

# Extension Service *Review*

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## Building the Peace

■ The Charter for World Security has been written by representatives of 50 nations and ratified by the Senate of the United States. The Bretton Woods agreement has also been ratified and our participation in the Food and Agriculture Organization assured. The United States is thus a leading and active member of the United Nations.

These are the instruments for winning the peace and 38 States have already reported efforts to bring to rural people information about them.

The launching of the State Department program to reach all people with the challenging facts involved in building an enduring peace added impetus to extension activities. The four leaflets and the radio series from the Department of State were sent immediately to all extension workers. They were discussed at staff meetings in practically all States, and district meetings were held for local agents in many States. Interesting variations were New Hampshire's State-wide forum and the Nebraska plan of having the staff members themselves dramatize the first conference of the United Nations after the charter became effective.

The interpretation of the facts supplied by the State Department in local terms began throughout the country. New Mexico translated the bulletin, War, How Can We Prevent It? into

### OFF TO WORK

These Oregon emergency farm workers are filing into a truck for a day of work in the fields. The Farm Labor Office is proud of the safety feature which allows the workers to climb into the truck from the front instead of from the rear. Most of the farm labor slack in this harvest month of September is being taken care of by just such groups of local recruits.

Spanish and distributed 550 copies to the Spanish-speaking rural people. The Missouri Farm News Service, containing an item on building international peace, was reprinted and 75,000 copies distributed in rural counties. Press releases went to thousands of country weeklies in every State.

The facts were discussed by extension workers in their regular radio talks. Special 5-minute transcriptions were used on 12 regular radio programs in Oregon. Washington's Golden Gate of Peace series proved popular.

Discussion leaders were trained in both subject matter and the techniques of leading a discussion. Grange lecturers, rural ministers, older youth, leaders in practically all-rural organizations were thus trained in many States. Special kits of materials for these leaders were prepared. Two thousand copies of the discussion guide, Are We Ready for World-wide Cooperation? were used in Wisconsin.

Thirteen hundred kits were distributed in Ohio. A Delaware agent reports: "Every meeting with an adult group had to be arbitrarily closed because of the lateness of the hour."

Rural youth groups have been particularly active in this field. Clubs in Illinois, Ohio, Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Iowa considered building the peace to be one of their main topics for discussion.

The Annual 4-H Club Congress in Mississippi, held late in June with 840 in attendance, featured a series of discussion periods on youth's responsibilities in building and maintaining world peace.

Cooperation with other agencies was illustrated by the panel discussion at the Ohio Rural Minister Summer Camp early in August and the rural-urban forum sponsored by the South Dakota State College and held in Huron May 10. A large number of farm organizations, labor and business groups, as well as religious, civic, and educational groups took part. Those who attended this meeting are holding similar forums in their home communities this fall.



# In the long run

## 25 years of hewing to constant objectives

■ County Agent John H. Wittwer went to Clark County, Nev., in August 1921 from Uintah County, Utah, where he had served as county agent for more than 4 years. He had no more than arrived in Clark County when Lincoln County, to the north, was added to his domain, making more than 12 million acres in which he was to serve.

The territory was large and the country full of extremes. Farm land ranged from approximately 700 feet elevation to 6,000 feet. The temperature varied from 30 degrees to 117 degrees Fahrenheit. The growing season in parts of Lincoln County was less than 90 days, whereas in parts of Clark County there were 250 frost-free days and an all-year-round growing season for the hardier field and vegetable crops.

Except for one main-line railroad that traversed the district and two branch lines that penetrated agricultural and mining potentialities, little else than mere trails provided means of travel by auto and trucks.

He found his two-county district a place where farmers and stockmen had not been handed a rich legacy by Mother Nature but where gains were made only through the hardest toil.

**A range improvement demonstration with the Extension, Soil Conservation, and Grazing Services, as well as local stockmen and farmers, taking part.**

Farm families were often confronted with terrifying floods, unrelenting droughts, and wild market fluctuations.

His theory was that the approach to any problem was by obtaining facts from which action could be determined. The soil first occupied his attention, and local leaders were helped to inaugurate soil surveys in cooperation with the Bureau of Soils and the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. These surveys were followed by more intensive studies through the Nevada University Experiment Station, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and the Soil Conservation Service. From these studies grew a fertilizer program which has led to the shipping in of carlot quantities of commercial fertilizers, especially treble superphosphate, and some nitrogen, and the use of green and barnyard manures where the use of fertilizer had been negligible before.

The study of soils naturally led to a search for facts on over-all watershed. Detailed surveys for flood control and erosion and for prevention of heavy siltation of farms in two of the major farming districts of the area were made.

Even though from the depression

days of 1929 through the years of the big drought and the recent war years, about all the emergency programs cataloged have been laid on the doorstep of the Extension Service, yet the basic features of this first program have been tenaciously adhered to because protection from devastating floods and maintenance of production were keynotes to security of local and national interests.

One event which influenced the development of extension work in the district was the construction of Boulder Dam. This created a superdemand for products of both farm and range. Market milk was in such demand that the county arranged to have the Federal Extension dairyman come to teach the farmers the fundamentals of production of clean milk. Since those days the theme which has been ringing in the ears of dairymen and would-be dairymen is "clean healthy cows, clean healthy milkers, clean utensils, clean practices, and clean surroundings." A mere handful of farmers were encouraged in their business of market milk production, setting up gas engine-driven power for refrigeration, hauling the output in 10-gallon milk cans by truck for distances of from 60 to nearly 100 miles daily to points of consumption.

Through the cooperation of Las Vegas City and Clark County administrative offices, local leadership helped to bring about improved sanitary processing of farm and range meat animals for local consumption. This was done through a cooperative meat packing plant financed by Farm Security Administration. Thus was provided a stabilized market for locally produced livestock and a locally inspected meat supply never before available.

When Boulder Dam power installation was completed practically 95 percent of Clark County farms were electrified through REA, and more farmers added market milk to their farm enterprise.

The war industries brought more people into the area, and the dairy business again expanded. Farm leaders working with the Extension Service set their objectives and worked toward them. Not only individual farms but neighborhood groups of farmers pooled their interests and built cooperative milk barns and milk houses with refrigeration facilities to which 10 or more farmers would bring



their herds for milking, and for cooling and storing milk for daily shipping 70 to 80 miles by truck to processing and distributors' plants.

Market milk output increased nearly 400 percent over that of Boulder Dam construction days and took first place in Clark County's support of the war food-production program. Market milk provided the means of buying war bonds, even though production costs spiraled out of balance with incomes and labor shortage threatened because of the heavy drain of boys away from farms to battle fronts.

A factor in the success of the program was the expansion of 4-H Club work with the part-time help of District Agent John P. Ahern. He gave special attention to dairy production because of the critical need for increased market milk supply. Also, in cooperation with the War Food Administration, a veterinarian was appointed to institute a program of maintaining healthy animals.

It was necessary to wage an unrelenting and costly fight against tuberculosis, Bang's disease, and mastitis. The Bureau of Dairy Industry and the Nevada Veterinary Control Service cooperated with dairymen on this. The area has long since been pronounced tuberculosis-free, is approaching accredited Bang's disease-free status, and is putting on a determined campaign to clean up mastitis—all with the objective of producing good clean wholesome Grade A raw milk, fit for consumption of home folks as well as for the trade.

Playing an important role were the Clark County commissioners, the State and Clark County Health Departments, and the Veterinary Department of the Military Service in the area. Through these agencies, not only did quantity production result but quality changed proportionately. From bacterial standpoint alone the change was from occasional counts by the million bacteria per cc. to counts of under 50,000, with an encouraging number of producers getting down to fewer than 10,000 and a few leaders who are attaining a low of from 2,000 down to 700 bacteria per cc.

#### Dairy Program Brings Improvements

Other features of the dairy program are improved buildings and equipment, cow testing, improved feeding, breeding by artificial insemination,

pasture improvement, and, last but not least, 1,000 percent increased applications of barnyard manure to farms as compared with the old pre-Boulder Dam days.

This last item materially aided the vegetable program and reinforced other soil-building practices to maintain nearly an all-season shipping program. The peak comes during April and May when 40 to 50 million tomato plants, 10 to 15 million celery and other minor field-grown plants are shipped to nearly all Western States and as far east as Ohio.

As the work expanded through the years, an assistant agent, first, Louis A. Gardella, and later, Steven James, assumed a share of the responsibility. In 1936 the assistant agent, with the help of local leaders, took over the full load in Lincoln County; and County Agent Wittwer, with the help of a well-trained leadership, continued in

Clark County. He also keeps an eagle eye on the flood-erosion menace in Lincoln County that directly seriously affected the farming, transportation facilities, and communication lines in Lincoln as well as in Clark County.

What were the methods used? Agent Wittwer himself answers the question: "Conferences, man to man, on the proverbial ditch bank, across barbed-wire fences, or on the old pole fence; conferences in committee rooms, on field trips; group and mass meetings followed up by circular and personal letters; news items, illustrated pictures, demonstration field meetings and trips to neighboring counties and States where result and method demonstrations to show correct principles and sound practices fostered the spirit of seeing is believing. When faith takes hold, 'faith, though as a mustard seed, will move mountains.'"

## Short courses in leadership

■ A short course in leadership was held on the University of Wyoming campus for the members of the State Home Demonstration and 4-H Club Councils, in June, with delegates from 21 counties attending. The theme, Leadership for Community Activities, was discussed at the opening session by T. A. Erickson, formerly State 4-H Club leader in Minnesota.

"Common sense demands that mankind find some other way than war to settle their differences," said Dr. J. L. Morrill, President of the University, in a talk at the Wednesday night banquet. He urged that leaders assume responsibility for the discussion of permanent peace plans in their communities and stated that "modern science has made it necessary for man to live in peace if he is to live at all."

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Lane were honored guests at the banquet. Mr. Lane has served as county agent leader in Wyoming for the last 27 years and retired from active service July 1.

In an address to the delegates, Director A. E. Bowman of the University Agricultural Extension Service said: "Only he who stands on

higher ground can help others climb up" and pointed out that meetings such as these serve to help leaders gain the vision and insight necessary to cope with community problems.

Ernest Hilton, of the University Training School, pointed out to the group the problems of the rural schools in Wyoming, indicating that the present salary scale was not high enough to attract and hold well-trained teachers.

Dr. Otis Rechar, Dean of Liberal Arts College at the University, discussed the provisions of the GI Bill of Rights, with special emphasis on the educational opportunities provided at the University of Wyoming for the returning veteran.

Recreational features of the meeting included a demonstration of community recreation, led by Marjorie Smithey, home demonstration agent of Park County, and a pageant presented by the homemakers' group of Carbon County, depicting early days in their county. The Green River Homemakers chorus provided special musical numbers, and the conference group participated in community singing under the leadership of Mrs. Glen Rogers.—*Ruth Ryan, assistant extension editor, Wyoming.*

# Learning dressmaking over the air

MARY G. PHILLIPS, Editor, New York State College of Home Economics

■ Teaching dressmaking over the air, a novel experiment in extension education, was successfully conducted by Mrs. Helen Powell Smith, clothing specialist of the College of Home Economics at Cornell last fall. Her program received the highest national award of merit offered this year by the City College of New York "for the most effective radio program developed by a radio station for the purpose of increasing the station's share of the local audience."

Through listening to this program, more than 1,300 women were able to make themselves dresses, even though many of them had had little previous experience in sewing.

The series ran twice a week over the Ithaca station, WHCU, from September through November in 15-minute sessions. This coming fall it will be repeated over WGY in Schenectady.

The course was planned to test the effectiveness of teaching a technical subject by radio and was used as a means of extending information to large numbers of homemakers unable to get to local or county home bureau meetings. The program was publicized last year in only one county, but for the fall broadcasts the course will be promoted in 10 counties adjacent to the radio station.

The lessons are planned to lead the would-be dressmaker step by step, from the very start of deciding upon the fabric and the style to the completion of the garment, each broadcast ending at a natural stopping place so that the work can be continued to a certain point before the next lesson. The directions are so simple and precise that many women who had never made a dress before found themselves at the end of the course with a smart frock that fitted well and that had custom-made details.

The garments made ranged from house dresses to suits, from blouses to suits, from blouses to afternoon dresses; and the materials included almost anything on the market, although wools and rayons predominated.

It was thought wise to conduct this

program first in the form of an experiment and work out detailed plans for it in one county so that there would be some pattern to follow if the radio were to be used for further teaching of this kind.

According to Mrs. Smith, Broome County was selected for the experiment because it is an old county in extension service; because it has a large enrollment with more than 50 organized units, because program requests and demands far exceed the possibilities of extension workers' meeting all of them, because the county is not in the heart of the listening area of the station used and so would demonstrate the value of a planned program; and because the home demonstration agent was receptive to the idea of teaching by radio.

Promotion was carried out through notices in the news letters to members; the training of local leaders who arranged for local publicity; enrollment cards sent by direct mail to members and placed in piece-goods departments of county stores; advertisements in city dailies; news stories in county newspapers; contact with home economics departments of public schools; exhibits in the city libraries and books on sewing made available through the libraries; and advance announcements on the women's hour of WHCU.

## Mimeographed Booklets Sent Out

"Lesson Aids," four mimeographed booklets, were sent at regular intervals to each person who enrolled. These booklets explained details of sewing not included in the broadcasts.

The broadcasts themselves were planned to bring out certain important points and to stimulate the homemakers to activity. Only one important fact or set of facts was emphasized in each lesson, so that no doubts were left in the listeners' minds. Three times during the series, two leaders worked in the studio as Mrs. Smith talked. This tested the effectiveness of attempting to do detailed work under direction by radio.

Of the 1,780 women who enrolled for the course, 780 were in Broome County; 95 persons sent in a sample

of their fabric and a sketch of the pattern to be used; 307 reported listening alone, and 66 listened with a group.

An achievement day was held at the conclusion of the series, to which 200 women came, many of them wearing the dresses they had made. Said Mrs. Smith with regard to the rally: "The things that impressed me most from reading the reports and from individual contacts were the deep interest of every woman in the project, her sincere delight in coming to the rally and meeting others who had taken part, her satisfaction in helping to make the radio school a success, the desire to learn other homemaking skills by radio, the confidence gained through the undertaking, and the excellent job that had been done on the dresses."

## Salvage fat and scrap drive

The junior leader organization of Lagrange County, Ind., put on a salvage fat and scrap drive during the month of May. With the assistance of 4-H boys and girls, they collected 2,012 pounds of waste fat, 2,363 pounds of tin cans, 30,152 pounds of paper, 35,643 pounds of iron, and 2,193 pounds of rags. This makes a total of 72,363 pounds of critical material for the war effort.

Johnson township clubs collected the most fat and paper with a total of 445½ pounds of fat and 7,300 pounds of paper. Greenfield township ran a close second with 410 pounds of fat. Bloomfield township clubs collected the most tin with 1,230 pounds. Van Buren collected the most rags with a total of 519 pounds.

Greenfield township clubs were winners for first place for total pounds collected with a total of 25,965 pounds. They also collected the most iron, with a total of 17,928 pounds.

Several of the clubs sent delegates to the county 4-H Club camp at Camp Mack, on Lake Wawbee, with some of the money derived from the sale of their scrap. Most of the clubs are having a party or picnic. In this way they are not only contributing to the winning of the war by gathering up this critical salvage material but helping their club financially.—Mrs. Eva Connelly, Lagrange County, Ind., club agent.

# Off-day in county agent's diary

This is an actual account of a June day in a western county. But some days may be like this in any of the 3,000 counties in the United States.

8:30 a.m. Left office for prison camp, 20 miles away, to work out details with superintendent relative to use of 100 inmates in harvesting 4,000 acres of processing peas. Upon arrival was informed inmates had left 1 hour previously on return trip and reassignment to canneries in the eastern part of the State. Not expected back for local harvest.

10 a. m. Missed my appointment with County AAA Committee to serve as secretary.

10:30 a. m. Met WFA engineer and chairman of labor sponsoring committee and was informed that chairman of Board of County Commissioners had decided it would not be advisable to have Mexican laborers established in this vicinity and would withdraw their previous offer of county fairgrounds for Mexican labor camp.

11 a. m. Phone call received requesting county agent to come immediately to State Training School to meet with prison committee of State Legislature to present to them explanation of critical situation of local pea growers as regards need for labor and urgent need of prison inmates being returned. No assurance of inmates' return was received. Long-distance call also received in regard to advice in moving ornamental trees 20 feet in height.

12 noon. Returned home for lunch to find family was about through with lunch on account of urgent appointments.

1 p. m. Arrived at office and was told the new cow tester taking training in this county had decided to leave unannounced this forenoon, even though his schedule was not half completed.

1:30 p. m. Chairman of AAA came in with important papers for me to sign, but upon examination they were found to be incomplete.

2 p. m. Manager of the bull-stud walked into office and announced one of the bulls was about to bleed to death as a result of dehorning. Also, he could not get enough gas to operate the bull-stud.

2:30 p. m. Government plant pa-

thologist of neighboring State walked in and inquired about disease condition on local processing peas. I said I hadn't visited peafields for some days and if he would come with me, we would inspect the fields. Met field man of one of the processing companies and asked him about prospects of pea situation. He said he never in his life saw it look more discouraging. I remarked to pathologist that we had better be going.

6:15 p. m. Arrived home for dinner and found a friend of the family from a distant town. Settled down in easy chair for a pleasant visit with friend, but telephone rang and speaker asked if I could come down and meet with strawberry growers to help find ways and means of obtaining more pickers for the berry fields. Berries are beginning to ripen, and 400 additional pickers must be found.

11 p. m. Home again but too late for the various news broadcasts. Well, nothing to do now but go to bed. See you in the office tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock. Wonder if I can get started on my overdue monthly report tomorrow.

## Boys learn to keep up farm tractor

Something new was recently added to the 4-H Club program in 14 Central and Western States when 4-H boys and leaders spent a week at the agricultural colleges learning tractor maintenance at "Live Power" tractor short courses or clinics.

These boys and leaders were brought in to take training in the care and maintenance of farm tractors so that they might help other young people learn tractor maintenance in their 4-H and farm operations.

Attendance was usually limited to one 4-H member or leader per county who operated a tractor on his home

farm. They learned how to adjust parts on a tractor to save fuel and get maximum efficiency, how to correctly lubricate the machine, how to handle tools, the intricacies of ignition and cooling, and how to prevent accidents.

The instruction was provided by the extension agricultural engineers, the teaching staff in the agricultural engineering departments at the colleges, and the automotive engineers of a nationally known oil company. Plans are already under way for developing similar short courses in other sections of the United States.

Colorado boys study the workings of a modern farm tractor.





## Extension agents in the armed forces

Nineteen extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days.

### On the Italian Riviera

I think of you these hot sultry days in a sweltering office, and we are here on the Italian Riviera where the climate is even better than California. We had to come up the full length of Italy to find a pleasant place, but finally we landed in one that has the most perfect weather I have experienced. This spot must be what the tourist guides call "Sunny Italy." Palm trees, beautiful flowers, and plenty of sunshine here. Flowers are, or were, grown here commercially, so many of them are going to waste. Director Brokaw, Hoppert, and Maxwell would really enjoy seeing geraniums growing 7 and 8 feet tall.

Under the educational program which the Army is conducting now, I was conducting the agricultural class for the men in this battalion. It was interesting, and I was sorry I had to give up the instructing part. I am now Battalion Executive, and my time is quite well taken up.—*Capt. V. B. McClure, Saunders County agent, Nebraska.*

### Report from Germany

One day recently I ate breakfast in France, dinner in Belgium, and supper in Germany. Am in Germany now and enjoying it very much (May 2). I am working 12 hours of each 24 in the operating room of our hospital. My work is interesting, and I have a swell group of people to work with. We are living in modern German buildings with civilians doing all cleaning, K. P., and the like. I have a nice German white-enameled bed.

The country in Germany is beauti-

ful and intensively farmed, but their methods are quite primitive. The cities and bridges are destroyed beyond the wildest dreams of anyone who has not seen them. I passed through the Ardennes Forest where our boys fought the cold weather as well as the Germans last winter.—*Pvt. Russell Klotz, Woodson County Agent, Kans.*

### From China

Our unit is operating an abattoir to supply meat for this base. We butcher cattle, hogs, and poultry when we can get it. We supervise all the work and issue the different mess halls at the base. We supply 18 ounces per day. The past month we have been having difficulty getting enough stock, so we must substitute "C" rations.

We are going to supervise an ice cream plant and a butcher's shop as soon as we get the necessary equipment and personnel. So far we manage to make enough ice cream so we get all we want.

Our little mess hall is under construction at present, and it should be completed in another 2 weeks. We really have a nice set-up.

This is surely a dusty place at present (April 28, 1945), but the rains will start soon, so we shall have mud and mosquitoes; but I guess China isn't any worse than a lot of other countries.—*Sgt. Harlan R. Phillips, DFRA field man, Kansas.*

### Latest from China

More news from Sergeant Phillips, written June 5, has been received at the college at Manhattan. We quote:

"I am very busy as usual. Time goes by quite rapidly. We are getting plenty of meat to supply the demand here at present. Our ice cream plant is in full operation. We turn out 40 gallons per day, and the boys really appreciate it up on the base. We have our own mess hall now, and the tenderloin steaks and ice cream really go good. We could have a worse go. VE Day was really welcome."

### From the Jap hotbed

I've been quite busy and on the move for some time. At present (May 15) I'm in the Ryukyu Islands, on Okinawa. The Japs are causing lots of trouble; and if this is a measuring stick, we've a long, hard road ahead. Artillery, aircraft, and all that makes up total war. It's our first time encountering much artillery.

The civilians on Okinawa are a lower type of Japanese but are quite industrious. They farm in areas of one-half to one acre for the most part. The farm is cared for as we handle gardening at home. Crops are much like home, with sweetpotatoes as their basic crop. The climate is O.K., warm days, cool nights, and an average amount of rain. The soil is red clay-like stuff which doesn't look very productive. Not much livestock and what I have observed is scrub. Lots of goats. The civilian homes are rock for the most part. The roofs are of straw in the rural areas, but there are many red tile-like roofs in the villages.—*Lt. Warren C. Teel, Jefferson County Agent, Kans.*

■ From the food supply ship *W. H. Kendrick* named for the late State 4-H leader in West Virginia comes the report that about 45 4-H boys are on the ship. Robert Crompton, former 4-H member of Centerdale, R. I., supplies the news.

# A 4-H school for young Louisiana trappers and fishermen

■ Louisiana's unique 4-H wildlife and fisheries school, conducted annually among the coastal marshlands, habitat of the famed muskrat—designated by Louisiana law as the "marsh hare"—gives promise of fostering a more successful fur industry, so important to life in that section of the State.

The second annual wildlife and fisheries school was held last spring, with 32 boys of St. Charles Parish 4-H Clubs as students. Instructors were wildlife specialists from the State conservation department and the university. Civic leaders interested in the training of youth in phases of practical life and living went along as guests and observers. Their aim was to give emphasis to the importance of the program launched only last year, designed to stimulate an adequate understanding of the economic aspects of trapping, shrimping, crabbing, and fishing.

The young students pursuing their quest for accurate knowledge of the wildlife of the region are not unfamiliar with the fur-bearing animals of the marshlands. They are the children of trappers, oystermen, and fishermen whose ancestors have followed the calling from the time of Lafitte, the pirate, and who conduct their business today virtually the same as it was done in the time of the pioneers.

Boys of the coastal regions have no acquaintance with the usual 4-H activities. They would be literally "fish out of water" if assigned a program associated with the farm and barnyard. They are more familiar with the waterway than the highway, and as they grow toward maturity it is the wildlife of their native bayous and marshlands that beckons their interest and concern as a vocation.

The shaping and direction of their interest, so that it will produce the highest educational and economical returns, is the underlying reason for the wildlife and fisheries school, sponsored by the Extension Service with the cooperation of public-spirited groups. The school was started a year ago with 2 days of intensive instruction. This year 3 days were al-

lotted to the program, which carried the students directly to the marshes, which are the natural habitat of the Louisiana marsh hare as well as the innumerable feathered denizens which are an integral part of the wildlife of the region.

There are 4 million acres of Louisiana marshland devoted to production of this fur. That is one-eighth of the total area of the State. Approximately one-half of all the muskrats of the country are produced here. The trapping season begins in December and lasts through February, during the most rugged weather this region experiences in a year. The "take" amounts to more than 5 million pelts in a season. It is a commercial asset so valuable that the division of wildlife and fisheries of the State Department of Conservation has been carrying on a scientific program for devel-

oping better methods of management, care, and trapping. Such practices will mean increased revenues for the owners and operators of the muskrat land.

These methods were told to the 4-H boys on the tour, who learned that scientific care and provision of the animals' food supplies will mean more and better muskrat furs in the trapping season and will stimulate the establishment of manufacturing as the source of supply.

Study of the muskrat was not the only object of instruction during the 3-day school. Neither is it the only source of revenue for the trapper and his family. There are 9 months of the year when much of the time can be devoted to shrimping, oystering, and crabbing; and these phases, too, were dealt with by the specialists who formed the school's faculty.

One outgrowth of the two schools is the manual for 4-H Muskrat Clubs prepared by County Agent George T. Geiger, Jr. of Jefferson Davis Parish, which will be ready for use by the opening of the next trapping season.

## Minnesota 4-H radio speaking contest

■ In addition to carrying on a full program of wartime activities, Minnesota 4-H'ers have been doing some constructive thinking on planning for permanent peace. In their third annual radio speaking contest more than 500 4-H and rural youth members from Minnesota prepared speeches on "Why I believe education for peaceful living is necessary."

The contestants were encouraged to crystallize their thinking along one of these phases of the subject: Bringing about a better understanding among Americans, regardless of race, creed, or nationality; maintaining our democratic way of life and assuring the rights of minority groups; or prevention of future wars. Thinking on the topic was not limited to contestants, however. To arouse interest, many clubs held discussion meetings at which leaders, parents, and members took part in open forums.

Seventy-eight of Minnesota's 87 counties were represented in the con-

test. The growth of interest in the event is indicated by the fact that this year 4-H'ers and rural youth members participated from 15 more counties than had taken part the first year—the first year of the contest.

Speeches of all 78 county winners were actually broadcast on radio stations in their districts, 15 radio stations providing approximately 15 hours of broadcasting time. Speeches of the champion, Eldon Underdahl of Kenyon, Goodhue County, and the alternate, Gloria Bergan, Alvarado, Marshall County, were broadcast over WCCO, KSTP, and a network of affiliated stations in Minnesota.

Awards totaling \$1,000 were provided by the Minnesota Jewish Council, cosponsors of the event with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. County champions were given \$5 cash awards, district winners \$25 war bonds, and the reserve champion and State champion \$100 and \$200 in bonds.

# Solving the problem of sheep shearers

CHARLES W. PRICE, JR., Assistant Editor, Louisiana

■ During the 1944 shearing season, the office of the Louisiana farm labor supervisor was "snowed under" with phone calls for help from the wool-producing counties, or parishes, as they are called in Louisiana. You would have thought that Louisiana had 10 million head of sheep and not a single sheep shearer.

In 1945—not one call. Not one letter. Not one request.

Does this mean that the farm labor shortage in Louisiana was ended? Does it mean that the wool crop went unharvested or that the sheepmen were all mad at Farm Labor Supervisor Carl Kemmerly? Not at all. It means that the sheep-shearing schools held in Louisiana earlier in the season were a howling—should we say bleating?—success.

Three of the schools were held in the wool-producing areas in the latter part of April. Each lasted 3 days. More than 150 students were taught the rudiments of sheep shearing, and the quickest and most efficient methods of sheep shearing were demonstrated. The proper use and care of clippers and other equipment were demonstrated, and instructors emphasized the importance of shearing at the proper time and removing an undamaged fleece. Lectures on the marketing of wool and disease prevention and sanitation among sheep were features of the sheep shearer's short course. Educational movies were shown in barn "theaters."

Louisiana's wool crop is produced in two widely separated areas in the extreme southeastern and southwestern corners of the State. The first school was held at the farm of M. P. Planche near Covington in St. Tammany Parish in the southeastern part of the State April 19 through April 21.

The other two schools were held in Beauregard Parish in southwestern Louisiana, one on the Willie Welborn farm near De Ridder, April 23 through April 25, and the other at Marcel Bishop's place near Singer, April 26 through April 28. In each of the wool-producing sections there

is much rolling, cut-over land, where fences are a novelty and there is ample open range. Louisiana's wool crop is expected this year to have a value of between \$300,000 and \$500,000. The crop is small compared to that of the major wool States but, needless to say, means a great deal to the farmers concerned.

The schools were planned and held through the cooperation of R. M. Crown, extension livestock specialist; E. S. Bartlett of Chicago, representative of a commercial company, an outstanding expert on sheep shearing and management; and the county agents of the wool-growing parishes, particularly, Agent Sam Smith of St. Tammany and Agent A. D. Fitzgerald of Beauregard. Instructors and lecturers included Dr. A. H. Groth, head

of the LSU veterinary science department; Dr. E. P. Flower, secretary of the State Livestock and Sanitary Board; Dr. W. A. McDonald, representing the Bureau of Animal Industry; and C. L. Flowers, extension marketing specialist.

Press and radio cooperated in advertising the fact that the schools were to be held and why they were to be held, and representatives of each attended the schools to write feature stories and transcribe broadcasts. Minimum expenses of those attending the school were paid as part of the training work of the emergency farm labor program. Leading sheep growers in both sections of the State, including the members of the Southeast Wool Growers' Association, either attended the schools or sent their herdsmen.

Two 4-H Club boys who attended the schools at Singer and De Ridder learned the best methods of sheep shearing, bought their own shearing equipment, and contracted to shear enough sheep to return them a neat profit for the season.

## Director gives green thumb award

Having a Green Thumb pays dividends. Rosalee Moravec, age 14, of Wamkomus, Okla., receives a silver medal, congratulations, and a \$500 war bond from Shawnee Brown, Oklahoma Extension Director, for having the best garden of any elementary school boy or girl in the United States. This season, hundreds of thousands of boys and girls are competing for the Green Thumb and General MacArthur medal awards as sponsored by the National Victory Garden Institute.





# We Study Our Job

## Radio reaches farm families

Information on farming and home-making can be carried effectively over the radio, according to a survey made by extension agents in Ward County, N. Dak. After more than 5 years of broadcasting by the agricultural and home demonstration agents, some 200 farm families in that county were interviewed to find out whether or not they had listened to the county extension radio program and had made use of the information given.

Every day at 1 o'clock, either the agricultural agent or home demonstration agent had broadcast for 5 minutes from the Minot radio station. Usually they gave straight subject-matter talks on farming and home-making. No music or other entertainment features were used.

It was found that about one-third of all the farm families in the county listened every time the agents went on the air. About 5 percent of the families carried out one or more of the recommendations made in each 5-minute broadcast.

Almost all the farmers interviewed had heard the agricultural agent's radio program; four out of five of the women had heard the home agent's. All but 2 percent of the farm families had radios. Four out of five farm families had radios in working order and could get the county extension program on their sets.

Both men and women listened far more frequently in the winter than in the summer. Seven out of 10 of both farmers and homemakers said 1 o'clock was a convenient time for them to listen in both summer and winter. A few additional said it was convenient in the winter only, or summer only, making a total of 8 out of 10 of both groups who found it convenient most of the time. The preferred time suggested most often by those who did not find 1 o'clock convenient, was 12:30. A few could not listen at any time because they were "too busy" or had "work outside or away from home."

About half of the men and women thought the 5-minute program was just the right length; about a third

wished it were longer. More of the women took notes during the broadcasts than the men. This would indicate the desirability of allowing a reasonable amount of time for note taking on the home program. It is also advisable to tell how additional information can be obtained.

The study brings out the effectiveness of radio in reaching a large number of farm families who had never taken part in any extension activities. However, more of the participating families than of the nonparticipants listened to the county extension radio program and used the information heard. —THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WARD COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, EXTENSION RADIO PROGRAM, by Lucinda Crile, Federal Extension Service, and Stanley D. Morrill and Gladys Nessel, Ward County extension agents. U.S.D.A. Ext. Serv. Circ. 429, 1945.

A detailed account of the Ward County radio study is also given in Extension Service Circular 426, SOME FINDINGS FROM STUDIES OF FARM AND HOME RADIO PROGRAMS, by Lucinda Crile.

In addition, other radio studies made since 1938 are reviewed in this circular. Included are: Reading and listening habits of farm folks in 11 northeastern Indiana counties; Extension radio survey of seven Pennsylvania counties; Report of Purdue poultry school of the air; Illinois farm radio survey of the Poultry Publishers' Association; Listening habits of rural Nebraskans; Use of radio in 4-H Club work; Illinois study, Who's listening; and a Montana study, Publicity and radio results.

## Texas schools of the air

"Just one point I got would have saved me 50 chicks had I known it sooner," commented one of the Texans enrolled in the radio short course on Growing Baby Chicks. It was conducted every morning for a week at 6 a.m. on the Farm and Home Program of Texas A. & M. College. In all, 632 persons from 104 Texas counties and from 10 other States enrolled.

A week later the network ran a

short course on Growing a Spring Garden. More than a thousand persons from 117 Texas counties and 9 other States enrolled. Thirty-four percent of those reporting said they would "treat" their garden seed after having heard these programs on gardening. A previous survey showed that only 4 percent of all gardeners normally followed the practice.

"These programs are so encouraging that the work seems easier," reported one of the women enrolled in the garden course. "I would like to have a course on turkey raising, also canning vegetables, and on home interiors renewed," said another.

About four-fifths of the listeners enrolled said they preferred the question-and-answer type of presentation to straight talks. There were a number of requests for more detailed discussion on the method of applying commercial fertilizer; also requests for more information on soil analysis. About three-fourths of the listeners enrolled were women.

The radio schools were similar to previous short courses given at the college that had been discontinued because of travel restrictions.

HOW THEY DID IT was unfolded by a survey of labor problems of 38 families representing various sections of Georgia, taken by Cornelia Daniel, assistant State farm labor supervisor for Georgia. The study was made in 20 counties by personal interview. On these farms there had been a 57-percent decrease in labor available, and among the 38 families there were 42 sons in the armed forces, with 10 more to go in 1945. In spite of these difficulties, 25 of the farmers increased production in the last 3 years. On 25 of these farms, the farm women worked, and nearly half of them were doing farm work for the first time. Younger children helped on 26 of the farms. To save time and labor in the kitchen, some remodeling and changing had been done in 20 of the farm kitchens. Other ways of saving labor practiced by these 38 farm families were exchange of labor, exchange of equipment, and new practices to give more efficient management, of time, labor, and equipment.



# Flashes

## FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Chiggers, beware!** New insect repellents developed by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine have been protecting the allied armies from some of their most annoying, and even dangerous, enemies since 1942. These repellents are not yet available for civilian use; but we at home can look forward to the time, after the war, when we can pick berries, go on a picnic, or wander in the woods without coming home covered with insect bites. At the Bureau's Orlando, Fla., laboratory it was found that dimethyl phthalate was more effective in preventing bites of the malaria mosquito than any other compound tested. As soon as the Food and Drug Administration had pronounced it safe for use on the skin, it was made available to the armed forces. Applied in liquid form to the tops of shoes, inside the cuffs of trousers and sleeves, and to the buttoned surfaces of the shirt, dimethyl phthalate acts as a barrier to chiggers, keeping most of them away and killing those that venture too close. In tests during army maneuvers in Louisiana, one treatment was effective until the clothing was washed, or wet as in wading. Soldiers wearing treated clothes escaped bites, whereas some whose clothing was not treated were so severely bitten they had to go to the hospital. Since then dimethyl phthalate has been used extensively and successfully against chiggers by allied troops in the Pacific area.

■ **Laid in USA—hatched in England.** Turkey eggs—25 of them—laid at the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., were recently flown to England, where they have been incubated and hatched. Of the eggs sent, 1 was broken in transit; and 21, or 87.5 percent of those incubated, hatched. The eggs were of Beltsville Small White turkeys, and high hatchability was one of the characteristics sought by the Department scientists

who originated the breed. As the eggs were carefully selected from several blood lines, the 21 poult provide a basis for a foundation flock of the breed in Great Britain.

■ **Weed killer.** Dandelions, plantains, and many other weeds can be killed with little difficulty and small expense by spraying them with a chemical by a new method developed in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. The chemical is 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid—2,4-D for short. This is a white powder that does not easily dissolve in water; but when mixed with some other substances, such as "Carbowax" or certain salts and oil-like bases, it can be dispersed in water as a spray. It is also used as a plant-growth regulator. Scientists are still trying to determine how 2,4-D affects various plants and soils and are studying the influence of temperature, moisture, and other factors on its effectiveness. Until some of these things are better known, it should be used cautiously and not used at all for killing weeds in vegetable or flower beds. It does not hurt most grasses, which makes it valuable for clearing lawns of weeds. There appears to be no danger of skin irritation or other harmful effect to persons using it, and it is noncorrosive and noninflammable. In tests by the Bureau at some of the State agricultural experiment stations, and by the U. S. Golf Association Green Section, it has been effective in killing 21 species of weed plants. Its effect on poison ivy is still being investigated. The right mixture and the right amounts are important. For an effective spray, 1 part of 2,4-D is dissolved in 6½ parts of melted Carbowax, and this mixture is dissolved in water at the rate of 1 ounce to a gallon. The plants to be eliminated should be wet thoroughly with the spray. For lawns, 4 to 5 gallons are required to treat 1,000 square feet; more is needed in fields. Late spring

or early fall is the best time to treat lawns, and the effects last for 2 to 3 months. Supplies for civilians are limited at present.

■ **New achievement sheets.** The series of Research Achievement Sheets, those brief reports on noteworthy scientific discoveries by Department of Agriculture scientists, is steadily growing. The numbers and topics of the latest 11 are as follows:

- 24 (E) Sodium fluoride for control of poultry lice
- 25 (E) More efficient poison bait for mole cricket control
- 26 (E) Control of celery leaf tier through pyrethrum powder
- 27 (E) Insecticidal aerosols
- 28 (E) Discovery and use of a natural enemy of the citrus blackfly
- 29 (E) Protection against foot-and-mouth disease has scientific basis
- 30 (D) Continuous process for making lactic acid from whey
- 31 (D) Butter from sweet cream has superior keeping quality
- 32 (A) Columbia sheep, a modern made-to-order breed
- 33 (E) Chemists make rotenone insecticides more widely useful
- 34 (E) Control of the alfalfa weevil for better yields

The designation "D" signifies research conducted in the Bureau of Dairy Industry; "A" represents a contribution from the Bureau of Animal Industry; and "E" refers to work of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

■ **Over in Monroe County, Ark., 10 homes have been redecorated by the women of the 10 families, members of the Allendale home demonstration club. The women formed a labor pool to help each other and thus make the work easier for all, reports Mrs. Hazel S. Beene, county home demonstration agent. As a result of their combined efforts, 26 rooms have been papered and painted, with a cash outlay of \$74.68 for supplies. In 4 instances, the floors were painted or revarnished, too. One woman assisted her neighbor in papering her house, and the neighbor in turn helped the woman launder 4 quilts.**

# 4-H Clubs study child care

■ Janice Seitz, a West Virginia 4-H Club girl, was puzzled. She didn't know what project to take.

Janice thought she would like to care for her year-old sister, Nancy. Her mother was away from home much of the time working in a beauty shop, and Janice could help by caring for her little sister. When she asked her club agent, Frances Sanders, about it they planned a 4-H child-care project for Janice.

Janice kept a notebook telling what happened when she took care of Nancy. She bathed and dressed her, fed her, played with her, and put her to bed. She made play clothes for Nancy. For toys, she enameled a dried-peach box and stenciled it with decal designs. What she liked best was making the Raggedy Ann doll.

Janice had her own clean-up-toy week when the baby Nancy was away. She took the stuffing out of the stuffed toys, washed the covers, sewed on eyes or ears when needed, and then restuffed the animals.

Janice enjoyed the project so much that she arranged with her club agent to continue with more advanced child training a second year.

The story of this project reached the State girls' club agent, Wilma

Beyer. Did other club members need this kind of project, she wondered. As she visited club meetings she asked members how many cared for younger brothers and sisters. Nearly every hand went up. She asked leaders about the need for this project, who were quick to see the values, especially for members whose parents both worked away from home.

County extension agents read about Janice Seitz and her project in the 4-H Suggestions and heard Miss Beyer discuss the need with club members and leaders. Requests for child care project circulars started coming into the State 4-H office.

Copies of the plan followed by Janice Seitz were sent to the four agents requesting circulars. Mercer County even mimeographed its own booklets. As a result, at least 30 or 40 club members from several different counties enrolled in the project last year.

So interest in a child-care project has grown since Janice Seitz began in October 1943. This year Miss Beyer asked agents for project suggestions. Seventeen of the 20 agents replying asked that a State child-care project be prepared.

The project will be ready for West

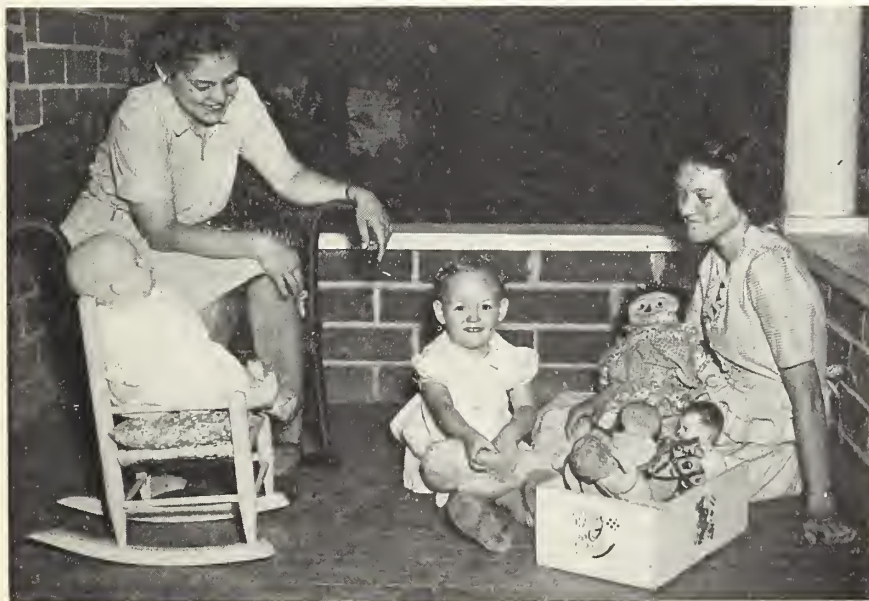
Virginia club members when the new club year starts in October 1945. It has been written by Miss Beyer with the help of Mrs. Lydia Ann Lynde, extension specialist in parent education, of the Federal Extension Service.

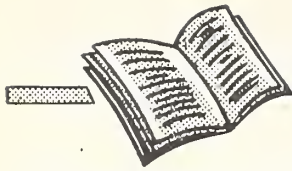
Boys as well as girls more than 12 years old may enroll. They may care for small children from 1 to 6 years old, either their own brothers or sisters or a neighbor's children. The club member will (1) Take care of a child 1 to 6 years old at least 25 waking hours; (2) take part in a group activity for small children, as a story hour, party, or several children playing together; (3) make one or more simple toys, arrange a play corner, or make a garment for a child; (4) help with each of the following jobs at least twice: Give the child a bath and clean up afterwards; dress the child or help him dress himself; prepare food and help him during his meal; assist the child in undressing and going to bed.

COUNTY AGENT H. M. NICHOLS of Iowa declined a higher-paying position because he believed he could do more for the war effort by staying in Hamilton County than he could even in a larger field. A veteran of the First World War, chairman of the post-war planning board of his county, and the father of an army captain still in Europe, County Agent Nichols feels deeply his duty to the 2,300 boys from his county who have gone into the armed services. How his county has been getting ready for some time for the return of the boys is told in a story in the EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW for October 1944. While in Washington the week of July 9 with 16 other county agricultural agents, representing the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Nichols also made contacts with the Veterans Administration and the American Legion.

TWO NEW DEPARTMENT LEAFLETS of interest to home demonstration agents are Food for Two, telling how a young couple plan their meals, giving menus, shopping list, and nutrition tips, and making Velva Fruit at home, with recipe and complete directions, which gets out in time for frozen-food weather.

Frances Sanders (left), Lewis County, W. Va., Club Agent, helps Janice Seitz (right) with her 4-H problems in child care involving little sister Nancy (center). Janice made the Raggedy Ann doll she is holding and the toy box.





# Have you read

**SMALL FARM AND BIG FARM.** Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 100. Carey McWilliams. 32 pp. Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y.

■ This circular contains several challenging and interesting ideas and can be read very easily at one sitting some evening. You may go to bed with your philosophy of agriculture unchanged, but you are likely to be less sure of the rightness of some of the things you have accepted and perhaps worked for.

One surprise is to find that the author includes the full-time family farm that has a hired man in the small-farm group. You may or may not agree with Carey McWilliams that some of our national agricultural policies are contrary to the interest of this group of farmers, or that our farm organizations fail to represent them in the formulation of those policies. Is the author right in his position that democracy is a process of compromise reached between represented groups? Would Extension be more democratic and serve more farm people effectively if freed from dependence on local sources of support?—*James L. Robinson, extension specialist, Farm Credit Administration, Kansas City, Mo.*

**PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF DEMOCRACY.** George B. de Huszar. Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ This little book is a Robertson's Rules of Order on making democracy work. The author conveys in simple language that makes sense an idea of how individuals respond to group action. For democracy to live, we must have do-democracy rather than talk-democracy. Otherwise disintegration of society is bound to take place. Organization of groups, for a purpose, around a central problem that is real, is more likely to bring about do-democracy than is the large, unwieldy meeting, where one or a few people talk down to the crowd and the majority are too timid to take part. Absence of a problem around which to center attention, and failure on the part of members of a group to take action, lead to disintegration of the

group. A disintegrating group of society is the ideal seedbed for dictatorship. I wish it were possible to provide every county agent, teacher, and volunteer leader with a copy of this book. I hope that all will make an effort to read it.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

**THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WORLD AGRICULTURE.** Karl Brandt. 416 pp. W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1945.

■ Agriculture the world over has undergone many changes since the present war began unfolding in earnest during the middle thirties. The aggressor nations recognized the value of science in promoting the productive capacity of the land and in making their economies self-sufficient in food. They have shown that agriculture technology can be used under autarchy as well as in a free society. But agriculture remains the same as always, "the art of closest adaptation of the methods and aims of plant production to the natural and economic environment." Food-getting and its orderly distribution among consuming populations remain the basic economic activities of human society.

This book is the best one I have read so far among publications dealing with post-war agricultural problems. The facts are all there, and accurately presented. Of particular interest to extension workers will be the pages delineating between the pros and cons of the large-structure farm unit and family farming. This section presents, in my opinion, a real argument for the type of education the Cooperative Extension Service is carrying on.

The author, Karl Brandt, is German-born, his promising career having come to an abrupt end with the advent of Hitler in Germany. His democratic views forced him to leave and come to the United States. Here he has distinguished himself on the staff of the Food Research Institute, Stanford University, and has been heard at many agricultural colleges

and meetings of agricultural and economic groups.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Cooperative Extension Work.*

**THE FARMER AND THE REST OF US,** by Arthur Moore, Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass., 1945.

■ This book is the chronicle of Arthur Moore, of the staff of the Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph, who relates what he has seen and heard about farming in McLean County, Ill., to the industrial world and the Nation's health.

The thesis of the book is that ours is a civilization of the town. Modern industrial society cannot, however, succeed without ample food and a healthy agricultural economy. Standards have always been set by the town, not the country. Food being essential to industry, there should be intelligent cooperation between farm and labor groups. Farm organizations should stop hate-labor campaigns, the author says.

Because saving the Nation's soil fertility is vital if we are to continue industrial leadership, labor should recognize the importance of policies supporting soil conservation and family farms. Sometimes we benefit from seeing ourselves as others see us. One should not read the book from the standpoint of seeking information on agriculture and rural life in all parts of the United States. The book does provide, however, interesting reading on how a considerable portion of urban society looks at agriculture. One need not agree with everything the author says. Not all extension workers will. But all of us will profit from reading it.—*Werner P. Meyer, Division of Extension Information.*

■ ELMER L. DEO, county agricultural agent in Leelanau County, Mich., since December 1, 1943, died unexpectedly from a heart attack June 5. He became ill while attending a meeting in Traverse City and was taken to a local hospital where he died.

Agent Deo received his first extension appointments as assistant county agricultural agent for each of the three counties, Cass, St. Joseph, and Calhoun, during the period 1938-41 while the intensive land-use planning program was being conducted in those counties. Later, he served as assistant to D. B. Jewell, agricultural agent for Benzie and Leelanau Counties.

# West Virginia contacts dealers in fungicides and insecticides

■ Most victory gardeners and truck growers consult their dealers when buying insecticides and fungicides for protecting plants. The clerk who sells these materials has the opportunity to furnish valuable information if he is well posted. Realizing this, the West Virginia Extension Service early in 1944 decided on a "dealer contact program" to reach all dealers and inform them as to the best and most up-to-date insecticides and fungicides recommended by the college of agriculture.

The plan provided that in each county the agricultural agent and other paid agricultural workers visit every store carrying fungicides and insecticides and inform them concerning college recommendations. At the same time they were to make a survey of the material the dealer handled and of the stock on hand. Especially prepared literature was left at the store for their own use and that of their customers. The dealer was put

on a mailing list to receive other information from the college.

The 1944 program broke the ground and laid a foundation of friendly relationship between dealer and agricultural worker. The visits showed that the dealers are interested and are eager to improve their service to the public by stocking and recommending the right materials.

The plan for 1945 continued the work of "dealer-contact" by inviting the dealers to meetings in the various counties and instructing them in detail regarding recommendations, sources of materials, and advertising.

There is apparent a strong desire among the dealers to serve the public well. They seem agreed that they can best perform that service by handling the recommended materials.

In the opinion of the West Virginia Extension staff the "dealer contact program" is proving to be a most helpful and beneficial part of the drive for more food production.

phasis was placed on meeting new people and forming new acquaintances. One only had to look about to note that this new information was being put into actual practice. One little 10-year-old boy, upon arriving at the banquet, marched up to the county agricultural agent who works principally with adults and said "How do you do, Sir?" as he stuck out his hand for a shake. Girls sat by and conversed with boys whom they had not met before, and boys and girls freely and easily conversed with adult sponsors and leaders and members of the chambers of commerce. Many of the youngsters will long remember this as their first banquet, and the social courtesies they learned and put into use will make them better trained for occasions such as this when they become adults.

When the idea of these banquets was first originated, it was estimated that an attendance of 50 boys and girls at each banquet would be the maximum number. However, after considerable work by Mr. Walker and Miss Baker among the 4-H Club members and other rural youth during the month preceding the banquets, great interest was aroused among the club members, and many new members were enrolled in club work. It was a pleasant surprise to all the extension agents when 196 boys, girls, and adult leaders attended the Graham banquet and 123 boys, girls, and adult leaders attended the Olney banquet. Twenty-five boys and 40 girls were enrolled as new 4-H Club members during the month.

Not only has 4-H Club work been brought to the attention of many more persons as a result of these banquets, but they also resulted in new interest in club work among old members, new members were enrolled, and valuable training was given to those members serving on the various committees.

FIND ACCIDENT HAZARDS AND FIX THEM was the goal of 1,877 Utah 4-H Club members last year. Believing that home and farm accidents sabotage wartime production, the youthful club members used a check list of common hazards and then set out to eliminate fire and accident hazards on their own and neighboring farms. Utah County was named the outstanding county in the State in 4-H Safety work.

## To celebrate 4-H Club Week

OLLYNE JEFFRIES, County Home Demonstration Agent, and G. R. SCHUMANN, County Agricultural Agent, Young County, Texas

■ After seeing some of the programs at the National 4-H Club Congress held at Chicago in December, Young County, Tex., extension agents felt that some similar programs on a smaller scale would fill a very definite need in the Young County 4-H program by stimulating greater interest in 4-H work among our boys and girls. After some preliminary discussion among the extension agents, plans were made to conduct two 4-H Club banquets in connection with National 4-H Club Week.

When these preliminary plans had been completed, committees representing the Girls' 4-H Council and Boys' 4-H Clubs and adult sponsors were called together to complete final plans. The boys and girls at this meeting selected various toastmasters and toastmistresses for these banquets and also selected various

committees such as the program committee, foods committee, finance committee, arrangements committee, and building committee to work out the various details of these affairs. Boys and girls served on these committees with an adult sponsor or an extension agent as adviser.

Committees contacted the chambers of commerce at Graham and Olney in order to obtain financial backing for these events. This was readily obtained, other committees functioned splendidly, and soon details for the banquets were completed. Preceding these affairs, training in social courtesy was given by the assistant agents, Chester Walker and Edith Baker. Boys went home and assisted their mothers in being seated at the table as a means of getting practice. Girls studied their etiquette books in order that they might do the right thing at the right time. Em-

# Among Ourselves



■ FRANK P. LANE, who has served as county agent leader in the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Wyoming for more than 26 years, was retired July 1. He will continue working on a limited service basis.

Mr. Lane was born on a farm near Burlington, Kans., in 1874. He was graduated from the Kansas Normal School in 1904 and worked for 12 years as principal and superintendent of city schools in Kansas and Oklahoma. In 1913 he was graduated from the Oklahoma Agricultural College and was appointed agricultural agent of Harvey County, Kans., serving there for 4½ years. He was one of the pioneer agents of that State, doing his field work with a horse and buggy.

In 1917 he was appointed assistant leader in Wyoming, and a year later he was promoted to county agent leader, a position he held until his retirement. There, in a State with an area of more than 60 million acres, made up of only 23 counties, 3 of which have areas of well over 5 million acres, it is obvious that Mr. Lane has had a big job. In the early days a field trip was a major undertaking; and even now, with good roads and good automobiles and buses, stretches of 100 miles or more between towns are still hazardous during winter months.

Beginning at a time when extension methods were not definitely formed, Mr. Lane developed plans for using local leaders in extension work, promoted the first farm-to-farm tours to inspect silos, and was one of the first persons to start a community poultry school. His untiring efforts have helped county agricultural agents to systematize their work and maintain high standards of efficiency.

A diligent and persistent scholar, Mr. Lane completed requirements for the degree of Master of Science at the University of Wyoming in 1929.

At a banquet held at Laramie on June 20, attended by State and county extension workers and farm and ranch men and women leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Lane were honored guests. Mr. Lane was presented with a third diamond for his Epsilon Sigma Phi key and a memory book including letters and telegrams of felicitation and good will from extension workers with whom he had been associated. In making the presentation, Dean J. A. Hill of the College of Agriculture praised Mr. Lane as a "loyal, hard-working, understanding extension worker who probably knows more Wyoming people than any other person."

Mr. Lane will be succeeded by W. T. Kirk who, for 11 years, has served as county agent at Casper, Wyo. Mr. Kirk was graduated from the University of Wyoming with a major in agronomy and has done graduate work in education and in wool.

■ RALPH WAYNE, former Minnesota county agent and now dairy specialist with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, has been granted a leave of absence to become agricultural adviser to a mission which the Foreign Economic Administration is sending to Denmark for the reconstruction period. He was in Washington for a brief training period before going abroad. In his new capacity he will assist the American Embassy in Denmark on all problems pertaining to food and agriculture. He will confer with Danish agricultural officials on needs for bringing food production up to maximum levels

during the present season and advise the Foreign Economic Administration on supplies of agricultural equipment, fertilizers, seeds, insecticides and fungicides.

■ WILLIAM B. WARD was appointed editor and chief of publications at the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics, at Cornell University, on April 1.

Previous to taking his position at Cornell, Mr. Ward was chief of the current information section of the Marketing Reports Division, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, in Washington. He has had a varied experience in the field of journalism, including newspaper work, government service, and writing for farm publications.

A native of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Mr. Ward received the B.S. degree from Utah State Agricultural College and the M.S. degree the following year from the University of Wisconsin. While in college he was assistant to the extension editor for nearly 3 years, correspondent for the Associated Press and Rocky Mountain newspapers and editor of the college newspaper and of athletic publications for 2 years. He was also in the editorial department of the Post Register, daily paper at Idaho Falls, before graduating from college.

While working for his master's degree Mr. Ward was assistant to the extension editor and graduate instructor in agricultural journalism at the University of Wisconsin. He is author of "Agricultural News in the Daily Press," published in 1941 by that university.

Mr. Ward was employed by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1941 as information specialist in dairy marketing, in charge of public relations on milk marketing agreements and orders. Later he became chief of the information section of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, then of the Food Distribution Administration. He went to Hawaii shortly after Pearl Harbor to report on food production and distribution as a representative of the Administrator.

■ MRS. ETHEL BOWEN, assistant State leader of home demonstration work in Nebraska, passed away Wednesday, July 11, at her home in Lincoln. She had been ailing for several months.

Mrs. Bowen was one of the early veterans of extension work in Nebraska, and homemakers know the many contributions she made to their happiness and comfort. She started as home demonstration agent in Scotts Bluff County back in 1917, later was home demonstration agent in Thayer County, and went to the State office in June 1940. She was a tireless worker for the betterment of homes and home life and will be greatly missed.

## Venezuela girls study home-making in United States

Four girls from Venezuela, selected by their government, have come to the United States for a year's study of home economics under the Institute of Inter-American Affairs.

While in the United States these girls are living with farm families and studying extension methods under the guidance of State leaders and county home demonstration agents. Miss Luz Uscatequi is spending part of her time in South Carolina, Miss Elda Marquina in Oklahoma, Miss Ana Carvajal in Washington, and Miss Adela Rodriguez in New Hampshire. They are home demonstration agents in their country and, when they have completed their extension course in the United States, will return to Venezuela to become supervisors there.

## 4-H boy studies soil-conservation work from air

A Minnesota 4-H Club boy, who won national acclaim for his soil-conservation activity, stepped from a plane at University Field near New Brighton, Minn., one day in July with a new appreciation of his native State. Robert Schwartau of Goodhue County made an airplane tour of this State earned as an award for 4-H achievement.

Piloting the plane which took him off from the Frontenac field in Goodhue County that day was Paul Moore, assistant State leader, who became known as Minnesota's flying county agent through his use of a plane in

his county extension work in Wright County. M. A. Thorfinnson, extension soil conservation specialist, accompanied Schwartau and Moore on the tour which was planned with the purpose of giving the 4-H boy an opportunity to study erosion damage from the air and also to see results of control work carried out to save Minnesota soil.

## Loveland shoppers' lounge success

When the members of the Loveland Home Demonstration Council decided to try something new last fall—to open a shoppers' lounge in Loveland, Colo., for the use of both town and farm women—they thought they had a good idea.

But even the most optimistic of them didn't expect to have a total of 2,124 visitors register at the lounge the first 53 days it was open—from November 9, 1944, to January 1, 1945. Since that time the lounge has continued its popularity.

In reporting on the success of the project, Mrs. Carmen Johnson, Larimer County home demonstration agent, says many of the visitors are so favorably impressed with the idea of an attractive, clean place where they can stop to rest for a few minutes while they're in town that they take time to write their thanks to the home demonstration council.

And the lounge turned out to be especially helpful to two mothers with their four children. These two women were traveling across country by auto and spent the whole day at the lounge while they were waiting for their car to be repaired.

A committee of three members of the Loveland Home Demonstration Council handles details of management and maintenance for the lounge. Home demonstration clubs and other groups, as well as individuals, volunteer both their money and service to show their appreciation of the service this project offers.

## Delaware County takes care of its own

Delaware County, N. Y., has an Advisory Committee for Returning War Veterans, and the committee is on the job. What is more, the committee has let the Delaware County

servicemen know it. They have sent letters to about 3,000 boys of their county who are in the service asking them to name ways in which the committee can help when the boys return.

Now, the answers are coming in, and they are full of appreciation for the plan. One of the boys made this comment: "It's a committee such as yours that makes the boys know that the folks back home are thinking of them. I am sure proud to know that I'm from Delaware County. It's good to be an American."

And another wrote: "This sort of thing is something that I have heard about but rather expected it to be handled in a stiff way by the Federal agencies. I was surprised and pleased to find the county authorities taking an interest—and I see no reason why it cannot succeed."

And a third one said: "It makes a soldier feel proud and happy to know that you are doing so much to help us when we get home. Thank you for your consideration. We at least feel that we are not forgotten."

## 4-H herb garden

The 3-year-old Ironsides 4-H Club in Charles County, Md., is making an outstanding success of a novel club project—an herb garden, it was revealed by Ernestine Garofalo, Charles County home demonstration agent.

The project was undertaken in 1942 at the suggestion of the former home demonstration agent, Mary Graham, and the local leader of the club, Ruth Rison. The garden was financed with \$11, a club award for entering the most outstanding exhibit in the Southern Maryland Fair. The 4-H members purchased their first plants—sage, thyme, rosemary, mint, parsley, basil, and caraway—from the herb garden at the Washington Cathedral.

The club found an immediate market for the fresh parsley and dried sage and received a prize of \$10 for the most outstanding project in the county in 1943.

The next year citron was added to the garden and sold in the county, accompanied by 4-H tested recipes for preserving and candying the fruit. One of the citrons received first prize at the Charles County Fair; prizes were also awarded to the rosemary, thyme, and dried sage.

# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

AN OKINAWA 4-H CLUB got under way even when the Japanese were still being flushed from woods and caves, according to an AP dispatch from Vern Haugland. He quotes Lt. (j.g.) Ralph Backstrom, St. Paul, Minn., who is in charge of the activity in the southern third of the island: "We also have organized what you might call a 4-H Club. The children line up, and an Okinawan teacher lectures them on agriculture and gardening. Then they take their hoes and march off to the fields. Later, we plan to give prizes for the best gardens."

SECRETARY ANDERSON, speaking at the Oklahoma Farm and Home Week, said: "So far as I can see, there is only one course for the people of the country to adopt in the years after the war. I should like to see the people of this country produce and distribute things for good living—meat, eggs, milk, automobiles, telephones, radios, air conditioning equipment, television sets—with the same drive they exhibited in producing and using guns and planes and ships to lick the Axis. I should like to see them war on poverty so ceaselessly that within a decade or two malnutrition would be as well controlled as diphtheria and smallpox are today. All this is possible if we have the determination and act upon the motto of the great State of Oklahoma, 'Work Conquers All Things.'"

NATION-WIDE CLOTHING COLLECTION has been a home demonstration activity during the spring and summer in many States. The national goal was 150,000,000 pounds of clothing, and more than that was collected. Reports of home demonstration clubs assuming the responsibility for collecting, mending, and cleaning and packing the clothing came in from many places. Older 4-H Club girls have made an important contribution. Michigan took the lead among the States, with 13,472,174 pounds of clothing collected. Pennsylvania came in second, New York third, and California fourth.

VERMONT HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS took an active part in

the clothing collection. Rhoda Hyde, home demonstration agent in Franklin County, reported: "One of the most interesting points noted during this work was the willingness with which so many people assisted in it and the feeling of personal interest on the part of the women in the people who might eventually receive the clothing." In Caledonia County, the St. Johnsbury home demonstration club was in charge of labeling and tying all clothing from rural areas. They handled approximately 15,000 pounds of clothing.

FRANCES BRUNDIGE, home demonstration agent, Holmes County, Ohio, reports that 40 women volunteered to collect and sort clothing in their community. All clothing was brought to the Agricultural Hall for packing. The chamber of commerce agreed to supply boxes. Twenty-four women sorted, weighed, and packed 8,396 pounds of clothing. Clothing was packed in rough boxes provided by the local undertakers. Two extra days were spent in painting and labeling the boxes.

RURAL FAT COLLECTION continues at a high level as home demonstration clubs get behind it. According to the publishers of county-seat weeklies, there is a regular pick-up service for used fats in 80 percent of their areas. There are facilities for consumers to turn in salvaged fats in 97.7 percent of the places.

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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AN EXAMPLE OF THE CONTRIBUTION of home demonstration clubs to the 75 percent increase in fat collection in rural areas, is given by Sampson County, N. C., which collected 5,883¾ pounds in a 2-month drive. A merchant offered a \$50 war bond to the club bringing in the most fat. A theater offered a free pass to the individual student bringing in the largest number of pounds. The next morning the six home demonstration club women who came to collect, weigh, pay, and give red tokens found 900 pounds of fat in containers of every description.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION WEEK is October 7-13. Kits of materials developed in cooperation with the National Fire Protection Association similar to last year's kit are available to help county agents with publicity suggestions.

FARM LABOR PLACEMENTS made by county agricultural agents and farm labor placement officers during the first 6 months of 1945 were 33 percent greater than for the same period in 1944, according to reports to the extension emergency labor office. In filling 1,645,279 farm jobs, assistance was given to 250,000 farmers.

RESEARCH on weeds, grasses, sedges, and rushes is one of the projects of the DeKalb County, Ga., home demonstration clubs. They are trying out various samples collected on the idle acres in their own neighborhood and finding out how they dry and which ones take color well or which ones season with a lovely shade. This is looking forward to a handicraft industry after the war. An exhibit showing some of the results of their work was presented to a group of rural ministers to enlist their help in seeing that those who need an additional income in postwar years know about the work.

EXTENSION PICTURES from 19 States in all parts of the country are being exhibited this month at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. These have been taken by George W. Ackerman during the 28 years he has served as extension photographer traveling in every State in the Union picturing extension activities on all fronts.