

Minnesota Extension News

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No. 12

Farmers Prefer County Agent to R. F. D. Service

THAT farm people in Brown county are still overwhelmingly favorable to extension work was shown by the petitions circulated there during the early part of July, as well as by the testimonials of a large number of farm people who appeared before the county commissioners on July 11, urging the board to continue its support. Signers of the petitions numbered 1,734.

Farmers living many miles from a postoffice testified that they would rather dispense with the rural free delivery and other services than with extension work, which was termed an essential service to bring newer phases of agriculture and 4-H club work to the rural folks. With the evidence thus presented, the board later voted the appropriation necessary to maintain the county agent and home demonstration agent during the coming year.

Information attached to the petitions explained that the cost of the extension service and the taxes assessed by the county for its support amounted to only about 65 cents per quarter section of land. Out of every \$100 paid in taxes in the county in 1931, only 31 cents went for extension work.

Another page attached to each petition listed activities sponsored by extension work, including 4-H club work, as a result of which \$1,033 was paid members for livestock shown at the Junior Livestock Show; \$187.96 paid as premiums to members at the State Fair and Junior Livestock Show; and 43 trips were awarded to the Junior Show, State Fair, and Junior Short Course.

Salisbury Has Plan to Aid Sweet Clover Men

LARGER returns to growers of sweet clover seed will accrue, if the campaign being put on by County Agent J. A. Salisbury of Kittson county, proves successful. Kittson county is one of the leading sweet clover seed producing sections of the state. Clover seed growers have suffered because of carelessness in the sale of mixed white and yellow sweet clover seed.

In an effort to correct these mixtures, and also to make known to possible purchasers the extent of varietal mixtures, County Agent Salisbury has been inspecting the fields of growers this year and furnishing affidavits as to the absence of, or the extent of, varietal mixtures occurring in the fields. Growers may offer these affidavits as evidence to prospective buyers.

One reason for the mixture of the two varieties is that some hard seed stays in the ground for a number of years. Later on when another variety is sown, there is a mixture. To correct this, farmers must grow the same variety year after year and must be especially careful not to use mixed seed, according to Mr. Salisbury.

Coming Events*

September 13-14, 1932—Second District Fair, N. E. Station, Duluth
October 3-8, 1932—Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa
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
December 13-16, 1932—Annual State Extension Conference

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

Annual Conference To Be December 13 to 16

REMOVAL of the 1932 American Country Life association meeting from University Farm to Morgantown, West Virginia, has altered plans for the Annual Minnesota Extension Conference which was to have been held in connection with the Country Life meeting. Director F. W. Peck announces new dates for the extension conference—December 13-16. Plans for the program will be announced soon. Agents are requested to adjust their calendars in conformity with the new arrangement.

Farrell and Dixon In Minnesota In August

THE State Office was visited last month by two members of the federal extension staff. George E. Farrell, in charge of the Central States district, made his annual check-up and conferred with supervisors and specialists, during the first week of August. The last week of the month, H. M. Dixon, federal extension economist, spent a few days in Minnesota conferring with economic specialists and discussing with Director Peck plans for conducting a series of district economics schools for county extension workers.

'Daddy' Drew A Poet, Too

Scouting executives, assembled at Itasca Park for their annual outing and short course, late in July, felt the need of a camp song. J. M. Drew, who as in years past was on hand to teach archery, rope work and outdoor subjects, rallied to the cause with a ringing, swinging parody on the 4-H Plowing Song. Thus there was revealed a poetical side to the many-sided nature which makes Mr. Drew such an indispensable man about camp.

More Cattle in Polk

County Agent Ronald McCamus reports that the complete area T. B. test for Polk County was finished in July. Only 98 reactors were found in the entire county, putting the total infection at 0.13 of one per cent. The large number of cattle tested, as compared with 3 years ago, was particularly worthy of note. In 1929, 59,078 head were tested whereas this year, 71,050 head of cattle were tested. This being 20 per cent increase in 3 years.

Grathwol Finds "Cure" For Blister Beetles

GRASSHOPPER bait proved very effective when tried out on the bronze blister beetle which has been doing much damage on legume crops in East Ottertail county. County Agent John Grathwol scattered poison bran through bean fields on the farm of Charles Raab where the beetles were doing considerable damage. The beetles sniffed the air a couple of times, then climbed down off the vines and attacked the poison bran with the result that when A. G. Ruggles, state entomologist, visited the farm a few days later, many dead beetles were found. Mr. Ruggles reported that, so far as he knew, this was the first attempt to control blister beetles with poison bran.

Misses Regan, Laycock, Visit Former Colleagues

MISS ETHEL REGAN, formerly home demonstration agent in Watonwan county, on July 29 visited the state home demonstration staff. Miss Regan has been in Prince George's county, Maryland, since the fall of 1926.

Miss Mary Laycock, home demonstration agent in Barnes county, N. D., was in Miss Newton's office August 10 for a short chat. Miss Laycock was formerly Mower county home demonstration agent.

Both of these former agents are happy in their present work. They express loyalty and appreciation for their Minnesota experiences in extension.

An Unusual Record

Hard to beat is the project record of the Sharon group, Le Sueur county, which completed the second year of Nutrition work in July. The group was led by Mrs. Hoey and Mrs. Baldther, who report that during the two projects every meeting was held exactly on schedule with but two absences at the 10 sessions. Thirteen women enrolled at the beginning and remained with the group during both years.

One of the leaders reported that she had a 76-year-old aunt visiting her who read all the nutrition lessons and pronounced them the most instructive material she had ever read. She added that had she been able in her earlier married life to have learned something of nutrition, as taught in the project, she felt certain she could have reared a healthier family.

Nicollet Poultrymen Try New Improvement Plan

NICOLLET county has launched an organized campaign for poultry improvement, designed to save hundreds and perhaps thousands of dollars for the farmers of the county, says E. M. Nelson, county agent. The campaign has been worked out by the Nicollet County Poultry association co-operating with the county agent and W. K. Dyer of the State Poultry Improvement board.

The most intensive effort will be made in Oshawa township where district men have been appointed, one for each four sections of land. Township chairmen have also been appointed for each township. The district men will appoint two or three neighbors to help them cull flocks in their district. These men and their helpers will attend a culling school to be conducted by Prof. A. C. Smith of the poultry division, University Farm.

County Agent Nelson says that this plan aims to show definite improvement in poultry conditions in Oshawa township, as well as to interest everyone in the county in better care and handling of poultry. It will remove thousands of non-layers from the flocks by taking out the diseased, old, fat and otherwise non-productive birds. It will remove the source of infection for good birds, reduce the feed bill and demonstrate the value of culling early and often. Better housing and handling methods will be stressed also.

Peters Also 10-Year Man

To Wm. A. Peters, county agent, Lyon county, our apologies. The recent article appearing in the Extension News, listing agents serving 10 years or longer, omitted the name of Mr. Peters, who has been serving for nearly 15 years. He was employed in Wadena county for 9 years and has served 5 years in Lyon.

This is the second error to be brought to our attention in connection with the article referred to. It certainly was not the intent to leave anyone out. If further omissions were made we hope the agents concerned will notify us, in order that we may give credit where it is due and keep the records straight.

Shun Lottery Publicity

Attention of county extension agents is called to the postal provisions prohibiting any mention of lottery schemes in newspapers or other mail matter. In their publicity, agents frequently make the mistake of mentioning or describing drawings for prizes, guessing contests, or other schemes that violate this act. While it is true that the law is seldom, if ever, fully enforced, it should be kept in mind that newspapers carrying such illegal notices are liable to the penalty of having their second-class privileges taken away. Heavy penalties are likewise provided for mention of lotteries in other forms of mail. To play safe is best.

Minnesota Extension News

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SEPTEMBER, 1932

New Finance Plan For F. B. Picnic Successful

"EXPENSES are all paid and money left over." Such was the report of W. A. Peters regarding Lyon county's annual farm bureau picnic, which tried out a new method of securing finances. In former years, funds were raised primarily by selling tickets for seats in the grandstand for the ball game. This year, however, each adult was charged 15 cents admission at the entrance gate, all persons under 18 being admitted free. More than 1,100 paid admission. Inside the grounds, everything was free, including grandstand seats for the ball game and evening program. Mr. Peters says: "We think this is the ideal way to finance the annual picnic."

Approximately 4,000 people attended, despite the interference of hay making, corn cultivating, and other farm work. Four concession stands, run by 4-H clubs, were the only ones allowed on the grounds. Township farm bureau units ate their picnic lunches in groups, coffee, cream and sugar being furnished by the Marshall civic and commerce association. Marshall business places closed for the afternoon. The program began at 1 o'clock and included musical numbers, a strong man contest, physical training demonstrations, a speech by J. O. Christianson, and a ball game. The evening program consisted of a band concert, free acts, more physical training demonstrations, a moving picture, and, finally, a dance in the pavilion. A very popular feature of the picnic was the weed exhibit and weed contest, in charge of A. H. Larson of the State Seed Laboratory, University Farm.

Considerable cost in conducting the picnic was saved through an agreement by which each farm bureau unit provided four men for 2 hour's time in parking cars and in selling and collecting tickets at the entrance gate, thus saving the expense of hiring men as in former years. Forty-one representatives spent a social evening at the county agent's home a week before the picnic to complete the plans. These included directors of township units, officers of the farm bureau, and representatives from unorganized townships. The day before the picnic, 24 men from various units aided in cleaning the grounds, erecting seats, roping off parking space and making other preparations.

Sheep Production Is Studied in Kittson

By C. L. McNELLY

DURING the past 10 years the number of sheep in the northern Red River Valley counties has more than doubled. This is an area of cheap forages. Sweet clover and alfalfa are easily grown and yield luxuriantly. Beginning in 1923 and 1924, a great many western ewes were shipped into this area. During the next 5 or 6 years, up to the fall of 1929, very profitable returns were secured from both lambs and wool. The returns from sheep compare favorably with most other farm enterprises in the Valley. With the depression and the break in prices of both wool and lambs in 1929, the returns have been less satisfactory, of course, but probably as good as for most farm enterprises in this section.

Very few data as to the cost and methods of handling sheep in this section have been available. In order to get more detailed information on the farm conditions, the extension service, through County Agent J. A. Salisbury and Assistant County Agent Bob Evans, attempted a sheep enterprise study in Kittson county during 1931. Actual records were kept by eight farm co-operators, whose flocks represented 943 ewes. The results from this study are probably representative of the results in sheep production work in this area during the past 3 years. Of the 943 ewes, 160 were yearlings. The other 783 produced for 1931, 752 lambs, or a 96 per cent lamb crop. There was last year a 20 per cent decrease in the ewe lambs kept over for breeding purposes. Of the 752 lambs raised, 616 were sold. The average weight of all lambs at selling time was 80 pounds, a very acceptable market weight. Prices received during the fall of 1931 ranged from \$4.75 to \$5.80 per hundredweight.

An attempt was made to get information as to the methods of flock management. Of the eight flocks studied, five of the ewe-flocks were fed grain, with oats for flushing at breeding time and at lambing time. The average amount of grain fed per ewe for the year was 90 pounds. Three hundred and sixty-four pounds of hay were fed per sheep. This roughage was supplemented with straw.

Net losses were 39 out of 783 ewes, making a 5 per cent loss for the year. The largest loss was due to old age. Six per cent of ewes failed to breed. From a total of 960 sheep, 7,601 pounds of wool were sheared, making an average fleece weight of 7.9 pounds. This wool sold for 10.4 cents per pound, or 82 cents per fleece on the average.

Sales for the year ending April 1, 1932, averaged \$4.34 per ewe. Deducting cash outlay and decrease in inventory, the returns for investment and labor per ewe were \$3.40.

Welch Wins Honors

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Welch were reserve county winners in the Carlton county farmyard and garden contest which closed with the announcement of awards at a picnic supper at the C. H. Slickman farm near Wrenshall, Sunday evening, August 14. The winners of first place were Mr. and Mrs. Slickman.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch are known to many of the extension and the Uni-

versity Farm staff, Mr. Welch having been secretary of the extension division for several years.

Weed Stand Becoming Question of Honor

SENTIMENT against noxious weeds has about reached a point in Brown county where farmers must control their weeds to maintain the respect of their neighbors, according to Paul W. Kunkel, county agent. In his July report he says, "Sentiment towards farmers not cutting or killing their weeds is becoming more heated, by those enthusiastic about controlling. The day, no doubt, is nearing when it will be a sore ordeal for the 'weed propagator' to live in a neighborhood of weed fighters."

Fourteen weed meetings were held in 15 townships early in July with A. H. Larson of University Farm assisting. Keen interest was shown at these meetings. At Hanska, over 100 farmers turned out at a railroad crossing to hear weed control methods and see a creeping jenny infestation. The evening before, a large crowd of farmers in Bashaw township turned out at a roadside meeting adjoining a field badly infested with creeping jenny. Demonstration plots on the spraying of creeping jenny, Canadian thistle, and leafy spurge with sodium chlorate are showing excellent kills, with only one or two applications.

"Home Dem" Work on Exhibit at Hibbing

THREE phases of home demonstration agent work were shown at the Hibbing Fair, August 21 to 25, writes Mary Jane Boyd. One booth in the agricultural building showed recommended varieties of fruit and vegetables for St. Louis county. The varieties shown were all grown in gardens of the women enrolled in the Garden II project, which was given in the spring. A second booth showed the amount of food necessary for one person for a period of 9 months when fresh fruits and vegetables are not available from the home garden. The third booth was on "Thrifty" and displayed many articles made by women through instruction gained from home demonstration work. There were a boy's coat and cap made from a man's overcoat; a girl's coat made from an old coat that had been given her; skeins of wool yarn made from sheep and goats on local farms; also mittens and socks and stockings. There was also a splendid exhibit of rugs, mittens, bedroom slippers, and thrifty articles such as curtains, ironing board cover, and luncheon cloths made from flour sacks.

Mackintosh Resting

R. S. Mackintosh, extension exhibit specialist and secretary of the State Horticultural Society, is taking an enforced "vacation," following a heart attack which occurred in June at Lincoln, Nebraska. Mr. Mackintosh had motored to Lincoln for his daughter who had completed her teaching year at the University of Nebraska. Mr. Mackintosh's condition, we understand, is not critical, but demands that he "take things easy" for a while. In his absence, Prof. William Boss, chief in agricultural engineering, took charge of the State Fair exhibits for the University Department of Agriculture.

Child Development as A 'Home Dem' Project

CHILD development, as a home demonstration project, in accordance with the recommendations of the children's charter, is helping parents to understand the needs of growing children. To many it may seem that the recommendations of the charter, although splendid, are impossible of attainment under present economic conditions. One recommendation reads as follows: "The rural child should have as satisfactory school health protection and welfare facilities as the city child." Here are some ways that different Minnesota communities are carrying out this recommendation:

Infant's and children's clinics, financed by Christmas seal sale funds and providing a physical examination by a competent physician at no cost to the parents, have been held in many counties.

In several communities, physicians have vaccinated children for smallpox and immunized against diphtheria in groups. This has greatly reduced the cost per child.

In almost every district there have been drastic cuts in school expenditures. However, many school systems have met their problems heroically and have tried to cut on the least important things. Some have really made their schools more efficient and at the same time reduced taxes. Health education is by many not considered one of the frills when people keep their sense of values straight; so health education for everyone is by many regarded as better than medieval and modern history in high school. Music, it is held, should stay from top to bottom, even when foreign languages have long disappeared from the high school, and children of the first grade it is felt, should have the best teachers money can hire, even if it is found necessary to have second-rate teachers in the higher grades.

Nystrom Is Speaker at Barnum Breeding School

A. B. NYSTROM, senior extension dairyman of the federal extension office, Washington, D.C., spent some time in northern Minnesota late in August. On the evening of August 27 he spoke at a dairy breeding school at the Barnum high school, illustrating some principles of inheritance by means of a device called the "Herediscope."

This meeting, following the Carlton county fair, was arranged by G. W. Chambers, the county agent, and E. A. Hanson, extension dairy specialist, who judged the Carlton fair. Attending the school was a small group of leading breeders interested in getting some advanced information on dairy breeding problems and herd sire selection.

For Beauty Lovers

The Agricultural Extension Service of Ohio State University publishes a small "magazine"—four pages, 6 by 9 inches—called "More Beautiful Ohio." It is sent free to any garden club or amateur gardener in Ohio. The editor is Victor H. Ries, extension specialist in floriculture. The August number contains a leading article on "Diagnosing Garden Troubles," a list of plants for shady places, for the shaded rock garden, and similar material.



4-H CLUB NEWS

National 4-H Radio Program, November 4

THE national 4-H achievement day radio program has been announced for November 4. Minnesota will take part in the program through three stations. The regular state program will be given through Station KSTP in the Twin Cities, a Minnesota and North Dakota program will be given through station WDAY at Fargo, and a Minnesota and Wisconsin program will be given through Station WEBC at Superior.

This national 4-H achievement program has become an outstanding event in 4-H work. Many local clubs and entire counties build local and county programs around it. St. Louis county is planning district achievement day programs covering the entire county, with luncheons at the radio hour.

4-H Clubs of Isanti Had Part in Pageant

UNDER the direction of W. H. Turner, county 4-H leader, the junior clubs of Isanti county prepared a pageant giving the history of their county. The pageant was given as the evening feature at the county achievement day, August 24. Each club gave one episode. The presentation took two and a half hours. Some 500 4-H members took part. Admission was charged, for the support of the work.

McKerrow Scholarships

Twenty counties have responded to the call for recommendations for the W. A. McKerrow Scholarship awards. The committee on awards is enthusiastic over the wonderful records made. The young people nominated have been 4-H members from 4 to 10 years each. Each is well started in livestock work, as each has a flock or herd of his own. The McKerrow scholarships are awarded each year, and each county is entitled to recommend one candidate.

4-H'ers Tell the World

Cards reading, "I Am a 4-H Club Member. Come In and See my Project," are on the gate-posts of Freeborn county club members. The cards are furnished by the county agricultural society and in a corner is the date of the 1932 county fair. Next year, weatherproof cards will be used and will serve to mark the home of the club member during the entire year.

Good Poultry Bulletins

Every poultry club member should have U. S. Bulletin, 1506, Standard Breeds of Chickens, and Bulletin 1115, Selection and Preparation of Fowls for Exhibition. Extension agents are urged to get a supply from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Here's What Good 4-H Club Member Is Like

AN Alabama 4-H club girl gives the following as her idea of a good 4-H club member:

One who is absolutely reliable and whose word can be relied upon.

One who will serve his club without being urged to do so.

One who feels that he is part of the plan or club and who has a sense of duty to his club which he is conscientious enough to perform, though it be a duty of the highest officer in the club or only that of an "unknown member."

One who can conceal a defeat or failure with a smile instead of being a "champion excuse maker."

One who can win praise or approval without feeling that he is the club's "essential element."

One who can say "our club" more naturally and enthusiastically than he can say "my project."

How many of our Minnesota 4-H boys and girls agree with the idea of this Alabama 4-H girl?

New Material Available For Your Club Programs

THE Bureau of Dairy Industry, Washington, D. C., has just issued a bulletin giving material which 4-H dairy club members may use for club programs. Suggested programs for 12 meetings are given. This material is excellent and every 4-H club having members taking the dairy project should have a copy of U. S. Miscellaneous Circular No. 146. County agents and club leaders are urged to send for copies.

1932 Shows Increase In Colt Members

THREE hundred seventy-three 4-H club members, representing 51 counties, are enrolled in the colt project this year. This is an increase of 42 per cent over 1931. Watonwan county leads with 25 members. Scott is second with 22.

4-H Club Has a Library

The Warren 4-H Club reports a new idea. This club is collecting books and bulletins of interest in 4-H work. The library is open to members at club meetings.

Advanced or older club girls in Murray county will put on a table-planning booth at the Murray county fair. Miss Esther Peters, county club leader, says that there are 13 girls in this project and three meetings have been held to date.

REMINDERS

SEPTEMBER is a good month in which to begin next year's 4-H program.

SEPTEMBER is also a good time for checking up the present year's work. How many of those enrolled in your county will finish up? Very often a little encouragement will help many 4-H boys or girls to complete their work.

ALL junior leadership reports are due this month.

THE Junior Livestock Show comes October 31, November 1, 2, and 3. Names of winners and their records should be in the state club office not later than October 15. Send them in as soon as ready.

HAVE you sent in a list of those who planted George Washington trees? Planters are entitled to attractive certificates.

SELECT members for the 1933 State Fair Farm Boys' Camp in September or October.

SELECT the winner of The Farmer medal in corn and potato projects in your county. Report garden winner before October 15.

DON'T forget to send, if possible, kodak photographs of those selected for county medals.

Good 4-H Reading In the Horticulturist

THE July issue of the Minnesota Horticulturist contained two pages of excellent 4-H material. Under the regular 4-H department is given a dialog, prepared by Doris Perry and Donald Wilson of Winona county. This may be used as it is, or changed for club programs. The second story in the number of the Horticulturist referred to is one entitled "The Farm Beautiful," written by Dorothy Strunk of Rice county, about her 1931 project. Dorothy represented 4-H club work of the nation at the annual convention of Federated Women's clubs at Seattle in June.

Club Holds Flower Show

A club meeting that was decidedly "different" was held by the 4-H club of West St. Paul. Fifteen of the members are working on home beautification projects, growing gladioli. A flower show was held July 31, when flower bulbs were given as special prizes. The program included judging of flowers and talks on showing, and ended with games and refreshments.

Junior Flower Club

A new type of 4-H club has come into existence this year in the Silver Brook community of Carlton county. This new club is known as the Silver Brook Junior Flower Club. It is made up of nine little girls between the ages of seven and 11. Their project consists of designing, planting and caring for a small flower garden. One garden was made to represent the Arrowhead Country with its rivers, lakes, towns, pines and brush. Another represents the Twin Lakes community and still another represents a typical farmstead.

Dairy Judge Winners To Go To Waterloo

AS previously announced, there will be no National Dairy Exposition this year. Minnesota will send its winning dairy stock-judging team to take part in the judging contest at the Dairy Cattle Congress at Waterloo, Iowa, October 3 to 8. The winning team will be selected at the State Fair on Friday, September 9. Holsteins, Guernseys, Jerseys and Ayrshires will be judged. Oral and written reasons will be given.

The winning dairy demonstration teams will also be sent to Waterloo, if funds can be raised for their transportation. The demonstration contest will be held on October 6.

The Minneapolis Journal dairy trip winners will be given trips to the National Club Congress at Chicago in December.

Charts at Fair Show Home Beauty Results

OUTSTANDING among 4-H exhibits at the Fillmore county fair in August were the large charts exhibited by home beautification members showing the changes each had made in his or her home grounds. Photos showed the appearance of the homes before and after the project.

Many members had built rock gardens and lily pools; several had made lawn furniture such as hammocks, chairs and tables. The girl who won first place had planted a number of trees, in addition to growing her annual flower garden and building a lily pool.

As an important feature in judging the contest, two interested women, with the county and club agents, visited the homes of all contestants in midsummer and scored their work. These scores were then used along with the exhibits and records at the fair in determining the winnings. The enrollment of 40 in the project was unusually large considering that this was the first year Fillmore county has emphasized the home beautification work.

As another phase of this project, Fillmore's booth at the State Fair featured home beautification, showing a 4-H member's home, such as is portrayed in the club song, "Dreaming."

Early Contests Meant More Early Canning

ENCOURAGEMENT of the canning of earlier fruits and vegetables appears to have been one effect of the change inaugurated this year with regard to canning team contests. Holding these contests at the subdistrict home economics contests, instead of separately for each county, meant that the contestants had to complete their work several weeks earlier in the season.

Thrifty exhibits at all subdistrict contests this year were especially outstanding. Not only were there more entries, but there was evidence on every hand of greater originality and ingenuity in making stylish-looking dresses and children's clothing from flour and feed sack material. The standard of workmanship of the garments was likewise higher.

The city of Madison engaged the Lac qui Parle County 4-H Club Band for a series of street concerts Saturday nights, beginning August 27.

Warren Simpson Passes; Record Was Inspiring

EXTENSIONERS who knew him will learn with sorrow of the recent death of Warren W. Simpson, Waterford, Minn., a graduate of the Minnesota College of Agriculture and a former teacher of agriculture at Lewiston and Fisher. The Northfield News of August 26 devoted an editorial to the portrayal of the indomitable spirit and courageous effort by which the late Mr. Simpson triumphed over a great physical handicap to become a successful and useful citizen.

The editorial, headed "He Was a Real Man," reads in part:

"When Warren Simpson was but a boy of eleven, living with his widowed mother and his brothers and sister on a farm near Northfield, he was crippled by infantile paralysis. He was unable to walk, but with a spirit of manly courage, matched by the encouraging help of his truly fine mother, he determined to make the most of his life and to win back the health that had been taken from him. He enrolled in the corn club twenty years ago when the 4-H club movement was still in its infancy, and by sheer will power and determination completed his project by actually crawling thru the corn on his hands and knees in order to cultivate it. He not only succeeded in obtaining a yield of 105 bushels per acre but at the same time his health improved so that with aid of canes and braces he became able to walk.

"He went on thru Northfield High School and into college, completing the agricultural course at the University of Minnesota. Later he taught agriculture in two Minnesota high schools, and took an active part in 4-H club leadership in those communities. His team was the champion Junior Livestock Judging team in the state in 1922, and represented Minnesota at the International Livestock Exposition, where it won fourth among competing teams from twenty states. Later he returned to help in the operation of the home farm. He was successful in its management, establishing a happy family, and taking an active and helpful part in the life and progress of his community."

V. Drenckhahn Honored

Miss Vivian Drenckhahn, home demonstration agent in Mower county, has been awarded a scholarship by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. The award came through a recommendation from the National Tuberculosis Association, and the scholarship will provide a year's work in the field of health education in the institute, with the privilege of taking additional work at either Harvard or Boston university.

Miss Drenckhahn, before entering the extension service, did nutrition and health work for the Health Association in Onondaga County, New York. This association was affiliated with the National Tuberculosis Association.

Miss May Sontag will take Miss Drenckhahn's place while the latter is in the east. Miss Sontag is a Minnesota farm-raised girl, and was graduated from the North Dakota Agricultural College. After teaching three years in Minnesota, she served two years as home demonstration agent in Cass county, N. D.

Baby Farnham Out With Latest Features

MR. and MRS. EUGENE FARNHAM, Madison, Minnesota, announced the arrival of a son, early in August. The announcement, received at University Farm by Miss Julia O. Newton, simulated those used by modern advertisers and evidently had been printed in the office of The Independent Press, of which Mr. Farnham is editor. A four-page folder on pink paper, with matching envelope, was used. The first page carried the single word "Announcing —," while on the right-hand page inside appeared the following:

SPECIFICATIONS—Steward Edward Farnham.
MAKE—Boy. When better babies are built we will be too old to care.
FIRST APPEARANCE—Friday, August 5, 1932.
ON DISPLAY—Ebenezer Hospital.
WEIGHT—Nine pounds, eight ounces.
WHEELBASE—Twenty-two inches.
LIGHTING—Bright blue lamps, automatic dimmers.
HORN—High frequency vibrator type—loudest when fuel tank is empty. (Ask the man who owns one.)
TIRES—Yes, but never at night.
WHEELS—O.K., when pushed.
FUEL—Gravity feed, four-ounce tank.
ENGINE—Two cylinder—WOW.
BODY—Well insulated, no squeaks, but plenty of squeaks and rattles.
COLOR—Customary pink.
SPECIAL EQUIPMENT—Powder puff, gross of safety pins, washable seat covers.
PRICE—F. O. B. hospital—well, why bring that up?

Extension folks will remember Mrs. Farnham as Esther Stewart, who was home demonstration agent in Lac qui Parle county from June 1930 to September 1931.

County Agent Organizes Tornado Relief Crews

A TORNADO which struck the southern part of Rock county early in July, gave the county extension service an opportunity to show what it could do in organizing for emergency relief. The storm almost completely wiped out eight sets of farm buildings, destroying crops, livestock and machinery in addition to killing two persons and injuring others.

County Agent C. G. Gaylord reports that the county Red Cross stepped in immediately and arranged for patrolling the damaged farms against tourists and arranged also to defray hospital bills and collect clothing for the victims. The county extension service offered to help in arranging for clean-up crews on the several farms. Mr. Gaylord organized twelve crews of men from six towns in the county which performed eleven different jobs on six of the stricken farms. On the evening of July 18, all of these crews were in action, numbering over 200 men.

Included in the work done was the shocking of a large amount of small grain, clearing fields of debris blown in by the storm, reconstructing fences and on one farm putting up a temporary cow barn. The following evening another crew shocked 35 acres of grain on one farm. Arrangements were being made for more assistance in the clean up work on the several farms.

County Women's Picnic

Largely to develop and hold interest in women's home project work in Pennington county and also to give

women from all parts of the county an opportunity to become acquainted, a county-wide picnic of all home project work was held in Pennington

county, August 28. Other project groups over the state will undoubtedly be interested in the success of the picnic.

Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

Good Time to Stay With Sheep Enterprise

IN spite of the fact that sheep numbers on January 1, 1932, were the largest ever reported in this country, the 1932 lamb crop, according to estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture, is 8 per cent smaller than that of 1931 and about the same as the 1930 crop.

The lamb crop in the native sheep states differed little from that of last year but in the western states, including South Dakota and Texas, the crop was 12 per cent smaller than in 1931.

The decreased lamb crop in the western states was caused both by much more unusual winter losses of ewes and by the saving of only 70.9 lambs per 100 ewes, compared with 82.8 in 1931, 80.1 in 1930, and 76.1 in 1929.

National sheep numbers increased continuously from a low point of 37 million in 1923 to the record number of 54 million in 1932. It is probable that there will be some decrease in total sheep numbers for several years.

Minnesota farmers who have started flocks are likely to find that the sheep industry will gradually work itself into a more favorable position. Therefore, it seems that the present is a good time for Minnesota farmers to maintain their flocks.

Along with the increase in sheep numbers the amount of wool shorn (not including pulled wool) increased from 225 million pounds in 1923 to 369 millions in 1931. The amount shorn this year, however, is estimated at only 342 million pounds. It is expected by C. V. Whalin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture that the 1932 United States consumption of clothing and combing wool will be less than production. However, if business should revive materially, and if there should be some decrease in sheep numbers, the sheep grower would again be in a position to derive a substantial benefit from the tariff of 34 cents per pound (scoured basis).

Livestock Outlook Talks

PLANS are under way for a series of livestock outlook meetings in September, October, and November, in counties where either hogs, beef cattle or sheep are important sources of income. The extension specialists available for this work are Morris, Zavoral, Cavert, Cleland, Dvoracek and Silcox. The plan will be for the extension specialist and county agent to form a team that will cover the most important economic and production problems confronting the producers. A specialist may be scheduled up to 4 days per county. The usual plan will be to have an afternoon meeting at the farm of some co-operator in a livestock project and an evening meeting in another community.

These meetings should meet a real need as in most localities there is an abundant supply of feed that is quoted at very low figures. Consequently, farmers will be figuring on the pos-

sibility of getting more than elevator prices out of their feed by expanding livestock operations.

Ag. Credit Corporation For Northwest States

IN accordance with the Emergency Relief and Reconstruction Act (H.R. 9642), a regional agricultural credit corporation will be established in Minneapolis. This is in line with the provisions of the Emergency Relief act which authorizes the use of Emergency Relief funds for setting up an agricultural credit agency in each Federal Land Bank District, if the same seems to be desirable. The text of the provision is as follows:

"The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is further authorized to create in any of the twelve Federal Land Bank districts where it may deem the same to be desirable a regional agricultural credit corporation with a paid up capital of not less than \$3,000,000 to be subscribed for by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and paid out of the unexpended balance of the amounts allocated and made available to the Secretary of Agriculture under Section 2 of the Reconstruction Finance Act.

"Such corporations shall be managed by officers and agents to be appointed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation under such rules and regulations as its board of directors may prescribe. Such corporations are hereby authorized and empowered to make loans or advances to farmers and stockmen; the proceeds of which are to be used for an agricultural purpose (including crop production) or for the raising, breeding, fattening, or marketing of livestock, to charge such rates of interest or discount thereon as in their judgment are fair and equitable, subject to the approval of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the various Federal reserve banks and Federal intermediate credit banks any paper that they acquire which is eligible for such purpose.

"All loans made under this section . . . shall be fully and adequately secured.

"Each such loan may be made for a period not exceeding three years and the corporation may from time to time extend the time of payment of any such loan through renewal, substitution of new obligations, or otherwise but the time for such payment shall not be extended beyond five years from the date upon which such loan was made originally."

In view of the lack of local credit facilities in some localities, such an organization will fill a useful place in this Federal Land Bank district. True, most farmers are more concerned about finding some means of paying their present debts than of contracting new ones. However, it is difficult to carry on a farm business without the use of some credit and it is essential that most of the credit used be for a sufficient length of time to give it a chance to pay for itself.