

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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## Director Peck Named President of Federal Land Bank

### Young People Lead Meetings

A pioneer move in leadership work by which members of Rural Youth groups from seven counties are trained to lead subject-matter discussions for their own county groups is meeting with more than satisfactory success, announce COUNTY AGENT LEADER L. A. CHURCHILL and RURAL YOUTH AGENT RUBY CHRISTENSON.

Begun in October and to continue through January, the plan, briefly, brings two young men and two young women from each of these counties into Owatonna for a monthly evening training school in farm management and home furnishing. A dinner precedes a 2-hour training period. After these young people have received their training, they return to their counties to present the subject-matter material before their own groups. The county extension agents, of course, attend the local training meetings. Counties enrolled in this new project include Scott, Freeborn, LeSueur, Mower, Dodge, Nicollet, and Steele.

CHARLOTTE KIRCHNER, home furnishing specialist, presents material on applied color and design, accessories, enjoyment of pictures, table mats and runners, selection of clothes for both young men and women, table setting for simple dinners, table courtesies and other equally interesting subjects.

For the young men, S. B. CLELAND, farm management specialist, presents a five-topic training period—dealing with choosing the right crops, crop rotations, livestock organization, size of the farm business, farm power and equipment.

"These young people, thrown entirely on their own responsibility, are doing a commendable job of getting their material over in meetings," said Miss Christenson. "Members of the Rural Youth groups, formerly reticent to discuss problems in meetings, now freely express their opinions."

### 4-H'ers Show Ability At Chicago

Minnesota 4-H boys and girls demonstrated their prowess in achievement ability at the 1937 National Club Congress, according to a report of T. A. ERICKSON, state club leader, who attended the sixteenth annual event in Chicago.

Important placings captured by Minnesota club members include:

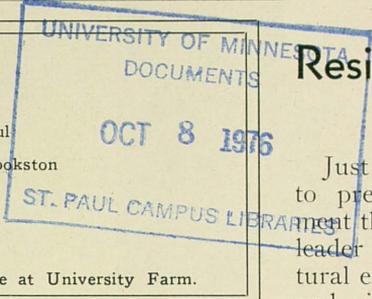
Third place potato exhibit: Blue ribbons—Edward Obrakto, Arthur Norha, St. Louis county; red ribbons—Herbert Froen, Edwin Kannianen, St. Louis county, Alvin Norum, Kitt-

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### Coming Events

Jan. 5-Mar. 2	Creamery Operators' Short Course
Jan. 17-20	State Farm Bureau Meeting, St. Paul
Jan. 17-21	Farm and Home Week
Feb. 7-11	Red River Valley Winter Shows, Crookston
Feb. 7-18	Vegetable Growers Short Course
Mar. 2	Dairy Industries Visitors' Day
Mar. 4	Farm Structures Conference
Mar. 14-19	Ice Cream Makers' Short Course
Mar. 23-25	Horticultural Short Course

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



### Resigns U. Farm Post

Just as Extension News goes to press, comes the announcement that DIRECTOR F. W. PECK, leader of the Minnesota agricultural extension service since 1921 and vice-director of the Experiment Station for the past 18 months, will leave University Farm, February 1, 1938, to become president of the Federal Land Bank, St. Paul. Director Peck's resignation was accepted December 17 by the University board of regents.

The St. Paul bank is one of 12 in the Federal Land Bank system and since 1933 has been a unit of the Farm Credit Administration. The St. Paul land bank district includes the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. In the land bank post, Director Peck succeeds Roy A. Nelson, president since 1933, who resigned.

### Newton Returns To U. Farm

As happy to get back to Minnesota as extensioners are to have her return is JULIA O. NEWTON, home demonstration leader, who, in May, 1936, left University Farm on a 3-months leave that lengthened to 19 months. Miss Newton resumed her work in Minnesota December 1.

Called to Washington by Gov. W. I. Meyers of the Farm Credit Administration to set up and help put in operation a plan to make credit facilities of the FCA more useful to farm women and to bring its lending units closer to the needs of the farm home, Miss Newton served as chief of the family credit section. During the first three months of her leave, Miss Newton made a field study of the farm family credit situation to determine what sort of plan should be developed to make FCA facilities more readily available. Field contacts and Washington conferences took her into seven of the 12 FCA districts where she conferred with various officials of numerous farm loan associations, production credit associations, and FCA borrower-members.

Throughout her study, and later when she set up her plan for getting credit information to farm families, Miss Newton stressed the fact that the farm business and farm family are inseparable and that to best develop the farm enterprise, the farm woman not only should understand but should actively participate in the financial affairs of the farm. Working in 31 states, Miss Newton found that the farm woman herself is demanding information on sound credit for household as well as farm purposes.

Miss Newton's recommendation for building a sound family credit program, provided, on a national scale, the education of farm families, particularly farm women, in the fundamentals of credit and its wise use, if needed.

Following the resignation of GLADYS M. JOHNSON, former Steele county home demonstration agent, MILDRED TOOP, who had been serving as assistant, was named regular home demonstration agent.

EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN W. E. MORRIS was elected president of the extension section of the American Society of Animal Production at the group's annual meeting held in Chicago during the International Livestock show. Last year Morris served as secretary.

### Dairy Meetings Well Attended

Discussions on dairy breeding given by DR. E. E. HEISER, in charge of animal breeding and genetics at Ohio University, attracted large attendances and unusual interest on the part of dairymen in several counties this past month, according to Minnesota's extension dairymen.

Dr. Heiser was obtained through the Holstein-Freisian association with county agents cooperating in conducting these meetings. Counties in which the meetings were held included Jackson, Martin, Watonwan, Blue Earth, Nicollet, Waseca, Mower, Steele, Dakota, Olmsted, Scott, Rice, Kandiyohi, McLeod, Sibley, and Wright. The average attendance was 50, reports EXTENSION DAIRYMAN H. H. SEARLES, who, with E. A. HANSON and RAMER LEIGHTON, attended the meetings.

Discussing the breeding of dairy cattle, Dr. Heiser stressed the fact that the only guide dairy breeders have had was the production performance of animals. Chief source of proof of the transmitting ability of a bull or cow was in the production level of all the daughters, he said. The only guide for transmitting ability of a young bull was the complete production history of all females close up in his pedigree. Dr. Heiser emphasized that production records on a few selected daughters might be misleading, and he pointed out that a few breeding establishments that had lifetime production records on all females in the herd were able to present rather accurately the transmitting ability of bull calves or future producing ability of heifers.

STATE CLUB LEADER T. A. ERICKSON has been elected to the board of directors of the Minnesota Public Health association.

### Plan Conferences On Leadership

Special conferences dealing with leadership in Rural Youth groups, 4-H clubs and community activities will be of interest to extensioners during Farm and Home Week at University Farm, January 17-21.

Miss Ella Gardner, recreation specialist for the extension service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will be headline speaker for all these conferences. Brief statements about the plans follow:

Community leadership—Under the direction of DISTRICT COUNTY AGENT LEADER C. L. MCNELLY these meetings will include such subjects as community leader training schools, work of community councils and the carrying out of community programs.

Rural Youth—Adding to the variety of these conferences, to be supervised by MISS RUBY CHRISTENSON, state club agent, will be a panel discussion on agriculture as a life work, and the presentation of an "Old Home Festival" at the Thursday night mass meeting.

Four-H club—T. A. ERICKSON, state club leader, will direct leaders' conferences, with demonstration work and its problems receiving major emphasis.

## FLASHES from AFIELD

**AITKIN.** An encouraging note is the interest which business men from urban centers show in 4-H work. Approximately 100 of them attended the 4-H club banquet at Duluth, sponsored by the Duluth Herald-News Tribune. One Aitkin girl, Florence Cartie, was presented with funds for a trip to the National Club Congress in recognition of her work as outstanding advanced dairy project member in northeastern Minnesota.—A. R. ROLLIN, agent.

**CHISAGO.** The agent was in charge of general arrangements for a joint meeting of Federal Land Bank borrowers of Chisago and Isanti counties, held at North Branch, November 12. Approximately 800 borrowers and their wives attended. Representatives of the Federal Land Bank outlined the functions of the bank and the local secretary-treasurer reported on the business of the local association since its consolidation last February.—GEORGE W. LARSON, agent.

**HENNEPIN.** More profit in community meals with less effort and fatigue was the subject of nutrition lessons given in seven communities the last day of November and the first week of December. Too many times women who plan and supervise bazaars, harvest festival dinners and similar events are uselessly over-tired at the end of these affairs, only to have their fatigue made more unbearable by the fact that there was no profit. Special pointers on preliminary plans to lighten this burden were discussed by EXTENSION NUTRITIONIST INEZ M. HOBART and the agent. The extension office is also preparing

helps in purchasing large quantities of food for these purposes.—HAZEL T. ROLLINS, home demonstration agent.

**LAKE.** Recently a meeting was held to organize rural athletics in the county. At present three rural and three urban teams are playing weekly basketball games. This work is being carried on with the W.P.A. recreation department under the supervision of Dan E. Minahan, director.—TORSTEIN GRINAGER, agent.

**MARTIN.** The third annual 4-H club rally, again sponsored by the Fairmont Civic and Commerce Association, The First National Bank, and the American Legion, brought awards to junior and adult leaders and outstanding club members. The county Farm Bureau cup was awarded to the Tenhassen club for making the most progress while the typical club cup went to the Fraser 4-H club. To the Silver Lake 4-H club, which achieved state recognition by winning the State Social Progress Award, went a radio.—CLARENCE G. POWELL, assistant agent.

**NICOLLET.** Pleasantly surprised is a mild way the 54 members of the Norseland 4-H club and their leaders felt when STATE CLUB LEADER T. A. ERICKSON announced at the close of the annual achievement program that

to forestry in relation to the 1938 Agricultural Conservation Program.

• • • December 18 is the date of the marriage of MAYBELLE L. GAME, former Faribault home demonstration agent, to Bernard Carlson, assistant Boy Scout executive in Houston, Texas. Miss Game went to Faribault county as home demonstration agent in 1935 when she succeeded CHARLOTTE KIRCHNER, who came to the state staff as home furnishing specialist in that year. Taking Miss Game's post in the Faribault post is MILDRED BLANCH, former assistant in Winona county.

• • • HAROLD A. PETERSON, a native Minnesotan who was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1937, has been appointed assistant agent in Olmsted county. Peterson comes to the extension service with a varied agricultural experience. He has operated farms, been an official cow tester, acted as herdsman for a large southwestern Minnesota farm, and has done survey work for the Soil Conservation Service. His appointment was effective November 29.

• • • Honoring STATE CLUB LEADER T. A. ERICKSON and observing 25 years of 4-H club work in Ramsey county, 250 past and present 4-H'ers held a banquet in St. Paul, November 20. Reviewing club history "Dad" Erickson told of some of the early difficulties in club work, and how it developed so that through the year some 7,500 Ramsey boys and girls had participated. Virginia Dose, acting for the Ramsey 4-H Federation, presented the state leader with a coffee spoon in recognition of his service, while to Mrs. Clara M. Oberg, who for 10 years has successfully guided the Ramsey 4-H program, was presented with a scroll.

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son county.

Third place livestock judging team: Joe Carson (fourth high individual), Duane Wilson, Robert Butman, Pipestone county.

Second place in the national 4-H food preparation contest: Evelyn Kern, Wadena county. Her awards were a scholarship of \$300, a county medal, and an electric refrigerator.

National achievement contest: Ithel Schipper, West Ottertail, third place; Lois Saddler, Beltrami county, fourth place.

Leadership contest: Lorraine Eckstein, Blue Earth county, tied for third place.

Second place meat identification team: Jerome Rypka and Luvern Springer, Steele county.

Home economics placings: Blue ribbons—Veronica Perrizo, Faribault county, canned goods; Elinor Runck, Brown county, clothing; Marjorie Janes, Pipestone county, window treatment; Helen Arbuckle, LeSueur county, girls' style revue; Doris Steurnagel, Winona county, clothing; red ribbons—Ruth Kurz, Marshall county, canned meats; Evelyn Kurtzbein, Clearwater county, canned vegetables; Verda M. Hilk, Carver county, canned fruits; Catherine Winn, Redwood county, home improvement.

• • • EXTENSION FORESTER PARKER O. ANDERSON, appearing on the annual conference program of the Society of American Foresters, spoke Saturday, December 18, on "Farm Forestry in Agricultural Conservation." The conference was held at Syracuse, N. Y., December 16-18. Anderson also conferred with extension foresters from eastern states in regard

the club had been selected as the state's most typical.—E. M. NELSON, agent.

**PENNINGTON.** By the end of November, during which the agent continued to work on the program for testing cattle for Bang's disease, about 85 per cent of the herd owners had signed agreements. About 180 cattle owners have yet to signify their requests for the test, but it is thought that 90 per cent of the cattle in the county have been tested, since many of those left have only one or two animals. About 25 per cent of all cattle reacted to the blood test. Seven veterinarians are now giving the tests, and it is hoped that the work will be finished in another month.—HOWARD E. GROW, agent.

**RAMSEY.** The agent prepared a paper for the state American Legion commander to be used in promoting community interest and cooperation in an educational program on purchasing and preparation of low cost foods for relief and low income families.—AGNES M. ERKEL, home demonstration agent.

**RED LAKE.** Four-H beef club members are planning a big year in their 1938 project. Already they have 36 calves on feed—20 Herefords, 10 Aberdeen-Angus, and six Shorthorns. This is more than double the baby beef exhibits at the 1937 4-H club fair.—ERNEST A. PALMER, agent.

**RENVILLE.** Distribution of 38 beef calves for the 1938 4-H bay beef project was completed during the month. This year the county had 14 exhibitors at the Junior Livestock Show. The annual club round-up was held at Bird Island November 13, where final reports of club activities and presentation of awards were made.—FRANK SVOBODA, agent.

**STEARNS.** Heartening progress was noted in rural electrification activities of the month. With the local REA board of directors, the agent toured the first unit of proposed lines, covering 138 miles. Later bids were opened for line construction and the successful bid was sent to Washington, D.C.,

for approval. Since then an engineering firm has sent two staking crews into the county and at present over 60 miles of lines have been staked.—E. C. LENZMEIER, agent.

**STEELE.** This county's livestock loss prevention demonstration team, which won second place at the National Club Congress in Chicago, gave the demonstration before one of the meetings of the Owatonna Rotary club this month. Members of the team are Luvern Springer and Jerome Rypka.—G. A. STROBEL, agent.

**STEVENS.** The twenty-fifth anniversary of 4-H club work was observed at the annual club banquet when four members active in club work in 1913 were introduced. Those so honored were Sid Gausman, William Ernst, Mrs. Siebrecht, and Mrs. George Heick. Exhibited in the banquet hall were pictures and charts showing the growth and development of 4-H club work.—S. C. MARTENSEN, agent.

**S. ST. LOUIS.** Representatives of the agricultural engineering and horticulture divisions at University Farm spent a day in Duluth visiting berry plantations and reported favorably on the possibility of a drainage project. A committee will draw up contracts with individual growers to be submitted to University authorities for approval.—D. T. GRUSSENDORF, agent.

**S. ST. LOUIS.** Reports from demonstration gardens indicate that the effort put into home canning and preserving is far from wasted. One woman reported that she stored 1,500 pounds of vegetables and canned 311 quarts of home-grown vegetables. This homemaker conservatively estimates her garden produce worth \$88 in savings on the family grocery bill.—FLORENCE M. LANG, home demonstration agent.

**WILKIN.** Visits to 33 farms whose operators had planted windbreaks in the spring of 1937 revealed a survival of at least 90 per cent of trees. At the same time last spring, township chairmen were contacted in regard to organizing a township weed organization, which project met with approval. Eleven of the 22 townships adopted the plan. Using reports of township and weed deputies on infestations of noxious weeds information has been provided which will make possible the drawing up a county weed map.—O. R. GROVER, agent.

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