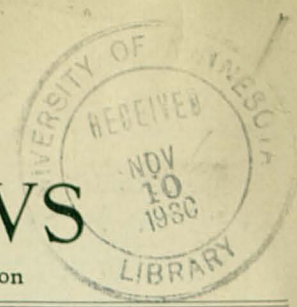


MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NEWS

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Vol. X

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

No. 2

Conference Defines Satisfactions of Rural Living

Lack of Farm Buying Stimuli Depresses Living Standards

WHAT do farmers do with their money—with that part of their cash income which does not go back into the business for operating expenses, or into the purchase of new equipment, or the payment of mortgages, interest and taxes? In other words, how much cash do they spend for living, what is the relation of this to their total cash income, and how is it divided? The foregoing was discussed by Dr. C. E. Lively of Ohio State University, who is now pursuing special studies in rural sociology at the University of Minnesota. Speaking generally of farm family incomes in relation to living, Dr. Lively said: "The cash expenditures for family living increase as total cash receipts increase, but they increase at a much slower rate. In a study made in Ohio, all types of expenditures increased with increasing cash receipts. Farm expenses increased at approximately the same rate as receipts. Family living expenditures mounted much more slowly and tended to strike a level of about \$1,500 after cash receipts reached \$5,000.

High-Income Families Save

"In families having cash receipts of less than \$1,000, expenditures for living tended to equal or exceed receipts and the farm expense was considerably lower than the expenditure for living. Investment funds, or surplus, were not only lacking; the families

(Continued on Page 2)

Balmers Honor Guests At Extension Dinner

EXTENSION workers took formal leave of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Balmer at a big dinner in their honor at the Minnesota Union ball room on Monday evening of the conference. Many prominent faculty members and their wives were present in addition to the extension force. A total of 190 plates were served.

Officer Mulcahey of St. Paul was the leading speaker and did the honor nobly. Talks were also given by Dean W. C. Coffey and Mr. Balmer. Director Peck acted as toastmaster and presented numerous gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Balmer. The first "gift" was a unique set of oversized fishing tackle for Frank. Mrs. Balmer was presented with a beautiful imported console set, consisting of candle sticks and fruit bowl, hand wrought by Just Andersen, famous Danish silversmith. Mr. Balmer received a fine desk pen and pencil set and a gold-plated box of cigars. Mrs. H. R. Searles, gift buyer for Young-Quinlan's of Minneapolis, assisted in securing these gifts.

The evening wound up with cards and dancing. Frank J. Brown headed the committee which took charge of the splendid dinner and program.

MORE CONFERENCE ITEMS NEXT MONTH

No attempt is made to give a detailed, chronological account of the annual conference. Instead, high lights of discussions and events are presented as detached stories featuring various subjects. Space prevents giving all the worthwhile material this month, so more items will appear in December. Be sure to read Director Peck's editorial on page 2, giving his impressions of the conference. Why not save this issue and re-read it occasionally to refresh your thinking on rural problems?

National Aim Needed In Rural Development

INSPIRATION for extension workers was to be found in abundance in an address given by AE, George Russell, the Irish poet.

Mr. Russell told the story of the beginnings of co-operative associations or "unions" in Ireland. The situation in Ireland, he said, had be-

come grave. The population had dwindled from 8,000,000 to about 4,000,000. The farmers were desperately poor. The average farm was of about 5 acres, with two and a half acres of arable land. Under the lead-

(Continued on Page 3)

Ideas Developed at Madison Sessions Are Brought Into 16-Point Summary

A SUMMARY of the ideas brought out at the Country Life Conference was given at the closing session, Friday, October 10, by Dr. H. C. Taylor of the University of Vermont, and has in turn been summarized by S. B. Cleland. Mr. Cleland explains that his notes were of necessity hurriedly taken and that a more complete summary, prepared by Dr. Taylor himself, is to be published in the November issue of Rural America. The 16 points covered by Mr. Cleland's report are as given in the accompanying "box."

The thought generally expressed was that the chief value of the conference had been that it had set those in attendance to thinking seriously as to what the problems of rural America are, and had given direction to their thought as to how to meet those problems. It was not felt that solutions had actually been arrived at, but that out of the study of the problems which had been given a great impetus would come contributing to practical solutions.

COUNTRY LIFE CONFERENCE SUMMARY

1. The steady deterioration of the nation's farm lands is a threat to our standards of living.
2. There is a distinct tendency for marginal people to be found on marginal land.
3. There must be an adequate farm income in order to maintain desirable standards of living.
4. The ultimate goal of cooperative marketing is an income that will maintain the desired standards of living.
5. Machinery and conveniences are of no good of themselves. They must be used.
6. There is no inherent value in leisure time as such. The time must be used.
7. To create a desire for higher standards of living is desirable as one of the ways and means of achieving these standards.
8. Community programs are desirable parts of the machinery of helping communities develop and find themselves.
9. We must analyze the human and personal resources as well as the economic resources.
10. Rural people should be apprised of what other rural people can do for themselves and have done for themselves in the way of entertainment, and self-improvement.
11. An analysis of the ability of a community to support schools, churches and other institutions is as important as the analysis of the ability of the farm to support the family.
12. A practical program is to measure the task and construct a program for farm standards of living.
13. What a different view we would have if our senses were tuned to see the beauty about us.
14. The development of electricity in its relation to the farm is an epochal event.
15. The urban laborer has placed emphasis on wages, and through wages, on an immediate family living, while the farmer has placed emphasis on an equity in land and increased values of land, and through this means has tended to protect his future rather than his present.
16. We must solve the issues at the bottom by a constructive program, or we must solve them at the top by revolution.

Brains, Bread, Beauty Are Goals in Rural Program—Frank

THE high point of the Country Life Conference in Madison, October 7 to 10, according to opinions expressed by all who attended, was the annual Country Life banquet at the Loraine Hotel, Thursday evening, October 9. This was featured by the presentation of a \$5,000 award for services to agriculture to Stephen M. Babcock, of Wisconsin, inventor of the Babcock test, by United States Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, and an address on rural standards of living, the theme of the conference, by Dr. Glenn Frank, president of the University of Wisconsin.

Liberty Hyde Bailey, in the absence of George E. Farrell of the United States Department of Agriculture, was toastmaster and sounded the keynote of the program when he said "economics alone can never salvage agriculture." His idea was that along with economic freedom must go mental and spiritual freedom.

Dr. Babcock Honored

Following Dr. Bailey's introductory address, Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois, chairman of the committee which awarded the Capper prize of \$5,000 to Professor Babcock, outlined Professor Babcock's services to American agriculture. Senator Capper, in presenting his award to Professor Babcock, reviewed the efforts being put forth to develop American agriculture to high levels through the activities

(Continued on Page 2)

Peck Conducts Session On "Ability to Pay"

THE final interstate conference of agricultural extension workers was presided over by Director F. W. Peck. The general subject was "The Ability to Pay." Dr. H. C. Taylor, of the University of Vermont, assigned the subject of "Incentives and Their Effect Upon the Ability to Pay," stressed the passing of the old agricultural economics based upon large production and low costs of production, and the coming of a new, based upon limited production to balance demand and supply, or a limited competition. He maintained that a policy of limited competition would not work in all industries, and one of the industries in which it would not work, he felt, was farming. Competition as a price regulator has forced upon the farmer a new basis for price control.

M. L. Mosher, of the University of Illinois, gave some interesting figures relative to farm incomes showing that there were very substantial variations. The next speaker, Dr. C. E. Lively, said that he tried to avoid the use of the phrase "standards of living," preferring the phrase "satisfactions of living." Dr. Lively's address is given elsewhere in this issue.

Minnesota Extension Service News

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NOVEMBER, 1930

I have been pondering considerably over some of the proceedings of the Country Life Conference held at Madison. In the beginning I had some misgivings as to the practicability of attempting to interest all of our extension workers in the deliberations of this seven- or eight-ring circus, having possibly, one or two main stages.

I am glad to say that from reports I have heard dealing with comments and impressions gained by many of the extension workers I have concluded that it was a very much worth while thing to do and that we have all gained because of our stimulating experiences at the conference. I am hopeful that this will be the unanimous verdict of the group.

Like most conferences for discussions of problems, human behaviors, and educational procedure there were good, bad and indifferent papers, and good, bad and indifferent presentations. But on the whole I was impressed with the preponderance of the good and the very good, over the bad and the indifferent. After all, one should expect to find both types of discussions—those that are of more interest and perhaps of more immediate application to one's own job, as well as those of lesser interest. In this case we should appreciate those that appeared to be worth while to us and assume that the others had values that could not be well understood and appreciated. At least, that is the charitable point of view.

I was impressed with the scope of the able paper presented by the Secretary of the Interior and its emphasis upon outstanding national problems, by the remarkable banquet address of President Glenn Frank, and by the contributions made by Liberty Hyde Bailey and Dr. H. C. Taylor. These features stand out as the high-lights of the conference to me, partly because I am particularly interested in a well rounded, balanced extension program in education that will stress cultural values as well as economic returns, and partly because of the important fundamental problems discussed by these men.

Another outstanding impression I gained was that there was apparent in much of the discussion the desire to stimulate the originality and initiative of individuals, rather than to establish the standardized measures of procedure which we hear so much about. If I were to name one permanent value that I hope we will keep in agricultural extension it would be the stimulus to the originality of indi-

viduals that they may do things, not in a standardized way, but in a wholly original way, thereby making possible progress and improvement. When we stifle initiative and originality and place a premium upon forms and methods and standardizations, we are robbing ourselves and our job of its imagination, its challenge and its opportunities for real service to people.

Probably the outstanding definition and statement made at the entire conference was that by Liberty Hyde Bailey concerning distinctive features of rural culture. I am including it here:

"The basis of rural culture is the farm, not the market. The basis of rural culture is the man, the woman, the home establishment, and not the organization. The very essence of a rural culture is the experience of men, women, and children with the earth and its products, not the standard of living or the welfare of prosperity. Satisfaction in a rural culture are the emotions that arise from the situations and the experiences.

"The development of the satisfactions in a rural culture lies with the agencies and processes of education, as the parentage, the home, the setting, the landscape, the school, the church, the college, the market, the organization, the standard of living, the welfare, the literature and the living examples. The distinctive features of rural culture are the attitudes, emotions, and character that make the countryman."

There is more food for thought in this statement than in any other I heard at the conference.

J. W. Peck

Lack of Buying Stimuli Depresses Farm Living

(Continued from Page 1)

averaged a deficit. But among higher-income families, it was noted that as cash receipts mounted, a surplus appeared and increased until by the time receipts reached \$5,000 it equaled the amount spent for living."

Commenting on the foregoing, Dr. Lively said that a considerable percentage of farm families have cash receipts under \$1,000; that in Ohio the number, conservatively estimated, was 25 per cent of the total. These families, he added, "either only break even or else show a deficit." As a result the business of such farms suffers, for in the low-receipt groups living expenditures seem to be more resistant to reduction than do business expenditures, and class standards have to be maintained even though the business shrinks and debts go unpaid. On the other hand, the fact that living expenditures tend to become constant after total cash receipts reach \$5,000 is held to be significant, revealing the upper limits of class standards of rural living.

Class Factors Serve as Checks

"Class factors," says Dr. Lively, "serve as checks upon high expenditures for family living. The result is that high-income families increasingly turn their funds into investment channels. There is no higher-expenditure class into which such families may pass if they are still to remain farmers. In the city they would merely pass into a higher-expenditure class and increase their living expenditures. Again," said Dr. Lively, "the

fact that living expenditures do not rise above a certain level among those of high cash receipts reveals limited opportunity for expenditures in the rural environment."

As a conclusion with regard to the foregoing findings, Dr. Lively said: "It is not too much to say that, as the farmer's standard of living must certainly be increased by raising the income of the low-receipt groups, it may just as certainly be raised by enriching the rural environment, thereby making it possible for well-to-do farmers to extend the upper limits of the prevailing standards of rural living."

Living Outlays Vary Widely

The amount of cash which American farm families spend for living varies considerably. Dr. Lively cites studies showing the variation. One study of 2,886 families in 11 states shows an average of \$914 a year, Massachusetts families averaging \$1,244, and Kentucky families \$842. All farm owners in this study spent an average of \$994, and renters an average of \$842. A study by Carle C. Zimmerman, University of Minnesota, covering 357 farm families in 7 Minnesota communities showed an average cash expenditure for living amounting to \$1,025. Fifty "successful" Minnesota farm families spent an average of \$1,231. Records from Ohio and New York show a somewhat similar range.

Funds expended for living, not counting supplies furnished by the farm itself, average, according to Dr. Lively, about as follows: For food, \$225; for clothing, \$225; household maintenance and furnishings, \$85; for health, \$60; for miscellaneous, \$40; for "advancement," including education, recreation, church, and other organization dues, \$115. Additional funds have to be found for transportation, life and health insurance, and similar items.

Dr. Lively said that the average farm family spends from \$8 to \$12 yearly for reading—mostly papers and magazines. Books are not numerous in the average American farm home. For church and benevolences the average farm family may spend from \$25 to \$40, though the amount may run into the hundreds of dollars with some. While the average expenditure for recreation is limited to from \$5 to \$25, it must not be assumed, according to Dr. Lively, that recreation has little place in the farm life. Much rural recreation costs little or nothing.

Cultural Expenditures Lower

Farm families, according to Dr. Lively, do not spend as much in proportion to income for "cultural" things as do urban families. This, he suggests, is largely because of custom and tradition—in part, the urge among farmers to save and to provide for the future. He suggests, also, that the disposition to save more and spend less than urban families comes from the fact that farmers have not had, and still do not have, "ready access to the great wealth of buying stimuli which surround urban dwellers. Undoubtedly, large numbers of farmers would purchase many goods and services which would materially enrich farm life if these goods and services were readily accessible in their communities. . . . Unless ways and means are found to enrich the rural community organization along with increased incomes, we shall ultimately be thwarted in our efforts to raise rural standards of living."

Brains, Bread, Beauty Are Goals in Rural Uplift

(Continued from Page 1)

of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Federal Farm Board, and other organizations.

After a short greeting from Governor Walter Kohler of Wisconsin, Dr. Bailey called upon President Frank.

"This conference," said President Frank, "is interested in something beyond the loaves and fishes—in something beyond economics, but the material interests of American rural life cannot be overlooked. It is quite idle to talk of culture to the man who has no cash. Two quests lie before us—the quest for bread and the quest for beauty. One way to the enrichment of farm life is through the enlargement of farm profits. So this conference must deal with both economics and culture.

New Ruralism Coming

"The old ruralism is going and a new ruralism is coming. We have two Americas—one taking its cue from the city, and one from the country. In 1830, seven per cent of the population of America was urban and 93 per cent rural; in 1930, 43 per cent is rural and 57 per cent urban. As a result, there has been a growing group consciousness as between rural and urban America, with a consequent rural and urban tension. Rural America is, by and large, what is left of a simple pastoral civilization. It is a remnant of 'simple life' in a complicated age. Rural America is adjusting itself to facts more slowly than urban America."

With this introduction, President Frank asked what could be done to lift the level of rural America. His answer was, first, rectify the injustice which economic conditions placed upon rural America; second, formulate a national agreement on the objectives of rural life, so that we may know as well what we want for rural America as for urban America; third, develop an intelligently engineered alignment between towns and the country, and evolve a rural culture that will prevent the town from dominating the country.

Rural leadership must deal with three sets of forces—the pre-economic, involving the cultivation of brains; the economic, a conquest for bread; and post-economic, the capture of beauty.

"Brains, bread, and beauty" were the goals of the movement, said President Frank.

The attainment of such goals, President Frank maintained, must be through organization. Two alternatives as to control offer themselves—one, federalized control, and the other, federated control. Federalized control means control by government. Federated control, he maintained, meant a new kind of individualism—individualism in co-operation—a new type of groupism in which the interests of all should be considered without destroying the initiative and spiritual freedom of the individual.

Adult Education to Grow

H. C. Ramsower, director of extension, Ohio State University, made the prediction, in discussing the education of the adult, that the next century would witness a large extension of opportunity for adult education. He said that already some \$70,000,000 was being spent annually for correspondence courses.

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State Delegates Place High at St. Louis Show

MINNESOTA 4-H club members who attended the National Dairy Show in St. Louis last month brought back one grand championship and six new first honors.

Alfred Berglund, competing with some 75 other 4-H judges from 25 different state teams, proved himself champion dairy cattle judge. Minnesota's team, made up of Berglund, and Kenneth and Luverne Cotter of Freeborn county, won second place, Maryland taking first, Iowa third, and Nebraska fourth. The Minnesota team was first in judging Guernsey cattle and second in judging Ayrshires.

Five Gopher Holstein calf club members took their calves and entered them together as a state herd, winning first place in competition with 9 other similar herds. In the individual competition, the calf of Everett Hamrum of Renville county won first place in the two-year-old class and grand championship of the Holstein breed. Edith Huseby of Mower county took second in the two-year-old class. Kenneth Miller of Rice county won first in the Holstein calf class and reserve championship of the breed.

Both of Minnesota's dairy demonstration teams won honors. Irma Reineke and Frances Ellison of Rice county won first place in B class, and Ignatius and Raymond Brady of Jackson county second place in A class.

Dalton Seeling and Elroy Homuth, of Itasca county, Minnesota's poultry demonstration team, won fifth place.

A. J. Kittleson, state club agent, had charge of the Minnesota delegation and also served as one of the official dairy demonstration judges. T. A. Erickson, state club leader, attended the show as chairman of the 4-H club advisory committee which had direct charge of the entire club program. E. A. Hanson, dairy specialist, who gave special training to the dairy judging team, accompanied it, together with Willis Lawson, Freeborn county agent, coach. Other county agents present with the group were A. H. Frick of Itasca and Harry A. Hass of Rice.

Baustian, Reese Given McKerrow Scholarships

WAYVA BAUSTIAN of Rock county and Llewellyn Reese of Hubbard county have been awarded the McKerrow scholarships for 1930-31. The scholarships are awarded each year to 4-H club boys and girls who make outstanding records over a period of years in some line of livestock club work.

Wayva is attending the School of Agriculture at University Farm and Llewellyn the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston.

Four-H Achievement Day Broadcast Nov. 8

KSTP, St. Paul radio station, will broadcast a state and national 4-H Achievement Day program from 11:30 to 12:30, at noon on Saturday, November 8. The first 15-minute feature will be sent from Washington, D. C., featuring music by the U.S. Marine Band and a talk by C. W. Warburton, extension director. Next will come a half hour program by Minnesota club members and leaders. The period will close with another feature from Washington consisting of more music and a talk by Secretary of Agriculture Arthur Hyde.

Details of the Minnesota program follow:

Talk—4-H Club Achievements of 1930—T. A. Erickson, State Club Leader.
Music—South St. Paul 4-H Club (Harmonica Band)—Dakota County.
Talk—How 4-H Club Work Is Helping Me Get an Education—Robert Jacobs, Sherburne County.
Talk—My Community and County in 4-H Club Work—Wayva Baustian, Rock County.
Music—The Gopher College 4-H Club.
Talk—My Home, 4-H Club Work and I—Dorene Smith, Rice County.
Talk—Baking the Best Better—Alma Hammann, Steele County.
Music—The Gopher College 4-H Club.
4-H Club Pledge—All.

Mr. Erickson announces that regular weekly broadcasts on 4-H club work will be put on over KSTP each Saturday from 12:30 to 12:45 p. m. and urges leaders and members to tune in for them.

Wright County Local Leader Is Given Trip

MRS. GEORGE W. COLLINS of Wright county was awarded the educational trip on funds provided by Successful Farming of Des Moines. Mrs. Collins attended the Country Life association meetings at Madison, Wisconsin, with the extension workers of Minnesota.

Mrs. Collins has been a local leader more than a decade, assisting the county agent to organize the first 4-H club in Wright county 10 years ago, and acting as the leader of this club during the entire time.

It is hoped more recognition like this can be given local leaders.

Select Your Poultry Judge for Junior Show

COUNTY Agents and club leaders are reminded of the state poultry judging contest held as a part of the Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul. Each county having poultry exhibitors is entitled to have one representative in this contest. In order to be eligible at the national contest, the club member must be over 15 years of age, and less than 21 years on December 1, 1930. The three high individuals will represent Minnesota in the national contest at the National Club Congress. Select your contestant and report.

National Aim Needed In Rural Development

(Continued from Page 1)

ership of Sir Horace Plunket, a beginning toward co-operative organization was made. The groups were so poor that it was difficult to get together enough funds to finance even the most simple organization. It took intensive effort to get together as much as \$12 in one case. But with that a start was made, and today, after 25 years, that organization which made a beginning with \$12 is doing an annual business of \$500,000.

The "unions" in Ireland now number something more than 1,100.

The secret of this growth, Mr. Russell said, lay in the fact that the unions were not wholly economic. "Man can not live by economics alone," he declared, "and so we have tried to make our organizations appeal to almost all of the human interests, emphasizing identity of interest as between man and man and town and country. As a result, 'identity of interest' has become the common thought of the people, a national sentiment."

Mr. Russell closed with an appeal for the development of a national purpose as a driving motive for the development of a sound rural civilization.

Mrs. Randolph Leaves

Mrs. Mary Jane Randolph, who for the past 3 years has served as the advance guard in Director Peck's office, and who for nearly 9 years has been checking extension expense accounts, has left the extension service. She is succeeded by Miss Dorothy Strike. Mrs. Randolph resigned to become secretary to Dean W. C. Coffey, in the place left vacant by Miss Olive Cunningham, who will go to Hawaii to work for Dr. R. N. Chapman, former head of the entomology division. On October 17, Mrs. Randolph would have completed 9 years of continuous service with the extension division. While extension workers are sorry to have her leave this branch of the work, all are happy to have her receive this well-earned promotion.

Aamodt Heads County Agents

A. W. Aamodt of West Polk county is the new president of the Minnesota County Agents' association, having been elected at a meeting held at University Farm Monday afternoon of annual conference week. Other officers elected were: vice president, F. L. Liebenstein, Mower county; secretary-treasurer, George W. Larson, Chisago county.

Directors chosen were Charles J. Gilbert, Nobles county, southwest district; M. A. Thorfinnson, Goodhue county, southeast; R. J. Bibelhausen, Koochiching county, northeast; and Charles M. Kelehan, West Ottertail county, northwest.

Addresses Hoosier Conference

Director F. W. Peck was in Lafayette, Indiana, on October 23, where he spoke twice on the annual extension conference program at Purdue University.

The quality of our civilization will depend on what we do with our leisure.—Frank O. Lowden.

Churchill of Jackson To Be Agent Leader

LYLE A. CHURCHILL, Jackson county agent, will succeed S. B. Cleland as assistant county agent leader for the northeast district beginning about November 15.

Mr. Churchill was an Iowa boy, but has spent most of his life in Minnesota on his father's farm in Blue Earth county near Mankato. He spent a year in the agricultural college at Ames, and then entered the Minnesota College of Agriculture from which he was graduated in 1922. From 1923 to 1926 he was agricultural instructor at Truman and Lewiston, going from Lewiston to Houston county as county agent on June 1, 1926, where he remained until June 30, 1929, when he began in Jackson county.

Coming to Jackson county, which had been without an agent for 6 years, Mr. Churchill worked with his fine cooperators in promoting a wide program of extension activity. The club work was put on an organized basis, there being 17 organized clubs in the county at the present time, with 550 members. A summer camp was held with an attendance of 170. A new club building has been erected on the Jackson county fair grounds.

As the first home extension work in the county, the poultry project was secured, 34 groups carrying the work through to successful completion. An Achievement Day was held recently, with 1200 in attendance. These outstanding results are but a sample of what has been accomplished, but they indicate the scope and character of work covered in the Jackson county program.

Kelly On Testing Staff

PHILIP KELLY of Hudson, Wisconsin, began work in October as successor to S. C. Martensen in dairy herd improvement work, at the state office. Mr. Kelly is a graduate of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, where he finished last June. He was born and raised on a dairy farm, where he had close contact with dairy herd improvement association, official testing and mail order testing service. Mr. Kelly's education includes some work taken at the State Teachers' College at River Falls, Wisconsin. While attending the University, he assisted with classes in laboratory milk testing methods.

Currier Taking "Time Out"

Miss Sadie Currier, extension stenographic supervisor, has been taking an enforced vacation since the second week of October, at St. Joseph's hospital, St. Paul. She has undergone two operations. The first, of a minor character, took place on October 8, and the second one on October 13. We are happy to say that Miss Currier has been making good progress and was expected to leave the hospital about October 28.

Bulletin Editor Back

Miss Alice McFeely, assistant bulletin editor, very much improved in health, has returned to work with the publications division. Miss McFeely's return follows an absence of several months, most of which was spent in Pennsylvania following an attack of heart trouble last spring. Everyone is happy to have Miss McFeely back again, and feeling so much better.

Demonstrators Approve Sanitary Chick Rearing

RAISING chicks the "Sanitary Way" proved successful in Pennington and West Polk counties this year, reports Miss Cora Cooke who worked with the county agents in supervising the demonstrations of 34 flock owners. A tour held October 20 in Pennington county and the following day in West Polk county gave cooperators and others an opportunity to view the results and hear the opinions of the demonstrators.

The outstanding features of the recommended plan were artificial rearing and clean ground away from the old hens to reduce the losses from coccidiosis, worms, and tuberculosis. No losses from these causes were reported, most of the mortality occurring as a result of chilling, crowding or accidents. In one flock only three out of 333 chicks died. Several flocks had losses under 10 per cent.

The flocks visited were in excellent condition, unusually well developed for the time of year. Early hatching and sanitation, coupled with good feed, had been emphasized and followed to good purpose. Seven of the eight flocks visited on the tour were laying well, one flock of 300 pullets laying 130 eggs daily. Earlier laying than usual was the general report, several of the flocks having started in August.

Summaries of records showed the feed cost amounted to about 28 cents per pullet raised, the total expense being about twice that much. The West Polk county project showed a return above expense of 37 cents for every pullet raised.

Suitable winter conditions for the pullets was emphasized as strongly as care in rearing. Two of the Pennington county flocks are in new houses completed during the summer. Improvements in ventilation, insulation and furnishing were numerous.

Cooperators in each county were visited twice during the spring by the county agent and specialist. Each cooperator received a monthly news letter throughout the six months' project and in addition to following the suggested plan made a final report of costs, returns and results obtained. The report of Mrs. Kasberg of West Polk county was typical of those received: "It was work, especially to get the fence moved, but worth it."

Agents Bring Hog Feeders

MINNESOTA county agents deserve much credit for the record-breaking attendance at the annual Swine Feeders' Day October 17. Mower county had the banner delegation, with 67 farmers attending through the courtesy of the county bankers' association, assisted by F. L. Liebenstein. Another delegation of 30 was brought in by bus from Winona county, headed by J. B. McNulty. L. A. Churchill headed a group from Jackson county of 16, which also chartered a bus. The following county agents also brought farmers with them: George A. King, Carver county; Van M. Storm, Faribault; Robert Freeman, Ramsey; K. A. Kirkpatrick, Hennepin; L. E. McMillan, Blue Earth; Eugene Stower, Sherburne; Walter Boeke, Waseca; Julius Aussen, Olmsted; Raymond Aune, Scott; Alfred Sjowall, Washington; Charles J. Gilbert, Nobles. The above list is not necessarily exhaustive.

Growing Duties Demand More College Editors

AN increasing demand on the part of newspapers for agricultural and home-making material and also an increased demand on the part of farmers and home-makers for bulletins was emphasized by C. W. Warburton, director of extension, United States Department of Agriculture, at the recent meeting of Agricultural College Editors in Washington, D. C. These demands, he said, call for an increase in the amount of material passing through the editor's hands.

These, however, he regarded merely as "foundation stones of the editor's bridge between his institution and the public." Lantern slides, film strips, photographs, maps, graphs, cartoons, posters, charts, motion pictures, radio, all had their part in the structure, and, in addition, extension house organs, and teaching extension agents and project leaders how to write news.

This, he said, involved the problem of an increase of editorial personnel as rapidly as conditions would permit. This, he said again, would be in line with the increase in the number of extension workers and the increase in the amount of funds being devoted to extension activities.

Miss Grace Frysinger, who shared in the discussions of the editors' meeting, urged the desirability of including in the personnel of an editorial office someone trained in home economics and in journalism in order that home demonstration activities might be more adequately cared for in the press service.

Minnesota was represented at this convention by Editor W. P. Kirkwood.

Dvoracek Rejoins Staff As Marketing Specialist

DAN C. DVORACEK will rejoin the extension staff November 1 as a full-time marketing specialist. Mr. Dvoracek has been a part-time worker in this capacity for several years, and prior to that served as county agent in Beltrami county. For the past six months he has been engaged in the Minnesota Land Economic Survey in Hubbard county.

HDA's Elect Anna Olsen

New officers of the Minnesota Home Demonstration Agents' association, chosen at the annual meeting at University Farm during the conference, are as follows: president, Miss Anna S. Olsen, Hennepin county; vice president, Florence Lang, South St. Louis county; secretary, Mary Jane Boyd, Faribault county; and treasurer, Therese Pfaender, Freeborn county.

Four new members joined the organization. They are Matilda Nelson, urban agent in Duluth, Margaret Vaule, Brown county, Vivian Drehnkahn, Mower county, and Helen Kaltenberg, Stevens county.

Morris Manages Junior Show

W. E. Morris, livestock specialist, is general manager of the Minnesota Junior Livestock Show this year, having been appointed some weeks ago to this position, which for several years past was held by H. G. Zavoral. Besides coordinating the work of the various committees working on the Junior Show, it is Mr. Morris' responsibility to choose the judges and supervise other arrangements.

Farm Economics

By W. L. Cavert

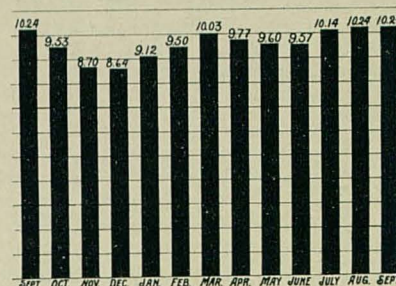
Seasonal Swings Persist in Hog Prices

ACCORDING to the chart illustrated herewith, 200- to 250-pound hogs for the past 9 years at South St. Paul have averaged \$10.24 in September, as compared with \$8.64 in December and \$10.03 in March.

While nine years are too few to give a reliable average, a comparison of these figures with those for earlier years suggests that the seasonal swing downward from September to December and then upward to March or early April is as wide as in the pre-war years. Some have thought that the improved methods of raising hogs and controlling diseases recently introduced might tend to eliminate the old time seasonal swings, but the post-war figures lend no support to such a view.

Of course, it is always to be kept in mind that the average trend does not tell what will happen in a given year. It does give a basis for planning operations over a period of years.

MONTHLY PRICES OF HOGS, 200-250 LBS. SOUTH ST. PAUL, 1921-1929 INCL.



The following would be a summary of the figures:

- 1. The lowest market usually comes during late November and December. On the average, light butchers are worth \$10.38 in September and heavy butchers are worth \$8.60 in December, a drop of \$1.28 per cwt.
2. The best markets usually come during March, April, July, August, and September.
3. One may usually get the bulk of the crop on a good market by (a) Having pigs to sell on the September or early October market. (b) Having early fall pigs on the March or April market. (c) Having May pigs, and carrying them to late winter.

This latter plan of having May pigs is open to the objection that one is likely to get a discount for heavy hogs in years of big corn crops. It is well adapted for use on farms where it is desired to raise a large number with the minimum of equipment by use of the clean-pasture method of raising worm-free pigs. If late pigs are raised in infested yards, worm infestation is usually more severe than with early pigs.

Low Demand Is Key to Depressed Farm Prices

THAT the low prices for farm products are largely due to low demand, rather than to excessive supplies, is well illustrated by a comparison of the receipts and market prices of livestock during recent years.

RECEIPTS AT 20 MARKETS January to September (9 months)

Table with columns for Hogs, Cattle, and Sheep in millions of animals for years 1930, 1929, 1928, and 1927.

From the foregoing it is evident that the 1930 receipts of both hogs and cattle were materially less than in 1927, 1928, or 1929. Now look at the prices in each of these years:

AVERAGE CHICAGO PRICES (First 9 months)

Table with columns for Hogs, Beef Steers, and Lambs in dollars for years 1930, 1929, 1928, and 1927.

The average price of hogs in the first nine months of 1930 was practically the same as in 1928, but receipts were over 15 per cent greater in 1928.

In the case of cattle, 1930 receipts were 13 per cent less than in 1928, but the price was \$2.80 lower.

With sheep, we have had an excessive supply, as well as a decreased demand. The result is that lambs are nearly \$5.00 per hundredweight lower than in 1928.

The foregoing comparisons make it clear that anything which affects general business conditions is of vital concern to the livestock farmer.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION

SOME indexes of the general business situation, as reported in The Annalist of October 17, are the following:

BUSINESS INDEX BASED ON 1913 AS 100

Table with columns for General Price Level, Prices of Agricultural Products, Factory Employment, General Business Activity, and Automobile Production for years 1930, 1929, and 1927.

From the foregoing indexes it is evident that up to October the trend in business has been steadily downward since the high point was reached in 1929. The index of general business activity is now three points lower than in the depression of 1921.

Practically all the forecasters now agree that no material upswing can be expected before the spring of 1931.