



Minnesota Extension News

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No. 8

Survey Finds Home Work Reaches Active Women

THAT home demonstration work is reaching busy, active homemakers who are in position to apply the knowledge gained in the various projects, such as clothing, nutrition, poultry, home management, and child development, is shown conclusively in a census made last fall in 21 counties where such projects were under way. The 5,279 women enrolled were classified according to age, in a survey directed by Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader.

Ninety-two out of every 100 women in the entire group were between the ages of 20 and 54 years, 85 per cent being between 20 and 49 years, and 66 per cent between 25 and 44 years. The largest single age-group, numbering 1,012 women, was that from 35 to 39 years inclusive, almost 20 per cent. Nearly as many, 918, were in the group of from 30 to 34 years. The complete tabulation follows:

Age	Number	Per cent of total
Under 20	177	3.35
20-24	482	9.13
25-29	732	13.86
30-34	918	17.42
35-39	1,012	19.17
40-44	821	15.55
45-49	515	9.76
50-54	375	7.12
55-59	133	2.51
60-64	71	1.34
65-69	33	.62
70 or over	10	.19

Send In Your Topics For Garden Article Series

MORE than 650 requests from individuals for the garden planting table offered in the garden articles by A. E. Hutchins, being run in the Weekly News Letter, show the great popularity of this series with country newspaper readers throughout Minnesota. During the next several weeks, Mr. Hutchins plans to deal with some of the more common vegetable insects, the control of which will also avoid many garden diseases. Mr. Hutchins will be glad to have suggestions from county agents, home demonstration agents, or other extension workers, on topics that might be covered to advantage, either in this series, or in separate articles. Write him, if you wish to offer suggestions.

Weed Rigs Spray Orchards

More and better fruit tree spraying in Redwood county is one outgrowth of the co-operative weed control campaign originated there and conducted for the last 3 or 4 years. Nate H. Bovee, county agent, says arrangements were made in March for community fruit tree spraying by the man who operates the county weed sprayer. Some several thousand trees were sprayed with this outfit last year, he said, and it is expected that the number will be quite materially increased this year. Likewise two of the township sprayers have done some community orchard spraying.

Peck Takes Year's Leave to Become "Co-operative Loan Commissioner"

CALLED to occupy one of the most important posts in the new federal farm credit administration, Director F. W. Peck has taken a year's leave from his duties with the Agricultural Extension Division. He left St. Paul, April 22, taking up his new duties at Washington, Monday, April 24.

Mr. Peck will have charge of making government loans to co-operative farm associations, working directly under Henry Morgenthau, chairman of the federal farm board, who will become governor of farm credit administration when President Roosevelt's order for consolidation of farm credit activities takes effect this month. Mr. Peck will have the title of "co-operative loan commissioner" and will be one of four such commissioners in the farm credit administration.

It is understood that Mr. Peck will supervise duties hitherto amounting to the major function of the federal farm board in issuing loans to co-operative associations of farmers. The loans are covered by elevators, buildings and other physical properties owned by the co-operatives. The work is of paramount importance to co-operatives seeking government loans, and it is understood Mr. Peck will have the final say on such credit extensions.

The entire state extension staff and a large number of county workers were present at a farewell party for the Pecks on the evening of April 15. The event was held at the Minnesota Union, with W. P. Kirkwood presiding over a hilarious program. A handsome Gladstone bag for Mr. Peck and flowers for Mrs. Peck were gifts of the extension folks.

Mrs. Peck and the two Peck daughters will remain in St. Paul until June, according to plans. As yet, no appointee to take over Mr. Peck's duties while he is away has been announced.

Article By Cooke

Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist, is the author of the leading feature article in The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home of April 15. The article reviews results secured last year by co-operators in the poultry sanitation project, of which there were about 200 in nine counties.

Miss Monson's Father Dies

Miss Hazel Monson, clerical assistant in the director's office, was called home recently on account of the sudden death of her father, April 21, at Wabkon, Minnesota. To Miss Monson and her family we extend the sympathy and condolences of the extension staff.

Silcox Wins Ph.D.

Taking his final examination, April 15, at Madison, W. Bruce Silcox, extension marketing specialist, has completed work for his Ph.D. in agricultural economics and will receive the degree at the June commencement of the University of Wisconsin.

Previous to taking up his present position in Minnesota, October 1, 1930, Mr. Silcox spent 3 years at the University of Wisconsin studying agricultural economics and assisting on the university staff in teaching and research. His doctor's thesis, "An Economic Analysis of the Foreign Type Cheese Industry in Wisconsin," has already been published in part as Wisconsin bulletin 103.

Coming Events*

- May 11-13, 1933—Editors' Short Course
- June 1-September 30, 1933—World's Fair, Chicago
- June 6-9, 1933—Northwest Junior Short Course, Crookston
- June 12-16, 1933—State Junior Short Course
- June 15, 1933—Cattle Feeders' Day
- June 15-17, 1933—West Central Junior Short Course, Morris
- September 2-9, 1933—Minnesota State Fair
- October 2-8, 1933—Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo

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

Van Meter Quits Steele; Post Taken By Fischer

R. A. Fischer became county agent in Steele county about the middle of April, succeeding Henry A. Van Metre, who resigned after nearly 3 years of service at Owatonna. Mr. Van Metre has become manager of the Waseca county farm bureau service. Particularly outstanding in Mr. Van Metre's work in Steele was his promotion of 4-H clubs and the Redwood county weed plan. He gave excellent co-operation also in the farm record service of the experiment station, in the county-wide dairy committee work, and in township organization.

Mr. Fischer, since graduating from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1925, has been county agent in Nicollet and Jackson, giving much time to 4-H work in both counties. While he was in Nicollet, a special 4-H club building was erected on the fair grounds and he has an enviable record for coaching 4-H club members to state championships.

Farm reared in Renville county and having specialized in dairy work in college, Mr. Fischer is especially well suited to the agent work in Steele county. Jackson county's second year of the weed project was completed under his direction, and that experience will aid him much in continuing the project in Steele this year.

Bulletin On Farm Water And Sewage Systems

DR. R. A. GORTNER, chief in agricultural biochemistry, University Farm, calls the attention of county agents to a bulletin on "Water Supplies and Sewage Systems for Country Homes," issued by the Division of Sanitation, State Board of Health, Public Health Building, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Says Dr. Gortner, "I feel that if county agents and extension workers were familiar with the information in this bulletin, they could give a great deal of very useful advice to their clientele. This bulletin can be obtained free by anyone wishing to secure it, and in many instances contains exactly the information which the farmer wishes in regard to how to construct septic tanks, etc., and also how to determine from the lay of the land whether or not the well is likely to be contaminated with drainage from farm buildings, barn-yards, etc., and if there is such contamination, how the well may be satisfactorily disinfected and the water then used for domestic purposes. It certainly is a bulletin that ought to be in the file of every county agent, and also in the file of every teacher who is teaching agriculture in high schools."

Want Good Potato Seed

F. L. Liebenstein, Mower county agent, had orders from six different farmers in March for 365 bushels of seed potatoes to be obtained from northern Minnesota, some orders being for certified seed.



MR. PECK

Minnesota Extension News

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MAY, 1933

County Dairy Groups on Right Track, Says Searles

"COUNTY-WIDE dairy committees, organized during the past 2 years in Goodhue, Nicollet, Freeborn, Steele, Dakota and Winona counties, are moving along rather slowly," according to H. R. Searles, extension dairyman. "In a few counties, very little action has been taken outside of roughly outlining a program. It is unfortunate, perhaps, when counties start a program and find it impossible to carry on.

"Thorfinnson reports some local work being done in various communities of Goodhue county. Last year a tremendous increase was secured in emergency hay and pasture, a part of which will probably carry over into this year. A considerable number of bulls were placed on contract following the publicity given by the committee to this type of bull ownership. An attempt is being made to further the development of the local committees and help them with their plans of work for the coming year.

"Nicollet county is actively carrying on the survey work in some communities whereby they are getting a complete picture of the dairy industry in those communities. They sponsored three dairy institutes this spring. Here again, considerable work remains to be done in organizing local communities.

"In Freeborn county, work is being carried on to a larger extent than in any of the other counties through the cooperative creameries. Secretaries were brought together for one or two meetings to talk over their organization and bookkeeping problems, and the chances are that these county secretary meetings will become a permanent feature of the dairy development program in Freeborn county, a move that may have far-reaching effects on the future development of cooperative butter marketing in the county."

Though it is regrettable that conditions do not favor more active work at this time, these county committees are undoubtedly a step in the right direction, says Searles.

Diane Fischer Arrives

Announcements received at University Farm, early in April, heralded the arrival, on March 31, 1933, of Diane Elizabeth Fischer, at the home of County Agent and Mrs. R. A. Fischer of Steele county.

Home Management Adds Record-Keeping Phase

KEEPING home accounts has become part of the household activities in about 60 homes in Faribault and Rice counties this year. Thirty-one women in Rice county have enrolled under the home demonstration agent, Miss Gwendolyn A. Watts, in pursuing household accounts. Miss Mary May Miller, home management specialist, will assist Miss Watts with conferences concerning the accounts kept. Most of the women will record food and clothing expenditures and home-produced material, in addition to the home account record.

In Faribault county, 28 township chairmen have enrolled for the special project. Twenty-two of the 28 will keep cash, clothing and food records; the other six will have a choice of the three plans.

From time to time, the home demonstration agents will call on the women to assist them with any problems that arise. At intervals, the home management specialist will meet with the agents and the women.

Home accounts has been inserted as a regular part of the home management project, and will be introduced in Hennepin and Brown counties this fall. With reduced incomes there is renewed interest in home accounts to show wise expenditures and detect the leaks. Special leaflets have been prepared for keeping household accounts. The nutrition and clothing specialists have prepared sheets for food and clothing records. Summaries will be made of the records at the close of the year, to provide a basis for next year's work, Miss Miller says.

Cottonwood 'In-Betweens' Organize For Study

THIRTY-SEVEN farm boys of Cottonwood county, keeping farm records or personal expense accounts, were individually visited during March by W. D. Stegner, district club agent, and W. A. Dickinson, county agent, who audited the record books.

On the evening of March 28, a "Scotch banquet" was arranged for these and other young men and women who are or soon will be too old for 4-H club work. Each of the 85 attending contributed to the meal, which was served with paper plates, milk bottles for cups, and wrapping paper for table covering to avoid dish-washing.

Peppy community singing, 3-minute speeches, a comic debate, stunts, and short talks by the Farm Bureau president, the home chairman, and Mr. Stegner comprised the main program, after which the young people were assembled in separate groups for instruction. Farm accounting and community projects were discussed with the boys' group, while the girls discussed home projects, led by Miss Irene Hanson, club leader, and Mrs. W. A. Dickinson. Both groups agreed that they wished to take up projects and have joint meetings every other month. The girls planned to meet in sectional groups once a month to study home management.

Hold Barley Conference

About 100 farmers, elevator men, and county agents of Martin county and surrounding territory received information relative to the growing,

handling, and marketing of barley at a Barley Day Conference sponsored by the Martin County Crop Improvement association at Fairmont, in March. A. R. Karr, county agent, says 45 samples of barley were brought to the meeting and graded by a representative from the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. Speakers included R. F. Crim, extension agronomist; Dr. J. J. Christensen, of the University Farm plant pathology department; Evan Hall of the Milwaukee Railroad; and R. H. Black, in charge of federal grain inspection work in Minnesota.

Institute-Type Meetings Prove Most Successful

SOME significant facts for county agents are given in a summary by E. A. Hanson of the dairy and economic institutes and other special and general dairy meetings held the last 2 years. In 1931-32, 44 dairy and economic institutes were held in 23 counties, total attendance 2,060, average 46. In 1932-33, 28 institutes, 11 counties, total attendance 3,000, average 75. "This increase in attendance is certainly encouraging," says Mr. Hanson.

Little difference was noted between last year and this year in the special and general dairy meetings which Mr. Hanson attended alone. Last year there were 20 meetings in 12 counties, total attendance 990, average 49. This year, 28 meetings in 14 counties, attendance, 1,123, average 40.

It is readily seen, Mr. Hanson says, that the diversity of subject matter offered at the institute type of meeting attracts a larger attendance than would either line of subject matter alone. Experience has shown, he says, that the institute type of meeting lends itself to more effective publicity and finds local people more ready to co-operate in arrangements, in providing free lunches, and in other ways. He further recommends that agents begin their institutes at 11 o'clock, if possible having free lunch at noon, and continuing the meeting to 3 or 4 o'clock. Though some agents are reluctant to ask local business men to provide free lunches, those who did so this year not only had well-attended meetings, but also found the business men glad to extend their help and very much gratified by the response from the farm people.

Mr. Hanson points out that at 10 institutes, which began at 11 o'clock and included a free lunch, there was an average attendance of 148. Eighteen institutes which began in the afternoon, with no free lunch, averaged only 34.

Denner Farm Appraiser

S. G. Denner, recently Fillmore county agent, has been appointed farm appraiser with the Federal Land Bank of St. Paul to work in southeastern Minnesota.

Fergus Farmers Feted

West Ottertail's most unique meeting for March was held at Fergus Falls when the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs united at a noon meeting, each member inviting a farmer guest. One hundred ten persons attended, W. Bruce Silcox, marketing specialist, being the speaker. C. M. Kelehan, county agent, says everyone enjoyed the meeting.

Do You Want Publicity Calendars Continued?

DO county extension agents want the "publicity suggestion calendar" continued? The state extension staff would like to know before going ahead on a calendar to succeed the one issued for April, May, and June.

A few comments have been received, all favorable, but we would like to hear from more agents. R. C. Shaw, Koochiching county agent, one of the first to comment, wrote: "Permit me to thank you for the publicity suggestion calendar. This will fill a long felt want and I am certain we can make much good use of this material."

Let's hear from other agents. How do you like this calendar, what use have you made of it, and what are your suggestions for improving succeeding issues, if any?

Stock Contests Open

Extension specialists H. G. Zavoral and W. E. Morris would like to remind county agents and club leaders that May is the last month for entries in the Minnesota ton litter, lamb production, and 10-ewe contests. Rules for the two sheep contests are the same as last year, but the ton litter race is open only to 4-H members.

Poultry Project Results

A postal card questionnaire, addressed to persons who attended the open meetings in the poultry project in Goodhue county, brought out that through the project 107 feeders had been made, 78 flock owners were feeding mash, and 58 had made other improvements.

Office for Seed Display

West Polk farmers with seed for sale used the county agent's office during March as a display room for samples. At the time Agent Carl G. Ash wrote his March report, he said there were 17 samples of wheat, oats, barley, flax and corn on display. Several hundred bushels had been sold.

Chick Men Like Sanitation

Steele county hatcherymen are heartily in favor of the chick sanitation project being put on there this year by Miss Gladys M. Johnson, home demonstration agent, with the co-operation of Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist. Miss Johnson says that she has interviewed the hatcherymen, who heartily approve the sanitation way and recommend it to patrons.

Gardeners Study Plants

For their meetings this summer women of the home demonstration garden project in Barber township, Faribault county, have hit upon an interesting scheme. The chairman gave the name of one flower and two vegetables to each member who is to find out all she can about the propagation and use of the assigned plants, including attractive ways of cooking the vegetables. These reports will be heard at meetings, says Miss Helen Kallenberg, home demonstration agent.

Morris' Have Daughter

W. E. Morris, extension livestock specialist, and Mrs. Morris, announce the recent addition of a baby girl to their home circle. What name the young Miss will answer to had not been decided at this writing.



Minnesota Delegates Selected for National 4-H Club Camp, Washington

GERTRUDE ESTEROS, St. Louis county; Esther Erdahl, Faribault county; Allan Hoff, West Ottertail; and Werner Stegemann, Rock, have been selected to represent Minnesota at the National 4-H Camp at Washington, D. C., June 14 to 20. These four young people have the longest record in 4-H work of any Minnesota group so far selected for the National Camp. Gertrude has a record of 9 years, Allan and Esther each have 8, and Werner 7 years in 4-H work. Each has made an outstanding record in project achievements, both on a county and statewide basis.

Alternates selected are: Lois Klingbeil, Steele county; Junetta Hanson, Nicollet; Adrian Ries, Winona, and Stanley Sather, Lac qui Parle.

These outstanding honors are awarded on the basis of project achievements, leadership records and general 4-H club activities.

Dress Revue Queen Race New Event for 4-H Girls

A STATEWIDE Dress Revue Queen contest will be a big, new 4-H club feature this year open to all 4-H girls. The state finals will be held at the Minnesota State Fair with all county dress revue queens competing. The state winner will be known as Miss 4-H Minnesota, receiving a free trip to the National Club Congress at Chicago to enter the national contest. Each girl entering must make the garments in which she competes and select the accessories as a part of the current year's club work.

County queens shall be picked as follows: Each local 4-H club shall select a queen and two attendants to enter the county contest at the county fair. At the county contest, the girl receiving the highest score shall be made county queen and the two girls scoring next highest shall be attendants. Contestants may compete in any of four classes: cotton or linen school dress, tailored wool dress or suit, semi-tailored silk or rayon dress, or informal party dress of cotton, silk or rayon. Each contestant must submit a personal record and also a clothing record sheet, giving details about her outfit. Judging will be on the basis used for the regular 4-H style dress revue.

In addition to picking the state winner at the state contest, the 15 girls scoring next highest will be made attendants and given suitable recognition, according to present plans.

Koochiching Fair Has Unique Admission Plan

FREE admissions to the county fair will be granted to Koochiching county boys and girls who present evidence at the gate of having done one of the following: 1) Carried a 4-H project; 2) planted one or more native plum trees, on which has been grafted scions of improved Minnesota plums; 3) Cleaned the home yard and planted one or more native trees or shrubs; 4) Brought to the teacher, 12 or more noxious weeds dug out with roots.

Will Repeat Contest For Better-Groomed-Girl

THE Better-Groomed-Girl contest, held for the first time last year, in connection with the State Junior Short Course at University Farm, will be repeated this year. Each county is to report its contestant to the State Club Office, on or before June 12. Similar contests will also be held in connection with the short courses at Morris and Crookston.

The purpose of the contest is to have the girls dressed and groomed as we think a 4-H club girl should dress and appear while attending the junior short course. Each county may select one contestant. It is recommended that the county candidate be a clothing club member.

The contestants will be judged throughout the entire short course period on their personal grooming, dress, shoes, hose, accessories and general impressions. The latter includes posture, attitude and naturalness. Taking part in the contest does not necessitate securing a new outfit and, in fact, it should be discouraged. Prizes will be awarded to the high-scoring contestants.

Temporary Club Agents Help in 25 Counties

THE following have engaged 4-H club leaders, who started their work, April 1, in their respective counties:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Nicollet and Scott
Martin and Watonwan
Murray and Pipestone
Houston
Stearns
Cottonwood
Winona
Redwood
Washington
Crow Wing
Morrison
Beltrami
Goodhue | Evelyn Bierbaum
Josephine Seymour
Esther Peter
Marjorie Perrizo
Lola Runck
Irene Hanson
Leona Kilbourne
Hilda Bartelt
Alma Josephson
Mae Stephenson
Gertrude Anderson
Lily Drews
Lillian Wilson
(started April 15)
Clara M. Oberg
(started March 1) |
|--|--|

Non-Agent Counties

- | | |
|---|---|
| Isanti and Kanabec
Pope and Swift
Traverse and Grant
Douglas
McLeod | W. H. Turner
Robert Jacobs
Glenn Richards
Ed Meade
Everett Oleson |
|---|---|

In counties receiving federal aid, the agreement with the club leader runs only to July 1. Continuance of the work after July 1 will depend upon available aid.

Set Canning Regulations

IN a conference recently held with the state bacteriologist, Mr. Bacha, the following statements relative to canning methods were adopted:

1. The Minnesota State Bacteriology and Canning division allow the canning of non-acid vegetables and meats under pressure only. The water bath method of canning is not recommended for non-acid vegetables, meats and fish.
2. If the use of a pressure cooker is not possible, the essential steps in the water-bath method of processing should be followed very carefully and the full period of time allowed for processing. Begin counting time for processing when the water is really boiling (bubbling vigorously). A good thermometer is desirable.
3. To insure safety, all canned non-acid vegetables and meats should be removed from the cans and boiled in an open vessel for 10 minutes before they are tasted, or the center of the food must be at boiling temperature.

Minnesota 4-H'ers Win In Farm Record Contest

THE International Harvester Company, Chicago, has conducted a contest for 4-H club members in keeping farm records. The following from Minnesota were winners:

Helen Griffin, East Ottertail county, \$50 cash, second in the crop cost record contest on the growing of potatoes.

The following members were winners with their records showing the cost of growing corn:

Ralph Slaughter, Faribault county, \$10; Verner Stegeman, Rock county; Ernest Stanford, Blue Earth; Vernon Baldwin, Freeborn; John C. Franklin, Faribault; and Mabel Lohmann, Goodhue county, each \$5.

Norman Goodwin, Mower county, \$5, for record on cost of growing wheat.

John C. Franklin, Faribault county and Mabel Lohmann, Goodhue county, each won \$5 on accounts in general farming.

Sample Program for May

- Club pledge, by a junior leader
- Roll call: Name one means of helping to preserve wild life in our community and state
- Minutes of last meeting
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Committee reports
- Program:
 - Song—4-H Friendship, by club
 - Demonstration—Judging club girl's wash school outfit, by older club girl or leader
 - Demonstration—Transplanting cabbage, tomato, and other plants
 - Story of song—"Comin' Thru the Rye"
 - Song—"Comin' Thru the Rye," by group
 - Talk—Timely topics and announcements, including Style Dress Revue plans and county Home Economics Achievement Days, by adult leader or extension agent
 - Musical number, by club member
 - Talk—Posture—Importance of Good Posture and Ways of Improving Posture, by club member
 - Song—"Come on You Club Girls," by group

4-H Health Movies

MOTION picture films and film strips may be secured from the Metropolitan Life Insurance company of New York City. The only cost is the transportation charges. These are one-reel films, excellent for emphasizing health work. The following are some of the subjects available:

- "Working for Dear Life"
- "Too Many Pounds"
- "Man Against Microbe"
- "Lives of Pasteur, Trudeau, Reed, Nightingale, and Koch"
- "The Conquest of Diphtheria"

New 4-H Club Literature

Extension agents and leaders should be sure to use the following 4-H circulars and bulletins, recently issued: Canning Project—Bulletin 17; Club literature order blank, Form B8; Ton litter outline, Form BP2; Minnesota Plan for Rating a 4-H Club, Form B7; Bread Making Project, Bulletin 8; and A Progress Record Chart for agent's office.

Still newer literature includes: A new 4-H club secretary's record book; a new leader's manual; circular on cooperation essays; circular announcing 4-H style dress revue queen contest; four-H club rating sheet; a new 4-H canning bulletin.

Reminders

HAVE you reported your trip winners to the State Junior Short Course? These are due at the State Club Office not later than May 10.

THE new 4-H club secretary's record book is now ready for distribution. Each county should order enough to supply one to each club.

IF your county is planning on putting up a club booth at the State Fair, have you notified the club department of that fact and requested space?

ARE you encouraging your 4-H club members to participate in the contest on cooperation? All junior leaders, especially, should be urged to enter this contest.

Inexpensive Books for 4-H Club Libraries

G. L. NOBLE of the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work, 430 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, reports that, through a special arrangement with the publishers, he is prepared to furnish books from the Jacket Library set for 12.5 cents per copy, F.O.B. shipping point.

Perhaps some 4-H clubs might be interested in starting a library, adding books as they can. As an illustration of what books may be secured, the following set of 12 may be purchased for \$1.50:

- "Treasure Island," by Robert Louis Stevenson;
- "The New Testament,"
- "Green Mansions," by W. H. Hudson;
- "The Way of All Flesh," by Samuel Butler;
- "The Merchant of Venice," by Shakespeare;
- "Emerson's Essays," by Ralph Waldo Emerson;
- "Pere Goriot," by Balzac;
- "Alice in Wonderland," by Lewis Carroll;
- "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer," by Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain);
- "Tales of Sherlock Holmes," by A. Conan Doyle;
- "Under the Greenwood Tree," by Thomas Hardy;
- "The Golden Treasury of Song and Verse," by Francis Palgrave.

Permanent record cards should be used for all 4-H club members.

Dairymen Honored as Guests of Businessmen

ONCE each year the Kiwanis Club of Morris entertains dairy herd improvement association members and other prominent dairymen of Stevens county at a supper. About 30 farmers, guests of as many businessmen, attended one of these enjoyable events, April 13. County Agent F. A. Douglass had charge. H. R. Searles, extension dairy specialist, spoke. The dairymen plan to invite the Kiwanians to a picnic next summer. Following the dinner and short program, the dairy herd improvement association reorganized.

A recent big dairy event for Goodhue county was the Kiwanis Dairy Dinner, at Red Wing, March 23, given in honor of cow testing association members who had earned ribbons of merit and honor roll diplomas, says M. A. Thorfinnson, county agent. The ribbons of merit were presented for The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home by Berry Akers, managing editor, while the honor roll diplomas were presented by C. C. Geddes of the dairy herd improvement staff, University Farm. About 25 of the 40 farmers who had earned these awards were present. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the meeting, says Mr. Thorfinnson, and at the close the Kiwanians voted to invite the dairymen again next year.

Poultry Day Calls 500 Farmers To Mankato

FIVE HUNDRED Blue Earth county farmers attended the first Mankato Poultry Day program at the Mankato Armory, March 29, sponsored by eight local milling, hatchery, implement, remedy, and packing companies. L. E. McMillan, county agent, was master of ceremonies. Speakers included Professor A. C. Smith, chief of the poultry division, University Farm; W. K. Dyer, executive-secretary of the Minnesota Poultry Improvement Board; W. H. Kircher, poultry editor of The Farmer's Wife; Miss Clara E. Farstad, Blue Earth home demonstration agent; George Dibble, Owatonna, representing the Salsbery Remedy Company; and A. B. Rayburn, representing the Iodine Educational Bureau.

Orchestra music enlivened the program, while a loud-speaking system, donated by a local music company, carried the speaking clearly to all the listeners. A free lunch was served by local firms.

Hold Horse Hitch School

Seven county agents, C. M. Kelehan, F. A. Douglass, O. R. Grover, F. D. Svoboda, E. C. Lenzmeier, John Grathwol, and R. H. Steidl, attended a horse hitch training school, conducted by A. L. Harvey and W. E. Morris, at the West Central School at Morris, April 7.

Each man brought material for a set of eveners and ropes for "bucking back" and "tying in." During the forenoon, each agent made equipment for a 5- and 6-horse hitch. In the afternoon they hitched 5- and 6-horse teams, using the equipment made. These agents will promote the more general use of such equipment throughout the year.

Another such school at Crookston in June, will be conducted by H. G. Zavoral.

Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

Farm Finance an Extension Opportunity

ONE field in which extension workers can render decided assistance to farmers is in acquainting them, through meetings and otherwise, with the provisions of recent and prospective legislation relating to the adjustment and refinancing of farm debts. It would appear to be well worth while to have one or more such meetings in each county.

Among the measures passed are an amendment to the Federal Bankruptcy Act, Public document 420, 72nd Congress, for the appointment of a conciliation commissioner in any county where 15 farmers signify their intention to make use of the act and pay a \$10 application fee. The law provides that time and method of payment of secured debts may be extended, but apparently does not permit any scaling-down of debts secured by real estate or chattel mortgage. Unsecured debts apparently may be scaled down, if it appears impossible to pay them. Any arrangement made under this law must have the written approval of a majority of the creditors, both as to number and amount of claims.

Except upon petition made to and granted by the judge, after hearing and report by the conciliation commissioner, the following proceedings shall not be instituted at any time after the filing of the petition and prior to the confirmation or other disposition of the extension proposal by the court: 1) Proceedings for any debt or account; 2) Proceedings for foreclosure of a mortgage on land or cancellation of a land sale contract; 3) Proceedings to acquire title to land by virtue of any tax sale; 4) Proceedings by way of execution, attachment or garnishment.

If the creditors at any time desire supervision over the farming operations of the farmer, the cost of such supervision shall be borne by such creditors, or by the farmer, as may be agreed upon, but in no instance shall the farmer be required to pay more than one-half the cost of such supervision.

It is likely that occasional farmers would find it advantageous to come under the act. The act has been designed with a view to providing an inexpensive, but fair, way of doing justice between debtor and creditor. It is designed particularly for those cases where the individuals appear to have a good chance of working out of their financial difficulties, if given reasonable time and consideration.

Refinancing Measures

The Agricultural Relief Bill, H. R. 3835, (Report No. 16) as at present constituted (April 21), carries three general headings: 1) Price-raising measures; 2) Refinancing of agricultural indebtedness; 3) Monetary changes designed to bring about controlled inflation.

The bill may be enacted into law before this article appears in print.

The following are some of the salient features of the refinancing proposals:

1. Federal Land Banks may issue up to \$2,000,000,000 of bonds and the United States will guarantee the payment of interest on such bonds, but not the principal. The proceeds of these bonds are to be used to refinance mortgages, or to make new loans. Said loans shall not exceed 50 per cent of the value of the land and 20 per cent of the permanent insured improvements. In no case, shall loans be granted to excess of the unpaid prin-

cipal of the mortgage at date it is purchased by the Federal Land Bank.

The interest rate on such mortgages shall be 4½ per cent. Furthermore, the interest rate on all outstanding Federal Land Bank mortgages is reduced to 4½ per cent for a 1 interest payments coming due within 5 years. No payment on principal of any loan shall be required during such 5-year period, if the borrower shall not be in default.

2. Direct loans are authorized where no local Federal Land Bank association is functioning in the territory within which the applicant lives. Such borrowers must pay an extra one-half per cent interest and take out capital stock to the extent of \$50 per \$1,000, the same as do members of the local associations. The borrower will automatically become a member of the local Federal Land Bank association, if one becomes available for the territory in question.

3. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to advance \$200,000,000 to the Federal Farm Loan Commissioner on first or second mortgage, personal property of farmers, or crop. The loan shall not exceed 75 per cent of the normal value of the security, or be in excess of \$5,000. Interest rate is not to exceed 5 per cent per annum; the loan is to amortize in 10 years or less, but no payment on principal may be required during the first 3 years. Loans under this section shall be made only for the following purposes:

a) Refinancing any indebtedness, secured or unsecured of the farmer; b) Providing working capital for his farm operations; c) enabling any farmer to redeem or repurchase farm property owned by him and occupied as a home prior to foreclosure and which has been foreclosed within one year prior to the approval of this act, or which is foreclosed after the approval of this act.

It is evident that these Reconstruction Finance Loans are intended for worthy individuals who cannot cover all of their needs with a Federal Land Bank loan.

Tariffs And Farm Prices

"How Tariffs Affect Farm Prices" is the title of an excellent 20-page bulletin, published by the Iowa State College of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa. The author is Theodore W. Schultz.

The bulletin is written in popular style and could well form the basis of discussions led by local people in farm bureau units and other neighborhood groups.

Southeast Study Gives Facts About Turkey

ACCORDING to W. P. Ranney and Dr. G. A. Pond, the average amounts of feed required to produce 100 pounds of gain on turkeys for six cooperators in 1931 and five in 1932, in the Southeast Minnesota Farm Management service, were as follows:

Kind	Amount pounds
Corn	240
Small Grain	227
Tankage and Meat Scraps	28
Other Commercial Feeds	79
Total Concentrates	574
Skim milk	298

The average pounds of turkey produced per farm was 2,407 in 1931 and 7,452 in 1932.

In 1931, the return per 100 pounds gain over feed cost was \$14.28 and in 1932 it was \$7.12. The average price received (live weight) in 1931 was \$24 per pound and in 1932, \$14.

In 1932, hogs on the farms of 14 Southeast Minnesota cooperators required per 100 pounds of gain, 43 pounds of grain, 3 pounds of tankage and 481 pounds of skim milk. A comparison of the two figures indicates that the turkeys required about 1 per cent more total digestible nutrients per 100 pounds of gain than did the hogs.

Turkeys Like Hogs

Turkeys are similar to hogs in that the feed is largely grain and in that (for persons who use the necessary technique) they can be handled on a large scale with a comparatively small investment in equipment. Obviously the labor requirements are much higher with turkeys, although no data are available on this point. One cooperator eliminated his spring pig crop of 1932 and expanded his turkey production to a total of 11,952 pounds. It is obvious that there is an opportunity for only an occasional farmer to do this without complete demoralization of the turkey market.

In cases where small flocks of poultry are cared for largely by women and children, turkeys and chickens are to some extent alternative enterprises. For the year 1932, the average return above feed cost on 142 southeast Minnesota farms was \$.81 per hen (including accompanying young stock). In the case of these cooperators, it required approximately seven turkeys to equal 100 pounds. On this basis, a return above feed cost of \$7.12 per 100 pounds of turkey would be \$1.02 per turkey raised. The labor requirement in the case of ordinary farm flocks of chickens was probably considerably higher than that for small flocks of turkeys.

Alternative with Chickens

If one considers the raising of chickens for meat and of turkeys as alternative enterprises, the question of the comparative cost for breeding stock is an item of some importance. It may be assumed that in each case the price of turkey poults and baby chicks covers this item. If one assumes that turkey poults are worth \$.30 and heavy chickens 7 cents, and that market turkeys weight 12.5 pounds and market chickens 4.5 pounds,—then for turkeys the overhead for breeding and hatching would be 2.4 cents per pound of product and 1.6 cents for chickens.

With a further marked increase in turkey production, it is possible that turkeys might sell but little above the price of heavy chickens.