

# MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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## Kansas Finds Counties With Agents Excel Those Without

(By F. E. Balmer, State Leader of County Agents.)

Losses from hog cholera are from two to five times greater in counties without county agents; wheat yields are one to one and one-fourth bushels per acre greater in counties with agents, and wheat losses from winter killing are 10 per cent to 12 per cent greater in counties without county agents.

Such are the findings of the state of Kansas which has recently made an extensive study to determine the results that are beginning to show in about 70 of its counties employing county agents when compared to about 35 counties which are not employing agents. The basis for this study is the reports of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, one of the most reliable and unbiased sources of agricultural statistics.

Neighboring counties having similar conditions and production, some of which employ county agents and others which do not, were selected for comparisons.

### Use of Silos; Potato Yields

The use of silos and silage has increased at a much faster rate in organized counties. From 1915 to 1920, Woodson county, without an agent, lost 18.2 per cent of its silos; Wilson, a neighboring county, with an agent, gained 32.4 per cent; Republic, without an agent, gained 34.3 per cent; Cloud, neighboring, with an agent, gained 145.1 per cent; Saline, without an agent, gained 56.5; McPherson, neighboring, with an agent, gained 105.5 per cent.

Potato yields in Shawnee county, which has employed an agent since 1917, are compared to those in Riley and Pottawatomie, neighboring counties, that have not employed agents. Comparing the period of 1909 to 1916 with that of 1917 to 1920, Shawnee gained 15 bushels an acre, Riley lost in its yield per acre 15.7 bushels and Pottawatomie lost 12.7 bushels. Shawnee's advantage over Riley was 30.7 bushels per acre and over Pottawatomie 27.3 bushels.

### Dairy Progress More Rapid With Agents

In almost every case counties having agents increased the number of cream separators used much more rapidly than neighboring counties without agents, indicating greater progress in dairying in organized counties. From 1915 to 1920, the gain in Clark and Meade counties, with agents, was 69.4 per cent against 55.8 per cent in Kiowa and Seward, neighboring counties without agents, showing an advantage of 13.6 per cent for organized counties.

For the same time the gain in Mc-

Pherson and Cloud, with agents, was 36.2 per cent against 16.2 per cent in Ottawa and Saline, neighboring counties without agents, or more than double the per cent of gain in organized counties.

In Rawlins and Cheyenne counties, with agents, the gain was 70 per cent against 58.7 per cent in Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, and Decatur, neighboring counties, without agents.

Russell, Stafford, and Barber counties, without agents, made an average gain in number of cream selling herds of 39.2 per cent, while Barton and Pratt with agents, situated between the other three counties, gained 57.4 per cent, the organized counties gaining one-half times faster than the unorganized.

### Wheat Production Campaigns Increase Returns

For a four-year period prior to the organization of a farm bureau, Republic county raised more wheat per acre by 4 bushels than Cloud county neighboring. Since organization in 1917 and the institution of the wheat production campaign in Cloud county, it has out-yielded Republic county, still unorganized and without a wheat production program, by one bushel an acre, making an advantage of 1.4 bushels an acre in favor of Cloud county, which raises about 110,000 acres of wheat annually.

Wheat yields in Clay, Jackson, Morris, and Marshall counties averaged 13.5 bushels an acre during the three years 1916 to 1918. Since employing agents in 1919, the average yield has been increased to 16.7 bushels, a gain of 3.2 bushels an acre. The neighboring counties of Riley, Pottawatomie, Geary, and Wabaunsee, without agents, made average gains in yields during the same period of only 1.1 bushels an acre, the net gain of organized counties over unorganized being 2.1 bushels an acre. The average annual gain in each of the organized counties is 162,500 bushels of wheat without increase of acreage.

### Other Comparisons Cited

In another group of six counties, two of which established county agent work in 1917, the increased yield per acre of wheat over the other four counties amounted to 1.8 bushels an acre, or 553,000 bushels increase a year for each of the two organized counties. In another case a group of three counties lost in yield .8 bushel an acre during 1918 to 1921 as compared to 1913 to 1917, while two near by organized counties during the same period gained .2 bushel in yield, showing an advantage in favor of organized counties of one bushel an acre.

Comparing the years 1915 to 1918 with 1919 to 1921, Brown county with

no agent lost an average of one bushel yield per acre of wheat, while Jackson county, neighboring, with an agent, during the latter period gained 2.3 bushels an acre in wheat yield.

### Agents Lessen Hog Cholera Losses

A study of groups of counties shows less losses from hog cholera due to the services of county agents and organized control measures being applied. The following data for the years 1919 and 1920 show losses in neighboring counties without agents and with agents:

Saline, without agent, 9.72 per cent lost  
McPherson, with agent, 1.79 per cent lost ..  
Stafford, without agent, 1.83 per cent lost  
Pratt, with agent, .67 per cent lost  
Geary and Riley, without agents, 2.65 per cent lost  
Marshall and Morris, with agents, .56 per cent lost  
Brown, Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee, without agents, 2.33 per cent lost  
Marshall and Osage, with agents, .67 per cent lost  
Republic, Mitchell, Ottawa, Saline and Harper, without agents, 4.23 per cent lost  
Jewell, McPherson, Reno, and Kingman, with agents, 1.16 per cent lost  
Edwards, Stafford, and Kiowa, without agents, 1.55 per cent lost  
Pawnee, Comanche, Pratt, and Ford, with agents, .38 per cent lost  
Thomas, Decatur, and Sherman, without agents, 2.25 per cent lost  
Cheyenne and Rawlins, with agents, .60 per cent lost.

The foregoing outlines are very telling results for such a short period of years. County agents and county farm bureaus, however, are not working merely to attain temporary results, though such is needed here and there. Rather they are supporting programs to secure results that mean permanent success and satisfaction in agriculture and country living.

Counties that are not employing county agents or that are questioning the benefits of the county agent service now in progress may well consider and profit by a careful study of the foregoing information.

### 76 SWINE MEETINGS HELD IN 34 COUNTIES

Seventy-six meetings were held by H. G. Zavoral, livestock specialist, in 34 different counties principally in the southwestern part of the state. The average attendance was about 65.

Special emphasis was given to the feeding of brood sows, feeding and care of pigs and hog pastures. The importance of exercise, a variety of feed regularly fed, sanitation, minerals, fresh water and shade in summer were discussed.

The present prices of hogs, says Mr. Zavoral, have kept up a good interest in better breeding, feeding and management.

## OUTLOOK FOR FARMERS IS GROWING BRIGHTER

Prices for All Commodities Fall 16 Points, While Farm Products Have Lost But Three Points

The economic outlook for the farmer is analyzed by W. L. Cavert, farm management specialist, in the following article:

The relative position of the Minnesota farmer has greatly improved in the last few months, but further readjustment is in order before he can buy his customary amount of goods with the products of his toil.

The following figures show the purchasing power of Minnesota farm products on March 1, 1922, as compared to November 1, 1921, on a basis of 100:

	Mar. Nov.		Mar. Nov.
Wheat	95	Hogs	80
Corn	56	Eggs	84
Oats	57	Potatoes	135
Barley	45	Butterfat	74
Rye	87	Arithmetical	
Beef cattle	69	average	78

In the case of eggs and butterfat account has been taken of the usual seasonal variation in prices.

### Faith Rewarded

During November and December there was great interest in poultry and dairying and extreme pessimism regarding the prices for grain and livestock. It is worthy of note that since that time the purchasing power of eggs and butterfat has shown a marked decrease, while all other items have increased. A certain ancient book emphasizes the spiritual returns that come to those who have faith. It seems to be equally true in material affairs that those who have faith in the future of their business when extreme pessimism prevails are the ones to whom are awarded the largest financial returns. Those who go in to cows, hogs, potatoes, etc., when that is the popular thing to do, are likely later to have a real cause for pessimism.

### Price Declines All Along the Line

The following figures show the U. S. Bureau of Labor index prices for commodities at wholesale for February, 1922, and the year previous. In both cases the comparison is with 1913 prices:

	Feb. 1922 1913=100	Feb. 1921 1913=100
Farm products	126	129
Food	138	150
Clothes and clothing	183	198
Fuel and lighting	183	218
Metals and metal products	115	146
Building materials	202	222
Chemicals	159	178
House furnishing goods	213	277
All commodities	151	167

In the year from Feb. 1, 1921, to Feb. 1, 1922, the index price of farm products decreased three points, while all commodities decreased 16 points. In December, 1921, the index figure for farm products was down to 113 as compared to the February figure of 126, a very decided improvement in a two months' period.

### Disparity Still Too Great

Inspection of the foregoing table indicates that such commodities as building materials and house furnishings, which are still more than twice the pre-war price, must still do some

deflating before farmers will be in the market for them in any quantity, or else the price of farm products is due for further decided advances. Possibly both movements will take place and the figures will meet at some middle point.

Financiers and economists generally agree that we have turned the corner and that, financially speaking, we are on the up-grade. Their confidence is shown by the active market on the New York Stock Exchange for shares in industrial corporations. The stock market usually anticipates business conditions correctly. Therefore, it is encouraging that on April 12 the price of representative industrial stocks as compiled by the New York Tribune stood at \$80.67 compared to \$73.89 at the low point early in the winter.

### Money Conditions Easier

Money is also very easy in the east, rates on prime short time commercial paper in New York City on April 12 being 4½ to 4¾ per cent compared to 8 per cent in early January, 1921. The western farmer has not seen any of this easy money, but it will get here just the same as everything else that they have in the east seems to travel west. Whenever one reads that an epidemic of "flu" prevails in the east, that money is easy, or that girls are bobbing their hair, one is apt to think that "East is East and West is West," but presently he is reasonably certain to see the same conditions in his own locality.

To sum up, better days seem to be in store for those farmers who have held fast to their usual lines of production and who have done their best to meet a difficult situation by economy and hard work. Figures from the Owatonna Statistical Route maintained by the university indicate that during 1921 farmers averaged 78 hours work per week compared to 71 in 1920. Other figures show that the pre-war farmer's week was about 68 hours. If laborers and others had applied the same remedies as has the farmer, the readjustment process would be much further along.

### Flies in the Ointment

At present the three factors that temper our enthusiasm about future prospects are:

1. The slowness with which certain classes of laborers accept the inevitable readjustment.

2. The uncertain ability of Europe to buy our surplus goods.

3. The possibility of partial crop failures. Even with improved prices, farmers who have but little to sell will find it difficult to meet their obligations.

### Freight Rate Adjustment Sought

J. B. McNulty, Winona county agent, has been interested in urging readjustment of freight rates between Lewiston and Chicago or Milwaukee. Rates from Lewiston have been from 2 to 4 per cent more than from Rushford, a competing town slightly further from these markets. The inequality of rates cost the Lewiston elevator about \$1,800.

## AUTO RUNNING COSTS

### 9.55 CENTS PER MILE

Average for County Agent Work in 1921 Lowest Since 1918—Reports Disclose Interesting Facts

The average cost of operation of the automobiles used in county agent work in Minnesota in 1921 was 9.55 cents a mile, according to records submitted by the county agents and tabulated by the cost accounting section of the agricultural experiment station. This cost is lower than it has been for any year since 1918. In 1920 the average cost per mile was 11.51 cents, in 1919 it was 10.25 cents, and in 1918 it was 8.19 cents. Costs include not only gas, oil, tires, repairs, and other operating costs, but also the fixed charges like garage rent, depreciation, interest, and insurance. The mileage includes personal as well as official travel.

### Ford Running Costs Less

The figures bring out several important facts regarding the economy of operation of cars used in county agent work. There were 15 cars operated at a cost of less than 8 cents per mile, while 14 cars cost more than 12 cents per mile to operate. As most agents are reimbursed at the standard rate of 10 cents a mile, those running at a cost of 8 cents a mile would make a saving, while those running at a cost of 12 cents a mile would carry a heavy loss. The figures explain the reasons for this difference in cost. The average cost of the Ford cars used was 8.61 cents a mile, as against the average of other makes of 11.09 cents. Also, those cars which ran a small total mileage averaged a larger cost per mile than if a greater total mileage were run. Twenty cars, driven less than 6,000 miles apiece, cost 11.35 cents a mile. Eight cars were driven more than 10,000 miles each at a cost of only 7.50 cents a mile.

A third reason for the heavy cost which some agents experienced is found in the fact that they kept the car too long. A special study was made of the Ford cars, and it was found that those older than two years averaged a higher cost per mile than those bought more recently. Cars less than one year old averaged 8.56 cents a mile; those over one year but less than two, averaged 7.08 cents; while those over two years old averaged 9.22 cents a mile.

### Distribution of Costs

Below is given a statement showing the average cost per mile and the distribution of these costs:

Number of cars	70
Average mileage per car	7605
Average miles per gallon of gas	15.2
Operating costs:	
Gas	\$.0171
Oil	.0029
Tires and tubes	.0100
Repairs	.0207
Miscellaneous	.0009
Fixed charges:	
Garage rent	.0050
Depreciation	.0332
Interest	.0043
Insurance	.0014
Total	\$.0955

## DISTRICT MEETINGS HELD AT 3 POINTS

County Agents Gather at Crookston, Morris and Mankato to Review and Plan Working Programs

District conferences of Red river valley county agents were held at Crookston April 7; of west central Minnesota at Morris April 11, and of southwest Minnesota at Mankato April 13 and 14. The following points partially summarize the proceedings of these conferences:

The county agents themselves, though right on the firing line in farm difficulties and fully appreciative of what the great business of agriculture has experienced in 1920 and 1921, have a very favorable outlook for the future of Minnesota agriculture.

The recent acute problem has been financial. Fortunately, decided improvement in this field is being experienced.

The underlying and continuing problems confronting the counties have to do with economical production, efficient marketing, betterment of living conditions, and the development of more satisfactory community life.

Well balanced plans of work of county agents and county farm bureaus are in progress, having promise of benefit not only for the present year, but for the future usefulness of the service.

### Major Projects in Progress

Some of the leading projects include seed selection, treatment, plot work and insect control to improve the quality of crops; fertilizer demonstrations, for example, on peat soils which without treatment are usually unproductive; adding potatoes to grain as a cash crop; introduction of winter wheat; growing increased acreages of alfalfa, sweet clover, soy beans, and other legumes; pasture improvement; better feeding and care of livestock; organization of cow testing and bull associations; importation of improved livestock; herd improvement through more general use of good purebred sires; the culling of poultry; hog cholera control; tuberculin testing; securing picric acid for land clearing; farm drainage; organization of farm loan associations; improvement of creamery markets; cooperative egg marketing through creameries; cooperative livestock marketing; conducting local farm labor exchanges; promoting boys' and girls' club work, and fostering better community organization.

### Monthly Paper for Six Counties

In general the plan of a joint farm bureau publication being fostered by Cottonwood, Jackson, Nobles, Murray, Pipestone, and Rock counties was approved. This will be a regular six column newspaper size publication of four pages. It will be issued jointly by the State Farm Bureau Federation and the counties named. The first page, contributed by the federation, will contain state and national federation news. Each county will have one-half page allotted for news and exchange list. The paper will be issued monthly. The state federation will have charge of make-up, printing, and mailing. The cost on the basis of 5,000 circulation

for the counties named will be about \$100 a month. Other groups of counties are invited to consider a similar proposition.

Farm bureau membership collections, while in general a little slow, have been satisfactory. Practically all members able to meet their membership dues have done so. There have been few cancellations of membership. Bankers with but few exceptions have extended cordial cooperation in making collection of membership dues. Collection of dues should be made promptly where the finances of the members permit. Don't strike off delinquents. Most of them will renew their memberships when they can.

### Cotton and Peck Speak

Dr. C. E. Cotton of the Livestock Sanitary Board attended the Morris and Mankato conferences and discussed methods of organization to be employed in the control of hog cholera, bovine tuberculosis, and anthrax.

F. W. Peck, director of agricultural extension, who attended each conference, was asked to discuss the points brought out and draw conclusions. He approved the desire of county agents and county farm bureaus to have more publicity service and announced that the Minnesota Extension Service News is now going to executive committees of farm bureaus, township directors and county commissioners.

He expressed hope that county appropriations may be continued without interruption through action of county commissioners. It is desirable that membership collections should be promptly made, but that the responsibility should be assumed by the county farm bureau organization and not the county agent. The matter of each county having a conservative budget was pointed out and attention called to the necessity of keeping down overhead expenses and the importance of keeping out of debt.

## JUNIORS TO HAVE OWN STATE FAIR BUILDING

Managers of the State Fair have definitely decided that the building previously used by the bee and honey exhibits will be devoted exclusively to boys' and girls' club work for the 1922 State Fair. This building is centrally located, contains about 9,000 square feet of floor space, is well lighted and should make an excellent place for club demonstrations and exhibits.

The building will be rearranged with four large platforms where the bread, cake, garment-making, canning, poultry and other demonstrations will be given. Seats will be provided. Booths will be built for the canning, garment and corn exhibits, and from 50 to 75 special club exhibits. A roomy office will be included where conferences of those interested in junior extension work may be held during the week.

### Traffic Officer Proposed

To make the highways of southeastern Minnesota safer for driving, the Goodhue county farm bureau recently passed resolutions favoring the employment of a traffic officer for several adjoining counties.

## SHORT COURSE WORK GIVEN 2,000 JUNIORS

Courses Presented in 14 Counties, Besides Those at University Farm, Crookston and Morris

The annual boys' and girls' short course at University Farm the first week of April each year has been a fruitful feature of junior extension work in Minnesota since it was first organized. These short courses have done much to make club work a success in the state.

An occasional county club short course much on the same plan as the one at University Farm has been held in previous years. The popularity of the county course has developed until this year, during March, April and May, such courses will have been held in Todd, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Sibley, Hennepin, Kittson, Steele, Dodge, Martin, Becker, Watonwan, Pennington, St. Louis and Beltrami counties, besides the district short courses of a week's duration held at Crookston and Morris and the one at University Farm. More than 2,000 club members will have attended one of these short courses for special instruction in their club projects.

The program carried out includes regular class instruction in the club projects selected by each county; general programs of demonstrations, club songs, games and other club activities. Nearly all those held this year have presented special "movie" programs with the club film "Partners" as the leading film.

Another feature which has been strongly emphasized at these courses is the local and county boys' and girls' club organization. Each of these counties have organized a county boys' and girls' club, or junior farm bureau. Several counties have held leaders' conferences at the same time.

Junior short courses are organized by farm bureaus, public schools and community organizations working together. They furnish one of the most effective means of reaching a large number of farm boys and girls with definite instruction for better agriculture and homemaking.

## AITKIN ORGANIZES TO CLEAR UP MORE LAND

Six counties of northern Minnesota now have organized county-wide land clearing work in progress. Business men and farmers united in organizing the Aitkin County Land Clearing association on April 4. This association, like those of the other organized counties, will cooperate closely with the county farm bureau and commercial clubs and other organizations. One of its first acts was to make financial arrangements whereby credit for the purchase of explosives could be readily secured. It is expected this credit arrangement will provide at all times an ample supply of explosives for use of the farmers of the county. The other counties which have organized associations are St. Louis, Beltrami, Itasca, Cass and Crow Wing.

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WALTER C. COFFEY

Dean of the Department of Agriculture and  
Director of Experiment Station

FRANK W. PECK

Director of Agricultural Extension

W. P. KIRKWOOD

E. C. TORREY

Editors

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### OBLIGATION OF INDIVIDUAL TO COMMUNITY

One of the most important tasks in America is the maintenance of a profitable agriculture under conditions that will insure the continuance of rural population on at least the average plane of American living. This means that there must be increasing thought given to standards of farm living and to the development of right kinds of communities in many parts of our country.

One of the difficulties in the establishment and maintenance of a desirable community is a tendency for each of us to believe the responsibility rests upon some one else. The national slogan seems to be "Let George do it." Until we appreciate the fact that a definite obligation rests upon each one of us to do a certain definite part in the development of the right kind of a community, the job will never be done.

What kind of a community do you want? You can have just the kind that you make up your mind you are going to have. You can do in your community just what you want to do provided the plans are economically and socially sound. It is a case of individual responsibility, of the changing of our individual point of view, if necessary, and the setting of definite tasks to be done by various individuals. We are too inclined to come together and agree on the sentiment and absolutely ignore the practical application of the ideals expressed. We often talk for hours on the conditions that exist and sigh for improvements for these conditions, but shirk from individual responsibility and doing of definite pieces of work that would make for progress in the attainment of the condition we would like to bring about.

There is just one function for each individual in the community to assume for the development of a desirable community, and that is the function of service. The basis of cooperation is built upon compensation for service. The ripened fruit that comes from the experience of those who develop the right kind of community comes only to those who have given a service in this development. The business world is emphasizing service in all its transactions, and this word is

the foundation of the success of the cooperative movement fostered by farmers' organizations today. Improved service at a lower cost, that is the only basis which will insure permanent success.

### CONDEMNING WITHOUT INVESTIGATING

Several years ago Herbert Spencer said: "There is a principle that prevents discussion, bars progress, and is bound to keep one in everlasting ignorance all the days of his life, and that principle is condemnation without investigation."

What a wonderful gift it is to be able to express in a few words such a governing principle that is so common in the experience of everyone of us. Condemnation without investigation has become almost a universal practice, and it applies particularly to the attitude taken by many people to education conducted by publicly supported agents.

We are all of us more or less prone to condemn principles, movements, individual and collective efforts, ideals, and progressive ideas without a knowledge of the facts on which to base our opinion.

How often are we forced to change our opinions, if we will, by the sequence of events that prove that our opinion was based not on fact or adequate investigation but was formed largely through ignorance of the conditions. It would be well if the sentiment expressed by Spencer could be burned into the mind of everyone of us to the end that there could be open discussion, constructive progress, and increasingly more wisdom in the conduct of our affairs by thorough investigation before condemnation. This would mean much more progress to agriculture and a much more valuable extension service in Minnesota.

### FEED AND CARE THE WEAK LINK

From four cow testing associations in Wabasha county, County Agent R. W. Bennett has obtained some real proof that feed and care of the stock is one of the weak links in the business. The following table shows a high percentage of purebred sires and purebred cows in these associations, but these 108 herds undoubtedly represent the more progressive farmers.

Cows in four associations.....	1,645
Boarders, below 200 lbs butterfat	25 per cent
Purebred sires used.....	96 per cent
Purebred cows used.....	17 per cent
Number herds .....	108
Herds on balanced rations.....	38 per cent
Herds receiving silage.....	85 per cent
Herds receiving legumes .....	25 per cent
Herds receiving timothy.....	75 per cent

When we find less than 40 per cent of the progressive farmers using well balanced rations, only 25 per cent using legumes and 75 per cent still feeding that age long filler—timothy—it is no wonder that 25 per cent fall into the boarder class. If these facts come out in communities that are progressive enough to have a cow testing association, what might be expected as a general average over the county or state? Learn to feed, then breed.

### SEED MISREPRESENTED

Some potato dealers having made wrongful use of the certificates issued for potatoes which have been government inspected and passed as "table stock grade," officials of the bureau of markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, give notice that the food products inspection service does not certify seed potatoes.

"There are no U. S. seed grades," says the notice. "Any one offering for sale seed stock which is claimed to have been government certified is misrepresenting what he offers. Such stock may have been inspected and passed as U. S. No. 1 grade, but this is only a table stock grade. Potatoes may be good U. S. No. 1 grade, but be absolutely worthless for seed. No one can judge the quality of seed stock by examination of the tubers, and so the inspection service certifies grade only for table use."

### OF COURSE IT PAYS

It pays to advertise. As a result of the extensive publicity given the Beltrami county land clearing movement of 1921, the immigration commission of Minnesota reports that fully 50 per cent of the inquiries concerning northern Minnesota land mention Beltrami county. It has been estimated that during 1921 seven and a half million people saw the name of Beltrami county in print, and read something about the land clearing work being done in that county.

### SENIOR WOMEN STUDY EXTENSION METHODS

A course in home economics extension methods is being given this quarter to the senior women who are interested in home demonstration work. Miss Lombard of the resident staff and Miss Newton of the extension staff are in charge. Part of the course consists of talks on organization and methods given by various members of the extension staff, while the rest of the time is devoted to field work. The main points discussed by the speakers are:

- Survey of the extension movement—federal and state.
- The farm bureau movement and the county agricultural agent.
- Boys' and girls' club work.
- History of home economics extension work.
- Organization of home demonstration work.
- Relation of home demonstration agent and specialist.
- The project.
- Office organization.
- Illustrative material—charts, posters, use of camera, motion picture machine, stereopticon.
- Publicity.

Three of the members are conducting clothing project groups while a fourth has a group in household management.

### Fireless Cooker Cuts Bills

Some women in the home accounts group in Minneapolis have made fireless cookers and are testing them out as an aid to lessening the gas bill for the month. Foods which require long cooking, as pot roasts, may be prepared in the fireless cooker, thus saving several hours of the use of gas.

### WILSONS BUSY AND HAPPY IN NEW HOME

Friends of A. D. Wilson, former director of agricultural extension, will be pleased to learn of his excellent progress on his farm in Hubbard county.

"When Mr. Wilson moved on to this place, July 1, 1921," says S. B. Cleland, who recently spent a few hours with the Wilson family, "it was entirely wild land, the only improvements being the new house which was only partly completed. During the summer and fall Mr. Wilson cleared and broke 30 acres. During the winter he hauled sand for a foundation for his barn and cut out logs which he will saw into lumber this spring. He is keeping very little stock as yet, because of lack of feed and shelter, but will conduct a general livestock farm as soon as he is equipped.

"Mr. Wilson expects to devote most of the summer of 1922 to clearing. In the fall he will put in a basement for a barn, and then build the superstructure in the winter. In this way he has provided profitable work all the year. He employs one man, but otherwise is handling all the work himself.

"The school bus goes by their door and the children attend school at Guthrie, three and one-half miles distant. Members of the family have already established themselves in the community life of the neighborhood and have found a warm welcome among the hustling people of that locality."

### Potato Exchange Directors Confer

About 40 directors of local associations constituting the Minnesota Potato Exchange met at Little Falls April 13 and gave a vote of confidence to the present management and discussed plans for the future. It was recommended that the different associations subscribe for more stock in order to clear up the present indebtedness and get on a substantial basis. A. M. Dunton, acting manager of the Exchange, presented a complete and comprehensive statement of its affairs and the difficulties under which it has operated.

### Bennett Opens Second Office

The establishment of a district office at Lake City in addition to his regular office at Wabasha will prove a wise move, according to Ralph W. Bennett, Wabasha county agent, who will spend the 15th and 30th of each month at the branch office. "As a result of this move closer contact is made with the farmers and they soon learn that a county agent is one of their own and is with them and not above them in their farm dealings and problems," he declares.

### Goes Into Club Work

Russel W. Seath, a sophomore in the college of agriculture, will assist in boys' and girls' club work in Freeborn county during the summer.

### LOCAL WOMEN LEAD CLOTHING PROJECTS

Two local leader groups in the clothing project have been organized in Mille Lacs county, two townships meeting at Princeton with Mrs. W. Mark as local chairman, and representatives from five farmers' clubs meeting at Waukon, some coming 20 miles, with Mrs. C. T. Freer as local chairman.

The Princeton group reports two meetings with local units, and 19 dress forms besides.

The Waukon leaders have met with one local group at Cove and other groups will be given the work now that the roads are passable.

The clothing project was started in Kanabec county in February with three groups, Ann Lake township, Whited township and Mora. The group at Mora held its local unit meeting on "use of patterns" and "the fitting and making of a wash dress." The chairman, Mrs. Bronniche, reports that they have calls from all over the county from groups of women who wish the help of the local leaders. A group at Ogilvie is to be organized by Mrs. Whittaker and Mrs. Rettig.

A county-wide meeting of the women has been called to consider what work shall be taken up after the clothing project has been completed.



PROF. A. L. HARVEY OF THE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DIVISION, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, SHOWING A CLASS OF BOYS ATTENDING THE JUNIOR SHORT COURSE AT UNIVERSITY FARM HOW TO JUDGE AND CARE FOR THE SHEEP'S WOOL.

By courtesy of the St. Paul Daily Dispatch.

## FEAR FELT THIS MAY BE HOG DISEASE YEAR

Remedial Factors Necessary to Control Cholera Discussed by Kernkamp—State Board Regulations

Owners of swine are cooperating in several Minnesota counties to get the upper hand of hog cholera. They are planning to lock the stable door before the horse is stolen. Usually owners are not thoroughly aroused to the danger until after the disease has begun to take its toll in a neighborhood. Often it is then too late to prevent heavy losses.

Interesting facts concerning the disease, methods of fighting it, and regulations of the Livestock Sanitary board are given below in a statement which was prepared for Extension Service News by Dr. H. C. H. Kernkamp of the serum laboratories, division of veterinary medicine of the state university. The statement has been read and approved by Dr. C. E. Cotton, executive officer of the state board. Dr. Kernkamp says:

### Appears in Cycles

"Hog cholera generally breaks out and begins to spread during the late spring and early summer, which means that by fall it is causing many deaths and consequently heavy losses. It has been the experience and observation of many who are interested in its control and eradication that the disease has swept the country by periods. That is to say, for from one to three years hog cholera was rampant and spread fast and far, then for several years following there was a decided decrease in the number of outbreaks and in mortality. If such circumstances are to repeat themselves, it would seem that this year will mark one of the high points again.

"If we can concentrate our efforts and put into operation those measures we have learned with reference to the prevention and control of cholera, there is a possibility of being able to check its rapid spread and lower the death rate. Therefore, since we recognize that hog cholera is characterized by rapid spread and high mortality, one should always first eliminate the probability of sickness in swine as being cholera. This marks the necessity of the importance of a correct diagnosis, and with it rests the responsibility for further steps necessary to prescribe methods for handling the case.

### As to Treatment

"The proper direct remedial agencies necessary to control hog cholera are anti-hog cholera serum and hog cholera virus when certain conditions exist. It must further be considered that in such cases where one or more other diseases may be associated with hog cholera, then such measures are necessary which will tend to combat these ailments also. There are times when it is not advisable to administer hog cholera virus in conjunction with anti-hog cholera serum where certain diseases exist. Obviously, in such cases, one cannot expect the most favorable results in all instances.

"For the treatment of hogs with anti-hog cholera serum, two principal methods are recognized. One, where

only the serum is used; the other, when virus is used in conjunction with serum. Many have been in doubt as to just what these two things are. Anti-hog cholera serum contains such substances as will fight against the causative agent of cholera, and cannot under any circumstances produce hog cholera. Hog cholera virus on the other hand is the causative agent and will produce the disease. It is for this fact that certain regulations which tend to limit and control its use are deemed imperative.

### Double Treatment

"The immunity conferred by the injection of anti-hog cholera serum alone in a normal and healthy hog is one of rather short duration, it being considered between four and six weeks, while in many instances it is less than that. Immunity produced as a result of the use of serum and virus is believed to be lifelong.

"Many hogs develop hog cholera after being injected with serum and virus. Some become very sick and some die as a result of this treatment, but the majority never show physical evidence of the disease. Pigs sick with the disease will often scatter and spread the infection. For this reason it is considered that every time swine are double treated (serum and virus) hog cholera is introduced upon the premises.

### Regulations of Board

"Therefore, the State Livestock Sanitary board has taken such precautions as will tend to control and eliminate the spread of hog cholera.

"An area within a radius of six miles of premises where hog cholera exists is considered as **infected territory**. When establishing such territory, a description of the location of the farm on which cholera is found to exist must be forwarded to the Livestock Sanitary board. This is recorded and legally establishes the area as infected territory, and a permit to immunize any or all the hogs within this area with serum and virus is issued to a qualified and licensed veterinarian.

"On farms where cholera exists, a placard announcing that 'hog cholera exists on these premises' must be posted. On farms where serum and virus are used, a placard stating that 'hogs are quarantined' for at least 21 days and longer if pigs are sick, is to be posted.

### Must Ask Board for Permit

"Sometimes in territories where no cholera exists an owner wishes to have his hogs immunized by the serum and virus method. In such cases he should request his veterinarians to apply for a permit to the state board in lieu of which a permit will be issued for the use of virus on the individual farm only. It will be necessary for the owner to sign a quarantine agreement which provides that none of the treated animals or any article or thing that is likely to convey contagion can be removed; that sickness or death of any of the swine must be reported immediately when such condition is discovered; that he must keep out of other people's hog lots and keep other people out of his. This quarantine remains in force for at least 21 days."

## KEEN INTEREST TAKEN IN SEWING, GARDENING

Leaves from the Note Books of Home Demonstration Agents in Morrison and St. Louis

Susan Hough, Morrison county.

Two groups of women had the meeting on short cuts in sewing and 30 women were present at these two meetings. The demonstration on cutting and fitting was held in Motley and Rosing townships; each woman had a list of her correct measurements for testing out patterns.

One woman said a neighbor had declared she was not interested in the clothing demonstrations because she knew all about sewing, but she thought she would attend out of curiosity. After the first demonstration, she said she decided she was not too old to learn and certainly would not miss any of the other demonstrations as she felt them to be so worth while.

I quote from a letter from one of the local women: "That leaves only two women in this section of the county without a dress form. Seldom a day passes but what I use mine. I find that I can make over so many things that I would not have tried otherwise."

Anna Tikkanen, St. Louis county.

As the March winds blow and the winter weakens its grip on the soil general interest in gardening is aroused in the minds of the people. The gardening project for the summer of 1922 has occupied the mind of the St. Louis county home demonstration agent wherever she has traveled in the county the past month.

Is it going to be a haphazard, accidental, random sort of affair, or a carefully planned effort to get the most in the way of health, food, and pleasure out of the soil?

To help those who are more or less unfamiliar with vegetable gardening, we have arranged the model garden. Through the courtesy of M. B. Elson we were able to get blue prints of a model garden plan which is being introduced in the county through various clubs and groups of people asking each locality to have just as many model gardens in their community as possible. Regular project work is being carried on in five different communities with groups of women interested in gardening.

Cora Cooke, poultry specialist.

Nicollet county: The greatest enthusiasm was met in this county. Competition between the three groups adds greatly to the interest. The county has seven cooperative creameries and our object is to bring about the handling of eggs in all of these creameries. A plan suggested is to have each group make trial shipment of graded eggs to different markets, the work of grading and packing to be done at one of the project meetings.

### New Assistant Leader Named

W. E. Durbahn has been appointed assistant club leader for the Mankato schools, and will supervise the activities of the 250 boys and girls who are expected to take part in the school club work.

## FIRST COUNTY CLUB CONTESTS DUE SOON

### Effective Way of Demonstrating Results and Proving Value of Girls' Work in Bread and Garment Clubs

One of the most effective ways of demonstrating the results of the girls' bread and garment clubs is through the county competitive demonstrations by individual members and by teams. All counties which have these clubs arrange for county contests during May or June, to which local clubs send individual competitors as well as its winning team in each class, including bread, cake and garment making. If the county has the garment clubs, an exhibit of garments is included. Exhibits of bread and cake are also often made.

The demonstrations and exhibits make a very interesting program and are generally well attended by leaders, club members and the general public. As an illustration, the county contest of Wright county was held last year at Buffalo. Six communities in different parts of the county were represented by individual contestants and by demonstration teams. The exhibit of garments made by the garment clubs was unusually fine. The competitive demonstrations in bread, cake and garment making lasted practically all day. One of the best parts of the plan was that nearly 100 persons attended the demonstrations. Many other counties did equally well.

Mrs. Margaret Baker will judge these demonstrations in all counties in the southern district. The following counties have already arranged dates: Martin county at Fairmont, May 20; Redwood county, May 15, 16, 17 and 18; Watonwan county at St. James, May 25; Mower county at Rose Creek June 9 and 10.

Miss Genevieve Burgan will have charge of the northeastern and central sections where the following dates have been arranged: Itasca county at Grand Rapids, May 12 and 13; Lake county at Two Harbors, May 8 and 9; St. Louis county, May 10 and 11; west central Minnesota points, May 15 to 27.

Miss Schenck, the home economics teacher at the Northwestern School of Agriculture at Crookston, will judge in northwest Minnesota. Counties which have not already arranged for definite dates are urged to do so immediately.

### Making the Fair Agricultural

At least 160 more spring hogs will be shown at the Winona county fair in the fall if plans made by J. B. McNulty, county agent, materialize. "Men who have never before thought of taking anything to the fair will plan to show in the futurity contests," he says. "This is a great step towards making the county fair agricultural, which all real agriculturists believe it should be. With sufficient interest on the part of the farmers, the undue proportion of sideshows can be greatly reduced, and the fair made of much greater value."

## SHORTHORN BREEDERS OF DODGE PLAN TOUR

Shorthorn breeders of Dodge county are doing things. They recently held their annual meeting and appointed three special committees, the first on a proposed auto tour and picnic day, the second on a Shorthorn calf project and the third on a Shorthorn sale.

C. L. McNelly, the Dodge county agent, advises the News that arrangements have been made with Dean W. C. Coffey of the university's agricultural department to attend the tour and also to speak at exercises immediately following a picnic dinner. June 8 has been selected as the date for the outing.

The breeders' association is encouraging a Shorthorn calf project. For the last two years it has appropriated \$25 for the support of the baby beef contest. It plans to hold its fifth annual sale in the fall. H. C. Gripp is the new president of the Dodge County Shorthorn Breeders association, and Lewis McMartin is the secretary.

## COUNTY WILL MARKET EGGS CO-OPERATIVELY

Coöperative marketing of eggs will be the leading market project of the Dodge county farm bureau. Because the Minnesota Coöperative Creamery association, Inc., has voted to take up coöperative egg marketing as a side line, and to assist as far as possible in organizing for the handling of eggs in carload lots as soon as an eastern office is established, special attention will be paid to this project in Dodge county. C. L. McNelly, county agent, has arranged for special meetings at various cheese factories which are affiliated with the State Cheese Producers association. The cheese association will equip a special floor of its warehouse for the egg work.

## "PARTNERS" PRAISED WHEREVER IT'S SHOWN

"Partners," the movie film depicting boys' and girls' club work as it is done in Minnesota, is meeting with a reception even surpassing the hopes of its producers. W. R. Mills of St. Paul, who made the film with the help of farm bureau and extension division men, and who has charge of all booking arrangements, says that every copy of the film was booked for the entire month of April, without an open date. As there are five copies, it is clear that Mr. Mills' report speaks well, indeed, for the picture, which has been out only a little over two months. The outlook for the future is decidedly bright. "Partners" shows the possibilities of a purely educational film.

### Coöperative Creamery in Mining District

Finding 1,800 cows available for a farmers' coöperative creamery on the Cuyuna iron range, E. G. Roth, Crow Wing county agent, is attempting to organize such an enterprise there. The business men of the range are strongly in favor of the project.

## POULTRY CULLING TO BE RENEWED IN JUNE

### Twelve Schools for County Agents Scheduled—Tours to Be Made to Poultry Centers the Same Month

Poultry culling activities of the agricultural extension division of the university will be renewed in June when the first of a series of 12 culling schools for county agents will be held at Rochester, June 12. The other 11 dates and places are: Mankato, June 13; Fairmont, June 14; Pipestone, June 16; Willmar, June 19; Thief River Falls, June 20; Glenwood, June 22; Moorhead, June 23; Brainerd, June 26; Virginia, June 27; North Branch, June 29; Farmington, June 30.

The school master in charge of these schools will be N. E. Chapman, veteran poultry extension specialist, assisted by O. O. Horlamus, formerly agent in Nicollet county. The schools are planned primarily to give instruction to and infuse "pep" in the county agents in order that they may carry the principles of successful culling to all poultry breeders and farmers in the state. Some work on egg marketing, in addition to the lessons in culling, will be given at these schools.

The spring time visiting tours to the poultry demonstration communities will take place early in June. Poultry raisers in adjoining territory will be invited to these meetings and demonstrations. The first records of the breeding and raising of chicks will be ready for examination.

N. E. Chapman has supervision of five of the county poultry demonstration communities, or those at Long Lake in Hennepin county, Kingston in Meeker county, Milaca in Mille Lacs county, Askov in Pine county and Walker in Cass county. The remaining five, which are under the direction of Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist of the office of extension work with women, are at Orchard Gardens in Dakota county, Brookston in St. Louis county, Waldorf in Waseca county, Fairmont in Martin county and Elm-dale in Morrison county.

## EGG LAYING CONTEST LOCATES BEST STOCK

The county farm bureau office is frequently asked to recommend sources of stock and supplies of various kinds. There have been increasing requests for names of breeders of good poultry. A farmer may wish to start keeping standard bred poultry, yet feeling it would not be profitable to invest in high-priced, widely-advertised stock, he continues with his mongrel flock.

Morrison county has attempted to meet this situation for the good of the producer and the would-be customer by establishing a county egg-laying contest. This contest lasts for one year and is open to any person in the county who raises standard-bred poultry. Record cards are furnished by the county farm bureau office, to be returned with the month's record.

The home demonstration agent sends a monthly news letter to each coöperator and visits each flock at least once during the year.

## FAIR WILL BAR ALL OUTSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Action has been taken by the directors of the Wadena County Fair association, livestock exhibitors, farmers, club members and others to make the Wadena county fair so far as possible a home talent production. With the aid of the county farm bureau much progress has been made in this direction the last two years, and now the fair board has gone on record in favor of no outside attractions, depending entirely on local features to hold popular support.

Some of the features which have created much interest in the past have been the boys' and girls' contests. The livestock show put on by the youngsters was in many ways a stiff competitor of the exhibit by adults. The canning demonstration was another interesting feature of club activity. Still another which has attracted a great deal of attention is the township booth contest which has been participated in by practically every community in the county. The keen competition aroused by these township booths has brought large numbers of people to the fair intent on supporting their home booth.

A special committee has been appointed by the fair association to outline in addition to these features a program of entertainment to take the place of what was formerly known as free attractions. Local talent will be encouraged to provide special entertainment, which will have the double effect of creating greater interest and also of keeping the money at home that needs to be spent on this department. The policy is to make every feature as educational as possible and to have every department clean and wholesome.

### Minnesota Potatoes to Norway

The fame of Minnesota potatoes continues to spread. County Agent M. P. Ostby of Cass county reports that he shipped three bushels of Green Mountain potatoes to Norway to demonstrate the value of this variety for that country. The Green Mountain, or Carmen No. 1, as it is often called, is probably the most popular variety of potato grown in northeastern Minnesota, and has met with great favor with consumers as a fancy table variety.

### Farm Bureau Service Aids Growers

Almost 10,000 pounds of grass seeds were sold through the Marshall county farm bureau to farmers in March, according to B. R. Hauser, county agent. About 2,200 pounds of medium red clover seed and 500 pounds of timothy from Becker county were pooled and shipped to farmers in the southern part of the state by Ed. C. Johnson, county agent. Farmers selling their seed through the farm bureau received about 3 cents more a pound than local buyers had offered.

## SACRED HEART SHOW VOTED GREAT SUCCESS

A corn, grain and seed show put on at Sacred Heart, Renville county, by County Agent W. K. Dyer, created so much interest and was so well attended that its promoter is well sold on the plan of holding similar shows for groups of townships until all sections of the county are covered.

The Sacred Heart show was limited to the four west end townships of Renville county, but more than 80 entries of grain and seeds were made. The merchants put up special prizes and the banks gave \$12.50 each. The "specials" were used in each case for first premiums and the money for the remainder of the prizes. The township scoring the most points was awarded a \$5 cash prize. In determining the championship the first score indicated by a blue ribbon, counted as 10 points; second (red ribbon) as eight points, third (white ribbon) as five points, and the fourth as three points.

The show came at an opportune time for making seed sales, and the county agent writes that he never saw so much seed sold in one place as was sold the day of the show. "Mindum No. 470 wheat that I brought in two years ago," he says, "was practically all sold out—something more than 1,500 bushels. All the oats, both early and late, that came from winning samples, was readily taken. Large amounts of alfalfa and clover seed were also sold. The show was voted a big success and enjoyed by an enthusiastic crowd of people. Think I will try to hold one in each village of the county, and in this way reach all of the townships. I can handle 10 shows to which all of the 27 townships of the county would be tributary."

### More Potato Growers Organizing

The purchase of an old depot for a warehouse or the construction of a warehouse is forecast by W. V. Longley, Kittson county agent, as a result of recent potato meetings at Donaldson, Hallock, Humboldt and Northcote. A temporary growers' association, he says, has been organized at Hallock. Kennedy growers are also going ahead with their plans for a warehouse this year, he says.

### Club Work Boosted by "Partners"

Showing of the film "Partners" in connection with dairy feeding schools at Verndale and Sebeka has stimulated a great deal of interest in club work, County Agent William A. Peters reports. Children of the town schools and of many rural schools were dismissed and provided with transportation that they might see the picture.

### L. D. Richards Assists Kirkpatrick

L. D. Richards, a graduate of the college of agriculture of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed special assistant county agent in Hennepin county and will be in charge of boys' and girls' club projects.

## CAVERT OFFERS PLAN FOR FIGHTING THISTLE

In giving notice that during the period from May 20 to July 15 farm management work will be available under his direction, William L. Cavert, farm management specialist, says:

"In sections of the state where the sow thistle is a serious problem it is believed that the summer meetings of township units or farmers' clubs could well be devoted to discussion of crop rotations with a view to bringing about weed control.

"Such meetings should preferably be day meetings. The plan of procedure would be to visit during the morning one or two representative farms in the locality, and, with the cropping system of these as a starting point, to discuss systems that would tend to control weeds and provide suitable livestock feeds as well as the usual amount of cash crops. This discussion would be visualized by means of diagrams on a portable, blackboard.

"In connection with such meetings, it would be desirable to suggest a picnic lunch for the noon time as there is no more effective method of maintaining interest in the township farm bureau unit than for its members to eat together. Also, it has the advantage that the crowd is on hand promptly for the afternoon program. In connection with these meetings, if possible, several farmers could be assisted to plan definite cropping systems for their own farms and to outline it in map form."

## SECRETARIES STRONG FOR THE CLUB WORK

Secretaries of Minnesota county fairs are strongly impressed with the worth-while character of boys' and girls' club work. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted at their state meeting in the twin cities:

"Whereas, it has been demonstrated that the boys' and girls' club contests at county fairs have been productive of wider interest on the part of people of rural communities and have proven to be of exceptional educational value, be it

"Resolved, that the secretaries of the Minnesota county fairs in meeting assembled commend T. A. Erickson, state club leader, on the interest which he has shown in helping and assisting in the development of boys' and girls' clubs as an adjunct to county fairs; and further be it

"Resolved that we tender to Mr. Erickson our sincere desire to cooperate with him in furthering this movement and ask for his continued coöperation with us."

### Northfield Juniors Join Clubs

Northfield boys and girls are going in for club work again this year. L. V. Buckton, high school agricultural instructor, who is in charge of the work there, reports that more than 30 juniors have enrolled either in garden, acre corn, poultry, dairy calf or pig clubs. The Rice county farm bureau is backing the boys and girls.