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The Banker
The County Agent
The Farmer

Working Together
for an
Improved Farm Business
in 1930

Extension Folder No. 25

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



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PLAN OF CO-OPERATION

1. Attempt to interest every agricultural county in having an appointed key banker representing the State Bankers' Association and also representing the Agricultural Improvement program for the county, this key banker to be appointed by the agricultural committee of the State Bankers' Association.

2. This key banker, with the county agent, might consider the appointment of other bankers and leading farmers in the county to serve as a co-operating group for the promotion of agricultural interests and developments for the year.

3. This committee should become thoroughly familiar with the extension program in the county, with the status of the boys' and girls' club work, with the principal needs and problems of the various communities, and work with the agent as a banker-farmer committee in promoting the projects that make up the extension program of work in the county.

4. Select one project from the 1930 program in the county on which special emphasis will be placed as opportunity permits. This means arranging for definite publicity on this project, for the attendance of bankers of the county at local meetings, the distribution of account books, and conferences of the local banker with his farmer constituents relative to backing up the county program of work.

5. Arrange for presentation of the extension program and results before county and district bankers' meetings.

1930 PROJECTS FOR FARMER-BANKER- EXTENSION CO-OPERATION

I. A Five-Year Program for Dairy Herd Improvement

*"Not more cows, but better cows with a lower
cost per unit of production."*

Minnesota has an estimated number of 1,410,000 milk cows, producing an average of 190 lbs. butterfat annually; 15 per cent of these cows average less than 125 lbs. By replacing these cows with better ones and allowing for a 4 per cent annual increase in butterfat for the next five years, the average production would be increased from 190 lbs. to 245 lbs., or 11 lbs. per cow per year.

Prospects for prices of dairy products for 1930 are at this time not as favorable as they have been for the past few years. This is an exceptionally good time to urge the rigid culling of dairy herds in the state. To do this advisedly and with the facts before the farmer, means the development of interest in cow testing or herd improvement association work. There is being developed a mail order plan, and indications are this will go into effect early in 1930, and the plan contemplates the centering of dairy testing interests around the co-operative creameries and the testing of the milk samples at a central point in the state. Full particulars of the plan will be placed before each key banker in each county so that he may have an opportunity to understand it, and if he believes it worthy of his support, then it is hoped that he will co-operate in urging dairy farmers to take advantage of the opportunity offered.

Bankers can co-operate in this project by:

1. Assisting in the purebred sire campaign by financing the purchase of good sires.
2. Backing the development of cow testing associations.

3. Talking the testing project with bank patrons and distributing literature emphasizing feeding, breeding, and culling.
4. Backing the 4-H Calf Club work by sponsoring the purchase of good heifers.

II. McLean System of Swine Management

Rules prescribed by U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry:

1. Clean the hog house and scrub it with boiling lye solution.
2. Wash the sows' sides and udders with soapy water before farrowing.
3. Haul the pigs to clean pasture and keep them there.

III. Boys' and Girls' Clubs

1. Encourage club members by financing livestock purchases and by visiting them throughout the year.
2. Urge parents to interest boys and girls in club work.

IV. Farm Records and Accounts

1. Assist in distributing farm record books and inventory blanks.
2. Urge farmers to keep accounts, beginning with an inventory and later adopting a record of receipts and expenses.

V. Labor Saving Equipment in the Farm Home

It is believed that the economic aspects of this project should be of sufficient interest and value so that county bankers might actually support and further the progress being made in this line.

Labor saving conveniences in the home are just as necessary in the country as in the city. They are not only a convenience and aid to better living but they often represent a paying investment that will contribute indirectly to the farm income.

For Further Information, See Your County Agent

The extension service will furnish bankers with copies of the county program of work, circulars and bulletins on the projects in which they are especially interested, and will co-operate heartily to bring the rural bankers, the leading farmers and the county extension service closer together.