

# Minnesota Extension News

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No. 3

## Searching Self-Analysis Slated for 20th Conference

### Lynn Sheldon Retiring With 15-Year Record

WITH "genuine regret" the Lac qui Parle county extension committee, on November 23, 1932, accepted the resignation, effective December 31, of Lynn Sheldon as county agent. Lynn has served approximately 4 years in Lac qui Parle. He will be succeeded by R. H. Steidl of Meeker county.

Probably few counties have stressed the balanced program as much as Lac qui Parle, under Sheldon. The smut control, windbreak, and partnership projects have been outstanding, as well as weed control and 4-H club work. Sheldon has also been a leader in the use of the farmers' institute type of meeting. The strenuous life of the county agent is exemplified in Sheldon's work. A typical year's work (1931), records 716 farm visits; 823 office calls, and 111 newspaper articles. Important farm topics and problems were discussed at 266 meetings, having a total attendance of 25,695.

Sheldon's county agent career, beginning at Osceola, Polk county, Nebraska, January 17, 1918, took him to Redwood county, Minnesota, January, 1923, and to Lac qui Parle in May, 1929. Thus he will lack but 17 days of 15 years of continuous county agent work.

Sheldon leaves county agent work to farm the old home place in Forrestville township, Fillmore county. The Minnesota extension staff joins the Lac qui Parle county folks in their "genuine regret" in seeing Lynn Sheldon leave, and in wishing him all prosperity and happiness in his new work.

### Stolen Becomes Agent In East Polk County

RUDOLPH M. STOLEN, Granite Falls, Minnesota, was elected, October 28, by the Polk county extension committee to succeed Ronald McCamus as county agent in East Polk.

Mr. Stolen was born in Lac qui Parle county and spent his boyhood on a farm in that part of the state. He was graduated from the Morris School of Agriculture in 1927, and from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1932, having specialized in farm management and animal husbandry.

Before finishing his final year in college, he served as an assistant county agent in Winona county, working with J. B. McNulty. He also was acting county agent in Winona during the year that Mr. McNulty was away from the county taking graduate work. Mr. Stolen has assisted in the office of farm management, University Farm. Part of the year 1930, he spent as assistant farm-

### Director Urges Extensioners To Come Loaded With Questions

By F. W. PECK

PLEASE study carefully the program for the annual conference, given in detail on page 2. Note particularly the questions raised on some of the topics. Every member of the extension staff should think not only about the answers to these questions, but should raise others in his mind and have them ready to place before the group at the discussion period. We want to make this conference more of a round table discussion of important questions and problems that confront us.

We have not published any questions on the Tuesday forenoon session. This will be devoted to a critical analysis of our internal problems. We ought to have the courage to face our problems of organization, personnel, types of training, system of financing, subject matter content, methods of extension teaching, and other problems, without fear of becoming too pessimistic and with profit to each one of us.

Note particularly the character of the economic discussion which will feature Wednesday's program, and on Thursday, the forenoon spent on program building should bring all of us directly in touch with improved methods and with a better understanding of the values that are to be obtained from more careful program building and operation.

The county workers are to be housed in the dormitories this year. We anticipate this arrangement will facilitate starting on time and continuing with well-sustained interest through the entire program.

Special attention is called to the Monday afternoon arrangement, whereby the agricultural agents will go in a group to the livestock pavilion for an hour and a half, and then to the plant pathology building for a like period to discuss with the subject matter staff members the important problems in these fields. We believe that this is an opportunity that should be taken by every agricultural agent. If there is any reason why an agent cannot attend the Monday afternoon session, other than those who are on committees, a notice to this effect should be sent to the central office in advance.

Let's make this the best conference, and inasmuch as it is the twentieth annual meeting, we should make it a real anniversary event.

ing supervisor with the E. S. B. Johnson Lanier Farming Company, North Dakota. With this experience and training as a background, he comes well recommended to his new job.

### Coming Events\*

December 13-16, 1932—Annual State Extension Conference  
January 16-19, 1933—Annual Convention, State Farm Bureau, St. Paul  
January 16-21, 1933—Farmers' and Homemakers' Week

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

### Gladys Johnson to Be Home Agent in Steele

STEELE county will have a new home demonstration agent, December 15. Miss Gladys M. Johnson, graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, will succeed Miss Freda Olstad, whom Cupid has induced to resign.

Miss Johnson is a native Minnesotan, born and reared on a farm in Webster township, Rice county, where her mother is township home chairman and her sister an adult 4-H leader—facts which indicate that a propensity for extension work runs in the family. Miss Johnson's experience includes home economics teaching in high schools in South Dakota and in Minnesota at Worthington and Virginia.

Miss Olstad's future husband, Jay Seymour, is well known to Minnesota extensioners, being at present the high school agriculturist at Plainview, where the couple will make their home.

### Miss Burkett Succeeds Vaule in Brown County

MISS JOSEPHINE BURKETT, graduate of Iowa State College, Ames, has succeeded Miss Margaret Vaule as Brown county home demonstration agent. Miss Vaule resigned and left November 15, on account of her health. She will rest for some time at her parents' home at Crookston.

Miss Burkett has had home economics teaching experience in Iowa high schools, in addition to a home and family background that should fit her ideally for extension work. She grew up on an Iowa farm and participated in 4-H club work for 8 years. Her parents were active farm bureau members.

### Welcome, Miss Stegner!

A blue-tinted stork card, received at University Farm recently, announced the arrival, November 23, of Miss Stegner, 8¼ pounds, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Stegner. Mr. Stegner, as all extensioners know, is the genial district 4-H club agent, stationed at Fairmont. This is the Stegner's second child, their eldest being a son of 3 or 4 years. The News extends hearty congratulations.

### Mrs. Whitfield Passes

Extensioners were saddened recently to learn of the death of Mrs. Daniel Whitfield, mother of Miss Eves Whitfield, clothing specialist. Miss Whitfield was called to her home at Malvern, Iowa, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and was with her mother until she died on Sunday.



## Minnesota Extension News

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DECEMBER, 1932

The coming annual conference, December 12 to 15, will be the twentieth anniversary of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. Many changes have taken place in these two decades. The extension division has grown from a small institute force to a large organization. Extension teaching in agriculture and home economics is now recognized as an important phase of adult education. New opportunities have been afforded rural people, both adults and boys and girls, to participate in activities that have tended toward a better understanding of agricultural and home problems and have broadened their viewpoints.

One of the significant changes in this period is that of subject matter emphasis. Little thought was given to extension teaching in the field of economics and in the field of marketing, 20 years ago. At that time, practically the entire program consisted of improving the art of agriculture and home economics. There has been added to the art improvement program a number of the scientific and social sciences, and we are beginning to see the importance of emphasizing cultural opportunities.

Much has happened to the economic standing of agriculture during this 20-year period. In it all, however, the Extension Service has tried to bring to the rural people points of view, types of information, and types of training that have assisted in meeting the many emergencies.

Even though many of us may feel pessimistic as to achievements, and despite the fact that there has been severe criticism and opposition to the cost of extension work, we can at least feel proud of the record that has been made, at the same time, realizing that increasing demands for improved types of extension service face us in the future. Regardless of the outcome of this present emergency upon the organization and personnel of the extension force, I predict that, in the long run, extension teaching will find an increasingly important place in our educational system. Rural people will see to it that they are offered opportunities that will make possible their own improvement. We need to be alive to these opportunities to improve our service.

*Frank W. Peck*

## AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION CONFERENCE

December 12 to 15, 1932

Monday Afternoon, December 12

Committee and Conference Period

- 1:30 Agricultural Agents meet Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Divisions, Stock Pavilion  
Home Demonstration Conference of county and state workers, Room 105, Administration Building  
3:00 Agricultural Agents meet Entomology and Plant Pathology Divisions, Room 107, Plant Pathology Building

Monday Evening

- 6:30 Epsilon Sigma Phi Banquet—Men's Union, Colonial Room

Tuesday, December 13

Room 107, Engineering Building

- 9:00 Joint Session, Agricultural Agents Association, Home Demonstration Agents Association and state staff. For extension workers only. "A Critical Analysis of the Extension Service," George Farrell, U.S.D.A.; and F. W. Peck

Tuesday Afternoon and Evening

Separate Association Meetings

Wednesday, December 14

FARM ECONOMICS DAY

Auditorium—Open meeting

- 9:00 Topic: The Effects of the Depression Upon Agriculture  
Questions (by all of us):  
What can be expected of the trend of the general price level in the next few years?  
What are the forces that will tend to influence the trend of the general price level?  
What can be said about agricultural prices?  
Can farm debts be scaled down or farm prices increased so as to pay the debts?  
What does the history of former depressions tell us?  
What is the rational view to take of the prospective farm situation?  
(a) Short time. (b) Long time.  
What can be done by farm people to fight their way through to better times?  
What can be done for farm people to assist in the needed recovery?  
What is the responsibility of the University and the Extension Service in this situation?

Answers by: Dr. B. H. Hibbard, University of Wisconsin;  
Dr. A. H. Hansen, Dr. O. B. Jesness, Dean W. C. Coffey

Wednesday Afternoon

- 1:30 Economic discussion continued

Auditorium

Topic: The Farm Mortgage Situation in Minnesota

Questions:

- What has happened up to date?  
What will likely occur in the next few years?  
What are the implications and the complications of the situation?  
Shall we consider some county unit advisory plan of assistance?  
What is the responsibility of the Extension Service in this problem?

Answers by: E. C. Johnson, F. H. Klawon, and A. J. Olson

- 3:00 Topic: Relief Measures. Speakers, O. B. Jesness, E. C. Johnson  
a. The R.F.C. Agricultural Credit Corporation  
b. Domestic Allotment Plan  
c. The Frazier Bill

Wednesday Evening

All Extension Party, Ballroom, Men's Union, University Campus  
"Relief from Relief"

- 6:30 Dinner

Address—"How It Feels To Be Relieved," Ray Chase (Congressman-Elect)

Music

A Demonstration—"What the Future Portends," Swami Utellum  
Cards Dancing

Thursday, December 15

Room 107, Engineering Building

- 9:00 "Program Building" (a planning session)

Questions (by some of us):

- What are the principal elements involved in program building?  
What type of local organization has been found effective in planning programs?  
How can "emergency demands" be fitted into a plan of work?  
What are the sequential steps in putting a program into operation?  
What important relationships are involved in program building?  
What adjustments are in order to meet present economic conditions?  
Are there various methods of emphasizing subject matter projects in the program?  
How can the various agencies concerned best be brought into program development?  
How can the program be tested?  
How can the results obtained best be measured?

Answers by: Murl McDonald, Ames, Iowa

Comments by: Dr. A. M. Field, Agricultural Education;  
Home Agent, Charlotte Kirchner; Agricultural Agent,  
M. A. Thorfinnson; Specialist, S. B. Cleland; Supervisor,  
Frank Brown

## Hold First Child Project Bul Achievement Program

MINNESOTA'S first child development achievement day was held at Slayton, Murray county, October 1. It was followed, October 4, by the second, at Mantorville, Dodge county. Both of these events were highly interesting and worth while. The programs in general followed the plan of those held in other home projects and included exhibits, talks, playlets, recitations, musical numbers and the usual summary of results and statistics. Particularly, the exhibits featured homemade play equipment and toys, made by adults for children and also by the children themselves. From a published report of the Dodge county achievement day, we quote the following description: "The entire west half of the hall was filled with suggestions for Self-Help, Homemade Play Equipment, Hobbies, and Busy Time Work. It was a fine illustration of pleasures that can be given children—helpful pleasures without the expenditure of a large amount of money."

Four-H club activities were featured in the program as an important phase of child development. Mrs. Belle Osborn Fish, child development specialist, was a leading speaker on both programs. The comment of County Agent M. L. Armour, Dodge county, expressed in a letter to Mrs. Fish following the project is interesting. He wrote, "I am certain the women greatly enjoyed working with you in the child development project. It seems to me that this project is especially appreciated during this trying period. I wish that we were just starting in place of finishing the work."

## Ram Exchange Succeeds

A new event in extension work was tried out in Pennington county, October 15. In connection with the county's Pioneer Day celebration, County Agent Bob Douglass arranged for a ram exchange at the county fair grounds. Farmers having rams to exchange or sell were asked to bring them in, with the understanding that if no exchange was made they could take their animals home without paying any charges.

Thirty-two rams were brought in and 26 changed hands. The service apparently was a real help to the sheep growers who asked that another exchange be arranged next year. Hans Antone, assistant with the local wool marketing organization, helped supervise the ram exchange.

## Puncture Weed Spotted

Due to the alertness of the Brooklyn township chairman and weed inspector, an infestation of California puncture weed was discovered in Hennepin county last autumn. K. A. Kirkpatrick, county agent, says the weed was brought on the farm through some carrot seed from California. This weed is a peculiar vine-like plant with horn-shaped, thorny seeds capable of puncturing automobile tires.

## Gaylord's Given Farewell

A farewell party for C. G. Gaylord and family was held November 12 in the Luverne Commercial Club rooms by the Rock County 4-H club organization, which presented the Gaylords with a table. The incoming agent, Fred B. Willrett, was one of the speakers. Lunch was served after the program.



**Project Bulletin Library For Dairy Calf Members**

MANY successful club members have increased their knowledge of dairying by studying magazines, bulletins and other reading matter. Many of the bulletins are written by highly influential authorities. They are very much worth reading and studying. Dairy calf members interested in any of the following Farmers' bulletins, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, should write to their senators or representatives, Congressional Office Building, Washington, D. C.

- The titles and numbers of bulletins follow:
- Judging Dairy Cattle—Misc. Cir. 99.
  - Determining The Age of Cattle By Their Teeth—Farmers' Bul. 1066.
  - Care of the Dairy Cow at Calving Time—Leaflet 10.
  - Care and Management of Dairy Cows—Farmers' Bul. 1470.
  - Purebred Dairy Sires—Leaflet 16.
  - Farm Dairy Houses—Farmers' Bul. 1214.
  - Dairy Barn Construction—Farmers' Bul. 1342.
  - Udder Diseases of Dairy Cows—Farmers' Bul. 1422.
  - Cattle Lice and How to Eradicate Them—Farmers' Bul. 909.
  - Hemorrhagic Septicemia—Farmers' Bul. 1018.
  - Infectious Abortion of Cattle—Farmers' Bul. 1536.
  - Raising the Dairy Heifer—Leaflet 14.
  - Care of the Dairy Calf—Leaflet 20.
  - Feeding and Management of Dairy Calves and Young Stock—Farmers' Bul. 777.
  - Feeding Dairy Cows—Farmers' Bul. 1626.
  - Dairy Cattle Breeds—Farmers' Bul. 1443.
  - Production of Clean Milk—Farmers' Bul. 602.
  - Cooling Milk and Cream on the Farm—Farmers' Bul. 976.

The following Minnesota bulletins are also available. Write the Mailing Room, University Farm, St. Paul:

- Feeding the Dairy Herd—218.
- Raising Dairy Calves on Skimmed Milk—108.
- Judging Dairy Cattle—92.

**Get Home Economics Projects Going Now**

THIS is a good time to begin the reorganization of the 1933 home economics projects. Members should be encouraged to start early even though the club itself is not reorganized at this time.

Long-time, accurate records covering all work done is what counts. A clothing club member ordinarily makes more than the required five articles and her record should show this. This year of all years the records should include any remodeling, or mending of garments.

Let's make this year the most worthwhile, by reporting the entire number of garments made, mended, the amount of baking done, or the amount of canning done.

**4-H Corn Show Helpful**

The Busy Beaver 4-H club of Fillmore county, under the leadership of Clifford Winslow, recently sponsored a corn show in its community which was attended by over 60 4-H members and parents. Andrew Holman, a premier seed grower of Minnesota, judged the corn, and a number of samples were selected to be sent to the 4-H Club Congress at Chicago.

One boy in corn club work for the first time remarked that he could make a real record the following year because he had learned so much in regard to the selection of corn for exhibition purposes.



**Long-Time Records of Winners Mark Fifteenth Junior Livestock Show**

THE recent Junior Livestock Show had several strong features, but others need careful study, in order to improve the next show. The plan of holding an assembly and vesper service Sunday evening seemed to meet with general satisfaction. Dean W. C. Coffey gave an excellent talk to the young people on "Taking Responsibilities." The morning assemblies were better organized and more effective than in previous years. These general meetings mean much for the show's success.

The 4-H Exhibitors Rally, beginning with the lunch in the pavilion and closing with the program at the high school auditorium, seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed.

A suggestion has been made that as many of the regular awards as possible be announced at this program next year. The number of exhibits was considerably larger than in 1931. One suggestion is that some change be made to eliminate a considerable number of the poorest exhibits. The club committee will make recommendations along these lines.

Considering the times, the auction sale was unusually satisfactory. The entire event again indicated that there is no depression in the 4-H club program. Nearly all of the outstanding winners had long-time records.

Five \$100 scholarships, provided by the Minneapolis Journal and good in the schools or the college of agriculture, were awarded to the following: Edward Smesek, Rice county, baby beef grand champion with a strong 7-year record in 4-H work; Joseph Genelin, Le Sueur county, reserve champion and Hereford champion and with a fine 7-year record; Wilbur Rue, Jackson county, Shorthorn champion and having an 8-year record; Lorena Abell, Wilkin county, champion in geese and with a fine 4-year record, and Max Gerard, Hennepin county, with an 8-year record in 4-H work, owning a flock of fine sheep as a result, strong in various projects, and with the best record in the state in the meat animal production contest.

The Washburn Crosby Company of Minneapolis provided funds for two trips to the National Club Congress and one \$75 scholarship. The trips were awarded to Marie Sullivan, Le Sueur county, with a 10-year record at the Junior Livestock Show and several championships, and Richard Odden, Swift county, for having the highest record in the poultry judging contest.

**Music Interest Gains**

That music activities among 4-H clubs are increasing is indicated by the fact that Steele county had a 4-H music contest at the county fair this year. It was given the first night in the club building to an audience of 200. Eight quartets took part—one male, three mixed and four girls' groups. The quartet selected took part in the state contest and placed first.

**President Hoover Given Grand Champion Turkeys**

THE grand champion pen of turkeys at the Junior Livestock Show, exhibited by Verona Ehlen of Goodhue county, were purchased by the Athletic Club of St. Paul and presented to President Hoover on his recent visit to St. Paul, in behalf of the 4-H boys and girls of Minnesota.

The following letter, acknowledging the gift, has been received from the White House, dated November 7:

4-H Club Boys & Girls of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota.  
Dear Friends:

The President has asked me to express to you his deep thanks for the turkeys which you had put on the train for him at St. Paul. He is most appreciative of your thought of him.

Yours sincerely,  
Lawrence Richey,  
Secretary to the President.

**Baking, Sewing Records Should Be Started Now**

"WHEN should we start keeping our record of baking and sewing?" is a question many club girls ask. The answer is "Now."

Even in the busiest season of school work, girls are helping with the family mending, taking care of their own clothes, doing occasional baking of bread, quick breads and cakes. In the past, girls who have started keeping their new record September 1 have had a big advantage over those who did not start until the spring months, as they have not had to rush to complete requirements. The longer period of experience in record keeping proves also to result in a higher quality of work.

Even though girls may not have decided on their definite projects, they would find it interesting to keep a record of all their home activities in canning, baking and sewing. This will also help them decide what they wish to take.

**Corn Project Stressed**

Sixty-seven boys were enrolled in the corn project in Murray county during the past year. All but ten of these exhibited samples of their corn at the Murray county fair.

**Important Revisions In Bread and Canning Work**

THE bread project has been one of the most popular lines of work for the girls. Present indications are for a larger enrolment in 1933. The project has been revised on a progressive 3-year basis. Extension agents and leaders should be sure to note these changes.

- First year—12 bakings of quick bread. These may include baking powder biscuits, muffins and gems.
- 3 bakings of white yeast bread.
- Second year—9 bakings of yeast bread (same requirements as before)
- 16 bakings of quick breads. These may include baking powder biscuits, soda biscuits and muffins, either the plain or the variations in each case.
- Third year—75 pounds of yeast bread (same requirements as before).
- 12 bakings of quick breads. These may include gingerbread, cornbread, popovers, muffins and biscuits.
- 12 other baked products such as pies, nutbread, prune bread and raisin bread.

**Important Changes in Canning**

- First year—Can 50 pints (or equivalent) of fruits and tomatoes.
- Second year—Can 70 pints (or equivalent) of fruits and vegetables. Meats may be included.
- Third year—Can 70 pints (or equivalent) of fruits, vegetables and meats. Make 35 glasses of jams and jellies. Plan a budget of adequate canned food needs for member's family for a period of 8 months.

Members enrolling for the first time should take up work where they are best qualified. Those with little or no experience will find the first year's requirements quite adequate. Those with considerable experience will find third year requirements not too great.

Organize breadmaking and canning clubs now to emphasize thrift in the home. Advanced members will want to complete part of their requirements during the meat canning season.

**Fillmore 4-H'ers Serve Farm Bureau Banquet**

FOUR-H clubs of Fillmore county set a new record for service and efficiency by serving the annual banquet of the Fillmore County Farm Bureau of Lanesboro, the evening of October 20, says County Agent S. G. Denner. Food was donated by 4-H clubs throughout the county, and prepared and served by adult 4-H leaders and junior leaders. The proceeds of the banquet will go to help pay for the new 4-H club building on the Fillmore county fair grounds. This project was carried on under the leadership of the 4-H adult advisory committee and the county junior council.

Another incident of interest in connection with the banquet was the presentation of a floor lamp by the county farm bureau to Miss Ruth Utley of Preston in recognition of her services as summer club leader for the past several years.

**4-H Music Test**

The national 4-H music-achievement test, each year for club members, will have for its central theme, "The World's Great Composers." Each monthly program will include a half hour of music selected from some of the great composers. The compositions will be played by the United States Marine Band. Ray Turner of the Extension Service, Washington, D. C. will describe each composition, interpret its meaning and tell something about the composer. Listen in 11:30 to 12:30 p.m.—to the national program the first Saturday in each month.



**Perham Women Help**

Through the generous cooperation of the women of Perham, the problem of providing sleeping quarters for 4-H girls attending the Ottertail county fair has been most happily solved for a number of years, says Assistant County Agent John E. Grathwol.

The arrangement was started under the regime of R. C. Shaw, former East Ottertail agent. Following out the plan again this year, two local women took charge of the arrangements and called on a number of their friends to help out. Each agreed to take one or more of the 4-H girls into their homes for the 3 nights of the county fair. The girls were also given breakfast at the homes where they stayed and accorded every courtesy by their hostesses.

**Phosphate Doubles Hay**

Phosphate fertilizer gave very marked results on alfalfa in Lyon county this year, according to County Agent W. A. Peters. Two years ago, fertilizer plots were established on several farms, but no check on results was possible last year because of the extremely dry weather. This year, on one farm, the phosphated plots produced 4,356 pounds of dry hay compared with 2,130 pounds for the unfertilized area, or an increase of 2,226 pounds per acre. This meant more than a ton of alfalfa hay for the cost of 125 pounds of superphosphate, or about \$3. On another farm, the phosphate produced 2,420 pounds of dry hay as compared with 1,139 for the unfertilized area.

**Illustrates Fly Control**

"Fly Control" was the subject of an interesting booth displayed at the Rock county fair by County Agent C. G. Gaylord. A mechanical device swatting an imaginary fly was an effective attention-getter. Signs around the booth walls showed the desirability and methods of controlling flies. To add enthusiasm, a free fly trap was offered to the person most accurately estimating the number of flies displayed in a quart jar. Approximately 400 entries were made, the result being a three-way tie. All three winners were presented with fly traps.

This booth was part of a county-wide project on fly control which Mr. Gaylord introduced in Rock county this year.

**New Farm Garden Film**

"The Farm Garden" is the title of a new film strip announced by the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, Washington, D. C. This strip, consisting of 70 frames, shows the proper methods of locating, planning, planting, and cultivating vegetable gardens on the farm for home use. It may be purchased for 42 cents per copy from Dewey & Dewey, 5716 Thirty-fifth Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, upon authorization by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Lecture notes will be supplied upon request.

**Aided By Publicity**

Reporting that 35 groups had been enrolled for the clothing project in Blue Earth county, Miss Marion Hagstrom added the comment that through publicity a great deal had been accomplished for the organization of this project.

**Costs Cut on Mail Order Test and Farm Records**

TO enable more farmers to have dairy herd records, in spite of low incomes, H. R. Searles has announced that the Statewide Cow Testing association will do bi-monthly testing, in addition to the regular monthly test used for the past 2 years.

Another announcement, made jointly by the Statewide Testing association and the farm management division, is that reduced charges are now offered on a combination rate for the statewide cow testing service and the farm accounts project. This combination rate, of course, applies only in the two areas where the farm accounts project is operating, including one group of counties in southeast and another group in northern Minnesota.

The following table shows the costs of the two testing plans now available from the Statewide Testing association:

	Monthly Plan	Bi-monthly Plan
Per month		
Minimum herd (up to 10 cows) .....	\$ 1.25	
Each cow over 10.....	.08½	
Two months		
Minimum herd (up to 10 cows) .....	\$ 2.50	\$1.50
Each cow over 10.....	.17	.10
Year		
Minimum herd (up to 10 cows) .....	\$15.00	\$9.00
Each cow over 10.....	1.00	.60

Mr. Searles explains that for the bi-monthly plan, the testing date will come midway in the 2-months' period. That is, instead of using the exact calendar month, each test period will be figured back 30 or 31 days and ahead the same number of days from

the testing date. All of the regular services of the Statewide association are available to the bi-monthly members, including the annual herd book.

The combination rate with either plan of testing includes a charge of \$4 a year for the farm accounts service. A man with 10 cows or less, testing on the monthly plan, may have both services for \$16, while on the bi-monthly testing, the same man could secure both services for \$11. Thus the charge for the combined services is only \$1 a year more than the regular price for monthly testing, and only \$2 a year more than the regular price for bi-monthly testing. The \$11 charge for the combined plan under the bi-monthly testing is \$4 a year cheaper than the cost of testing alone by the regular monthly plan.

It is hoped by this combination of rates to enable a larger number of dairy farmers to have the complete records afforded by the two types of record keeping.

**Reed Canary Increases**

Three hundred acres of Reed Canary grass were seeded in Meeker county this year, according to a survey made by R. H. Steidl among seed dealers. This does not take into consideration the seed purchased from outside sources. Mr. Steidl discussed the value and place for using Reed Canary grass at a number of meetings in Meeker county during the spring months. He also published several newspaper articles along the same line. He credits the increased acreage of Reed Canary grass to this publicity.

tively large supply have been well maintained during the past 2 years, indicates that sheep are in as favorable a position as any livestock.

The following table gives data for recent years as to the imports of combing and clothing wool into the United States, and also as to the domestic production:

Year	*Wool Production in U. S. Millions of pounds	†Imports of clothing and combing wool. Millions of pounds
1921.....	235	219
1922.....	221	194
1923.....	225	266
1924.....	235	122
1925.....	252	179
1926.....	269	184
1927.....	290	120
1928.....	314	91
1929.....	327	102
1930.....	351	69
1931.....	369	37
1932.....	342	25 (est.)

\* Data from yearbooks of U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
† Data for 1921 to 1931, inclusive, compiled by Lawrence Myers, junior agricultural economist, U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

**Canadian Debt Acts Shield Farm Debtors**

THE provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta have, in recent years, passed "Debt Adjustment Acts." Under these acts, a creditor is not permitted to take action against a farmer in arrears without first obtaining the consent of the Debt Adjustment Commissioner.

Some of the salient points of the Manitoba law are as follows:

1) The Debt Adjustment Board consists of a Debt Adjustment Commissioner and assistant commissioners appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

2) Upon application of a resident debtor or creditor, the debt adjustment commissioner shall bring together the debtor and his creditors with a view to formulating a plan that is mutually acceptable to debtor and creditor. The commissioner is authorized to inquire into all claims made against the debtor and into his ability to pay his debts, either presently or in the future.

3) An agreement arrived at between the debtor and creditor shall be valid and enforceable at law, although no consideration is involved. Such an agreement may alter, modify or rescind, in whole or in part, the terms of any mortgage, contract or agreement theretofore existing between the parties.

4) If an agreement is not arrived at between a farmer resident and his creditors, or any one of them, the commissioner may determine from time to time a basis on which a farmer debtor ought to pay the claims of his creditors and a creditor accept payment from the resident, and he may, in his discretion, give directions accordingly. If, at the expiration of any such period of time, on a further hearing, it appears that the resident has not complied with the directions, he may, unless in his opinion conditions justify the default, issue a certificate (authorizing foreclosure procedure). He may issue a certificate at any time he deems it necessary to prevent the resident defeating the claims of a creditor.

The act is of interest as showing the approach to the debt problem, that is being made in the prairie provinces of the Dominion.

**Farm Economics**

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

**Slaughter Light Despite Low Livestock Prices**

OCTOBER figures for inspected livestock slaughter in the United States indicate that slaughter of every kind of livestock—cattle, calves, sheep and hogs—was less in October, 1932 than in the like month of 1931. The totals are as follows:

	October, 1932	October, 1931
Cattle .....	694,403	781,453
Calves .....	388,670	406,669
Sheep and lambs ..	1,601,103	1,804,041
Swine .....	3,604,784	3,771,779

In spite of the material decrease in slaughter, prices in October, 1932 were materially less than in October, 1931, as indicated by the following comparison:

	South	St. Paul	Average Prices
	October, 1932	October, 1931	
Feeder and stocker steers ..	\$3.99	\$4.55	
*Slaughter steers and yearlings .....	6.25	6.75	
Hogs .....	3.07	4.60	
*Good to choice slaughter lambs .....	4.75	5.96	

\*Approximates based on bulk prices.  
The fact that, in spite of reduced supplies, prices of all kinds of livestock were lower than a year previous, emphasizes the fact that the present low prices are not due to an increase in the supply as compared to previous years.

A preliminary estimate of the world's 1932 gold output is 23,000,000 ounces, an all-time record.

**Iowa Lease Bulletin**

A recent bulletin worthy of attention by southern and central Minnesota agents is Iowa Station Bulletin 295, "A Plan for Adjusting Cash Rent to Changes in the Prices of Farm Products," by Millard Peck. He outlines in detail a plan for basing cash rents on the price of farm products. He suggests using the index of prices of farm products published monthly by the Iowa Experiment Station as a basis for adjusting the rent upward or downward as the price situation may demand.

**Wool Production and Imports Show Decline**

DURING 1932 there have been practically no imports of clothing and combing wool. Imports have steadily declined since 1923, when they were 266 million pounds and home production was 225 millions. While imports have declined almost to the vanishing point, home production rose from 225 million pounds in 1923 to 369 in 1931.

In 1932, production dropped about 7 per cent, or from 369 to 342 million pounds. It is evident that if there should be sufficient revival of activity in woolen mills, so that domestic production was materially less than manufacture, with tariff at its present level of 32 cents per pound (scoured basis), the price of wool could have a very substantial advance over present levels. This, together with the fact that lamb prices in spite of a rela-