

Minnesota Extension News

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North Counties Organize Against Weeds, Hoppers

MEETINGS of township chairmen and county commissioners were held in six northern Minnesota counties the first week of April, to discuss the Redwood county, or cooperative, plan of weed control. Wilkin, Norman, Pennington East Polk, Wadena and Ottertail counties each went on record as adopting the plan, five by unanimous vote.

At a conference of county agents, county commissioners, and representatives of the state weed department and the state extension service, held at Crookston early in February, these counties decided to use the plan and arranged for the meetings of the town chairmen. C. L. McNelly, district county agent supervisor; Sam Hammerbeck, state weed department, and the county agents of the respective counties, presented the plan.

As grasshoppers promise to be a serious menace this year in most of the northern counties, grasshopper organization was presented at each meeting. It was decided to select a county committee of five to work with the county agent in each case. Most counties likewise appointed township committees of five to cooperate with the county group. Since, in most cases, the best men of the communities will be on the township committees and as section supervisors, it was decided that committees to handle both projects should be appointed at township meetings. Township chairmen have already scheduled numerous meetings with county agents.

Agents busy organizing to handle both these emergency projects are C. M. Kelehan, O. R. Grover, George Landsverk, R. M. Douglass, Ronald McCamus and C. L. Blakeslee.

Grathwol Taking Agent Training In Ottertail

JOHN A. GRATHWOL, who has been farming near Excelsior for the last 8 years, started April 1 as assistant county agent in Ottertail.

Grathwol, who majored in dairy husbandry and minored in agricultural economics, was graduated from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1924. He had 2 years' experience as tester in dairy herd improvement associations and for 3 years was secretary of the Minnesota State Jersey Breeders' association.

Grathwol entered the service well recommended and has made a nice start. He is located at Perham, working under the immediate supervision of C. M. Kelehan, county agent. His major projects will be 4-H club work and the organization for grasshopper control.

Initial steps were taken in Nicollet county, March 30, for organizing a county-wide dairy improvement committee. A meeting at the Nicollet Bank Hall, called by County Agent E. M. Nelson, was addressed by Axel Hanson and H. R. Searles.

Coming Events*

May 12-14, 1932—Editors' Short Course
May 30-June 1, 1932—4-H Leaders' Camp, Park Rapids
June 2-4, 1932—4-H Leaders' Camp, Itasca Park
June 2-4, 1932—4-H Leaders' Camp, Murray County
June 7-10, 1932—State Junior Short Course
September 3-10, 1932—Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul
October 24-28, 1932—Annual Extension Conference
October 26-29, 1932—American Country Life Conference
October 31-November 3, 1932—Minnesota Junior Livestock Show, South St. Paul

* Events will take place at University Farm, unless otherwise stated.

Wilkin Recreational Schools Prove Peppy

ONE HUNDRED seventeen township leaders attended three recreational schools conducted in Wilkin county in March by Miss Charlotte Kirchner, home demonstration agent, and O. R. Grover, agricultural agent. A blizzard, Miss Kirchner says, cut down the attendance at one school.

Ten or 12 leaders from each township, secured by the township home chairman, attended the training meetings. Subject matter took the form of play. Formations, marching, relay and tag games, folk dances, community singing, music appreciation, get-acquainted stunts and one-act plays were the types of recreation discussed and taken part in.

At each school but one, a play enrolled in the county 4-H club contest was presented. Mrs. Louis Bjostad of Breckenridge handled the music phase of the meetings and the county extension agents were in charge of the remainder of the work.

Leaders seemed to have a lot of fun at the schools and have been using the ideas enthusiastically since, in various types of meetings, including home management check-up days; 4-H club meetings; money-raising entertainments; school programs, and Sunday school parties. One more training meeting scheduled, possibly will not be held until fall.

Bulletin Board Exchange

A bulletin board exchange to facilitate buying, selling or barter among farmers, in livestock, machinery or other farm property, was a feature of the Rock County Corn and Grain Show at Luverne this winter.

The bulletin board was made from a piece of ordinary wall board, 4x10 feet, on which the want ads were thumb tacked. Each ad was written with a black crayon on a white card, 5x6 inches. A large number of farmers put up ads, according to C. G. Gaylord, who sponsored the exchange.

While Mr. Gaylord knew of a few cases where actual transactions were made, he felt that the results probably were not extensive. "However," he said, "I believe this is an educational feature which would grow if used year after year, and I plan to continue it."

Rokahr, Home Economist, At U. Farm in April

MISS MARY ROKAHR, extension economist, home management, U. S. Department of Agriculture, was a visitor at University Farm, Friday and Saturday, April 22 and 23. Most of her time was spent in conference with Miss Mary May Miller in regard to types of home management material needed in meeting the present situation.

On Saturday morning, Miss Rokahr spoke briefly to members of the home demonstration staff and economic specialists on some charts she is preparing for the use of extension workers in presenting economic information to homemakers, corresponding to the farm outlook information given to farmers.

Miss Rokahr came to Minnesota after visiting Iowa and South Dakota and was intending to visit Indiana and Ohio before returning to Washington. The outstanding trend just now in home management work, she said, is the emphasis on economic phases of home management, including savings on articles purchased for the home and also the economy of using garden and other products raised at home. She is studying how better to correlate the work of the various home and agricultural specialists in projects designed to bring the most practical help to homemakers in the present emergency.

Junior Show Dated; Morris Is Manager

Dates for the Minnesota Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul have been arranged as follows:

October 31, preparation day
November 1 and 2, judging
November 2, banquet (evening)
November 3, sale.

County Radio Programs

C. J. Gilbert, Nobles county agent, reports that arrangements were completed during March for weekly radio programs over KSSO, Sioux Falls. Counties in southwestern Minnesota, he says, take turns in this broadcast, each county to have a program once a month. Up to April 1, three counties—Murray, Rock and Nobles—had prepared and given programs.

Hort Society Pushes School Tree Planting

LYNN SHELDON, Lac qui Parle county agent, has issued publicity giving details of some very interesting tree planting work promoted by the county horticultural society among rural schools. At the county teachers' institute, a plan was presented by which the schools were to pay for trees at a nominal cost, and to plant and care for them under the direction of the horticultural society. Twenty-seven schools responded, securing an average of about 15 trees for each school lawn. On Arbor Day, April 22, the horticultural society sent out four two-man crews, who visited the schools and planted the trees, directed by a representative of the nursery.

According to Mr. Sheldon, the schools agreed to dig the holes and care for the trees during the season, keeping them watered and protected against damage. A fitting tree planting ceremony was also carried out at each school, the whole movement being made a part of the Washington Bicentennial Celebration.

Visits and tours of the schools are planned as a means of keeping up interest and giving instructions. Chinese Elms, 3 to 4 feet high, were the trees planted.

In many schools, a student or family has assumed complete responsibility for the care and protection of a certain tree during the year. Such trees are to be entered in the district records as having been planted by the person or family responsible in each case.

How Township Added 14 New Bureau Members

FOURTEEN new farm bureau members were secured in Donnelly township, Stevens county, recently. C. L. McNelly says this is how it was done:

"Eight families were invited to a gathering in the Speer home one evening in March, to talk over farm bureau problems. Three members of the county farm bureau board and the county agent were in attendance. After some discussion, the eight farm bureau families decided that an attempt should be made to organize a township unit. Three of the farmers agreed to pair off with the three county board members and put on a membership drive. As a result, 14 new members were secured. F. A. Douglass, county agent, was invited to assist in organizing the unit, April 6."

Give Poultry Memberships

Mrs. Clara M. Oberg, 4-H leader for Ramsey county, reports that the Ramsey County Poultry association is offering an associate membership to every poultry and rabbit 4-H club member. The association programs provide educational features on the feeding and care, exhibiting and judging of poultry.

Minnesota Extension News

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MAY, 1932

A question that might well be asked of each extension worker at this time is, "What are we doing this year in the extension program that we did not do last year, or the year before?" In other words,

Our Opportunity

what change of emphasis has been developed because of the serious economic situation that confronts practically every farmer with whom we come in contact? It is quite easy in extension work to adopt a general line or plan of work, to stay by it rather consistently, and perhaps to wear it thin in spots. But because of its one-time importance and the fact that we are individually so close to the work, we may fail, at times, to change emphasis, or adopt a new plan or method of meeting essential needs in the county.

One of the tests that is being applied to the extension service in this situation is, how adequately is it meeting the pressing needs and how adaptable is it to the essential changes constantly taking place in the development of agriculture? To the extent that we meet this test, we will be relatively successful and will be recognized as contributing valuable services in an hour of serious need.

There are many illustrations of a change in emphasis of the program, or the adoption of a rather comprehensive plan of work, that include specific attention to emergency needs. There comes to mind, at once, the organization set up by the agents in the counties to assist with the distribution of federal crop production loans. Another illustration is the assistance rendered in cooperating with the Red Cross in distributing free wheat. A third is the plan of organization being developed to combat the grasshopper menace that threatens to be serious in a number of counties. Still another is the garden and canning project being developed by the home demonstration agents, and which is receiving special emphasis in the club program in a number of counties, in order to stimulate the production of garden crops that will contribute to the farm living through the year.

There are any number of needs that should be analyzed from the point of view of organizing the various forces that can be brought to bear upon a given situation. An example

Lyon's New-Type Farm Bureau Booths Create Sensation at County Fair

DETERMINED to get away from the old, worn-out type of farm bureau county fair booth, which aims at everything in general and nothing in particular, W. A. Peters, Lyon county agent, arranged this year with

description of the booths, we cannot do better than quote from the Marshall News-Messenger. In its fair-week issue, this paper said:

"Long before they were completed, the new township project booths which



Booths like these are not only attractive, but carry a real message for county fair visitors.

six township bureau units to put on exhibits illustrating definite extension projects. As a result, the booths created a real sensation, and were considered far superior to the old type of unit booth.

For appropriate comment, and a de-

scription of this is the feeding of livestock, by closely correlating the livestock needs with the cropping program, with the pasture situation, and with the storage needs for next winter's consumption. Emergency pasture crops, or annual hay crops, depending somewhat on the season, may be a factor in providing proper rations for farm livestock. In connection with the marketing program, just how important is quality under price ratios that exist, how can the very last penny be obtained under price conditions that, at the best, are exceedingly discouraging? In what ways can production be adjusted as to time of marketing, volume of product, quality of product, place and form of marketing, under a price structure that does not promise particular improvement for the coming season, and possibly for the entire year?

We need to do some serious analyzing of material, of time, of our program, and of the people with whom we work, if we are to contribute valuable services to these pressing problems of the moment.

F. W. Peck

are an outstanding feature of the exhibits at the Lyon County Fair this week, were winning the praise of persons on the grounds entry day. The booths are entirely different from the agricultural booths of other years, and are regarded as one of the most worthwhile features of the fair.

"The Lynd unit's booth on windbreaks shows a farm home in winter time. Miniature buildings, complete to the last detail, are surrounded by the desirable type of windbreak. Lake Marshall unit's booth shows the results of various fertilizers on different crops, the grains, treated and untreated, actually growing in the booth.

"Clifton's booth presents the corn variety project carried on in that township this year. Several varieties of corn are shown growing. In the foreground, stands a small elevator, with an electric train running in and out. Nordland's booth shows the recommended ways of storing corn, miniature cribs being used.

"The Island Lake booth on weed control shows how control can be maintained through rotation of crops. Amiret's hog sanitation booth presents on one side the sanitary pens and buildings and on the other the old hog wallow way. Live pigs are used in bringing out the contrast."

Mr. Peters received many complimentary statements about the new booths from farmers, businessmen and county fair officials, who pointed out that they especially liked the booths because each taught a real lesson and all were different.

Previous to last fall, Lyon county

Rural Libraries Talk By F. W. Peck Published

THE LATEST quarterly issue of "Library Notes and News", published by the State Department of Education, contains the report of an address given by F. W. Peck, director of agricultural extension, at the Minnesota Library association meeting at Faribault, last October.

This talk, entitled "Opportunities to be Developed for the Use of Libraries by Rural People", enumerated the following essential factors in providing county libraries:

- 1) Make known to rural people the type of service that is to be specifically available to them. They need to be made "library conscious."
- 2) Develop types of appeals based on modern needs of rural people.
- 3) Accessibility is most important. The human tendency is to follow the line of least resistance.
- 4) The cost must be reasonable and the service well-worth the cost.
- 5) Cooperation should be developed between the libraries and extension agencies, schools, churches, clubs, farm bureau units, boys' and girls' 4-H clubs, and other organized rural groups.
- 6) The reading material should fit both the technical or informational and the cultural needs of farm people, in the form and at the time of greatest appeal.

Clothing Group Makes Perfect 2-Year Record

PERFECT attendance of leaders at training meetings, and of members at group meetings, throughout years of clothing project work, is the very commendable record made by the Elmore clothing project group. No. II, reports Miss Helen E. Kallenberg, Faribault county home demonstration agent. The leaders are Mrs. Alfred Richardson and Mrs. Gordon Richardson. The clothing project was conducted by the county home demonstration agent with the assistance of Miss M. Lois Reid, clothing specialist.

An Achievement Day was to be held at Wells, May 7. The businessmen agreed to provide the hall, coffee, and a generous amount of advertising says Miss Kallenberg. A series of short talks, music and stunts, lasting not more than 2 hours, was to make up the program. Six exhibits, prepared by the six leader training groups, were planned.

The lunch committee decided to simplify the lunch problem by serving sandwiches and cookies in paper sacks, each group furnishing the food necessary for its own members and their friends.

Clothing project II has been a very successful one in Martin county and the women have been most enthusiastic concerning it, reports A. R. Karr, county agent. The Achievement Day was scheduled for May 6.

township units had been staging the old type of booth with farm products for at least 8 years. Last year, the county fair association paid each unit \$25 and the units competed for ribbons. Only those units which had worked out detailed yearly programs and had adopted definite projects, such as windbreaks or swine sanitation, were allowed to put on booths.



**Rice County 4-H Girl
Accorded High Honor**

MISS DOROTHY STRUNK of Northfield, Rice county, will represent 4-H club girls of the United States at the Biennial National Convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Seattle, Washington, June 11. Miss Strunk will give a 15-minute talk on what 4-H girls are doing, as a basis for a discussion of what Federated Women's Clubs may do to assist the work.

Miss Strunk is 19 years old and has been a 4-H club girl for 4 years. In her canning project she has put up more than 400 jars of vegetables and fruits, winning the state championship as demonstrator last year. She has made an outstanding record in home beautification work, landscaping her home grounds, building a rock garden and making a lily pool. She interested her family so much in the plan that they are helping her to carry it out entire.

She represented the canning work of Minnesota at the National Club Congress in 1931, taking part in the judging contest where she and her teammate won second.

Dorothy has been president of her local 4-H club of 40 members for 2 years and last year was its junior leader. She was a member of a committee representing six 4-H clubs which conducted entertainments and raised \$300 towards a 4-H club building on the county fair grounds. She is now attending Macalester College, working her way through.

**Red River Dairymen
Sponsor 4-H Dairy Work**

THE Red River Valley Dairymen's association is sponsoring two contests to encourage 4-H club members to keep dairy production records. Competition is based on the economical production of butterfat by one or more cows owned by the members. Scholarships of \$50 and \$30 will be awarded.

The association is also sponsoring a contest which includes, not only dairy production records, but also exhibiting of the animals at county fairs. This contest includes a shorter milk production record, the purpose of it being to interest and prepare boys and girls for the longer time record. The association provides six medals for the winners in each of the Red River Valley counties.

4-H Girls' Uniform

Girls carrying second year clothing work may, if they so desire, make the national 4-H club uniform in place of a wash dress; or third-year members may make it in place of a cotton dress.

This uniform is both attractive and practical. The pattern, No. C-367, may be secured from the Country

Gentleman Pattern Service, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York City. The sizes of the pattern are 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years.

Broadcloth may be used for the uniform. This material may be secured in the apple green, or a shade darker, which conforms with the national requirements. If at all possible, it is very desirable to have the girls coming to state events, especially the State Fair, wear this uniform.

**Suggested Program for
4-H Club Meeting**

- Pledge—Club
- Song, "America the Beautiful," (No. 1 in 4-H Song Book)
- Minutes of last meeting
- Roll call—Answer by giving desirable characteristics of good 4-H club member, or progress in own club project
- Old Business
- New business
- Song, "Ploughing Song" (No. 6 in 4-H Song Book)
- Talk, "Why We Should Have Several Demonstration Teams in Our Club"—member who has been in demonstration work.
- Demonstration, "Bleaching Flour Sacks"
- Music, instrumental or vocal—members of club
- Illustrated talk, "My Garden Plans" (given with chart)—club member
- Talk, "Working Up a Demonstration"—county extension agent. Include at least three suggested topics for demonstration for each project group represented
- Announcements by adult and junior leaders; report local leader training meeting
- Song, "4-H Friendship" (No. 37 in 4-H Song Book)
- Adjournment

Entertainment

Have committee of two or three lead group in two or three games. Play each game for only a short time. Continue games for about 15 minutes. To be successful, these need to be well planned.

**Delegates Picked For
National 4-H Camp**

LELIA STEINER, West Polk county; Helen Christensen, Martin county; Cletus Hallquist, Goodhue county, and Paul Pierson, Scott county, have been selected to represent 4-H boys' and girls' club work in Minnesota at the National 4-H Leaders' Camp, at Washington, D.C., June 15 to 21.

All four of these young people have made outstanding records in their projects on a state-wide basis. Three of them have been club members for 6 years and the fourth for 7 years. Their county agents have reported them as outstanding in leadership work. Each has emphasized the health work. The club department feels they will represent the state very creditably.

Alternates selected are Evie Atwood, Carlton county; Ruth McFarlane, Douglas; Brooks Naylor, Wadena, and Harold Anderson, Nicollet.

**4-H Baking Work Saves
Big Sum In Minnesota**

FOUR-H CLUB GIRLS are helping to lower the cost of family living by baking bread, biscuits, muffins, pies and cakes at home. The baking enrollment for 1932 will no doubt be larger than it has been for many years.

Last year's records show that the girls did not stop baking when they had completed requirements of the projects. The 255 girls who took part in the sub-district and state individual and team contests baked 31,792 loaves of bread, 9,401 dozen quick breads and other baked products, and 4,974 family bakings, or an average per girl of 124.6 loaves, 36.8 dozen quick breads and 19 family bakings.

In the state, the 4,662 baking club girls baked 125,078 loaves of bread and 47,248 dozen quick breads. The estimated profit of this baking to homes in Minnesota is \$12,607.47.

**Five Special Awards
For Livestock Members**

THE Minneapolis Journal has provided special funds from which five scholarships will be awarded to the club members making the most outstanding records in pig, sheep and dairy calf projects. A candidate must have a record of 2 years or more and preference will be given to a longer record. The entire record of contestants will be credited. The scholarships are good in the College or the Schools of Agriculture. Advanced work of sheep and pig club members, and production work of dairy members, will be given additional credit. Scholarships must be used within 1 year.

Set Year's Goals Now

At this time it is an excellent plan to set goals for the year. Many counties have already announced the goals. Pipestone county has 12 in its program for 1932, including the following:

1. Maintain the present enrollment of 610 members
2. Improve the quality of project work
3. Secure 10 to 15 members in the partnership project
4. Improve the quality of 4-H records
5. Emphasize the health or "fourth H" work
6. Emphasize thrift work
7. Raise the percentage of completions.

Film Strips Available

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, through its extension service, has a great many film strips on a variety of subjects. Announcement has just been made of two new strips, one on "George Washington, The Farmer," and the other, a new song, "Father of the Land We Love."

These strips may be purchased at a very nominal price. If interested, write the department at Washington, D. C. In addition, the department has 134 strips available for purchase, at prices ranging from 35 to 71 cents each. Write for complete catalog of available series.

**Wagon Stunt Depicts
Need of 4-H Leaders**

FOR a 4-H club stunt, emphasizing leadership or successful club organization, the following one used recently in Rock county is suggested. The stunt was put on at a leaders' banquet by members who represented Rock county at the Junior Livestock Show.

The stunt depicted the qualities of a successful 4-H club. A wagon was used and two members, labeled "4-H Club Members," came onto the stage carrying the body of the wagon. They were followed by four club members, each carrying a wheel representing "regular meetings," "start on time," "good programs," and "pep." After the wheels were placed on the wagon, one of the younger members came in and was immediately assisted onto the wagon, which was started on its way (tongue-less). As there was no means of guiding the wagon, it ran into an obstruction labeled "difficulties." The members, conferring among themselves to find out what was wrong, discovered that the wagon had no tongue. Just then another member came in, carrying the tongue, labeled "Local Leader." The tongue was placed into the wagon and the journey was very successful from then on.

New Club Report Plan

Eight letters with self addressed envelopes are being sent to each club reporter in Faribault county by Miss Helen Kallenberg, home demonstration agent. At the bottom of these letters is a place on which to report club meetings. Miss Kallenberg hopes in this way to keep in close touch with the activities of all clubs in the county. The information thus received will also be used in getting out publicity for local newspapers and the official 4-H club news.

Plans Family Partnership

County Agent Paul Kunkel of Brown county reports that he has worked out a family partnership plan in the home of Joseph S. Mathiowitz whereby the four sons—Raymond, Clarence, Harold and Leo—will receive a percentage of the farm's dairy income.

Mr. Mathiowitz, in commenting on the plan, stated that as a young man he had a similar partnership with his father which greatly increased his interest in the farm business.

Critic's Remarks Help

Having a critic discuss constructively the weak points in its programs has assisted the Central Hustlers Club of Nobles county to win the county cup on several occasions, according to Mrs. Morton Bassett, adult leader of this group since it was organized 4 years ago. Mrs. Bassett states that club members welcome the suggestions made by the critic and that many of these suggestions give the club new ideas which strengthen the program and add to its interest.

Program Material

A mimeographed circular giving directions for a candle lighting service as a part of a special 4-H program at camps or other outdoor evening events has been prepared, and is available to extension agents from the state office.

Prepare Circulars and Leaflets on Gardening

ALL county home demonstration agents and many agricultural agents are putting unusual stress this year on garden work, which is meeting with enthusiastic response from farm people. Miss Inez M. Hobart, nutrition specialist; Miss Eva Blair, organization specialist; R. S. Mackintosh, and others of the extension staff are cooperating.

Mr. Mackintosh and Miss Hobart have prepared circular letters which are being furnished to home demonstration agents for mailing over their own signatures. The first letter carried the slogan "Invest in a Home Garden". Several others are to follow during the season, including two in June. A multigraphed circular on the long-row garden has been prepared, and also an extension folder on the control of common garden insects, the latter by H. L. Parten, extension entomologist.

The garden work will consist of three main phases, the spring work relating mainly to the encouraging of garden growing, the selection of varieties, and instructions on the growing of vegetables; the mid-summer work dealing with canning; and the fall work with the storage of vegetables for winter use.

Find Business Rushing

E. C. Lenzmeier found business rushing when he started work, March 10, as agent in Stearns county. By April 1, he had handled 287 office calls, 85 per cent of which were for feed and seed loans. Two hundred and twenty applications were filled out, and each day was still bringing more than a dozen inquiries. In addition, 241 letters were written, some pertaining to grasshopper control which was to receive attention early in April. Nine meetings had been scheduled to organize communities for grasshopper control, about four townships to be brought together at each meeting, Mr. Lenzmeier said.

Another new agent who received a "baptism of fire," was Carl G. Ash, who succeeded O. K. Engene in West Polk county, March 15. During the remainder of the month, Mr. Ash says, 288 office calls and 76 telephone calls were received. Two hundred forty-one of the office calls were in regard to seed and feed loans, 150 applications being made out. Other activities of the period included writing 101 individual letters, attending 3 club meetings, and distributing 75 bulletins.

Steg's Peppy Circulars

W. D. Stegner, district club agent, has been keeping club leaders and home partnership cooperators in southern Minnesota pepped up this spring by a series of snappy, circular letters, illustrated with cartoons. Such a letter, under date of May 1, calls the attention of club leaders to the problem of assisting club members to keep better project records. The letter tells how to prepare a homemade notebook, calls attention to the Junior Short Course at University Farm in June, urging leaders to have their clubs send delegates, and emphasizes radio programs on 4-H club work. The letter was accompanied by a May and June radio schedule in calendar form, made up from the general announcement put out by the State 4-H Department.

C. H. Welch Calls

C. H. Welch, Barnum dairyman, who for many years was assistant to the director of extension, dropped in at University Farm, April 2, to say "hello" to his many friends. Mr. Welch had been attending a meeting of directors of the State Guernsey association, held April 1 in St. Paul.

"Zavs" Talk A La Costume

Costume talks on Russia by Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Zavoral "went over with a bang" at the second April meeting of Edina Grange, Hennepin county, according to K. A. Kirkpatrick, county agent. "Zav" was resplendent in boots, tunic, a Caucasian belt and other Russian sartorial

touches. Mrs. Zavoral wore one of the brightly colored skirts and an embroidered blouse, such as are used by Russian peasant women for dress-up occasions. About 125 attended the meeting.

The appearance of the Zavorals in costume was because that evening they were celebrating, a few days tardy, the first anniversary of their wedding in Berlin, April 14, 1931. When Mr. Kirkpatrick asked them to speak at the Grange meeting, they demurred, stating that they could scarcely get away with a party in progress and with themselves arrayed in costume. Kirkpatrick countered, suggesting that all guests be brought along and that the speakers wear the costumes which would lend appropriate atmosphere.

Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

Value of Farm Produce Used By Farm Families

THE ANNUAL REPORT of the farm management service for southeast Minnesota, prepared by W. P. Ranney and G. A. Pond, gives the following data as to the quantity and value of farm products furnished by the farm for household consumption on 147 Minnesota farms in 1931:

Item	Quantity	Value
Milk	1401 qts.	\$33.87
Cream	292 pts.	26.36
Butter, farm made	8 lbs.	2.55
Eggs	201 doz.	30.15
Poultry	36 head	18.22
Cattle, live weight	262 lbs.	12.58
Hogs, live weight	558 lbs.	32.48
Sheep, live weight	8 lbs.	.38
Potatoes	31 bu.	18.88
Fruit and Vegetables except potatoes		33.77

Total Food	\$209.24
Fire wood	8 cords 33.31
House rent (10 per cent of average value of \$2404)	240.00
Total value of items contributed by the farm toward family living	482.95

The average family consisted of 4.1 persons, on an adult equivalent basis.

The various items were valued at average farm prices prevailing in 1931. The cost at retail would probably have been about twice as great. Eighty-eight of these farms kept a record of food bought, the average cash outlay being \$262. If one assumes that the \$209 worth of farm produce furnished by the farm would have cost \$400 at retail prices, then the total retail value of food consumed by the farm family would be \$662, and of this amount, 60 per cent was produced by the farm. These figures indicate that in spite of the tendency in recent years toward producing specialized products for sale and buying an increasing share of the family living, farmers are getting a substantial portion of their living from the farm.

The fact that in farming a dwelling usually goes with the business and that the farm furnishes a substantial portion of the food and fuel, are features of farm life that are more appreciated in such times as the present than when industrial activity is at a high pitch.

Auto Registration Drops

The Cleveland Trust Company Business Bulletin for April 15 says: "When automobile registration data

were compiled at the end of 1931, it was found that for the first time in the history of the industry, more states had recorded losses during the year than had made gains. In 34 states, losses occurred and were so large as to constitute in the aggregate a shrinkage, in the registration of the country, amounting to 553,000 motor vehicles. In Minnesota the decline was one-half of 1 per cent. In North Dakota, the decrease was 6.5 per cent; Iowa, 3.6; Wisconsin, 3.6; and in South Dakota, 2 per cent.

Living Expenditures Of Farm Families

IN 1931, according to W. P. Ranney and G. A. Pond, 88 farm families in southeast Minnesota found from their records that their total expenditures for household items averaged \$386.73, and for other family lines, \$607.21, a grand total of \$993.94.

The figures are as follows:

Household:	
Food	\$262.07
Fuel	31.24
Furnishings	22.06
General Supplies	21.06
Hired help for house	15.09
Electricity, gas engine and electric plant	23.10
Repairs and other expenses on dwelling	12.11
TOTAL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	\$386.73

Family except household:	
Clothing and dry goods	\$ 99.34
Doctor, dentist and medicine	46.12
Railroad and travel expense	7.42
School expense	25.96
Reading matter	6.13
Church and benevolence	28.69
Clubs and organizations	2.95
Amusement	4.88
Life insurance and other investments	91.42
Auto expense, except farm share	124.11
Given to members of family	30.51
Musical instruments	10.91
Unclassified	128.77
TOTAL EXCEPT HOUSEHOLD	\$607.21

In addition to the foregoing household items, two of the 88 farmers erected new dwellings at a total cost of \$9,442, or an average of \$107.30 for the 88 farms.

In interpreting the foregoing expenses, one should keep in mind that these farmers are much more successful than the average and as a result are able to spend more money on living expenses than are average farmers.

Here Is Property That Is Execution Exempt

SEVERAL requests have been received for information as to what items are execution exempt. The following is the principal execution exempt property allowed by Minnesota law:

A dwelling house with 80 acres of land provided the land is not located in an incorporated city or village, 3 cows, 10 swine, a pair of horses or mules, 100 chickens, 50 turkeys, 20 sheep and the wool therefrom, either in raw material or manufactured form, in yarn or cloth, food for all the stock previously mentioned for 1 year, one wagon, two plows, one drag and other farm utensils, including tackle for horses, not exceeding \$300 in value, provisions for the debtor and his family necessary for one year's support, either provided, or growing, or both, and fuel for one year; necessary seed for the actual personal use of the debtor for one season, not to exceed in any case 100 bushels each of wheat, rye, barley, potatoes, oats, flax, corn and binding material sufficient for use in harvesting the crops raised from such seed; family pictures, school books, or library and musical instruments for the use of the family, all wearing apparel of the debtor and his family, all beds, bed sheets and bedding, all stoves, cooking utensils and other household furniture not exceeding \$500 in value; and the earnings of the minor children of any debtor except for debts contracted for the benefit of the child.

Of course, property that has been mortgaged is not execution exempt as far as the claims of the mortgage holder are concerned. Any farmer who finds himself slipping into a perilous financial condition should consult a competent lawyer before signing any papers, so that he may know exactly what his rights are. Lawyers usually make modest charges for such consultations.

Finds Mere Acres Do Not A Living Make

PROPOSALS have recently been made that unemployed families in cities be placed on Northern Minnesota land. The following letter from a settler in East Ottertail County indicates that being on a tract of land does not assure a living for a family, even though some land has been cleared. Here is the letter:

"In the year of 1925, I contracted to buy 80 acres of land and 2 years later, erected suitable log buildings.

"I have around 6 acres under plow, mostly peat soil, and am clearing more as I have time.

"There is a thick growth of timber all over the farm, about half poplar and half mixed hardwood. I have been making my living and payments on land by working odd jobs, but since work is hard to get, I have quite a problem on hand and also feed a family of nine children—14 years and under.

"Taxes, interest and payments are around \$115 a year, due December 1, 1932. I have two horses, three cows, and have two heifers that will be cows this fall (all grade Guernseys). We have 200 small chicks (heavy strain), and one sow to farrow by the fifteenth of April.

"What I would like to know is how to handle my place so that it would be self-supporting? I would thank you very much for any advice you may be able to give me."

Sorrowfully we had to confess that we had no prescription to solve the problem.