

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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No. 2

High Merit Marks Project Exhibits

By F. E. Balmer, State County Agent Leader

UNUSUAL interest was created by the county project exhibits at the 1929 State Fair. The six county agents featuring these displays did a creditable piece of work and maintained the high standard set in 1927 and 1928. Every agent participating since 1927 has put up an effective and telling display on a major farm enterprise or need and every exhibit has been a demonstration of meritorious service in the county concerned.

The scorings won by the counties in 1929 were as follows: Watonwan, rodent, 911 (out of possible 1,000); East Polk, sires, 883; Pennington, turkeys, 864; Beltrami, potatoes, 814; Traverse, weed control, 784; and Winona, pork, 768. The placings made by the various counties emphasized the importance of having a well-rounded exhibit following closely the outline furnished by the detailed scorecard. Points itemized on the official score sheet and the weight assigned each are as follows: Power to attract attention, 150; Power to arouse and hold interest, 200; Desire created to adopt practice, 200; Convincing and tending to bring action, 200; Success in county, 100; Headings and titles, 50; General appearance, 50; Charts, tables, maps and data, 50. Total, 1,000.

Champion Pork Producer

J. B. McNulty, Winona county, made the subject of his booth the success of Minnesota's 1928 champion pork producer, John Nahrgang and marketing tales. Mr. Nahrgang's phenomenal record was the production of 20,997 pounds of pork in 180 days from 10 sows which farrowed and saved 92 pigs. The booth featured the fact that "These Pigs Had Two Tales," the production tale and the marketing tale. A pamphlet was distributed describing Mr. Nahrgang's methods.

The rear of the booth was practically covered with painted silhouettes of the 10 sows and the 92 pigs. The side walls told the production and marketing tales and the floor space was occupied by a miniature of the hog management plan and layout used by Mr. Nahrgang. A jolly electric manikin kept calling attention to some important advantages of ton-litter pork production.

Armed Warriors Attack Weeds

H. C. Pederson of Traverse county planned his exhibit on weed control featuring six essential factors as armed warriors with the farmer as commander-in-chief. These factors are Clean Seed, Thorough Cultivation, Smother Crops, Crop Rotation, Early Plowing and Summer Fallow, and Chemicals. The exhibit claimed that the annual loss to crops in Minnesota due to weeds is several million dollars, and to the average

farmer may approach \$1000 per year. Posters and photos featured the success of the methods recommended in Traverse county.

Fine Potatoes from Beltrami

Quite appropriately, certified potato production was the subject of the Beltrami county exhibit. At the rear of the booth was an enlarged photo of a potato field with fine certified Bliss Triumph potatoes from Beltrami county appearing in rows in the foreground. The exhibit pointed out that common seed

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Extension Conference December 9 to 13, 1929

THE complete program for the annual conference will be published in the December issue of Extension Service News. As usual, the program for the first afternoon, Monday, December 9, will consist of a meeting of the county agent committee on club work with the state club staff, and a special committee of extension agents will be asked to meet with the publicity committee for Farmers' and Homemakers' Week.

Tuesday morning, Dean W. C. Coffey will open the conference with a discussion of our changing agriculture, and President A. J. Olson of the state farm bureau federation has been invited to speak on the same program. On the afternoon of Tuesday, the county agents' association and the home demonstration agents association will hold their meetings as usual. Wednesday morning will be devoted to a discussion of co-operative marketing, with Dr. O. B. Jesness and Dr. T. G. Stitts as the leaders in the discussion. It is planned to have a number of the agents participate in a general discussion on this subject.

Wednesday afternoon there will be a round table discussion of the problems of various subject matter lines with the various subject matter divisions, following somewhat the plan of last year. On Wednesday night it is planned to have an extension dinner and party, probably in the men's union at the University, with the wives of members of the extension staff invited, and an attempt to have stunts by various groups of extension workers, with a social hour following.

On Thursday and Friday, the discussion will center around subjects in psychology, farm management and home management, with a discussion of the state-wide herd improvement plan, to be held following a luncheon at the Land O'Lakes in Minneapolis on Thursday noon. The conference will adjourn at 12:15 Friday noon.

Jerseys Win F. Idtse; Morgan to East Polk

THE American Jersey Cattle Club has invaded the ranks of the Minnesota county agent service and taken Fred Idtse of East Polk county as field man. Mr. Idtse will have charge of the field duties in Iowa, Nebraska, and Illinois, likely with headquarters at Des Moines. He assumes his new duties December first.

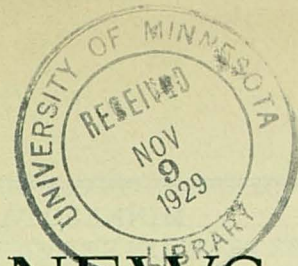
Four Minnesota counties have shared in the services of Mr. Idtse in county agent work. He began as an assistant agent for part of the summer of 1919 in Olmsted county. The year following he was high school agriculturist at Big Falls, Koochiching county. Beginning in May, 1920, he was county agent in Pine county for nearly two and one-half years. He remained out of the work for approximately a year thereafter, and then for five years served as county agent in the Jersey cattle capital of Minnesota; namely, Hubbard county. Since June 1, 1928, he has been agent in East Polk county. A splendid record stands to his credit in all these positions.

Morgan Well Qualified

East Polk county is fortunate to have a well qualified man available to succeed Mr. Idtse, in the person of Russell Morgan. Mr. Morgan gained most of his farm experience on his home farm of 320 acres at Granite Falls, Yellow Medicine county, where beef and hog feeding were emphasized. Before entering the Minnesota agricultural college, from which he was graduated in March, 1929, he was engaged in 4-H club work for six years. While in college, Mr. Morgan won the Tomhave medal awarded to the best all-round livestock judge among the University Farm students. In 1928 he was a member of both the dairy and general livestock judging teams which represented Minnesota at various inter-collegiate contests.

Since April first, 1929, Mr. Morgan has been located at Lewiston, Minnesota, as assistant county agent in training, where he gave special attention to boys' and girls' club work. A total of 522 Winona county boys and girls have been enrolled in club work this year. Mr. Morgan goes to East Polk county early in November, in order to acquaint himself with the situation there before Mr. Idtse leaves the county on December first. The congratulations and best wishes of the extension service are extended to both Mr. Idtse and Mr. Morgan.

A. L. Sjowall, of Washington county, reports having enjoyed a very pleasant vacation recently, during which he visited relatives near his old home farm near Motley, Minnesota, where he says he put in many years in practical farm work with his brothers and parents.



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NOVEMBER, 1929

Occasionally a farmer requests veterinary service from a county agent. For several important reasons, however, the county agent cannot serve satisfactorily in such a capacity.

County Agent not a Veterinarian

In the first place he does not have time. Veterinary service is peculiarly individual and may call for extended service in an individual case. The range of activity of a county agent during a year may require attention to from 50 to 75 different types of service, so he has not time to render veterinary service without neglecting his other work. Moreover, his service is more of a public than of a private nature.

In the second place, the county agent is not trained extensively in veterinary science. He is therefore not qualified to render the technical service required. Furthermore the regulations of the state and federal authorities in matters of animal disease do not permit practice by others than licensed and qualified veterinarians.

The extension service, including the county agent staff, does have abundant reason to be interested in animal health and livestock sanitation. Farmers desire healthy herds of livestock, they want successful production or useful service from such animals and the public wants animal health in the interests of human health. Problems of animal health and the development of means and methods to effect livestock sanitation therefore will be the occasion for frequent co-operation, conference and common action between farmers and the extension service. This, however, is a matter entirely different from that of farmers attempting to prevail upon county agents for veterinary service.—F. E. B.

Three publications of unusual merit on the history of agricultural education and research are being published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. These splendid contributions to the literature of American agriculture were prepared by Dr. A. C. True, who was associated with the department for 40 years.

From 1923, until his death on April 23, 1929, he was engaged in the preparation of these remarkable publications. The

first of the series, "A History of Agricultural Extension Work in the United States, 1785-1923," miscellaneous publications No. 15, was issued by the department late in 1928. The second, miscellaneous publications No. 36, "A History of Agricultural Education in the United States, 1785-1925," has recently come from the press. These two volumes may be procured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 75c and \$1.00 per copy, respectively. *No free copies are available.* They are of uniform binding, attractive and substantial, appropriate to the contents.

Every agricultural student, and this certainly includes every county and state extension worker, may with profit to himself and his work procure these publications and become well acquainted with their contents.

The third publication of the series, "A History of Agricultural Experimentation and Research in the United States," was nearly completed at the time of Dr. True's death. This is yet to appear.

Members of the extension service in all departments may well be reminded of Doctor True's capable, efficient, and distinguished services as director of the States Relation Service for a period of eight years, beginning in 1915, during which period the national system of co-operative extension work was developed.—F. E. B.

High Merit Marks

Project Exhibits

(Continued from page 1)

causes losses due to diseased plants, poor type, low vitality, and varietal mixtures. Certified seed brings profits due to heavier yields, large percent of marketability, freedom from disease, and better prices. The hill unit seed plot necessary to maintain pure seed stock was shown. Pictures, bulletins, and county data were well used. The booth won second prize on beauty.

Making Turkey Progress

Pennington is the only county that has staged a county project exhibit each of the years—1927, 1928, and 1929. Each year a very creditable exhibit has been shown, the last two having dealt with the "Billing's Turkey Plan." This year a platform was used to show two farm plans. On one of these the turkeys and chickens roamed together over the entire farm. For the sake of emphasis, the buildings were shown as neglected and run down. Back of this place a dark cloud, headed FAILURE, was painted on the canvas, lightning flashes appearing intermittently calling attention to "disease," "enemies," and "neglect." The other farm plan, headed SUCCESS, was one properly organized for profitable turkey production, showing the turkeys and chickens confined away from each other. The neat and attractive farmstead and farm plan here had as its background a beautiful landscape, the rainbow of success decorating the sky.

Demonstrates Sire Value

The East Polk county exhibit was in a sense the most striking of the lot. Essentially it told its own story. The entire rear wall was largely occupied with the caption "Pure Bred Sires Boost Farm

Profits." Below this you were asked which will you take, "this" check for \$115 for "this" cow by a purebred bull, or "that" check for \$46 for "that" cow by a scrub bull. Attention was drawn to the contrast feature by a swinging pointer on which the word "OR" dangled. This pointer was operated by an electric fan which kept up a slight disturbance behind the draperies that added an element of curiosity.

The booth claimed that "you pay for a purebred sire whether you buy one or not" and this claim was well supported by data in large part from the county. A miniature bull pen was featured as necessary to save a good bull and keep him safe, and a truck load of scrub bulls was shown enroute to market. Fred Idtse, county agent, went away as the pleased possessor of two banners, the second prize and the first on beauty.

Watowan Destroys Gophers

The first prize winner on pocket Gopher control, staged by L. E. Hudson, appealed to farmers to "Destroy the Gopher" to save the land and the crops. Many features drew attention. A live gopher was brought into court, tried by jury, and executed on the spot. An endless roller constantly told the verdict: "The Gopher is guilty of doing great damage. His sentence is that he be poisoned and put to death. The court suggests that you adopt the method outlined in this exhibit."

The method of poisoning was cleverly featured by four automatic characters in constant motion representing the steps: selecting the fresh mounds, locating the burrows with wire, making the hole with a sharpened stick and dropping in the poisoned bait.

Two farms of alfalfa, corn, and pasture crops were shown, one damaged by Gophers and the other clean. There was a cast showing mounds, runways and other features illustrating the habits of the Gopher. The exhibit throughout was copiously illustrated with maps, charts, graphs and photographs. A map was shown illustrating the location of demonstrations conducted in the county and the number co-operating in the campaign.

Public Scores Exhibits

A new feature conducted in connection with this project afforded the public an opportunity to pass judgment on these exhibits. A prize of \$25 was offered to the person submitting a score on any one booth most closely coinciding with the detailed scoring of the judges. This prize was won by Mrs. Vivian Landby of Warroad, Minnesota, whose judging of the Pennington county booth varied only 18 points from that of the judges. Other close contenders for this prize were Russell Morgan, Winona county; R. M. Douglass, Pennington county; R. O. Bridgford, West Central School, Morris; Lynn Sheldon, Lac qui Parle county; J. B. McNulty, Winona county; J. F. Kuehn, State Extension Service; H. C. Pederson, Traverse county; W. F. Hammargren, Pine county; Don Shannon, The Farmer, St. Paul, and Lawrence Rogers of Pipestone.

The 1930 Exhibits

The 1930 exhibits are expected to show further advancement. Already eight agents have applied for exhibits and a ninth is thinking of entering.

News and Hunches from the County Workers

Studies Peat Development. C. L. Blakeslee reports having made a study of peat land development in Wadena county and surrounding territory, gathering information which will be used in putting on a campaign for further development of small tracts of peat such as exist on numerous farms. Such a campaign, he believes, will result in better pastures and hay crops.

Yellow Medicine Needs Phosphate. Although the check-up of phosphate plots in Yellow Medicine county was not complete at the time John Towler's latest report was submitted, he stated that the survey indicated that the phosphate-deficient area of the county was more extensive than had previously been supposed. Profitable returns on the use of phosphate were obtained in every part of the country. The results show very clearly that broadcasting is by far the most satisfactory method of application, Mr. Towler says.

Effective But Expensive. Trials of sodium chlorate for killing quack-grass have proved successful in Cook county, according to William Clinch, but the cost of the several applications which have been necessary in the trials made so far, appear to limit its use to small areas.

They Were Flattered. A group of Brown county women from the Comfrey community recently had the flattering experience of sending 10 cents to a New York publishing house for a leaflet giving suggestions for achievement day programs only to discover that the main suggestion given was one that was originated by their own club two or three years ago, reports Miss Amy Wessel, home demonstration agent.

Showed Value of Culling. The value and reliability of poultry culling was distinctly shown in a culling demonstration held recently by Ronald McCamus, Lake of the Woods county. On one farm, 100 hens were culled, 40 being saved for winter and 60 placed in a fattening pen. On a two days trial, the culled hens laid four eggs, while the hens reserved for the laying flock laid 41, thus vindicating in an effective way the judgment of Mr. McCamus.

Calf Club Banquet. An outstanding event in Lake county was the calf club banquet held the latter part of September, with more than 150 farmers, merchants and calf club members attending. C. F. Collisson, agricultural editor of the Minneapolis Tribune, gave the principal address, speaking on the subject of dairy development. Torstein Grinager says this meeting was one of the most successful rural and urban social get-togethers that has ever been held in the community, and was symbolic of the increasing good will and co-operation which is developing between the country and city people of Lake county.

Good Achievement Day. Miss Gwendolyn A. Watts reports that about 200 attended the Rice county home management achievement day, in spite of the fact that the event was held during silo filling season. Sixteen clubs exhibited booths. In addition there was a general exhibit of refinished furniture. Speakers included Miss Eva Blair, Miss Mary May Miller and Frank Brown of the state extension office. Ninety per cent of the 254 members of the home management course completed the project, and enrollments over the previous year showed an increase of 30 per cent, while the number of homes reached increased 39 per cent.

This Plan Got Results. John Sheay, of Scott county, recently hit upon a new plan for obtaining farm bureau membership. Drivers for veterinarians in the T. B. area test were asked to carry cards with them and solicit memberships. Sheay says that some of the men were a little bit "shaky in their shoes" about soliciting farm bureau memberships while acting as drivers. "However, the proof that this plan worked out satisfactorily," Sheay says, "is that we have 192 new members signed up on the continuous plan without even having started our

regular membership campaign, as this little stunt was merely incidental to the T. B. test."

Sheepmen Organize. Largely through the efforts of County Agent A. H. Frick, Itasca county sheepmen have organized an association, and have provided for the marketing of their lambs and wool. A carload of lambs were pooled during September, and arrangements made to have them marketed through the Central Co-operative Association.

Tries Gladioli Digger. Gladioli growing is something of an industry in Ramsey county, says Robert Freeman, who secured a digger from New York and used it for trial and demonstration on a farm at White Bear Lake.

can be given to actual help with project work. Six new communities have enrolled and a total of 100 members signed up the last two weeks of September.

Sherburne Fair Solvent. The 1929 Sherburne county fair ended this year with all debts paid and a clean slate, says County Agent Raymond Aune, who is secretary of the fair. Many of the old debts had been hanging over for the last 14 years, Mr. Aune says. Three years ago the indebtedness amounted to \$3,000, but each year since, the indebtedness has been reduced, until now it is entirely wiped out. Cutting down on expenses and giving more attention to educational features made this possible.

Alfalfa Yields Seed. Many Norman county farmers asked County Agent J. J. McCann during September to inspect their alfalfa fields to see whether or not the crop should be cut for seed. As the season was unusually dry in Norman county this year most of the alfalfa fields had had their first crop cut low and were in fine condition for a bumper seed crop, Mr. McCann says. This is practically the first year that Norman county has had a seed crop and most of the farmers needed advice on how, when and what to cut. Many fields were inspected and the large majority turned out well at hulling time.

Boosts Ag School Attendance. Due to the influence of the extension service, quite a large delegation of Pine county young folks have been interested in attending the Central School of Agriculture at University Farm. Seventeen boys and girls from the county are now attending and two more boys will join them after Christmas, making a total delegation of 19, says W. F. Hammargren, county agent.

Starting Club Work Now. Organization of 4-H clubs is going on in Rice county and Miss Gwendolyn A. Watts says that she hopes to encourage members to take up clothing and cooking projects, home beautification and garden plans this winter, as well as the dairy calf, health, and leadership projects, in order to avoid the rush of summer work.

Turkeys Killed by Wire. Youth will be served, especially if it happens to belong to the genus turkey. J. J. McCann of Norman county answered calls from 11 turkey raisers during September to discover why their fowls were dying. On one of the places visited, the birds were found to be full of fine wire. Not getting enough feed, Mr. McCann says, the turkeys started in on the fence which confined them. Other more common causes of trouble found were blackhead, tapeworm, and roup.

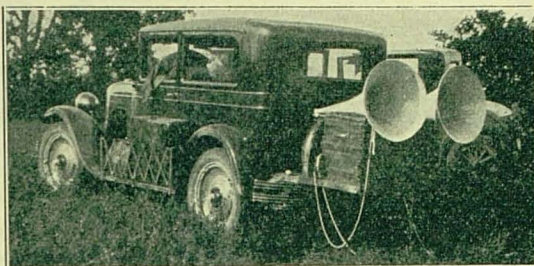
Rutford Salvages Calves. S. H. Rutford, St. Louis county, has been taking steps recently to prevent the slaughtering of calves from high-producing cows. During September four calves from high producing dams were placed with farmers to be raised. There is a demand for more calves of this kind, Mr. Rutford says, but the supply is very limited.

Selling Extension Service. Reviewing the Scott county fair, John Sheay summarizes eight different ways in which county extension and farm bureau work were shown at the fair grounds. Following is the list, which may be of interest to other agents:

1. Scott county extension and farm bureau booth in the agricultural building.
2. Three local 4-H club booths.
3. Three county 4-H club booths.
4. Two township booths.
5. Five hundred sixty-five individual 4-H club entries, including 25 club calves.
6. Large 4-H club signs posted in the calf, swine, sheep, and poultry barns.
7. Individual cards posted in front of each individual 4-H club livestock exhibit, including poultry.
8. Farm bureau float in county fair parade.

Premium Paid on 4-H Pigs. Besides giving a gold watch to the boy showing the barrow

Fasten This on Your Flivver



Through the courtesy of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association we are privileged to present pictorially a practical pointer on a portable projector, albeit an amplifier as well, for the human voice which we feel Minnesota county agents would find very helpful in conducting tours and other outdoor gatherings.

The outfit shown above was used in Coffey county, Kansas, to carry the noonday program of a farmer-banker lime and legume tour to a large crowd. The "mike," of course, can be set up on a convenient platform and the automobile so placed that the loud speakers point toward the crowd. In that way everyone can both see and hear what is going on.

At present, we do not have details on the construction, cost or use of the equipment shown, but believe we can get this information for anyone interested.

Good results were secured, Mr. Freeman says, and a large saving in hand labor and time resulted.

Dairy, Corn Days Held. Two outstanding community celebrations were held in Waseca county during September, in which the county extension service took an active part. One of these was the animal dairy days celebration at New Richland, which was attended by approximately 8,000 people, according to Martin C. Hansen. The other celebration was the Janesville King Corn days, at which the attendance was over 5,000.

Like Mail Order Plan. Without exception, the six Winona county farmers who are members of the Sparta, Wisconsin, mail order cow testing association are in favor of this method, says J. B. McNulty. Most of these farmers have tested before.

4-H Premium List Larger. Boys and girls in Winona county will receive from the fair association a total of \$1,317.66, says Russell Morgan, who states that this is the largest premium list that the county fair has ever offered.

To Try Bi-monthly Testing. Testing every other month instead of each month is a new plan of cow testing that is to be tried out in Itasca county this year, according to A. H. Frick. On this basis, six tests can be made a year at a cost of \$22, and Mr. Frick says that it is expected that the plan will bring in farmers who did not feel before that they could afford to test, thereby extending the association into the more remote parts of the county.

Joint 4-H Meetings Planned. A new plan of organization for regular 4-H meetings will be given a trial this year in Steele county, says Miss Viola A. Juni, home demonstration agent. Three or more school districts will combine and hold joint monthly meetings. Miss Juni says plans have been in progress to reorganize 4-H club groups earlier this year, so that more time

that was best from the packer's viewpoint at the Freeborn county fair, the Albert Lea Packing company paid \$1 more than the regular market price on all pigs run through the show ring. Forty-nine pigs were sold at the sale, says William Lawson, county agent, and some of the boys disposed of their gilts on the market. Forty-three pigs were bought by Albert Lea business firms at prices ranging from \$2 to \$7 higher than the packing company's prices. The pigs all went to the packing company, but the extra price was paid by the business firms as a means of showing the boys and girls that they were interested in their 4-H club work, and to give them encouragement for another year.

Alfalfa Title Shifts Again

WE'RE afraid Charles Gilbert has gone and done for the alfalfa acreage contest what Red Jackson and his flying partner did for endurance flying—set the mark so high no one else can even break into the headlines.

Gilbert writes as follows: "With reference to farms with large acreages of alfalfa—Chas. Johnson, Round Lake, Nobles county, has 150 acres of alfalfa. He is planning on planting 50 acres more next spring. Hang that up for the boys to shoot at!"

Well, whang away boys. Meanwhile Gilbert gets the prize headpiece which was first claimed by Watson of Dakota and which we later awarded to Gaylord of Rock county on his 80-acre patch in September. Who's next?

Better Seed, Livestock Wanted. Inquiries for breeding stock are coming in regularly, and plans are being made for simplifying the matter of listing stock wanted, says H. O. Anderson of Houston county. A dairy cattle sale will be held if enough stock can be secured. Liming soil and securing seed for next year also are every-day questions, according to Mr. Anderson, who says that inquiries for new varieties of grain also indicate a demand for better seed.

Support Weed Control Project. Innumerable spots of early plowing testify to the co-operation extended in the Redwood county weed control project, says Nate H. Bovee. Nearly all fall plowing was done early and rigid inspection was maintained at the threshing rigs in the county to see that no weedy grain was threshed. In a few scattered instances, crops were plowed under in limited acreages. The weed control work for 1929 was practically completed by September, says Mr. Bovee, and appears to have made a very creditable start.

Plan 4-H Short Course. Four-H club plans for Traverse county for the ensuing year call for district short courses at which H. C. Pederson, county agent, and Mr. Giberson will be present. Enrollments will be received at these short courses, following which local groups will be organized and a leader selected for each. Local leader training schools will then be arranged and a program laid out by which local leaders may compete for prizes. First prize will be a gold watch and second prize a free trip to the Junior Livestock Show.

Form Crop Improvement Group. Twenty-two approved growers of Glabron barley in Lyon county met at the office of County Agent Wm. A. Peters to discuss a means of distributing their seed among Lyon county farmers. As a result of this meeting, the growers voted to organize the Lyon County Crop Improvement association, and elected officers. They decided to hold another meeting in November, at which time the association will adopt a constitution and by-laws and work out a program for the ensuing year.

Calf and Dairy Day. One of the big events in Faribault county for September was the Calf and Dairy Day held at Wells, Saturday, September 28. The event was sponsored by the civic and commerce association as one of the activities of its five-year dairy improvement program, says A. E. Engebretson. All of the boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 15 years residing in the six townships tributary to Wells were asked to register. The names from the various townships were placed in separate boxes and one name drawn from each. Boys and girls

whose names were drawn were each to receive a calf from the civic and commerce association to be used in 4-H club work. Governor Theodore Christianson was present and gave a fine talk, while other features of the day were a grain and vegetable show, and a colt show, with W. E. Morris, of University Farm, as judge and speaker.

Ship Turkey Broilers. Pennington county shipped out its first consignment of turkey broilers on September 28, says R. M. Douglas. These broilers were lined up by the county agent and were shipped through the Land O' Lakes organization. Forty-five cents a pound live weight, on birds between the weights of six and nine pounds, was the price received. About 275 were shipped, bringing between \$800 and \$900. Mr. Douglas says that the turkey raisers hope through this method to find another market for their fowls.

Luncheon Clubs Give Dinners. Fifteen outstanding Winona county 4-H members were invited to attend a dinner given by the Kiwanis club of Winona. Thirteen club members and 16 parents were present, says Russell Morgan. Last year the Kiwanis club paid the expenses of 10 corn club members to the boys' and girls' short course, while this year they are providing a scholarship of \$75 and free trips to the short course for club members. A dinner similar to the one given by the Kiwanians was given by the Rotary club on October 16, which has been interested mainly in the alfalfa project.

Excursion Wins Favor. L. A. Churchill reports that favorable comments have been received from all over Jackson county regarding the excursion to the Land O'Lakes creamery plant. Nearly 500 passengers were on the special train. Splendid co-operation was given by the business men and one of the towns in the county closed up for the day, most of the business men going on the trip.

Women Study Publicity. The Brown county home and community committee had an unusually interesting meeting, using publicity as a special study, says Miss Amy Wessel, home demonstration agent. Miss Julia Newton spoke, outlining the needs for publicity and emphasizing the importance of selling home demonstration work through off-repeated publicity. W. E. Barnes, editor of the Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch, also gave a talk on writing for the local newspaper.

Try Corn Crib Silos. Three Lincoln county farmers called on F. B. Peterson for help this year in putting up corn crib silos of the type advocated by E. A. Hanson, dairy specialist. These are the first silos of the kind to be used in Lincoln county, Mr. Peterson says. Two of these farmers did not have silos before, while the third will use the crib silo for fall feeding, as his regular silo is not large enough.

Rat Control Popular. Forty Rock county farmers have taken advantage of the new system of eradicating rats with cynogas which was introduced through extension work about four months ago. These 40 men have full equipment on their farms and are making use of it. Many others who witnessed the demonstration are sold upon the idea and are contemplating using it, says Mr. Gaylord. One farmer estimated that the rats on his farm cost him \$300 last year and he has practically eradicated them since obtaining the equipment. Rat control pictures have been shown at many township farm bureau unit meetings and it is planned to make further use of this material.

Fair Changes Successful. Several changes in policy adopted by the Hennepin county fair this year made a real hit with the patrons, Kirkpatrick says. Charges were eliminated for grandstand and dancing entertainment, gate admission only being charged and autos being parked free. Opening up the livestock show to flocks and herds from outside the county brought greatly enlarged entries of poultry and cattle. The change to a good musical revue, interspersed with a few high class vaudeville numbers, appeared to meet with favor as well as resulting in less expense to the management.

Tour Is Over-Grown. Extension work in Hennepin county appears to be suffering from growing pains. Mr. Kirkpatrick says that the past two years the farm bureau tour held in June has been so large that it cannot be handled to good advantage. Therefore, he has suggested to the committee that next year the tour be divided into several parts, starting at outlying points in the county, and coming together at a central point for an afternoon and early evening picnic program and celebration.

Purebred Bull Survey. Rutherford announces the completion of a survey showing the number of purebred sires in use in St. Louis county. A total of 55 purebred Guernseys and 23 purebred Holsteins have been located. These animals are fairly well distributed over the county. A questionnaire has been sent to the owners of

these bulls to get information on the number of cows in the various herds and the number of cows that are being bred to these bulls. A map is maintained in the county agent's office showing the location of these sires, and a special effort will be made to get bulls in those parts of the county which do not now have any.

Big Vacation Week Planned. Good will building is to be tried out on a big scale by the farmers and business men of Clearwater county next year. At a recent meeting of the Bagley Commercial club, County Agent Chambers outlined suggestions for bringing about community harmony between farmers and business men. A similar talk was given by one of the leading farmers of the county, after which the commercial club offered the following proposal: That a week be set aside between June 15 and June 30 next year, to be known as Bagley Community Vacation Week. The first day of this week is to be used for the county farm bureau picnic, at which the farm bureau will furnish the entertainment and be hosts to the business men. The next three days will be devoted to the annual chatauqua, guaranteed by the business men, while the last day of the week will be used for the commercial club picnic, at which the business men will be hosts to the farm bureau members. The county 4-H club camp will be held during the week, all expenses being borne by the commercial club. At the same time the horseshoe pitching tournament and other contests will be held. Farmers and their families are invited to spend their vacation camping and fishing on Lake Lomond, on the outskirts of Bagley.

Sold on Mail Order Testing. R. C. Shaw of East Ottertail says that he believes the mail order cow testing association will have 200 or more members by the first of the year. As to the future of the mail order plan, Mr. Shaw says he believes in it more strongly than ever. The membership so far seems to be very well satisfied, and only one has dropped out. This was because of short crops and the fact that he was selling some of his cows.

Mr. Shaw states that he feels more certain than ever, however, that the future of the mail order testing plan rests largely on the personality, knowledge, pep and push of the fieldman in charge. Experience in similar dairy communities has shown that without proper experience on the part of the fieldman, this type of association will not last. Securing monthly tests in fundamentally important, but there are many other things, such as herd sire selection, barn ventilation, selection of proper rations, and proper feeding of cows in the herd, as well as a dozen and one other things a live fieldman can busy himself with when on an occasional visit to the member, Mr. Shaw says. Taken collectively, these are probably more important than merely getting a test on the herd.

Seed Testing Service

C. P. BULL, head of the state seed testing laboratory at University Farm, requests county agents to urge farmers to send in their seed samples early for testing, thereby avoiding congestion and delay in having the samples reported. The laboratory will test up to 10 samples of seed without charge for any individual and will test additional samples at a small charge to cover costs.

Now is the time to buy whatever seed may be needed, says Mr. Bull, the principal reason being the opportunity thus offered for having it tested and knowing exactly what the quality is.

The seed testing laboratory is crowded for time during the spring months, but samples submitted before March 1 will be given immediate attention. Last year the laboratory tested over 8,400 samples and at times during April the work was crowded to the limit and reports on samples were necessarily delayed.

In a Class By Itself. Cook county completed its first area test for bovine tuberculosis in October without a single reactor. This is the first time any Minnesota county has been found entirely free from infection on first test. Unofficial word from Washington says this is likewise a record for the United States.

Activities of Gopher 4-H Club Boys and Girls

Gopher 4-H'ers Win at National Dairy Show

MINNESOTA'S 4-H poultry demonstration team, consisting of Chelsea Pratt and Ernest Stanford, Mankato, Blue Earth county, captured first place at the National Dairy Show at St. Louis, last month. Thirty-eight club boys made the trip in charge of A. J. Kittleson, state club agent, while four others composing the dairy judging team were accompanied by E. A. Hanson, extension dairy specialist.

The dairy demonstration team finished third in competition with teams from 26 states. Ralph Grant and Cletus Hallquist of Red Wing, Goodhue county, were the team members. The dairy judging team likewise got third place, the members being Melvin Larson, Fred Norberg, Felix Ecklund, and Harry Lehtinen of Carlton county. The Gopher judges won the additional distinction of placing first on Guernseys among the 29 teams taking part.

Everything considered, the trip to St. Louis was one of the finest any Minnesota delegation has ever taken to a national event, was the comment of T. A. Erickson, state club leader. Names of others who made the St. Louis trip are as follows: Alfred Bolster, Winger, East Polk county; Clifford Wendland, Big Stone City, S. D., Lac qui Parle county; Paul Pierson, Shakopee, Scott county; Alfred Loken, Carlisle, West Ottertail; Ward Wells, Aitkin, Crow Wing; Ralph Crisinger, Palisade, Aitkin; Kenneth Roeder, Dover, Olmsted; Harold Johnson, Greenbush, Roseau; Leonard Radman, Randolph, Dakota; Francis Burnham, Minneapolis, Hennepin; George Jaglowski, Rutledge, Pine; Thomas Morse, Deer River, Itasca; Peter Ruud, Eveleth, St. Louis; Ardell Eastman, Kenyon, Rice; Harold Gossard, Kasson, Dodge; Burton Phillip, Menahga, Wadena; Laverne Cotter, Oakland, Freeborn; Cecil Berg, Caledonia, Houston; Kermit Olson, Red Wing, Goodhue; Arnold Sorenson, St. James, Watonwan; Arnold Foslien, Garfield, Douglas; Fred

Enrollment Lists Due

BLANKS have been mailed out from the state 4-H club office to county agents and club leaders asking them to send in corrected enrollment lists for their respective counties showing completions in all projects.

T. A. Erickson, state leader of 4-H clubs, says it is very important that these blanks be filled out and returned promptly as the data are needed in the preparation of the annual 4-H club report. These same figures should also be used by the county agents and club leaders in their own annual reports.

A number are still delinquent about sending in their replies. These are urged to get busy and send them in at once.

Wicklund, Two Harbors, Lake; Filbert Zeman, Victoria, Carver; Albert Smith, Litchfield, Meeker; Joseph Ries, Rollingstone, Winona; Edward Charon, Wilton, Beltrami; Harold Running, Little Fork, Koochiching; Reinhold Schmicking, Truman, Martin; William Echernach, New Richland, Waseca; Victor Calverley, Ellendale, Steele; Edward Greehurst, Lewiston, Winona; George Lorenz, Briceyn, Faribault; Louis Weimerskirch, Belgrade, Stearns.

DOUGLAS 4-H BOY WINS ADVANCED SHEEP EVENT

TWELVE club members, including eight boys and four girls, representing eight counties, finished the advanced junior sheep project under the direction of W. E. Morris, extension livestock specialist, this year. The contest is sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association and completed its second year with several more entries than in 1928.

Harold G. Getchell, Kensington, Douglas county, won first place, having raised 20 lambs from his flock of 10 ewes and bringing them to an average weight of 92.7 pounds at 150 days of age. His average production of lamb per ewe was 185.3 pounds.

Second place in the contest was won by Lawrence Ward of St. Vincent, Kittson county, who raised 17 lambs, weighing 92 pounds each and secured an average weight of lamb per ewe of 156.4 pounds. Third place went to Erwin Howard of Chokio, Stevens county, who raised 16 lambs, averaging 93 pounds each or 148.75 pounds of lamb per ewe.

Other winners in the order of their ranking are as follows: Lois Padelford, Austin, Mower county; Marvin Nelson, Cyrus, Stevens; William Sharkey, Belle Plaine, Le Sueur; Ernest Clouse, Olivia, Renville; Freeman Allen, Jr., Thief River Falls, Pennington; Nettie Eklund, Chokio, Stevens; Doris Vesterby, Chokio, Stevens; Loranz Anton, St. Hilaire, Pennington; and Frances Reller, Thief River Falls, Pennington.

24 ATTEND SCHOOL ON LIVESTOCK MARKETING

TWO dozen older club members from as many counties spent October 28 and 29 at South St. Paul and University Farm attending the second annual Livestock Marketing School put on by W. E. Morris, extension livestock specialist, in co-operation with the state club office, the Union Stockyards company and various concerns interested in the South St. Paul market.

Members attending and the counties which they represent were as follows: Johnny Clow, St. Vincent, Kittson county; Ernest Clouse, Olivia, Renville; Freeman Allen, Thief River Falls, Pennington; William Smith, Adams, Mower; Joe Lippert, Wilmont, Nobles; Lemuel Swanson, St. James, Watonwan; William Dvorak, Jordan, Scott; George Bissen, Caledonia, Houston; George Kortz, Eden Prairie, Hennepin; Raymond

50 Gopher Delegates Priming for Chicago

FIFTY 4-H club members, the maximum number permitted Minnesota at the National Club Congress, will head for Chicago late this month determined to bring back as large as possible a string of national laurels as a climax to the biggest 4-H club year the Gopher state has yet experienced.

Among the teams and individuals who will take leading parts in one form or another of national competition are the

Leader to Broadcast

ONE outstanding bit of recognition has already been accorded Minnesota in connection with the National Club Congress to be held at Chicago, starting this month. T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader, has been invited to be a speaker on the National 4-H Radio Program to be broadcasted by the National Broadcasting Company Saturday noon, November 30.

Mr. Erickson's subject will be "Farming and Homemaking Achievements and Their Value to Boys and Girls."

Mr. Erickson's appointment on the broadcasting program was recommended by C. W. Warburton, director of the federal extension service, Washington, D. C.

following: garment demonstration team, Marie Trnka and Ida Picha, New Prague, Scott county; general livestock judging, Morten Kolsrud, Hills, Vernon Kvale, Beaver Creek and Werner Stegemann, Beaver Creek, Rock county; poultry judging team (to be chosen at Junior Livestock Show); bread team, Thora Eglund and Florence Peterson, Hennepin county; advanced bread team, Lucille Werring and Beatrice Steffl, Sleepy Eye, Brown county; 1928 corn champion, Harlan Stoffregren, Nicollet county; cake baking champion, Nadine Bennett, Ellendale, Steele county; canning champion, Marie Severson, Brewster, Nobles.

Members of the grand champion agricultural demonstration team at the state fair will also make the trip, these being Arthur Bohnsack and Walter Scharf of New Prague, Scott county.

Griffith, Dodge Center, Dodge; Adolph Schultz, Springfield, Redwood; Vaughn Brown, New Richland, Waseca; Clinton Carlson, Martin county; Ralph Smith, Windom, Cottonwood; Walter Moeller, Pipestone, Pipestone; Wilford Auge, Randolph, Dakota; Helmer Quist, Lafayette, Nicollet; Orville Sather, Madison, Lac qui Parle; Lester Kettner, Pine Island, Goodhue; Loren Holmberg, Avoca, Murray; Joseph Regnier, Ghent, Lyons; Harold Getchell, Kensington, Douglas; Raymond Sullivan, New Prague, Le Sueur; and George Moeller, Fergus Falls, W. Ottertail.

WHITFIELD FINISHES IN 3 COUNTIES IN OCTOBER

CONCLUDING her work in three counties in October, Miss Eves E. Whitfield, extension specialist in clothing, reports a splendid achievement day in Clothing II in Winona county and successful check-up events in Project I in Hubbard and Beltrami counties.

Summary reports show the following significant facts: In Winona, 205 of 218 members reported. The project also reached 1,056 other folks, all together reaching 50 per cent of the farm homes in the county. Improved equipment reported amounted to 356 pieces, while 4,676 garments were produced at a total saving of more than \$3400.

In Hubbard, 175 of the 210 members completed and 655 additional persons were reached, including one-third of all the farm homes. Members reporting had made 2,153 garments, saved \$7.60 each and purchased 263 pieces of improved sewing equipment.

Beltrami county had 238 members completing out of a total enrollment of 295 and 578 other persons were reached, the project being carried into 44 per cent of the homes. Group members averaged savings of \$5 in clothing, having made a total of 2,557 garments. Thirteen of the 21 groups made 100 per cent reports, an unusually good record considering the fact that Beltrami county covers so much territory.

POULTRY ACHIEVEMENT DAY BRINGS BIG CROWD

POULTRY achievement day in Meeker county, Saturday, October 5, brought out a crowd that put the seating capacity of the high school gymnasium at Litchfield to a severe test. Nearly 1,000 persons were present to inspect the booths and hear the afternoon program. A chicken dinner was provided free by the poultry project members and despite the huge crowd, everyone was plentifully served.

County Agent W. K. Dyer conducted the program. Speakers included Miss Cora E. Cooke, poultry specialist, and Miss Eva Blair, organization specialist. Several skits and playlets relating to better poultry methods were staged by project members. The weather was ideal, everyone was interested and enthusiastic and all together it was a very successful conclusion for the poultry project.

RICE COUNTY SIGNS UP RECORD CLOTHING ROLL

WITH 506 women signed up, Rice county now has the largest enrollment in the clothing project that has ever been secured in any county in Minnesota, says Miss M. Lois Reid, extension specialist in clothing, who held three leader training meetings there on October 9, 10, and 11. Miss Gwendolyn Watts, home demonstration agent, conducted three others on October 15, 16, and 18.

Thirty-nine organized groups are taking up the project enthusiastically. Twenty-one newly organized groups have been added since the appointment of Miss Watts to Rice county, July 1. The county has a one-hundred per cent home and community committee with chairmen in every township.

Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

"AGRICULTURAL REFORM IN THE UNITED STATES"

THE above is the title of a recent book by Dr. J. D. Black, professor of agricultural economics at Howard University, and formerly chief in agricultural economics at Minnesota.

It is generally conceded that the work contains the most comprehensive analysis of recent tendencies in agriculture and the most complete analysis of the suggested remedies that has appeared under one cover. It would be well worth while for every worker in agricultural extension to read it carefully. The scope of the work may be inferred from the titles of the five parts into which it is divided. These are as follows: I. The Setting; II. The Surpluses; III. Price Raising by Government Action; IV. Adjustment—Individual and Co-operative; V. The Reforms.

On page 36 is an interesting summary of the changes that may be expected in agriculture in the next 25 years, if no changes are made in our present policy and program with respect to agriculture.

Among the tendencies that Dr. Black expects are the following:

1. An increasing use of machinery and power on farms, and proportionately less labor.
2. An expansion of crop production in those areas where machinery and power can be substituted for labor, and a contraction of agriculture elsewhere.
3. Large farms, both in acres and in volume of output.
4. Continuing technical improvements in agriculture, better cultural practices, better feeding, better varieties and breeds.
5. An increasing volume of production constantly pressing on consumption, and kept in check by low prices whenever the output of any product advances too rapidly. This increasing volume will be per acre and per head of livestock as well as per farm and per man.
6. A greater technical intensity of production, in the sense that more fertilizer will be used, especially on the better grades of land and with the better grades of livestock; but all of this will be done with more power and machinery rather than with more labor.
7. Costs per unit of product will decline because of the substitution of power and machinery for labor, the improvements in the technique of production, and the large inputs of feed and fertilizer, all giving larger outputs per unit of input.
8. Prices of farm products will probably rise, relative to prices of other products, but very slowly, probably not one point a year on the index scale.
9. Co-operative marketing and other related improvements in marketing will introduce some economies; but whether they will offset the additional costs of closer sorting and grading, better packing, packaging, and of more competitive advertising, is much to be doubted. Spreads between farm and retail prices will probably increase; but the consumer will pay for most of this.
10. There will be an increasingly better adjustment of production to economic conditions, better farm organization and management.
11. Farm incomes will rise, but rather slowly, possibly 1 or 2 per cent a year, due mostly to lower costs and larger production per farm.

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12. The scale of living of farm families will rise somewhat faster than farm incomes, due to the reduction in the average number of persons on each farm, and small further drains upon farm capital.
13. The population living on farms will continue to decline, but at a slackening rate after a few more years.
14. Land values will continue to decline in the important farming areas, but at a rapidly slackening rate. Once they reach the bottom they will turn upward very slowly indeed.
15. Taxes will continue to rise, although not very rapidly. More roads will be built. Schools will be improved. Better health facilities will be provided for farm people. This is simply a part of the rising scale of living.
16. The higher taxes per acre will make an increasing amount of land submarginal for any kind of agriculture.
17. Mortgages on farm property will probably increase little further in absolute amount for the present. The slackening of the rate of sale of farms has reduced the number of new mortgages that are being written.
18. Tenancy will probably increase in most sections, due to the inability of farmers to pro-

vide the funds with which to buy the larger acreages needed. The lower land values, and the lower rate at which farmers retire to town will be offsetting influences, which may prove to be the more potent.

21. There will be more families which combine farming with other means of livelihood; and more city people will have homes in the country.

The writer would be more optimistic than Dr. Black as to possible gains from co-operative marketing (see No. 9) and somewhat more optimistic as to the future of land prices as regards land of the best quality (see No. 16).

Dr. Black does not make any forecast on one of the most important factors, having to do with the welfare of land-owning farmers who have mortgages; namely, the trend of the general price level.

"LIFE, SERVICE, AND COST OF FARM MACHINERY"

THE foregoing is the title of Iowa Experiment Station bulletin 260. This bulletin gives a comprehensive report on the life, and annual cost of the various farm machines.

The following is the normal life reported for some of the common machines:

Kind of Machine	Normal Life in years
Corn binder	14
Corn planter	15
Corn sheller	18
Cultivators	15
Engine—gasoline, stationary	15
Ensilage cutter	10
Grain binder	16
Grain drill	18
Hay loader	20
Manure spreader	14
Tractor	8

Apparently the more or less customary plan of figuring the life of farm machinery at 10 years is altogether too low except in the case of tractors and ensilage cutters.

An interesting item in the report is that the average cost of a corn picker for each day of use was \$4.60 compared to \$5.53 for a corn binder. The lower cost per day of the corn picker in spite of its higher first cost and shorter life was due to the fact that the picker was used 15 days per year compared to six for the corn binder. This is a striking illustration of the fact that the per acre cost of farm machinery is largely dependent on the number of days of use that are secured per year.