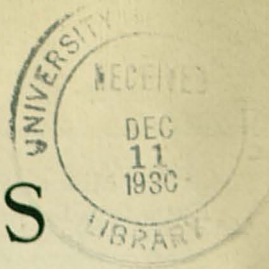


# MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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

Vol. X UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL, MINN., DECEMBER, 1930 No. 3



## Here Are Lines From Life in Red Russia By H. G. Zavoral

SOME time ago, the Extension Service News promised its readers some choice bits of news from Henry Zavoral, livestock specialist, on leave in Russia. We have copious extracts from some of Henry's letters, but space permits us to present only a few highlights. The material we have dates back to August and September, but will be of interest nevertheless.

On August 16, Henry sailed from New York, and arrived at Plymouth, England, on the twenty-second. After seeing some of the sights, he embarked on August 24 aboard the Russian Steamship Sibier, and proceeded to Leningrad via the North Sea, arriving August 28.

September 1, a letter from Leningrad reads: "I wish I could be at the Minnesota State Fair today. We went to the Tzar's village about an hour's run from here and saw his palaces and forts. The last Tzar's palace is still intact and is gorgeous to see. No place to eat here, so we went to the open market to buy supplies and had them cooked. This is a good place for dieting. Butter on the market is 8 rubles or \$4 a pound. I feel so conspicuous, as everyone is eyeing me with my different clothes. Just had my first hair cut. They believe in taking off plenty of hair. There is an ordinary chair and a girl servant who brings water, soap, etc."

September 4 finds Henry in Moscow. He writes: "Moscow looks quite Asiatic. Buildings are old. There

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## Extensioners Attend Big Events in Washington

SEVERAL members of the state extension staff attended important meetings at Washington, D. C., in November. The annual convention of the Land Grant College association was attended by Director F. W. Peck, and Miss Julia O. Newton. This event was also attended by several other University Farm folks including Dean W. C. Coffey, Dr. Andrew Boss, Dean E. M. Freeman and Miss Wylle B. McNeal, home economics chief.

Director Peck, Dean Coffey, Miss Newton, Miss McNeal and Mrs. Belle O. Fish, child development specialist, were present at the White House conference on child health and protection. Mrs. Fish arrived in Washington in time to attend the last day's sessions of the National Council of Parental Education, and while at the capital also participated in a conference called by Director Warburton of the federal extension service for all of the state child development specialists, of which there are 10. Miss Newton also was at this conference.

Miss Newton stayed over in Washington the last week of November to visit the federal extension office and the home economics bureau of the Department of Agriculture.

## Coming Events

Ice-cream Makers' Short Course, University Farm, December 3-12, 1930  
Lamb Feeders' Day, Morris Station, January 5, 1931  
Creamery Operators' and Managers' Short Course, January 7 to February 18, 1931  
Farmers' and Homemakers' Week, University Farm, January 19-24, 1931  
Recognition Banquet, Minnesota Master Farm Homemakers, University Farm, January 19, 1931  
Recognition Banquet, Minnesota Premier Seed Growers, University Farm, January 20, 1931  
Annual Convention, Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, University Farm, January 21, 1931  
Annual Meeting, Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association, University Farm, January 23, 1931  
Annual Convention, Minnesota Farm Bureau, St. Paul, January 20 to 22, 1931  
Annual Meeting, Central Co-operative Association, St. Paul, February 10 and 11, 1931  
Red River Valley Winter Shows, Crookston Station, February 10 to 14, 1931  
Annual Meeting, Land O'Lakes Creameries, Minneapolis, March 12 and 13, 1931

## Clothing Achievement Program Features Unique Pageant of Nationalities

AS the climax to its clothing achievement day program, North St. Louis county recently staged a pageant in which project members, representing several nationalities, wore the costumes of their native lands, sang their native songs, and re-enacted experiences they had had in the countries of their birth. This event, worked out under the direction of Miss Helen Gillette, home demonstration agent, was one of the most unique and interesting features ever staged on an achievement day program. Miss M. Lois Reid, extension clothing specialist, who presented the clothing project in North St. Louis county, is lavish in her praise of this striking event.

The accompanying photograph largely tells the story, but we are happy to present Miss Gillette's own description of the various scenes and stunts. Miss Gillette says:

"The parts in this pageant were arranged for by members of groups enrolled in Clothing II. The purpose was to show, in costume and dress, scenes from the lives of people who now are residents of the Arrowhead country. The 'First American' was illustrated by members of the group from Winton wearing the colorful dress and bead work of the Chippewa Indian. During this scene, Miss Ina Heikkila sang 'By the Waters of Minnetonka' with piano and flute accompaniment.

"Two young women, members of the Zim group, wore the gayly-colored costume of the Swedish people. A group of Slovenian women wearing the characteristic black bodice, printed skirts and red head-dress of their people sang two numbers. A scene from the century-old 'Festival of the Kalavala,' or the parting instructions to the bride on her wedding day, was enacted by a group of Finnish men and women wearing their own national costumes.

"A group of Italian immigrants who had just landed in America, and with all the vivacity of their race were looking forward to their new home, was portrayed by Italian men, women and children. One outstanding feature of this scene was a little girl of about 8 years playing an accordion nearly as large as herself. The scene ended with all members of the family taking part in the old mazurka, which afforded opportunity to display the color and beauty of the Italian costumes.

"The pageant closed with a scene in the home of one of the early settlers in this north country, where men, women and children, dressed in the mode of 1890, made ready for the party which was held in the farm home that evening, and at which square dances and the old-fashioned waltz furnished the entertainment, with music provided by a real 'fiddler' who could 'pat' as well as he could 'fiddle.' All of the nationality groups took pride in their parts."



This remarkable medley of nationalities comprised the talent in the pageant put on at the North St. Louis county clothing achievement day. Members of this group wore the costumes of their native lands, sang native songs, and depicted "life as it is lived" in their respective countries. The pageant was highly interesting and educational.

## Farm-Home Week Gives Agents Fine Chance To Serve

THE thirty-first annual Farmers' and Homemakers' short course, to be held January 19 to 24, again affords a splendid opportunity to county extension folks to render valuable service both to their local people and to the University. Many more local people can be encouraged to come to this event, and the attendance thereby materially increased, by some well planned effort on the part of agents. Agents who have tried it are generally agreed that getting folks to visit University Farm results in making more and better cooperators for local extension work.

Reasons why this should be true are readily apparent. Short course visitors have their interests in agriculture whetted, their viewpoint broadened, their outlook made brighter, and their faith strengthened in the department of agriculture as the champion of rural improvement and in the extension service as the connecting link between the department and themselves.

Last year, good-sized delegations of short course visitors were brought in from Houston and St. Louis counties, headed by H. O. Anderson and Miss Florence Lang, respectively. About 20 attended from St. Louis county and about 25 from Houston. In her report for January, Miss Lang gave a detailed account of the reactions from the St. Louis delegates whom, she writes, "were unanimously enthusiastic over the benefits derived from attending the short course, as well as the good time." On the return trip, the delegation formed a club for

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## Wilkin County Engages C. Kirchner as H. D. A.

WILKIN county recently decided to come into the home demonstration fold. With the establishment of service there the first of this month, Minnesota now has 14 counties with full-time home demonstration agents. Mower and Stevens counties recently brought the number to 13. A total of four new counties has been added since July 1, when Lac qui Parle engaged an agent.

The new Wilkin county agent is Miss Charlotte Kirchner, who was graduated from Iowa State College, Ames, in 1921. Miss Kirchner has had nearly 8 years of experience in the home demonstration agent work, and so comes to Wilkin as a seasoned veteran.

Miss Kirchner began her home demonstration agent work in 1922, in Muscatine county, Iowa, later taking up work in Webster county. In 1926 she left Iowa and took up a position at Hanford, California, as home demonstration agent for Kings county. After 3 years, she found it necessary to return for a time to her home at Spirit Lake, Iowa, from whence she comes to Wilkin county.



## 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.

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Entered as second-class matter October 4, 1921, at the Post-Office at St. Paul, Minnesota, under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103. Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Oct. 21, 1921.

DECEMBER, 1930

The recent Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul was a splendid example of the hearty co-

### Protecting 4-H Club Objectives

operative effort of the business agencies of South St. Paul and St. Paul with the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association and the Extension Service in a well worthwhile, common enterprise. Every agency of publicity that could possibly cooperate in making this event a huge success contributed its share to this very gratifying end.

The Extension Service, which has the administrative responsibility of the educational program by which the 4-H clubs came into being and by which they have grown to their present proportions, is grateful to the various agencies for their assistance. Without it the Junior Show could not be held and club work would lose a powerful stimulus.

At the same time, the administrators of the 4-H club work feel very gravely their responsibility in keeping the objectives of this great movement clearly in the minds of all who cooperate in events of this nature. We are not unaware of the dangers that lie in excessive advertising, in spectacular announcements of achievements, and in our relationships with agencies that do not always understand the educational point of view and the need for protecting 4-H club members from influences that eventually would tend to offset adversely the development of this important movement.

This particular point of commercializing the club work was brought to my attention by the rather forceful statement of the parent of a club exhibitor at the recent show. This statement was to the effect that unless they could receive more from their animals in the sale they could not afford to stay in club work and show animals at the Junior Livestock Show. A similar statement was made by a livestock breeder at one time, who said, in effect, that he needed the first-prize sale award to meet the deficit on the farm operations that particular year.

One can readily see that if this type of commercialism dominates an event of this kind, it at once loses its original and primary function. All of us should be very zealous in guarding the true objective of the 4-H club work, namely, providing an opportunity for the education of and the mental development of the rural boy and girl.

*Frank W. Peck*

## Set 4 New Records In Lamb Production Race

THE Minnesota adult title for lamb production makes nearly a complete diagonal shift across the state this year, going from Houston to Lake of the Woods county. Frank Passi of Baudette has wrested the championship from Charles Mann of Caledonia, according to an announcement by W. E. Morris, livestock specialist, giving the results of the 1930 Lamb Production Contest. The Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association will distribute approximately \$300 in cash prizes among those finishing, as well as awarding a gold medal to Mr. Passi. This medal will be conferred at the association's annual meeting at University Farm during Farmers' and Homemakers' Week.

At least four new high marks were established this year, one being the number of contestants finishing, 23 from 14 counties. The first year 13 finished and last year 21. Mr. Passi set a new record for weight of lamb per ewe produced, with an average of 159.8 pounds. Likewise his percentage of lambs raised, practically 175 per cent, and the average weight per lamb, 91.6 pounds, are the highest ever attained by any contestant. The previous high mark for weight of lamb per ewe was set last year by Mr. Mann at 128.2 pounds.

Counties with contestants completing this year were as follows: Clearwater, 4 entries; Houston, 3 entries; Itasca; Kandiyohi; Kittson, 2 entries; Koochiching, 2 entries; Lake of the Woods, 3 entries; Le Sueur, Lincoln, McLeod, Murray, Renville, West Polk and Wilkin.

Winners up to fifth place in each class, together with the amount of lamb produced per ewe, were as follows:

Class 1—Flocks of 25-50 Ewes		
Charles Marmorine	Clearwater	111.0
F. C. Watkins	Kandiyohi	109.8
Geo. Woollett	Lake of Woods	108.3
D. D. Darst	Clearwater	107.7
Alex M. Shaw	Kittson	107.2

Class 2—Flocks of 51-100 Ewes		
Frank Passi	Lake of Woods	159.8
Chas. Mann	Houston	135.0
Ward Bros.	Kittson	117.0
K. O. Johnson	Koochiching	109.1
Henry Sonderman	Koochiching	105.0

Class 3—Flocks of 101 or More Ewes

Robert A. Hume (Femco Farm 2)	Wilkin	121.0
Ole A. Engbretson	Clearwater	97.1

Mr. Hume's record in Class 3 is outstanding, because of the large size of his flock. He had 168 ewes, from which he raised 273 lambs averaging 74.4 pounds apiece.

## Fischer to Jackson; Has Fine Record in Nicollet

RUBEN A. FISCHER, who has succeeded L. A. Churchill in Jackson county, leaves Nicollet with a fine record. He was county agent there since February 16, 1926, and built up a splendid program of club work, having an organized 4-H club and an organized township unit in every township. There are 20 groups of women in the home project work.

The 4-H club building, dedicated to T. A. Erickson, was built on the fair grounds through the efforts of extension cooperators cooperating with the county commissioners. A club camp is held each summer in cooperation with Le Sueur and Scott counties. A printed 4-H club publication is sent out monthly. There are 29 cooperators in farm records, and a number

of interesting demonstrations in the turkey sanitation plan. Demonstrations have been conducted each year on the new varieties of grain. Two cow testing associations have been maintained; a start has been made in the new mail cow testing work with 20 members signed up. A county show herd represented Nicollet county at the State Fair this fall.

The work done by Mr. Fischer in Nicollet is a good example of an all around program and the standing which it gives to extension work in a county. A large farewell party at Nicollet, November 6, with 600 people from all parts of the county attending, indicated to some extent the goodwill that has been built up for Mr. Fischer and extension work generally.

## Many Old-Timers In Minn. Extension Group

THE 1930 report of the Minnesota chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, 10-year extension fraternity, brings out the fact that a large number of persons have served 10 years or more in extension work in this state.

Forty-four members have been initiated into the local chapter and 11 others have been elected. Of this number, five have moved out of the state. Five others, still within the state and still counted as active members, are not now in extension work. One member has died.

The annual meeting was held October 5, 1930, at the Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Miss Julia O. Newton, chief; S. B. Cleland, secretary-treasurer; Lynn Sheldon, annalist. The principal speaker was W. A. Lloyd of the Washington office, Grand Chief of the national order. Mr. Lloyd outlined the ideals of the organization, which he stated were based on the sincere desire of those making a profession of extension work to be of genuine help by developing a spirit and perpetuating ideals of true helpfulness. The man or woman who has served the people in the intimate capacity of an extension worker for a long number of years has usually established a purpose far above the mere matter of making a living. He or she is concerned, first of all, with the welfare of the people served.

Those elected as active members were Miss Anna Olsen and Mrs. Sylvia Shiras. Those elected as prospective members, that is, those in their tenth year of service, were the following: F. W. Peck, A. H. Frick, W. F. Hammargren, F. L. Liebenstein, John W. Taylor, E. A. Hanson, Cora Cooke, and Mary May Miller.

## Agronomists Recommend New Farm Crops Book

COUNTY agents and other extension workers looking for a good book on farm crops will be interested to know that a new volume has just been put out entitled "Crop Production," by the Macmillan Company of New York City. This book was written by two members of the farm crops department at Iowa State College, Prof. H. D. Hughes and Edwin R. Henson. Dr. H. K. Hayes, chief of agronomy and plant genetics at University Farm, says Minnesota staff members have seen this book and recommend it as a desirable reference text. This suggestion of Dr. Hayes was prompted by numerous inquiries from agents.

## Drenckhahn, Kallenberg In Mower and Stevens

IN the October issue of Extension Service News, announcement was made of the decision of Mower and Stevens counties to employ home demonstration agents. Several weeks ago these places were filled, but through an oversight details regarding the new appointees were omitted from our November number.

The Mower county home demonstration agent is Miss Vivian Drenckhahn, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, whose home is at Minniska, Wabasha county. Miss Drenckhahn has also taken some training at St. Benedict's Academy, at the University of Montana, and at Cornell University, where she obtained her M.S. degree. Miss Drenckhahn's experience includes four terms of teaching, two terms at Lamberton, Minnesota, and one each at Olivia and Fari-bault. For a year she served as assistant in nutrition research at Cornell University, and for 2 years was health supervisor at Syracuse, New York.

Miss Helen E. Kallenberg is the Stevens county appointee. She is a graduate of Iowa State College and has done graduate work at the Iowa and Colorado state colleges. She also had some special training at the Merrill-Palmer School at Detroit, Michigan. Her experience includes work as an instructor in home economics at the University of West Virginia, Morgantown, and nutrition work in New York City with an association for improving the conditions of the city poor.

## Scott Bureau Eulogizes John Sheay's Services

JOHN SHEAY, now employed by the Land O'Lakes Creameries, was called back to Scott county late in October to attend a meeting of the Eagle Creek Farmers' Club, which presented him with a beautiful table lamp in appreciation of his long service to the community.

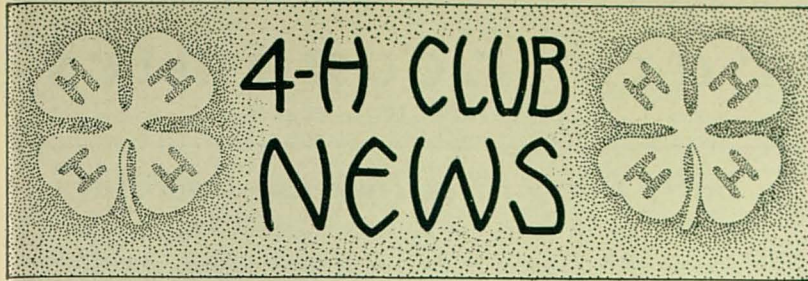
This was but one of many fine expressions of appreciation extended Mr. Sheay when he left Scott county. The most outstanding was a resolution adopted by the Scott county farm bureau directors. Two paragraphs from this fine statement are quoted below.

"Mr. Sheay has succeeded, during his time of service in our county, in raising the standard of agriculture to a better level, and helping us farmers on to better methods of doing our farm job. He has been especially successful in developing the 4-H club work with our boys and girls to a point where Scott county compares favorably with any county in the state. He has exercised a very fine influence with our young people and is much beloved by them and they will not forget him.

"Perhaps the finest accomplishment Mr. Sheay has to his credit while with us, is the bringing about of a better understanding, a better spirit of cooperation among all the people of Scott county, which is after all one of the greatest problems of life, and the Farm Bureau and Mr. Sheay played an important part in this development. This is worth while, worth many times more than the cost of retaining a county agent and of maintaining the Farm Bureau."

Minnesota has 14 H. D. A. counties.





**Kittson County Boys  
Win 4-H Lamb Contest**

TWO Kittson county brothers, Lawrence and Roger Ward of St. Vincent, captured first and second places in the 1930 4-H lamb production contest, sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association in connection with the advanced junior sheep project. Eleven boys and girls from 8 different counties completed. Besides a gold medal for the first place winner, the breeders' association has contributed about \$150 to be divided among those finishing. In addition, The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home of St. Paul is giving a medal to each contestant producing 100 pounds or more of lamb per ewe.

The object of the contest is to see who can produce the greatest average weight of lambs per ewe. Names of the 11 boys and girls finishing, together with the weight of lambs per ewe which each produced, appear in the following table:

Lawrence Ward	Kittson	190.0
Roger Ward	Kittson	159.6
Harold G. Getchell	Douglas	145.0
Charles Baughman	Morrison	130.3
Erwin Nelson	Pope	135.0
Wm. Sharkey	Le Sueur	132.0
Lois Padelford	Mower	130.5
Floyd Anderson	Pope	128.1
Kenneth Ziemer	Pope	127.6
Ernest Clouse	Renville	108.8
Adolph Erpelding	Meeker	82.4

**Adds New Show Idea**

A very commendable new idea was added to the Junior Livestock Show program by the Washburn-Crosby Company of Minneapolis. Their representative purchased the reserve grand champion baby beef and four lots of poultry at very liberal prices. The proceeds from these five purchases will be turned into a special fund to be used as rewards for special achievements at the 1931 Junior Show.

**Stress 4-H Contests**

Emphasize with the older club members that advanced and production contests will be leading features of the 1931 4-H program.

The dairy production contest, with records of one or more cows, will be continued. The poultry contest, with records of a small flock raised by the 4-H member, will be a feature. The meat animal production work will also be on the program. Special prizes in the form of educational trips and scholarships are provided.

**Plan Leadership Work**

Have you planned your leadership training program for 1931? If not, this is an opportune time to do it. Sherburne, Carlton, Itasca, Blue Earth, Faribault, Fillmore, and several other counties have already held one or more conferences on the new year's program. One suggestion for these conferences is to leave plenty of time for questions and discussion, and to avoid too formal a program.

**Many Junior Leaders  
In Chicago Delegation**

JUNIOR leaders made up a large part of the Minnesota delegation to the National Club Congress at Chicago, November 28 to December 5.

Those in attendance were:  
 Frances Hopkins, Lake Elmo, Washington  
 Mae Stephenson, Pelican Rapids, West Ottertail  
 Marion Wallace, Hastings, Dakota  
 Dagny Spikeberg, Saginaw, St. Louis  
 Tilmore Meium, Jackson, Jackson  
 Harry Olson, Blue Earth, Faribault  
 James B. Larson, Santiago, Sherburne  
 Cora Torgerson, Albert Lea, Freeborn  
 Verlin Madison, Lismore, Nobles  
 Magnus Christianson, Luverne, Rock  
 Inez Rortvedt, Hills, Rock  
 Theodore Larson, St. Peter, Nicollet  
 Esther Erdahl, Blue Earth, Faribault  
 Cletus Hallquist, Red Wing, Goodhue  
 Helen Zimmerman, Waseca, Waseca  
 Joseph Regnier, Ghent, Lyon  
 Ernest Stanford, Mankato, Blue Earth  
 Ralph Grant, Red Wing, Goodhue  
 Delores Swenson, Long Lake, Hennepin  
 Olive Smith, Long Lake, Hennepin  
 Raymond Burkholder, Olivia, Renville  
 Lester Drahiem, Olivia, Renville

These were all selected for the trip because of their outstanding records both in project work and as junior leaders. Magnus Christianson of Rock county and Esther Erdahl of Faribault county were selected to compete for the Moses Leadership Trophy. Frances Hopkins of Washington county and Cletus Hallquist of Goodhue county competed for the Lipton Trophy.

**Dakota County 4-H Club  
Already Busy for 1931**

CLUB leaders state that it is an excellent plan to begin the 1931 4-H club program now. The 4-H garment club in school district 32 near Hastings, Dakota county, has set a good example. Six girls in this club started their work in November, and will easily have completed the required articles by the time of the county contest next May. The boys in this school are likewise enrolling in club projects for the coming year.

Interest in club work among the rural schools is stronger than ever before, according to W. E. Watson, county agent. Nearly a dozen schools had work underway shortly after the middle of November.

**Hear 4-H Broadcasts**

The 4-H club radio programs over KSTP are scheduled for 12:30-12:45 during the noon hour each Saturday. Former club members attending either the School of Agriculture or College will appear on these programs at various times. Tune in and see if you recognize any of the voices.

**Club Program Material**

ARE you regularly receiving "Program Pep-er?" If not, write the National Dairy Council, 307 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, and ask to be put on their mailing list.

**Here Are Lines from Life  
In Russia by H. G. Zavoral**

(Continued from Page 1)

are all kinds of church steeples. Too many it seems to me. They have services here, contrary to the belief back home. They had too many churches and converted many to other uses. A good many of the church domes are of gold and shine beautifully in the sunlight. In the morning the office opens at 9:30 and closes at 4:30. I like Moscow much better than I did Leningrad although it is much older."

About September 15, "Zav" writes again from Moscow: "A month since I left—am getting settled and acclimated to surroundings. It is interesting and of course new. Have had many conferences. Yesterday five of us went to what was formerly a large estate, about 2 hours' run from here. I was to look it all over and criticize it in today's conference. I was told to be 'frank and earnest' and I was.

"I saw some peasant women cut grain and hand-thresh it. Russia is going through an immense reconstruction period and will be a great country. It has the resources. Plonsky and Crandall have arrived. Plonsky is reading Anna Karenina to me. We are rooming together. It has been a comfort to have someone one knows . . . I am rested and feeling fine. I am really glad I came when I did, in spite of the hurry, no vacation, the 'shots' and the vaccination. It was important to come with the commission . . . The ballad opera opens soon. We are going on the fifteenth."

**Farm-Home Week Gives  
Agents Chance To Serve**

(Continued from Page 1)

the purpose of encouraging friends and neighbors to attend this year.

Among the numerous ways in which agents can foster interest in the short course are by sending literature to prospective visitors, announcements and talks at meetings, personal interviews, supplying publicity to local papers, encouraging farm bureau units and project groups to send delegates who will report back what they have learned, and actually organizing bus excursions. Last year, mats of principal speakers for use in local papers were supplied to agents and a film strip advertising the short course was made available for use at gatherings. This probably will be done again this year.

Agents are also urged by Dr. A. V. Storm, short course director, to send him any ideas or suggestions they have for ways to increase attendance, to improve the programs, or to make the short course more worth while in any way.

**Miss Currier Still Away**

We are sorry to report that Miss Sadie Currier, supervisor of the extension clerical office, has not yet returned to work. Following her second operation, reported in our November issue, Miss Currier's progress was not satisfactory and she was unable to leave the hospital until November 25. This was following a third operation performed on November 18. At this writing, Miss Currier is at the home of her sister in South St. Paul, and is reported to be doing nicely.

**Home Management Guest  
Days Are Big Success**

GUEST days, held in counties carrying the home management project, have proven to be very popular, according to reports received by Miss Mary May Miller from group leaders. These special days follow the five regular project meetings. On guest day, each member enrolled in home management may invite some interested neighbor who has been unable to join the group.

The morning session is usually taken up by members and leaders for completing their project reports. The guests usually arrive for lunch and the program following. This ordinarily includes a series of 2- or 3-minute talks by members on various phases of project work, the assignments having been distributed at the previous meeting by drawing slips prepared by the leaders. Assignments might include such topics as "Hanging Pictures in the Home," "The Laying and Care of Linoleum," "Suitable Runners and Mats for the Home," or "Arrangement of Furniture."

These talks give the visitors a bird's-eye view, so to speak, of what has been taken up during the year in home management. They also serve for the members as a review. In some groups, attendance has been so great that meetings have been held in churches or school houses. As many as 50 visitors have been reported. Guest days have resulted in interesting new women in home project work and increasing membership in subsequent projects. They have been a means of popularizing the project within a community and of spreading the information.

Members who have contributed to the programs seem to have enjoyed their parts. Guest day has sometimes been combined with some other special occasion such as a birthday celebration. On one occasion the women came dressed to represent cakes. A prize was given for the most unique representation which happened to be the Devil's Food cake. The event was called a "Cake Walk" and a cake knife was presented to the group chairman as a birthday gift.

Many leaders have reported that guest day was the most enjoyed of all meetings. Besides affording an opportunity to help outsiders, these events give leaders a chance to judge how much they have been able to teach their members. In most instances, the fine talks given have made the leaders feel well satisfied.

**Elmer Rieke Selected  
As New Pipestone Agent**

ELMER W. RIEKE, who was selected as county agent in Pipestone county to succeed C. C. Hickman began work December 1.

Mr. Rieke is a Nicollet county boy, attended high school at New Ulm, Minnesota, and was graduated from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1928. He is especially well adapted to county agent work, having been raised on a good farm, having taught agriculture for 2 years in the Hinckley and Renville high schools, and having spent one summer in Pennsylvania scouting for the corn borer.

He conducted a very successful evening adult school for farmers in the Renville community last winter and had arranged another for the coming year.



## Egg and Poultry Schools Reach 600 Flock Owners

ELEVEN counties held Poultry and Egg Marketing schools during September, October and November under the direction of Miss Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist. Two schools were held in each county with a total attendance of 590.

Eggs were candled and graded to show the variation in quality. Dressed poultry of different grades was exhibited and, at 14 of the schools, live birds were graded and then dressed and regraded. The differences in value thus shown were used as a basis for discussion of methods by which the producers could offer better quality products for sale.

Each meeting included a discussion of the prevailing poultry and egg prices and the present status of the poultry business as a farm enterprise. It was noted that egg production was low and that young stock put on the market was of unusually poor quality, largely due to low prices. Good feeding has received less attention. In one county, located in the grain producing section, the dealers could supply no eggs for the demonstration and eggs in dozen lots had to be brought in by the group members. In one town, the local dealer had received only one and a half dozen eggs in the last 4 days; eggs were selling at 30 cents a dozen, and at prevailing feed prices could be produced for about 20 cents.

Special interest was taken in dressing and preparation for market in communities where there were large numbers of turkeys being raised, or in the communities adjacent to the Twin Cities, Duluth and the Iron Range towns. In the entire discussion, the need for selling both poultry and eggs on grade was emphasized as a means of inducing greater care on the part of the producers.

Counties in which the schools were held were Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Freeborn, Hennepin, Itasca, Lac qui Parle, Rice, North St. Louis, South St. Louis and Steele.

## Elgar Nelson Follows Fischer in Nicollet

ELGAR M. NELSON is the man selected to follow R. A. Fischer as county agent in Nicollet. Mr. Nelson is just graduating from the Minnesota College of Agriculture and will begin work at St. Peter, December 15.

Mr. Nelson is more experienced than the average new graduate, having worked as an accountant for 3 years between his high school and college courses. He was raised on a farm near Grand Meadow.

He has worked as foreman in the corn borer campaign for the U. S. Department of Agriculture during his vacations, and has been unusually prominent in college activities. He was a member of the college general livestock judging team and was also on the dairy judging team that represented Minnesota at the Waterloo and St. Louis dairy shows this fall.

## Liebenstein Has Operation

F. L. Liebenstein, Mower county agent, has been taking an enforced vacation for the past several weeks, according to word reaching University Farm. Mr. Liebenstein has been at Worrell Hospital at Rochester, where he has undergone a mastoid operation.

## 3 Outstanding Clothing Achievement Days Held

CLOTHING achievement days in Beltrami county at Kelliher, in Chisago at Taylors Falls, and in Hubbard at Park Rapids were held recently.

The programs for these meetings were thoroughly original. The Beltrami county program included a "design" stunt and two splendid demonstrations. The Hubbard county groups from near Park Rapids concentrated their efforts on a "style review." In Chisago county, the committee planned related stunts—the first, "Mammy Styles" and the second, "For the Occasion—then-and-now." Their program started with a music prelude, followed by a march which was participated in by all members, each wearing a homemade house dress. The county home project chairman, Mrs. F. I. Cook, presented the leaders and groups to the audience in turn.

Fine project exhibits were in place through the morning each day. The exhibit had been planned well in advance and were the combined efforts of the group, with few exceptions. M. B. Taylor, Beltrami county agent, had prepared a large county map showing location of groups and clothing membership. The Chisago county exhibits included the county organization map and summary chart, prepared under the supervision of County Agent Geo. W. Larson.

Records filed with Miss Eves Whitfield, clothing specialist, show that every group in the three counties completed the project and made a summary report. More than 90 per cent of the women enrolled completed and as an average, each helped three other folks with project suggestions, thus reaching 20 per cent of the farm homes.

## Store Displays Feature Nutrition Achievement

THE Carver county nutrition achievement day, held October 4 at Waconia, was well advertised throughout the county. Attractive posters, prepared by the project members and inviting the community to the achievement day, were to be seen at the schools, townhalls, creameries and stores in practically every part of the county.

Many Waconia merchants cooperated by preparing interesting window displays of products whose value had been studied in the project. One of the creameries had a most attractive display of dairy products, milk, cream, butter and cottage cheese; a drug store featured cod liver oil; grocers displayed whole grain cereals, fruits and vegetables, both fresh and canned; confectioners showed fruits and fruit juices. Each merchant displayed a card stating that the use of these products was urged in the nutrition project.

## Canadian Woman Speaks

Miss Esther Thompson, director of home economics extension in the province of Manitoba, was to be guest speaker at the annual meeting of the St. Louis county club and farm bureau to be held in Virginia, December 5. Miss Thompson was to speak at the afternoon session of the home and community section and at the banquet in the evening.

# Farm Economics

Conducted by W. L. Cavert

## Early Dairy Price Increase Doubtful

By W. BRUCE SILCOX, Marketing Specialist

THE present dairy market is marked quite definitely by an element of uncertainty. While a few factors are contributing to make the situation favorable, a number of conditions render the outlook for an early increase in prices doubtful.

It may be recalled that, following the decided set-back which dairy production received during the unusually dry period in the summer, quite a significant recovery took place early in the fall. More favorable weather conditions late in August were conducive to greater production and the output of creamery butter during September and October swung back toward the normal production for those months. In spite of the decrease in the production of crops in the drought area the market value of these crops has not been favorable, and at the price prevailing for butterfat until the latter part of August, the dairy cow seemed to offer a fairly profitable market for roughages. Relative cheapness of concentrates has no doubt permitted more liberal feeding and this, too, has been a factor in increasing the production of butter, which in turn has tended to depress the price.

At the present time, New Zealand is approaching the season of heavy production. In fact, the output of butter in that country during the last two months has been greater than usual and prices there have dropped. The spread between "Finest New Zealand" butter on the London market, and 92-score butter at New York, was recently 12.2 cents. While this difference is not as great as the tariff (14 cents), it is uncomfortably close and any material increase in the price of butter at New York, or a further decline in the price of New Zealand butter would tend to make the spread equal to, or greater than the tariff, permitting importations of New Zealand butter.

## Butter Consumption Lower

Moreover, the movement of butter into consumptive channels in the United States has been less than a year ago. The decrease in consumption of butter in September, compared with the same month last year, was approximately 3,000,000 pounds. While this represents a decrease of only 1.6 per cent, it is one apparent cause of the prevailing price situation and it is not likely that consumer demand will increase until some improvement in employment and the business situation takes place.

A still further factor, responsible in part for current low level of fresh butter prices, has been the tendency of dealers to move butter out of storage. Since October 1 this movement has been more rapid than last year. The price of 92-score butter at New York during October averaged 5.9 cents more than the average price during May, June and July, the into-storage period. This margin has been relatively favorable for moving butter out of storage and dealers have apparently chosen to move storage goods at a reasonable profit now, rather than take a chance on possible greater profits later on. These conditions may help to explain the indifferent demand for fresh butter, the absence of the usual seasonal rise in butter prices in October, and the decline in prices during the early part of November.

Prices in the fluid milk market have been reported as showing little change from September, but in Minnesota a slight decline in the price paid the producer for milk has taken place. Unsettled conditions in butter and cheese markets eliminate these as favorable outlets for surplus milk.

Neither does the manufacture of casein and condensed milk offer special opportunity for outlet at this time. The October price to producers of milk in the Twin City area was 3 cents per hundred less than that paid in September, but 40 cents less than a year ago.

In view of the prevailing low prices, the general lack of confidence in the dairy market at present, and rather favorable conditions for production in most dairy states, the price outlook for dairy products is not as promising as it might be. As previously indicated, there are some factors which serve to brighten the outlook at present, however, and these are at least two in number.

## Storage Stocks Lower

One rather encouraging feature of the relatively low price level is the storage situation with respect to butter. On November 1, this year, cold storage stocks of butter, amounting to approximately 109,600,000 pounds, were 20.8 per cent less than a year ago and about 2 per cent less than the 5-year average. This is a condition which, when compared with last year, is favorable.

The other hopeful aspect of the Minnesota situation lies in the fact that producers in most sections are fairly well supplied with both hay and grain. While specialized dairy areas throughout the United States have not suffered as much as some other districts, there is some shortage of feed in those areas. Minnesota holds a comparatively fortunate position in this regard.

## Grain Prices Favorable

The farm price of grains is now more favorable for the production of dairy products than at the same time last year. Even at its low level, the price of butter is relatively higher than the price of feed, indicating that it is probably to the advantage of the Minnesota farmer to utilize his available feed—through the dairy cow—rather than to place it on the market at present, or prospective prices. Producers should always keep in mind, however, the inadvisability of carrying "boarder" cows through the winter.

The trends of the past have been toward social and industrial centralization, said Frank O. Lowden at the Country Life Conference. The trend of the present is toward decentralization through the distribution of electric power.