

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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CRIPPLED MAN CLEARS 20 ACRES IN SEASON

J. D. Hanson, Beltrami County Settler, Maimed and Alone, is Making a Farm Out of Raw Timber Land

Right hand gone, just a hook where it used to be. Greater part of left hand missing also.

Some handicap, you say.

But J. D. Hanson, timber land farmer, won't admit it. And like any two-fisted, muscular he-man, he has undertaken to make a farm out of brush and stump infested land in Beltrami county, Minnesota. Furthermore, he's really doing it. His hands may be crippled, but his step is light and quick, his muscles strong, and his heart stout.

Hanson went into the country twelve miles northwest of Bemidji in May, 1922, and settled on 160 acres. "Hook John" his neighbors began to call him when they found he could use his hook with almost uncanny skill and was asking odds of no one. Hanson was "all by himself." There was no Mrs. Hanson or kin of any degree to cook his meals and keep his house.

Twenty Acres—Count 'Em

While not the most difficult to subdue, Hanson's land is by no means of easy clearing. He had to have shelter and a place for his things, so he put up a small house where he could eat and sleep. Every good day found him pegging away in the brush and among the stumps of his cutover acres. He cut and burned the brush and blasted the stumps until fall weather set in and he decided to call it a season's work. Then he measured up and found that without any help at all he had twenty acres ready for cropping in 1923.

Hanson lost his right hand and had his left hand maimed in a blast several years ago. Is he sorry for himself or is he downhearted? Not at all. He knows and his neighbors know that the task he has undertaken—that of making a real farm in the Minnesota timber belt—will be performed if health and strength hold out.

Busy Year for the Lehmans

Instances might be multiplied of the good work of the resolute pioneers in making farm homes in the timber country. Mr. and Mrs. L. Lehman and 16-year-old son moved upon a piece of raw land near Solway, Minn., the first of last May. During the season the farmer and his boy with a team of horses brushed 33 acres and "stumped" nine acres. Part of the cleared land was plowed and put into crop, the remainder was disced and seeded to rye and grass without plowing. In addition, they built a house 14x24 feet, a barn 16x36 feet, and a poultry house and granary. Mr. Lehman's potatoes yielded 150 bushels to

the acre and were among the finest raised in that section. In discing and seeding land cleared of brush, but not of stumps, the new settler acted upon the advice of a local man experienced in land clearing and in conditions peculiar to the north country.

"Nip and Tuck" on the Job

Joseph Nipp of Tenstrike alone and unaided cleared, stumped, broke and cropped to corn and potatoes twelve acres of unusually difficult land in 1922. The brush was heavy, the stumps large and thick and the soil texture tenacious and hard to handle.

Many men of the mould and type of Hanson, Lehman and Nipp are creating farms out of the cutover areas left by the logger in Minnesota. They make light of hardships and laugh at obstacles. They are working for better farms, better homes and a happier people.

Facts for the foregoing were furnished by Edson Washburn, assistant county agent in Beltrami, in charge of land clearing activities. Speaking at the annual farm bureau meeting in his county, Mr. Washburn reported "12,600 acres brushed in Beltrami county in 1922, 6,580 acres stumped, 7,560 acres broke, and 2,800 acres seeded to grass." Fifty thousand pounds of picric acid and 40,000 pounds of dynamite were handled during the year.

DATES SELECTED FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCES

The assistant county agent leaders have called their first subject matter schools for 1923. The conference for the southwest district will be held at Mankato January 11 and 12. Several members of the station and extension staffs, including Director Peck, will be present. The southeast district conference will be held at Red Wing January 16 and 17, while northeastern district agents have been called to meet at Duluth January 18 and 19. Dates set for the conference in the northwest are January 23 and 24. Moorhead will probably be selected as the place. Programs of work for the coming year and methods of getting the best results will be considered at each conference.

Farmers Dedicate New Hall

Farmers of Greenwood Prairie, Wabasha county, recently held impressive dedication services for a new club hall. W. J. Corwin, the district county agent leader, and leading farmers of the locality gave short addresses. County Agent Bennett says the building of the hall is a fine example of what true coöperation will do in a community. The hall is 82x32 feet, with seating room for 400 persons.

MARKETING RESULTS PLEASE COOPERATORS

Shipping of Farmers' Eggs by Coöperative Creameries of Meeker County Declared a Success

Coöperative marketing of eggs in Minnesota appears to be gaining favor steadily. County agents report good financial returns.

A summary made in Meeker county shows that egg shipping is successful, says T. G. Stitts, county agent. The buttermaker at Darwin, where eggs have been shipped for some time, reports a very successful business although of small proportion as yet. At this creamery the eggs are paid for monthly. In April the patrons received 25 cents, in May 22 cents, in June 21 cents, in July 20 cents, in August 22 cents, in September 33 cents and in October 44 cents. The average price paid by local merchants was about as follows: In May 19 cents, in June 18 cents, in July and August 17 cents, in September 24 cents, and in October 35 cents. The buttermaker collected one cent a dozen for grading, candling, and packing the eggs. Cases, including filler, cost 50 cents.

More than 1,800 cases of eggs were handled by the egg association at Kings-ton during the year, says Mr. Stitts. The total business was close to \$15,000. This, it should be remembered, is only a beginning.

Coöperative creameries at Milaca and Isle in Mille Lacs county are now handling eggs as well as butter. So profitable has been the enterprise that eggs are being brought from a considerable distance, some even being shipped in, to get the advantage of the higher prices secured through coöperative marketing. A Todd county farmer who visited the creamery at Milaca declared that prices of eggs there were about ten cents a dozen higher than in his home town where the creamery does not yet handle eggs.

County Agent Hammargren expects to assist other creameries of Mille Lacs county to install egg departments.

KITTSON PLANNING TO TRY OUT SUGAR BEETS

Kittson county farmers are giving some thought to the matter of growing sugar beets. Kittson has made a fine reputation for its potatoes and other vegetables, and it is felt that sugar beets can be cultivated successfully also. A committee of farmers has been appointed to work with the Hallock Commercial club and the farm bureau to obtain a small acreage at least for 1923 and to look into the freight rate situation for sugar beet consignments from producers to Minnesota factories.

PECK SHOWS NEED OF CUT IN FREIGHT RATES

Director Testifies at Washington as to the Size of the Farmer's Dollar and What It Means.

Director F. W. Peck spent several days in Washington in December, having been called to the capital to testify before the Interstate Commerce Commission on the application of sixteen western states to obtain reductions in rates on wheat, coarse grains and hay. Other college men from the west who were summoned before the commission were Professor Grimes of Kansas, who testified as to the cost of producing wheat, and Dr. Holmes of Iowa, formerly of Minnesota, who gave evidence as to the cost of producing corn and oats in 1921, and as to farm earnings in Iowa in 1921. In his testimony Director Peck estimated the cost of producing wheat, corn, oats, and hay in Minnesota in 1922, with references to costs in other years by way of comparison.

Professor Peck presented a series of charts to support his statements and also gave figures relating to cost of production, prices, purchasing power, and the relation between freight rates and prices of agricultural products at Minneapolis in 1922.

"Cost per unit of producing wheat and oats was considerably less in 1922 than in 1921," he said. "This was due to a slightly lower rate for farm labor and a large yield per unit.

Price Increases Inadequate

"Wheat cost for representative farms in 1922 was 118 per cent of the farm price September 1, and 109 per cent of the price December 1. With just average yields of oats this year, the cost was 180 per cent of the September 1 price and 125 per cent of the December 1 price. The cost of producing corn was greater also on both dates, while with tame hay there was about an even break."

Professor Peck stated that prices have increased in most farm commodities in 1922 over 1921, but the citations above on the cost of production indicate that even the improved price situation would fail to pay 5 per cent interest on many of the farms in the northwest.

"However," he said, "assuming that prices in 1922 had been sufficient to cover the cost of production, the farmer would not be appreciably improved from an economic standpoint, because of the relatively low purchasing power of his products.

Farmer's Exchange Dollar Worth Only 65 Cents

"The trading power of the farmer's products is the key to the farmer's situation, and it may be pointed out that if 1922 had not followed the very serious situation in 1921, conditions would not be as disastrous as they appear at present. The general price level of the commodities farmers buy has risen in the last year from an average index figure of 141 a year ago to 154 at present, assuming 1913 as the base of 100. This means that a unit of wheat in the northwest had a purchasing power last year of 79 per cent prewar and 70 per cent this year. Corn has improved from the ruinous figure of 38 per cent of prewar a year ago to 65 per cent at

Local Leader Training Class in Clothing Project



More important than showing farmers how to grow better corn or to raise better livestock, more valuable than teaching women how to make dress forms or to feed the family efficiently, is the actual development of the men and women into real leaders.

This was the sentiment expressed by County Agent Krause of Faribault county when he sent in the above picture of a local leader training class in clothing which represents Blue Earth and Pilot Grove townships. This group met once a month through the spring and early summer with the clothing specialist from the home demonstration office.

Mr. Krause says that splendid work has been carried on by these local leaders who are not only helping the women in their communities to solve clothing problems, but are finding joy and satisfaction in being of service to others.

present. Likewise, oats improved from 38 per cent to 57 per cent, but it is worth pointing out that potatoes have dropped in the northwest from 47 per cent above prewar last year to the low figure of 41 per cent of prewar purchasing power this year. Thus it is that on the aggregate the farmer's exchange dollar is worth approximately 65 cents in the northwest today.

"With one exception in Minnesota, and I should say this is typical of the northwest, the freight rate index figure at the present time is higher than the cost of production index, the price index, and still higher than the purchasing power index.

How Freight Rates Hurt

"Now the freight rate cost of shipping wheat per 100 pounds from an average of 20 representative points in Minnesota was 6.6 per cent of the value of the product," Professor Peck continued. "On oats and corn it was 9.1 per cent and on hay it was 20 per cent of the value. From points in North Dakota, the freight rate consumed from 9 per cent to 17 per cent of the value of wheat and from 12 to 20 per cent of the value of coarse grains. From South Dakota points it ranges from 10 to 14 per cent of the value of wheat, 13 to 20 per cent of the value of coarse grains, and 35 to 40 per cent of the value of hay.

"The farmers of Minnesota would have an additional income of \$1,066,720 on the basis of the 1922 crop if there is a reduction of one cent a bushel."

He estimated that 318,528,000 bushels of wheat, oats, barley, corn and rye were produced, and that 106,672,000 bushels were shipped. Wheat shipments were estimated at 84 per cent; oats, 29 per cent; barley, 50 per cent; corn, 17 per cent, and rye, 80 per cent. Concluding, Professor Peck said:

What a Reasonable Reduction Would Mean

"On the basis of actual cost of labor on Minnesota farms of 25 cents per hour with 8.5 bushels required to produce an acre of wheat yielding 13.7 bushels per acre, a reduction in the freight rate of 7 cents per bushel increases the labor return per hour 6 per cent. Therefore a 2 cent reduction per

bushel would increase the return 12 per cent. In North Dakota a 1 cent reduction in freight rate per bushel would increase the return per hour of wheat labor from 5 to 9 per cent, depending on the distance to Minneapolis, even with a 9 bushel yield per acre.

"Likewise, in the production of hay for the market a 10 per cent reduction in the freight rates per ton to Minneapolis from Minnesota points would mean an increase in the return per hour of hay labor of 25 per cent. In South Dakota it would mean from 30 to 40 per cent more per hour of labor spent in producing hay, depending on the distance shipped. Thus it is that the freight rate bears an important relation to the earning of the farmer per hour of labor in various enterprises and a relatively small reduction means an enormous sum in the aggregate for agriculture."

Houston to Grow More Alfalfa

Interest in alfalfa growing is increasing in Houston county. County Agent C. C. Turner says many soil samples are being tested for acidity for farmers who plan on putting in alfalfa plots in the spring.

Alfalfa and Soybean Seed Wanted

Kienholz of Carver county is receiving many calls for Grimm alfalfa and soybean seed. He foresees a large increase in the acreage of these two important crops in 1923.

WORK OF CLUBS SHOWS GOOD GAINS IN YEAR 1922

State Leader Summarizes Activities and Results—Significant Increase in Value of Products

(By T. A. Erickson, State Leader.)

Boys' and girls' club work was a strong feature of every county extension program in the state in 1922. More unity in purpose and harmony in the support of this phase of extension work were exhibited by all classes in 1922 than during any previous year. The public school people gave the usual fine support to the work. The showing is especially strong in rural consolidated school districts.

The effort for the year was not to make a large increase in membership, but rather to help the clubs already organized to do better work; to keep as many of the old club members continuing the work as possible, and to increase the proportion of those finishing their projects with work completed, record and story finished.

Leadership Reflected

The increase in membership was slight, but 73 per cent completed their work as against 71 per cent for 1921 and 65 per cent for 1920. This was largely due to the interest taken by county agents and other leaders. The success of this phase of extension work depends largely on leadership. More local leadership has been developed than in any previous year.

Another important result of the year's work is that extension workers appreciate more than ever before the human element in club work. "A little child shall lead them" to better things in agriculture and home making, may well be applied to club work.

Free Trips for 1,561 Club Members

Twenty-six thousand, one hundred fifty-four persons attended "Achievement Days." Eight club camps were held with 1,253 club members in attendance.

Educational trips were emphasized as prizes, and 1,561 club members had free trips to either the State Fair, National Dairy Show, Horticultural Show, Interstate Fair, or International Livestock Show.

Practically every county fair had club departments, with amounts varying from \$100 to \$800 appropriated for prizes and honors.

Thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars was reported as loans by bankers to club members; \$14,100 was spent for educational trips, and approximately an additional \$18,940 for other prizes.

Demonstrations Witnessed by 221,939

Seven hundred fourteen demonstration teams were trained and gave 3,400 demonstrations to 89,491 persons; 132,448 persons attended demonstrations given by leaders and individual club members.

A special effort was made for more individual clubs, with 1,759 clubs as the result. This was an increase of 272 over 1921.

Of the farm projects, livestock clubs were the most popular, with the dairy calf project leading. For the home projects garment clubs led in interest.

A small beginning was made in a

SUMMARY OF CLUB DEMONSTRATIONS OR PROJECTS IN 1922

Club demonstrations (projects)	Organized Clubs	Enrollment	Members reporting	Value of products	Total costs	Value above costs
Corn	35	392	267	\$ 19,792.26	\$ 8,462.88	\$ 11,329.38
Potato	216	1,450	1,102	10,410.12	8,208.94	2,201.18
Garden	194	3,178	1,917	22,187.50	6,517.82	15,669.68
Pig	143	846	694	26,302.50	13,660.00	12,642.50
Sow and litter.....	63	625	488	72,509.00	38,254.50	34,254.50
Dairy calf	79	924	701	104,780.00	80,824.00	23,956.00
Beef calf	56	766	668	61,340.00	29,864.42	31,475.58
Sheep	23	335	254	12,778.24	6,982.63	5,795.61
Poultry	92	1,145	801	26,406.86	10,961.60	15,445.26
Canning	216	1,968	1,193	22,195.00	7,218.15	14,976.85
Bread	313	4,143	3,129	13,329.30	6,378.06	6,951.24
Garment	227	2,502	2,107	18,649.00	10,324.66	8,324.34
Dairy stock judging.....	49	339	320
General livestock judging	53	358	318
Total	1,759	18,971	13,959	\$410,679.78	\$227,657.66	\$183,022.12

health project, with three counties organizing for the work.

The special state club events, where results of this phase of extension work are put before large numbers, are:

1. A special club department at State Fair.
2. Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul.
3. State crop and potato shows.
4. Horticultural meeting.
5. National Dairy Show.

Interstate Records

In the interstate competitive phase of club work Minnesota did unusually well last year, winning fourth with its general livestock judging team from Lewiston at the International Livestock Show; third with its all livestock judging team from Kittson and Steele counties at the Interstate Fair, sixth with dairy stock judging team at the National Dairy Show, third on poultry demonstration team, Hennepin county team, third on dairy demonstration team from Pope county with first on individual dairy club demonstration at National Dairy Show with sixteen states competing, third on demonstration teams at Sioux City, second with Alberta canning team in interstate contest at Sioux City, first on canning team at La Crosse interstate meet, first and third in national health contest.

Table herewith gives the club projects and shows financial results as reported by members. The most important column is the one showing value of products. The figures this year are \$410,679.78 as against \$299,788.70 in 1921.

NEW AGENT NAMED FOR BECKER COUNTY

Benjamin Picha of New Prague, Minn., a graduate of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, 1916, has been hired as county agent of Becker county to begin work January 1. He succeeds E. C. Johnson, who has served Becker county for the last three years. Mr. Picha has since graduation been engaged in farming in Le Sueur county, Minnesota, and later in the province of Manitoba, Canada. He was the first president of the Le Sueur County Farm Bureau association. Mr. Johnson will come to University Farm January 1, and will be with the division of agricultural economics as instructor and will also do graduate work for an advanced degree.

HIGH QUALITY SIRES FOR THIS ASSOCIATION

A Holstein bull association has been organized by twelve breeders of purebreds in Todd county with the intention of bringing in high class sires for use in their herds. There are two blocks in the association, one at Clarissa and one at Long Prairie.

The project was financed by the breeders signing a joint note for \$3,000 with which the two bulls were purchased, the note to be paid off by charging a service fee of \$25 per cow, each breeder pledging a certain number of cows. In addition each \$25 service fee purchases a share of stock in the association. About 100 cows were pledged at the organization meeting held in October.

A purchasing committee consisting of three of the breeders of the county, together with County Agent Ausen, visited several farms in Iowa and Wisconsin to select the two sires required. One of the sires was brought from the Hargrove & Arnold farm at Norwalk, Iowa, and the other from the John Erickson farm at Waupaca, Wisconsin. The first is a double grandson of King Pieterje Ormsby Piebe who is a double grandson of Korndyke K P O P and out of a 900-pound 2-year-old daughter of Sir Jewel Parthenia Doede. The second is a son of Marathon Bess Burke and out of Princess Della, a cow producing more than 1100 pounds of butter at the age of 11 years.

It is expected there will be about twenty or twenty-five members of the association when it is completed. The breeders feel that this coöperative arrangement will bring high quality sires into the community in a much more economical manner than could be done any other way.

Nearly One-Third Discarded

In 46 poultry flocks which Paul A. Johnson, agent of Martin county, helped to cull in November, 4,927 birds were handled and 1,408 discarded as unprofitable producers. Thirty-two per cent were thus thrown out. Mr. Johnson reports that 62 flocks, containing 7,909 fowls, were tested for "TB." The number of reactions was 1,781, or 22 per cent.

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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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CAN'T GET ON WITHOUT IT

If one wishes to put through any project involving dealings with others, or the enlistment of the cooperation of others, he must make use of publicity to promote such dealings or to win such cooperation. It may not be printed publicity, but it must be publicity of some sort—carrying to others of the idea which it is desired "to put over," whether the carrying is done by print, by the spoken word or by pantomime.

Look back over history and see whether you can discover anything recorded there which has not involved the selling of an idea to others in order to gain the desired end.

Go clear back to the beginning. According to Biblical narrative, the serpent, wishing to create business for his superheated abode of woe, enlisted Eve's assistance as a means of selling the apple-eating project to Adam. Eve was the first press agent or publicity purveyor. Or, if you incline to the scientific theory of the survival of the fittest—that it was he of strongest physique and sharpest tooth and claw who held sway, until some one of superior brain came on the scene and brought together a group of prehistoric humans of less physical but greater mental stature to overcome the big bully—you still see where publicity played a part. The "mutual aid" idea had to be promulgated among the physically weak in order to bring them together to meet the strong-armed foe; and that promulgation was publicity.

So it has been down through time. Some agency has always been used to get ideas across from one mind to others in order to get things done. The kings have had their heralds; senates—as in Rome—their bulletins, towns their town-criers, and today every sort of organization its press bureau.

The extension division of the University Department of Agriculture is, in fact, no more than a great publicity agency. It was created as a means of getting to the people of Minnesota ideas profitable on the farm, in the home, and in rural life generally.

Extension workers, many of them, failing to realize this, have been indifferent about the use of one of the most

powerful of all mediums to aid them in doing the very thing they have undertaken to do; and that medium is the press.

Every county in Minnesota has one or more newspapers. These papers are all eager for facts as to anything going on in their several counties. The editors are often too busy to go out and get all of the information available. Therefore, they welcome eagerly any help. Extension workers ought to be quick to see in this a great opportunity to promote their work—to gain acceptance of their ideas and support for local extension effort. They can gain some assistance in learning to make use of this opportunity by consulting with the Office of Publications and by studying the Editor's Style Book put out by that office.

MINNESOTA CLUB WORK

Ivan L. Hobson of the State's Relations Service, Washington, D. C., is well pleased with the general status of boys' and girls' club work in Minnesota. On a recent visit to University Farm, when he conferred with extension leaders and specialists concerning work among the juniors in 1923, he said:

"One of the facts that impresses me most each time I visit Minnesota is the harmonious support given boys' and girls' club work by a wide variety of organizations. Breeders' associations, farm bureaus, granges, chambers of commerce, bankers, manufacturers, and school systems of Minnesota seem to have found a common meeting ground and a common purpose in supporting this work. In this day of intensive organization and often times selfish conflicting interests, it is encouraging to find that all interests—agricultural, industrial, and educational—have united in a practical way on this program that promotes better rural conditions through extension work with boys and girls.

"The large appropriations by the state and county fairs to club work, the liberal loans by banks of the state to club members, the support given by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association in financing the Junior Livestock Show, the appropriations by school boards and business organizations in cooperation with the county farm bureaus for employing agents to conduct club work—these facts are an index to the popularity of the work.

"With varying degrees the same condition exists throughout the country. Agents, especially those who have gotten the vision of the whole extension program, are expanding the work with young people and rightfully capitalizing the public's good will toward it."

"Partners" Picture Effective

The moving picture "Partners" has been presented at various points in Ramsey county, and is arousing great interest in the possibilities of junior club work, according to County Agent Robert Freeman.

Chisago Picks Its Projects

Coöperative bull association work and high pressure bordeaux mixture spraying for potatoes will be leading projects in Chisago county for 1923, says the county agent.

SIGNIFICANCE OF CLUB WORK

In announcing that \$32,388 was paid in the sales ring at South St. Paul for fat young livestock raised and exhibited by club boys and girls at the recent Junior Livestock show, the Daily Reporter says:

"There were more buyers this year than ever before. The competition was unusually keen and resulted in giving the boys and girls splendid financial rewards and should prove an incentive to young folks in all parts of Minnesota to enter the contest in years to come."

No one would minimize the importance of financial rewards in keeping the juniors, and their elders for that matter, interested in club enterprises. But the fact remains nevertheless that such rewards are only means to an end in club work, and not the end. Character building, educating and Americanizing—these are impelling motives of this great movement, and because of them club work will endure to enrich agriculture and brighten lives. As Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey so well puts it:

"Extension work is not intended primarily to make better crops and animals, but better men and women."

NEVER SAY DIE!

Read gets rougher every mile; (cluck)
Jog on, Jehosaphat, an' show some style.
Mule's gone lame an' the hens won't lay;
Corn's way down an' wheat won't pay;
Hogs no better, steers too cheap;
Cows quit milkin' an' meat won't keep;
Oats all heated, spuds all froze;
Fruit crop's busted, wind still blows;
Sheep seem puny, an' I'll be darned,
Rye field's flooded an' the hays'ac's burned;
Looks some gloomy, I'll admit—(cluck)
Jog on, Jehosaphat, we ain't down yit!

Coal's in high an' crops in low;
Rail rates doubled; got no show;
Money tighter, morals loose;
Bound to get us—what's the use?
Sun's not shinin' as it should;
Moon ain't lightin' like it could;
Air seems heavy, water punk;
Tests yer mettle; shows yer spunk;
No use stoppin' to debate—(cluck)
Jog on Jehosaphat, it's gettin' late.

Wheels all wobble, axle's bent;
Dashboard's broken, top all rent;
One shaft's splintered, t'other sags;
Seat's all busted, end-gate drags;
May hang t'gether—b'lieve it will;
Careful drivin'll make it still;
Cushion's worn through; road's mighty rough;
Trot—gosh ding ye—that's the stuff!
Old trap's movin' right good speed—
(Cluck) Jog on, Jehosaphat,
You're some old steed!

Road's smoothed out 'till it don't seem true—
(cluck)

Jog on, Jehosaphat, you pulled us through!!
—W. H. Stark.

Wool Clip Brings Good Price

More than 250,000 pounds of wool were sold through the Wabasha county pool for an average of 38 cents a pound. Growers from 25 counties were interested in the pool.

JUNIORS OF MINNESOTA HOLD OWN AT CHICAGO

Bring Back Highest Honors in Health and Club Stunt Contests—Go to Six Banquets in Four Days

Minnesota club boys and girls attending the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago took in six banquets in four days and were kept on the go from early morn until late at night, some of the best known business men of Chicago vieing with each other in entertaining 725 boys and girls from the states, besides their leaders, and 14 boys from Canadian provinces.

And then, after all the wonderful happenings of the week, they were addressed by Henry C. Wallace, secretary of agriculture, who told them they were doing the biggest and best thing that is being done in agriculture today.

The first national boys and girls' club exposition in this country was held in connection with the International Exposition. Three types of club activities were featured—judging of livestock and of canned products; the giving of demonstrations by club teams in methods of farm crops and livestock management, home improvement, and canning; and exhibits of products which club members themselves have produced.

Two Firsts for Minnesota

The Minnesota delegation took two first honors and several others only a few points removed from first. Its club livestock judging team, composed of Alfred Steuernagel, Neil Selvig, and Clemence Strehlow, students in the vocational agricultural department at Lewiston, stood fourth out of 19 teams, young Steuernagel making the best individual score in judging horses, 147 points out of a possible 150. W. W. Simpson, who coached the boys, is a recent graduate of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, and, according to T. A. Erickson, state leader, holds one of the best club boy records in Minnesota.

Joseph Isaksen of Springfield, Brown county, a freshman in the Minnesota School of Agriculture, led all club boys at Chicago in the health contest with a rating of 97.30 on the development of head, heart, hand, and health. Blanche Keller of Lambertton was third in the girls' division of the health contest, with a rating of 93.80. She was captain of two former state champion bread teams in Minnesota. Each state picked its best boys and girls for this annual health contest. The Elizabeth McCormick Foundation had charge of the examinations.

Its Club Stunt a Winner

Minnesota juniors also won the first honors for the best club stunt put on in competition with scores of others at an evening's entertainment in an exposition building. The Minnesota stunt was worked out by leaders and the young people themselves while on the train going to Chicago. Its superiority to other stunts was so apparent that the judge's decision was greeted with a prolonged burst of cheers. Nearly a score of juniors took part in singing and portraying the following words set in the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell":

I was 15 pounds under weight,
I was 15 pounds under weight,
The nurse came around and here's what she found,
I was 15 pounds under weight.

I began to drink milk each day,
I began to drink milk each day,
No coffee or tea any more for me,
I began to drink milk each day.

(Each boy and girl holds a bottle of milk and pretends to be drinking.)

I was 10 pounds under weight,
I was 10 pounds under weight,
The nurse came around and here's what she found,
I was 10 pounds under weight.

I began to eat fruit each day,
I began to eat fruit each day,
An apple a day keeps the doctor away,
I began to eat fruit each day.

(Each boy and girl holds a big red apple and pretends to be eating it.)

I was 5 pounds under weight,
I was 5 pounds under weight,
The nurse came around and here's what she found,
I was 5 pounds under weight.

I brushed my teeth every day,
I brushed my teeth every day,
I brushed them good, as every one should,
I brushed my teeth every day.

I am up to normal weight,
I am up to normal weight,
The nurse came around and look what she found,
I am up to normal weight.

(All stand up straight and throw out chests.)

Minnesota is our home,
Minnesota is our home,
We'll see the show and then we'll go
Five hundred miles back home.

The strong Iowa canning team won first place in the canning contest; Colorado was second, and Connecticut third. The Minnesota girls were placed first for expertness in canning chicken. One of the judges said: "It was the best demonstration of canning meat I have ever seen."

WORKING CONDITIONS OF HOMEMAKERS IMPROVED

Thirty-nine communities in twelve counties with an average attendance of fifteen women cooperated with the county agent and the state office in carrying on a five-months' project in home management during the year ending December 1.

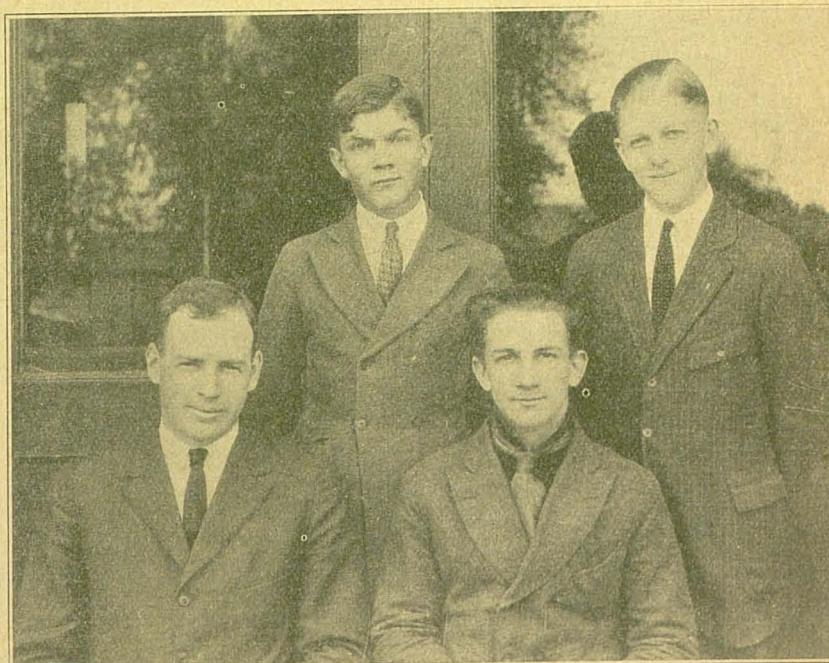
The object of the groups is to conserve the time, energy and health of the housewife. The aim is to improve working conditions through better methods, improved arrangement in kitchens, suitable equipment, and a more efficient plan or system of work.

The following figures taken from reports of home demonstration agents and specialists show some of the results of the home management project:

Kitchens rearranged, 125.
Pressure cookers purchased, 41.
Four reports on use of cookers showed 40 per cent saving in gas.
One hundred sixty-six fireless cookers made; estimated saving of \$1,660.
Thirty-six fireless cookers purchased.
Nineteen washing machines purchased.
Eleven fruit or vegetable driers purchased.
Three kitchen pumps installed.
Fifty-six teacarts installed.
Eighty-nine families keeping expense records.
Eighty-four families changed way of living as a result of keeping accounts.
One hundred twenty-nine families making budgets.
Twenty-five working surfaces made proper height.
Forty improved plans of work made and tested.
Thirty-one included in plan of work a rest period each day for housewife.
Report on home demonstrations:
Two hundred twenty-one steps saved in preparing a meal by rearrangement of equipment and utensils. Before rearrangement, 442 were required.
Two hours' time saved each ironing day by use of gasoline gas iron.

Kanabec county's agent says the potato acreage will be cut down materially "if the farmer feels the same way about it next spring as he feels now."

Minnesota's Junior Judging Trio at Chicago Expo



Left to right, standing—Alfred Steuernagel and Neil Selvig; sitting—W. W. Simpson, agricultural instructor and coach, and Clemence Strehlow.

HAVE A PROGRAM, SAY FEDERATION SPEAKERS

Ideas Caught Up at Chicago Federation Meeting Reported by Miss Newton of Extension Staff

Gleanings from the American Farm Bureau Federation meeting at Chicago December 11 to 14, as reported by Julia O. Newton, Minnesota home demonstration leader:

President Howard: Definite programs of work in state, county, and township farm bureaus are absolutely fundamental for the genuine success of the farm bureau movement as a whole. The farm bureau is more than an economic movement.

Charles E. Gunnels: The lack of a program of work is the weakest point in getting a community developed. Through greater coöperation only can the farmers succeed. The Lord freezes the water, but he expects us to cut our own ice. Farmers can only cut ice through coöperation.

Dr. W. H. Walker, California: Agriculturists in the next twenty years will outline and write the economic program of the nation. Only by coöperation and assumption of leadership can a national program be put across.

Gray Silver: If you think you are a strong figure one (1) and your neighbor only a cipher (0), remember if you take him along and stand him up beside you, you have multiplied your efficiency ten (10) times.

Women and the Farm Bureau

Mrs. Martin, Texas: Eventually every county farm bureau will have a woman serving as vice president.

Mrs. Solberg, Iowa: Only two counties out of the one hundred Iowa counties that are not doing home project work. The women are ready to do anything and everything to make organization stronger and better.

P. H. Dupertius, Wyoming: Every county has women on the county executive committee. The state, county, and township farm bureau units in Wyoming are not working along men's lines and women's lines, but are putting across a program of work for the farm, the home, and the community.

Mrs. Vera Schuttler: The important thing is not what will farm bureau women get out of this organization, but what can farm women do so that we may best serve our homes, our community, our country.

R. C. Pollock: Organization work moves along better where home work is going ahead.

C. W. Pugsley, assistant secretary of agriculture: No real prosperity can be reached until an hour of farm labor can be exchanged for an hour of city labor. Any system of agricultural education that leaves out the economic distribution of products is a failure. The importance of developing a program that centers around the home cannot be overemphasized. Is not the object of better production and better marketing a better rural life?

Why Credit Suffers

Bernard N. Baruch: There is nothing in the world that affects your credit so much as the shrinking of foreign markets for your products. There is nothing to which you can give your atten-

tion that is of greater moment to you in a practical way than the creation of the international relations that are precedent to the reestablishment of those markets.

Monsieur Georges Clemenceau, France: You have to choose between peace and to be brought very soon, at once, to a war in the future, an event which I cannot prophecy. And that means that you have to choose between isolation and coöperation. And what do I want of you here? Simply that you let Germany know that America never disinterested herself from the provisions of the treaty. That is all I ask. If that is done, it is enough to stop Germany.

Both Iowa and Indiana reported having a home and community committee of the state farm bureau made up of one woman from each of the congressional districts.

HENNEPIN COUNTY LAD GROWS THE MOST CORN

Romanzo Palmer, 14 year old boy of Excelsior, Hennepin county, is the state champion single acre corn grower among Minnesota corn club boys and girls for the year 1922. His field yield was 93.2 bushels and his dry yield 89.5 bushels. Romanzo may be called a logical champion for he has been in corn club work four years. Joseph A. Urbanski, aged 16, of Ivanhoe, Lincoln county, was second in the single acre contest with a field yield of 91.5 bushels.

Vernon Coon of Rice county, who was the champion corn grower among club people in 1921, won the five-acre contest this year with a total field yield of 526.66 bushels. His dry yield per acre averaged 89.4 bushels.

Quantity, quality, cost of production, and story of "How I Made My Crop of Corn" figure in the final footings of the corn club contest. About 400 Minnesota boys and half a dozen girls took part in corn work this year, according to the state leader.

GRAIN GRADE STUDIES FINISHED FOR SEASON

The Official Record of the United States Department of Agriculture says that active field work in the "Know-Your-Own-Wheat" campaign in the central northwest, started by the bureau of agricultural economics last spring, has been finished for the season. It is estimated that 2,000 farmers and country shippers were shown how to grade grain in accordance with the federal standards. Seventy meetings, arranged by county agents and attended by a federal grain supervisor, were held in the northwest. Demonstrations were also given at one state and six county fairs in the Dakotas and Minnesota. Thirty county agents' offices were equipped by the bureau for grading samples in order that the agents might help the farmers in ascertaining the quality, condition, and grade of their product before it was placed upon the market.

Mother and the Kids Lead Way

Hammargren of Mille Lacs county has found from experience that "the women and the boys and girls are the life of extension work in many communities."

MANY HOMES REACHED BY CLOTHING PROJECT

Big Saving in Dollars and Cents, But Chief Value Lies in Educational Results of the Work

During 1921-22 the clothing project was carried on either by state specialists or home demonstration agents in twenty-seven counties of the state. The work included the selection of clothing, millinery, dress forms, and garment construction. Emphasis was placed on the use of more efficient methods in sewing and on the selection of those designs and colors which would be most becoming and suitable. More than 30,000 women attended the demonstrations. Of these 508 acted as local leaders and carried the work presented by the specialist back to groups of women in their own communities. In this way the local leaders reached more than 8,100 more women.

In dollars and cents the clothing work meant a saving of \$115,000 to the women of the state last year. This is more than twice as much during 1920-21. The largest value of the work, however, cannot be measured in that way. The improved practice in selecting and making clothing, the broader outlook which comes from association with the women in one's county, and the fine leadership developed in rural communities all over the state—these are the most vital results.

Because of the increasing demand for the clothing work, a new specialist has been added to the state staff. This will make it possible to reach more communities in 1923 and it is hoped that some of the counties that have been on the waiting list for a long time may be able to get the clothing work. At present the specialists are carrying on the project in Swift, St. Louis, Murray, Lincoln, Mower, Rock, Wabasha, Nicollet, Nobles, Goodhue, Winona and Renville counties.

STANDARDS OF HEALTH URGED BY U WORKERS

Some outstanding features of the nutrition project of 1922 have been shown in the reports of the various agents and of the specialist. There are still many schools where no hot dish is served at noon and where children eat cold lunches, often lunches which have been frozen. Of course both health and school efficiency are lowered by this.

The garden projects of several counties are closely related to nutrition, for through the gardens are supplied those minerals and other substances essential to health. Local leaders in counties are interested in the general adoption of "an efficient breakfast" and in the establishment of health standards.

Mothers enrolled as home demonstrators, and they number 382, are interested in maintaining growth, health, and efficiency. There is great power in these small numbers.

Fishermen Plan to Coöperate

County Agent B. H. Gustafson of Lake says the fishermen of Two Harbors, Knife River, Larson, Beaver Bay, and Castle Danger are trying to organize a coöperative association for marketing their fish and buying supplies.

SPECIALISTS ASSIGNED FOR COMING 3 MONTHS

Aitkin—
Marketing, Budd Holt, Jan. 23
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 30-31
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Feb. 1-2-3,
Feb. 28, March 1-2, March 28-29-30
Farm management, A. Boss, Feb. 13-14
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 21
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 15
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, March 6-7

Anoka—
Farm crops, R. C. Crim, Jan. 9
Institutes, Feb. 24-26

Becker—
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Jan. 25-26-27
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 16
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 23

Beltrami—
Marketing, Budd Holt, Jan. 25
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 29-30-31
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 8-9
Farm crops, R. E. Crim, Feb. 24-26
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 1
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, March 8-9

Blue Earth—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 6-7
Farmers' institutes, March 1-2
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 16-17
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 20-21
Dairy schools, Jan. 18-19

Brown—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 7
Dairy schools, Jan. 16-17
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 23-24
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 24
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 9-10
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 25-26-27,
Feb. 20-21-22, March 20-21-22

Carlton—
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Jan. 30-31
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 1-2
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 14
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 20

Carver—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 13-15
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 20 and 23
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, March 8-9-10
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 30

Chisago—
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 1-2
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 10
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 27-28

Clearwater—
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 6-7
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 5

Cottonwood—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 9-10
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 7-8-9
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 21-22

Crow Wing—
Dairy schools, Jan. 17-18
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 13-14
Poultry, March 2

Dakota—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 12
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Jan. 26
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 2-3
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 17-March 29
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 6-7
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 14-15

Dodge—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 11
Dairy schools, Jan. 30-31
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 27-28

Faribault—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 17-18
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 27 and 29
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 6-7

Fillmore—
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 9-10
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 25
Dairy and farm management, Feb. 15-16
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 24 and 26

Freeborn—
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Jan. 23-24

Goodhue—
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Jan. 11-12
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 13
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 20-21
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 16-17

Hennepin—
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Jan. 18
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 10-Feb. 3
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 19-Feb. 3

Houston—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 24
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 6-7
Dairy schools, Feb. 20-21

Hubbard—
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 10 and 12
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 22 and 23
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 6 and 7

Itasca—
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Jan. 16-17,
Feb. 20-21
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 25-26-27
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 6-7

Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 6
Jackson—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 30-31
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 20-21
Kandiyohi—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 16-17
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 1
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 13-14
Kittson—
Poultry and veterinary, Chapman and Billings,
Feb. 26
Koochiching—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 29-30-31
Farm management, March 27-28

Lac qui Parle—
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 18
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 6-7
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 13-14
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 20-21
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 18
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 20-21
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 27-28

Lake—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 9-10
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 1-2
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 9-10

Lake of the Woods—
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 22-23

Le Sueur—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 9-10
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 24-25
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 10
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 16-17

Lincoln—
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 23-24
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 29-30
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 10-12
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 22-23
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, March 23-24

Lyon—
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Jan. 24-25
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 8-9
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 2-3
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 22-23

Mahnomen—
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 13-14

Mekong—
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Jan. 16-17
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 18-19
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 30-31
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 20

Martin—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 25-26
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 22-23
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 22-23

Mille Lacs—
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 15-16
Dairy schools, Feb. 27-28
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 27-28

Mower—
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 11-12
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Jan. 30-31
Marketing, Budd Holt, Feb. 6-7
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 16
Dairy and farm management schools, Feb. 13-14
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 8
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 12

Murray—
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 15-16
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 28
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 28-March 1
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 6-7
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 24
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 19-20

Nicollet—
Dairy school, Jan. 9-10
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 1-2
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 13
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 27-28

Nobles—
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Jan. 16-20-26
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 1-2
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 26
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Feb. 23-24
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 23-24

Norman—
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Jan. 11-12
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 16-17
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 12-13

Olmsted—
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 11-12
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 1-2
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 22-23

Otter Tail (East)—
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 6-7
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 15-16
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 16-17,
Feb. 13-14, March 14-15

Otter Tail (West)—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 11-12
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Jan. 9-10
Marketing, Budd Holt, Jan. 30-31
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 20-21
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 9
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 18-19,
Feb. 15-16, March 16-17

Pennington—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 18-19
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, Feb. 15
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 22-23
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 24

Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 1

Pipestone—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 17
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 13-14
Farm management, W. L. Cavert and A. A.
Dowell, Feb. 27

Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 16-17

Poppe—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 9-10
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 15

Red Lake—
Poultry and veterinary, Chapman and Billings,
Feb. 27

Renville—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 18-Feb. 2
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 19-March 29-30
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 24-25
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 19-Feb. 24
Marketing, Budd Holt, Feb. 13-14
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 6-7

Rice—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 10
Hogs and veterinary, W. A. Billings and H. G.
Zavoral, Jan. 26-27
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 1 and 17

Rock—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 30-31
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 16-17-18
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 15-16
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 14-15

Roseau—
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 1-2
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 20-21
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 2-3
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 29-30

St. Louis (North)—
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 13-14-15-16
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Feb. 27-28
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 7

St. Louis (South)—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 23-24
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 8
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, March 8

Scott—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 9-March 30
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Jan. 12-13
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 23-24
Dairy and farm management schools, Feb. 1-2
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 20-21

Sherburne—
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Jan. 9-10
Poultry and veterinary, N. E. Chapman and
W. A. Billings, Jan. 20
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 27-28
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 8

Stearns—
Marketing, Budd Holt, Jan. 18-19-20
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Jan. 30-31
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 8-9
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 13-14
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 20-21-22-23
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Feb. 26-27
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 9-10
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 16-17
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, March 20-21

Steele—
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Jan. 9-10
Dairy and farm management schools, Jan. 25-26
Farm management, C. E. Wise, Feb. 6-7

Stevens—
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Feb. 7
Marketing, Budd Holt, Feb. 15-16
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 21
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 16

Swift—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 31-Feb. 1
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 22-23
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 14-15
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 20-21

Todd—
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Jan. 23-24
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 17
Marketing, Budd Holt, Feb. 1-2

Traverse—
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 2-3

Wabasha—
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Jan. 23
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 16-17
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, Jan. 9-10-11,
Feb. 5-6-7, March 5-6-7

Wadena—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, March 8
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 24

Waseca—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 11-12
Farm management and dairy schools, Jan. 23-24
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Feb. 15
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 1-2

Washington—
Farmers' institutes, March 1-2
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 13
Farmers' clubs, R. E. Olmstead, March 26-27

Watsonwan—
Veterinary, W. A. Billings, Jan. 13-Feb. 14
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, Jan. 27-March 8
Farm management, W. L. Cavert, March 1-2
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 22-23
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, March 29-30

(Continued to Page 8)

STATION MEN INDORSE NEW SOIL ACIDITY TEST

Several County Agents Obtain Equipment for Making Own Tests of Soils With Thiocyanate Solution

A new test for soil acidity commonly known as the thiocyanate test has recently come into use. A saturated solution of potassium thiocyanate in very pure wood alcohol is added to a small amount of soil in a test tube, shaken, and allowed to stand fifteen minutes for the soil to settle, when the color of the solution above is noted. If the liquid is clear, the soil is not acid. If it is slightly pink, it is of a slight acidity, and if dark red the soil is acid.

The division of soils of the University of Minnesota has tested this method and finds it rapid and easily made, and, subject to limitations mentioned below, a satisfactory method. The test must be made while the soil sample is moist, that is, in the condition that it comes from the field. Soils excessively wet, or those which have been allowed to become air-dried, do not show their true acidity by this method.

Not Satisfactory as to Peats

The acidity of most Minnesota peat soils is not satisfactorily determined by the thiocyanate method. Send all samples of peat to the division of soils where acidity tests will be made by the zinc sulphide or Truog method and the results reported.

Dr. C. O. Rost of the division says the potassium thiocyanate sold under the trade name of Richorpoor is a very satisfactory reagent and reasonable in price. One quart of solution will easily make 100 acidity tests. If it is bought in quart lots the cost will amount to approximately one and one-half cents per test. If bought in gallon lots, the cost is reduced to practically one cent.

Simple Equipment Only Needed

Two dozen test tubes with stoppers, a supply of distilled water or rain water and a bottle of thiocyanate is all the equipment needed for this test. The division of soils at University Farm will furnish a set of standard soils to be used in making comparisons if persons interested will send ten cents in stamps to cover postage and packing.

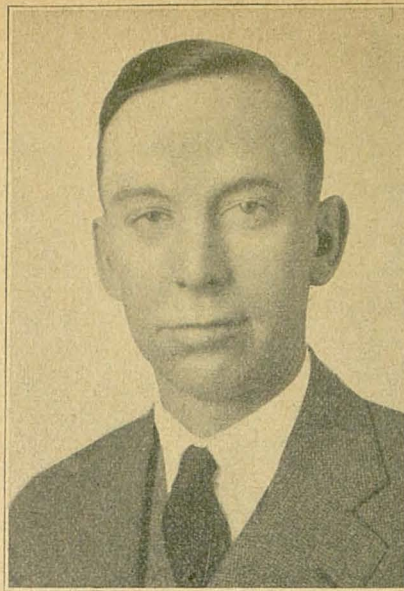
County agents are greatly interested in the new method because it makes it possible to get an immediate test. Several agents have secured the equipment and report much success from tests made.

Fifty-one Grades Distributed

A dairy cow sale held by the bankers' association resulted in the distribution of 51 head of grade cows throughout Stevens county, says I. W. Meade, the county agent. Fourteen head went into the Donnelly territory, 18 head to Hancock, 15 to Morris, two to Chokio, and one to Alberta.

Chicken Thieves Active

Farmers of Watonwan county, meeting with representatives of the county farm bureau, have formed a protective association to fight chicken thieves. Hundreds of chickens have been stolen from farmers in various parts of the county.



H. R. SEARLES

H. R. SEARLES TAKES NEW POST AT U. FARM

The dairy livestock section of the agricultural extension service has been reinforced by appointment to the staff of H. R. Searles, who will cooperate with L. V. Wilson in holding dairy schools over the state for the study of common diseases of dairy cattle, the feeding of home grown feeds, the judging of dairy cattle and the meaning and significance of pedigrees. Mr. Searles comes from Iowa State College at Ames, where he made a fine record as a dairy extension worker. He was graduated from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1917. After his graduation he taught dairy husbandry for about a year, or until he entered the Marine corps service in the troublous days of 1918. In 1919 he was engaged as manager of Dr. Graham's stock farm at Rochester, Minnesota. In July, 1921, he accepted appointment as a dairy specialist at Ames.

Mereness Took No Chances

Did A. G. Mereness, the Murray county agent, get his annual report in on time? Yes-sir-ee, he did. Just listen to him and take his word for it: "The whole office force has labored untiringly and unceasingly to have the report ready on time, in order to escape the dire punishment threatened by the county agent leader if the report were delayed. The report was forwarded by registered insured c. o. d. parcel post on the 28th day of November, 1922, A. D."

(Continued from Page 7)

Wilkin—
Farmers' institutes, Jan. 13 and 15
Poultry, N. E. Chapman, Feb. 22
Dairy and farm management schools, March 1 and 2
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 22-23
Wimona—
Dairy and farm management schools, Jan. 30-31
Plant pathology, R. C. Rose, Feb. 8-9, Jan. 10
Farmers' institutes, Feb. 27-28
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, March 9
Farm crops, R. F. Crim, March 14-15
Yellow Medicine—
Livestock, A. A. Dowell, Jan. 25-26
Hogs, H. G. Zavoral, Feb. 20-21

REAL PROGRESS MADE BY POULTRY PROJECT

During the year ending December 1, forty-four communities adopted the poultry project under the direction of Miss Cora Cooke, poultry specialist. Reports from these communities show as outstanding results an increase in the number of chickens raised, increase in egg production and improvement in housing and house furnishing.

Eighty-nine persons report an increase of 14,726 chickens raised in 1922 over the number raised in 1921. Eighty-three persons report increased egg production in 1922 of 10,244 dozens, with an increased value of more than \$2,300.

Reports on housing show forty-three houses built or remodeled or one for every community reached. Improvement in house furnishing was reported by more than one hundred persons.

Plans for the coming year include development of the work with local leaders so that it may be more far-reaching and well established on a more permanent basis.

Watonwan Local Units Active

County Agent Hudson of Watonwan says that the cooperation of local units in helping to finance extra projects has been a great help in solving the farm bureau working problem. The total expenses of the moving picture work and many other minor projects have been paid for by the local units, he says.

Getting to Be a Habit

County Agent Longley of Kittson is proud of the showing made by his home county potato growers at the Duluth International show. Kittson county farmers won the first four placings on Early Ohios in the open class and the first seven placings in the club classes, also ten out of the first eleven.

Carlton Farmers "Shown" by Crim

Ralph F. Crim, extension agronomist, has created much enthusiasm among farmers of Carlton county for more alfalfa. Thirty-seven farmers have agreed to plant a plot of alfalfa each, and it is expected that at least 100 new fields will be started on as many farms next year.

Murray County Farmers Joining F. B.

More than 150 new farm bureau members were obtained in about one-half of Murray county the early part of November. Nearly all old members are renewing their memberships.

Interest in Livestock Picking Up

Increased interest is being taken in the livestock phase of farming in Hubbard county. O'Banion, county agent, reports a new organization by Holstein breeders, and adds that boys' and girls' Holstein calf club work and more and better exhibits at the county fair will be encouraged.

Good Season for Land Clearing

A. H. Frick, agent in Itasca county, says the fall and early winter months were unusually favorable for land clearing activities and that great progress was made by settlers.