THE VISITOR

Devoted to the Interests of Agriculture, Manual Training, and Home Economics in Minnesota High Schools

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STAFF
A. V. Storm
D. D. Mayne
W. H. Bender
W. F. Lusk
G. F. Howard
T. A. Erickson
Georgina L. Lommen

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SUMMER SESSION WILL OFFER MANY COURSES

The College of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota will hold its regular Summer Session at University Farm the six weeks from June 12 to July 21. Courses selected from the work of the regular college year will be offered to the extent demanded by students. The following courses will be offered, and from past experience it is believed that most of them will register enough students—six or more—to warrant conducting them:

Agricultural Chemistry—
2. Quantitative Methods
4. The Chemistry of Plant and Animal Life
102. Agricultural Quantitative Analysis
Agricultural Education—
131. Methods in Teaching High-School Agriculture
141. Teaching
151. Organization and Management
Agronomy and Farm Management—
1. Farm Crops I
102. Farm Management II
104. Grain and Corn Judging
Dairy and Animal Husbandry—
1. Breeds and Types of Livestock
3. Market Classes of Livestock
4. Stock Judging
11. Poultry
18. Dairy Stock Judging
26. Elements of Dairy Husbandry
30. Incubating and Brooding
Home Economics—
[illegible] Making
13. Dressmaking
17. Clothing Economics
21. Foods and Cookery
22. Food Economics
34. Home Management, Lectures
35. Home Management, Laboratory
51. Drawing and Design
101. Nutrition
Entomology—
3. Economic Entomology
Horticulture—
32. Market Gardening
50. Floriculture
71. Landscape Gardening
90. General Horticulture
Soils—
3. Soil Physics and Management
Veterinary Science—
6. Veterinary Medicine
Vegetable Pathology and Botany—
1. Plant Pathology
7. Weeds and Grasses
9. Seed Testing
14. Plant Disease Control
Bee Keeping—
2. Practical Beekeeping

Some of these are freshman courses, and offer excellent opportunities for superintendents and principals to obtain that fundamental knowledge of agriculture so helpful in supervising the work in their schools and in carrying on extension work among farmers. Each year more superintendents are taking advantage of this opportunity. The courses offer also opportunity for beginning students to make such progress as will enable them to complete the four years' curriculum in shorter time or allow them to include in their work more electives.

Other courses, those numbered 100 or higher, count toward graduate work as well as undergraduate and can be used toward a minor by students doing advanced graduate work in other colleges of the University. Many of the courses offered may be used as a minor by students taking their major work in other colleges of the University. Several of the courses, such as those in poultry, bees, horticulture, home economics, have in the past appealed to many who do not contemplate a college course but desire the knowledge thus obtained for immediate use in their affairs and can attend better at this time then during the regular college year.

Teachers of home economics will find this an opportunity to obtain some new courses in their rapidly developing field—courses not available when they were students. The director of the Summer Session, A. V. Storm, University Farm, St. Paul, will furnish information on request regarding these courses.

At the same time Minnesota will hold its State Teachers' Training School at University Farm. This offers courses in the certificate subjects, both academic and professional, and also work in elementary agriculture, manual training. woodwork, ironwork, cement and harness work, gas engines, stereopticon and moving picture work, sewing, cooking, textiles, games and sports. In addition to the general program there are special courses for principals of consolidated schools and for special teachers of home economies in consolidated schools.

Besides the work of the regular program there will be daily addresses by prominent men and women, athletic games, swimming exercises, meetings of groups of country teachers, evening entertainments, excursions, picnics and other features to make the summer enjoyable.

Information may be obtained from the conductor, A. V. Storm, also director of the Summer Session.

NEW BULLETINS

Publications of Interest to Teachers of Agriculture

Orchard Spraying, Bulletin 203; Agricultural Experiment Station, Manhattan, Kan.

Growing Hay in the South for Market; United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin 677. Discusses forage crops and describes haymaking devices of interest in the North.

Farm Manures, Circular 49; Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, Lafayette, Ind. Deals with composition, care, value and application of farm manure.

Losses and Preservation of Barnyard Manure, Circular 26; Michigan Agricultural College Experiment Station, East Lansing, Mich.

The Composition and Value of Farm Manures, Circular 25; Michigan Agricultural College Experiment Station, East Lansing, Mich.

How Not to Treat Illinois Soils, Circular 181; Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Ill. In part an interesting discussion of the "try-a-beg" propaganda.

A Biochemical Study of Nitrogen in Certain Legumes, Bulletin 179; Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana.

Fertility and Weeds, Bulletin 112; Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural College, N. D. A study of the fertility removed from soil by various weeds under conditions prevailing in the Red River Valley.

Weeds: How to Control Them; United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin 660.

Hairy Vetch, Circular 27; Michigan Agricultural College Experiment Station, East Lansing, Mich.

Grades for Commercial Corn, Bulletin 168; United States Department of Agriculture. A good description of grades of corn with plates illustrating types of kernels.

Home-Grown Seed Corn, Circular 8; North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, North Dakota Agricultural College. Among other things, shows a shuttle device for stringing seed corn.

Corn Experiments, Bulletin 282; Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio. Reports on fertilizers, methods of cultivation, variety tests, cross-breeding corn and other topics.

Early and Late Sowing of Flax, Circular 6; Agricultural Experiment Station, North Dakota Agricultural College.

Flax for Seed and Oil, Circular 7; Agricultural Experiment Station, North Dakota Agricultural College. Harvesting and storing the crop.

Hard Clover Seed and Its Treatment in Hulling; United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin 676.

Growing Hard Spring Wheat, United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin 678.

Potato Breeding and Selection, Bulletin 195; United States Department of Agriculture. Among other things, deals with hill-selection in seed potatoes.

Drug Plants under Cultivation; United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletin 663. Describes methods of cultivation and handling of a number of drug plants suitable for growth in the United States.

IN CONTEST ARE 75 ACRES OF ALFALFA

The Litchfield Review gives an account of an alfalfa contest conducted by the agricultural department of the high school there, in which more than seventy-five acres of alfalfa was started on about twenty-five farms in that vicinity. S. E. Hargis is superintendent of the Litchfield high school and G. A. Amidon is agricultural teacher.

There were two classes among the contestants, those who had grown alfalfa before and were required to grow three or more acres and those who were beginners and were required to grow one or more acres. The fields were visited and scored by an expert from the College of Agriculture who scored them on the following points: Evenness of stand, thickness of stand, vigor of plants and a report by the grower. Cash prizes of $10, $8, $6 and $5 respectively were offered for first, second, third and fourth places in each class. The prizes were contributed by business men.

MUCH LEGISLATION MAY AID SCHOOLS

This is the legislative year in a few states. It is too early to know what legislation will be enacted, but as an indication of the growth of sentiment in certain states it is worth while to notice the nature of some of the bills introduced for educational improvement.

The following are significant:

In Mississippi—Providing for the issuance of teachers' certificates to graduates of approved higher institutions and to persons holding approved credentials from other states, and providing for the renewal of first- and second-grade certificates.

In New Jersey—Requiring the reading of five verses from the Bible each day in the public schools.

Providing for the collection of savings from school children.

Permitting county vocational school boards to borrow money in anticipation of receipt of state moneys.

In Massachusetts—Providing for the use of public school property of Boston for social, civic and other purposes.

Providing for the establishment of an independent industrial - shoemaking school in Lynn.

Defining coöperative courses in the public schools, and permitting coöperating factories to employ pupils in coöperative courses under certain conditions.

Making further provision for free vocational and higher education.

Providing pensions for janitors of schools and other public buildings.

Directing the teachers' retirement board to investigate the advisability of establishing a contributory disability retirement system for teachers.

Relating to school teachers obtaining positions through the State Board of Education.

Providing pensions for teachers and other employees in training schools maintained under the direction of the State Board of Education.

Providing for the establishment of the University of Massachusetts.

Fixing rates of fare to be charged public school pupils in street and elevated railroad companies.

Providing for the appointment of a health officer to work under the direction of the State Board of Education.

Providing for instruction in swimming for pupils in the public schools.

Providing for the certification of public school teachers by the State Board of Education.

Providing for certain towns having fewer than 500 families partial reimbursement for the salaries of high school teachers.

Providing for the certification by the State Board of Education of superintendents of schools.

Providing for the maintenance of training schools for the use of state normal schools.

Prohibiting corporal punishment of children in the public schools.

Providing for the maintenance of agricultural instruction for families.

Further regulating the issuance of employment certificates to children under 16 years of age.

Fixing retirement allowance payable to members of the Teachers' Retirement Association.

Providing for repaying to certain towns the whole or a part of their expenditures for night schools for illiterate minors.

Providing for elementary instruction in forestry in the state normal schools.

Relating to the tenure of office of teachers and superintendents.

Prohibiting the use of sectarian and religious names on public school buildings.

Requiring children of compulsory school age to attend the public schools only.

Requiring towns to furnish high school accommodations, by paying transportation or otherwise, for pupils living four miles or more from town high schools.

In Kentucky—Providing for the organization and maintenance of county high schools jointly by two or more adjacent counties, and permitting attendance of pupils at high schools in counties other than their own.

Making an appropriation for the Kentucky Illiteracy Commission and providing for a census of illiterate adults.

In New York—Amending generally the charter of the City of New York relative to the Department of Education.

Amendment to section 1084 of the charter of the City of New York, requiring high schools to hold evening sessions and to provide the same course of study for them as for day schools.

Directing the commissioner of education to appoint a committee of seven to make a list of Bible references to be used in the public schools.

Providing for furnishing free spectacles, free dental inspection and dental treatment to public school children in New York City.

Requiring the United States flag to be displayed on the walls of main assembly rooms of schoolhouses.

Amending the railroad law providing for reduced fare for school children in the City of New York.

In Virginia—Submitting to the qualified voters of the state at the regular election of 1916 the question of compulsory education.

Providing free textbooks at joint expense of the state and the counties and cities.

Providing, upon petition of a majority of the patrons of any school, for placing a United States flag upon the schoolhouse.

Providing for a woman's college in the University of Virginia.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Publications of Interest to Agriculture and Manual Training Teachers

"Essentials of Wood Working," W. S. Griffith. Manual Arts Press, Peoria; $1.

"Standard Blacksmithing, Horseshoeing and Wagon Making," J. G. Holmstrom. Webb Publishing Company, St. Paul; $1.

"Farm Blacksmithing," J. M. Drew. Webb Publishing Company, St. Paul; 50 cents.

"The Economics of Manual Training," Louis Rouillion. The Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, New York; $1.50.

"Knots, Splices, and Rope-Work," A. H. Verrill. The Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, New York; 60 cents.

"Windmills and Wind Motors," F. E. Powell. Spon & Chamberlain, New York; 55 cents.

"The Gasoline Engine on the Farm," X. W. Putnam. The Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, New York; $1.50.

"Feeds and Feeding Manual," E. S. Savage. The Henry-Morrison Company, Madison.

"Feeds and Feeding," A. W. Henry and F. B. Morrison. The Henry-Morrison Company, Madison; $2.25.

"The Key to the Land" (fiction), F. F. Rockwell. Harper and Brothers, New York; $1.

"Principles of Bookkeeping and Farm Accounts," J. A. Bexell and F. G. Nichols. American Book Company, Chicago; 65 cents.

"Secrets of Out of Doors," W. H. Gibson. Harper and Brothers, New York; 50 cents.

"Agricultural Education for Teachers," G. A. Bricker. American Book Company, Chicago; 80 cents.

"Rural Education," A. E. Pickard. Webb Publishing Company, St. Paul; $1.

"Problems in Farm Woodwork," Samuel A. Blackburn. Manual Arts Press, Peoria; 60 plates and other directions for farm woodwork exercises; $1.

"Market Gardening," F. L. Yeaw. John Wiley and Sons, New York; 75 cents.

"Studies of Soils," A. G. McCall. John Wiley and Sons, New York; 75 cents.

"Landscape Gardening," S. F. Maynard. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

"Farmers of Forty Centuries," F. H. King and Mrs. F. H. King. Madison, Wis.; $2.50.

"Productive Farm Crops," E. G. Montgomery. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia; $1.75.

ROSEAU TEACHER AIDS DAIRY FARMERS

Many of the schools have been of assistance in introducing better livestock into their neighborhoods. The instrumentalities and methods have varied to meet local conditions. The farmers about Roseau, assisted by the teacher of agriculture, Mr. Williamson, organized a farmers' coöperative Holstein breeders' association. They have bought a carload of registered heifers and will purchase a bull in the spring. The cow-testing association plan of records will be followed. No breeding stock is to be sold outside of the county until offered to the members of the association.

At the meetings of the association attention will be given to better cattle, better barns, raising of root crops, clover and fodder corn, purchase of concentrates and sale of stock and products. Roseau has also a creamery where plans are making for improvement in quality of product and for obtaining a better market. They are talking of combining a laundry with the creamery, as has been done at Chatfield and at other places.

The annual short course commencement exercises at Cokato High School were given under the direction of the Cokato Associated Farmers' Clubs March 3. A luncheon for all who attended was served after the program was completed.

ST. PAUL STUDENTS PLAN HOME GARDENS

Home garden work in the St. Paul schools will be under the direction of A. G. Perkins during the coming season. Mr. Perkins has prepared a booklet to be placed in the hands of each child volunteering for garden work. This booklet contains the rules with which the gardeners will be expected to comply, pages ruled to show expenses and receipts, a place for the garden plan, blanks for record of kind of soil, number of cultivations, dates of planting of each vegetable and pages for writing the complete story of the garden.

Pupils will be classified on the basis of the size of their garden plot and none will be allowed to have less than 100 square feet of ground. All pupils gardens will be inspected from time to time and any pupil failing to keep his garden up to standard will be dropped from the class. Those completing the garden project and turning in a satisfactory booklet will be given a certificate in gardening. Those receiving the highest grade—"very good"—will receive a badge of distinction.

NEWS

Clyde Campbell, for several years agricultural instructor at Deer River, has resigned to give his attention to farming.

Gaylord Hancock of Westphalia, Kan., will finish out the year as agricultural instructor at Northfield. L. H. Hauter has been given a leave of absence for the remainder of the year on account of ill health.

Prof. J. A. James of the College of Agriculture of University of Wisconsin is issuing a circular letter to the schools teaching agriculture, that performs a service similar to that of The Visitor. It is quite worth while and we hope it may soon be issued in a more permanent form.

The United States Department of Agriculture has prepared under the direction of C. H. Lane, dairy specialist in agricultural education, a list of the Department's publications that are recommended as helpful to those engaged in teaching animal husbandry. If your school has not this list, it should be obtained from C. H. Lane, States Relation Service, Washington, D. C.

Several of the counties have arranged for conferences between the teachers of agriculture in the high schools and the county agent. Hennepin County Agent K. A. Kirkpatrick, with E. C. Magill, Wayzata; P. R. Little, Excelsior; Sherman Dickinson, Minneapolis, and LeRoy Reynoldson, St. Louis Park, agricultural teachers, held a conference recently to plan the year's work.

In Renville County the high school agricultural teachers, F. E. Krause, Renville; O. M. Kiser, Hector; R. H. Quinn, Fairfax; W. K. Dyer, Olivia, and R. J. Sunderlin, Bird Island, together with County Agent W. E. Morris, decided to carry on farm management demonstrations through the advanced farm-boy students in the agricultural high schools. They will be assisted in the work by W. L. Cavert of the Extension Division, University Farm.

To vitalize the instruction in the care and feeding of fat cattle, the Sauk Center High School bought five steers late last fall and turned them over to the class in animal husbandry. During the winter the steers were fed and cared for by members of the class, individuals being held responsible in stated periods of time Weekly weighings were made and results were compared with observed peculiarities of the animals, such as temperament and conformation. The steers were sold to the local meat market that the carcasses might be studied. The steers were fed barley, oats, oil meal, clover hay and bundle corn. In spite of many handicaps in feeding, the steers returned a substantial profit.

The agricultural department of the Long Prairie High School organized a cow-testing association as part of its extension activities last year. With the assistance of a local dairyman, who contributed his time, influence, and automobile, Agricultural Instructor J. J. Doerschuk has enrolled twenty-six farmers in the organization, which has now been in operation nearly three months. A man of practical experience in milk testing was secured from a neighboring creamery as official cow tester. Among other extension activities of the department was a week of afternoon corn shows and evening meetings for farmers held at the rural school houses. N. E. Chapman of the Extension Division of the College of Agriculture addressed the evening meetings. More than 700 farmers attended.