

Minnesota Extension News

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Average County Had 212 News Stories In 1931

HOW much publicity should a county agent use? In considering this, the individual agent might find it helpful to know what the other fellows are doing. Some idea may be had from the state summary of county agent reports, showing that the average agent in 1931 used 212 different news articles, a rough average of four a week.

That great variations exist between counties is shown by the summary for the Northwest district. Here, the agents averaged 179 articles apiece last year, the range between the counties being from 71, for a county that did not have work the entire year, to 425. One other county had more than 800. The Northwest agents averaged 11 per cent more publicity for 1931 than for 1930, indicating that there is an increasing use of this very effective method.

Just how much publicity should be used in a given county depends somewhat on local conditions, but observation in this state, as well as a careful study by federal extension workers, indicates that as yet no agent has reached the point of diminishing returns in the intelligent use of publicity. While no numerical standards can be set, it seems reasonable to assume that there has not been adequate use of publicity until this method has been liberally used to reinforce and supplement every other extension method from farm visits on up to general meetings, and until the publicity issued is ample and broad enough in scope to give the public a clear, complete picture of extension work from aims and organization down to final results.

Don't Ask Congressmen For U.S.D.A. Information

EXTENSION workers have been requested by C. W. Warburton, director of extension work, Washington, D. C., not to address members of Congress when writing for information relating to the work of the Department of Agriculture. Such requests should be mailed directly to the Department.

Mr. Warburton gives two reasons: First, addressing the members of Congress on matters relating to work of the Department of Agriculture requires additional correspondence on the part of both the member and the Department of Agriculture. Furthermore, the sending of such a request by an extension worker to a member of Congress may give the impression either that the extension worker does not recognize his connection with the Department or that he cannot get information from it except by appeal through a member of Congress.

Mr. Warburton also urges that, whenever feasible, the policy of the Department of Agriculture be recognized and that extension workers send their inquiries on agricultural matters through the offices of the state directors of extension work.

Coming Events*

August 13, 1932—Crops and Soils Day, N. E. Station, Duluth
September 3-10, 1932—Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul
September 13-14, 1932—Second District Fair, N. E. Station, Duluth
October 3-8, 1932—Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa
October 24-28, 1932—Annual Extension Conference
October 31-November 3, 1932—Minnesota Junior Livestock Show, South St. Paul
November 12-19, 1932—American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City
November 26-December 3, 1932—International Livestock Exposition, Chicago

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

Hennepin Weed Supervisors Given "Community Service Certificates"

SECTION supervisors, assisting with weed control in Hennepin county this summer, have received special recognition from the county board of commissioners. Each of the 500-odd section men was presented with a "Certificate of Community Service," accompanied by a friendly letter from the commissioners, signed by the auditor.

would cooperate and what the section man might do.

Another letter in similar vein was sent each man by County Agent K. A. Kirkpatrick, offering more detailed information and suggestions.

The response from the section men was most gratifying, according to Mr. Kirkpatrick. Of 523 chosen, only five declined to serve, mostly on account

Certificate of Community Service

This Certifies That _____

_____, is duly commissioned and enrolled in the First Hennepin Volunteers for the season of 1932, or until honorably discharged, to serve his township in the division of weed control. This commission is conferred because of the high regard and confidence reposed in the recipient by his fellow townsmen and neighbors and because he is favorably known of them to be alive, alert and aggressive for the common welfare of Hennepin County and the State of Minnesota.

Done at Minneapolis, Minnesota, This _____ day of _____

_____ in the year 1932.

By COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

By _____

Clerk

The form and phrasing of the certificate are shown by the accompanying illustration. The commissioners' letter began as follows:

"Because you were selected recently by your neighbors and the members of your town or village board to act as a voluntary aide in weed control in Hennepin county, our board is glad to cooperate with you. In hearty accord we ask you to accept the certificate of community service enclosed with our commendation. Any man chosen to the volunteer and responsible task indicated above knows thereby that his neighbors think well of his standing as an intelligent farmer in his part of his township."

The remainder of the letter mentioned the adoption of the Redwood weed plan and its success in other counties, as well as making several suggestions as to how the county

of poor health or because not living on the section assigned. A few others are serving indifferently, but Mr. Kirkpatrick says "these are real exceptions compared with probably 500 who are doing good work."

One of the best things that has come out of the work in Hennepin has been the more active cooperation of the commissioners, and county highway engineer and the township and village officers. The county contracted with a man at Excelsior to use his large power sprayer to spray leafy spurge on roadsides in the southern part of the county. Before July 25, the first application of chlorate had been made on about 80 miles of road; the second to be made soon.

Excelsior town officers hired a man to go over that township with the town weed inspector and spray not only the town and village roadsides for spurge, but also spray every spot on private property, wherever the owners would permit and cooperate.

Cupid Foils Depression; Kunkel Weds, June 11

PAUL W. KUNKEL'S report for June came in a little late. There was a reason. Clear down at the bottom of the report, headed "Miscellaneous," the reason appeared. Read for yourself:

"The month of June has been crowded with activity. As a hint to the single fellows, I might say June is a fine month to get married in, but to try and settle down while a farm bureau picnic, 4-H camp, weed war, petition campaign, survey of crop varietal troubles, and barley disease control projects, besides a change in office assistant, are in season, puts an entirely different complex on the situation. Incidentally, this may be taken as an apology for the tardiness of this report."

Very well, Paul. Such an excuse does all right for once. Unfortunately, we have not yet learned the bride's name, but the wedding took place at Rapidan, June 11. There followed a 10-day trip north, Paul resuming his duties June 21. We understand that Mrs. Kunkel is from Minneapolis and that the pair met when both were teaching at Adams, some years ago. Recently, Mrs. Kunkel has been teaching at Austin.

Frick Praised Highly

One prophet who apparently is not without honor even in his own county, is A. H. Frick, Itasca county agent. Witness the statement of Publisher L. A. Rossman in his newspaper, the Grand Rapids Herald-Review, one of Minnesota's leading weeklies. Commenting on the fine attendance at Itasca county's recent Farm Bureau picnic, Editor Rossman said in part:

"The Itasca Farm Bureau has been very successful. There are two reasons for it. One is that in this new country people are dependent upon their neighbors. . . . A still greater factor has been the leadership of the Farm Bureau in Itasca county. A. H. Frick is as good a county agent as is to be found in the United States. That sounds like an extravagant statement. We believe it or we would not say it. He is active, energetic, possessed of a sound idea of the problems of a cut-over country, and he has a real understanding of people."

Sample Cartoon Letters

In order that county agents might have on hand samples of effective cartoon circulars adaptable to various uses, C. L. McNelly, northwest county agent supervisor, recently selected a group of letters worked out by county agents in various parts of the state and had them mimeographed. A set of these letters were then mailed to each agent for his file. Among the subjects dealt with were the following: Farm Power and Machinery, Weeds, Pigs, Agricultural Outlook, Dairying, Poultry, and Corn Husking Contest.

Minnesota Extension News

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FRANK W. PECK,

Director of Agricultural Extension

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AUGUST, 1932

Thirty-six counties considered extension appropriations for the year beginning July 1. Four boards failed to appropriate, but in two

Looking Ahead

counties local farm bureau funds are sufficient to maintain the work for several months. In the other counties, offices will likely be closed.

Thirty-two county boards did make appropriations for continuing the extension service. It strikes us that this is a remarkable achievement and a fine testimonial for the type of extension service being rendered in these counties. One of these counties represents a net gain, inasmuch as it had not appropriated for the last 2 years.

Under the seriously-distressed conditions of tax payment, low farm receipts, and general depressed attitudes of mind in the counties, such a record stands out as indicating that people are understanding more and more, and participating in, the value of good extension service.

This means that each one of us must be looking ahead constantly to discern new methods and new ways of reaching more people more effectively with our extension work. It is not sufficient just to carry on, but we must carry on more effectively and more efficiently.

Now is the time to look ahead to next fall and next winter. Are we going to be able to balance our feed and livestock budget? Will we be short of one and long on the other? We are suggesting that in each county we attempt to develop the idea of setting out the feed requirement of the probable amount of livestock that will be maintained through the winter, ascertaining in advance what will be necessary to purchase perhaps, or what may be sold, either in the form of feed or livestock in order to obtain a better balanced situation.

Are we seeking new ways of interesting people and bringing opportunities to them in which they may participate for the improvement of their farm business? Are we doing all we can to keep the better trained boys and girls interested in the future of agriculture? Are we doing all we can to look ahead as to the social problems that loom constantly more important in extension work?

Vision is one of the important qualities of successful extension workers.

W. Peck

Home Demonstration Days for 'Jill' Highly Interesting and Successful

By JULIA G. NEWTON, State H. D. Leader

LONG have we heard that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Occasionally some has asked, "What does it do to Jill?" Home demonstration agents have known that it makes Jill a tired girl. Applying this to the farm women, the home demonstration camps were started several years ago. How the women have enjoyed 2 or 3 days away from home, resting, playing, listening to talks and good music and observing demonstrations carefully planned to meet their needs! Hennepin and Itasca counties had most successful camps in June.

Try Single Day Programs

With the lowered incomes of the past year, many home demonstration agents and their home committees decided that two, three or four home demonstration days in different parts of the county would be the wisest plan this year. More busy mothers could get away for a single day, and there would be no expense except to go a few miles and take something to contribute to the lunch.

All the counties which tried the one-day meetings report most glowingly. In June, Steele, Lac qui Parle and Blue Earth counties, and in July, Brown, Rice, and Faribault have held home demonstration days. While the attendance has varied in the different counties, the average attendance has been 100 women a day. In most cases the women have assembled late in the morning and have spent until lunch getting acquainted and learning to play games which could later be taught to the family and to the community. The fun of an outdoor meal with lots of new and old friends made the noon hour pass quickly.

Afternoons Are Interesting

The afternoon program in the different counties varied in detail, but all had the same fine mixture of play, inspiration and information. Blue Earth county featured a quick bread demonstration. Miss M. Lois Reed presented high lights of the clothing program which will be the major project this winter and fall. Mrs. Belle Osborn Fish created interest in Lac qui Parle county in their new project in child development. Mrs. E. V. Ripley of the Minnesota Farm Bureau was present and helped the women to see their place in the present economic crisis. Trellises were made by part of the women as a continuation of their last years' home improvement project. In Steele county, Miss Jessie Marion, home management specialist from North Dakota gave illustrated talks on hanging pictures. S. B. Cleland talked on recreation and taught the women many games; and local doctors in the three different centers talked on infant feeding.

Miss Inez Hobart and Mr. Cleland assisted at the Rice county home demonstration days besides several local people. In Faribault county, Mrs. Fish and J. M. Drew contributed to the success of the four meetings held in the four parts of the county.

In Brown county, Tom Pfaender of New Ulm, took charge of the recreation work and Miss Margaret Vaule, home demonstration agent, presented a timely canning demonstration.

From the enthusiastic reports from all the counties, it would seem that home demonstration days will become a regular part of the years' program in home and community work.

Billings to Milwaukee

W. A. Billings, extension veterinary specialist, will discuss Control of Poultry Diseases for the International Baby Chick Association, August 4, at Milwaukee. The convention dates are August 1-5.

Says Tax Education Is County Agents' Duty

"WHAT Can County Agents Do About Taxation" is the subject for a discussion by Eric Englund, assistant chief, U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in the July issue of Agricultural Economics Extension, issued at Washington, D. C. Says Mr. Englund:

"The answer lies in the fact that extension work is educational. While there is and always will be much to learn about public expenditures and taxation, even by those who devote their time largely to the study of these problems, the gap between knowledge and practice in this field is very wide. In taxation, as in other fields of public policy where practice depends on public action, the development of public opinion through education is the only effective way of translating knowledge into practice.

"The county agent can help to lay the foundation for better policy in taxation and expenditures by working with and through his county farm bureau and other organizations interested in promoting educational work. This means dissemination of facts and principles with opportunity for discussion of different points of view as a basis for opinion and judgment by the people themselves."

A large part of the July issue is devoted to reviewing extension methods of taxation teaching in various states. It includes a discussion of about two pages on "Minnesota County Farm Bureau Gathers Tax Facts," calling particular attention to work done by W. A. Dickinson, Cottonwood county; J. I. Swedberg, Watonwan county; and W. E. Watson, Dakota county.

U.S.D.A. Forced to Limit Free Farmers' Bulletins

REDUCED funds for printing will mean that editions of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's farmers' bulletins and leaflets available for free distribution will be very limited, according to C. B. Smith, assistant director of the extension service, Washington, D.C. It is even possible, he says in a letter to state extension directors, that when present supplies are exhausted, the Department may be obliged to place all farmers' bulletins and leaflets on a sales basis.

For the present, only three classes of requests from extension workers will be honored:

- 1) Requests from individual extension agents approved by the state director of extension.
- 2) Requests from state extension divisions for the shipment of supplies of bulletins and leaflets to designated individual county extension agents.
- 3) Requests from state extension divisions for emergency supplies of farmers' bulletins and leaflets for distribution from state headquarters.

Even for such requests, the supply will usually not exceed 10 copies and, in no case, more than 25 copies, except for requests of Class 3, on which the limit is 50 copies. In some cases, the supply for free distribution is entirely exhausted, and copies can only be obtained by purchase. Minnesota agents desiring to arrange for such purchases should get in touch with J. F. Kuehn of the State Office.

N. E. Station Schedules Crops and Soils Day

CROPS and Soils Day, August 13, at the Northeast Experiment Station, Duluth, will be an event replete with interesting talks and "sights" for everyone connected with farming in the cutover areas. The following outline of program is from a circular sent out by Superintendent M. J. Thompson:

"The brief formal speaking program comes at 11 a.m. Dr. Andrew Boss (Crops), Dr. F. J. Alway (Soils), Prof. W. H. Alderman (Horticulture), make up the staff. They will speak in the field through the afternoon. We serve coffee. Bring your lunch and eat in the dining hall, or picnic on the campus. The motorized 'Field Institute' starts promptly at 1 p.m. We finish at 3 p.m.

"See the manure-rotation plots and the old orchard, both begun in pre-war days during the Wilson regime. Note Hope wheat; new garden creations such as Bison tomato; Buttercup squash; Pixwell gooseberry; new plum varieties, all fruiting this year. Stop at Dr. Krantz' U. S. D. A. potato breeding plots, where new varieties are being hatched; study the tuber-index work and mosaic controls. Check over the "Earliest" sunflower, Zenith Special and "Arrowhead" rutabaga, both Northeast Station products. Do not forget the lime work; clover seed; grains; pasture improvement; forest nursery; campus plantings; and last, the livestock."

June Carol Aamodt

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Aamodt of Minot, North Dakota, have announced the arrival on July 15 of their third child, a daughter, June Carol. One stork card was received by Dr. W. A. Billings at University Farm. Mr. Aamodt recently left a county agent position in W. Polk county, Crookston, to join the State Seed Department in North Dakota, headquarters at Minot.

Publicity Spreads Reed Canary

Newspaper publicity is credited by R. H. Steidl, Meeker county agent, with the fact that a large amount of Reed Canary grass seed was sold in the county this year. He says, "Due to the fact that a great deal of newspaper publicity was given to Reed Canary grass this winter, especially as to results obtained by individuals who had tried it out for one or two years, a good number of people became interested to the extent of planting this grass on their low land."



Gopher Delegate Gives Impressions Of Visit to National 4-H Camp

HOW a trip to the National 4-H Club Camp impresses the boy or girl who wins it, is ably told by Paul Pierson, Scott county, one of Minnesota's delegates, who was chosen to speak on the National Farm and Home Radio Hour program from Washington. His talk follows:

"I am glad to have the opportunity of talking with Farm and Home Hour listeners. The club camp people have asked me to try to express what the patriotic shrines and historic places we have visited this week have meant to us.

"My whole 4-H club career has been a wonderful experience to me. The 5 years of project work in garden, poultry, dairy and other projects have taught me lots. They also have left me richer in money and possessions. My dairy calf work has built up my herd of five Holsteins. I also have a flock of 100 turkeys. I am in partnership with my father on the dairy herd and with my mother on the turkey flock. The income from my club work has paid my expenses through high school. But best of all, 4-H work has taught me to appreciate my home and my community.

Capitol Is Inspiring

"This week at the National Club Camp has given me a new appreciation of our country and the men who have made it. Our first glimpse of the Capitol on the hill seemed to draw us closer to the Government and its functions. Its lighted dome at night stands out against the sky like a blaze of glory, and that inspiring sight is always ours from the camp grounds.

"We have visited the Capitol and have explored its many interesting places. We have stood before the famous paintings of historical scenes, the statues of great Americans. We have seen the men and women of today making history in their deliberations in the Halls of Congress.

"I have always wondered what Congress looks like. Now I know. We visited a session of the House of Representatives. The members were discussing an immigration bill. Then we visited one of the sessions of the Senate about which I have read so much.

See Original Declaration

"The magnificent beauty of the Congressional Library, where we saw the original Declaration of Independence, left a picture in our minds and hearts we shall never forget.

"The other places of historic and national interest the delegates of the 4-H club camp visited are Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial and the Arlington National Cemetery. This afternoon we make a pilgrimage to Mount Vernon. We shall never forget our first impressions of these wonderful places. At Arlington National Cemetery we placed a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier. As we stood with bowed heads before the imposing, kindly looking Abraham Lincoln in a large bronze statue in the Lincoln Memorial, we appreciated more what it means to be an American citizen. All of these shrines seem to breathe the very soul of our country."

Fillmore Girl Liked Junior Short Course

THE letter written T. A. Erickson by Rebecca Grabau, Fillmore county 4-H girl, who attended the state Junior Short Course in June, is typical of many letters received from the club boys and girls who had an opportunity to attend that event. Miss Rebecca's letter is as follows:

"When was the best state club event ever held? My answer is, the Junior Short Course of 1932.

"We had better speakers, more educational trips, and more carefully selected topics for class than we have ever had before.

"Miss Gardner was the most pleasing and entertaining lady I have ever met. Her classes gave us our daily pep, zest and enthusiasm.

"I have been a 4-H club member for 5 years and have had three state trips, but have never received an inspiration like this one.

"I wish to thank you for our splendid time and hope that now I may be of greater service to others."

Summer Club Events All Well Attended

IN spite of "hard times," Minnesota's 4-H club summer camps have been attended by more boys and girls than ever before. With but one exception, there was an increased attendance at every camp.

A few counties where camps have been held in the past thought it best not to hold them this year and as a substitute a county-wide club picnic was held. These, too, have been unusually well attended.

Good Program Material

Are you getting the program material which S. B. Cleland gets out each month? This material is available to community organizations, such as farm bureau units, farmers' clubs, and 4-H clubs. It is sent upon request to each county agent or club leader for distribution to his community organizations.

One of the most difficult tasks of the local 4-H club leader is to get suitable material for club meetings. If you are not getting the material for your county, why not order at once a copy for each of your 4-H clubs?

Reminders

THE junior leadership records which are to be entered in competition at the State Fair should reach the state club office not later than August 2.

* *

HAVE you reported the results of your county home economics achievement day, and have you sent to the state club office the record and stories of those who will represent your county at the State Fair?

* *

DAIRY and beef heifer calf exhibitors at the State Fair must present two health certificates for their animals when entering them—one showing the animal negative to tuberculosis and the other negative to abortion. Pig club members must present certificates showing the animal has been vaccinated for cholera. All exhibitors of purebred animals must present registration papers showing the animal has been registered in his name. Send no exhibits to the State Fair that can not qualify on these points.

* *

COUNTIES putting up club booths at the State Fair must have them completed by 8 o'clock, Saturday morning, September 3. This is a State Fair rule and no exception can be made.

Breed Associations Give County Calf Ribbons

THE Holstein Friesian Association of America, the American Guernsey Cattle Club and the American Jersey Cattle Club are furnishing beautiful prize ribbons to be awarded at county fairs or dairy calf shows to club members exhibiting calves of the respective breeds.

One set of each of these ribbons has been sent to counties having dairy calf club members. Only one set is available to each county.

The basis on which the ribbons are to be awarded is left with the county extension agent. Some counties are using the plan of putting all the animals of one breed in an open class, after they have been judged by classes, and awarding the ribbons according to the placings in this open class.

Tip on Health Contest

The Beltrami county 4-H club organization last year paid the railroad fare for each of the two health contestants to the State Fair. This enabled Beltrami to send two fine contestants. This might be a suggestion for other county organizations to follow, if possible.

Largest 4-H Enrollment

In sending Blue Earth county's club enrollments for 1932, L. E. McMillan, county agent, makes the following statement: "This is the largest enrollment in the history of the county and they are real honest-to-goodness club members."

Correct Address

The special prize money of \$25 in the Duroc Jersey class at the State Fair is offered by the American Duroc Jersey association, whose address is Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Illinois, and not Peoria, Illinois, as it appears in the State Fair premium catalog.

Dean Coffey Outlines Views On 4-H Work

DEAN W. C. Coffey of the University Department of Agriculture, contributed the leading article to the national Extension Service Review for July. His subject was "How I Feel About 4-H Club Work." The following quotations give the gist of Dean Coffey's discussion:

"I have been impressed over and over again by the appeal our 4-H club work makes to the business men of Minnesota. The 4-H club work, more than any other one phase of extension, has helped to win the respect and support of Minnesota business men for county agent work.

"I have observed that when the county agent can get parents and children into conference in the presence of some animal, which a son or daughter is feeding for a competitive show, there is no difficulty in approaching any subject which the agent desires to discuss. . . . Some of the finest achievements in extension work in our state have come by developing somehow a spark of interest in club work within homes of indifferent attitude toward the county agent and his program. . . .

"In our state I have witnessed the power of 4-H club work to rekindle interest in education. . . . We have a number in our schools of agriculture who would not be enrolled with us were it not for 4-H club work. We have 4-H club organizations within our schools. These young people come to us 4-H club minded, they remain so while with us, and thus minded they return to their home communities to become an inspiration and help to the extension program."

J. M. Drew Much-Wanted Man at Summer Events

AN almost indispensable feature of 4-H club camps, home demonstration camps, and other outdoor events is the archery and rope work conducted by J. M. Drew of University Farm. The summary report of the St. Louis county 4-H club camp, appearing in the June report of H. J. Aase, county club leader, has the following to say: "Mr. Drew was very patient with boys and girls who wanted to learn archery and rope making, and I feel that four words expresses his work with the 4-H club members. First, patience; second, thoroughness; third, consideration; and fourth, fairness. Mr. Drew was a real 'daddy' not only to the boys and girls, but to all the staff who took part at the camp."

Further testimony to the eagerness with which Mr. Drew's services are sought is the letter recently received by Director Peck from Miss Helen Kallenberg, Blue Earth county home demonstration agent. "We enjoyed Mr. Drew's rope and leather work so much at the Faribault county 4-H club camp that I am writing immediately to ask if it would be possible to have him here again July 19-22, to contribute the much-needed craft part of our women's demonstration days. I would be ever so pleased to have Mr. Drew teach knot tying and leather work, and also to bring the archery equipment along and take charge of the recreation.

Despite the depression, a higher aggregate of 4-H club premiums are offered at the State Fair this year than ever before.

Therese Pfaender and Ray Ostrander Married

MISS Therese Pfaender, who was home demonstration agent in Freeborn county from March 1929 to July 1932, was married July 9 to Mr. Ray Ostrander of Albert Lea. Mr. and Mrs. Ostrander, after a short wedding trip, moved into a home which they had furnished.

During Mrs. Ostrander's service in the county, over 800 women were directly reached in project work in nutrition and home management. In addition, minor projects in poultry, gardening and canning were conducted which have helped in the present economic situation. Cooperating with Mr. Lawson, the 4-H club work received a good share of Mrs. Ostrander's attention. Through the excellent work of the two agents, the club enrollments in the county have trebled since 1929. The goal of a standard club in each township has been more than reached.

Miss Jessie D. Hinton, who grew up on an Indiana farm and is a Purdue University graduate, succeeds Mrs. Ostrander as home demonstration agent. Miss Hinton taught at Elmore, Minnesota the past 3 years. During the entire time, she served as leader of a 4-H girls' club in the high school. The past year she also organized a club in the seventh and eighth grades.

Novel Quilt, Rug Show By Farm Bureau Women

SOMETHING unusual that proved very successful in Faribault county, during June, was a quilt and rug show, held in the town hall at Wells by the women of the local farm bureau unit. Miss Gwendolyn A. Watts, home demonstration agent, says each woman exhibited something and contributed one or more prizes.

Exhibit classes included crocheted cotton rug, crocheted silk rug, braided rug, silk woven rug, quilt made by a child, pieced and tied quilt, machine quilted quilt, and quilt pieced and quilted many years ago. This class brought one entry 70 years old, another 50, and another 40.

Following the program, considerable fun was created when the audience constituted itself into judging teams of two members each, who tried their luck at scoring the entries. Two men who won first enjoyed the prize of a delicious pie.

Among the prizes donated by the women and awarded to various winners were a kitchen pad and pencil holder, hand towel, kitchen towel, homemade soap, dishes, quilt patterns, plants, pillows, cooking utensils, pies, cakes, doughnuts, and other articles.

Secrest and Lee Visit

Miss May Secrest, who was state home demonstration leader in Minnesota 1917-20, surprised friends at University Farm a few weeks ago by dropping in for a visit. Miss Secrest left Minnesota to become the assistant state leader in California, with headquarters at Berkeley. She is well and happy and is thoroughly enjoying her California work.

Miss Blanche Lee, state home demonstration leader in Montana, came in for a short visit with Miss Julia O. Newton, in early July. Miss Lee, whose home is in Sauk Center, is a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

'Hopper Fight Intense

Approximately 40 carloads of poison bait were distributed and used by 25 townships in Kittson county during June. The bait was mixed at approximately 60 mixing stations and was distributed from nine different railroad points in the county. Approximately 1,000 farmers used this bait, which was distributed by hand and by about 75 machines made especially for this work.

"During the month, J. A. Salisbury, county agent, attended 24 meet-

ings at which grasshopper control methods were discussed and demonstrated. There were 940 farmers at these meetings. In this connection, six news stories were prepared for the county's papers, five circular letters, with a circulation of 1,780, were mailed, 176 office calls at which grasshopper control measures were discussed were received, and 60 farm visits were made. The agent traveled 2,000 miles on this work and devoted 15 and one-half days to the work—most of the days beginning at 5 or 6 in the morning and extending until midnight.

Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

Hog Prices Lend Encouragement

By D. C. DVORACEK

ALTHOUGH seasonal advances in hog prices occur each year between mid-June and late September, the recent rise in the hog market has been more marked than usual.

For some time the price of hogs has been out of line with the prices for cattle and sheep. Especially from March 15 to late in May the hog market continued to decline.

Supplies of hogs, as a whole, have been much larger than a year ago. At the beginning of June, supplies averaged about 20 per cent greater than the corresponding period in 1931. This, together with liquidation of breeding stock, the slack movement into storage, and continued low purchasing power of consumers, has been chiefly responsible for the extremely depressed market. The spring movement of fall pigs was much earlier than usual and these increased marketings continued up to June 12. This was definitely reflected in the price of hogs on May 31 when the low point of \$3.05 per hundred on the South St. Paul market was reached. This was the lowest level reached in hog prices since 1898.

Marketings and Supplies Drop

However, following June 12, seasonal reduction in marketings took place and this, with the increased interest on the part of packers to increase stocks, resulted in a sharp advance in hog prices. This year slaughter supplies in the United States fell off in June so that slaughterings during the last week in June were 45 per cent less than those in the last week in May. Supplies at the end of June were 25 per cent smaller than during the same week in 1931. Also, the federally inspected slaughter during the entire month of June was 16 per cent smaller than that of May. This represents the largest reduction for these 2 months since inspected slaughter records have been kept.

The sharp upward swing in hog prices maintained its momentum up to July 11, when a peak of \$5.10 was reached at South St. Paul. Top prices on this market advanced fully 67 per cent from the low point in May. Warmer weather, which has affected demand the last few days (written July 25) has caused some decline in price but the market may still be considered relatively strong. Furthermore, improvement late in August and during early September, at which time the seasonal supplies are short, seems probable. No increase in the total supply for the next 3 months is expected. The number of sows farrowing in Minnesota in the spring of 1932, according to the Minnesota Crop Reporter for July 1, was 14 per cent less than in 1931. The total

number of pigs saved in Minnesota in the spring of 1932 is reported to be 19 per cent less than last year. For the United States as a whole, the number of sows farrowing this spring was estimated to be 3 per cent less than a year ago and 4 per cent fewer pigs were saved. This would indicate a decrease in the number of hogs to be marketed this fall and winter and should be a strengthening factor in hog prices.

With respect to corn, the forecast based on July 1 conditions, indicates a total production in the United States of 2,995,850,000 bushels as compared with a final production for 1931 of 2,563,000,000, an increase of 432,850,000 bushels or 16.9 per cent. The barley supply is also estimated to be greater than last year. These supplies may counteract somewhat the effect of the decrease in numbers on hog prices.

Decrease in the number of hogs in Denmark and Germany, the two principal European hog producing countries, gives evidence of a stronger foreign demand outlet which is expected to continue during the fall and winter. This outlet tends also to help the lard situation.

Storage Stocks Smaller

Storage stocks of pork are below those of this time a year ago. The amount of pork in storage decreased 65,000,000 pounds during June, compared with a decrease of 53,000,000 pounds in June last year. Lard stocks increased 3,000,000 pounds compared with an increase of 12,000,000 pounds in June, 1931. Total stocks of pork in the United States on July 1, amounting to 731,000,000 pounds, were 6 per cent smaller than on July 1, 1931 and 10 per cent smaller than the 5-year July 1 average.

These factors suggest that the hog outlook is much more favorable for the coming year than conditions this spring indicated.

Family-Size Farm Is Still Dominant Type

By S. B. CLELAND

MEMBERS of the Minnesota Farm Managers' association toured in July to parts of North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, visiting farms operated by managers who have proven successful with large areas of land. Among the places visited were the Fairmont Farm at Moorhead, Minnesota, operated by the Fairmont Creamery, and farms in the vicinity of Amenia, North Dakota, including those of Albert Sinner, Schmidt, H. L. Chaffee, and Roy Johnson; the National Life Farm, near Mapleton, North Dakota, the Clatch, Robert Reid, and Walter Reid farms, also of Cass county; the Baldwin farm near Ellendale, the Dwight farm, Wahpeton, and the Sempo farm, Breckenridge.

Going from one of these large farms to another, certain important observations become apparent. There is a great dependence on legumes, both sweet clover and alfalfa. Sweet clover is used as pasture and seed and, in addition, large acreages are plowed under as a substitute for summer fallowing. The large acreages of pasture imply a large amount of livestock, and while there is considerable dairying, the ranging of herds of beef cows and the production of their own beef calves is a prominent part of the livestock operations.

Very apparent, also, is the extent to which livestock is used in pasturing down corn and other feed crops. On one of the farms of the Baldwin Company, supervised by J. W. McNary, former county agent in Rice county, Minnesota, they had the following plan for pasturing livestock this fall: 55 steers now on sweet clover will be fed about 500 bushels of ground rye and barley between now and the time the corn is ready. After that they will get no other grain than the corn they harvest for themselves. About August 15 they will be fed bundles of green corn for a few days, and then turned into a field of partially ripened flint corn. With these 55 steers will go 300 pigs, and 75 lambs, all turned in together. The pigs however, will be allowed to harvest, at the same time, 16 acres of oats, which will be left uncut. The lambs will be taken out for market very soon after being turned in and the steers will go to market about the middle of October, leaving the pigs on this and succeeding fields of corn until they are finished. It is expected that some 90 acres of corn and 16 acres of oats will be sufficient to finish this amount of livestock. This program is designed to save labor, but those who have practiced it contend that it is a practical method of livestock feeding, giving as much feed per acre as could be obtained in any other manner.

Another interesting observation is the fact that the family farm is certainly the prevailing type, even on these large holdings of land. Many of these large farms were the bonanza farms of pioneer days. Now they are handled by renters, or have been sold to owners, but are grouped in family-sized farms. Where large acreages are held by a company, a professional manager is usually engaged. Apparently they have proved very successful, both for the company and for the operators.