

# THE VISITOR

Devoted to the Interests of Agriculture, Manual Training, and Home Economics in Minnesota High Schools

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## STATE JUDGING CONTESTS

In the April, 1915, number of the Visitor it was suggested that it might be desirable to organize the grain- and stock-judging contests now being held among groups of schools throughout the state on a state wide basis. In the article some of the advantages offered by this organization were pointed out, and instructors who were interested were invited to send plans and opinions to the Visitor for publication. In view of the indorsement of this suggestion by a resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Association of Agricultural Instructors, the Visitor renews its invitation to instructors interested. The division of agricultural education, University Farm, will be glad to lend any aid possible in perfecting suitable plans.

## CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS PLANNED

The annual summer conference of the high-school agricultural instructors, which has been held formerly during the last week of the College of Agriculture's Summer Session will be held the week following the Summer Session this year. This change has been made so that the college faculty members may have more time available to help in this conference, and that the agricultural instructors may be permitted to benefit from the Rural-Life Conference, which will be in session at the same time. It is felt that acquaintance with the instructors and the leaders of the rural life movement will be mutually beneficial. This conference has always been particularly valuable, coming as it does just before the opening of a new year's work. It is particularly desirable that all teachers of agriculture who are newcomers in the state attend, so that they may have opportunity of familiarizing themselves with the conditions surrounding the work in the Minnesota schools. This lack of knowledge of local conditions has been one of the greatest handicaps with which new men have had to contend in the past. The program will follow much the same lines as in the past, part of the time being given to technical agricultural work related to Minnesota conditions and part to conferences upon problems relating to the professional side of the instructors' work.

## WEEK TO BE GIVEN RURAL CONFERENCE

The week of July 25 to 28, following the close of the Summer Session will be given to the Rural-Life Conference at University Farm, St. Paul. The Department of Agriculture of the University offers the use of its buildings, equipment and instructional staff for the advancement of the interests of the conference.

Country people are organizing clubs, societies and other associations directed toward the improvement of social conditions. The older religious and social agencies are taking an active interest in this movement. This week offers opportunity for all interested in these country church and social problems to get together and profit by the exchange of experiences. The conference is strictly non-denominational and it is hoped that pastors of rural and village churches will plan to attend.

The college dormitories, fully furnished, will be open to those attending and to their families, and meals will be served in the Dining Hall. A moderate charge will be made those living in the dormitories for board and room.

Charles Otis Gill, who has directed the recent rural survey of Ohio, will be at the conference. Consideration of Minnesota conditions in the light of this survey will occupy part of the time of the conference and the desirability of a similar survey for Minnesota will be discussed.

## MANY TEACHERS ARE AT SPRING MEETING

A list of the teachers who attended the spring meeting of the Minnesota Agricultural Instructors' Association at University Farm, St. Paul, March 30 to April 1, follows:

E. D. Ayers, Pine City; D. Frank

Adams, Fairfax; R. A. Brown, Lakefield; F. J. Brown, Luverne; H. L. Borst, Shakopee; W. O. Brant, Stillwater; R. O. Bridgford, Grove City; O. Clement Croy, Fergus Falls; W. J. Corwin, Grand Rapids; S. A. Colliver, Sandstone; J. J. Doerschuk, Long Prairie; Sherman Dickinson, Minneapolis; W. K. Dyer, Olivia; Paul E. Derby, Red Wing; G. S. Ellis, Stewartville; W. L. French, Austin; P. V. Finley, Redwood Falls; L. H. Fudge, Sleepy Eye; F. L. French, Stewart; W. H. Gustafson, Montevideo; Roy H. Giberson, Mora; F. L. Gerten, South St. Paul; W. E. Hedgcock, Albert Lea; E. G. Hibbs, Albert Lea; R. A. Humphrey, Chatfield; L. A. Henke, Elbow Lake; A. J. Herbolzheimer, Glencoe; L. O. Jacob, Anoka; P. O. Johnson, Dassel; J. S. Jones, Madison; P. I. Johnsrud; James Kline, Detroit; O. M. Kiser, Hector; Franz Krause, Renville; F. E. Knock, Wheaton; J. W. Lawton, Dawson; A. H. Larson, Little Falls; C. E. Lyness, New Richland; A. F. Laurence, Norwood-Young America; B. L. Montgomery, Blue Earth; W. E. McComas, Dodge Center; H. D. McCullough, Hinckley; L. G. Macy, Jordan; L. E. McMillan, Lake Crystal; V. C. Miller, Madelia; E. C. Magill, Wayzata; S. N. McKinsey, Annandale; N. F. Nelson, Minnesota; Harry Olin, Rush City; A. J. Olson, Waseca; F. J. E. Persun, Atwater; Roy H. Quinn, Hastings; Harold Robilliard, Faribault; P. H. Reinertsen, Rushford; J. P. Sheay, Hutchinson; P. E. Sturges, Le Roy; R. B. Smith, Maple Lake; E. G. Shaad, New London; A. J. Secor, Pipestone; F. Sandhammer, Rushford; W. F. Stewart, Tracy; Earl Springer, Wells; M. E. Scandrett, Winnebago; R. H. Shoemaker, Forest Lake; B. G. Sollman, Cokato; E. J. Trosper, Lake City; LeRoy Uptagraft, West Concord; Earl Weaver, Graceville; Donald Wilson, Mantorville; Vard Worstell, Medford; A. E. Webb, Two Harbors.

## BULLETINS AVAILABLE

### Publications of Interest to Agricultural Instructors.

Report of Jersey State Fair, Bulletin 247; Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, Orono.

Substitutes for Milk in the Rearing of Dairy Calves and the Cost of Rearing a Dairy Cow, Bulletin 164; Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, Amherst.

Raising Dairy Heifers, Bulletin 289; Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Worcester. Deals with cost, feeding and care.

Using the Babcock Test, Bulletin 107; Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, Stillwater. A full description with illustrations of tests of whole milk, cream, skim milk, butter-milk and ice-cream.

Germ Content of Stable Air and Its Effect Upon the Germ Content of Milk, Bulletin 409; New York Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva.

The Pasteurization of Dairy By-products, Bulletin 412; New York Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva.

Swine Feeding, Bulletin 107; Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station, Laramie. Deals with pea-pasture, alfalfa hay, alfalfa meal, corn meal and barley meal in rations for fattening pigs and for brood sows.

Sheep Feeding Trials at Williston Sub-Station, Bulletin 115; North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural College.

Fruit and Vegetable Diseases and Their Control, Bulletin 153; Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, St. Paul. Deals with the special fruit and vegetable diseases occurring in Minnesota and describes methods of control.

Bridge Grafting of Fruit Trees, Farmers' Bulletin 710; Graft Pruning, the Spur and Long-Cane System Compared, Bulletin 160; Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Ames.

Cottontail Rabbits in Relation to Trees and Farm Crops, Farmers' Bulletin 702.

Standard Potato Varieties for Minnesota. Special Bulletin 5; Agricultural Extension Division, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Describes the varieties of potatoes selected by the Minnesota Potato Growers' Association.

Experiments with Cabbage, Bulletin 137; Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, State College.

Chemical and Physical Constants for Wheat and Mill Products, Bulletin 114; North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural College.

Winter Grain for South Dakota, Bulletin 161; South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Brookings.

Grain Farming in the Corn Belt With Live Stock as a Side Line, Farmers' Bulletin 704.

The Cost of Producing Sugar Beets, Bulletin 154; Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, St. Paul.

The Control of Soil Washing, Circular 78; Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia.

Sulfocination in Soils, Research Bulletin 18; Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Ames.

Farm Drainage in North Carolina, Bulletin 234. North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Raleigh. Describes methods of laying tile drain.

Trenching Machine Used for the Construction of Trenches for Tile Drains, Farmers' Bulletin 698.

Preservative Treatment of Fence Posts, Bulletin 158; Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Ames.

The Care and Improvement of the Wood Lot, Farmers' Bulletin 711.

Some Lice and Mites of the Hen, Bulletin 86; Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station, Storrs, Conn.

The Feeding of Young Chicks on Grain Mixtures of High and Low Lysine Content, Bulletin 197; Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Lexington.

Duck Raising, Farmers' Bulletin 697.

Poultry Investigations, Bulletin 182; Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette, Ind. Deals with meat scrap, fish scrap and skim milk in rations for laying pullets.

Farm Bee-Keeping, Bulletin 138; Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia. A full description of the processes involved in bee-keeping on the farm.

Fleas as Pests to Man and Animals With Suggestions for Their Control, Farmers' Bulletin 683.

Hydrocyanic Acid Gas Against Household Insects, Farmers' Bulletin 699.

Farm Water Supplies; Minnesota State Bulletin of Health, St. Paul. Discusses means of securing water supply from a sanitary point of view for farms and rural schools.

Suggestions for Parcels Post Marketing, Farmers' Bulletin 703.

A Rural School Experiment, Clemson Agricultural College, Clemson College, South Carolina. Describes agricultural work in the rural schools of South Carolina.

Lighting Farm Buildings, Extension Bulletin 28; College of Agriculture, North Carolina. Describes lighting plants for farm buildings.

House Heating, Extension Bulletin 60; College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Describes heating and ventilating systems and their care.

The Coöperative Livestock Shipping Association, Farmers' Bulletin 718. Describes method of organization. Gives a sample constitution and by-laws; outlines method of administration.

Experiments with Laying Hens, Bulletin 291; Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster. A test of the effect of range versus confinement, variety versus simple rations and variation in amount of protein in rations.

## RESOLUTIONS ASK FOR MORE TRAINING

These resolutions of the Association of Agricultural Teachers of Minnesota, were adopted at the sixth annual session at University Farm, St. Paul, April 1:

Whereas, it is thought that some definite course in agriculture is fundamental to the best work of a rural teacher, be it resolved, that a one-year general course or a one-year field-crops course be recommended to prospective normal students before the regular normal work is undertaken.

Whereas, the agricultural instruction of Minnesota's secondary schools has now reached a high standard, be it resolved, that this association do all in its power to maintain and improve this high standard of instruction.

Whereas, the agricultural department of a high school is but one department of the school, be it resolved, that this association of instructors coöperate with the State Department of Education in any plans which that body may have regarding future state meetings for high school teachers.

Whereas, it is desirable that more efficiency be gained in secondary agricultural instruction, be it resolved, that this association recommend a thorough state inspection of secondary agricultural teaching methods.

Whereas, competitive methods in the form of high school agricultural judging contests, as those used in Wisconsin, have proved valuable stimuli to high-school agricultural students, be it resolved that this association take steps to develop such district and state contests.

Whereas, Prof. A. V. Storm and other members of the college faculty have done so much to make the sixth annual meeting of the association a success, be it resolved, that the association extend to them a hearty vote of thanks.—A. J. Secor, H. S. Robilliard, O. M. Kiser, Committee.

## NEWS

Benjamin Hofstad, College of Agriculture, '16, has been elected agricultural instructor in the Deer River High School to succeed Clyde Campbell, who has resigned to take up farming.

J. B. Dandeno, inspector of rural school agriculture in Ontario, spent the first week of April studying the agricultural work in the Minneapolis Central, South St. Paul, Wayzata, Hutchinson, Cokato, Albert Lea, and Austin high schools.

V. M. Emmert, agricultural instructor in the Buffalo High School, has been appointed an agricultural agent in Kansas. His work will begin the coming summer.

The Grand Rapids Boys' Potato Club, which under the direction of W. J. Corwin, last year made the highest club average in the state, is planning more conquests for the coming season. Already sixty boys are enrolled and one hundred are expected. The state premium of \$25, won last year by the club, is to be added to and the sum divided into smaller prizes, as further inducement for active club work.

Verne Steward, agricultural instructor in the Royalton High School, has just completed a steer-feeding demonstration intended to show the profit in feeding farm grains under ordinary farm conditions to steers as compared with marketing the grain direct. Two steers were fed an average of 121 days at a total cost of \$49.50 for feed. Bundle corn and alfalfa of indifferent quality were used. These were supplemented by ear corn and a small quantity of oats. Based on farm costs, the steers yielded a return of \$39.80 over cost of feed.

R. H. Shoemaker, agricultural instructor at Forest Lake, has resigned, his resignation to take effect May 1. Mr. Shoemaker was elected to fill the position left vacant by F. J. Schneiderhan, who went into Government work January 1. R. J. Lewis, College of Agriculture, '16, has been elected to fill the vacancy.

The Warren Register, in a recent issue, devotes almost a full page to the town's schools under the caption "The School of the Future." It is a commendable article, giving a list of the town's schools, a list of the town's clubs, potato contest, pig contest and acre corn contest. The article is illustrated by cuts of clubs and winners. Another page is devoted to the general requirements of the boys' and girls' work in the state.

An extemporaneous conference of extension workers, high school agricultural instructors, normal training teachers, and pupils, and others interested was held April 12 under the direction of T. A. Erickson, state leader of boys' and girls' club work. The occasion of the conference was the presence at the University Farm of O. H. Benson, United States specialist in charge of club projects.

O. A. Stangel favored the Visitor with a copy of his detailed report to the Board of Education, Virginia, on the one-week short course held in December. Agricultural work would be better correlated and the sequence be better from year to year if such reports were made and filed regularly by every instructor. Not only the one-week short course but the three months' short course, the full-year course, the school plot, the extension work and any special work done should be so reported for future guidance. Mr. Stangel's report contains an itemized account of the purpose, the plan, the program financing and advertising, results, attendance, communities represented, names, ages, and addresses of students, poultry and potato show, instructors, expenses.

The pure-bred livestock breeders of Canby, Minn., held their second combination sale March 9. Percherons, Shorthorns, Angus, Duroc Jerseys and Poland Chinas were represented. The secretary of the association is Bernard Ostrolenk, teacher of agriculture in the Canby High School.

Superintendent G. S. Wisman, of Hector, keeps in touch with his constituents on the agricultural matters in many ways. Recently he sent a circular letter suggesting the ways in which the high school agricultural teacher can assist them and offering his services.

The Wabasha Standard gives a description of an exhibit of home economics work from the Wabasha High School which indicates the value of the work to the community. This exhibit showed sewing work from the seventh grade through the high school and the note-book work done by high school classes in their various lines of study and included foods offered for sale to demonstrate to the patrons of the school that the girls' cooking classes learn practical as well as theoretical cooking. Miss Leola Cunningham is supervisor of home economics.

The Wright County high schools, which participated in the corn judging contest at University Farm, the results

of which were noted in the February number of the Visitor, expect to hold a livestock judging contest on a similar plan this month. It is suggested by R. B. Smith, agricultural instructor at Maple Lake, that these contests should lead to a system of state-wide contests.

The seniors in the "Organization and Management of High School Agriculture" class in the College of Agriculture at University Farm spent a most enjoyable hour Wednesday, April 5, when C. C. Baker, superintendent of the Albert Lea schools, addressed them on the agricultural work in the schools of Albert Lea.

Harold Borst, agricultural instructor in the Shakopee High School, is carrying on a corn-testing contest among the pupils of rural school districts adjacent to Shakopee. Each contestant is given a sample rag-doll tester and, after instruction in its use, tests corn for his father and the neighbors. Prizes are awarded on the basis of the number of ears tested and recorded. Most of the prizes are donated by local farmers who have had corn tested by the agricultural department of the high school. This testing was done without charge.

## TEACHERS TALK OF AGRICULTURAL WORK

(Continued from April Number)

W. L. Cavert, University Farm, presented the topic "Teaching Farm Management in the High School." He showed that farm management has to do with correlating the various agricultural sciences so that they may be applied to the production of the greatest profits on the farm. This means, he said, that farm management should follow the other agricultural subjects in the high school. A suggestive outline of what should be taught included farm accounts, farm planning and the principle of annual charges.

"A satisfactory farm accounting system should show the financial status of the business at the end of the year, should assist in studying the needs of the business and should involve a minimum amount of the farmer's time," Mr. Cavert said. "It does not seem advis-

able to have a system of labor, machinery and other charges, but rather a simple system which would include an opening and closing inventory and a classified record of receipts and expenditures. This should enable the farmer to determine the amount earned by his labor above business expenses and interest on his investment. Further, a careful study of such a record, would enable one to determine with reasonable accuracy the profitable and unprofitable enterprises, and to make desirable changes in the business. Farm accounts work provides for an excellent home project.

**Would Study Home Farm**  
"In farm-planning study the student should be required to make a plan of the home farm showing the important features of the farm business. He should be asked to revise this to indicate better management and to trace the steps in making the change.

"In teaching the principle of annual charges, the fact should be emphasized that the only method of approach to these problems is through figuring the total annual cost of depreciation, interest on the average investment, repairs and any other expenses involved, and then to set this against the annual saving in value of time or other benefits. The question as to the advantage of buying new machinery, of building new buildings, and such questions, should be settled from this viewpoint.

"Boss' Farm Management" is a text applying to Minnesota conditions, Warren's is an excellent reference. Useful Bulletins are "Farmer's Bulletin 661," "B. P. I. Bulletin 236." The Agricultural Extension Division of the College of Agriculture has prepared an account book, specimen copy of which will be furnished to instructors upon application.

"In the teaching of some of our agricultural sciences, the work in the high school is handicapped by lack of adequate equipment. However, in the case of farm management, we are surrounded with a much greater amount of laboratory material than we can possibly use. The teacher of farm management in the high school should be ashamed to assign a laboratory problem from a text book. The field of the text book as regards laboratory work should be to suggest the kind of problems to be presented, rather than to set the problem itself. The home farms of the students, or other local farms, will afford more laboratory material than can possibly be utilized. Every farm affords sufficient examples to keep a class busy for the whole term."

**Says Separation Brings No Good**  
J. A. James, University of Wisconsin, presented a paper on "Sanity in Secondary Agricultural Education."

(Continued in Supplement)