trials the past year, double-crossed corn is here to stay, and the term "double-crossed," or some other one signifying the same thing, is to become one of everyday farm usage. County agents and extension workers, more than any others, perhaps, will have the responsibility of acquainting the public, not only with the corn itself, but with the terms used to designate it. Accordingly they should inform themselves of the proper terminology and stick to it religiously in printed or verbal statements.

Those desiring to be "in the know" may find the correct usage well illustrated in Bulletin 260, "Double-Crossed Corn in Minnesota." In general, the rules are very simple, the proper adjective being "double-crossed," while the accepted noun form is "double-cross," or "double-crosses." Thus one should say "double-crossed seed, double-crossed corn, or double-crossed strains"; or, when using the noun form, should say, "a double-cross" or "the double-crosses."

A little attention on the part of extension workers will help to clarify and standardize the use of these terms in the public mind. Gross irregularities in terminology, such as using the term, "cross corn," will lead to confusion and should be avoided. The term, "hybrid," as a synonym for "double-crossed," also has the sanction of the authorities, and will perhaps grow in popularity, although it is not so exact a term.

Letters of Submittal Need Careful Attention

WHEN you submit your weekly news budget to your local editors, do you take care to see that it is accompanied by a courteous note or letter? Most agents frank their material, which means it must be accompanied by some sort of written message. Whether or not this message does either of the two things it is intended to do, depends on the way in which it is written and signed.

An example of a note which combines a tactful approach to the editor with full compliance with franking regulations is that used in Hennepin county. The message is stenciled on note-size paper, carrying the regulation letterhead, and begins: "Dear Friend: Enclosed find information bearing on the work of the County Agricultural Extension Service. I hope you will find this immediately and directly useful to yourself and your community. Sincerely yours, K. A. Kirkpatrick, County Agricultural Agent." The note is then signed in longhand.

Many agents fail to comply with franking regulations in that they do not sign their notes in pen or pencil when sending them in sealed envelopes. A signature stenciled on your letter is permitted when the letter is not sealed, but all sealed letters that are franked must have the signature put on in longhand.

Regarding the wording of such messages, it should be kept in mind that the editor is only human. Material submitted should be placed before him with the distinct understanding that it is for his consideration, and the note should not imply that he is expected or bound to use it. A point worth observing about the words "herewith" and "enclosing," is that either is sufficient without the other. To use both of them in your note is a tautology.

Braamse's Have Son

We are indebted to Miss Cora Cooke for news of the arrival, December 21, of Peter Braamse, 9-pound son born to Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Braamse of Au Train, Michigan. Mrs. Braamse will be remembered as the former Edna Brown, 4-H club agent. The Braamse's are operating a summer resort or camp at the above address.

Co-operative Effort to Solve Rural Problems

"IT IS my belief that the work of the American Country Life association will be helped and strengthened more through intelligent farm organization than in any other way," declared James C. Stone, vice chairman of the Federal Farm Board.

The essentials of the problem, he said, were better rural educational advantages and a larger farm income. These, he felt, could be obtained through co-operating marketing and co-operative effort in general.

It was the duty of the Federal Farm Board, he added, to assist in raising the level of agriculture to that of industry, and that, through the Marketing Act, Congress had directed the board to work almost exclusively through co-operative marketing associations. He felt that it was now up to the farmer himself to make the decision whether he was satisfied to keep the old marketing system—which, Mr. Stone thought, was responsible for most of the farmer's troubles—or to develop a better one. "If he wishes a better one, the Farm Board will help him to get it," declared Mr. Stone.

Liebenstein Goes Home

F. L. Liebenstein, Mower county agent, has been having a tough time since he went to Rochester 2 or 3 months ago for a mastoid operation. We understand that Mr. Liebenstein was able to return to Austin about the last week of January, but will be unable to work for some time. Lieb's case was complicated by throat trouble, and after he had practically recovered from these ills, an attack of something akin to lumbago again delayed his recovery. The force sympathizes deeply with him and hopes that his recovery now will be speedy.

Stanley Hillier, Mower county boy, and former student of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, is beginning work as assistant agent in Mower. During Mr. Liebenstein's absence much of his work has been handled efficiently by the home demonstration agent, Miss Vivian Drenckhahn, and the office secretary, Miss Cora Bergland.

McNulty Is Student

Determined to become better posted on economic problems of the day, J. B. McNulty, Winona county agent, is spending a quarter in post-graduate work in agricultural economics at University Farm this winter. This is not Mac's first experience as a graduate student, as he holds an M.A. degree in dairy from the Missouri College of Agriculture.

The work in Winona county is being carried on by Rudolph Stolen, of Granite Falls, who was a student at University Farm until last fall, when he went to Winona county as assistant to McNulty.

Stork Visits Traverse

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Pederson of Traverse county report the arrival of a new county agent prospect, in the person of Roger Noel, 7½ pound boy, born December 28. Agent Pederson visited University Farm during Farmers' and Homemakers' Week, and stated that mother and child were doing fine.



Health To Be Stressed in 1931 Club Work, 4-H Leaders Decide

By T. A. ERICKSON, State 4-H Leader

UP to now the weakest link in the 4-H name is the fourth "H" or health work with the boys and girls. Through the project work, the club organizations, club programs and events, excellent work has been done in the training of head, heart and hand, but comparatively little in training the health of the boys and girls.

The leaders of 4-H club work have unanimously agreed to make a special effort during 1931 to try to get every 4-H club member in Minnesota to do at least something to improve his or her own health along with the project work in crops, livestock and home economics.

Miss Inez Hobart, nutrition specialist, will cooperate with the club department. The county and school nurses over the state have always been very willing to work with the extension people on the health program so we are sure of their cooperation. The program is being presented to the State Medical Association in order to get their cooperation at state events. County extension agents and leaders are urged to take up this matter with the physician and nurses in their own counties.

A simple health report blank has been prepared. A supply of these sheets will be sent every county extension agent with the request that one be attached to every club member's regular report blank. No special enrolment should be asked for the health work. We will have accomplished a great deal if we can make every club member feel that the fourth "H" is a real part of the club program. Urge each one to carry out the suggested health program and to keep the report.

The health work should not be made compulsory. However, leaders should be sure to announce that club members will be given credit for their health work in connection with a great many of the special awards. Simple, definite directions for checking up on posture will be sent each county extension agent.

Wadena Journal Is Big Booster for 4-H Work

COUNTY AGENT BLAKESLEE and other 4-H club leaders in Wadena county receive splendid cooperation from the Wadena Pioneer Journal. This year the Journal has issued a very attractive 4-H club calendar, which is circulated to all subscribers and to all 4-H club members in the county. Extra calendars also have been made available at a small cost to persons wishing copies for their friends.

The calendar consists of six sheets about 9x21 inches in size, with two months printed on each sheet. At the top of each sheet is an attractive group of photographs of prominent Wadena club members, shown with their animals or other exhibits, or taking part in various activities. County Agent Blakeslee aided in securing and grouping the pictures and selecting

The health work should be conducted along two lines: First, and perhaps the most important, helping the boys and girls to check up on their own health at the beginning of the period and giving suggestions and assistance for improvement, special incentives to be given for improvement in health. The second feature will be in the nature of physical examinations chiefly for the purpose of setting standards.

In order to stimulate interest, health contests will be conducted at the state fair as a part of the 4-H club program. Each county will be asked to select one boy and one girl, the healthiest representatives of the club members winning trips to the state fair on the various projects.

At the state fair a health contest will be conducted for these two county representatives. The boy and girl scoring highest in their respective groups will represent Minnesota at the National Club Congress in the national health contest.

County extension agents are urged to give publicity to this feature of the 4-H club program. Let us emphasize with our leaders and club members that unless we carry a strong health program we are not 4-H club members but only "3-H" club members. Let our slogan for 1931 be "the 4th 'H' as strong as the other three."

4-H slogans to accompany them. He says that the Wadena Pioneer Journal is a very liberal supporter of club work, and for the past three years has provided transportation for 12 club members to the Junior Short Course.

The editor, Carl Hanson, also attends most of the 4-H club meetings at least once a year, giving the boys and girls a very good talk. In reply to a letter from the University Farm publicity department, complimenting him on the calendar, Mr. Hanson said, "We plead guilty to being vitally concerned in the future of club work, and if there were no other phase in agricultural extension work, we would feel that the expense and effort was worth while."

Has Record for Completions

Ramsey county reports seven 4-H clubs with 100-per-cent-completion records. This is a challenge to the state. Can you equal or surpass it?

Sub-District Home Economics Contest

SUB-DISTRICT contests will replace the county home economics achievement days throughout the state this year, for choosing state trip winners. All county achievement days should be held prior to the sub-district contests. Directions, judging cards and report sheets will be mailed from the state office in April.

The following dates and groupings of counties show the preliminary plan. County names appearing in capital letters indicate the locale for each sub-district event.

Central District

July 21—RAMSEY, Washington, Anoka, Chisago, Dakota
July 23—SHERBURNE, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Isanti, Benton
July 22—HENNEPIN, Wright, Scott, Carver
June 16, 17, 18—(At time for Junior Short Course)—STEVENS, Lac qui Parle, Chippewa, Swift, Bigstone, Traverse, Pope, Douglas, Wilkins, Grant, Stearns, Kandiyohi
July 26—RENVILLE, Meeker, Sibley, Yellow Medicine
July 25—MORRISON, Todd

Northwestern District

Junior Short Course at Crookston—Mahnom, Marshall, Norman, Clay
July 14—BELTRAMI, Clearwater, Hubbard
July 15—EAST POLK, West Polk, Pennington
July 16—KITTSO, Roseau (Lake of Woods with Kittson or Koochiching)
July 18—WEST OTTERTAIL, East Ottertail, Wadena

Northeastern District

June 29—KOOCHICHING, Lake of Woods
June 30—ST. LOUIS, Itasca
July 1—CARLTON, Aitkin, Pine, Lake
July 2—CROW WING, Cass

Southern District

July 27—PIPESTONE, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Rock
July 28—BROWN, Cottonwood, Jackson, Redwood, Martin
July 29—BLUE EARTH, Faribault, Nicollet, Watonwan
July 30—STEELE, Rice, Waseca, Le Sueur
July 31—MOWER, Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Olmsted
August 1—WINONA, Goodhue, Houston, Wabasha

Select Potato State Fair Trip Winners

FOURTEEN outstanding potato club members representing counties doing the best work in the 4-H potato project will have free trips to the 1931 Minnesota State Fair and will take part in the state crops judging contest. The three winning highest scores will represent Minnesota at the National contest at Chicago. The list follows:

Glen Johnson, Meadowlands, St. Louis county; Willard Terry, Aitkin, Crow Wing; Stanley Egberg, Blackduck, Beltrami; Roy W. Gordon, Shevlin, Clearwater; Roger Sundgard, North St. Paul, Ramsey; Kenneth Hipsher, Roseau, Roseau; Orvis Johnson, Swatara, Aitkin; Ingvald Anderson, Fischer, West Polk; Lawrence Ohe, Rothsay, West Ottertail; Robert Olson, Laporte, Hubbard; Lloyd Flint, Kennedy, Kittson; Anna Turek, Bigfork, Itasca; Stanley Nordeen, Braham, Isanti; Kenneth Danner, Zimmerman, Sherburne.

Big Line-Up of Leaders

More than 50 junior and adult leaders will assist in putting over the 4-H club program in Fillmore county. S. G. Denner, county agent, recently arranged four leader training schools which were attended by more than 50 leaders. Plans are being made to secure more than 800 enrollments.

Martin County Boy Is State 4-H Corn Champ

MARCUS TEETER of Granada, Martin county, won the 4-H club grand championship in corn for 1930, and will receive a trip to the 1931 National 4-H Club Congress on funds given by the Union Stockyards company at South St. Paul. Seven hundred and fifty-one boys and nine girls took part in the project last year.

Harlan Perleberg of Myrtle, Freeborn county, was southern section champion, and Walter Reble of Sauk Center, Stearns county, was champion of the central section. These boys will receive trips to the 1931 State Fair. Julius Grahmquist of Lancaster, Kittson county, northern section champion, will be given a trip to the Junior Short Course next June. The following 16 counties are entitled to send their winners to the State Fair to take part in the crops judging contest: West Ottertail, Blue Earth, Freeborn, Stearns, Watonwan, Morrison, Martin, Jackson, Houston, Scott, Dakota, Fillmore, Lac qui Parle, Winona, Nicollet and Murray.

Marcus Teeter, state champion, will receive a gold medal from The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home, which will give silver medals to the district champions and bronze-art medals to the 16 county representatives to the State Fair. Twenty-one other corn club members in as many counties also will receive the bronze-art medals for all-around merit.

In the 4-H club department of the State Corn Show, Elvin Stoering of Montevideo, Chippewa county, won sweepstakes. Champion exhibitors in the various sections were as follows: southern section, Earle Teeter, Granada, Martin county; central, Elvin Stoering; and northern, Glen Glesne, of Underwood, West Ottertail. Marcus Teeter, state club champion, won first in yellow dent corn in his district. Mr. Stoering, sweepstakes winner, had previously won first in the northwest district at the International Grain Show at Chicago in December.

Gilbert Addresses County Fair Heads

CHARLES J. GILBERT, Nobles county agent, was one of the speakers on the Federated County Fair association convention at Minneapolis in January. In his talk entitled "How Progressive Methods of Agriculture Are Stimulated Through the County Fair," Mr. Gilbert told the convention that the future of the county fair is in the development of boys' and girls' club work.

The Federation adopted a resolution asking for an increased county fair appropriation by the state legislature, and specifying that 20 per cent of the entire appropriation be devoted to 4-H premiums.

Robert Freeman, Ramsey county agent, was reelected a director.

4-H Girls' Uniform

Second-year clothing girls may make the national 4-H club uniform in place of the wash school dress. This uniform is both attractive and practical. It is recommended that Butterick pattern number 3136 be used. Material may be the apple green everfast poplin or broadcloth, with white poplin or white cambric collar and cuffs. A picture of this uniform may be found in the 4-H Handy Book.

Soo Line Spud Train Brings Big Turnouts

GOOD turnouts greeted the Soo Line potato exhibit cars which visited 17 towns in Minnesota in January. R. C. Rose, extension plant pathologist, was a speaker on the train from January 6 to 10, at the following stops: Carlos, Parkers Prairie, Henning, Vergas, Mahnomen, Westbury, Ogema, Winger and Clearbrook. A. G. Tolaas, in charge of seed potato certification, was a speaker at Carlsbad, Bronson, Thief River Falls, Viking, Oslo, Genola, Bowlus, and Onamia. The last three stops were made the last week in January, following a period spent by the train in North Dakota, where it visited 12 towns.

Meetings were held in a special auditorium car equipped to seat about 75. A special strip film machine threw pictures on a daylight screen at meetings. Jens Uhrenholdt of the Soo Line agricultural department, and Ducan McLeod, also of the Soo Line, were in charge. At several places the auditorium car could not accommodate all who came. Discussions centered around better quality potatoes and lower cost of production.

One of the special exhibits showed the proper way to load cars during freezing weather. There were also exhibits of different varieties of potatoes grown in Minnesota, and a new type of potato planter which drops the seed in a deep trench and covers it by partially filling the furrow. There were also exhibits of commercial grades of potatoes from the different states, as gathered on the Chicago market.

Hansen Tells of County Agent Work in Denmark

(Continued from page 1)

farm organization known as "Landbrugsforreningen," having yearly dues of \$3. At times there will be three or four individual organizations within the same county. However, these organizations never compete. Each organization plans its own program of agricultural extension and conducts its own experimental work. Each hires its own county agent and plans his program. Most of those agents are specialists and work mostly within some definite project as dairy, hogs, crops, soils or farm bookkeeping. They serve a comparatively small number of people compared with our system of extension work. Approximately 1,000 agents and farm accountants are employed in the country at the present time. The jack-of-all-trades county agent is unknown.

Farm Bookkeeping is a general practice and the farmer pays a special fee of approximately 30 cents per acre for the services of the farm accountant. The agent hired for that work visits the farm every 14 days. The farmers organization receives no support from the state for agricultural agents. However, a few agents are entirely on state funds and are assigned to special agricultural problems. The farmers' organizations conduct their own fairs and shows, which are purely agricultural. The state appropriates some money to support these shows.

Another feature of the farmers' organization is competitive crop and animal production between the individual farmers in the county for which cash prizes are awarded at the end of the year. Inspection and edu-

Home Mixed Feeds Save Carlton Dairymen Cash

CARLTON county dairymen are buying their mixed feeds at a considerable saving this year through an arrangement worked out by County Agent George W. Chambers with two of the local elevators. The elevators buy the grain and other materials and mix the feeds at home. The agent writes:

"I worked out formulas for 20 per cent, 24 per cent and 32 per cent rations for two of our elevators. James McFarland, manager of the Carlton Mill & Elevator, has told me that he is now selling his dairy mixtures at about \$5 less per ton than he would have to pay for the same mixtures to the large feed companies. Our dairymen are getting excellent results with the feed and are feeding higher per cent protein than they did before."

Making Good Coffee For a "Multitude"

FRANK J. BROWN, county agent supervisor for southern Minnesota, hands us a formula for making coffee for farm bureau meetings, picnics, achievement days and other special occasions. The directions given were supplied by P. M. Stranney, buttermaker at the Lakefield creamery. Mr. Brown says the method is good because he has tasted coffee made by it.

Connect a piece of galvanized pipe to a steam hose, preferably but not necessarily, placing a noiseless water heater on the end of the pipe. Fill a 10-gallon cream can with water that will make good coffee, add 2 ounces of salt, turn on the steam until the water reaches 190 degrees F. Add 3 pounds of good ground coffee, placed in a sugar sack that has been washed and boiled. Put a cream stirring rod inside of sack and shove the sack with the coffee to the bottom of the can. After 3 minutes, take out the sack with the coffee grounds and the beverage is ready.

cational tours by groups of farmers from one part of the country to the other are general. The tours are generally of 2 to 6 days' duration, during which time a definite program is followed consisting of demonstrations and visiting of farms, experiment stations, marketing organizations, etc.

In the home economics work a number of short courses of 6 to 8 days' duration are held in the various parts of the country at which such subjects as home management, child training and nutrition are presented. A large number of private home economics schools are found throughout the country which young girls attend during the winter. A large percentage of the young people from 20 to 30 years of age attend winter schools. Those schools are known as the "Folks High School" and is somewhat similar to our agricultural schools at Crookston and Morris. The Danish Folks High School has been one of the outstanding factors which deserves the most credit for the economic progress and sound cooperative spirit found among the Danish farmers at the present time.

Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

Finds Poor Farms Are Assessed Too High

"THE Assessment System of Minnesota in Its Relation to Equality of Taxation," is the title of an excellent article in the October Journal of Farm Economics, by George B. Clarke, until recently with the University Farm division of agricultural economics and now with the Connecticut college of agriculture. The importance of the problem of fair assessments is indicated by the fact that in 1928, \$120,000,000, out of a total revenue of \$154,000,000 for state and local purposes, was raised by the general property tax.

One of the most interesting features revealed by the study was the fact that there appears to be "a distinct and uniform tendency to underassess high-value farms and to overassess low-value farms." For example, in south-east Minnesota, 42 farms that sold at over \$200 per acre were assessed at 67 per cent of their sale value, while 67 farms that sold at from \$50 to \$75 per acre were assessed at 125 per cent.

This seems to be in line with the tendency that has been found in New York and other states for poor land to have both sale and assessment values that are too high in comparison with better land.

The material in this study is of particular value for farm groups interested in studying taxation problems. If the Journal of Farm Economics is not available, a report of the same study may be found in the April issue of Minnesota Farm Business Notes published by the Division of Farm Management and Farm Economics.

Study Guides for Auto, Truck or Tractor Costs

DURING the summer of 1930 three mimeographed outlines were prepared on the following subjects:

1. Will It Pay To Own a Truck?
2. Should One Own a Tractor?
3. A Study of the Cost of an Auto

With the aid of the outline, a farmer will find it easy to prepare estimates as to the cost of a truck, tractor, or auto per year and per mile, or per hour for the amount of use that the machine receives under one's own conditions.

Blanks are provided for estimating the detailed expenses such as fuel, oil, depreciation, interest, repairs, etc. Also an outline is provided for estimating the savings in operating cost secured through the use of a truck or tractor. These may then be set against the expense.

The outlines are of particular value for those who are contemplating the purchase of tractors or trucks for the first time as with their aid one can make an advance estimate of the extra expense caused by a tractor or truck, and this can then be set against estimated savings. These forms are being used extensively in class room teaching by high school agriculture instructors. They will be used during the winter in connection with farm management schools (Farm Management 2) in a number of counties.

County agents or farmers may secure sample copies of this material upon application to the Mailing Room, University Farm, St. Paul.

Farm Economics Journal Furnishes Good Reading

COUNTY agents interested in securing more good reading along the line of farm economics may find it in the Journal of Farm Economics, published by the American Farm Economic Association, suggests L. F. Garey of the agricultural economics division, University Farm. Mr. Garey, who is acting as Minnesota representative for the association, submits the following facts regarding the organization and its official organ.

The American Farm Economic association, founded in 1910, has a membership of 1,000, including persons interested in marketing, co-operation, farm management, rural economy, agricultural statistics and similar subjects. Membership is open to anyone and costs \$5 a year, including a subscription to the Journal of Farm Economics.

The Journal of Farm Economics, established in 1919, is published each January, April, July and October. It comprises about 700 pages a year and gives results of the most recent research in the economic problems of agriculture. Membership applications and fees may be addressed to W. I. Meyers, Secretary-Treasurer, American Farm Economic association, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Lyon County Studies Corn Grade Situation

COUNTY Agents in Southern Minnesota will be interested in a bulletin put out by the Lyon County Crop Improvement Committee. The bulletin shows the grades of corn received by local elevators in the 1929-30 season for all the corn shipped out. Over three-fourths of the corn shipped in that season graded five or lower.

The conclusions are that the ways to secure better grades are the following:

1. Crib the corn properly.
2. Plant varieties adapted to the county.
3. Practice best known methods of crop rotation and soil improvement.

Outlook Is Prepared

S. B. Cleland represented the agricultural extension division at the National Agricultural Outlook Conference at Washington, D. C., January 26-31. It was expected that 45 or more states would have representatives. Thus, the national report will represent the combined judgment of persons who are familiar with conditions and problems in all sections. Following Mr. Cleland's return, a state outlook report will be written suggesting ways in which Minnesota farmers can best adjust production to 1931 conditions.

"Systems of Farming in Northwestern Minnesota" is a new bulletin by L. F. Garey and F. F. Elliott.