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MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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Who's New on Staff Since Last Issue

ERNEST A. PALMER started work as assistant county agent at Crookston, in West Polk county, January 20. In going to the Red River Valley, Mr. Palmer returns to his own country, as he was raised near Warren in Marshall county. During the past several years he has served as agriculture instructor at Barnum and Plainview. He was graduated from the Minnesota Agricultural College in 1932, where he specialized in animal husbandry and agricultural education. He has had much experience in 4-H club work, having been an active member for many years while in grade and high school. He won special recognition by taking the baby beef grand championship in 1928.

With ROLAND BEVAN at University Farm for graduate study, ELMER HOWLAND has been engaged to work during February and March as fieldman on the S. E. Minnesota farm accounting project. Mr. Howland farms with his father near Northfield and has been for several years a cooperator in the project and more recently field representative for the AAA. Mr. Bevan expects to be at University Farm until June completing work for his Master's degree.

RRA Stallion Club Plan Announced

Several counties have become interested in an arrangement by which local stallion clubs can be organized with money loaned by the Rural Rehabilitation Administration for the purchase of a stallion and operating expense for the first year. This plan has been worked out between the State Agricultural Extension Service and the Department of Cooperative and Community Service of the Minnesota Rural Rehabilitation Administration.

The loans are to be advanced on the basis of individual loans to participating farmers and may be paid back over a period of 5 years at a low rate of interest. Information concerning this, and a copy of articles of incorporation for stallion clubs may be obtained from W. E. MORRIS, University Farm, St. Paul.

Similar arrangements for the establishment of bull and ram associations have been worked out and information concerning them may be obtained from the extension service.

H. G. ZAVORAL of the state extension staff will be toastmaster at the silver anniversary banquet of the Gopher Campfire Club, February 25, at Hutchinson, headquarters of this statewide organization of sportsmen and conservationists.

L. S. STALLINGS, former Wilkin county agent, entered Mound Park Sanatorium about February 1 and underwent an operation. As we go to press his condition is still regarded as serious.

Coming Events

February 19 Cooperative Meeting, Dr. T. Kagawa
February 21 Dairy Visitors' Day
February 24-29 District R.E.A. Conferences
Monday, February 24—University Farm
Tuesday, February 25—Owatonna
Wednesday, February 26—Tracy
Thursday, February 27—Morris
Friday, February 28—Crookston
Saturday, February 29—Duluth
March 6 Farm Structures Conference
March 11-13 Annual Meeting, Land O'Lakes, Minneapolis
March 23-27 State Home Demonstration Conference
March 25-27 Horticultural Short Course
June 9-12 State 4-H Club Week
June 17-24 National 4-H Camp, Washington, D.C.

Unless otherwise specified, events listed will take place at University Farm.

Waseca Has H.D.A.; Ninth in Last Year

Waseca county has joined the ranks of counties employing two extension agents. MISS JUANITA SILCOX began work as a home demonstration agent the middle of February. Miss Silcox grew up on a farm near Sherburne, Minnesota, and was graduated from the University of Minnesota. She has taught in Wabasha and in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

MISS JULIA O. NEWTON, state home demonstration leader, says Waseca makes the ninth county to employ a home demonstration agent in the last year. Nicollet county started the race, Stearns was a close second, and beginning in September, the following counties lined up in quick succession: Beltrami, Cottonwood, Goodhue, Houston, Winona, Watonwan, and now Waseca.

Minnesota activities and viewpoints were well represented in the January issue of the Extension Service Review, federal extension house organ published at Washington. A leading article described the group discussion meetings held in Minnesota last year in six counties and now being carried on in 40 counties. The page giving the point of view of extension workers carried an item by MISS JOSEPHINE BURKETT, Brown county home demonstration agent, on local leadership and its value, while another general article dealt with the windbreak project set up last summer in 20 western Minnesota counties.

At University Hospital, Minneapolis, on January 27, arrived Kenneth James Ingwalson, first son of FOUR-H AGENT K. W. and MRS. INGWALSON, weight 6¾ pounds. The young man has a sister, Dorna Mae. His mother was formerly Kay Lewis, 1931 graduate of the University of Minnesota. The whole family were doing well at the latest report.

Beginning in January the Minnesota Dairy Herd Improvement Association News Letter was reestablished under the charge of RAMER LEIGHTON, extension dairyman. All cow testers and county agents will receive this letter each month and are asked to send in contributions.

Following the cessation of AAA work, E. A. HANSON and W. A. PETERS of the state staff have been assigned to work with DR. G. A. POND and S. B. CLELAND on the county program planning project. Meetings are now being held with farmer committees in nine counties chosen as typical of as many districts of the state. The reactions of farmers to the proposals of the research men are being obtained and the plans revised accordingly. The counties include Winona, Lyon, Meeker, Sherburne, Stevens, Western Polk, Beltrami, and St. Louis.

Circular A-2 of the Farm Credit Administration has recently appeared under the title, "The Cooperative Way." It consists of reprints of a series of brief statements on co-operation written by DIRECTOR F. W. PECK while he was with the FCA as cooperative bank commissioner. Originally appearing in the monthly house organ of the cooperative division of the FCA, the articles attracted so much attention that they have been put in more convenient and permanent form.

L. O. JACOB, Anoka, general former county agent, was elected secretary of the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs, at the annual business meeting of the organization, January 16, in St. Paul. He succeeds R. F. Hall, Minneapolis.

Page Mr. Whittier, Four are Snowbound

Snow and cold weather blocked a good deal of extension work in recent weeks. As an example, four state staff members were marooned for several days at Ames, Iowa, where they attended the Farm and Home Week at Iowa State College.

The group included L. A. CHURCHILL, MILDRED SCHENCK, RUBY CHRISTENSON, and A. E. ENGBRETSON. Scouting for ideas on rural youth work, 4-H clubs, and rural dramatics, this quartet spent Friday at Ames, expecting to return Saturday to St. Paul. Monday they managed to get as far as Hampton, Iowa, where they were forced to put up at a hotel so crowded that 15 guests slept on chairs. They finally got home Tuesday.

Home Staff Plans State Conference

The home demonstration staff will resume a practice of former years in holding a state conference the week beginning March 23. The home demonstration agents will join the state staff for a discussion of some of the fundamental problems of home demonstration work, March 23 to 27.

On Thursday, March 26, the county home chairmen will come in for the remaining days of the week.

Miss Grace E. Frysinger, in charge of home demonstration work in the Middle West states, and Dr. E. L. Austin, head of the department of education at the Michigan Agricultural College, will assist with the program.

Home Management Women Keep Books

Keeping household accounts has become the favorite indoor sport of several hundred homemakers in three counties taking Home Management Project I. Though the lesson on money management was presented last November, the enthusiasm holds and the women began keeping household accounts January 1.

Some special follow-up work will be done on this accounts work in Steele and Nicollet counties where more than 300 women are keeping books. Some 25 of these ambitious women are keeping farm accounts as well, using the standard Minnesota farm and home account book. In March the county home demonstration agents and SPECIALIST MARY MAY MILLER will hold a series of meetings with these account keepers to clear up questions and inspect January and February entries. Adding machines will be used to expedite the check-up. Another round of meetings will be held in July and a third round in the fall to show the women how to make their annual summaries.

A playlet, written by Miss Miller, was presented at each leader meeting in January and repeated by the local groups. Entitled, "The Case Family Cooperative," it depicts a quarrelsome family learning how to pull together through the influence of a mother's interest in home budgeting and book-keeping.

The Minnesota State Agricultural Society, meeting in St. Paul in January, elected T. A. ERICKSON, state 4-H leader, to life membership. The resolution incorporated the editorial from the Lake Wilson Pilot which was published in Extension News last month, and commended Mr. Erickson for his contribution to Minnesota's agricultural progress and the success of the State Fair through his leadership in the 4-H movement.

D. P. SHANNON, assistant extension editor, attended the Crookston shows early this month and handled the publicity as he has done many times in past years.

FLASHES from AFIELD

BLUE EARTH. Discouraging news for weeds appears in the January report of Agent L. E. McMillan, who states that a letter on weed control has been sent to all township elected chairmen. Even while creeping jenny was sleeping peacefully under deep white drifts of snow, Mr. McMillan was discussing methods for assassinating her and suggested a meeting of township chairmen and county commissioners to formulate a united attack.

FARIBAULT. Ninety-seven persons representing 19 of Faribault county's 20 townships attended Farm and Home Week, the largest delegation of Faribault farmers and homemakers ever to attend this event. In this group were numerous representatives of county organizations such as the Farm Bureau, cooperative institutions, local and county 4-H clubs, rural youth and home and community groups. The influence of Farm and Home Week contacts is apparent in better organization, better programs and a more cooperative spirit, says Agent C. G. Gaylord.

FREEBORN. Thora Egland, home demonstration agent, says concerning the egg show held at Albert Lea in December: "The manager of a creamery wanted to know what kind of a poultry meeting had been held in Albert Lea. When asked why and was told of the egg show, he said, 'I received 29 cases of eggs yesterday and they all wanted to sell on grade. I usually get only 2 cases a day.' They had been saving the eggs for higher prices. When they learned that age was a factor in determining price, they sent their eggs to market right away." The egg show was the culmination of the minor project in egg grading conducted with the assistance of Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist.

FILLMORE. One hundred sixty farmers attended a special meeting on poultry diseases held at Lanesboro with the cooperation of the local Kiwanis club. Dr. W. A. Billings, extension veterinarian, spoke and demonstrated the "posting" of diseased birds.

GOODHUE. In spite of severe weather, 40 persons attended the second meeting of the discussion group at

Goodhue January 20. The topic was "Imports and Exports—How They Affect the American Farmer." One farmer remarked that this was the best meeting he had attended in the 45 years since he came to the United States.

GOODHUE. Three hundred fifty-eight women attended three rug making demonstrations in spite of below zero weather. In presenting the demonstration, the following phases were covered: History of rugs, place of rug-making, thrift, color and design in rugs, dyeing of fabrics, display of rugs brought by women with explanation of how made, demonstration of braiding even and uneven number of strands, demonstration of sewing braids together, and two film strips on rug-making. Does one need to say, "The women were enthusiastic."

JACKSON.—Larger attendance and a higher quality of exhibits than in 1935 marked the Jackson county corn and poultry show held at Lakefield in January. An estimated 1,000 persons attended. R. C. Rose, R. F. Crim, and H. G. Zavoral, extension specialists, were speakers.

LYON. No matter how often one attends a meat cutting demonstration, he can always learn new tricks, says Agent F. J. Meade. After watching the clever work of P. A. Anderson at Farm and Home Week, Mr. Meade gave two meat cutting demonstrations to Lyon county Farm Bureau units. The demonstrations were concluded without mishap, but a bystander remarked that nothing was left for sausages.

MARSHALL. R. R. Reiersen, county agent, cooperated with the Warren business men, Marshall county farm organizations, and the Warren high school in arrangements for the annual Farmers' Short Course. This is to be held in the high school auditorium, February 21 and 22. H. L. Parten of the state extension service, and Super-

intendent J. O. Christianson of the Central School of Agriculture are on the program.

NICOLLET. The home and community chairmen are aware of the importance of their job, if a discussion at a recent meeting of chairmen is an indication. Agent Myrtle Bang reported that their discussion, led by Miss Charlotte Kirchner, centered around their job as leaders in a phase of adult education. Questions discussed were: What is our job in organization? What is our responsibility toward program subject matter? What responsibility do we have in recording proceedings and results? Discussion was lively, interesting, and showed excellent thinking on the part of the chairmen present. Comments showed that the chairmen realized the value of this type of discussion: "This has been a most illuminating session." "This has helped me realize so much better what our part in the extension program is." Several questions in the discussion were not covered, owing to lack of time, but all stated they wished to continue the discussion at the next meeting because it was so especially worthwhile to help them understand their part in the program.

NICOLLET. Agent E. M. Nelson prepared charts during January dealing with feed costs for dairy cows and balancing rations. Another featured the advantages of protein supplements for growing pigs, the value of a simple mineral mixture, and the value of swine sanitation. The result of cross breeding hogs was also put into chart form. Says Mr. Nelson, "These are all basic principles that are not apt to change greatly for many years, and therefore the charts may be used off and on in any well-balanced extension program."

OTTER TAIL (WEST). Robert Jacobs, assistant county agent, reporting on the shelterbelt project, says that during December 5,000 additional evergreen trees were purchased by the

West Ottertail County Farm Bureau for use in connection with the county windbreak project. These trees are to be sold to farmers between now and next spring for cost. This brings the total of trees available for shelterbelt planting in West Otter Tail county up to 28,500.

RENVILLE. One hundred fifty corn loans have been made in Renville county covering approximately 60,000 bushels of corn, according to the recent report of Agent Frank Svoboda.

STEVENS. A special feature of the annual Farm Bureau meeting in Stevens county, held at Morris, January 3, was a musical contest between orchestras representing Farm Bureau units. Each group played two selections. The Framnas unit won the \$10 special prize offered by the County Farm Bureau association. In spite of sub-zero weather and drifted roads, about 200 people were in attendance.

WABASHA. Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, presented a very thorough explanation of home project work at the meeting for home and community chairmen, held January 30. The group decided to ask for the poultry project for 1936.

WINONA. The county home and community committee had its first meeting to plan the county-wide program since the arrival of the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Beatrice McGrath. The two county extension agents and Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, participated in the discussion. That the home chairmen did some real thinking is evidenced by the items they listed as needs to be met ultimately: "Better reading material; more farms to be electrified; better and more handy water systems; broader outlook on community, state and national problems; more recreation; education on time and money management; farm yard improvement; knowledge on feeding family for health; better relationship and cooperation with other groups; better understanding of each farm home of its responsibility for the development of the community; education on better grooming; more information on farm credit and taxation; ways of adding to the family income; education on keeping the family healthy."

Old-Timer Proves Foxy With Cross-Cut Saw

With Professor Rees as a partner, EXTENSION FORESTER P. O. ANDERSON outstripped well-trained senior foresters in the cross-cut sawing contest at the annual Paul Bunyan celebration at University Farm last month.

Though Parker had not sawed for years and he and Mr. Rees had not practiced their act, they clipped off a large hardwood log in 46 seconds, beating the seniors by a large margin.

Basking in the glory that an old-timer feels after such a feat of prowess, Parker allowed that he probably could have showed up the undergrads on the axe handle, if he'd had a mind to. Just another proof that the younger generation isn't what its elders were.

• • • Among 200 gay sight-seers who left Chicago, February 13, for a trip through Mexico was Miss

AMY WESSEL, state 4-H club agent, who will spend 2 weeks of her vacation visiting interesting points under the guidance of the Prairie Farmer, Illinois farm paper.

• • • W. P. KIRKWOOD learned recently that his retirement is strictly unofficial in so far as golfing is concerned. He was "surprised" at the annual meeting of the University Farm Golfbugs and unanimously re-elected president for 1936.

• • • Members of the state 4-H staff have contributed \$10 toward the national fund being raised to purchase an oil portrait of the late Dr. Seaman A. Knapp to be hung in the portrait gallery of the Saddle and Sirolo Club at the International Livestock Show grounds in Chicago.

• • • Minnesota 4-H club work has a staunch advocate in the secretary of the state bankers' association, William Duncan of St. Paul. His daughter was a 4-H member in Redwood county, their old home.

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