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Weekly Review for MINNESOTA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

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START THINKING ABOUT VISUAL AIDS. Extension people in Washington are now investigating the possibilities for securing used movie and film strip projectors, as well as other visual aids equipment, from surplus army stocks after the war. Such equipment may be available to extension workers at attractive liquidation prices. It is not too early to think about what kind of camera and projector equipment you need to round out your county needs. Extension Editor Paul C. Johnson is interested in estimates from agents on what they would like if the equipment becomes available.

STATE PASTURE PLANS TAKE FORM. A set of committees for coordinating the state pasture program and enlisting the support of professional and trades people in an overall campaign has just been announced by Paul M. Burson, chairman, and Ralph F. Crim, secretary of the state committee. The committees are: Program--Stanley Folsom, chairman; Ray Aune, Paul M. Burson, Ralph F. Crim, Oscar E. Olson, Wm. Pearson, H. E. Schroeder, Ralph Wayne, D. A. Williams. Publicity--Paul C. Johnson, chairman; Berry H. Akers, Lyle Lamphere, Wm. D. Fleming, Stanley Folsom, L. J. Melrose. Finance--W. S. Moscrip, chairman; Merrill Berset, Robert Geiger, Stanley Folsom, Lyle Lamphere, Henry Leitschuh, Ralph Wayne, D. A. Williams. Recognition--D. A. Williams, chairman; Ray Aune, Wm. D. Fleming, Robert Geiger, Henry Leitschuh, Wm. P. McDonald, Ralph Wayne.

LUMBER STOCKS AT LOWEST SO FAR. Lumber stocks at sawmills and concentration yards at the end of the second quarter, 1944, were at the lowest figure since December, 1941, according to the War Production Board. The War Manpower Commission reports that employment in the lumber, pulpwood and basic timber products industries, during the first five months of the year, was the lowest since January, 1942.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OUTLOOK DARKENED. Production of superphosphate fertilizers will be adversely affected by industrial shortages of sulfuric acid caused by increased demands of the Army for ordnance requirements and of the Petroleum Administration for War, according to the War Production Board. In view of this reduction of sulfuric acid supplies for industry, the War Food Administration has been notified by WPB that its requirements for 10,000,000 tons of superphosphate fertilizers for the fertilizer year July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945, will not be fully met. According to the current rate of fertilizer production, approximately 8,000,000 tons of superphosphate fertilizers will be available to American farmers for this period. This compares with 6,800,000 tons available in the 1943-44 fertilizer year.

PETROLEUM STOCKPILE DOWN 32%. The nation's stockpile of essential civilian petroleum products has been reduced 32 per cent since August, 1941, Petroleum Administration for War reveals. With present seasonal demands exceeding refinery production, the nation's stocks will continue to decline.

VICTORY GARDENS (QUOTING M. L. WILSON). "All extension workers, I am sure, fully realize that the victory garden program is fundamentally an extension program. It has covered the farms of this Nation and the cities and towns as well. The impetus this program has given to cooperative extension in reaching urban people is something that will outlast the war, if all of us view it imaginatively. Many new friends have been made for cooperative extension, the colleges, and the Department thru the help that has been given these people. More in town and city will garden after the war. They will seek advice from the county agent and the horticulturist on trees, lawns, and shrubs, as well as on fruits and vegetable growing. A recent garden survey made by a commercial firm showed that of 2,603 nonfarm respondents, 79 per cent said they would continue to have vegetable gardens after the war. For many years now extension workers have helped rural people to beautify their surroundings and make them more pleasant.