

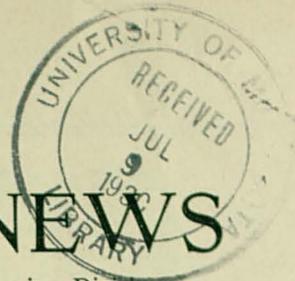
MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

Published Monthly by the University of Minnesota, Department of Agriculture, Extension Division

Vol. IX

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MINN., JULY, 1930

No. 10



Several Farm Tours Are Planned for July

If extension workers are looking for tours as a summer diversion or means of study, they may take their pick of several in July—the Northwest Farm Managers' tour, July 13 to 16; a Red River Valley tour, which is a continuation of the Great Northern Railway's campaign for the control of sow thistle and other weeds, July 9 to 11; and a field crop tour, under the supervision of R. F. Crim, July 9 to 11. The programs for these tours look extremely tempting.

The Northwest Farm Managers' tour is to be put on jointly by the Minnesota Farm Managers' association and the Northwest Farm Managers' association, which is composed largely of North Dakota farm managers. The North Dakota group will leave Fargo by automobile, about noon July 13, arriving at Morris in the evening, where they will be joined by others who will take the tour. On Monday the tourists will visit farms in the vicinity of Morris, Appleton, Porter, and Marshall. A chicken dinner will be served at the farm of Tillman Thompson, two miles southeast of Appleton. The night will be spent at Marshall. The next day among the farms visited will be that of F. E. Lindsey, one of Minnesota's Master Farmers, 24 miles from Marshall. Lunch will be taken at Adrian, and after visiting other farms, the tourists will spend the night at Worthington. Wednesday, July 16, the tourists will visit, among other places, two Master Farmers' farms—that of L. E. Potter, Springfield, and that of F. J. Sheffield, five miles north of the Potter farm. Lunch will be taken at Springfield. Of special interest, also, will be a visit to the Gilfillan farms at Gilfillan, 16 miles from the Sheffield farm. In these farms are included 1,600 acres under direct management, and 4,900 acres, with 23 sets of buildings, under lease. The tour will close with a barbecue lunch at Ramsey State Park, Redwood Falls.

The Red River Valley tour will begin at Breckenridge, Wednesday, July 9. The tourists will make a special study of farms where weeds have been kept under control by various means. Lunch will be taken at Climax at noon Wednesday, July 9, and the party will spend the night at Grand Forks. Thursday the tour will be resumed, carrying the party to Larimore and on to Morden, Man., where a banquet supper will be served. Friday will be given to a trip to the Dominion Experiment Farm. Arrangements have been made to take those who care to go on to Winnipeg for a visit to the Manitoba Agricultural College and the experimental wheat laboratory. O. R. Grover, county agent of Wilkin county, and A. W. Aamodt, of Polk county, are making special arrangements to interest farmers in the objectives of this tour.

The field crop tours are really trip tours—one from Porter on July 9, one from Tracy, July 10, and one from Comfrey, July 11. The Community Seed Growers' association is sponsoring the Porter tour, which will be participated in by farmers and county agents from four counties. The Farmers' Elevator is sponsoring the Tracy tour, with Lyon, Redwood, and Murray counties taking part. The Farmers' Elevator is also backing the Comfrey tour, co-operating with the Wan-Bro-Cot Crop Improvement association, an organization representing Watonwan, Brown, and Cottonwood counties. Among the speakers of these tours will be Mr. Crim, Mr. Peck, and some member of the agronomy division, University Farm.

Pamphlet to Explain Cow-Testing Project

Details with regard to the objectives and method of developing the work of the Minnesota State-Wide Cow-Testing association are to be given in an extension pamphlet. Copy for the pamphlet has been prepared by H. R. Searles and is now in the printer's hands. The pamphlets should be ready for distribution within a short time.

The pamphlet points out what the organization of the new association will mean to farmers, to creamery communities, and to the state at large. It furnishes information as to the plan and methods of procedure in the organization of local units and in the main objective of the association, that of testing the cows of individual farmers.

Forward!

times be confronted with difficulties THE county agent surveys the whole of rural America. He may at and perplexities but these do not discourage him. It is his privilege to serve what is primary and fundamental in the life of the nation.

He sees America at its best. He may lead armies but they are engaged upon a mission for the public welfare. These people, possessed of devotion to the soil, may not readily express themselves, but they are gaining words and confidence.

As stated by Calvin Coolidge, "Agriculture holds a position in this country that it was never before able to secure anywhere else on earth."

There is determination throughout the land that this ideal shall be maintained: that agriculture, as it always has, shall occupy an important place in American life.

The county agent has a great opportunity to serve.

—F. E. Balmer.

Rain Could not Spoil the Extension Picnic

The weather man apparently resented the extension division's failure to settle with him in advance as to the brand of weather to be dispensed on June 16, the day set for the division's annual picnic. Whatever the cause, said weather man certainly handed out that day a variety of weather, with special attention to the kind regarded with favor by ducks. He made the weather good when it did not make much difference whether it was good or bad, and he made it bad when it should have been good—whenever some interesting sport event seemed to be getting well under way. However, while he dampened the clothes of the picknickers, he failed to subdue their spirits.

The supervisors seem to have had the advantage in the sports program, up to the point at which the weather man put an end to the contests. The supervisors won in the ladies' rolling-pin throwing contest which counted 30 points, and in the men's diamond ball game which counted 50 points. The specialists won the girls' volley ball game, for a total of 50 points. The men's horseshoe contest was left unfinished, with Martensen and Zavoral paired off against Jacob and Watson, and waiting for a chance "to go."

Peck and Kuehn seemed to be headed for the horseshoe honors, having defeated Parten and Tolaas, and Freeman and Larson. But then they were outdone by Jacob and Watson. This left the latter team to meet Martensen and Zavoral, when the gong sounded for dinner. By the time dinner was over, the "all wet" weather man became "nawsty" and broke up every attempt to continue the proceedings.

The box score of the diamond ball game follows, with its revelations as to hits and runs. The scorer seems to have omitted a record of errors. Perhaps there were none.

| Supervisors | ABR | H | Specialists | ABR | H | |
|---------------|-----|----|----------------|-----|----|------|
| Kuehn 1b | 6 | 3 | Geddes, c | 5 | 1 | |
| Larson 2b | 4 | 0 | Huntemer 1b | 3 | 0 | |
| Cleland cf | 3 | 3 | Searles, p-1s | 4 | 2 | |
| Jake c | 5 | 3 | Anderson 1s-p | 1 | 3 | |
| McNelly 1s | 4 | 2 | Martensen 2b | 4 | 3 | |
| Peck p | 4 | 3 | Zavoral 3b | 4 | 3 | |
| Brown, F. rf | 5 | 3 | Cavert cf | 3 | 1 | |
| Balmer rs | 5 | 3 | Freeman, R. rs | 2 | 3 | |
| Peck, W.A. lf | 3 | 3 | Watson, Jr. rf | 4 | 1 | |
| Watson, 3b | 5 | 1 | Billings lf | 3 | 1 | |
| | 24 | 27 | | 18 | 18 | |
| Innings | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Supervisors | 9 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 5-24 |
| Specialists | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8-18 |

Umpire: Tolaas.

The big feature of the day, of course, was the picnic dinner, served by the men, with H. R. Searles as master chef and master of ceremonies. The dinner was a royal feast.

The picnic was held at Gerber's place on Lake Josephine.

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

Published monthly at University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., by the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Minnesota and the United States Department of Agriculture, co-operating in the interest of extension work in agriculture and home economics.

WALTER C. COFFEY
Dean of the Department of Agriculture and
Director of Experiment Station

FRANK W. PECK
Director of Agricultural Extension

W. P. KIRKWOOD HAROLD HARRIS
Editors

Entered as second-class matter October 4, 1921, at the post-office at St. Paul, Minnesota, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized October 21, 1921.

JULY, 1930

Each day seems to add to the responsibilities and the number of tasks that are pressed upon extension field workers.

This is particularly true of county agricultural agents and home demonstration agents, for each added project or each added contact made with some individual increases not only opportunity for service but responsibility as well. The annual reports from the agents indicate that each year sees the number of tasks increased and the resulting amount of service totaling up to a larger significance.

All this means that the agents are taxed to their utmost to maintain this service. To find any time for self-improvement is a real difficulty. It would seem that it is essential, however, to devise ways by which agents may read while they run. If time can not be taken from the job for self-improvement, then opportunities for improvement must be so arranged and developed as to be brought to the workers in a form and content of subject matter that can be read while the agent runs.

Looking forward to this situation it has been proposed that a reading course be developed in economics, as a starter, featuring the marketing of farm products. It is proposed that this course be offered to the field workers without credit in the university, wholly as a means of reaching the interested agents with modern up-to-date subject matter material. It will be necessary to charge a fee sufficient to cover the cost of postage and mimeographing of material, and, as soon as the plans are completed, interested agents will be requested to register.

If this course is well received and seems to be successful in its purpose, other courses may be devised along other lines and eventually credit may be considered as one of the ends to be obtained. The principal idea, however, at this time, is to permit field workers to read material, with which they are working daily, while they are on the job. This may require some reorganization of the agent's work and may mean taking time off at stated intervals.

We shall be glad to hear from any agents or any other field workers that care to express an opinion about this proposal.—F. W. P.

SHE COULDN'T SEW, BUT—

Mrs. Dunn, one of the clothing project leaders of Rock county, celebrated the completion of Project I in verses, which show strikingly the spirit with which the clothing project members take hold of their work. The first stanza, which follows, is typical of the whole.

Somebody said that she couldn't sew,
But she with a chuckle replied,
That maybe she couldn't but she would be one
Who wouldn't say so till she tried.
So she buckled right in with a trace of a grin
On her face. If she worried she hid it;
She started to sing as she tackled the dress
That couldn't be made. And she made it.

Donovan Now Heads North Central School

Announcement was made after the recent meeting of the Board of Regents of the University, that R. L. Donovan had been appointed superintendent of the North Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station at Grand Rapids, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Otto I. Bergh.

The extension staff regrets the loss of Donovan from its membership but congratulates him upon his promotion. A statement prepared in the office of Dean Coffey contains a brief summary of his services to agriculture. This statement is as follows:

"Raymond L. Donovan was graduated from the School of Agriculture, University Farm, in 1905; and from the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics in 1909. His ambition, as a student, was to be a farm manager, and, upon graduation, he took charge of the Boulder Bridge Farm of 300 acres on Lake Minnetonka. Later he was manager of the Hickory Island farm of 3500 acres near Austin; of the Mayowood farms of 3500 acres near Rochester, and assistant manager of the Schermerhorn farms of 20,000 acres in Mahnomon county. Mr. Donovan also had charge of fifteen demonstration farms in the northern part of the state for the University Department of Agriculture.

"For two years Mr. Donovan was with the Department of Farm Management, University of Illinois; and since 1926 he has been with the extension division of the University Department of Agriculture as specialist in dairying and farm management.

"Mr. Donovan is a native of Minnesota and he is thoroughly acquainted with the agriculture of the state. He is especially skilled in dairying and farm management and in these subjects he is a most effective teacher."

Harris Is at Ames

Harold L. Harris, publicity specialist, is taking his vacation. He is improving the shining moments of his annual leave by garnering wisdom at Iowa State College, where he expects to complete work for his bachelor's degree. He writes that everything is lined up for his graduation this summer.

Donovan Has Lame Hand

R. L. Donovan has been having a nasty time with an infected hand. It necessitated his being in the hospital for several days. Latest reports show improvement and Ray is on the go as usual.

Trade Conference Open For Extension Agents

A national trade conference of representatives of farmers' co-operative associations is to be held at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, July 7 to 12, in connection with the sixth annual meeting of the American Institute of Co-operation. In addition to directors and officers of co-operative associations and co-operative leaders, county extension agents also are to be given the opportunity to attend the conference. The extension service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture states that this opportunity is given to extension workers because of the advantages which the conference offers to the agents to gain additional information regarding the co-operative movement. A six-weeks' course dealing with agricultural co-operation has been arranged by the Institute and Ohio State University, to be given June 16 to July 23. This course will entitle those completing it to credit toward a degree if desired.

U. Instructor Issues a Book on Millinery

A book admirably suited to assist in millinery work, in connection with clothing projects, has been issued by Miss Carlotta Brown of the home economics division of the University Department of Agriculture. The book does not discuss styles or the vogue of the moment. The title of the book is "Millinery Processes." It is published by Ginn & Company, Boston, and it has been the object of both the author and the publishers to produce a book so simple and direct in its instruction by text and illustration as to enable the student to grasp easily the principles involved.

The book discusses such subjects as bindings, blocks and blockings, brim coverings, casings, color, crown coverings, edge finishes, fabric, frames, facings, folds, flowers and fruit ornaments, linings, measurements, modeling, patterns, pressing, renovating, ribbon hats, ribbon trimmings, seams, stitches used in millinery, straw and horsehair braids, hat selection, working equipment, and many others.

Lac qui Parle Now Has Home Dem. Agent

Miss Julia O. Newton has announced the appointment of Miss Esther Stewart, a home economics graduate of Iowa State College, as home demonstration agent for Lac qui Parle county. Miss Stewart began her work late in June. She is a native of Iowa, her home being at Laurel. For the last three years she has taught home economics in the high school at Coleraine, Minnesota, where she was also active in 4-H Club leadership work.

Miss Newton also announces that on July 1 Miss Matilda Nelson became urban home demonstration agent in Duluth, succeeding Miss Dorothy Iwig, who returns to her home in Illinois. Miss Nelson is a graduate of Stout Institute and of the University of Minnesota and has also taken advanced training at the University of Minnesota and Iowa State College.



4-H Club Short Course Was Highly Successful

Nine hundred and eighty-five 4-H club members and leaders attended the 4-H club short course and leaders' training school June 3 to 7 at University Farm. This makes a record of attendance for the 4-H club short course in Minnesota.

The interest of the 4-H club members in all of the class work and other exercises was unusually strong.

More than 300 leaders—adult and junior—registered for the leadership course. This course was in charge of H. M. Jones, state club leader at Brookings, South Dakota. Director Peck, Miss Newton, and members of the state club group, gave talks and led in discussions.

The Land o' Lakes Company entertained the entire group the afternoon of June 4 with a luncheon and a tour through their plant. Other educational trips included the state capitol, the Ford plant, the Walker art gallery, and other places of interest.

The field day on the last afternoon was a new feature this year. Pipestone and Ramsey counties tied for first place. Blue Earth and Goodhue received the same score for second place.

One of the most interesting features of the short course was the annual meeting of the Minnesota 4-H Club Association. A board of directors, consisting of one member from each county represented, was elected. Chelsea Pratt of Mankato, Blue Earth county, was elected president, and Robert Jacobs of Sherburne county, secretary.

Poultry Tribune Again to Give Scholarships

The Poultry Tribune will continue its 4-H scholarship contest for 1931. These scholarships will be awarded as follows: \$150 for first, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third. These scholarships are good at the state agricultural college or at the schools of agriculture.

Any 4-H poultry club member with a record of three years or more in poultry club work is eligible. The award will be made on the entrant's achievements in 4-H poultry club work including flock records and production records. Each member must submit records covering at least two years of poultry club work. A contestant's record in leadership and general club work will also be included.

A Minnesota boy, Chelsea Pratt of Mankato, was the winner of the Poultry Tribune \$150 scholarship for 1929.

R. A. Turner of the United States Department of Agriculture is chairman of the judging committee.

Make Nominations for McKerrow Scholarships

Several \$75 scholarships, good in either the schools of agriculture or in the college, will be awarded to 4-H livestock club members with creditable records. These awards will be made for achievements in livestock work, according to conditions under which the individual has worked. Credit will be given, especially, for what a club member has done to help improve livestock on the home farm and community. Candidates must be ready to take advantage of scholarship at the beginning of next school year, if selected. Each county agent is requested to nominate one candidate and to send a detailed record to the state club office before August 1, 1930.

Handy Book for Club Leaders, Presidents

The 4-H Hand Book, a bulletin full of program helps, songs, club plays, parliamentary rules, and other helpful suggestions for club officers and club leaders, may be secured free of charge. County agents wishing them should send a list of leaders, both junior and adult, together with names of all club presidents in the county, to G. L. Noble, 360 North Michigan avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Fine Act of College 4-H Club

The Gopher 4-H Club of the College of Agriculture provided funds to defray the expenses of four outstanding 4-H Club members to the recent short course at University Farm. Those selected were required to be not only outstanding in their club records but also graduates of a high school and interested in the courses in home economics or agriculture at the University.

Those who were honored as guests of the Gopher 4-H Club were: Winnifred Barber of Lac qui Parle county, Ralph Grant of Goodhue county, Ernest Stanford of Blue Earth county, and Teresa Rico of Itasca county.

National Poultry Exhibit

An exhibit of poultry has been added to the program of the National Club Congress at Chicago.

The exhibits this year will be limited to one cockerel per state for each of the following breeds: Barred, White, and Buff Plymouth Rocks; Rhode Island Reds; Buff, and White Orpingtons; White, and Silver-Laced Wyandottes; White, Brown, and Buff Leghorns.

The prizes run from \$8 down to \$1 for each breed.

County Celebrates Its Extension Anniversary

When farmers and others to the number of nearly 500 turn out to attend a banquet in celebration of the anniversary of the beginning of agricultural extension work in their county, it is fair to assume that the service has a strong hold on the people. Lac qui Parle county had such a banquet at noon Saturday, June 14, in celebration of the seventeenth anniversary of the beginning of extension work there, and a fine spirit of jubilation and good-will was manifest.

William Underwood, now of Washington state; J. S. Jones, secretary of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation; and Henry Werner, now of Morrison county, former county agents, with Lynn Sheldon, the present county agent, and other early workers, were the honor guests of the occasion. C. E. Patterson, one of the former county agents, now a farmer in South Dakota, was not able to be present. Miss Esther Stewart, the home demonstration agent, was present to meet the workers in her new field.

One of the features of the program was a pageant, showing the progress of extension work, which was put on by the Farm Bureau units and 4-H clubs. One of the speakers was our own C. L. McNelly. The presiding officer was Frank Willis, who was president of the Lac qui Parle Farm Bureau for 16 years. He was introduced by Arthur Pearson, the present president of the bureau.

Large Number Reached By Clothing Projects

The clothing projects for 1929, according to Miss Eves Whitfield, reached 8,055 persons with reported savings of \$17,500 by those enrolled, numbering 1,867. The total number of garments reported made was 18,582. The percentage of membership reporting was 88.

The report from Rock county for 1930, thus far, shows 266 reporting and 258 completing notebooks. Improved equipment was reported by 572 persons. The number of made-over garments was 4,891 and the number of new garments, 2,963. The average member made 26 garments, with an average saving of \$1.30 each and the total savings reported were \$2,266.56, an average of \$17.60 for each member. The number of non-members helped by enrolled members was 1,104 and the number of rural homes reached, 1,339. The percentage of attendance of leaders at training meetings was 97.

The Nicollet county report shows a membership of 264 in 20 groups, with 223 or 86 per cent reporting. The number of persons outside of the groups helped by members was 621 and the number of homes reached, 885, out of the total of 1,500 in the county. Cases of improved equipment numbered 396 and the number of improved practices reported was 1,132. Total savings amounted to \$1,688.13 or an average of \$6.39 per member.

The egotism of the ignorant keeps them in ignorance.—Everett Dean Martin.

ON THE FIRING LINE

L. A. Churchill reports plans for a farm tour of Jackson county. Plans are being made in co-operation with R. F. Crim.

* * *

At the Nobles county picnic, which was attended by something like 5000 persons, Charles J. Gilbert was in the lime-light with a weed control demonstration showing the use of sodium chlorate with patches of dead, dying, and freshly treated thistles.

* * *

Nobles county has a 4-H Club band. The members wear 4-H clover hats and are directed by Vic Moeller. The band made a hit at the recent Southwestern School of Agriculture picnic.

* * *

Progress is being made in interesting farmers and others in weed control. Mr. Gilbert reports that the Board of Commissioners of Nobles county recently agreed to secure a supervisory weed officer.

* * *

Nate H. Boyce of Redwood county reports that ditch inspectors in his county, appointed by the county board, will be expected to keep roadside ditches clear of weeds through the summer. This is a plan which might well be adopted in every county in the state.

* * *

K. A. Kirkpatrick reports that oyster shell scale, which has been menacing fruit orchards in western Hennepin county, has been brought under control on the farm of Ray Kirkwood, near Robbinsdale, by the use of dendrol, a dormant spray.

* * *

H. O. Anderson, of Houston county, through publicity, has been warning farmers against the dangers of buying breeding stock from stockyards and of buying "bargain" grain seeds. Through such practices animal diseases and weeds make their appearance on Minnesota farms.

Miss Newton in Winnipeg

Miss Julia O. Newton was in Winnipeg June 9, 10, and 11, attending the annual convention of the Women's Institutes of the Province of Manitoba. She gave three addresses. Her subjects were: "A Challenge to Home-Makers," "Home Demonstration Work in Minnesota," and "Right Use of Leisure Time."

Off for Washington

A. J. Kittleson and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pflughoeft left Friday, June 13, for the National 4-H Club Encampment at Washington, D. C., taking with them, by automobile, the four Minnesota delegates—Anne Schubring, Ramsey county; Helen Van Deer, Freeborn county; Chelsea Pratt, Blue Earth county; and Thomas Morse, Itasca county. A report from Washington says that Mrs. Pflughoeft was thrown against a rail of the boat in crossing Lake Michigan and had to be taken to a hospital on her arrival in Washington.

Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

Cottonwood County
Farm Lease Report

As a result of landlord-tenant meetings in Cottonwood county, the tenants appointed a committee to work with a similar committee of landlords in recommending suggestions for promoting better farming on rented farms. This committee hopes to put its recommendations in the form of suggested clauses relating to alfalfa, phosphate, hog fencing, etc., that may be inserted in the blank spaces in the ordinary printed forms.

Keen interest was shown by both landlords and tenants in these meetings. Evening meetings for tenants were held at Windom on June 19, and at Jeffers on June 20. An afternoon meeting for landlords was held at Jeffers on June 20. It is estimated that through the tenants or landlords the suggestions reached over 400 farms.

It was agreed that present-day farming requires a fertility, livestock and weed control program, extending over a period of years, and that under the usual one-year lease, the tenant has little incentive to carry forward such a program.

There are two ways in which a program of the kind may be carried out. One is for the landlord to furnish phosphate, alfalfa seed, fencing, etc., and to compensate the tenant for any extra work involved in weed control such as summer fallowing. The landlord would receive for his outlays a higher rental value of his property. The alternative plan is for the landlord to enter into an agreement with the tenant, whereby the latter will provide himself with alfalfa seed, hog-fencing, phosphate, and make other long-time improvements, with a provision that at any time the tenant leaves, he will receive compensation for the unexhausted value of such improvements. For example, if it were agreed that the cost of getting a stand of alfalfa was \$6 per acre after allowing for about 25 per cent failures and that four years would be the reasonable life of such a stand, if the tenant left a good stand after he had harvested the crop for two years, he would be entitled to a refund of one-half of \$6, or \$3 per acre for the unexhausted value of the improvement.

The long term lease provides a partial solution of the problem of giving the tenant an incentive for a long-term program, but even with a three- or a five-year lease, there is little encouragement to farming with the long-time point of view during the latter part of the term.

Wm. L. Cavert represented the extension division at the meeting.

A news dispatch from Liberal, Kansas, reports a recent demonstration of a new corn "combine" which cuts two rows of corn stalks at once, shells the corn from the cobs, cleans it, and then shreds the stalks—all in one operation.

State's Farm Realty
Values Above Pre-War

Data in the May issue of Crops and Markets, page 190, on farm real estate values for the different states indicate that farm real estate in Minnesota is held at 33 per cent above the 1912-1914 figure. Figures are not reported for various sections of Minnesota but the sections that have had numerous bank closings would doubtless have a much lower figure than the average. The only states where values are held higher than in pre-war days are the following: Rhode Island, 34 per cent above, Connecticut, 40 per cent, Virginia, 34 per cent, North Carolina, 59 per cent, Florida, 72 per cent, and California, 60 per cent. Minnesota is the only state in the North Central group included in the states showing advanced values. The East North Central States, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, show averages only 96 per cent of the 1912-14 valuation, while for the West North Central group including Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, an average of only 9 per cent above 1912-14 is shown. For the whole United States values are reported to be 15 per cent above the 1912-14 figures.

Farm Lease Bulletin

The United States Department of Agriculture has recently printed Farmers' Bulletin 1104, "The Farm Lease Contract."

This bulletin gives a good discussion of general principles that landlords and tenants should keep in mind in arranging leases. On pages 20-23 there is a good discussion of the English system of compensating tenants for unexhausted improvements.

District Conferences
for Cow-Tester Staff

Seven district conferences for cow-testers have been announced by Ramer Leighton, in charge of the Dairy Herd Improvement work. The schedule, as forwarded to county agents, is as follows:

| | | |
|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Rochester | | July 7 and 8 |
| St. James | | July 9 and 10 |
| Madison | | July 11 and 12 |
| Anoka | | July 14 and 15 |
| Wadena | | July 16 and 17 |
| Crookston | | July 18 and 19 |
| Carlton | | July 22 and 23 |

J. W. Ridgeway, Texas chairman of the National Dairy Council, recently said that Americans are milking 22,500,000 cows, of which 8,500,000 are not paying their way. Mr. Ridgeway adds that if we could get rid of these boarder cows, we could meet practically all our dairy product needs from the remaining 14,000,000 cows and make a nice profit from each. He urges the farmers to test and cull.