

Extension Service *Review*

VOLUME 15

AUGUST 1944

NO. 8

Labor needs step up with approaching harvest

■ With the peak harvest season just around the corner, the Nation's 6 million farmers are anxiously keeping one eye on their fast-ripening crops and another on the labor supply, cut so sharply since pre-war days.

But August finds things rather well in hand. It was generally agreed that no appreciable amount of food had been lost through lack of harvest labor. Farm labor people in Washington said State supervisors and county agents had laid their plans well.

Farmers also had shown a greater willingness to make the best of the situation. That meant more patience in helping to instruct inexperienced workers. It also meant longer hours for themselves and more neighborly cooperation in the exchange of labor and machinery.

As for town and city people, they were rallying to the cause as never before. In some places they were ready and anxious to volunteer before crops were ready for harvest.

But the major harvest season still faces farmers, and county agents know that their demands for additional labor will be stepped up from here on. Some wheat remains to be harvested, most of the corn, and millions of bushels of fruits and vegetables, to say nothing of cotton, peanuts and many other crops.

Latest BAE crop reports indicate an all-time record wheat harvest and the fifth-largest corn crop in United States history. The expected average apple crop this year will be 37 percent larger than last year's extremely short crop. Peaches also were scarce last year, but this year's crop is estimated at 64 percent above the 1943 yield and is 20 percent above the 10-year average.

These crops call for large numbers

of workers, and fruits and vegetables, especially, require much hand labor. Most of the lighter jobs have been taken over by women and youth, while the men are doing the heavier work.

Extension's well-planned attack on the farm labor problem is exemplified by the migrant labor program along the Atlantic Seaboard. A mutual agreement to cooperate among the States involved has resulted in an orderly flow of farm labor, replacing the old haphazard movement.

Key point of the new plan was the establishment of information stations

at Wilmington and Fayetteville, N. C., and at Norfolk, Va. These were operated by extension personnel. Migrants passing these points on their way North were given assistance in finding employment, obtaining the necessary gasoline to complete their journey, or other help needed. This plan gave extension people valuable information on the farm labor movement, so the results were mutually beneficial.

To summarize the present farm labor situation, the number of workers up to now has been sufficient, and necessary farm work has been completed in good shape in most places. However, the big part of the job still remains to be done, and efforts cannot be relaxed until all the crops are in.

When GI Joe comes home

■ Extension workers along with other forward-looking agricultural leaders are planning to lend a helping hand to returning veterans and war workers.

Many of the States now have set up county advisory committees for those who think they want to be farmers. A few county committees have already made reports on specific opportunities. Other county committees are busy getting this information together. Some have written to local boys to see if they have plans for locating on farms in the county. In addition to these local boys, there will of course be many from other parts of the country or from cities who want to change their occupation and their home location.

Former county land use planning committees that functioned successfully have on hand a wealth of economic and social data about the county which is proving invaluable, and in some cases these same committees serve as the advisory committee. In other places the county

Victory Councils, the agricultural program planning or county defense committees are doing the job.

Besides their economic problems, veterans will have many social and personal adjustments to make. The recent conference of 29 extension parent education specialists from 21 States, meeting in Chicago, studied these questions. It set down 21 distinct problems, such as those resulting from the return of disabled soldiers, the war widows and children who must carry on alone, or the disillusionment of young people returning from high war-industry wages to low rural wages. Although many of these problems relate to veterans' families, their successful solution will have much to do with the readjustment of the veterans themselves.

Realizing that constructive and skillful counseling might prove helpful, the conference developed a simple technique which will be useful to extension agents and others, who are bound to be called upon to help out in some of these situations.

Milk — and how Wisconsin keeps it coming



The little gadget which times 3-minute eggs is proving useful in timing the milking machines in Wisconsin, says Werner.

■ A few weeks ago George Werner, extension dairyman at the University of Wisconsin, stepped into a country general store to buy a small egg timer. He planned to use it in demonstrating fast milking, one of the important practices being recommended in Wisconsin under the war milk-production program.

Werner and his coworkers had found that consistent, regular timing is important when a herd is being handled by the fast-milking method. They had also found that the little 3-minute egg timers offer an easy way to time the milking machine.

But in this particular store Werner had no luck. "Sorry, mister, I haven't a single one left," the clerk said.

"You did have some?" Werner asked.

"Sure; 2 dozen. Imported from Japan; I never thought I'd get rid of 'em."

"What happened?"

"Danged if I know. But farmers have been buying 'em right and left. I've sold the whole 2 dozen in the last 2 weeks."

Sure enough, when Werner went into the local county agent's office he found that fast milking was getting

wide practice from dairymen all over the county, and they were enthusiastic about it. And the Japanese egg timers were helping to produce the food to feed America's fighting men.

Fast milking is one of 29 practices that have formed the heart of the Wisconsin dairy program.

It's been a three-way job, with the dairy husbandry and agronomy departments cooperating to work out a program for feeding the herd, managing the herd, and producing more and better feed.

During March and April the county extension workers held meeting after meeting with dairy farmers. In all, 479 were held by April 30, and the total attendance was almost 20,000.

Other dairymen were reached through their dairy plants and through personal visits from extension dairy assistants. Indications are that the goal to reach every dairyman in the State is being achieved.

Each dairyman has received a copy of the herd check sheet, which lists the 29 key Wisconsin dairy practices. Each herd owner also has a copy of the brief circular, MILK—Keep It Coming, which amplifies the 29 points.

Dairy leaders E. E. Heizer and Wer-

ner and agronomist F. V. Burcalow won't estimate how the program is going. The credit for dairy production increases can't be pinned to any one thing, as the weather and many other influences are concerned.

On the other hand, they do get an indication now and then of real results. Werner's experience in trying to buy an egg timer is a case in point. Totals of ammonium nitrate shipped into the State to give permanent pastures a "shot in the arm" are also impressive, and there are signs that others of the 29 practices are spreading.

Then there is the testimony of the manager of one of Wisconsin's biggest dairy processing plants. "In 1943 our average daily milk production per herd was lower than in 1942. But this year it has been different. By March the average herd was delivering 18 pounds more milk daily to our plants than in 1943, and by April 23 of this year the average daily deliveries were 24 pounds per herd above last year. We think the WFA-Extension-Dairy Industry program deserves much credit."

In the next few months of hot weather, the program will vary its approach.

"We are giving more attention to quality now, trying to reduce the amount of milk rejected by dairy plants," says Emil Jorgenson, district county agent leader aiding with the program.

In that connection the home-economics extension staff will help, with farm women discussing the design and planning of milk houses. Farmers are mighty busy at this time of year—and so are farm wives, Jorgenson explains. But the women seem especially interested and willing to take a little time off to consider the milk-house question.

Dairy assistants are still holding meetings, and farm visits will continue throughout the summer.

In some counties the dairy production program has helped in the setting up of county-wide cooperative herd-testing laboratories, which give dairymen concrete figures to go by in culling their herds and in feeding efficiently. Extension leaders say they hope to see still more of this trend. Already about seven counties have worked county-wide testing into their programs. All together, the outlook for more Wisconsin milk is bright.

Indiana is a singing State

County home demonstration chorus wins fame

Some pleasantly satisfying memories came sharply into focus when the members of the Tippecanoe County Home-Economics Chorus celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Just 10 years ago, County Agricultural Agent S. B. Pershing called upon Albert P. Stewart, director of choral music at Purdue University, to lead an informally organized chorus of Tippecanoe County rural women in singing a few songs for a radio program over Purdue's WBAA. He consented. Recognizing the quality of the voices, Mr. Stewart, who was then booking the music over WBAA, asked the group to sing on other programs, provided they would be willing to rehearse a bit.

The Chorus Is Organized

Then one of the women suggested that a home-economics chorus be organized formally with Mr. Stewart as the director. The success of the venture far exceeded anyone's expectations. The fame of this one chorus is known throughout the Nation—from coast to coast. The chorus has been the subject of leading stories in all the important music publications and in nearly every Indiana newspaper, in farm papers, and newspapers in New York, Washington, Chicago, and Baltimore.

The example set by this chorus has stimulated the organization of similar choruses, 82 in Indiana and 13 in other States. The chorus members find it hard to believe that 40 technically untrained singing voices could possibly have done so much in 10 short years.

A feature of the anniversary program was the singing by the 10 women who were charter members of some of the numbers sung in the early days of the chorus. Movies were shown of a few of the long trips taken, including those to Washington, Baltimore, and New York.

The chorus is on a sound financial footing, with a substantial balance in its checking account and four \$100 war bonds. The chorus members pay dues, and each of the 21 home-economics clubs of the county also contributes funds. To show what rural women can do when they really want

to, the chorus, in 1939, raised \$2,000 in 2 weeks to defray the expenses of a trip to New York for an appearance.

Besides, there is a special memorial fund, in honor of the memory of deceased members. This fund is used to sponsor worth-while music projects. Part of the fund was used 2 or 3 years ago to help support a scholarship for a promising young male singer at Purdue, so that he could attend a music college.

Over the decade the chorus has been composed of about 40 voices, the present number, each of the local home-economics clubs being represented. The average age is 45 years. Once a year, Director Stewart holds a try-out—on June 5 this year. Every effort is made to obtain for the chorus the best rural voices in the county. Rehearsals—an afternoon in the Purdue Hall of Music—are held every 2 weeks. Getting full attendance at rehearsals is no problem.

During the past 10 years, the chorus has appeared on national radio networks and on numerous Indiana and Chicago radio stations. It has given concerts throughout Tippecanoe County and at many other points in Indiana as well as in Chicago, New York, Washington, and Baltimore, and at a wide variety of meetings and conventions.

Singing at the White House

The chorus first attracted national and world fame when it went to Washington, D. C., in 1936 to sing at the third triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, attended by 3,000 women from 40 countries. At one session, Mrs. Roosevelt interrupted the program to ask if the chorus would give a "command" performance at the White House for the President. Thus, the chorus was a feature at the President's garden party reception for the world guests. It sang selections by Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms, and, as a special token for the President, his favorite—Home on the Range.

The women were invited to Chicago in 1937 for the convention of the Associated Country Women of the United States. In 1939, they went to

Baltimore to sing at the biennial convention of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the National Music Festival. The same year, they sang at the New York World's Fair. Other engagements have been at the annual meetings of the Indiana Federation of Music Clubs, the Indiana County Agricultural Agents' Association, and at Purdue and the Indiana State Fair. For several years they have participated in the Chicago and Music Festival before audiences of nearly 100,000 persons.

The war has curtailed activities considerably because of travel restrictions. However, besides appearing at township and county home-economics achievement day programs, the chorus has decided to make the rounds of all rural churches in Tippecanoe County, selecting a church a month and appearing as a feature of the morning worship service.

Honored by Music Clubs

Recently the chorus was awarded the Chorus Rating Cup, presented by the Indiana Federation of Music Clubs in recognition of service and activity rendered during the past year.

Director Stewart, who is national chairman of rural music for all county and State fair music for the National Federation of Music Clubs, has said:

"We have proved that city limits and cultural boundaries are not synonymous. We have demonstrated that music is not a possession exclusively for the technically trained; that it is a universal possession, to be understood, used, and loved. Indiana is a singing State."

A Letter From Washington

A few months ago, Mr. Stewart, who, in cooperation with the Indiana Extension Service, has charge of all county home-economics choruses received the following letter from Mrs. Roosevelt:

"I have been greatly interested in the Home-Economics Chorus project which you have been directing in Indiana, and I have personally witnessed on various occasions the splendid results which have been achieved.

"It is my opinion that, in times like these, music plays an important role in the building of morale; and I wish it were possible for similar projects to be initiated in all our 48 States."

Arkansas women plant forest trees

Arkansas home demonstration forests are expanding in number, and the trees are achieving a lusty growth under the skillful care of the sponsors. The first forests were planted in the spring of 1939 and described in the August issue of the REVIEW by Extension Forester Frederick J. Shulley. With fitting ceremony, nine county home demonstration councils planted their trees. Each year since then, additional forests have been planned and planted at the yearly council meeting, until now 31 forests are growing beautiful trees. The plot is usually about 1 acre, though Benton County boasts a 2-acre forest. Each forest is plainly marked with the name of the council, and a chart shows the location of each tree so that the sponsor can find hers whenever she wishes.

Each fall, the council members and as many other home demonstration club members as can get there, meet for a yearly picnic and to work on their trees. There is a good deal of friendly rivalry among the women concerning the growth of their trees. A woman often will stop on her way to and from town to do a little work on her tree, show it to her family, or just look to see whether it has made any growth since her last visit. At the yearly picnic, pruning and renewing the fire-protection strip around the plot are in order.

The White County Council planted the most recent forest to 2,000 shortleaf pine. Five hundred of these trees were planted in honor of the boys and girls of the county who are now in the armed service. One service mother from each home demonstration club worked with the Army Mothers' Club in planting the trees. All service men at home on leave were honor guests.

Among the first-year forests of 1939 was that of Grant County which entertained Assistant Director Brigham at the planting and allowed him to plant a tree of his own in its forest.

At the yearly picnic last November, 23 were present, 12 of them being the same members who planted their trees April 7, 1939. Reuben Brigham's tree had attained a height of 9 feet, but didn't compare with the tree planted by Freda Reynolas, a 4-H Club girl, which measured 12 feet, 8 inches. His tree did compare favor-

ably however with the one planted by Connie J. Bonslagel, State home demonstration agent, which was only 8 feet, 6 inches tall.

This acre of shortleaf pine showed an 88-percent survival and an average height of 8 feet. The women raked a safety strip 6 feet wide around their forest as a protection against fire and cut sprouts and double leaders to improve their trees.

Yellow tulip-poplar seedlings have been among the favorites of these home demonstration foresters along Crowley's Ridge, where this tree is native. Poinsett County started its acre with 1,000 yellow poplars last year; 55 members representing nine

county home demonstration clubs took part under the leadership of Miss Iva Harness, agent. Three rows were planted for boys serving in the armed forces, generally the brothers, sons, and husbands of home demonstration club members. Three women traveled 31 miles to represent Wildwood Club at the tree planting. 4-H Club boys helped by digging the holes for the trees.

The Miller County forest of loblolly pine planted in 1941 shows a 95-percent survival, and the Searcy County acre planted to black locust the same year shows a 90-percent survival.

A shortleaf pine forest belonging to the Pike County Council was planted in 1941 and now shows an 82 percent survival with the average height of the trees 58 inches.

War food production scrapbook



M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, shows Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, a scrapbook of educational materials prepared in support of the 1944 Food Production Program by 48

State Extension Services and those of Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Accompanying the scrapbook were the 51 individual reports to the War Food Administrator made by the respective extension directors on progress being made in their areas.

How to interest people in nutrition

LUCY A. CASE, Extension Specialist in Nutrition, Oregon

■ Deep down in every person's nature is a desire for something that he or she wants very badly. The bricklayer wants steady nerve on his scaffolding high above the city street. Perhaps he has never called it "steady nerve" to himself, but when the nutritionist describes the feeling, something "clicks" in his mind, and he recognizes an aim that is of extremely vital interest to him. The salesman wants poise and a smile to greet the public. The young businesswoman wants good appearance—beautiful skin, hair, and figure. The football player wants speed to carry the ball down the field a little faster than those who are chasing him. The homemaker wants endurance, strength, patience, and judgment to meet the many problems each day brings. Parents want understanding, ideals, self-control, and many other virtues in order that they may guide their children to become good citizens. Everybody wants more energy for work, for enjoyment of living, and for doing his part in this confused and complicated world in which we find ourselves. Everybody wants to do something to help defend our country, to keep it strong, great, and free.

The Right Food Will Help

How can we use these fundamental desires in interesting people in nutrition? The answer seems crystal clear. Whatever a person wants in life (unless it be the moon or some other thing beyond human possibility), good food and rest habits will help him to get what he wants; and they will help him to be what he wants to be. Although we have yet to learn many facts in nutrition, it has been well established that good food and rest habits play an important role in the development and maintenance of steady nerve, poise, and courage, a lovely face and figure, strength and keenness, and so on throughout the many desires and needs of our people. Nutrition is the most practical helper so far discovered in getting what you want out of life.

Showing the actual needs is more effective in mobilizing a community for better nutrition than trying to

create a sense of need. County and community nutrition councils have found it helpful to start a nutrition campaign by gathering a few facts about local and State needs. Public health nurses have statistics that reflect nutritional condition. Teachers in some States have made routine inspection for physical fitness and have kept records. Their attendance records show health conditions. Many teachers have made special studies of the food habits of children. Several counties in Oregon conduct regular medical examination of 4-H Club members in connection with the growth and health project. Dentists, doctors, and druggists often have statistics that could be used. Data are fast accumulating on draft rejections and their causes. Physicians vary in estimating that from 30 to 90 percent of the cases of physical unfitness in Army rejections are due to faulty food habits, either on the part of the man concerned or of his parents.

A simple score card on daily food and rest habits could easily be prepared and used in any local group. Such a score card should indicate the accepted standards on daily food requirements, with space for the person to score himself. He might be encouraged to use percentages and add his score to see if he has a passing grade. A great deal of interest has been aroused in Oregon by the use of a score card with health credits, or good food and rest habits, listed on one-half of the card, and health debits or common deficiency ailments on the other. The question, "Are you irritable," in the latter section, almost always "gets under the skin." Below the score columns is the question, "Can you raise your credits and lower your debits?"

After the nutritional needs have been shown, the nutritionist should be on hand with concrete data showing where food has made a difference in actual cases. England has furnished a recent example, where 834 young men, who had been rejected by the Army because of physical unfitness, were conditioned by good food and rest in a camp. The result was that 87 percent of them passed the physical examination and were in-

ducted into the Army. Major Byrd's two expeditions furnish interesting nutrition data. He used the best information on nutrition in feeding his expeditionary force, and his men came back in fine shape. A western trucking company reports that it has achieved reduction in the number of night accidents by providing all of its driver crews with bags of raw carrots at the beginning of every trip. They are capitalizing on the value of vitamin A to eyesight after dark.

It's Fun To Eat Good Food

In arousing interest in nutrition, great strides can be made by remembering that eating nutritious food can be great fun. The nutritionist can make people's mouths water by word pictures of a delicious meal that is good for them without telling them so. Much more interest can be aroused by preparing and serving such a meal.

Participation by women, and even by men, in food preparation, especially in something new and different, adds greatly to interest.

Simple nontechnical language is an important factor. The scientific facts of nutrition must be explained in terms of foods that people know.

Slogans, catch-phrases, and epigrammatic statements often stick in people's minds, and the idea is carried home and used, perhaps because it is easy to remember. Tell the nursing mother that "milk makes milk," and tell the overweight woman that "fat makes fat." Arouse a community to search for its "hidden hungers."

Children like to look at pictures, especially moving pictures. Exhibits at fairs or general meetings and in store windows arouse interest, and there is no end to interesting exhibit subjects.

One of the mistakes that may kill interest and "queer" a nutrition program is to promise too much for nutrition. It is not a cure-all. Poor nutrition is not the only cause of poor teeth. Fortified food is not a panacea for all ills. Other killers of interest are conflicting statements on nutrition from various agencies, and implying that nutrition knowledge is at present settled, final, and complete. Taking part in poor nutrition practices, such as candy sales at schools, setting a poor example in daily food habits and unhealthy appearance also kill interest.

Eggstravaganza sells bonds

MRS. LENNA M. SAWYER, Home Demonstration Agent, Tulsa County, Okla.

■ As a climax to an intense campaign in Tulsa District to "Eat more eggs to have more eggs," the Tulsa County Council of Home Demonstration Clubs, in cooperation with a local radio station and the War Food Administration, Office of Distribution, held an egg and cake show in connection with the "take-off" for the Fifth War Loan Drive. The event was publicized as an "eggstravaganza." On Thursday, May 25, the full day was given to improvement of the egg-marketing situation. An exhibit of cakes using the greatest number of eggs was offered. Angel, sponge, and butter cakes were included. Classes of cakes were opened to junior girls, and a standard recipe was supplied. The show was open to everyone. City and country women competed against each other, and honors were equally divided after the judging. Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and 4-H Club girls were eligible to compete in the junior class.

In addition to setting up the plan to use large quantities of eggs in making many varieties of cakes and to exhibit eggs, the program included a banquet which featured eggs to maintain flavor and balance in the meal. The menu included: Deviled eggs en casserole, English peas, rolls, coffee, and jelly, spring salad, angel cake, and boiled custard.

Recognizing the difficulties of wartime transportation, the committee in charge, in the expectation that a large group would be present, conceived the idea of using the time to launch the Fifth War Loan Drive.

The program was much like Jack's bean stalk—it grew and grew and grew.

The home demonstration agent and the staff in her office met with representatives of the other cooperating agencies, and a bare outline of the program was decided upon. Immediately following that meeting, the home demonstration agent called a meeting of members of the home demonstration clubs of the county. A representative group met and filled in a number of the details needed to complete the plan. Committees were appointed for specific tasks. This group agreed to serve the banquet;

ask club members to donate food; charge every person who ate a meal, including the women who donated and prepared the food, 50 cents to defray the expense of premiums; and ask the cooperation of as many organized groups as possible. All details were assigned to these committees. Each chairwoman had full information of her duties and went out to do her own job with the help of a capable committee of women.

The job was a big one! The plan was to serve at least 250 meals. The premiums offered amounted to \$87.50, and enough tickets had to be sold to assure the premiums and cover the additional cost of the meal. Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, and 4-H Club girls, to be dressed in full official uniform, were asked to serve the meal. The response was superb. Food for the banquet and cakes to assure a big show were contributed generously.

Victory gardeners register farm workers

N. L. BOWEN, Victory Garden Committee Chairman, Ridgewood, N. J.

■ Within a radius of 5 miles of our village are many excellent farms which will be short of labor this season. This means a part of the acreage will be withdrawn from cultivation unless we can raise a "land army" to help.

Last year about 60 men of Bergen County gave up their annual vacations and worked on farms in this neighborhood. Some of them also gave up their Saturday holidays. This year our county agent is speaking wherever there is a large gathering of men such as American Legion meetings. The senior commander has said he would be glad to make a place for our agent on the next program. The air-raid wardens and the Elks and other organizations also have indicated their willingness to make a place on their programs for a report on the local farm-labor situation.

If the men of our county have no land to garden, they can put in their

The garden clubs of Tulsa were asked to decorate the tables.

Men's civic and service clubs of the city became interested and lent their support toward publicizing the bond sale. The cakes and eggs winning ribbons were offered for sale for war bonds—they sold that night, and at great prices. The champion adult-class cake sold for \$25,000 in war bonds. More than \$50,000 worth of bonds were sold.

This successful bond sale was made possible by the cooperation of fine cake makers and the businessmen of the city. The aim of using eggs was attained. More than 700 eggs were used in the preparation of the meal, and numbers so large they could scarcely be computed were used in the cakes exhibited. Scores of dozens of eggs were exhibited and sold for war bonds. Bond sales exceeded any reasonable expectations; and sitting with friends, old and new, around a table of good food prepared by willing hands developed the spirit of good-fellowship that is characteristic of America.

Saturdays or vacations, or both, on a farm where the land is highly productive, and a practical farmer will direct them. It is only reasonable to suppose that they will raise as much produce in this way as they would if they put in the whole summer on their own back-yard garden.

The local Victory Garden committees are thoroughly behind recruitment of the needed crop corps. They receive registrations of the men who can work on farms, and the county agent registers the farmers who need manpower. The county agent acts as a clearing house to connect the two.

In our village of 15,000 people, we have 4,050 homes. Last year we had 2,300 registered Victory Gardens and probably several hundred not registered. This shows that we have active and capable Victory Garden committees which are looking forward to more gardens and bigger production this year.

Illinois 4-H Clubs give an ambulance



An ambulance was bought with \$1,539, made up of nickels and dimes earned by 4-H boys and girls in 660 Illinois clubs. It was given to the Army on June 5 and dedicated to 11,700 former Illinois 4-H Club members now in the armed forces.

The ambulance was the second given the Army by Illinois club members, whose youthful energy and enthusiasm earned the money through scrap drives, "bake" sales, minstrels, and similar events. A third ambulance was presented on July 29. The first was given in May 1943.

A colorful ceremony marked the June dedication, held in the University of Illinois auditorium, when Col. Leonard C. Sparks, commandant at the university, accepted the ambulance on behalf of the War Department. The four Illinois club members chosen as delegates to National 4-H Club Camp in 1944, made the formal presentation.

Veterans of both World Wars spoke on the program. Miss Fannie M. Brooks, extension health education specialist, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, who served overseas for 15 months during World War I, as an Army nurse, was a keynote speaker. Also among the speakers were Capt. Steve Varner, veteran of the North African campaign, wearer

of the Distinguished Service Cross, and former Illinois 4-H Club member and leader, and Lt. Jean Linke, Army nurse who served abroad for 20 months in New Guinea and Australia.

Musicians from Chanute Field, Ill., an installation of the Army Air Forces Training Command, presented special music for the program.

Montana weather outlook

To keep farmers and ranchers informed on the weather outlook so that they can plan the most efficient use of their time and labor, 5-day weather forecasts are being broadcast twice weekly over Radio Stations KRBM at Bozeman and KGHL at Billings through a cooperative effort of the Montana Extension Service, the U. S. Weather Bureau office at Billings, and the radio stations.

The forecast service is experimental; and should it prove of real value to farm operators in the counties served by the two stations, it is possible that a more State-wide system may be worked out.

Each Wednesday and Friday the Weather Bureau prepares 5-day forecasts for the Gallatin Valley and the Upper Yellowstone Valley. The forecast for the Gallatin area is telegraphed to the extension editor at

Montana State College at Bozeman who prepares the script for the forecast and weaves in an interpretation of the weather outlook in relation to current farm and ranch activities. This script is then turned over to Joe R. Anderson, acting Gallatin County agent, who uses it in his regular Wednesday evening broadcast over KRBM. The Friday report is processed in a similar manner but is given direct to the radio station for use Friday evening on its Defense Bulletin Board program. At Billings the forecast is handled direct from the Weather Bureau to the radio station.

How to grow a garden, in braille

Four New Jersey Garden Club radio digests are being transcribed into braille and sent to the National Institute for the Blind in London, England. Sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, the digests were hand-brailled by the Service for the Blind, American Red Cross, New York Chapter. They were also press-brailled, that is, transcribed on zinc plates, from which any number of copies can be printed. All the distributing libraries in the United States and some smaller libraries have been sent copies.

For England, the pamphlets were hand-brailled because only grade 2 (advanced) braille is read over there; the press-brailled copies are in grade 1½.

"The Radio Garden Club" was the title of a program presented by the New Jersey Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with the Federated Garden Clubs of New York, the Garden Club of New Jersey, the Federation of Garden Clubs of Bergen County, N. J., and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It was broadcast over a Nation-wide hook-up twice weekly for almost 10 years, and gave practical timely information on gardening for the amateur. The programs were discontinued in 1941.

Project Day

April 15 was set aside in Randolph County, Ala., as 4-H Project Day for the 760 members of 16 organized clubs in the county. On that day all members worked on their home projects, thus making a real contribution to the war effort.

Wrangling buffalo — an extra thriller

R. LELAND ROSS, County Agent, Ellis County, Okla.

■ What a thrill to be invited to be one of the official wranglers for the buffalo round-up held right here in Ellis County on the G. E. Davison ranch! This buffalo herd of some 125 animals was to be rounded up and driven to an adjoining ranch some 3 miles distant, where they could be corralled. Mr. Davison desired to cut back those buffalo he wanted to keep, and leave them in the buffalo pasture. Plans were made to have a load of hay on hand to feed the buffalo on each side of the fence where a let-down had been made, thus keeping the herd intact until the ones Mr. Davison wanted to keep had been separated from the rest and put back into their pasture before the herd was moved down to the corrals.

By 10 o'clock we were in the buffalo pasture, only a short distance from headquarters, drifting the herd in an easterly direction to the site of the proposed cutting grounds. Things moved along peacefully as the buffalo followed the load of hay; not much "cowboying" was necessary. Finally we reached the proposed cutting grounds; the fence was let down, and the fun was on. In some respects, buffalo are handled more like hogs than any other livestock; that is, they have their heads on the wrong end. They even have a grunt somewhat like that of a hog, but aside from these characteristics, they are similar to cattle in their habits.

The herd was all together by now, and the cutting operations were proceeding fairly well, when out of nowhere came an old one-horned cow, with her "governor" wide open, after one of the wranglers. The wrangler heard us holler and put spurs to his mount, but what that buffalo lacked in catching the horse was a matter of inches. The horse's tail was bouncing about on her horns, and the wrangler's face was white from this close call.

It came handy for me to cut-back some of the buffaloes that were to be kept, and in doing so I once put on quite a show with my star-gazing mount when a buffalo started down a 15-degree slope and, the horse running

away with me, there was more daylight between me and my saddle than sunup and sundown. A buffalo can really turn on the speed going downhill. I thought I was a "goner" for sure, but the horse stopped just in time to save my good reputation.

The herd had drifted some one-half mile from the cutting grounds by now, so we drifted them on to the corrals. Everything went fine on the drive except when once in a while the old one-horned cow would let out a grunt and take after someone.

A by-product of the war program

■ Phenothiazine treatment for nodular worms and other internal parasites of sheep is well on the way to becoming standard practice among Minnesota sheep growers as the result of a wartime campaign.

It all started with the announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture that there was great need for more surgical sutures, or catgut, made principally from the intestines of sheep. A large proportion of intestines were made unusable because of the activity of the nodular worm which damaged the intestine walls. Phenothiazine had been established as the best control.

The Minnesota campaign was launched early in 1943 under the direction of W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman, with the appointment of sheep committees in most of Minnesota's sheep-raising counties. These committees helped county agents to canvass sheep growers, promote interest in the phenothiazine treatment and make arrangements to obtain bulk supplies of the compound for flocks either by veterinarians or by farmers armed with the necessary knowledge. In the campaign, more than 350,000 head of sheep were treated in the State.

Fortunately, a packing company in southern Minnesota which handles many sheep from various parts of the State, ran tests which brought forth amazing proof of the results from the Minnesota campaign. Check lots

When we got the herd almost to the corrals it threatened to stampede, but Mr. Davison let out a few sweet words, "Come darling, sweetheart," and the buffaloes started following his car right into the corrals.

After it was safe in the corrals and we had our "chuck," the herd was divided so that the State Fish and Game Department, Hal Cooper, George Howlett, and Davison all had some buffaloes. Cutting them out was a chore, as Cooper got most all of the bulls under 3 years old. The others took the cows and heifers with an occasional bull thrown in.

When I get to be an old man, this will be a great tale to tell my grandkids about, because it will be improved upon with age and be a "killer diller."

of feeding lambs showed that 1 year's treatment increased the number of "clear" intestines from 5 to 81 percent. Comparison was of 718 head of 1942 lambs from untreated flocks and 673 head of 1943 lambs from treated flocks. The company also kept records on its entire lamb kill. The drive to rid native flocks of nodular worms appeared to have increased the number of usable intestines from 60 percent in 1942 to 95 percent in 1943. This spread was noted in September, when a large number of native lambs were on the market.

The winter drench to clean up the ewe flock was pushed vigorously in Minnesota again this past winter in a letter sent by Mr. Morris to 30,000 sheep raisers notifying them of the packing company's tests. As soon as the sheep went on pasture, emphasis was switched to feeding a 9 to 1 mixture of salt and phenothiazine in order to maintain the beneficial effect of the winter drench. Phenothiazine treatment was included in all the extension literature as a standard method of controlling parasites; a salt-feeding box protected from the weather was designed, and plans were distributed in large quantities. The demand for phenothiazine has increased to such an extent that a leading company distributing insecticides, vermifuges, and livestock supplies has arranged to mix it with salt and market it as a standard product.

A home demonstration agent in Hawaii

The war is very near to Pearl Harbor and to the work of Home Demonstration Agent Martha L. Eder of Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii, who tells of her activities in a recent letter to Madge J. Reese, field agent for the Western States including Hawaii.

■ A year ago we were completely blacking out our houses at dark, and we were driving cars with the headlights blacked out, except for a small opening of one-eighth inch by one inch. If you want to develop a good case of jitters, just fix your headlights like that and try driving your car on curved roads with deep ditches and gullies on either or both sides. Several months ago when the Japs had been pushed back nearer to Tokyo, the headlight restrictions were lessened to what we thought a wonderful degree. We were allowed to have an opening of three-eighths of an inch in width and all the way across the headlights. That made driving wonderful. Then, a short time ago, they told us that we could take all the paint off the headlights and leave the metal shield at the top so that the lights will not shine up. This is so much like pre-war driving that I haven't any words left to tell you what a wonderful feeling it is now to drive a car at night.

Last spring, David Akana, the county agent, was called into active service in the Army; and for 2 months there was no farm agent here. During the interval before a county agent was hired, I did the crop survey, visiting all the farmers to make an estimate of the crops that were produced and the anticipated production for each of the next 3 months. This truly was a headache for me, and I don't think I was ever so tired as at the end of those days. But the experience was priceless for me. The greatest difficulty was that so many of the farmers do not speak English, and my pidgin English is in the primary age. However, I did locate each of the farmers and got acquainted with them and with their families. Of course I knew many of them before, and I got a lot of information that I have been able to use for the benefit of my extension clubs for women. June 1, Richard Lyman, Jr., the new county agent arrived. He works hard and is about the most amiable indi-

vidual one could have to work with. At present, Mr. Lyman is spending most of his time supervising the growing of 4,000 acres of food crops, mostly corn and potatoes.

My club members are much interested in food preservation which is so important because of the short growing season. We now have 50 new pressure cookers, and many more women have their orders in for cookers. This past few months I have spent all of my time showing how to can vegetables and meats, using the pressure cookers. I keep urging the people to plant more vegetables, but this has been rather discouraging due to the lack of rain. I am pleased at the interest that the women are taking in canning and the number of different kinds of things they are preserving. In December we sent 48 different kinds of preserved foods, 1 jar of each, to Honolulu to the Victory Food Show, and at the same time we filled a large glass cabinet here in the office with the surplus. We have a record of a total of 71 different preserved foods, and as the weeks go by the women keep bringing in more new varieties.

It has taken a long time to get the confidence of the oriental people who operate all our stores but I have almost made the grade. You may be interested in one story: Mr. Imamura had received three dozen bottle cappers, and I notified the club members who wanted cappers. One day I went in to see if all the cappers were gone, and he told me that he had at least two dozen left. I suggested that he put some of them in the window so that people going by would know that he had cappers. His comment is interesting: "No, Miss Eder, I think it will be better if I keep the cappers back behind. I know some of the people who bought cappers are using them to make home brew; and if I keep them out of sight, only your club members will get them." This same store gives me boxes of garden seeds which I carry around with me

so that the people who have no transportation can get seeds.

Last summer the administrative officer in the Army headquarters asked me if I would help the mess sergeants and cooks learn how to use local fruits and vegetables. Of course, I said I would. He called a meeting of all the mess sergeants. I was the only woman present. Since that meeting I can appreciate how a preacher feels when he has to talk to a ladies' aid meeting. I later taught the mess sergeants how to make guava jelly and jam. From then on, the help was mostly informal discussion groups when we went over the 21-day G. I. menus so I could help them with their special problems. Every mess has trouble using evaporated eggs; and some of the other foods that they wanted help with are Vienna sausages, ham loaf, corned beef, and corn meal. You see, even in the Army they do not get all their supplies, and they cannot always follow the G. I. menus.

What is Extension?

Dr. C. B. Smith began his talk on What Agricultural Extension Is, before the annual conference of the Federal Extension staff, with the story of the Chinese poet, Wang Wei who lived 4,000 years ago and who upon being asked, "What is the most worth-while thing in life?" replied:

"I am old.

Nothing interests me now.

Moreover, I am not very intelligent,
And my ideas

Have never traveled farther than
my feet.

I know only my forests

To which I always come back.

You ask me

What is the supreme happiness
here below?

It is listening to the song of a little
girl

As she goes on down the road

After having asked me the way."

What is agricultural Extension? It is an educational organization that sends rural men, women, and youth singing down the road of life because it carries to them knowledge and helps them to develop their farms, their homes, their children, their institutions, and themselves. Sending rural people on down the road singing is the spirit and the heart of Extension. It is what agricultural Extension is.

One Way _____ To Do It

Rural education featured

Serious consideration of the problems facing rural education today, as well as post-war planning for colleges, occupied the minds of approximately 85 women leaders who attended the third annual assembly of the Kansas Home Demonstration Council in Manhattan, May 23 to 25.

President Eisenhower discussed the building plans for Kansas State College in his address to the women, and encouraged and praised their efforts to raise \$200,000 for erecting a women's residence hall on the campus after the war.

Looking after the children

Convinced of the importance of educating and training their young children, members of a Willacy County, Tex., home demonstration club have expended time and energy to provide play equipment for their children's use during club meetings.

At one meeting, the Stillman Home Demonstration Club women made toys and play equipment. These are stored on shelves constructed by the women in their own clubhouse. The children use a card table with shortened legs and have small stools improvised out of oilcans. Toys that pull with a cord, blocks, balls, crayons, and rag dolls are among the playthings that amuse them while their mothers learn and share improved homemaking practices. The children also enjoy a swing suspended from a large mesquite tree.

Mrs. Hazel Martin, Willacy County home demonstration agent, says that the mothers "take turn about" caring for the children at club meetings.

To aid of neighbor

The spirit of community cooperation that solved a labor shortage was demonstrated May 22 on the farm of R. R. Gabbard in the Darden community, Henderson County, Tenn. Because of the serious illness of Mrs. Gabbard, no spring farming had been done on this farm.

The neighbors, 31 strong, met with 9 tractors and 16 teams to aid their neighbor in distress. The work of cleaning up fields, cutting off ditch banks, preparing and planting 22 acres of corn and beans and 4 acres of soybeans was easily accomplished. Some pasture fences were repaired and cattle transferred to the new pastures.

All of this was sparked by the leadership of E. E. Wallace, a Victory Committeeman and member of the Henderson County Program Planning Committee. Mr. Wallace got in touch with his fellow farmers and aroused their sense of cooperation. This spirit is present in all farm communities and is manifested when a leader with energy and vision is developed.

On June 12, the farmers of the community continued their cooperative solution of their acute labor shortage. Twenty neighbor farmers met on Mr. Gabbard's farm and gave the crops planted at the previous working a complete cultivation. They assembled 1 tractor with tractor cultivator, 11 cultivators (2-horse), 7 single plow teams, and 1 extra pair of mules. The total numbered 20 men, 1 tractor outfit, 30 mules and horses, 11 cultivators, and 7 1-horse plows.

The 22 acres of corn and beans planted May 19 were all well cultivated before 11 a. m. These two community operations got Mr. Gabbard's crop where he can easily cultivate it the rest of the way.

OCD Victory Aides help

Parents of boys 14 to 16 years of age in St. Paul, Minn., were visited by Victory Aides—the OCD block leaders there—who brought a message from the City Department of Education, the agricultural Extension Service of Minnesota, and the county agents, who planned to recruit, train, and place boys on farms. The need for more farm workers to harvest war food was emphasized as well as the plans for training and caring for boy workers.

The St. Louis County OCD is also cooperating with the county agent in establishing registration centers where farm workers can sign up.

Testifying to his patriotism

■ Every young man in Douglas County, Wis., who is refused a release from agriculture to enter the armed forces receives the following letter:

To Whom It May Concern:

At its meeting of May 15 the Agricultural War Board took the case of *John Doe* into careful consideration.

The War Board unanimously gave as its decision that this man is doing more by keeping his Wisconsin farm in production than he possibly could by enlisting in the armed forces, as he desired.

No one can doubt his patriotism, and it is with regret that the War Board finds that it cannot permit him to enlist.

Yours truly
(War Board Member)

The idea came from Claude Ebling, county agent, and grew out of the fact that a number of farm youths who want to get into uniform have had to be turned down because they are urgently needed on the home farm.

"Maybe the Bong influence is partly to blame, because Major Bong is a former 4-H Club youth born and raised on a farm in this county," Agent Ebling explained.

Anyway, Douglas County War Board members, like those elsewhere in the country, have found that farm youths are sensitive about their service status.

"The letter sort of helps them to straighten out their thinking on the question of helping the war effort," board members say.

New slidefilms

The Use of Logs in Farm Buildings (648), A Simple Way To Iron a Shirt (649), Thomas Jefferson, the Farmer (653), and Learning About Farm Jobs From Pictures (652), which presents the identical illustrations published in the pamphlet of the same title, will soon be released, both in single and double frame. Keep in touch with the extension editor at your State agricultural college, who will receive copies for inspection.

A county leadership system that works

VIRGINIA TWITTY, Home Demonstration Agent, Pemiscot County, Mo.

■ The neighborhood leadership system now serving the 13 communities in Pemiscot County, Mo., includes 490 leaders chosen by the people of 64 neighborhoods. These leaders have been instrumental in giving authentic information on various phases of production and conservation to the county's 5,000 families at a time when such service means most in getting greater production of food, feed, and fiber.

At the outset of the war it was obvious to the local farm organizations that the greatly accelerated program of farm production could not be handled by the extension agents without the voluntary assistance of hundreds of trained local leaders whom the people would be willing to consult for help on their farm and home problems. At a joint meeting of the County Rural Planning Committee, Farm Bureau Board, and the Home Economics Extension Club Council, one man and one woman were selected as cochairmen from each of the 13 communities included in Pemiscot County.

The county agents met with these cochairmen and others who were interested to select neighborhood cochairmen to serve the 64 neighborhoods making up these communities. Job leaders were also appointed for each neighborhood according to its particular requirements. For the most part, these job leaders were selected for work on gardens, poultry, hogs, corn, cotton, soybeans, foods, clothing, and 4-H Clubs. In neighborhoods where home economics extension clubs were already organized, their food and clothing leaders were chosen as neighborhood leaders, too.

During 1943, these 490 leaders held 689 meetings with a total of 10,174 people in attendance. Their combined efforts represented 1,315 days of work. In the field of home-management, lessons in cleaning and adjusting sewing machines, in remodeling garments, and in home dry cleaning, the results were equally satisfactory.

Leaders or boosters were selected in many neighborhoods to provide much-needed adult support in 4-H Club work; and, as a direct result of

their efforts, six new 4-H Clubs were organized in the county. Fifty percent of the total corn acreage in the county was planted to hybrid seed last year as a result of demonstrations and the distribution of information establishing its advantage over open pollinated corn. In addition, much valuable work was performed by these leaders in promoting the adoption of soil conservation measures, in improving the quality of cotton, and in assisting their neighbors in the preparation of the 1943 income tax return.

Farming under fire in Pacific

■ H. H. Warner, on leave as director of extension in Hawaii, is pioneering in a new food production venture for Uncle Sam. As chief of the Forward Area District of the Foreign Economic Administration, he has been directing production of fresh vegetables for our fighting men in the South Pacific. Somewhere in numerous islands taken from Tojo, large-scale operations are today producing, under Warner's supervision, such a variety of fresh vegetables as corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, cantaloups, Chinese cabbage, radishes, peppers, and eggplant. When the facts of these projects become available for publication, the report will unfold a new pioneering chapter, both in the feeding of our military personnel and in the application of volume production methods to vegetable farming.

The primary purpose of the FEA project is to satisfy the craving of troops for fresh food. Wherever they may be, our soldiers and sailors get plenty of solid, rib-sticking food in their rations. But after long periods of living on dehydrated and canned foods, they want fresh vegetables whenever possible.

The project covers many islands. Here is what Mr. Warner reports regarding one of the islands:

"This island is unique in that there are vast level plains covered shoulder-

Our invaluable canning aides furnish a good example of this leadership. They were trained in canning methods and given an up-to-date kit of material to help in answering questions. A survey last year showed an average of 75 quarts per person canned in the county compared to 27 quarts in 1941. Extreme weather is cutting down yields, but late gardens are growing and will fill the cans for winter.

It is evident that the leadership system has a place in extension work, both in and out of wartime; for it closely approaches the ideal of extension work, which is to guide rather than to direct the work of keeping the farm people well informed and closely knit in community efforts furthering their common interests.

high with kangaroo grass. We are farming this land which runs right up to the jungle and turning over the soil for the first time in history. It is rich black soil, entirely devoid of weed seeds so that cultivation has been no problem yet. The grass is easily killed with one plowing and disking. It is far different from the usual conception of farming on cleared jungle areas. . . . To date we have produced good crops and have not found it necessary to use fertilizer. We have no corn earworms, very few aphids, no melon flies, but plenty of chewing insects."

Director Warner goes on to tell about the employment of native labor, the aid given them by privates and non-coms of the service forces, quite a few of them former 4-H Club members, chosen because of their farming experiences in the States. The projects are adequately supplied with the necessary tractors and implements. All in all, what the censor has allowed to come through so far reads as though the South Sea Islands are a county agent's paradise. But Jap patrols have had to be flushed out of some cornfields. And occasionally a tank battle will ruin a tomato patch. However, if you have a brother, or husband, or son in the South Pacific, you'll be happy to know that Uncle Sam has taken steps to satisfy his craving for fresh stuff from the soil.



Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extensioners in the armed services is completed in this issue with 1,216 names listed. Seven of these agents have made the supreme sacrifice. Additional names will be printed as they are received, together with excerpts from letters telling of the life and experience of agents at the battle front.

Coconuts at the door

I thought I would drop you a line from my new home. I am now in New Guinea living in a tent in the middle of a coconut grove. When you want a coconut, all you have to do is to reach out and pick up one; and, as you can imagine, it is quite an experience. We saw a good many Jap barges that were shot up when things were hot here.

We have fresh fruit every day, and bananas and pineapples grow wild here. I have seen a good many native men but no women as yet. I have been so busy that I haven't had time to talk to any of them.

I have had a lot of experiences that one can't write about until after the war. For electric lights, I am writing this letter by a candle. We have jungle all around us; but, nevertheless, things are fairly nice, considering everything.—*Lt. Charles W. Pence, formerly Dickinson County, Kans., club agent.*

THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

OHIO

Richard Baker, assistant in rural economics, Army.

Earl G. Bell, driver of extension cars, Army.

Forrest A. Brown, assistant county agent, Tuscarawas County, Navy.

Charles E. Hamrick, Vinton County agent, Army.

Gerald E. Huffman, Butler County agent, Navy.

George W. Kreitler, Licking County agent, Allied Military Government.

Marian McElhaney, Licking County home demonstration agent, WAVE.

Francis L. Miller, assistant county agent, Cuyahoga County, Army.

Oscar E. Share, Guernsey County agent, Navy.

OKLAHOMA

Fred Amen, Army.

Wilson Ball, Army.

L. H. Brannon, Navy.

D. C. Brant, Army.

Robert S. Carmack, Army.

Maj. Wm. Cleverdon, Army Air Corps.

Vaughn Costley, Navy.

Lt. Col. Murray Cox, Army.

Thomas H. Divine, Navy.

Dot Engle, WAVES.

Capt. J. B. Gregory, Army.

Harold C. Haines, Navy.

Capt. Theo. Krisler, Army.

Hubert A. Lasater, Navy.

D. P. Lilly, Army.

Maj. Francis K. McGinnis, Army.

Forest Nelson, Army.

M. Lee Phillips, Army.

Walter N. Schnelle, Navy.

Harold K. Shearhart, Navy.

Maj. Sewell Skelton, Army.

Edith Smith, Marines.

Pauline Tanksley, WAC.

TENNESSEE

Lt. William S. Allen, clerical staff, Army.

J. Merrill Bird, assistant agent, Knox County, Navy.

R. S. Burns, assistant agent, Bledsoe County, Marines.

Thomas B. Carney, assistant agent, Claiborne County.

Wm. B. Carter, assistant agent, Carter County, Army.

Ens. J. J. Crane, assistant electrification specialist, Navy.

V. W. Darter, Johnson County agent.

Frank B. Felts, assistant agent, Gibson County, Army.

Lt. Bobby Harrison, clerical staff, Army.

Lt. (j. g.) J. C. Hundley, assistant electrification specialist, Navy.

M. N. Manley, assistant agent, Roane County.

Ens. Webster Pendergrass, Henry County agent, Navy.

C. C. Simonton, assistant agent, Cumberland County, Navy.

Pvt. John B. Stone, assistant agent, Grainger County, Army.

EXTENSION'S GOLD STARS

J. L. Daniels, formerly assistant county agent in Madison County, Ala., died, as a result of wounds received at Guadalcanal, in December 1942. He was in the Marines.

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

'44 outlook for Negro farm production

On a brief tour from Texas to North Carolina visiting Negro farmers with their extension agents, Sherman Briscoe, Negro information specialist with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, finds much that is hopeful for 1944.

■ Although an unusually wet spring may have dimmed the prospects of bumper crops this year, it certainly hasn't dampened the enthusiasm of hard-working Negro farmers who, despite having to plant and replant, are determined not to let our fighting men down.

In a 3 weeks' hop-skip tour from Texas to North Carolina, I got the impression from what I saw and from what I heard from Negro State extension leaders, county farm and home demonstration agents, and from the farm people themselves that Negro farmers are making a contribution to the winning of this war above and beyond the call of duty.

It's not unusual to see women plowing in the fields, harnessing the horses and mules, or in the saddle rounding up the cattle. Talk with them, and they'll tell you: "My husband's in Philadelphia or Seattle working in a shipyard, or a war plant—Me and the boy here are running the farm."

"My husband's sending money home so we can buy a little piece of land," the women often say. And in Texas that dream of landownership is rapidly becoming a reality. Dr. E. B. Evans, Negro State extension leader for Texas, took me to an area in Wharton County where Negro County Agent N. N. Tarver and Home Agent Mrs. Bonnie Savannah showed me a number of 1- to 5-acre plots which former sharecroppers have bought with wages from war plants.

Already 10 of these small owners have formed a cooperative and are growing various single-variety truck crops year round for market. When asked why they had not taken the money with which they bought the 2- and 3-acre plots and made the down payment on a larger farm, one of the women piped up: "We don't know when this war work is going to run out, and me and my husband don't want to get caught with a big debt. So we're just buying what we can pay for now."

However, many Negro farmers in

Texas and other areas are buying larger farms and paying for them with money from the sale of chickens and eggs. The homes on these farms of course are usually small and simple and not so sturdily built, but some of the women are meticulous about them. Under the home demonstration program headed by Mrs. Iola Rowan, Texas farm women are making continuous improvements. In some counties they are concentrating on the kitchen. It is miraculous what a little white paint, a piece of linoleum, and a few boards nailed together to make a cabinet can do for a rural kitchen.

Mrs. Rowan and her staff of home agents are not alone in this effort. It is the general pattern for home demonstration work. And the home demonstration workers in all the States can show you an encouraging eye-ful. Whether your escort is Mrs. Fannie Boone of Arkansas; Luella C. Hanna of Alabama, or Mrs. Marian Paul of South Carolina, you'll see how a little money and expert guidance can transform a farm shanty into attractive livable quarters.

Home agents are not working single-handed with the farm people in the home-improvement program. Many of them have the assistance of farm agents who, in addition to their regular demonstrations in improved farm practices, show farmers how to build steps, kitchen cabinets, tables, and screens for the windows and doors. Take B. D. Harrison, county agent in Caddo Parish, La. In addition to being a good agriculturist, having received special training at Southern University, he is also a first-rate carpenter. And it shows all over his parish in sanitary privies and improved farm buildings which are making for better morale and increased production. Even among the school kids at the 5 vocational schools, he and the vocational agriculture teachers are getting enough food grown to supplement school lunch rations at all 83 Negro schools in the parish.

But even in areas where the housing borders on rural slums, the morale is surprisingly high. Bent on doing their full part, Negro farm people are raising an extra pig or two, milking another cow, raising a calf for beef, and turning under cover crops to keep the soil fertile and at top production. And where labor is scarce they form pools and help one another during peak seasons. They also rig up labor-saving devices and share their heavy machinery.

In Mississippi, M. M. Hubert, Negro district agent, is encouraging the farmers to conserve labor by diversified farming—less cotton and more cattle. And the farmers like it. It was raining when we visited one farmer. He looked up at the overcast sky and said: "That's what I like about combination cotton and cattle farming—when the rain is bad on my cotton, it's good for my pasture and my cattle."

Emergency War Food Assistants Helpful

Important, too, in this year's wartime production program are the newly appointed emergency war food production and preservation assistants. In some areas where output has lagged because there were no full-time county agents, these emergency workers are now providing the kind of effective guidance which is resulting in sharp increases of food, feed, and fiber crops. And if you are in doubt that Negro farmers are not growing more than enough for home use, then you should visit the curb market which County Agent C. E. Trout has developed at Tuscaloosa, Ala., or see the chickens and milk which South Carolina Negro farmers are producing for market on halves with their landlords, or visit North Carolina where some farmers are gathering a case of eggs a day and where women and children are growing "smokes" for the boys overseas.

When you have seen these farms, and seen the farm and home demonstration agents at work helping farm people produce the stock piles of food and feed and fiber, you will realize that there has been no sudden shifting over, no overnight scheming. Instead it has been through long-range planning and by gradual farm program development through Extension Service that these farmers have readied themselves for the current wartime emergency.

We Study Our Job

What are the training needs of new county agents? How are we training these new agents? Barnard Joy of the Federal Extension staff discusses these timely problems in his doctor's dissertation based on State visits, questionnaires returned by 46 State directors, and questionnaires and personnel records of 1,348 county agents.

■ Since Pearl Harbor, the number of new extension agents employed annually is about double the normal number of 700 to 800. These agents have completed 4-year college courses in agriculture or home economics. Most of them are farm reared. More than half of them have been associated with extension programs in their home counties as 4-H Club members before going to college. But few of them have had training in extension education.

There is great variation in the adequacy of the induction training received by extension agents. Some have been hired and sent to a county to learn the job by the expensive, embarrassing, and inefficient trial and error method. Others have been appointed as "agents-in-training" and for periods up to 6 months and have followed a systematically outlined series of activities that provided supervised experience in all aspects of extension work.

In general, the reports of 176 recently appointed extension agents indicated that they did not consider their induction training adequate. A typical case is a home demonstration agent who evaluated her induction training as follows: "My training consisted of 2 days in the State office, during which time the home project organization, 4-H Club organization, file system, and publicity were discussed. Since I had no experience to which I could link these discussions, there were some parts that did not mean much. . . . I spent one week in my county with the 'old' agent. I had two supervisory visits. Any reading that I have done has been of a general nature. I found that it was necessary to learn from actual experience the things that I must do.

After having done these once, some constructive criticism would have been helpful."

Recently appointed agents indicated that apprenticeship with or help from experienced agents is the kind of training that was most valuable. The next most valuable training was provided by supervisory visits. However, the one or two visits received during the first 3 months in a county were considered to be insufficient.

Almost all the agents had read extension literature. But too often it was not written for the benefit of new agents and covered only a few of the topics on which help was needed. One-third of the new agents had spent a period in the State office before reporting to the county. A frequent reaction was that too much was crowded into this period which was usually 3 days. One-third had attended a school for new agents. More than half of those attending reported that the training received was of "great value."

The amount of training new agents receive in the background, organization, and objectives of extension work more nearly approaches the amount needed than does the training in other fields.

Considerably more training is needed than is now provided, in the duties, responsibilities, and privileges of county extension agents; in the methods used in extension teaching; in office management and relationship with other agencies and organizations.

Present induction training programs are weakest in the development of extension programs and plans of work and in the evaluation of the results of extension work. In these two fields new agents receive only a small amount of training and feel that they need a great deal.

A Suggested Plan of Action

In summarizing his study, the author recommends that new workers be appointed as "agents-in-training" and not be expected to "produce" on the job during the first 3 or 4 months. To start new agents, he suggests a 3-day period at State office when under the supervision of district agent

the new agent meets the director and other members of the State staff.

The new agent then should serve as an apprentice in a county especially selected because it has a good extension program and because the experienced agents are good trainers.

A training period in the county in which the new agent is given a permanent assignment should be given. The new agent, with the help of the district supervisor or experienced agents in the county will be able to meet the people who are leaders in extension work and in other agencies.

The supervisor accompanies the new agent to the "training county" to assist in the development of the training plan and makes two more visits a month apart.

A 1-week school for new agents might be held semi-annually for agents who have been employed at least 3 months but no longer than 9 months. There can be laboratory periods on news stories, method demonstrations, and a field trip to observe result demonstrations. Considerable time should be set aside for individual conferences with specialists and supervisors.

Throughout induction training period reading assignments can be coordinated with field and office activities. The best reference is an agent's handbook prepared in the State especially for new agents.

The summary also includes recommendations in regard to administrative action, planning an induction training program, preparation of materials, and training the trainers. Results should be evaluated to determine whether new agents are reaching maximum efficiency in the shortest possible time.

Plans are under way to mimeograph a summary of Mr. Joy's dissertation, **INDUCTION TRAINING OF COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS**, but are not completed as we go to press. Extension Service Circular 417, "Suggestions for Induction of County Extension Workers," which was reviewed in the June Review is based on Mr. Joy's study.

Mr. Joy received his Doctor of Education degree from George Washington University on May 31, 1944.

Among Ourselves

■ **ELWIN L. INGALLS** retired on June 30 after 30 years of service as State leader of boys' and girls' 4-H Club work in Vermont. He will be succeeded by Robert P. Davison who was assistant State club leader and State supervisor of the Extension Service emergency farm labor program.

Under the title of State 4-H Club leader emeritus, Mr. Ingalls continues to be employed by the Extension Service on a half-time basis. He will undertake to write the history of 4-H Club work in Vermont and will carry on other duties in connection with 4-H Club work.

"'Daddy Ingalls,' as he is so lovingly called by all of his associates and thousands of boys and girls in Vermont who have profited from his unusual leadership, has been one of the pioneers in a vast educational movement of the past generation—extension work," said Director Carigan in announcing the retirement. "His particular field has been in boys' and girls' club work. In this field, he has contributed the very finest in ideals, in character building, in leadership."

Mr. Ingalls is 73 years old. He became State 4-H leader in the spring of 1914, when the Extension Service and 4-H Club work were in their infancy. In 1915, he reached more than 18,000 people in connection with the organization of 4-H Club work, including boys, girls, parents, teachers, bankers, and ministers. In 1916, he traveled nearly 14,000 miles within his State in this work, 12,000 by rail, 950 by automobile, 360 by trolley car, 370 by team, and about 150 on foot. By the end of 1916, there were 152 4-H Clubs in the State with total enrollment of 3,790 boys and girls. Under his direction, 4-H Club work has developed steadily in Vermont, and in 1943 there were 441 4-H Clubs with a total enrollment of 9,692 boys and girls.

In 1934, Vermont 4-H Club members, leaders, and agents celebrated his 20 years of service as State club leader by establishing the E. L. Ingalls scholarship fund to help 4-H Club boys and girls make their way through the University of Vermont.

■ **E. G. ROTH** celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as county agent of Crow Wing County, Minn., June 10. An estimated 350 people from Brainerd and the rural areas of the county attended the anniversary picnic.

A \$100 war bond, contributed jointly by the granges, farm bureaus, 4-H Clubs, and other groups that have been associated with the county agricultural extension service was presented to Mr. Roth. He is the only county agent in the State who has served 25 years in one county, and this is his first and only job.

■ **CHARLES E. TROUT**, Negro county agricultural agent in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., has been selected to make a survey of rural conditions and work with farm people in Liberia, with the ultimate aim of establishing some type of an Extension Service system there. He will be on leave of absence from the Alabama Extension Service and will serve the Liberian Government as an agricultural adviser under their employment. There is every possibility that the 1-year assignment may lengthen into a period of 2 years. Mr. Trout was graduated from Tuskegee Institute in 1934 with a B. S. in Agriculture. During the following year he taught agriculture and civics in Tuskegee Institute High School, and in 1935 became county agricultural agent in Tuscaloosa County, where he has served until the present time. From his years of successful work with low-income farm families in his own State, Mr. Trout goes to Liberia well equipped to give the same service in that country.

■ It was a hurry-up call that Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard made early in June at the office of his county agricultural agent, Wayne Myers. The Secretary was in urgent need of a farm hand for his nearby farm, and Myers' farm labor assistant was able to help him in locating one.

The President's Cabinet member came into the county agricultural agent's office—for the same reason

that other Cass County, Ind., farmers have been coming in—to get his individual farm problem solved. He admitted in the very beginning that he was "in trouble and needed a farm hand badly."

While his farm manpower problem was being solved, the Secretary chatted with the office staff about some of his other food-production problems. He asked about controlling the bugs in his farm garden. A local dealer was called immediately, and a garden duster and 5 pounds of rotenone "antibug" dust were reserved for the Secretary.

■ **Capt. Joe Whitfield**, ex-assistant county agent in East Carroll Parish, La., has received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oak-leaf clusters for extraordinary achievement while serving on missions over enemy-occupied continental Europe.

Captain Whitfield, pilot, squadron commander, and operations officer of a B-26 Marauder group stationed in England leads his squadron, with 30 sorties over enemy-occupied territory. Congratulations, Captain!

4-H forestry tour

An overnight trip was taken in May to the North Fork ranger station, by 67 4-H forestry club boys and their leaders from five Clackamas County, Oreg., schools. Timberland owned by a large commercial company also was visited.

The boys got first-hand information on how forest fires are located after being spotted from the lookout stations, and how short-wave sending and receiving sets are used. They actually had a chance to try to reach the station by radio from the woods. They learned how to pack a mule, using the diamond hitch to tie the pack to the saddle. The proper way to make a fire and to put it out when you leave was part of the camp training. The lumber company took the boys on a tour to show them modern logging operations.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

WAR PAPER SHORTAGE has cut down the size of this issue. The REVIEW is proud to contribute to paper conservation and plans in spite of boiling things down a little more, to maintain or improve the coverage of extension activities in the field.

CONNECTICUT DIRECTOR DIED in the Hartford circus fire. This disaster is brought home to extension workers in the loss of E. G. Woodward, who, with his wife and grandson, lost his life in the fire. Director Woodward, as chairman of the Northeastern State directors, arranged for their regional conference in New York City, which was held the week after his death. His able leadership will be missed in Connecticut and the Northeast. The tragedy also took the life of Mrs. Paul Putnam, wife of the farm labor supervisor in Connecticut, and that of their young daughter.

HON. JAMES F. BYRNES, director of War Mobilization, was guest speaker at an extension staff luncheon sponsored by *Mu* Chapter of the Extension honorary fraternity, *Epsilon Sigma Phi*. County agents were represented at the luncheon by officers and members of the executive committee of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, meeting in Washington at the time. Excerpts from Mr. Byrnes' remarks giving recognition to extension leadership in war programs, will be printed next month.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION are being prepared by the Army to award to young livestock growers, either 4-H or FFA, who qualify for the distinction by raising a superior quality of livestock to supply choice meats to fighting Americans.

MORE 4-H LIBERTY SHIPS now ply the seas carrying important cargoes. 4-H Club members in 30 States have named and sponsored Liberty Ships. Among the July launchings was the good ship George L. Farley, sponsored by 4-H Club members of Massachusetts and named for "Uncle George," the blind 4-H Club leader known and loved by young people the country over. The Carl E. Ladd, sponsored by New York 4-H Club members who produced more than enough food to

fill her cargo space and sold enough bonds to pay for her, was named for the late dean of the College of Agriculture whose entire professional career was devoted to agricultural education. Louisiana's ship was named the Floyd W. Spencer, and was paid for from the more than \$3,000,000 in war bonds sold by the 47,000 4-H Club members in the State.

EARLY THIS MONTH Vermont boys and girls expect their ship, the Thomas Bradley, to be launched. It is named for a former director of extension who laid the foundation for extension work in the State. The U. S. S. Tyrell and the Cassius Hudson are being sponsored by North Carolina 4-H Clubs which, 92,000 strong, have rolled up the war record of enough food produced to feed 25,000 soldiers for 1 year, bought \$751,846 in war bonds, and sold \$1,032,198 in bonds and stamps. The Tennessee-sponsored Charles A. Keffer, named for a former director of extension was launched earlier this summer.

A PEELED EYE for milkweed is a wartime motto for 4-H Club members in 29 States. Milkweed floss is badly needed for life jackets and belts to save the lives of our soldiers and sailors. September will be the big month for gathering, but already some of the milkweed in the Middle West and the South is ripe for gathering or has been gathered and is beginning to arrive in quantities,

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

Published monthly by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business, and with the approval of the Bureau of the Budget as required by Rule 42 of the Joint Committee on Printing. The REVIEW is issued free by law to workers engaged in extension activities. Others may obtain copies from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 10 cents per copy or by subscription at \$0.75 a year, domestic, and \$1.15 foreign. Postage stamps are not acceptable in payment.

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
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which pleases the authorities. No milkweed must be allowed to grow along the roadside or in the fields unnoticed and unappreciated this fall.

4-H LEADERSHIP AWARDS were recently established on a national basis: A silver 4-H clover for 5 years' service, a gold clover for 10, a pearl clover for 15, and a diamond clover for 20 years' service. A national certificate of service will go with each award.

AN INTERNATIONAL HONOR came to S. B. Hall, agent in Multnomah County, Ore., when he was asked to go below the equator to judge Holstein cattle in a Buenos Aires cattle show sponsored by the Argentine Rural Society, August 11 to 23. Agent Hall is a guest of the society during his stay in Buenos Aires, with air transportation both ways provided. Recognized as one of the Nation's leading authorities on judging and breeding Holstein cattle, he was chosen for the job by the Holstein-Friesian Association. On the Oregon Extension staff for 28 years and in Multnomah County since 1916, Agent Hall is an old-time extensioner. The folks of Multnomah County are going to hear a lot of facts they didn't know about Argentine farms and farmers when he gets back.

JOB-INSTRUCTION TRAINING—a 10-hour course was completed by all Kentucky home demonstration agents at their Camp Bingham conference.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK is October 8 to 14 and is a good time to focus attention on local fire hazards and what to do about them. Special materials to support local publicity will again be available from the National Fire Protection Association.

NATIONAL WEAVERS' CONFERENCE is being held in New York City August 22 to 31. Information is available from Mrs. Osma Gallinger, Director of Creative Crafts Weaving School, Guernsey, Pa.

FLASHES FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS will be a regular feature of the REVIEW beginning with the September issue. This new service, started at the request of county extension agents, will provide a regular monthly preview of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Read these flashes for the latest in farm technology.