

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION NEWS

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## Miller To Succeed Director Peck

Following closely the announcement that Director F. W. Peck had resigned as chief of Minnesota's agricultural extension service, but just about 2 hours too late to make the December issue of *Extension News*, was the word that P. E. Miller, superintendent of the West Central School and Experiment Station at Morris, was to take over the reins as extension director, February 1.

The new director's experience with Minnesota agriculture began in 1911 when he joined the Morris staff as instructor in crops, soils, and science. Demonstrating unusual leadership ability, MILLER was appointed superintendent of the West Central School and Station just 6 years after he first became a member of the staff. In 1934, as Minnesota director for the federal drought relief service, MILLER further widened his knowledge of the state's farm industry. In 1931 he traveled widely throughout the British Isles and continental Europe to observe agricultural practices, cooperative organizations, living standards of farm people, and especially agricultural education in Scandinavia.

MILLER is a native of Iowa, having been born near Cedar Rapids. He took his undergraduate work at Iowa State College, Ames, where in 1911 he was granted his bachelor's degree in agriculture. The same college granted him a professional degree, that of master of agriculture, in 1920.

DIRECTOR PECK's long association with the extension service is an open book to extensioners. For 16 of his 25 years with the College of Agriculture he has directed the course of the extension service. Under his direction it has taken its place in the scheme of present day agriculture in Min-

### Coming Events

Jan. 17-20	State Farm Bureau Meeting, St. Paul
Jan. 17-21	Farm and Home Week
Jan. 26	Sheep and Lamb Feeders' Day, Morris
Feb. 7-11	Red River Valley Winter Shows, Crookston
Feb. 7-18	Vegetable Growers Short Course
Feb. 28-Mar. 5	State Home Demonstration Conference (County Home Chairmen Attend Mar. 3-5)
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.

## Dankers Named As Economist

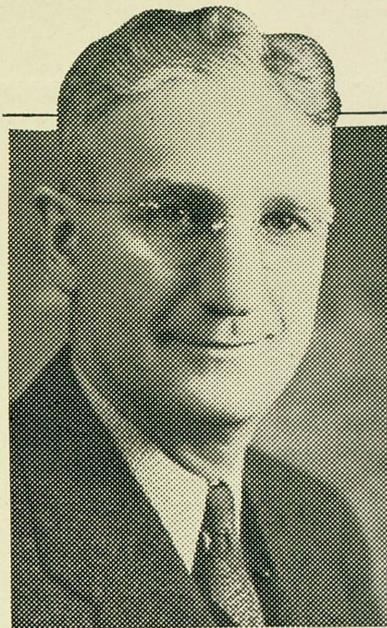
W. H. DANKERS, known widely to Minnesota agriculture through his 7 years as member of the Central School of Agriculture staff at University Farm, became economist in marketing for the Minnesota agricultural extension service January 1.

Through his appointment, announced recently by Director F. W. Peck, the position made vacant by the resignation of Dr. W. Bruce Silcox has been filled. Dr. Silcox resigned in July, 1937, to become senior extension economist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A native of Minnesota, Dankers enters the extension service with an agricultural experience that began with his youth on a southeastern Minnesota farm. His education was obtained at the Minnesota College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics where in 1936 he was granted his Ph.D. degree. He first served as staff member when he was research assistant in farm management for the university in 1926. Through his instructorship in the School of Agriculture he has traveled widely throughout Minnesota as supervisor of summer project work of school students.



F. W. PECK



P. E. MILLER

## Douglas, Sibley On Regular Basis

With Douglas and Sibley now regular extension counties, there are only four counties, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Isanti, and Chippewa, on the emergency basis, reports L. A. CHURCHILL, county agent leader.

DWIGHT GARNER, who has been emergency agent in Sibley county, became regular agent when that county voted to go on the regular basis.

Several personnel changes have taken place during the month. GORDON C. JOHNSON, a Minnesotan who was reared on a farm near Fairmont, went into Freeborn county, January 1, as assistant agent. Johnson was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1937. He was previously employed in southeastern Minnesota as contact man and agronomist for the Soil Conservation Service.

On the home demonstration staff, FLORENCE LANG resigned as home demonstration agent in South St. Louis county. CLARA FARSTAD was transferred from Blue Earth county to fill the vacancy in South St. Louis. MARJORIE PERRIZO was named regular home demonstration agent in Blue Earth.

CLETUS J. MURPHY, Waseca agent, is taking advanced work at University Farm during the winter quarter. STANLEY B. SIMPSON, recently appointed to the extension service, is serving as assistant agent there.

DIRECTOR F. W. PECK was a speaker at the annual North Dakota extension conference at Fargo, Tuesday, January 4.

## Save This Date!

A farewell party for DIRECTOR PECK is to be held in the Minnesota Union Ballroom, Saturday night, January 29. The party is to be an extension affair, to which full time staff members and their wives will be invited. Later announcements will be made about the party, but extensioners are asked to keep January 29 an open date on their calendars, said DR. W. A. BILLINGS, chairman.

Dean W. C. Coffey has been made a director of the Federal Reserve Bank in Minneapolis. Appointed by the Federal Reserve Board, Dean Coffey's appointment will take effect January 31 and will end December 31, 1939. His appointment will fill a vacancy made by the resignation of Director F. W. Peck.

"The potato trail," by which Clay county women were shown how many steps can be wasted in the simple task of preparing and serving

just plain boiled potatoes, evoked many a New Year's resolution from project members, reports HOME MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST JESSIE MARION. Tracing a floor plan of the kitchen and the steps required to execute this simple task when kitchen implements are inconveniently located, brought forth plans for kitchen rearrangement that would save many steps. More than ordinary interest was shown by Clay county women in the home management project, reports MISS MARION.

After his first sojourn in Washington, Director Peck returned to University Farm in 1921, when he was made extension director. Later, in 1936, he became vice-director of the agricultural experiment station.

COUNTY AGENT K. A. KIRKPATRICK of Hennepin county attended the annual meeting of the National Agricultural County Agents' association in Chicago last month. He served as chairman of the committee on reorganization and revision of the constitution and by-laws. "Kirk" was also asked to sit in on the session of the American Extension Workers' association the first day of the convention and was named to the board of regional directors for the west north central region.

FARM MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST S. B. CLELAND is quoted in the December issue of the *Extension Service Review* in regard to printed circulars which tell of the plans worked out by county committees. The article explained how, through circulars printed locally in the counties, Minnesota is making effective extension use of material developed by county agricultural planning committees.

The extension office in Faribault county deserves a pat on the back for its directory, "Who's Who in the Faribault County Cooperatives." The publication lists the officers, directors, and annual meeting dates for creameries, elevators, shipping associations and other cooperative organizations.

## FLASHES from AFIELD

**AITKIN.** Very timely were the meat cutting demonstrations held in the 4-H hall at Aitkin in cooperation with W. E. MORRIS, extension animal husbandman. The sizable crowd attending this meeting was more than ordinarily interested in this work.—A. R. ROLLIN, agent.

**BELTRAMI.** The agent cooperated with the plan of directors of the Civic and Commerce Association in attempting to improve the egg marketing situation by having all stores purchase eggs from a licensed dealer who properly candles and grades all eggs. It was agreed that the dealer should pay a price of one cent above that in Minneapolis. This practice would make it impossible for truckers to import western supplies and dump medium B grade eggs on the market here, thereby demoralizing the price.—H. B. TAYLOR, agent.

**BROWN.** Two representatives of the utilization department of the Rural Electrification Administration at Washington, D.C., a Miss Harris and a Mr. Hugus, gave illustrated talks the afternoon of the day on which the Annual Farm Bureau meeting was held. Electrical dealers in the county donated equipment for exhibit. Interest of the group attending was very unusual.—JOSEPHINE BURKETT, home demonstration agent.

**CARVER.** Invitations to presidents and secretaries of all cooperatives in the county were issued by the agent, asking them to attend a meeting at which the cold storage locker situation was discussed with S. T. WARRINGTON, University Farm economist. At this meeting plans were made for the agent and presidents of four creameries to visit several Minnesota plants this month.—GEORGE A. KING, agent.

**FARIBAULT.** Family recreation is the subject being discussed by the agent at the request of Parent-Teacher and other community groups. At the December meeting of the Frost Parent-Teacher association the value of recreation in building character and family atmosphere was stressed. Games of interest to both children and adults and those suitable for large groups were demonstrated.—MILDRED BLANCH, home demonstration agent.

## Clothing Projects Affect 14,000

Effects of 1937 clothing projects as conducted by EXTENSION SPECIALISTS EVES E. WHITFIELD and ANNA S. OLSEN were felt by more than an average of 1,000 women in each of 14 counties, or a total of nearly 14,000, according to a report of these two workers.

With the aim of assisting homemakers to meet their families' clothing needs, the clothing projects have included suggestions for saving time and money, and methods of modern clothing construction, selection, care and upkeep of materials and garments. Eighty-six per cent of those enrolled in these projects completed the series of clothing meetings and reported their use of the information through their local leaders. The average homemaker, making 20 garments or household articles, reported a saving of slightly over \$13 during the project year.

Nearly 60 per cent of the clothing enrollment was in six home demonstration counties, including Beltrami, Brown, Fillmore, Itasca, Hennepin and

Fillmore. Indicative of the appreciation of project women for the Christmas gift meetings was the article about them sent to the Chicago Drivers Journal by Mrs. James Sample of Spring Valley. Home economics teachers in four of the high schools used patterns and ideas for Christmas gift suggestions and many of the women expressed satisfaction in being able to make gifts at such small cost.—MILDRED SAILOR, home demonstration agent.

**GOODHUE.** In cooperation with the Farmers' Elevator in Wanamingo and the businessmen of that town, a barley school was held January 12. In connection with the school, the agent contacted elevators throughout the county and distributed sample envelopes in which elevator men collected samples of seed barley from farmers. The samples are to be sent to the federal grain inspection office in Minneapolis for grading. In addition to this, farmers were informed of the free grading service and invited to bring barley to their local elevators and attend the Wanamingo meeting.—G. J. KANAU, agent.

**HUBBARD.** Considerable discussion of mixing home grown poultry rations was given this month. Among other poultry activities were recommendations for poultry housing at two adult groups in cooperation with the local Smith-Hughes instructor.—W. H. OLSON, agent.

**LAC QUI PARLE.** Eighty-two corn loans covering 52,000 bushels of corn were arranged for during the month. One hundred and fifteen cribs have been sealed. Interest in this particular program is encouraging, but the limiting factor is the type of crib in common use on the farms. However, many farmers have built cribs to qualify for this program.—WAYNE WEISER, agent.

Mower. It should be noted, the specialists observe, that all home demonstration agent counties, plus Wadena, exceeded the state average in enrollment from 6 to 12 per cent. The completion for these counties was 92 per cent.

• • • DEAN W. C. COFFEY will head the list of speakers at the annual sheep and lamb feeders' day to be held at the West Central School and Experiment Station at Morris, Wednesday, January 26. His talk will be concerned with breeds of sheep for the farm flock. EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN W. E. MORRIS will also be on the program; he will discuss getting and raising a high percentage lamb crop.

• • • Appointment of Miss Madge Ames Brown as assistant editor in the office of publications of University Farm was recently announced. Miss Brown, who was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1932, has held a clerical position in the office since the fall of 1933. She will give particular attention to the preparation of news and information material for daily newspapers and assist with other phases of informational work.

**LINCOLN.** To determine the value of crested wheat grass in this county, sufficient seed has been ordered to sow five experimental acres. Acre plots of the grass will be sowed in five different sections of the county in such a manner that should it show sufficient advantage to warrant its production, the seed can be harvested and resold to farmers.—T. GRAHAM FULLER, agent.

**NICOLLET.** According to the report of Carl Stadig, cow tester for the Nicollet Association No. 1, the most profitable dairy herd in that organization for 1937 was that of Ole Olmanson, in Lake Prairie township. This herd returned to its owner \$86.95 above feed costs per cow. Average feed cost per animal was \$60.51. The ten purebred Holsteins in this herd averaged 11,170 pounds of milk and 397.9 pounds of butterfat. The report shows that it cost an average of 15¼ cents per pound to produce the butterfat.—E. M. NELSON, agent.

**OLMSTED.** Twenty-three of the 4-H clubs in the county have planned their annual programs for 1938, setting out definite topics, committees, and plans for each of their 12 monthly meetings. This is a record for the number of local programs planned in January.—RAY AUNE, agent.

**WEST OTTER TAIL.** The West Otter Tail cow tester's report, available early in December, pointed out that the highest producing herd in the county was one of 27 purebred Holsteins producing 41.9 pounds of butterfat for the previous month. The report was for 521 cows on test in 25 herds. This association ranked eighth among all associations in Minnesota and the high herd of this group ranked fifth in the state.—ROBERT E. JACOBS, assistant agent.

**WEST POLK.** The agent prepared a potato exhibit, under the auspices of the Minnesota Red River Valley Potato Improvement association, which will be in the "Quality Products Pay" train of the Northern Pacific. The exhibit points out the value of certified seed, calls attention to the fact that seed may be quite badly infected by

diseases not visible to the eye, and stresses some of the accomplishments of 1937 seed potatoes. The special train will visit the county at East Grand Forks, January 28; Crookston, January 31; Fertile, February 1.—CARL G. ASH, agent.

**POPE.** Interest among farmers in getting back to a definite dairy program and in building up their herds and production will make it possible for a dairy herd improvement association to be organized and ready for operation by February 1. Already 15 members have been signed.—N. P. HANSON, agent.

**REDWOOD.** A county crops improvement committee whose function will be to promote the growing of better varieties of grain and locate sources of good seed was recently appointed. The group will meet this winter to make plans for next year's barley school, possibly a crop show and other programs, which the agent will assist in directing.—J. I. SWEDBERG, agent.

**SCOTT.** Reduced fire insurance assessments are hoped to be the result of a county-wide plan for rural fire protection if a plan presented by the agent materializes. Recently at New Prague a fire protection association was set up, after which farmers in the vicinity of Prior Lake indicated interest in forming a similar organization. The agent made a study of the problem and presented plans for a county organization. According to present plans the county will be divided into six territories, each having a set of fire fighting equipment. Meetings of county officials will be held to discuss the levying of a three-mill tax to raise about \$13,000 to finance the purchasing of fire equipment.—WALLACE MILLER, agent.

**TODD.** The North Todd Dairy Herd Improvement association recently began operations with 30 members. Four of the herds will be tested bi-monthly, the other 26 monthly. Later a temporary organization meeting was called at which it was decided that 15 other herd owners would join a small testing group in the vicinity of Sauk Centre and Osakis, to form one association employing the tester of the Sauk Centre-Osakis group. When the organization is completed, there will be about 45 herds in Todd county in cow testing associations, in addition to the 20 herds being tested in the junior association through the Long Prairie high school agricultural department.—C. L. BLAKESLEE, agent.

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