

Looking Ahead in **Extension Work** *in* **Todd County**

- Situations
- Problems
- Recommendations



Prepared Cooperatively by
Todd County Extension Committee
and
Long Range Planning Committees

To the People of Todd County:

We wish to thank those who so generously contributed of their time in developing this guide for Extension Work. It should prove useful in assisting Todd County farm families to adopt better farming and improved family living practices. It will also serve as a source of program material for all agricultural, home, 4-H, and community activities.

We live in a good county, but one whose resources must be used wisely. Thus it is our purpose to use them in a manner which will help us to enjoy a good standard of living while we work to improve our farms, homes, and the effectiveness of the institutions which serve our people.

Our County Extension Office and Staff are equipped to aid us in accomplishing those worthwhile objectives. You are urged to assist by reviewing this report carefully and then cooperating in the manner that will best serve you, the members of your family, and your community.

Respectfully,

THE TODD COUNTY EXTENSION COMMITTEE

FRED RACH, Bertha
(chairman)

NICK TRUOG, Long Prairie
(county auditor)

WESLEY LARSON,
Burtrum (vice-chairman)

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MRS. CARL LAMPART,
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OSCAR LOWE, Long Prairie

Why This Report--

The County Agricultural Extension Service -- officially called the Cooperative Extension Service, because the federal, state and county governments all contribute to its support -- is directed by the Agricultural Extension Committee. This committee, made up of two county commissioners, the county auditor, and six additional members (men and women) appointed by the county board of commissioners, plans yearly programs and helps direct Extension work. Each year it meets with the County Extension Agents and a group of farm people to review the past year's program and to plan next year's program. Figure 1 gives a graphic illustration of how the County Extension work is carried out.

Since the Extension service is a cooperative arrangement, County Extension Agents are members of the faculty of the University of Minnesota and the staff of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The educational facilities of these institutions are available to county workers and financial support is provided to the county Extension service through the University and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

In order that the Extension agents may reach all of the people of the county a variety of teaching techniques must be used. Figure 2 illustrates the numerous ways people are reached with research-supported information on farming, homemaking and essential group activities.

In view of the very significant changes in Agriculture in the past 10 years, the County Extension Committee, working with the county agents and representatives of the University of Minnesota, decided to study our county situation to see if our Extension program meets the needs of today.

To assure a program that would truly meet local needs, a large number of cooperators were asked to assist in various ways. They were requested especially to look ahead for several years, recognizing that worthwhile adjustments from any present farm and home practices are likely to require several years. Good year-to-year continuity of effort was also considered necessary.

Figure 1

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

THE COUNTY EXTENSION COMMITTEE
DETERMINES ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

which is carried out by . . .



A TRAINED COUNTY STAFF
MAKING CONTACTS
with . . .



ORGANIZED GROUPS and INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS

in

THREE BROAD EDUCATIONAL AND
SERVICE AREAS



FARM
BUSINESS



COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS



THE FAMILY

with the final goal of . . .

"A BETTER WAY OF LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE
OF TODD COUNTY"

ALL COUNTY PEOPLE HAVE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE PART
IN PROGRAM PLANNING

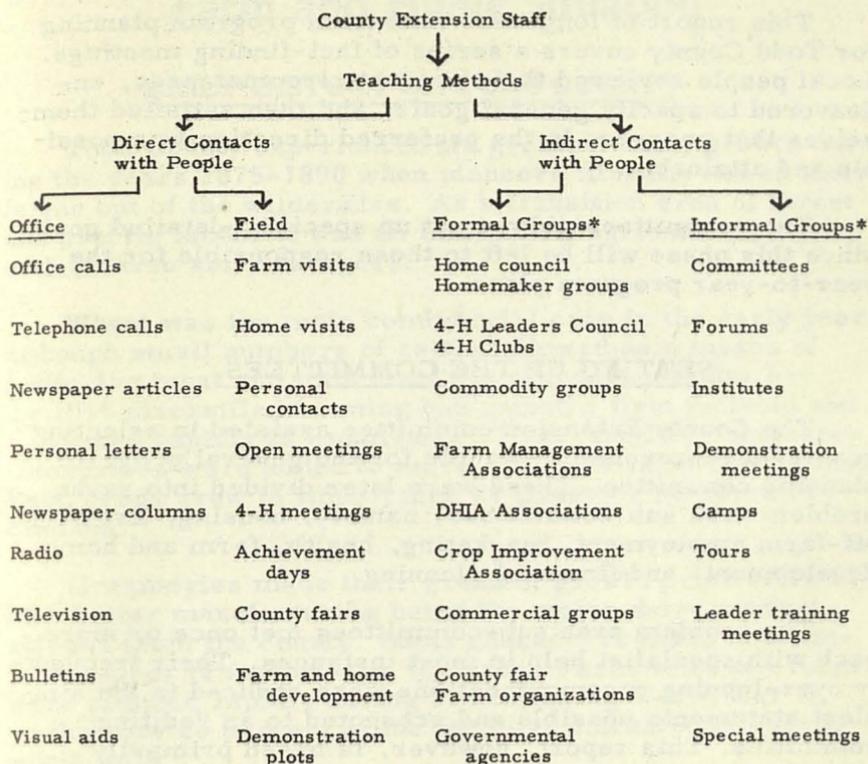


Fig. 2. Extension teaching illustrated.

* A formal group refers generally to one that has organization forms such as articles of incorporation and by-laws, or a constitution, or has a fairly long history. An informal group refers more to one formed for a specific purpose and is usually discontinued when the assignment is completed.

This report of long-time Extension program planning for Todd County covers a series of fact-finding meetings. Local people reviewed their present circumstances, endeavored to specify general goals, and then satisfied themselves that progress in the preferred direction was possible and attainable.

The committees did not set up specific, detailed goals since this phase will be left to those responsible for the year-to-year program plans.

SETTING UP THE COMMITTEES

The County Extension committee assisted in selecting nearly 40 representative people for the general program planning committee. These were later divided into seven problem area sub-committees, namely, housing, livestock, off-farm employment, marketing, health, farm and home development, and financial planning.

The problem area sub-committees met once or more each with specialist help in most instances. Their frequently over-lapping recommendations were reduced to the simplest statements possible and presented to an "editing" committee. This report, however, is based primarily upon the committees' recommendations.

HOW THIS LONG-RANGE PROGRAM WILL BE USED

This long-range program with its recommendations will serve as a guide and basis for County Extension Work for 5 or more years. This means future County Extension programs will have more year-to-year continuity and will be simpler to prepare, because revisions will be limited to additions or changes based upon the long-range program. The progress each year will determine the extent of revisions. This new approach will help assure wiser use of the resources available to the County Extension Service.

TODD COUNTY EXTENSION STAFF

RICHARD BRAND, County Agricultural Agent
ERVEN SKAAR, Assistant Agricultural Agent
CAROL BROCK, County Home Agent (resigned May 1957)
MARY ANN HAGELSTROM, Office Secretary

Farm and Home Situation

BRIEF HISTORY OF TODD COUNTY

Todd County experienced its greatest early growth during the years 1875-1890 when pioneers literally hewed their farms out of the wilderness. As a transition area of forest and prairie lands, it was an interesting agricultural county with diverse soil resources.

Wheat was the main commercial crop in the early years although small numbers of cattle followed as a means of producing meat and milk from the abundant meadow hay. By 1915 diversified farming had gained a firm foothold and increased rapidly in importance. Hogs, poultry, and sheep enterprises were added to more and more farm operations. Feed crops grew in importance as livestock numbers increased.

Creameries made their greatest growth prior to 1920, with butter manufacturing being the major dairy product shipped from the county. Some cheese was made in a limited number of factories in the area. Farm sales of cream were reduced rapidly during and following World War II, so that now 80 percent of the milk-fat marketed is sold in whole milk.

Potatoes were grown extensively as a cash crop during the late 1920's and early 1930's but this crop is now relatively unimportant. More recently soybeans have become an important cash crop.

Dairying is now the dominant farm enterprise. The sale of dairy products accounts for 52 percent of the present cash farm receipts. When cash receipts from the sale of dairy cattle and veal are considered, the dairy enterprise accounts for about two-thirds of the county's annual farm sales.

Producing large quantities of high-grade forage and grain for dairy cattle and attaining high production per cow are the two major requirements for maximum farm income on most of the farms.

The rural population has been decreasing in Todd County, although one city and eight villages show some growth. The people leaving the rural areas presumably have gone to urban centers.

Hospitals serving Todd County are located at Staples, Bertha, Browerville, and Long Prairie.

There are seven high schools in the county; five of them recently built new additions. The remaining two schools may also have to enlarge their physical plants soon. Rural schools have been slowly consolidating with nearby high school districts, although many are still independent.

From an industry viewpoint there are the county's agricultural markets and processing plants, an active railroad center in Staples, and a large printing firm at Long Prairie. Other industries are small establishments and employ very few people.

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN THE COUNTY

Farm Size and Value

The census shows that Todd County lost active farm units at the rate of six-a-month from 1950 to 1954. The total number of farms reported in 1954 was 3,293. The only increases reported among the different farm-tenure groups was in part-time farm operators and managers. Tenancy, incidentally, decreased in recent years from 12 to 9 percent.

The greatest reduction in farms (272) took place in the group ranging in size from 30-179 acres. The number of farms in the group with less than 30 acres dropped (13) slightly. Farms 180 acres or over gained (6) a little. Since the proportion of land area in farms dropped from 89.8 to 85.8 percent between the last two census years, some land has been transferred to other uses.

In 1945, the average farm was valued at \$5,105; in 1950, \$8,765 and in 1954 at \$10,834. Per acre value of land for these three years was \$33.89, \$57.42 and \$67.09 respectively.

The average-sized farm in 1954 was 158 acres--six acres more than in 1950. About half the farm acreage is used as cropland, with all but five percent of the woodland pastured.

Type of Farms

About two-thirds of the county's 3,293 farms are dairy farms. This type of farm showed the largest increase (124) from 1950 to 1954. Cash-grain farms increased from 69 to 95. The nine fruit farms dropped out entirely, five others became vegetable farms, and poultry farms decreased from 138 to 105. Livestock farms other than dairy and poultry dropped from 422 to 386. General farms dropped from 551 to 301 and miscellaneous farms were reduced from 327 to 290.

The prominence of dairying suggests the importance of producing forage crops. Recent census reports show the following acreages and yields for the major crops.

Crop	1940		1950		1954		Trend	
	acres (000)	yield (bu.)	acres (000)	yield (bu.)	acres (000)	yield (bu.)	acres	yield
Corn	59.8	32	70.5	28	68.6	38	up	up
Flax	1.9	9	1.4	9	.8	9	down	---*
Wheat	8.9	16	3.1	12	.8	11.9	down	down
Rye	8.8	19	1.7	15	1.7	17	down	---*
Oats	63.4	37	79.2	29	82.0	31	up	---*
Barley	10.1	30	1.4	25	.8	25	down	down
Soybeans	----	--	.5	8	2.2	14	up	up
Hay	51.5	1.64	86.2	1.41	82.8	1.72	up	up
Potatoes	4.0	91.0	1.2	85	.7	90	down	---*

* No change or trend apparent

Total crop production for these same years was as follows:

Crop	1940	1950	1954	Trend
	Bushels (000)	Bushels (000)	Bushels (000)	
Corn	1,914	1,927	2,607	up
Flax	17	12	7	down
Wheat	127	37	15	down
Rye	167	26	29	down but up some in '54
Oats	2,346	2,297	2,642	up
Barley	303	35	20	down
Soybeans	-----	4	31	up
Hay (tons)	84	122	142	up
Potatoes	364	73	63	down

Livestock numbers for the past three census years were:

Livestock	1940	1950	1954	Trend
	(000)	(000)	(000)	
Total no. cattle	68	68	76	up
No. Milk cows	42	36	40	up
Total no. sheep	35	43	41	--*
Total no. hogs	10	6	10	--*
Total no. hens & pullets	409	380	321	down
No horses	10	7	4	down

*No trend apparent

Farm Equipment

An increase in the amount of farm equipment of the large types is showing up on more farms:

	1940	1950	1954	Percent of farms	Trend
Total No. tractors	2, 018	3, 260	4, 054		up
Motor trucks	292	635	1, 108	32	up
Automobiles	3, 649	3, 820	3, 678	93	--*
Pick-up balers	----	80	385	12	up
Grain combines	----	135	555	21	up
Corn pickers	----	300	751	30	up
Field Forage harvesters	----	-----	190	9	--

*No apparent trend

Other facilities or significant practices reported by Todd County farmers in 1954 were: (1) 35 percent had power feed grinders, (2) 70 percent of the dairy farmers had milking machines, (3) 5 percent of farmers with sows and gilts farrowing used electric brooders, (4) 81 percent hired some custom work, and (5) 44 percent hired some labor during part or all of the year at an average total cost per farm of \$287.

Census data for the United States show that since 1940, the number of tractors used in this country increased 207 percent, grain combines 405 percent, cornpickers 500 percent, and farms having milking machines 423 percent. This is indicative of a trend towards more machinery so as to reduce labor requirements.

The national average output per farm worker increased 2.3 percent from 1939 to 1947 and 3.7 percent from 1947 to 1953. Non-farm workers increased their output 1.6 and 3.4 percent respectively during these same periods. Increased use of machines made such changes possible. Value

of machinery per farm, however, rose from \$229 in 1940 to \$1881 in 1955. The number of farms decreased during this time but the number of farm workers per farm remained the same.

Cash Farm Expenses with Comparisons

The following are 1954 census data for Todd County unless otherwise indicated:

Total specified cash farm expenses per farm.	\$1, 228
Cash farm expenses as a proportion of the total cash farm receipts.....	37 percent
Cash farm receipts after cash farm expenses.....	\$2, 081
Proportion of farmers hiring machines and labor.....	85 percent
Expenses per farm for machine and hired labor.....	\$353
Percentage change in expenses per farm 1949 to 1954.....	-13 percent
Expenses per farm for petroleum fuels and oils.....	\$320
Percentage change in expenses per farm (1949-54) for petroleum fuel oils.....	11 percent
Percentage of farmers who bought feed for livestock and poultry.....	93 percent
Expenses per farm for livestock and poultry feed.....	\$619
Percentage change in expenses per farm (1949-54) for livestock and poultry feed..	28 percent
Percentage of farmers buying commercial fertilizer.....	45 percent
Expenses per farm for commercial fertilizer.....	\$108
Percentage of hay and pasture crops on which commercial fertilizer was applied.....	4 percent
Pounds of commercial fertilizer per acre harvested hay and cropland.....	208 lbs.
Farmers using commercial fertilizer on corn.....	47 percent
Pounds of commercial fertilizer used per acre on corn.....	117 pounds

Cash farm expenses have become increasingly more important in recent years. National farm income and expense

data show that the annual net income from farming averaged 50 percent or more of the annual gross income from 1910 to 1919; 40 to 48 percent from 1920 to 1949, except for the early 30's; but less than 40 percent for both 1954 and 1955.

Cash farm receipts -- 1954 with comparisons

The following are selected Todd County Farm census data for 1954, in some instances compared with 1949:

Total cash farm receipts per farm	\$3, 309
Total cash farm receipts per acre of cropland harvested.	\$44
Most important source of cash farm receipts.	dairy products
Percentage of total cash farm receipts from sale of field crops.	8
Percentage total cash farm receipts from dairy products.	52 percent
Cash receipts from milk per farmer selling milk.	\$2, 170
Cash receipts from cream per farmer selling cream.	\$1, 318
Total cash receipts from livestock and livestock products (not dairy products or poultry).	29 percent
Cash receipts from hogs and pigs per farmer selling hogs and pigs.	\$835
Cash receipts per hog and/or pig sold.	\$23.24
Receipts from sheep, lambs, wool.	\$416
Cash receipts from poultry and poultry products.	11 percent
Percentage of poultry receipts from sale of eggs.	82 percent
Cash receipts from eggs per farm selling eggs.	\$467

Individual farm income patterns vary greatly as shown by the following data taken from the 1954 census for Todd County:

Proportion of full-time farmers with \$5, 000 income or more.	22 percent
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Proportion of full-time farmers with income \$2,500-\$4,999..... 41 percent
 Proportion of full-time farmers with income less than \$2,500.....37 percent

Another income classification using both 1950 and 1954 census data provides additional information on the farm income pattern:

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>Trend</u>
Commercial farms	3,269	3,077	down
\$10,000 sales or more	74	96	up
\$9,999-\$5,000	758	595	down
\$4,999-\$2,500	1,322	1,241	down
\$2,499-\$1,200	835	905	up
\$1,199-\$250	280	240	down
Part-time farmers	159	195	up
Residential farm		90	up

Full-time vs. part-time farming comparisons for Todd County revealed the following for 1954:

Proportion of farm operators doing off-farm work..... 30 percent
 Proportion of farm operators doing off-farm work 100 days or more..... 13 percent
 Proportion of farm operators where off-farm income exceeds farm income..... 13 percent

Crop Price Support Programs for Todd County

Total value of all CCC loans on the 1954 Todd County crop was 84 thousand dollars compared with a county average of 87 thousand dollars for the State. The range, for the State, however, was from no loans in some counties to over 4½ million dollars in one. Expressed as a percentage of cash receipts from field crops, Todd County's CCC loans accounted for 10 percent compared with 27 percent for the State. Expressed in another way, CCC loans accounted for 1 percent of the Total Cash Farm Receipts in Todd County compared with 9 percent for the State as a whole. The average value of Todd County CCC loans was \$552 compared with \$1,174 for the State. The loan value per acre of cropland amounted to 36 cents compared with \$4.48 for the State.

The proportion of the different 1954 crops put under CCC loan in Todd County and in the State was as follows:

Crop	Percent placed under loan			
	Todd County		Minnesota	
	Percent	Value per Loan	Percent	Value per Loan
Barley	4	\$278	26	\$1,008
Corn	12	\$671	26	\$1,570
Flaxseed	14	\$404	24	\$ 838
Oats	1	\$509	6	\$ 713
Rye	20	\$356	37	\$ 548
Soybeans	8	\$436	26	\$1,198
Wheat	4	\$636	36	\$1,009

Soils and Physical Factors

Approximately two-thirds of the soil in Todd County is identified as Lester-Hayden, which is normally classified as having a gently rolling topography, grayish-brown surface soil color, yellowish-gray subsoil, loam to silt loam surface texture, clay-loam subsoil texture, and of good inherent fertility. General farming with considerable dairying is generally associated with these soils. Todd County farming on these soils conforms to that general association.

The Milaca-Brainerd-Hibbing soils make up the largest percentage of land other than the Lester-Hayden soil type. These soils are undulating to rolling, grayish-brown surface soil, reddish-brown subsoil, sandy loam to loam surface soil texture, sandy clay loam subsoil texture, somewhat leached, and of fair inherent fertility. Stones are often numerous and below the surface. Many tree-covered peat bogs are interspersed with areas of mineral soils. These soils are generally acid and found in large areas of undeveloped land.

A small, long wedge-shaped tract of Menahga soils starts from the northeast corner of Todd County and extends to the south through about two-thirds of the county before disappearing. The topography of this soil type is undulating to rolling. These soils are light-colored and sandy with sandy subsoil. They originally supported jack and red pine. There are a few stones. These soils are poor for farming.

because of their extreme droughty nature. A few scattered farms are developed with small fields of oats, corn, and tame hay to support a limited dairy enterprise.

Very small amounts of Wadena-Hubbard soils are found in the northwest and southwest corners of the county. These are dark-colored, well-drained, sandy loams overlying sand or gravel at depths from 20 to 40 inches. Originally these were prairie soils. Because of their sandy nature and relatively low water-holding capacity, these soils are not very productive unless the sand and gravel are more than 40 inches below the surface. General farming featuring dairying generally prevails.

Climate

Extremes in temperature reported for Todd County range from a maximum of 105° in summer to a minimum of -45° in the winter. The January average of 7.4° varies over 60° from the July average of 68.8°. The growing season of around 130 days extends mostly from May 16 to September 23, the average dates of the last killing frost in the spring and the first one in the fall.

The average annual precipitation is over 24 inches. Approximately 70 percent falls during the months of May through September when it is of greatest value to crops. The four months--May, June, July and August--account for 60 percent of the average year's precipitation.

Living Conditions

Family living standards vary between different income groups and between families within each income group. The Farm-Operator Family Level-of-Living Index* is an indication of the relative position the level of living in a county or state in relation to other counties or states. It also measures relative changes over a period of time. It cannot be considered an absolute measure of the actual

*Four factors form the base for establishing farm-family level-of-living indexes: (1) percentage of farms with electricity; (2) percentage with telephones; (3) percentage with automobiles; (4) average value of products sold or traded in year preceding the census, adjusted for changes in the purchasing power of the farmer's dollar.

level because of the non-material factors always involved. But it is useful for studying relationships and trends. And it is one measure by which the level of living in Todd County may be compared with others in the state and in the United States:

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1954</u>
Todd County	115	145	157
Minnesota(all counties)	129	151	163
United States	100	122	140

(Base period for U. S. : 1945=100)

These indexes show that Todd County has made the same rate of progress in family living improvements from 1945 to 1954 as shown for the average of all Minnesota Counties and is slightly greater than for all counties of the United States.

The following information reported for Todd County farmers in the 1954 census is also significant from the viewpoint of family living. It considers: (1) proportion of full-time farms in various cash farm income groups, (2) extent to which income for farms is supplemented by off-farm work, and (3) the percentage of farms having certain home conveniences. This information is summarized on the basis of farm family income and home improvement in the two tables that follow:

Cash farm income groups	Proportion of full-time farms in each group	Proportion of farm operators doing "off the farm" work	Proportion of farm operators doing "off the farm" work 100 days or more	Proportion of farm operators where "off the farm" income exceeded cash farm income
	<u>percent</u>	<u>percent</u>	<u>percent</u>	<u>percent</u>
\$5,000 or more	22			
\$2,500 to \$4,999	41			
Less than \$2,500	37			
Total	100	30	13	13

About one-third of the farm families have annual cash farm incomes of less than \$2,500 although some of them may have "off-the-farm" income. Minimum cash outlays are most important to the low-income farm families. For this group, programs such as home-produced foods, home-preservation of foods, and any others that reduce cash outlays for the family without seriously sacrificing family living standards can be very helpful.

The extent to which Todd County farm families enjoy certain home improvements is shown in the following census data:

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1954</u>		<u>Trend</u>
	No.	No.	No.	(percent)	
Telephones	1,778	1,980	2,116	64	up
Farms with					
electricity	1,302	3,015	3,172	96	up
Home freezers		590	1,341	41	up
Piped running					
water			1,485	45	--

Since nearly all Todd County farms now have electricity, progress in areas of improved farm living can move forward.

Results of Home Program Survey

Approximately 5 percent of the farm families of the county were represented in a survey conducted by the home agent among women enrolled in the home program. While this was conducted in connection with a national survey, some phases of it are summarized for inclusion in this report.

While only about half of the people in the county live on farms, 87 percent of the Extension home program cooperators are rural, 11 percent rural non-farm, and 2 percent urban. Two-thirds of the home program members are between 25 and 50 years of age; three-fourths of them have children under 10 years of age; and 25 out of every 100 families have people living in their homes who are over 60 years of age.

The home survey showed that 93 out of each 100 cooperating home program families reported cash farm incomes of \$5,000 or less; 73 out of a 100 got \$2,500 or less. Also

significant, nearly all of the women did some farm work but only 8 out of 100 did work off the farm. Seventy-five out of every 100 said they could drive a car or truck.

From an educational viewpoint, this survey reports that 65 out of every 100 homemakers had some high school education or more; 15 out of every 100 had some college training. Nearly 41 percent had some home economics training in high school and 23 percent had been 4-H Club members. Sixty-one percent of the home program members had children of 4-H Club age but only 48 percent of these children were 4-H members.

The home survey also revealed that 88 out of every 100 homemakers do some sewing. Nearly all keep records of some kind, with 50 out of every 100 depending largely on the checkbook for that purpose but also keeping another record or account book, too. Considerable importance was placed upon such expenditures as insurance, medical and contributions; in fact, more so than upon education or personal items.

The Home Survey reported only 40 homemakers out of 100 as planning meals for the family for more than a day in advance. About two-thirds said they spent from 30 to 90 minutes each day on the dinner meal, with 15 out of 100 using less than 30 minutes.

Other interesting data showed that a wide variation existed as to the individual family members of the home program cooperators. The following table summarizes these data:

Group	Proportion of different groups consuming milk - number of glasses per day					Total
	None	One or Less	Two or More	Three or More	Four or More	
Homemakers	38	17	45	-	-	100
Husbands	37	19	44	-	-	100
Children	5	35	30	20	10	100

Markets

Todd County has 12 creameries or dairy plants. The large dry-milk plant known as the Todd County Dairy Co-operative serves all but one creamery in the county and parts of neighboring counties. One other plant in the county is equipped with a roller drier. Seventy-eight percent of the total milkfat is received at plants as whole milk, and 81 percent of the county's milk production is processed at plants located in the county.

The average annual receipts per plant of 15.1 million pounds is about 8 percent higher than the average for the state. Sixteen counties in Minnesota have plant averages that are higher; five of them process more than twice that amount. Todd County therefore has ample dairy plant capacity -- possibly excess capacity. Since volume is an important factor in determining plant efficiency the present plant capacity should take care of any likely increase in production.

There are 13 grain elevators in the county, although some of them undoubtedly ship in much feed grain to supply the feed needs of cattle, other livestock and poultry. Grain markets therefore are also considered ample.

Egg and poultry produce houses are other local markets for agricultural products used by producers. They are ample in number but many producers believe these marketing services can be improved.

While there seems to be enough markets, improvements can be made in most of them. Producers must watch for changes in consumer demand and be prepared to make necessary local changes so that farm products netting the largest income to Todd County farmers are produced. Technological advancements are most certain to make some changes necessary, too. Even though local markets may appear adequate, it must be remembered that they are largely assembly points for shipments elsewhere.

Family Living

Both rural and non-rural families take part in county Extension programs. Each family depends on wise use of its income, time and other resources, in seeking desired goals. The committees assigned the task of considering problems within this family living work area singled out several phases of work which are challenges to the Extension service. That is, these committees believed improvements in family living in Todd County are attainable with the help of educational assistance from the Extension service.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

(Including Health and Safety)

Situation: Homemakers strive to provide good meals for their families but they do not always succeed. Surveys conducted in many rural areas show that some children do not eat an adequate breakfast and that lunches packed for the noon-day meal away from home frequently do not meet basic requirements. The men do not eat enough fruits and vegetables.

Non-pasteurized milk on family meal tables is too common a practice. Improper food preservation methods cause unnecessary spoilage. Many opportunities in home-produced foods are overlooked. Farm and home accidents continue at an alarming rate. Older people have too much time on their hands. All these are important to the health of all members of every family in the county.

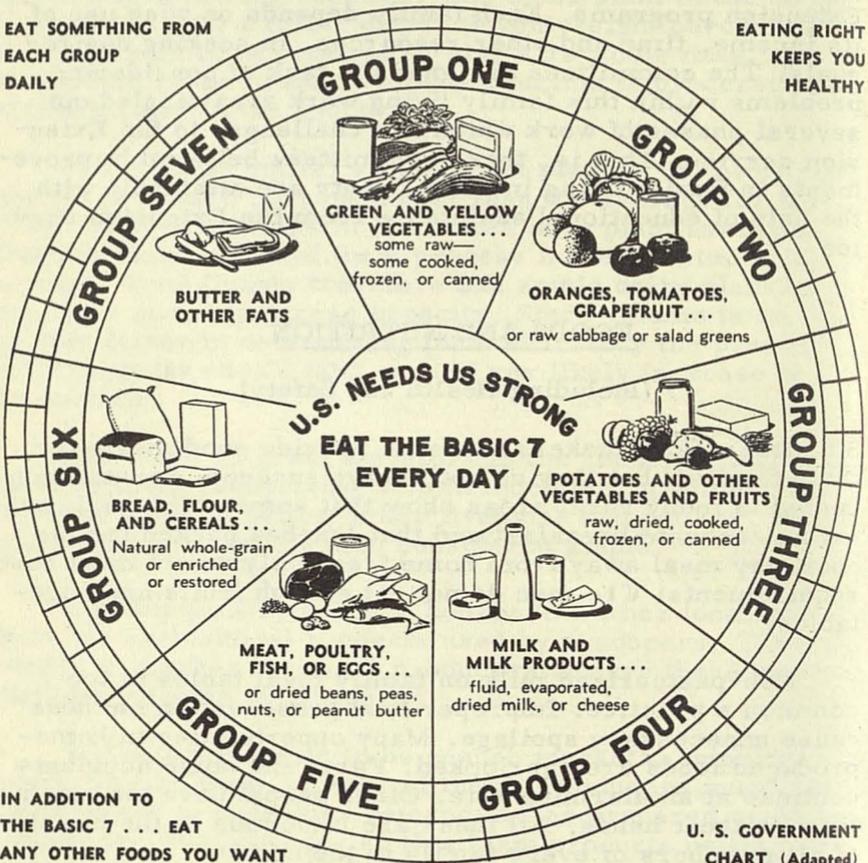
Trends:

- Food supplies will be large. Many foods at retail stores will have built-in maid service, such as "oven-ready," "already cooked," and "ready-to-serve."
- Increased use of purchased food by more families can be expected because of the trend towards (1) more urbanization, and (2) less dependence upon home-produced foods, even by farmers.

THE BASIC 7 FOOD GROUPS

EAT SOMETHING FROM
 EACH GROUP
 DAILY

EATING RIGHT
 KEEPS YOU
 HEALTHY



IN ADDITION TO
 THE BASIC 7 . . . EAT
 ANY OTHER FOODS YOU WANT

U. S. GOVERNMENT
 CHART (Adapted)

HOW TO USE THE FOOD CHART

The chart may be used as a food selection score card. In the outside circles are seven spaces in each of the seven groups. Each represents a day of the week. To score your habits for one week, fill in each day, with black or colored pencil, one space each for the one or more servings of foods of the different groups. For example: If you have eat eggs, meat, tomatoes,

potatoes, greens, string beans, cabbage, squash, bread, butter, and milk in the day's meals, you would score a space in each of the seven groups. If all spacings are filled at end of the week, you have good food selection habits. If there are blank spaces, try to improve. Use one circle to score food selection habits and the other to check them another week.

● Consumption per person of high protein foods, fruits, and vegetables will increase and result in a further improvement in diets. Consumption rates for other foods will remain the same or will decline.

● Freezing as a means of food preservation will increase in importance.

● Continued high rate of farm, home, and traffic accidents will necessitate more stress on safety education of all kinds.

● Interest in community health programs will continue to increase in most communities.

● With a larger share of the population falling in the age group 65 years or older, the needs of older people will require increasing attention.

Goal: Nutritious, adequately balanced diets for the entire family, coupled with a home and farm situation that provides a safe and healthful place in which to live and work.

Analysis of Committee Report on Foods, Nutrition, Health and Safety

Problems

Recommendations

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|---|---|
| 1. Inadequate breakfasts among school children, and "carried luncheons" that do not meet basic requirements, result in unnecessary fatigue and lack of attention in school. | 1. Stress importance of adequate diets in the 4-H Club program. Suggest 4-H demonstrations on "carried luncheons" that meet basic requirements. Continue home project lessons on foods and nutrition. |
| 2. Insufficient understanding of the food value and the family food budget savings possible from home-produced foods such as milk, meat, fruits, and vegetables that can be depended upon on most | 2. Include work of this nature with farm and home planning programs as this phase of work must be approached from a farm and home management point of view with both men and women. |

farms. These considerations should include quality, quantity, variety, and color.

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| 3. Too much food wasted by improper food preservation methods. | 3. Continue stress on home food preservation methods that meet accepted safety and nutritional standards through home and 4-H groups. |
| 4. Many homemakers are unaware of the different nutritional and other living needs required of different age groups. | 4. Conduct special courses on diet requirements of the different age groups. |
| 5. Unpasteurized milk is used by many families. | 5. Continue plans to include educational information on importance of home pasteurization of milk from a disease prevention viewpoint. Stress these areas in 4-H Club demonstrations. |
| 6. Large number of farm, home and traffic accidents, because ordinary rules of safety are not always understood or followed. Some accidents take on critical proportions because first-aid rules are not generally known. | 6. Include timely farm, home and traffic safety program material in the usual information supplied through the local press and radio. Stress safety in the 4-H program. Urge participation in first-aid classes. |

FARM AND HOME MANAGEMENT

(Including off-farm employment and father-son partnerships)

Situation: Farm family incomes of Todd County may be said to come from three sources: (1) sale of farm commodities, (2) use of farm-produced foods, fuel and other

forest products, and (3) off-the-farm employment. Some farm families depend upon only one source of income while others may use two or more sources. The 78 percent of the farm families with cash farm incomes of less than \$5,000 are more dependent upon other income sources. The 37 percent of the farm families with cash farm incomes of less than \$2,500 per family must have other sources of income if adequate standards of living are to be enjoyed. Some families strive for large cash sales and then buy the things they need or want. Other families plan their living on the basis of low cash outlays.

The homemaker in any situation is faced with the problem of making the best use of the money, energies, and time available for managing the home. The general nature and size of the farm business are exceedingly important factors in determining the plans for the home. Each farm family is faced with money management which involves, (1) keeping accounts which may be used later for improving the money spending pattern in the home and for the farm, (2) time which concerns the hours available by the homemaker and other members of the family in operating the home as weighed against the time needed for operating the farm, and (3) energy which involves the physical resources of all members of the family, their health, and other values.

Trends:

- More purchased foods, with built-in "maid service" but at higher costs, will be used.
- Remodelling and modernizing of homes, as a means of improving family living, will expand.
- Interest in community service programs -- as recreational and educational programs for all ages; welfare, health services and programs; etc. -- will increase, competing for the family's time and money.
- Per capita farm income will rise.
- The cost-price squeeze will continue but be less-pro-nounced.
- High capital requirements will continue to be a problem for beginning farmers.

● Surplus problems will continue in some farm commodities.

● The "average size" of farms will continue to grow, limiting farm opportunities for young people.

● The farm labor supply will continue to be tight, stimulating interest in more equipment.

● Opportunities for obtaining farm credit tailored to meet the increased capital needs of Agriculture will improve.

Goals: (1) Realistic home management plans and procedures that result in the efficient use of money, time, abilities, and energy of Todd County families. (2) A family income and tenure situation that encourages a sound agriculture.

Analysis of Committee Reports on Home Management including off-farm employment, father-son partnerships.

Problems

Recommendations

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| <p>1. The importance of farm and home accounts is underestimated by many farm families. Hence, only a limited amount of local data is available for analysis of individual farm operations.</p> <p>2. Limited farming opportunities for youth. (The proportion of tenancy dropped to 8.8 percent in 1954 compared with 12.2 percent in 1949. But of the number of farm boys now on farms ranging in age from 10 to 14 years, only 12 per-</p> | <p>1. Use information available from farm family record associations elsewhere in the state to show variations in earnings due to different farm and home management practices. Urge and assist local cooperators to keep their own records for more realistic analysis of their farm and home business.</p> <p>2. Inform farm people of the usual flow of people moving in and out of agriculture. Stress the importance of training for all occupations. Work on realistic father-son partnership programs that are fair to both parties.</p> |
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cent can expect farming opportunities in Todd County that will gross a \$5,000 income or more. Around 33 percent might expect farming opportunities that will provide an income of over \$2,500).

3. Difficult farm and home planning decisions, especially for the small-acreage farm family. Should the choice be: (1) more intensified full-time farming, and if so how can the various income possibilities be computed? (2) part-time farming, and if so will the off-the-farm work wind up subsidizing the part-time farming operations? or (3) should emphasis be placed on low cash outlays for the farm and the maximum use of home-produced food, fuel, home sewing, etc., and if so how should such a program be planned?
3. Show the part-time farm family the difficult farm management problems associated with all alternatives open to the small-acreage farmer. Explain how fixed costs must be kept at a minimum where intensive farming is not considered, otherwise the off-the-farm income may actually subsidize the farming operations. Explain that family must decide which job is to have first priority for time and how they can obtain help in preparing various farm plans that will aid in their search for the most profitable combination of enterprise.
4. High cost credit.
4. Show how credit can be shopped for the same as any other commodity.
5. How to increase volume of business without adding more acres.
5. Explain why larger dairy herds, laying flocks of chickens, turkeys, and hogs appear to offer the best opportunities for increasing volume of business in Todd County. Explain how higher production per animal or poultry unit can help many farmers accomplish this.

HOUSING

Situation: More than 50 percent of the farm homes in the county were built prior to 1919. Nevertheless farm homes as a whole are in pretty good condition. They were built well. Then too, the decrease in the number of farms of about six a month since 1950 has tended to reduce the pressure for new homes.

Over half the farm homes are without piped-in running water, but since 96 percent of the farms are electrified there is an excellent opportunity to modernize more farm homes.

Fairly liberal quantities of Ash, Poplar, Basswood, Red Oak, Elm, and Tamarack trees suitable for native sawed lumber offer savings in cash outlays for both new construction and remodelling.

Trends:

- Decline in number of farms will prevent rapid expansion in building new homes, but there will be no let-up in remodelling and modernizing homes.
- New plans and materials for improving homes will encourage do-it-yourself work, which may stimulate home improvements of various kinds.
- Home yard improvement will be given more emphasis.

Goal: An adequate home that is economical, attractive, and functional in providing the living requirements of the family.

Analysis of Committee Reports in Housing

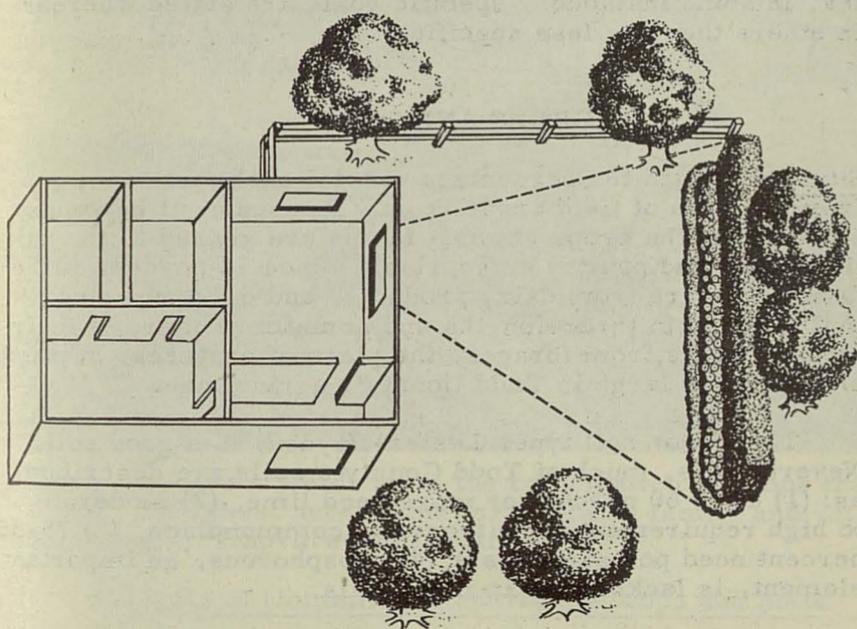
Problems

1. How to finance new construction or remodelling.

Recommendations

1. Encourage detailed planning and the securing of cost estimates before undertaking any work. Explain how to shop for credit when loans are needed.

2. How to secure assistance with planning stages or remodelling and in modernizing homes.
3. Costly home yard improvement plans prevents much progress in this area.
2. Secure the assistance of appropriate specialists where a demand for such assistance is desired. Tours may be helpful.
3. Secure assistance of appropriate specialist. Urge use of local plant and shrub material to the greatest possible degree.



Careful planning can make use of local plants or shrubs to create a pleasing view from the farmhouse.

The Farm Business

The farm business determines the income for most farm families. The goal of all farm families is an adequate income. Where farm income is inadequate the Extension service has an obligation to assist farm operators effect changes in their farming operations that will result in higher earnings. The average earnings per farm of \$2,600 in 1954 for this county include a wide range from satisfactory earnings to others wholly inadequate.

The committee assigned to Sources of Farm Income "pin-pointed" several "weak links" in the current production and marketing practices of many farms which can be improved with the assistance of the county Extension service. In some instances, specific goals are stated whereas in others they are less specific.

CROPS AND SOILS

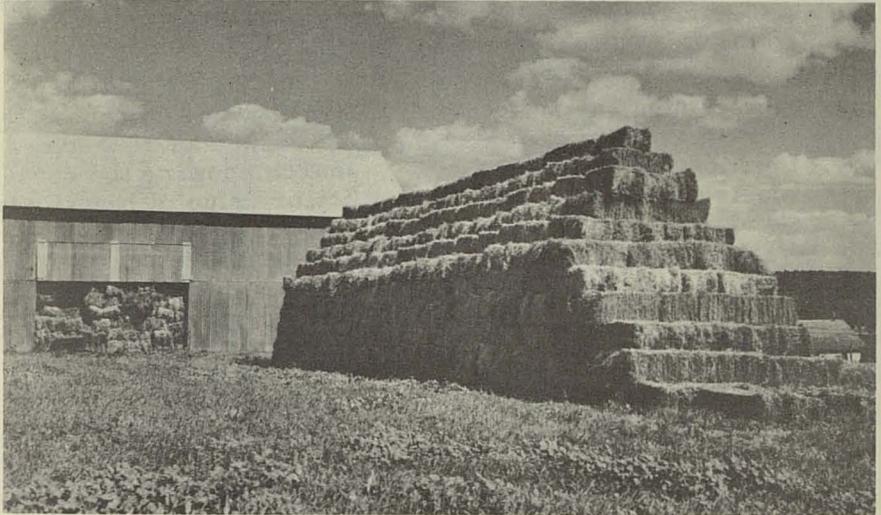
Situation: Since the percentage of total cash farm receipts from the sale of field crops is only 8 percent, it becomes evident that the crops on most farms are geared to the dairy, livestock, and poultry enterprises. Since 52 percent of the farm sales are from dairy products, and dairy cows normally get up to three-fourths and sometimes more of their feed nutrients from forages, the place of pastures, hay and silage looms large in Todd County's agriculture.

The major soil type, Lester-Hayden, is a good soil. Nevertheless, much of Todd County's soils are described as: (1) 40 to 60 percent or more need lime, (2) moderate to high requirement for nitrogen is commonplace, (3) 75-85 percent need potassium, and (4) phosphorous, an important element, is lacking, as in most soils.

Proper soil management and good agronomic practices are essential to profitable farming in Todd County.

Trends:

- Improvement in forage crops -- pastures, grass and corn silage -- will receive greater emphasis, with respect to both quality and yield.
- Interest in new crop varieties, disease and insect control measures, seed treatment, crop rotations, and new crops will continue.
- Better soil management -- maintenance of high yields without loss of fertility -- will be the goal of a larger number of producers.



Goal: Maximum yields from the combination of crops that results in highest net income for the farm family and yet maintains or improves soil fertility.

Analysis of Committee Reports on Crops and Soils

Problems

Recommendations

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| <p>1. Inadequate use of legume crops on dairy farms as a means of reducing feed costs for dairy herds.</p> | <p>1. Place major emphasis on maximum use of forage crops as one of the "keys" to profitable dairying. Help plan out a broad program of soil management, selection of proper legumes or grass-legume</p> |
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combinations, and methods of storage.

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| 2. | Too much loss in quality of hay due to methods used in handling this forage crop for all winter and early spring feeding of the dairy herd. | 2. | Try to provide information which may help partly to offset the problem of weather in haying methods, such as that on (1) alternative methods of keeping forage, (2) losses in nutrients from weathering, (3) proper stage at which hay crops should be cut, and (4) how to get more feed from pastures. |
| 3. | Not enough hay silage for "maximum production" of dairy products per acre of cropland. | 3. | Stress whenever possible the results of recent research showing the benefits or value of hay silage, since this seems to represent the best possibility for improving the county's production and quality of forage. |
| 4. | Too limited use of commercial fertilizers based upon actual soil tests. | 4. | "Point up" the most profitable ways to use commercial fertilizers by planning trials and tours regarding programs best adapted to the county's soils. |
| 5. | Too much soil lost from soil erosion. | 5. | Encourage "complete" farm planning, with cropping programs based on the soil's capabilities to maintain yields. Explore services that might be available through formation of a Soil Conservation District. |
| 6. | Low yields on many pasture lands, due to poor selection of legume and grass mixtures and soil management practices. | 6. | Continue to emphasize all phases of pasture improvement. |

LIVESTOCK

(Including Dairy, Beef, Sheep, Hogs and Poultry)

Situation: Recent Census data show that Todd County's cow population of 235 per square mile is exceeded by only 18 of the state's 87 counties. The average of 12.1 cows per herd in Todd County is exceeded by a few more counties in the state, all located to the east. Average milk production per cow is 6,000 pounds, compared with 6,180 pounds for the state. (Twelve counties average 7,000 pounds or more.) Seventy percent of the farms report milking machines. Nearly 80 percent of the milk is sold in fluid form.



Seven percent of the farms reported farrowing of pigs that averaged 7.6 pigs raised per litter, which is higher than the state average. Receipts per hog of \$23.24 compared with the state average of \$39.75 show that a large number of hogs are sold as feeder pigs. Five percent of the producers used pig brooders.

Only 3 percent of the farms reported beef cows. The number of cattle sold per farm was four, excluding the calves sold as veal. Trend in the sale of calves is down, which may indicate plans for enlarging dairy herds.

Ten percent of the farms reported breeding flocks of sheep that averaged 23 head. Some increased interest in sheep is observed. Number of sheep sold per farm having

sheep during the year also averaged 23. The average wool clip of 7.4 pounds may be compared with 7.9 pounds for the State.

Seventy percent of the farms reported chickens with an average flock of 131 birds. Production of eggs per hen is 184 compared with 194 for the state and 23 counties with over 200. Of the 59 million eggs produced, 10.2 million were consumed in the county; therefore about 80 percent were shipped elsewhere. Some 130 thousand hens, roosters, pullets, and other chickens were sold during the year. Very few chickens broilers are raised in the county.

Some 31 thousand turkeys were raised, averaging 1,486 birds per flock compared with 2,684 birds per flock for the state. Only 34 percent were heavy birds.

Trends:

● Dairy cows nationally will remain near present numbers or trend downward. The number of farms keeping cows may decrease, but the average size of herds is likely to increase. Total milk production can be expected to increase and continue to outrun consumption. These trends will vary by regions of the United States. They will also vary by areas within Minnesota. Bulk-tank milk deliveries will increase.

● Production of beef and pork will probably continue at the present levels, especially if consumer purchasing power remains strong. Strong competition between the two will continue.

● Poultry output--eggs and poultry meat production--will probably continue to go up at a faster rate than the population. The number of laying hens continue downward, but the eggs produced per hen continue to increase and offset the decrease in laying hens. Production of chicken broilers and turkey meat has been increasing rapidly, the increase being in chicken broilers. Competition between the different meats will continue to be strong.

● Sheep numbers, which dropped drastically from 1940 to 1945, will probably hold near the present level. Government payments will continue as an important market factor. Wool as a fiber will continue to experience strong competition from other fibers.

● Source and cost of the feed, extent of labor-saving practices, and consumer purchasing power will continue as the dominant factors in the livestock and livestock products enterprises.

Goal: Dairy, livestock, and poultry enterprises that fit Todd County farms from the standpoint of (1) family income needs, (2) size of farm business desired, (3) a crop program that maintains soil fertility.

Analysis of Committee Reports

Problems

Recommendations

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| 1. Too limited participation in DHIA program as a means of reducing the number of low-producing cows. | 1. Service the present DHIA as necessary. This work provides valuable data for other producers. |
| 2. Some farmers are concerned with questions on profitable cattle feeding operations, where purchased feeders are compared with feeders raised locally. | 2. Point out why the raising of feeder steers is a questionable practice on most Todd County farms where maximum income is desired. |
| 3. Too much feed is required to produce (1) 100 pounds of milk, (2) dozen of eggs, (3) 100 pounds of poultry meat, (4) 100 pounds of pork, (5) 100 pounds of lamb and (6) 100 pounds of beef. This is true on too many farms where improvements are possible through better breeding, balanced feeding rations and disease control practices. | 3. Urge development of programs which emphasize maximum returns from feed produced or purchased. Include DHIA, weigh-a-day, sow testing, and similar projects that further progress in these areas. |
| 4. It is difficult to interpret market price reports by way of produc- | 4. Provide producers with information on the purpose of grades and, where |

ing the type of farm product that gets the best price for the producer (quality and grade factors).

possible, use illustrative material to explain this information more effectively.

FARM BUILDINGS

Situation: Farm buildings other than the home dwelling present a number of complex problems to many Todd County farmers. This involves the following considerations: (1) the high initial cost, (2) changes taking place in types of construction and materials, (3) possible changes in building needs, (4) bulk milk tank storage, (5) methods of storing hay and silage, and (6) changes in farm size. Currently, most farmers are mainly interested in repair and remodeling. There is also interest in more use of native sawed lumber especially where new construction is considered. Then too, efforts to include flexibility in buildings are usually demanded.

Trends:

- Efforts to improve milkhouses and to make other changes so as to improve milk quality will continue.
- Remodelling and equipping buildings in order to save labor will continue and usually pay.
- More emphasis on insulation and ventilation of farm buildings can be expected.
- Bulk tanks on dairy farms will be considered by more and more of the larger dairy herd owners.
- Flexibility in all construction will be sought.

Goal: Farm buildings that are economical yet functional in meeting the needs for livestock, feed storage, and machinery.

Analysis of Committee Reports on Farm Buildings

Problems

Recommendations

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| 1. How to adapt old buildings to changes in the | 1. Make use of farm management data at group meetings, |
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farm business such as (1) more specialized dairy farm, (2) a larger poultry enterprise, (3) new requirements for handling milk, (4) changes in forage storage methods.

followed by personal interviews or office calls, as a means of reducing the number of costly experiences in remodelling old buildings.

2. How to make realistic comparisons between the cost of remodelling and new construction.
2. (Same as 1 above)
3. How to use native lumber to advantage.
3. Provide interested farmers with material prepared by the extension foresters. Work with saw-mill operators.



Group Action

Group Action Situation: Farm families enjoy a certain amount of independence but many wants are satisfied only with the benefits of organization. Thus organizations ranging from small temporary committees to established organizations and institutions serve valuable roles in securing an adequate income and in putting that income to use. The committees assigned to problems in this area recognized a need for a cooperative approach in some instances, if full benefits of the County Extension Service are to be realized. Some of the group action activities--such as the 4-H Club program and the home program--are an accepted part of county Extension work. Other groups are independently organized but cooperate very closely in Extension work. Still others are only indirectly associated with Extension work.

MARKETING

Situation: Census data showed that Todd County farmers received an average of 61.3 cents for milk fat sold in cream in 1954, compared with 65.2 cents in one neighboring county. For wholemilk the price received was \$2.94 per cwt., compared with neighboring county prices that ranged from \$2.74 to \$2.84.

For egg prices, the situation was 27.7 cents per dozen for Todd County and up to 32.8 cents for one neighboring county.

Cash receipts per hog sold was \$23.24, compared with \$17.33 to \$36.77 for neighboring counties.

Cash farm receipts per acre of cropland for Todd was \$44, compared with \$34 to \$43 for neighboring counties and \$47 for the state. Todd received 52 percent of its cash farm receipts from the most important source--dairy products--whereas Becker County received only 32 percent from its major source which was also dairy.

These situations suggest opportunities for improvement, hence producers search for ways to improve their markets. This urge becomes especially strong whenever nearby producers secure higher prices.

Trends:

- Marketing costs will continue high -- due to more packaging, built-in maid service, and new products, and to rising costs of labor, transportation, and materials.
- More producers will endeavor to take over some of the marketing functions, directly or by working through cooperatives.
- Efforts to improve systems of grades and market reporting services will be intensified.
- New considerations for supporting farm prices likely will be tried.
- Surplus supplies in certain commodities are most certain to continue.

Goal: Efficient markets that net producers the highest possible prices for the various quality grades and yet are fair to consumers.

Analysis of Committee Report on Marketing

<u>Problems</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
1. Understanding the market. Where are the products finally consumed? What proportion of the produce must be sold outside of the county? How important are transportation costs?	1. Arrange special presentations, illustrated if possible, for meetings, farm forums, etc., on "The Function of Price," "Marketing Margins," "What Is a Market," etc. -- keeping in mind that the final market for most of the county's products is far away.
2. Can the local producers or the local markets perform some of the market-	2. Present at group meetings the best available information on probable costs

ing functions, such as specific processing or packaging, and thereby net more money for the producers? Should more of the marketing jobs be done on the farm or cooperatively?

of marketing jobs that must be done for specific commodities produced in the county. Producers must know the costs before they can answer these questions.

3. What is the influence of plant-size on marketing costs?

3. Try to supply such information when requested, by such means as the many bulletins prepared by the Agricultural Economics Department on plant operations of cooperative elevators, creameries, etc. in Minnesota.

4. Understanding the function of price in translating the wants of the consumer to the producer so the latter will know what to produce. Are the grades used for local products adequate?

4. (Same as 1 above)

5. What can local producers do to enlarge their markets or get more money per unit of output?

5. Provide such information as is available which makes clear to the producers the part played by merchandising, advertising, etc. in this area.

6. How to get better price support programs.

6. Urge people in the county to take part in discussions on the support programs, such as the "Farm Forums," for example.

RURAL-URBAN RELATIONSHIPS

Situation: Todd County is a community of 25,000 men, women and children. It is primarily an agricultural county and so must depend upon distant markets--many of them a thousand or more miles away. Likewise, many commodities used by Todd County folks must be brought to them from long distances. Therefore everyone should have an interest in the entire United States and other countries too. Near each home in the county are the local industries, the schools and colleges, churches, hospitals, fire and police protection services, recreational facilities, roads, etc. Some of these services are available through local units of government or by cooperating with a higher level of government, others through non-governmental associations and organizations. Whatever the case, such services and their costs are determined through group action.

Group action determines the laws or rules by which people are guided in many necessary and desirable courses. Some people are elected or appointed to places of authority to interpret them. And finally, individual members of society must be willing to respect "the rules of the game." This is all a part of the democracy in which we live.

This entire area is complicated but essential to a satisfactory way of life and hence must be considered. Some of the considerations lie outside of the role of Extension work while others are definitely a part of it. Such areas will require yearly attention.

Goal: A cooperative working relationship between all units of local government and other organized groups with the general welfare always kept in mind.

Trends:

- The growing size of our population will necessitate greater community cooperation.
- Increased urbanization, coupled with a wider tax base, will be paralleled by an expanded demand for more public services.
- Continued demand for more farm-to-market roads can be expected.

● Interest in zoning of various kinds will grow in more areas.

● Increased demand for more industries can be expected in an effort to expand employment opportunities.

Analysis of Committee Reports on Rural-Urban Relationships

Problems

Recommendations

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| 1. Limited employment opportunities for youth and small farm operators have stimulated an interest in more local industries. | 1. Work with committees on industrial developments where possible. Explore father-son partnership arrangements. Cooperate with employment agencies. |
| 2. Current price support programs have a very limited application to Todd County farmers. | 2. Arrange "Know Your Farm Program" forums and discussions where people may become more familiar with state and national issues. |
| 3. Farm families are concerned about limited fire protection. | 3. Urge communities to cooperate with their towns and villages in securing fire protection. |
| 4. Long distances to the final markets make transportation costs the determining factor in deciding what the county farmers can produce and sell profitably. The St. Lawrence Seaway is believed to offer a way to lower transportation costs for products produced in this area. | 4. Disseminate information of value in marketing such as that on the St. Lawrence Seaway project. |

Summing Up

The recommendations listed in this report will guide annual Extension programs in Todd County for several years. Each major work area has several suggestions. Since no effort was made to indicate priorities, the County Extension Committee will have the task of deciding which problems are to be considered first. Others will be reviewed at regular intervals as opportunities develop to include them in the yearly plans of work.

The recommendations, in general, relate to a need and desire for educational work in the following areas:

Family Living

Foods, nutrition, health and safety -- (1) improved breakfasts for children, (2) carried lunches that meet basic requirements, (3) home-produced foods, (4) food preservation, (5) information on the food value of different foods, (6) home pasteurization of milk acid, and (7) farm, home and traffic safety.

Home Management (including off-farm employment and Father-Son Partnership) -- (1) farm and home accounts, (2) limited farming opportunities for youth, (3) part-time farming supplemented by off-farm employment, (4) how to enlarge a farm and home business, and (5) farm and home credit.

Housing -- (1) financing remodelling and new construction of homes, (2) home plans, and (3) home yard improvement.

The Farm Business

Crops and Soils -- (1) legume crops, (2) maintaining quality in hay, (3) hay silage, (4) commercial fertilizers, (5) soil erosion, and (6) pasture improvement.

Livestock including Dairy, Beef, Hogs, Sheep and Poultry -- (1) DHIA and similar livestock improvement programs, (2) most profitable source of feeder cattle, (3) production efficiency in all phases of livestock and poultry, (4) market reports, and (5) effective grades for livestock and livestock products.

Farm Buildings -- (1) remodelling of old buildings, (2) how much can be spent for new construction, and (3) the place of native sawed lumber.

Group Action Situations

Marketing -- (1) how to understand a market, (2) what is the real function of a market, (3) the function of price, (4) the influence of plant-size on efficiency, (5) how to improve local markets, and (6) more effective farm price support programs.

Rural-Urban Relationships -- (1) industrial development as a means of increasing employment opportunities, (2) farm programs, (3) fire protection, and (4) transportation.

Many men and women became more familiar with Todd County farms, homes, and developments through the contacts made possible in this long-range program planning work. The suggestions which resulted seem certain to provide a frame-work of problem situations that will justify major consideration by the Extension Service in the years immediately ahead.

Special emphasis on the program areas suggested are certain to (1) assist farm families in using their income, time, abilities and their other resources in the manner most certain to yield a maximum in satisfaction; (2) enable farm families to develop more remunerative opportunities where the present ones are too limited; and (3) help all individuals in every community realize and appreciate the benefits that come from cooperating for the purpose of achieving those goals which individuals alone are unable to reach.

Program Projection Committees

HOUSING:

Arnold Lawin, Burtrum (chairman)
*Wesley Larson, Burtrum
Glen Wildman, Burtrum
Quentin Beck, Eagle Bend
Louis Lenk, Staples
Rolland Neumann, Osakis
Mrs. John Masonick, Browerville

LIVESTOCK:

Jake Seigle, Long Prairie (chairman)
*Ed Hoepfner, Long Prairie
Ed Pluth, Grey Eagle
Charles Harmon, Eagle Bend
Robert Gaugert, Staples
Ted Sobota, Browerville
Rudy Busacker, Long Prairie

OFF-FARM EMPLOYMENT:

Mrs. Anard Grove, Staples (chairman)
*Mrs. Ed Grossman, Staples
Norbert Schultenover, Staples (County Commissioner)
John Greip, Staples (president, Staples State Bank)
Bill Hanson, Staples
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller, Staples
Mr. and Mrs. Art Peyer, Staples
Ed Grossman, Staples

MARKETING:

A. J. Bernet, Long Prairie (chairman)
Dan Reineke, Clarissa
*Oscar Lowe, Long Prairie
William Heuer, Bertha
Harry Miller, Staples

HEALTH:

*Mrs. Carl Lampart, Long Prairie (chairman)
Mrs. Parker, Long Prairie (member of Todd
County Health Committee)
Mrs. Marie Carlson, Long Prairie (county nurse)

**FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT:

Howard Tyrrell, Browerville (chairman)
*Ray LaVoie, Clarissa (chairman,
County Commissioners)

**FINANCIAL PLANNING:

John Greip, Staples (chairman)
*Fred Rach, Bertha (chairman, County
Extension Committee)

*Member, Todd County Extension Committee.

**Members of all the committees participated in discussion of Farm and Home Development and Financial Planning.