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# Extension Service Review

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APRIL 1934



"WIDER USE OF PASTURES AND MEADOWS IN OUR FARMING SYSTEM WILL REDUCE THE PRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS SLOW UP PRODUCTION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS PER ANIMAL UNIT, CONSERVE THE FERTILITY OF THE SOIL AND FOR AGRICULTURE AS A WHOLE, WILL PRODUCE INCREASED NET RETURNS"

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



## In This Issue

THE problem of long-time agricultural adjustment is being studied by leaders in agriculture, and by farmers who realize that they must farm together and not against one another. In his comprehensive statement on this subject, H. R. Tolley, Assistant Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, says, "First consideration will have to be given to determining the volume of production necessary to maintain our own population on an adequate level of consumption for food and clothing. Added to this must be the probable volume of farm products that can be sold abroad at remunerative prices. Imports of farm products must also be considered. Account will have to be taken of trends in consumption now under way, of possible future changes in dietary habits, and of the effects of varying levels of business activity and consumer purchasing power."



IS A SHIFT to more pasture and forage crops desirable and practical? J. T. Jardine, Chief, Office of Experiment Stations, discusses the recommendations of the interbureau committee appointed by Secretary Wallace to work on a back-to-grass-and-forage program. The State experiment stations and State extension services can give valuable assistance to farmers who see the general logic in farming less intensively but who may not be able to see the possibility of altering their own farm enterprises.

INTENSIVE soil-saving programs carried on by county extension agents and terracing specialists in Arkansas and Missouri have resulted in protecting thousands of acres of fertile rolling and hilllands from erosion. These men instructed groups of farmers at terracing schools and demonstrations so that they could terrace their own farms and show other farmers how the work should be done.

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MORE than 21,000,000 acres of land formerly cultivated have been practically destroyed for farming by the ravages of erosion. Much of this damage to the soil can be prevented. Two of the new Federal agencies—the Civilian Conservation Corps, under the direction of the Forest Service, and the Soil Erosion Control Service of the Department of the Interior—are engaged in activities designed to help farmers to protect their land from erosion. The article outlines progress they are making in their efforts.



## On The Calendar

Washington State 4-H Club Camp, Pullman, Wash., June 11-16.  
 National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D.C., June 14-20.  
 American Association for the Advancement of Science, Berkeley, Calif., June 18-23.  
 4-H Short Course, Storrs, Conn., July 22-29.  
 Farm and Home Week, Amherst, Mass., July 24-27.  
 Farmers' Week, Storrs, Conn., July 30 to August 3.  
 Tri-State Fair, Amarillo, Tex., September 15-21.  
 Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., September 16-22.

FARM records have been responsible for changes made in farming in Knox County, Ohio, where County Agent S. L. Anderson's record in this project is outstanding. When analyses of farm accounts showed members of the Knox County Farm Improvement Club that if they wanted to increase their farm income they must find new sources of income they got busy and changed their farm plans.

WHAT do farmers think of the Agricultural Adjustment program? Director H. J. C. Umberger of Kansas gives us a concise statement based on reports gathered from Kansas farmers, who have been actively engaged in carrying out the program in cooperation with the Kansas Extension Service, and the opinions gathered from newspaper editors of his State.



MUCH credit is due extension workers in Whitman County, Wash., for getting a 97 percent sign-up in the wheat-adjustment campaign in the largest wheat-producing county in the United States. The total benefits for the county in 1933 will amount to approximately \$1,600,000 minus local administrative costs of considerably less than one half cent per bushel.

THE EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW is issued monthly by the EXTENSION SERVICE of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. The matter contained in the REVIEW is published by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The REVIEW seeks to supply to workers and cooperators of the Department of Agriculture engaged in extension activities, information of especial help to them in the performance of their duties, and is issued to them free by law. Others may obtain copies of the REVIEW from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 5 cents a copy, or by subscription at the rate of 50 cents a year, domestic, and 75 cents, foreign. Postage stamps will not be accepted in payment.

# Extension Service Review

VOL. 5

WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 1934

No. 4

## Back to Grass and Forage

J. T. JARDINE<sup>1</sup>

Chief, Office of Experiment Stations

**A**N INTERBUREAU committee appointed by Secretary Wallace to work with the Extension Service and the Office of Information on a back-to-grass-and-forage program is urging farmers to give serious consideration to possibilities of shifting to less intensive methods of using the land. Such a change in the Nation's production schedule involves an increase in pasture and roughage acreage at the expense of cultivated crops.

This recommendation is in harmony with the emergency programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to get supplies in balance with demand.

The United States has lost much of its foreign market for agricultural products. A declining rate of increase in the home population indicates that growth of the domestic market cannot be depended on to take up the slack. Every probability is that the domestic and foreign markets combined will not absorb the production of our agricultural plant, if present methods of production continue. Until we can again sell the total output of our acres, there is no reason for farmers to produce to the limit of the land's capacity.

Farmers can reduce their total output by means they are now using—by taking out of surplus crops small plots on several million farms. As time goes on, public agencies can contribute to the same end by facilitating the return to forest, recreation, and wild-life uses of much land that ought not to be farmed.

Another and relatively permanent way to promote an adjustment of supply to demand is for farmers to change to less intensive methods of farming. Not many years ago we plowed up about 40,000,000 acres of grassland to meet an extraordinary demand. We have kept on producing at high speed. It is time we put

considerable acreage back to grass and legumes, and, fortunately, farmers in many regions are already moving in that direction.

Wider use of pasture and meadows in our farming system will reduce the production of cash crops, slow up production



J. T. Jardine.

of animal products per animal unit, conserve the fertility of the soil, and, for agriculture as a whole, will produce increased net returns.

### *Pastures and Roughages*

The shift should not, as so many suppose, increase the surplus of livestock products and the surplus of grain usually fed to livestock. At present about 70 percent of our grain acreage produces feed for animals. On the average, such acreage produces more animal subsistence than does an average acre of pasture and about the same as an average acre of roughage. Shifting from grain crops to pasture and roughages, therefore, not only tends to reduce animal feed, but when more pastures and roughages are planted at the expense of grain crops, the surpluses of the latter are also partially removed.

The dairy farmer's gross income may be less if he has his cows on roughage and pasture, but his costs of production should be less also. The same is true of the meat producer. It is net income rather than gross income that counts. Farmers often strive to get the last bushel of grain from the soil, the last pound of milk from the cow, or the last pound of meat from the steer. They should not forget that there is a point of diminishing returns.

It is significant that during a period of relatively high prices, farmers in typically hilly land in the Middle West with one half their land in pasture made more money than those with only one fourth of their land in pasture. Experiments by the Bureau of Dairy Industry indicate that dairy farmers in many regions by feeding less grain and more roughage, may produce less milk and at the same time obtain a greater profit.

### *Soil Erosion*

It is sometimes difficult for the individual farmer to protect his land from soil erosion and the loss of fertility. But if these forces can be checked without sacrificing net income, the effort is doubly worth while. Everyone knows that pasture conserves soil fertility. As a preventive of soil erosion, grass cover is second only to forest cover. Cotton and corn land of gentle slope loses as much as 14 to 17 tons of soil per acre annually. The same land in Bermuda grass, blue grass, or Lespedeza loses only from 0.04 to 0.9 tons of soil per acre annually. When it is necessary to reduce production, it should be done by means that do not squander productivity.

On the individual farm many questions affect the practicability of shifting substantially from cultivated crops to pasture and roughage. Each farmer must examine the problem for himself. State experiment stations and the State extension services are in a position to give invaluable assistance to farmers who see the general logic in farming less intensively but who may not be able to see the

(Continued on page 50)

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Jardine is chairman of the interbureau committee appointed by Secretary Wallace. The other members are Dr. C. L. Holmes, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; R. R. Graves, Bureau of Dairy Industry; Dr. A. J. Pieters, Bureau of Plant Industry; Dr. C. B. Smith, Extension Service; and E. W. Sheets, Bureau of Animal Industry.

## Subsistence Homesteads and Land Utilization

ONE OF THE most ambitious land-utilization projects which has been undertaken by the Subsistence Homesteads Division of the Department of the Interior, is located in Jasper and Putnam Counties, Ga. It is being established for the purpose of demonstrating how farm families living on submarginal land may be aided. Five hundred families in the Cotton Belt will eventually take part in the movement, leaving their present eroded and worn-out cotton farms to locate on subsistence homesteads on good farming lands.

In this project, which is being worked out in cooperation with the University System of the State of Georgia, the homesteaders will not continue to raise cotton. This will further reduce the cotton acreage in the State in line with

the present adjustment activity. The farmers who are moved to the homesteads will practice diversified farming on small acreages, and supply first of all food for home consumption. Perhaps some noncompeting crops will be developed as an aid for these families. However, a major part of their cash income is expected to come from some source outside of agricultural activities. It is hoped that small industries will be encouraged to locate nearby, thus partly solving the problem of cash income.

Similar projects are under consideration in Walker County, Ala., and in the northern part of Wisconsin. In the Wisconsin activity farmers are to be given an opportunity to move to better land in the same county. The land taken out of cultivation in this region will be

used for forestry and it is expected that this activity will furnish part-time employment for many of the homesteaders.

The Subsistence Homestead Division does not contemplate any increase in the number of farmers. It aims to demonstrate the practicability of a new way of life that implies a combination of industry and agriculture on a part-time basis. The program of activity for the division includes, to date, 25 projects in 14 States.

The Subsistence Homesteads Division advances loans for the purchase of land, for the building of substantial homes, and for the establishing of families on the 3- to 8-acre subsistence homesteads; this money to be returned to the division over a long period of time to enable the development of further projects. The homesteader agrees to repay the loan in 20 to 25 years through a Government-owned corporation formed at the time the project is established.

## Back to Grass and Forage

(Continued from page 49)

possibility of altering their own farm enterprises. For this reason, most of the Department's educational material on the present program will be cleared through the State directors and editors of extension, with the thought that it will be modified by the State experiment station and extension service specialists, to fit in with local conditions and State extension programs.

One of the knottiest problems that the individual faces is that of labor, for much of the saving accomplished by changing to less intensive farming is the labor cost.

Secretary Wallace points out: "The unemployment situation has caused the children of most farmers to remain on the farm in recent years. \* \* \* The supply of labor available within the farm family is steadily growing. This labor must have employment, and to give it the operator of the farm needs either to enlarge his holding or to cultivate more intensively what he now has. This situation will retard the return of crop land on many farms to pasture and forage production."

And then he adds this significant statement: "But if the Nation decides that returning land to pasture must be emphasized as a national policy, and it turns out to be against the immediate interests of the individual, it is up to the Nation to make it possible for the individual to take the step. That is the solution of the difficulty of the surplus adopted in the Adjustment Act with its system of benefit payments to bring

prices closer to parity, and finance farmers through the period of balancing up our national agricultural plant.

"Indeed that system and those payments now make it possible for thousands of farmers to make the switch to pasture and roughage in larger proportions in their farming practice. If that switch seems generally desirable and if conditions of land tenure, taxation, and other legal or social situations seem to block it, the Nation must deal with them."

### Changing Farming Practices

Obviously, farmers who have "contracted acres" have the greatest immediate opportunity to change their farming practices to a more permanently satisfactory basis. Joseph F. Cox, Chief of the Replacement Crops Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, refers to the 43 million acres temporarily withdrawn from surplus production as "adjustment acreage." This acreage, he states, larger in total extent than the State of Illinois, and constituting about one sixth of the cultivated land of America, is the battleground on which the first attack in the campaign toward an adjusted agriculture, balanced to meet our market demands, must be fought.

"The only logical adjustment in our production", says Mr. Cox, "is to use these acres as a means of taking the first step toward an agricultural set-up that includes a much greater percentage of pasture and forage and a much smaller percentage of grain crops. A shift to grass is apparently a practical method by which our highly geared production machinery can be slowed down without

a serious wrenching throughout the whole structure."

I should like also to cite this cogent statement by Chester C. Davis: "This in fact is the only practicable thing to do with these acres. We cannot get rid of them, and it would not be fair to their owners, nor good national policy, to allow their soil fertility—in fact the very soil itself—to be drained away by letting them lie idle \* \* \*. When our program of adjustment is complete, we shall find that we have shifted from a more intensive to a less intensive type of farming. Farmers will work fewer hours, and yet produce all the market will take of their products."

Since this interbureau committee was formed early in March it has been recommending immediate action. Seed is available to plant some 3,000,000 acres above normal to pasture. There is also enough seed in addition to plant about 1½ million acres above normal to alfalfa and sweetclover. If first seedings were rather thin, it might be possible to get as much as 6,000,000 acres above normal into pasture and roughage. This is only a beginning. Farmers should be encouraged to save seed this season for establishing pastures next spring.

Different regions, of course, require different grasses, different methods of use, and different fertilizer treatment, and so on. There are regional management problems. All these problems are clearly up to the States, with the United States Department of Agriculture furnishing what assistance it can. The Department has prepared a pasture handbook and has numerous publications on grasses and forage which may be had upon request.

# The Problem of Long-Time Agricultural Adjustment

H. R. TOLLEY

Assistant Administrator, Agricultural Adjustment Administration

*THIS is the first of two articles reviewing the relation of agricultural production adjustment to the general agricultural picture.*

I DO NOT have to recount to extension workers and those cooperating with them step by step our drive for agricultural adjustment to date. I take it that you are familiar with what has been done. I do want, however, to try at the outset with broad strokes, to draw the whole picture together. The main fact is that we had to get some 40,000,000 acres of land retired from production, and that we are now in the midst of forced emergency maneuvers to that end.

During the World War some 50,000,000 acres in Europe, not counting Russia, went out of cultivation. The United States brought about 40,000,000 more acres into cultivation and geared up its whole farm plant into a higher production. After the war we kept it up. We kept on farming as if there were still great hungry foreign markets crying for our crops. In reality, such markets were rapidly dwindling. The world owed us money; we would not accept goods in return. With our tariff wall as it was, and still is, the only way we could keep up the appearance of a great foreign custom was to lend those other nations more and more money with which to keep on taking our food and fabrics. This is what we did until about 1928. Finally we got sense enough to quit it. The false front of our foreign markets at once collapsed. We had at last to face the fact that we were farming, at least, 40,000,000 acres too much land.

## Production Control

Beginning in May of 1933, with the passage of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, we have attacked our problem barehanded employing a number of new methods, the most important of which is the allotment plan. The allotment idea, very broadly stated, is to get that 40,000,000 or more acres of our national area out of production, inducing each individual farmer to reduce his plantings a certain percentage. The chief means we have thus far employed to obtain such cooperation, is to pay farmers enough Government money to make it worth their while to come in. We are raising this money by processing taxes.

The voluntary allotment method has proved of enormous value. It is enabling us to set up rapidly and democratically the social machinery absolutely necessary to an orderly farm production in this country. At the same time, I think we ought to recognize that our *voluntary* or *induced* production-control campaigns as now practiced, have probably got to grow into something rather different if they are to last. They are an admirable emergency device. They are doing the business, establishing the essential groundwork for an orderly American agriculture, organized from the ground up to fight its own price battles for itself.

What we are getting for the money we are disbursing in adjustment payments now, is a basic adjustment plainly necessary to our national recovery. Those 40,000,000 surplus acres have been jamming with their products the channels of trade. Our farm surplus output played a part in bringing on the general business paralysis which closed every bank in the land last March. We could not go on forever without planning.

## Acreage Reduction

Operating largely under the allotment method, we expect by the end of 1934 to have pared 20,000,000 acres, piece by piece, out of our national corn acreage; 15,000,000 acres out of cotton; 7,500,000 acres out of wheat; and 500,000 acres out of tobacco. Add it up, and it comes to 43,000,000 acres of the United States to be taken out of commercial, competitive production, under the voluntary allotment method, farm by farm, pro rata, by the end of this year.

That is a tremendous amount of land to take out of use. Forty-three million acres is considerably more than the area of Illinois. It is almost one eighth of all the cultivated land in the United States. Now, suppose we have by the end of this year reached our goal, suppose we have 43,000,000 acres taken out of the crops I have named, taken out in fields, strips, and patches all over the country. Displacement is on the basis of wherever those crops happened to be growing when we launched allotment campaigns. If all these campaigns succeed, we shall experience a measurable relief from the pressure and danger of agricultural surpluses. But, we shall still be a long way from making the wisest use of our land.



H. R. Tolley.

Our efforts toward land retirement thus far have been, necessarily, an emergency drive to get out a certain proportion of certain crops throughout the country, regardless of whether any given part of the country ought to be growing more or less of the crop in question. Allotted withdrawals under the present system, tend to proceed, crop by crop, without due regard for correct farm-management interrelations, on farms, and by regions. We have made a good beginning, but in so doing, we have plainly let ourselves in for a much longer and much harder job. That is the way of progress. Our largely successful scramble to take out land in patches, and to organize farmers for controlled production, is stimulating a great deal of new thinking. It is making our farmers think in terms of farming *together*, not *against one another*. It is creating a multitude of new situations which force us all, as never before, to think hard and fast. We can't sit around now as we used to and contemplate the dream of a land in order, wisely used. Every day we are doing something which makes it more imperative that we think ahead of the present stage of agricultural reorganization and set up a permanent land program for the long pull.

We are formulating such a program. From reports in the press and elsewhere, you have probably heard something about it. The reports to date have, generally speaking, been so various as to leave one rather confused. One line of comment, especially chosen by a few old-time correspondents, who want to see the new deal fail, holds that our whole voluntary allotment program has broken down. Consequently, we are said to be dashing into complete compulsion as to farm allotments; and at the same time striding away from the allotment princi-

ple altogether, in the direction of large, outright Government purchases and withdrawals of marginal land.

This is a totally incorrect version. We are, at the insistence of a very large farm sentiment, looking for some way to hold in line the noncooperator; but we are *not* doing this as *dreamers*, with our eyes to the stars; we are trying to be *realists* with our ears to the ground.

Again, we are pushing as fast as we can toward a more selective retirement of bad land; but we certainly do not see this thing of taking out mean, punishing land in large chunks as a complete substitute for the allotment method. Large-scale land purchase and retirement will be a supplement to, not a substitute for, a planned agricultural production.

#### *Flexible Plan*

We need to develop and have as our goal a comprehensive plan for agriculture as a whole. Such a plan can not be rigid and fixed but must be flexible enough to meet changes in international and industrial conditions as they arise. It must also provide for as much flexibility and freedom of action, on the part of individual farmers as is consistent with a proper balance between farm production and the demand therefor.

First consideration will have to be given to determining the volume of production necessary to maintain our own population on an adequate level of consumption for food and clothing. Added to this must be the probable volume of farm products that can be sold abroad at remunerative prices. Imports of farm products must also be considered. Account will have to be taken of trends in consumption now under way, of possible future changes in dietary habits, and of the effects of varying levels of business activity and consumer purchasing power.

#### *Appraisal of Resources*

Next comes an appraisal of our resources, the distribution of our present agricultural production, and the adaptation of the different regions to the production of the various crops and classes of livestock. This appraisal would determine what lands now used for farming had best be used for something else, and what farm lands had best be devoted to less intensive production than at present. The objective will be to develop a regionalized plan, which will result in the desired volume of production and which at the same time will be flexible enough to permit each individual farmer to follow the system best adapted to his conditions.

Many people have felt that it is the so-called submarginal land which is

largely responsible for our surplus problem, and that if it only were taken out or retired from cultivation that the situation would be corrected.

In an attempt to determine how important the production in such areas really is, Dr. F. F. Elliott, of the Planning Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, has made a rough selection of some 25 areas, generally conceded to be the least productive type-of-farming areas in the United States. If all the farm land in these areas were immediately retired completely from production, a change which of course is neither desirable nor feasible, there would be taken out approximately 125,000,000 to 140,000,000 acres, or about 14 percent of our total farm land; which includes about 38,000,000 acres of crop land harvested or roughly 10 percent of that total.

This would reduce corn production about 7 percent, wheat production 11 percent, cotton production 11 percent, and hog production 5 percent.

#### *Retiring Poor Land*

Since in each of these poor regions there are to be found smaller or larger areas of good land, it is probable that the effect of retiring the poorer portions of the areas would not exceed 50 percent of the above figures, and might be even less.

While such a reduction would be of some help in relieving the present excess production, it obviously would not go far in correcting the agricultural surplus problem.

The main reasons for buying such marginal land out of production and keeping it out, are social. Such land does add something to the surpluses; but our main concern with it in an interwoven program of land utilization, is to stop bad land from wasting human lives. A great many farms now being operated condemn the people there, and their children, to worse than peasant standards of living. It would be sensible, as well as decent, to give such people a chance to sell and move to where they will have a better chance. Not only that; you want such land out of the new economic picture. A closely allotted production on our better lands would, I think, be much easier to operate, and far more effective, if we did not, as now, have to carry along in the general movement, tragically-handicapped backward, farming people, on marginal and submarginal soil.

Production adjustment is not the only problem which is making us lose sleep in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. We are trying, also, to hack a new way through the modern jungle

of distribution. To this end, the Farm Act places in our hands new weapons; marketing agreements, with licensing provisions, a governmental club behind the door, to beat into line the chiseling 10 percent or so who are likely to defeat any agreement among competitors to fit their operations together and wipe out waste. We have made fair, and in some instances notable, progress toward effective agreements as to the marketing of compact, highly specialized agricultural products. The canning peach agreement and the citrus fruit agreements are cases in point. Milk is something else. The industry is widely diffused, and in some areas at war within itself. At the present level of buying power, the dairy business has been bursting with contending surpluses. Our utmost efforts in writing milk marketing agreements have convinced us that without an ordered production, there can be no orderly marketing. We have learned that unless great care is taken in preparing an agreement it is likely to blow up in your lap.

Once we have managed to reduce our burdensome stocks of the crops that we used to export in quantity, our problem of maintaining an internal balance of spending power between agriculture and industry, our major producing groups, will perhaps become more clear-cut and plain, though not, perhaps, less difficult. For a long-time program of agricultural adjustment, our aim should be the highest possible standard of living for all our people, and for the greatest possible contribution not only of our farms but of all our other land to the national welfare.

**F**ARMERS in Florida who received money in payment for crop reduction in 1933 cannot be classed as hoarders. They took their checks to town and purchased needed supplies for the farm and the farm family. They have paid back taxes, reduced their debts, and purchased clothing, foodstuffs, furniture, tires, fertilizers, implements and seeds. Many buildings and much farm machinery have received long-needed repairs. Merchants in the 14 counties where a survey disclosed the above facts said that farm business has been much better this winter than last.

**M**ORE than 245 private landowners purchased 755,675 spruce and pine trees for forest plantings in New Jersey during the past year. Fifty-four percent of the trees were pine which indicates that the trees are being used for straight reforestation work. A large number of the plantings were made in the agricultural regions of the State.

# The County Adjustment Campaigns

*County Agents Tell How Wheat, Cotton, and Tobacco Contracts  
Were Signed in Their Counties*

## Signing Up The Largest Wheat County

One of the outstanding achievements of the wheat adjustment campaign was the 97 percent sign-up in Whitman County, Wash., the largest wheat-producing county in the United States. The county has an area of 1,275,212 acres (exclusive of towns and cities), of which 965,331 acres are listed as tillable. The 4-year average acreage in wheat was 458,729 acres, producing an average of 11,295,238 bushels of wheat, with an average yield of 24.6 bushels per acre.

Whitman County had only a 4-H club Agent, A. F. Harms, when the wheat program was announced. However, he did excellent work in getting the educational campaign under way. It was not until August 10, 1933, that Carl G. Izett, a highly capable county agent, could be transferred from Clark County to Whitman County. The county was divided into 16 communities and the educational meetings completed. On September 1, R. P. Benson, was assigned to the county as emergency agent to help with the big job.

The organization meetings were begun September 11 and completed September 30 when the county control association was organized and a budget of \$24,032 adopted. The sign-up was efficiently carried out by moving the entire staff into each of the community divisions, devoting the morning to the sign-up and the afternoon to the meeting and election of the community committeemen.

The checking of applications began October 1. The office staff had to be increased to 6 checkers, 1 statistician, 1 chief clerk, 3 stenographers, 1 draftsman, 1 file clerk, 2 copyists, and 2 typists. In addition to the county agent and the emergency agent, the 4-H club agent and the three members of the allotment committee were busily occupied with the task. The staff occupied 4 large rooms on the main floor and 2 in the basement of the county courthouse.

The first check-up showed an excess of 437 acres and 809,932 bushels over the official estimate. The second check cut out 164,154 bushels, leaving the figure still too high. Although the State Board of Review accepted the acreage, a 5½ percent cut for all applications was necessary to reconcile figures with the official estimate.

Adjusting the 4-year average to the United States 5-year average showed a total of 10,900,266 bushels. The total



Wheat benefit payments being issued in Whitman County, Wash. During the morning 1,236 checks totaling \$304,000 were handed to wheat-producers in the county.

adjusted bushels under contract was 10,551,259, or 96.7 percent of the total average bushels. Only 380,000 bushels were reported as noncooperating. Based on the average wheat acres, 440,026 acres were placed under contract and 16,392 reported as noncooperating.

The first shipment of contracts was made December 28 when 2,783 contracts weighing 147 pounds were expressed collect to Washington, D.C. They were followed with 59 on January 10 and 22 more sent later. Only 22 applicants refused to sign contracts while 13 are still being held as doubtful.

The first consignment of 4,224 checks, totaling \$1,037,054 in benefit payments, was received January 30. When the second installment of the 1933 payment is made, the total benefits for the county will amount to approximately \$1,600,000 minus local administrative costs of considerably less than one half cent per bushel.

County Agent Izett and Emergency Agent Benson, together with a loyal and hard-working staff, did an outstanding piece of work, considering the tremendous number of applications and contracts they were forced to check and the number of wheat growers they had to contact. How well the farmers were convinced of the desirability of the agricultural adjustment program is reflected

in the high sign-up and the enthusiastic way they are cooperating in the corn-hog reduction plan.

—W. D. Staats, Extension Editor,  
Washington.

## Well-Laid Plans Work

The wheat adjustment campaign in Frederick County, Md., resulted in obtaining 1,422 applications, representing approximately 82 percent of the wheat acreage. There were 22 applicants who refused to sign contracts—1,408 contracts having been sent to Washington on November 22. Wheat allotment checks totaling nearly \$100,000 were distributed the week before Christmas.

The success of the campaign can be attributed mainly to thorough preliminary work which gained the support of business men, bankers, and civic and farm organizations. The county newspapers were very helpful and cooperative in using material regarding the campaign. A series of articles was used before any material was sent out to farmers. Leading business and professional men were acquainted with the program. A temporary committee of farm leaders was selected and thoroughly acquainted with the provisions of the adjustment plan.

The list of eligible wheat growers was compiled and a letter sent to each con-



County Agent Shoemaker of Frederick County, Md., like many agents, found it necessary to increase his clerical staff to handle the large volume of work resulting from production adjustment activities.

taining pertinent facts regarding the plan. Twelve educational meetings were well attended. At these meetings the need and method of adjustment of wheat production were explained, applications were distributed, and instructions given in filling out the various documents. No "high-power" salesmanship was attempted. An effort was made to present the plan clearly and convincingly. There were no arguments. Each man was left to make his own decision. The idea was presented that "here is a plan which affords the opportunity for farmers to help themselves." A second series of meetings was held at which community committees were elected. Much of the success of the campaign is due to the splendid type of men elected to these committees. After the final sign-up meetings every eligible producer was contacted by a member of his local committee and given a final opportunity to join with his neighbors in controlling production.

That the program was carefully and forcefully presented to farmers is borne out by the fact that only 14 out of 1,422 applicants refused to sign contracts.

The essential features of the success of the campaign were: A fine spirit of cooperation on the part of producers; thorough preliminary educational work among business men and organization leaders; active cooperation of farm organizations; the release of news through the press, and an efficient and competent office force.

—Henry R. Shoemaker, County Agent,  
Frederick County, Md.

### Farmers Were Willing

In the beginning I have this confession to make, "I have never entered into any of my duties, as an extension worker, with so much enthusiasm as I did the cotton-reduction campaign."

This was prompted by a feeling that a definite change was taking place, designed to divert our haphazard "hit or miss" system of agriculture to one of controlled production and controlled prices. I think my attitude was no exception to the rule, for on every hand I found people—farmers, business, and professional men—all eager to help with the program. That is what made it easy, yet it was nerve wracking.

Farm people, even though they may be individualistic, are no different from other groups. When they are convinced of the best course they follow it. To convince was our part. It must be done by enrolling all the available assistance. It had to be done at once.

Payne County has 18 townships. Two leading farmers from each township were informed that they were on a temporary cotton-reduction committee and were asked to meet at the county agent's office. Thirty-four of the thirty-six invited were present. It later developed that the two who were absent failed to get the notice. The plan was briefly laid before the committee, together with instructions in filling out contracts. One additional member was later added to the committee in some of the heavier cotton townships. A county committee consisting of two farmers living near the county seat was selected to serve with

the county agent to pass finally upon the application for contracts. A representative of each bank of the county met at the call of the county agent, pledged the assistance of the bank, and was made familiar with the plan.

Eighteen meetings were arranged, one in each township. The local committees assisted in giving publicity, and all the newspapers of the county cooperated in a fine way. The object of the meeting was to explain the plan and to take offers. The meetings were so scheduled that the county agent could make one each hour, beginning with the first meeting at 9 a.m., ending with the seventh meeting of the day at 4 p.m.

The same schedule of 7 meetings was followed the second day, and the third day, until the remaining 4 meetings were finished. Thus 2,000 cotton farmers and others interested were contacted in slightly more than 2½ days. From this group, 1,327 contracts were finally approved with a total acreage offered to be taken out of production of 12,309. The total acres planted was 36,810. The total cash payment indicated without option amounted to \$121,974. There were some 800 bales of cotton optioned with a total cash payment of \$18,794. Most of the offers were signed up at the meetings. One may question the efficiency of such a hurried campaign, but perhaps not in this case when he knows that committees from the various chambers of commerce of the county, previously instructed in filling out the contract form, met the county agent at every meeting and took over the detail work—the committee remaining to finish the job after the agent's departure.

The question may be asked, "How did you get the farmers there on time with such an exact schedule?" We did this by publishing our itinerary, and stating that we would begin on the "dot" and end the same way. They were there almost 100 percent at the beginning of each meeting, perhaps to see if we could really make the schedule. We did, excepting that we were 2 minutes late at one meeting due to mistaking a road.

The honesty and success of the whole program rested upon the local committees and in most instances they were loyal to their trust, to the point of turning down the offer of a brother if they considered it too high.

Yes, the job was done in a great way throughout the Cotton Belt, and why? Simply because the people wanted to do it. They were ready for something to

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# Teachers of Vocational Agriculture Aid the Adjustment Program

C. H. LANE

Chief, Agricultural Education Service, Office of Education,  
Department of the Interior

ONE OF THE major objectives in the program of the teachers of vocational agriculture throughout the cotton and wheat areas of the United States this year has been cooperation with the established agencies for carrying out the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. This cooperation is being given chiefly in three principal ways. First, a study of problems met by farmers in complying with the crop-control plan of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration is included in the course of instruction given in all-day and part-time schools and in evening classes for adult farmers. Second, agricultural instructors are assisting farmers in their respective communities in solving individual farming problems which arise as a result of the Agricultural Adjustment program, by conferring with them on their own farms while traveling about supervising the project work of vocational pupils. Third, State supervisors of agricultural education and trainers of agricultural teachers in the land-grant colleges cooperate with other State agencies in disseminating information and literature relative to the Agricultural Adjustment program and assist in formulating plans for making the program effective.

In a statement made several months ago, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace declared that the success of the crop-control plan depends on the country people; they must do the job themselves. No one else can do it for them, but they must first be told plainly and honestly what it is all about; and it is in telling farmers "what it is all about" that vocational agriculture teachers have played an effective part.

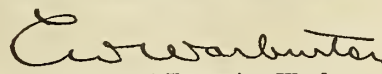
Shortly after the Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed, the President and the Secretary of Agriculture decided to intrust the educational phase of these production-control campaigns to the Extension Service.

## Cooperation of Teachers

Fresh evidence of the sincerity and enthusiasm of teachers in cooperating in the adjustment program is constantly coming to the attention of the agricul-

tural service of the Federal Office of Education. Only recently, for example, the supervisor of agriculture in one of the larger agricultural States wrote: "In some cases, teachers have dismissed classes for as much as a week to help with the corn-hog program. Yesterday I observed a class of 20 junior-senior

IN SOME STATES and communities, the extension forces have overlooked the assistance that vocational agriculture teachers may render in the crop and livestock production control work. These teachers are anxious to be of service in the various agricultural adjustment campaigns and welcome an opportunity to cooperate with extension forces in the crop-control program. Whenever it is possible therefore, the agricultural extension forces should seek the assistance of vocational agriculture teachers in acquainting farmers with the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act and in helping them to comply with the provisions of the Government's acreage reduction plans. Every effort should be made to strengthen the cooperative relations between the vocational education and the agricultural extension forces in order to assure the success of these plans.

  
Director of Extension Work.

boys who had completed their work on the corn-hog program. It is amazing how these older boys can grasp the entire situation. The parents of these boys seem to be depending on them to keep them up to the minute on information relative to the corn-hog program. The teacher I visited yesterday has been following the practice of holding one meeting per week since September in order to keep the farmers up to date on the various adjustment programs."



C. H. Lane.

It seems to me we have every reason to feel encouraged about the way the agricultural teachers have assisted in making effective the first successful campaign ever undertaken to combat the surplus of farm commodities. I have reference, of course, to the cotton campaign. It is a great satisfaction to know that the 2,000 teachers in the cotton-growing areas threw their strength so whole-heartedly into the campaign. I think it is worthy of comment, also, that in no instance did the vocational agriculture teacher presume to assume the responsibility for the success of the acreage-reduction program. On the contrary, he simply offered his services to those who were responsible in giving farmers the information and assistance they needed in connection with the adjustment campaign.

## State Supervisors Assist

In order to insure the fullest possible cooperation between teachers of agriculture and county extension agents, the agricultural service of the Federal Office of Education early last fall: Requested State supervisors of agriculture to cooperate with the State directors of extension in formulating a program of relationships between the State and county directors of the Agricultural Adjustment Act; suggested that the State director of extension invite State vocational agriculture officials to State meetings and agricultural teachers to county meetings of farmers called to consider acreage-reduction plans; and requested that State directors of extension send all mimeographed or printed instructions on agricultural adjustment plans to agricultural teachers as well as to county

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## Indian Potato Club Boys Succeed

WHEN 4-H potato club work was presented to the boys and girls of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation it was given a hearty response. A club of 19 members was organized in 1931. Each member was to raise one eighth acre of potatoes from certified seed which the agency would furnish on credit. The club was enrolled as a regular group

the county fair, and submitted records of their work. Six girls joined the project this year and shared success with the boys.

At maturity all the potatoes were harvested at the same time and brought to the agency where they were graded and packed in clean, new bags for shipment. The seconds were taken for home use



of the Idaho extension service under the county agent of Bannock County.

Results have been even better than expected. In 1932, the club membership jumped to 32. Whether this popularity came from the hard work of pulling weeds and cultivating the potatoes, from the cash return that came to the members, or from the recreational program of trips, swimming, baseball games, and meetings may never be known. Almost every boy of club age on the reservation joined the club during this year, even though the requirements were made for one fourth acre. Of the 32 members, 31 harvested a crop, exhibited samples at

during the following winter. When the grading was completed the club had 440 hundred-pound bags (a carload and a half) of fine first-class potatoes. The entire lot was sold and shipped to the Chilocco Indian School and the Sequoyah Orphan Training School in Oklahoma.

In 1933, 35 members enrolled and completed their projects. The potatoes grown were one of the features of the Bannock County Fair. Four ribbons were won, two of them blue, at the annual "Spud Day" show, where there was great competition as the best potato growers in the county and State exhibit there.

The achievements of this Fort Hall Indian Potato Club could not help being impressive to those who have been familiar with the accomplishments of clubs in other communities where the organization is somewhat older. The efforts of the Indian youth to take advantage of an offered opportunity to become a more independent person and to improve the home life by making it more self-sustaining have not been exceeded by any other group. Their club work represents an effort on the part of boys and girls of very limited means; it indicates an eagerness to participate in a worthy enterprise, and a willingness to go farther as the opportunity offers expansion. It is helping them to help themselves.

OKLAHOMA has under consideration a project of erosion control which covers 128,000 acres of the Stillwater creek watershed. Various methods will be used in this control test including terracing, check dams, storage basins, grass, trees, and contour farming. A 5-year agreement with the landowners will facilitate carrying on of the project and assure access to the areas under study, the agreement to go with the farm in case of sale.

WASHINGTON State reports the largest 4-H club enrollment in the history of the State with 10,079 members actively engaged in project work. Club girls canned 29,000 quarts of fruits and vegetables and 9,000 jars of jams and jellies. They prepared 50,000 different dishes in meal-preparation clubs and baked 15,000 loaves of bread. Club boys fattened and slaughtered more than 30,000 pounds of pork for home use, while club home gardens supplied thousands of dollars worth of vegetables. The total returns for 4-H activities in the State are estimated at \$64,945.

## Teachers of Vocational Agriculture Aid the Adjustment Program

(Continued from page 55)

agricultural agents. And right here let me say, that there has been the finest sort of cooperation on the part of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration at Washington in furnishing State supervisors, agricultural teacher trainers, and teachers with subject matter material for use in all-day and part-time classes for farm boys and night classes for adult farmers.

Early in the Agricultural Adjustment campaign teachers were advised to cooperate with county agricultural agents in holding meetings of farmers to explain plans and contracts covering the control programs for particular commodities; in assisting farmers in filling out contract blanks; in working with county committees in visiting farmers in the community; and in assisting in any other possible way.

In order that farmers may secure maximum benefits from the Agricultural Adjustment Act, efficient use must be made of land retired from ordinary crop production. An unusually large number of

agricultural teachers, therefore, have held night classes to explain the regulations governing the use of retired land, what it may and may not be used for, what farmers should grow on it, and the advantages of using land for permissible crops; and to discuss production problems from the standpoint of production costs, quality products, and proper distribution. Practical problems—tariffs, taxation, marketing, transportation, credit, cooperation, and "live-at-home" plans—are discussed with farmers in these evening classes, now being held in more than 2,000 centers in the United States.

# Terracing—A Problem of Land Utilization

**T**HE long-time program of land utilization calls for conservation of the soil. This is no new thing to extension agents. Some methods which have proved their worth through the years in convincing farmers of the soil-erosion problem are explained in the following article.

## Arkansas Uses Intensive Campaign

**M**ORE than a half million acres of cultivated land have been terraced in the last decade as the result of soil-saving programs of Arkansas county agents.

Terracing in the extension program until recent years was more generally in the nature of personal service. Many county agents in Arkansas realized that if the fertility of Arkansas' thousands of acres of rolling and hill lands was to be saved, they needed to have an intensive program rather than just personally servicing a number of farmers or even depending on demonstrations for the spread of practices. The value of soil saving with terraces had been established generally, and the point had been reached where a broader program was needed.

The plan adopted in those areas where soil and water conservation was a major problem briefly consisted of training key groups, or local leaders, from each community. In some counties 4-H club boys made up the teams, while in others the farmers themselves were the local leaders.

One of the most intensive community terracing campaigns attempted in the State was in Van Buren County 2 years ago under the leadership and supervision of G. E. Tanner, county agent. In this work, Mr. Tanner had the whole-hearted cooperation and assistance of A. V. Presley, a vocational agriculture teacher. In this concerted drive for soil conservation, 1,600 acres of land was terraced.

In organizing the campaign 4-H club boys and future farmers were called into the drive. These boys, who pledged themselves to do everything possible to make the campaign a success, enlisted the support of their parents. Four meetings were held where men and boys with terracing experience, farm levels, and acres to be terraced were listed and schedules were made out. A foreman was selected for each squad of terracers. No land was laid out without the direction of a man or boy who had at least 2 years' experience. Many a morning during the campaign found squads at sunrise in the fields running terrace



G. E. Tanner

Lloyd Dhonau.

John A. Hemphill.

lines. The campaign closed with a community supper and program at the community high school. "No evidence of hard times was apparent—the table actually groaned under the weight of good things to eat", writes Mr. Tanner.

Van Buren County is almost 100 years old and is situated in the north-central portion of Arkansas in the foothills of the Ozarks. Mr. Tanner has been carrying on an intensive educational program in terracing which has been one of his major projects in the county. His adult and 4-H club terracing teams have won State championships at the State's annual Farmers' Week held in Fayetteville by the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas. One of his methods is the holding of 2-day terracing schools. The first day is spent in instructing the group in setting up a farm level and running terrace lines. The second day is devoted to building a terrace drag and building at least one terrace. In 1933, 130 men and boys received training in terracing. Mr. Tanner says "A terracing campaign cannot be put on successfully without several years of preparatory work in training groups."

Bradley County, which is a typical upland county in the southeastern part of Arkansas, now has about 75 percent of its cultivated land protected from erosion by terraces. This is the result of the work of three county agents, the work going back about 12 years.

John A. Hemphill, who has been county agent of Bradley County for the last 3 years, reports that terracing has progressed rapidly in his county since 1923. Prior to that, very few farms had been terraced. The farmers of his county, he says, have never been taught that the county agent was supposed to lay off

their terraces and build them, but rather they have been taught that the county agent gives instructions. Local leaders who have been trained at demonstrations and schools during the last few years are now training others in terracing. Many farmers call at Mr. Hemphill's office to borrow a level and rod and inquire what farmer in their community can give instructions. Mr. Hemphill says the few remaining farms that have not been protected are being terraced as rapidly as possible during the winter months. There are a number who are now waiting their turns at the instruments for this winter. Mr. Hemphill, before transfer to Bradley County, was county agent of White County where he made soil-erosion control one of his major objectives. In his 3 years of work in White County more than 30,000 acres of cultivated land were terraced as the result of his soil-saving program.

Approximately 3,000 acres of land have been terraced in Columbia County situated in the southwestern part of the State, in the last 2 years. The immediate terracing work was started in September 1931, when Lloyd Dhonau became county agent in Columbia County. At that time Mr. Dhonau held a terracing school where leaders from each township in the county were trained in order that they might carry on the program in their various communities. Fifty men were taught the use of the farm level and rod, the principles of terracing, and how to run terrace lines. To date there are 35 farm levels in the county and 175 farmers who can run terrace lines.

These three counties are examples of the various methods employed by county agents in areas of the State where terracing is a major consideration.

### Selecting Missouri Demonstrators

"My 20 years' experience as an extension agent has taught me that the essential requirement of a successful demonstration is a farmer cooperator who will really carry out the idea and instructive given", declares County Agent T. F. Lueker of Cole County, Mo. He found that most central Missouri farmers agreed that soil erosion is a most serious problem but not all were willing to put forth money and effort required to check this erosion with a system of good strong terraces.



Terraces on the Erhart farm.

The agent had observed the farming practices of J. O. Erhart and so for 12 years and was thoroughly familiar with Mr. Erhart's methods before selecting him as a terracing demonstrator. That he was a good choice is shown by the results obtained. A half day was spent by the county agent and the specialist in getting the Erharts going. Only 2 years have passed since they made their start, yet they now have a system of first-class terraces on 66 of their 100 acres of cultivated land. These terraces the State extension specialist, G. E. Martin, pronounced as good as any in Missouri. The results have not been confined to the Erhart farm for last year new terraces were built on more than 100 acres of Cole County farms.

Farmer Erhart tells the following story of his terracing experience:

"We farm hill-land in central Missouri that has an average slope of about 8 percent on union silt soil and which is medium in fertility.

"The crops on our cultivated land were small grain and legumes. We did not raise corn or any row crops, as the

soil washed so badly. To keep down erosion and to save our soil as much as possible, we mended gullies and washes as best we could. We finally decided that it was more work to mend all these washes and gullies than it would be to build terraces, as we were not saving the soil and holding it on the field. We then became interested in terracing.

"In the fall of 1931, we attended 'Terracing Day' at the Missouri College of Agriculture. Lectures and demonstrations were given. After this meet-

ing we knew terraces were what we wanted and that it would be better to put work we had been doing on gullies and washes in on terraces and then have something that would be permanent.

"A few days after getting back home we asked T. F. Lueker, our county agent, to have G. E. Martin, terracing specialist, come to our farm and help us start our terracing work.

"After the splendid help we were given we have been able to survey our own lines and construct terraces. All our terraces are in good working order. Our 2-year-old terraces show plainly an increased benefit over our terraces only 1 year old.

"We will complete our terracing as soon as we have time and the land is free from crops. With our land terraced we can raise corn, if we desire, with little loss of soil, by running rows on contour lines practically parallel with terraces.

"Terraces are saving our soil, holding moisture, better than unterraced land and gives us a contour line to follow in farming. They also give us a chance to use better methods of farming."

### Explaining Production Credit

County agricultural agents, district supervisors, State directors, and others in the extension family are finding Film Strip No. 1, Applying for Production Credit, helpful in explaining the new production-credit system to farmers.

Dealing with how to apply for production credit and how the local production-credit associations fit into the new farm-credit set-up, the new film strip helps you in telling farmers about different kinds of production loans, the interest rate charged, the purchase of stock in the association, maturities for different loans, and the kind of security required. You can get this strip of 34 frames for 28 cents from Dewey & Dewey, 5716 Thirty-fifth Avenue, Kenosha, Wis. The Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D.C., will gladly send you lecture notes and other supplementary material.

**C**HINCH BUGS became so numerous in southeastern Kansas in 1932 that wheat, oats, and barley were badly damaged. To remedy the situation, a campaign was inaugurated to protect the 1933 crop. The work was begun late in 1932 with 142 bug-burning demonstrations attended by 526 local leaders from 10 counties. As a result, 2,917 farmers put this control measure into practice. Very few chinch bugs were in evidence in the early spring in wheat, oats, and barley. State and county road officials cooperated in burning roadsides and in some places those working on relief funds assisted.

As an example of the value of the campaign, a cooperator in Harvey County stated that the chinch bugs cost him \$500 in 1932; the bugs destroyed \$200 worth of corn forcing him to purchase \$200 worth of corn for cattle feed, and the land on which the crop was destroyed cost him \$100 in rent. This farmer headed a burning party in his community with the result that he has suffered no damage during 1933 from the chinch bugs.

**I**LLINOIS farmers have organized 800 associations to cooperate with the various Farm Credit Administration loan branches. Farmers in the State expect to make every use of the farm credit organization to further their agricultural activity. Special attention for loans to cooperatives is being given by the organization, says C. H. James, manager of one of the large cooperatives in the State.

# Improvement Clubs Change Farm Practices

"IT IS THE most basic thing we do in extension work." That is the answer with which S. L. Anderson met the query, "What do you think of the farm account work you have been doing in Knox County these last 6 years?"

There was an excellent reason for asking this question of County Agent Anderson. In Ohio, a State that for years has advocated farm record keeping, Anderson's record in this project is very outstanding.

He first became interested in urging proper keeping of farm accounts in 1927 when, through the assistance of 6 teachers of vocational agriculture, he induced 33 farmers to enroll themselves in the Knox County Farm Improvement Club. Today 23 of them still keep records. To this list a hundred more names have been added.

To become a member of the club a farmer must meet, or agree to meet, three requirements. He must be a farm operator—owner, tenant, or partner; he must agree to keep a complete system of farm accounts, using the method approved by the Ohio Agricultural Extension Service; and he must agree to make at least one improvement a year on his farm or in his home.

## Results

Anderson sums up briefly the results of this work:

"Farm account keepers have been the leaders in Knox County in finding new sources of cash income. Formerly, in the years before our club was organized, the average farmer in the county fed beef cattle and hogs, and of course, raised the usual corn, wheat, and clover crops. Now you will find a change has come over Knox County agriculture. Hogs and beef cattle no longer hold the predominant place in the farming system. To the corn, wheat, and clover crops have been added others.

"Now the shift is clearly in the direction of dairying and poultry; and potatoes, truck crops, and small fruits are becoming important sources of farm income. These changes were first made on the farms of account keepers."

Anderson named improvements that have come about largely as the result of the third requirement. Swank Brothers, of Fredericktown, put up a storage house for potatoes, after finding that local buyers almost invariably paid more for potatoes delivered to them in the winter than for potatoes delivered in the fall. Walter Lemley, of Fredericktown, stopped buying his chicks in June. He



The Knox County, Ohio, Farm Improvement Club holds its spring summary meeting.

found, also, from his records, that the poultry business doesn't pay unless the chicks are hatched in March or early April. C. E. McLarium, of Howard, took out old fences and made his fields larger and better fitted for using his modern machinery.

These are just a few of the sort of changes that have come about. Each farmer admits that his eyes were opened to the need for them by the summary of his accounts made each year by Guy W. Miller, extension specialist in farm management at the university.

Miller reserves a week each spring which he devotes to the Knox County Farm Improvement Club. He brings to the county the summaries of the hundred or more accounts sent him by Anderson, compares the methods of the 20 who earned the best labor income with the methods of the 20 who were least successful, and strikes an average. Each farmer then may compare his methods and the results they bring with those of his neighbor. In the summaries, no names are mentioned.

These summaries are studied by the group, and plans are laid for making the individual adjustment thought necessary.

One of the unexpected benefits of the record keeping is the aid rendered by the records in filling out applications and contract forms for wheat, corn, and hogs for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

"The time required for gathering the data from a set of farm account books for filling in a corn-hog contract form is

not more than 5 minutes", Anderson declares. "Other farmers often spend a week, and a half dozen trips to town before they have at hand the necessary data, and then it isn't always accurate."

Here is the form of organization set down in writing by Anderson in 1927. He still clings to it.

"Local clubs are organized in each community where there is a vocational agriculture department in the high school. Each club operates as an individual unit and formulates its own program, but cooperates with the other clubs in executing the county program set up by the executive committee."

Some of the extra activities of the clubs include basket-ball games between clubs, tours of farms by the local groups, and an annual social meeting, recently a fish fry, which attracts 200 to 300 people each year.

WETZEL COUNTY, W. VA., held the first camp canning school in the State this past fall. In order to facilitate the organization and distribution of the information throughout the county the camp school idea was developed. Seventy-two women attended the 3-day canning demonstration. Methods of drying and canning fruits, vegetables, and meats were demonstrated and practiced. Drying racks were made, and each woman had one to take home from the camp. As all districts in the county were represented the information was widely spread.

# Feature Pictures Aid Iowa Campaign

**O**N A RECENT trip to Iowa, the editor of the Review was much impressed with the feature pictures used in the daily papers giving interesting angles of the local corn-hog campaign. Tracing this matter to its source, he found the pictures originated with L. R. Combs, extension editor in Iowa and obtained the following account for readers of the Review:



Shirley Lincoln Jr. (right) 19-year-old club leader, is probably the youngest member of a township corn-hog committee in Iowa. He and his father are helping with the sign-up campaign in their township, Pacific Junction, Mills County. Bruce Kilpatrick, county agent, is watching as the two men fill out sample contracts.

**S**POT NEWS and feature pictures distributed in mat form to daily newspapers have been effective in attracting attention to the corn-hog program in Iowa.

These mats have been distributed through the press service, or through the regular daily service from the college, which goes to approximately 50 papers in the State. The daily papers' use of these mats has been highly gratifying, in

some cases exceeding even our fondest hopes.

Among the pictures which I have taken in my rambles over the State are the following: A picture of two of the oldest corn-hog producers in Iowa, but who are not "too old to learn new tricks"; a picture of a father and son, both of whom were serving on a township corn-hog committee, the son, a 4-H club boy not yet of age; and several pictures of farmers signing corn-hog contracts in the first instructional meetings held for county committees. Pictures were also taken of 2 or 3 county chairmen filling out work sheets at the State training school held in Ames early in January. Various other news and feature pictures were taken either for local dailies or for distribution to the news services.



Two of Iowa's oldest corn-hog producers who are not "too old to learn new tricks" signing corn-hog adjustment contracts. Left to right are: Adam Keil, Ladora, who is 69 years old and still operating 200 acres; County Agent D. H. Zentmire of Iowa County; and Louis Feller of Victor, 74, who rents his farm to his son on a share lease.

An arrangement was made with an engraving firm in Des Moines whereby a spot-news picture could be sent to them for the making of mats. They would make these mats the day the picture was received and turn them over immediately to one or both of the press services as directed.

In taking pictures I used a camera with an f 4.5 lens. This is faster than the average and capable of taking a picture with excellent detail. The camera is equipped with a ground glass finder and uses either film pack or plate holders. Pictures are  $3\frac{1}{4}$  by  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches, a size which is not expensive yet large enough to make good newspaper engravings. A lighting apparatus consisting of a long drop cord which could be plugged into an ordinary light socket, a 3-way socket for floodlight bulbs, and reflectors completed the outfit. This made it possible to take pictures under ideal conditions wherever a standard voltage light current was available.

Five pictures were distributed in mat form during January and early February. Several pictures were taken for individual use of the large dailies. One of the mats distributed was a 3-column layout showing the different steps in the Iowa corn-hog program such as a preliminary educational meeting, a State training school on administrative rulings, a county training school, farmers signing contracts, and one picture posed by a local farmer showing the producer receiving a check at some future date. Clippings of this picture showed that we obtained around 60- to 70-percent usage in the 50 dailies.

**A**N OPPORTUNITY for financing 4-H club projects is offered by the production credit associations which are being organized in Arkansas.

The Production Credit Corporation of St. Louis has announced that it will approve production credit associations in its district making loans on personal notes and without collateral when such notes have been signed by the club member and father, or by the club member and local leader.

To be eligible for credit, it is necessary for the club to have a definite organization plan, periodic instructions in the care and management of the project, insurance, and an adequate marketing program.

**T**HE KOLOA (Hawaii) Junior Farm Extension Club, which is the name by which the young men's clubs are known in the Hawaiian Islands, has 35 charter members. These are all American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are working on the Koloa plantation. Their program for the past year included demonstration work with a speaker at each of the monthly meetings. In addition to their strictly educational work, this group carried on an athletic program, which included baseball series among the various plantation units. The most interesting feature was a fishing contest organized by the club for the purpose of raising funds to finance the various projects.

**T**HE Department of the Interior has announced plans for the establishment of subsistence homestead projects at Rochester, Monroe County, N.Y., and at Austin, Minn. Secretary Ickes said that the Subsistence Homesteads Division, under M. L. Wilson, will organize corporations at each of these points to handle the management. At Rochester there will be 33 plots of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres each, with low-cost modern houses. At Austin, 50 homesteads of 3 to 5 acres will be established. At each of the points arrangements have been made for the families to obtain part-time work in shops in the nearby towns. At the present time 37 projects of this kind have been approved in 20 States.

# Federal Agencies for Soil Conservation

*NEW emergency organizations set up in Washington have given a great impetus to the soil-conservation movement. The set-up and purpose of two of these organizations now working in the field are as follows:*

## Department of the Interior

**T**HE SOIL Erosion Service, Department of the Interior, is a new bureau, set up under a public works appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of demonstrating the practical application of erosion-control measures on large watershed areas of 100,000 to 200,000 acres.

At the end of about 6 months, 10 major demonstrations have been established and are now in full operation, with 15 new projects being organized as rapidly as possible for installation work within the next 30 days. Each large demonstration is placed in a geographical region to represent a broad land condition where soil erosion is a serious problem. The following projects have been selected, by States: Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Washington, California, New Mexico, and Arizona.

The program is of national scope and character, to demonstrate how the remaining good farming land of the country can be preserved from serious erosion wastage, and, at the same time, how flood hazards may be materially minimized on the respective watersheds. All work is carried on in close cooperation with all interested agricultural agencies. "In our efforts, without exception, capable county agents of the Extension Service have given valuable aid and we are depending on their continued help in the future. We want them to know our work, visit our projects, and make use of our service in any helpful way," says Director H. H. Bennett.

The largest project that has been undertaken is that of the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona and New Mexico. This area comprises about 15 million acres of ground, and it presents an extremely serious erosion problem of vital importance to the region as a grazing section, in addition to that of preventing rapid accumulation of silt in Boulder Dam reservoir. As a matter of fact, the control of erosion in that section will determine whether or not it can continue as a habitation for people. Forty or fifty men will be stationed on this Reser-

vation to work out practical measures for solving the important erosion problem.

A staff of 15 or 20 technically trained men will be employed on each of the major watershed areas. These men will include agronomists, foresters, engineers, range specialists, authorities on wild life, soil specialists, extension agents, and other specialists who can make a contribution to the comprehensive land-use program proposed for these areas. The plan of work involves the study of each individual farm by this corps of trained men, in order that there may be set up on each farm within the area the best land-use program that it is possible to devise on the basis of soil adaptation.

It is proposed to install on each farm, then, a well-rounded, well-balanced, stabilized farm program from which the farmer will be able to earn greater returns for himself and his family through a proper cropping system set up on the basis of proper land use, and all supported by a program for controlling erosion wastage of the productive topsoil. Steep lands will be taken out of cultivation and put back into forests; less steep land that cannot be handled in cultivation without serious erosion loss, will be put into permanent grass; and the gently sloping lands will be utilized in cultivated crops under a system of strip cropping and contour farming.

It is proposed by the Soil Erosion Service to supply seeds for areas to be taken out of cultivation and put into permanent pasture, or for planting strips in connection with cultivated crops. When seeds, nursery stock, or engineering equipment are furnished, the farmer signs a written agreement to permit the installation of proposed practical erosion-control measures and to continuously protect and maintain the installations on his land for a period of 5 years. A very large percentage of the farmers in all of the watershed areas have signified their cooperative interest in carrying through the program outlined for them.

An interesting development in Wisconsin, where the farmers have signified their desire to cooperate in the farm program, is the additional feature of hearty cooperation in the establishment of wild life in the timbered areas. These woodlands are almost invariably too steep to clear for cultivation, in fact, much of the steep land that is now in cultivation should be put back into timber. Farmers are interested in the plan of protecting game in these areas in order that they may be able to obtain some revenue from the sale of hunting privileges.

## Emergency Conservation Work

Under the erosion-control project on private lands the Civilian Conservation Corps, working under the direction of the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, at the beginning of 1934 had constructed more than 238,000 check dams in gullies with about 504,000 acres benefited.

More applications for erosion-control work on private farms were received than can be handled. Many county agents rendered effective aid in locating badly eroded farms and in helping farmers to understand the purpose of the proposed conservation work. As far as possible, farms scattered over the county were chosen to serve as demonstrations to other farmers in the neighborhoods. The owner of each farm chosen signed an agreement to protect and maintain all improvements made for 5 years. The region of greatest activity is the central Mississippi watershed, including the lower Ohio River States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky, western Tennessee, and northern Mississippi. Other centers of erosion work are Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Gullies are being healed on these farms in a 4-point program, (1) by building temporary check dams, (2) grading the banks to a slope of repose, (3) planting trees, grasses, and vines, and (4) protection from fire, livestock, or other injury. Tree planting started about the middle of February in the South and will continue into May in the North, with about 40,000,000 black locust trees available for planting in this way. Grasses and legumes, such as Lespedeza, are being used as an immediate ground cover until the trees get started, and in Texas and Oklahoma as the main cover crop. The surveying of terrace lines for farmers has recently been approved and started. The farmer must first agree to construct the terraces.

About 250 camps have been working on the soil-erosion-control project. During the winter, the camps averaged in the neighborhood of 180 men. Assistant Forester Fred Morrell, of the Forest Service, has charge of the work in which the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering is closely cooperating in all engineering features, and likewise the various State forestry departments in supervising the field work in their respective areas. Each camp has a superintendent trained as a forester or engineer and a corps of 5 to 10 technically trained foremen to supervise the crews of men while at work on their job.

## The County Adjustment Campaigns

(Continued from page 54)

happen. They are not satisfied with the results, but are ready to try it again.

—Lloyd Godley, county agent, Payne County, Okla.

### Cooperation and Organization Valuable



G. C. Wright.

Montgomery County, Tenn., located in the heart of the dark tobacco district, was the first county in the State to secure its quota of 90 percent of the tobacco growers. There were 1,600 farmers who

signed the tobacco-production adjustment contract within 3 weeks, with 18,000 acres offered for contract and 4,500 acres to be taken out of production with an estimated yield of 700 pounds per acre.

The success of this campaign was made possible through careful planning. Three farmers from each civil district, who had already demonstrated qualities of leadership, were invited to attend a meeting at the courthouse. At this meeting the tobacco-production adjustment contract was explained by the State marketing specialist, who has charge of the tobacco sign-up for the State. There are 22 civil districts in Montgomery County and when the roll was called, it showed that each district was represented 100 percent. This indicated keen interest from the beginning. The contract was clearly explained and plans for the campaign were outlined. It was agreed that any farmer who would not sign a contract could not serve as a committeeman for his district. Arrangements were made to hold 70 meetings in the various communities, with speakers to assist in signing contracts selected.

The importance of extension work was demonstrated. The county had already been organized and trained leaders developed in a majority of the communities. Without this leadership the campaign could not have been a success, because it was no small task to find men who could intelligently explain the contract to farmers, while they themselves had only heard it explained once.

Meetings were held at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. daily at any place in the community where farmers had been accustomed to meeting. Schools, churches, and lodges were the usual places of meeting. At these meetings, a majority of the farmers signed and a few districts

signed 100 percent. Then it was necessary to have a farm-to-farm canvass, and this was done by the local committee of three leaders. At the close of the campaign a county-wide meeting was held at Clarksville, the county seat, and 500 farmers attended this meeting.

The job was not completed with the signing of contracts. It was then necessary to secure supporting evidence of the pounds of tobacco that had been sold by these farmers. This fact was explained to the local warehouse managers and they

### Appreciation

"I WANT to express my appreciation of the splendid work done by county agents in the distribution of checks for rental and benefit payments", writes R. W. Fuchs, the Department disbursing clerk. "The huge task that devolved upon the disbursing organization in making these payments could not have been accomplished successfully without the wholehearted cooperation of these men, who carried out their difficult instructions promptly and efficiently. In any undertaking of such magnitude, errors are bound to occur, and a considerable number of checks had to be returned to this office for correction. I appreciate the alertness of the county agents in detecting these discrepancies, their promptness in bringing them to our attention, and their patience with our unavoidable delays in making the necessary corrections, while they were besieged by payees to whom these delays were probably inexplicable. If it were possible, I would like to convey my thanks to each member of this fine organization individually."

kindly agreed to lend their books to the county agent. The records were tabulated in his office with the aid of Civil Works Administration workers. This was an accommodation to the farmers and expedited the completion of the contracts.

It was an inspiration to see how the farmers responded to the efforts of the Federal Government to aid them in securing a better price for their products. It reminded one of the World War days when we had the thrift stamp, liberty loan, and Red Cross drives. For the past 2 years the farmer has sold his tobacco at below the cost of production. Possibly this was a spirit born of desperation which is characterized in the immortal lines of the poet who said, "Theirs

not to ask the reason why, Theirs but to do and die."

—G. C. Wright, county agent, Montgomery County, Tenn.

### Office System Speeds Work



J. D. McVean.

In organizing for the wheat campaign in Kent County, Md., it was felt that the preparation and provision of an adequate filing system would aid the work.

Such a system would assure definite and ready identification of all persons, papers, and forms which would be used during the program.

Farm locations were marked on a map of the county by means of consecutive numbers and by election districts. The names of the landlord and the respective farm operator were listed with their addresses and the corresponding farm numbers. This rural directory was planned to serve as a check list at headquarters and as a guide for the community committeemen as they canvassed their respective communities. It is felt that this system will be of further service when the inspections for compliance are made. It has been suggested that the value of this numbering could be increased by painting the number on the farm gate just as houses are numbered on city streets.

An alphabetical card index of farm operators, their addresses, the number of their election district, and their farm number was prepared, as was also a like list of landlords. This card index of operators proved of great value and was a great timesaver throughout the campaign. When applications or contracts had to be signed, or inquiry was made regarding wheat papers, the clerks using the card index could quickly determine the operator's name and the number of the file jacket containing material pertaining to the particular farm. It was found that file jackets were more easily located by number than by name, though both were placed on the jacket. The farm numbers were found valuable in the identification of maps, certificates, applications, and other forms.

Successful educational meetings were held throughout the county with the aid of able appointed committeemen. With a budget of less than 1 cent per bushel of the allotment, the campaign resulted in the signing of 84 percent of the operators and 92 percent of the wheat acreage in the county. Four hundred and eighty-three contracts were accepted.

—J. D. McVean, County Agent, Kent County, Md.



# Introducing the Farm and Garden Radio Reporter

**T**HE TRUE history of the Massachusetts farm and garden radio programs, which won the admiration of the broadcasting station and the Department of Agriculture radio service, as told by J. C. Baker, assistant extension editor for Massachusetts, who prepares the material for these programs.

**F**OR MORE than 2 years, the daily farm radio programs of the Massachusetts State College were impersonal discussions of subject matter. They were written at the college by the radio writer and mailed to the cooperating radio stations, which numbered 4 at the beginning and 8 at the present time. Considering the power of the stations (none over 1,000 watts) and the size and character of their listening audience, the response to those programs was commendable.

Perhaps it was the monotony of turning out a daily 2,100 words, or perhaps it was a genuine desire for improvement which caused rather careful scrutiny of the programs a few months ago. After this study, the conclusion was reached that the programs lacked the element of personality. Accordingly, a character called the "farm and garden reporter" was created as the authority for the program. The new program was called "Farm and Garden Chats"—a change from "Farm Flashes for Massachusetts."

The station announcer opens the program by announcing "the daily program of Farm and Garden Chats, which come to us in the form of a letter from the farm and garden reporter. Here's what the reporter has to say today."

Then the reporter proceeds to tell of a conversation or an interview with some specialist on the State agricultural college staff, or of a magazine article he read, or a bulletin recently published. Perhaps he has visited a successful dairyman or fruit grower; he reports, in the first person, his experiences and the things he saw. He tells of the way his friends, real and fictitious, have managed their indoor gardens in winter, and

plans they are making for their garden planting in the spring. In brief, the farm and garden reporter is an individual who has an opportunity to accumulate a great deal of information on farming and gardening, and he reports to his listeners the things that he sees and hears.

This type of program allows greater latitude of subjects than the former impersonal discussion. If the reporter is impressed by an article in the Country Gentleman, or Consumers' Guide, or the

A schedule is worked out with the specialist concerned for each day of the week over a period of several months. The schedule is followed in a general way, and it has been found an important factor in guiding the subject-matter content of the programs. But it has been found impracticable—wellnigh impossible, in fact—to follow it to the day. Accordingly, the topics and dates are shifted around somewhat when it seems advisable.

At the close of each program, listeners are invited to send requests to the farm and garden reporter, and they have been coming in at a rate of about half a dozen a day, in addition to the requests for bulletins, which usually are addressed to the extension service of the State college. The radio stations using the program have been unanimous in the opinion that the letters from the farm and garden reporter have more listeners than the former type of impersonal programs.

In Massachusetts, there are only 25,000 farmers, as compared with the millions of persons engaged in other industries. So it is not surprising that we find our most popular programs are those dealing with flowers, lawns, vegetable gardens, and small fruits. Another thing we try to keep in mind in preparing the agricultural programs is that most of the listeners are consumers rather than producers. This has barred discussions of such topics as spray residue, diseases carried in milk, and anything else which might suggest to the consumer that there could be anything wrong with the food products he buys.

**T**HE Radio Garden Club of the New Jersey Agricultural Extension Service, now in its third year of continuous broadcasting, has begun a new series of broadcasts in cooperation with the Federated Garden Clubs of New Jersey over WOR at Newark, N.J. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden and the Federation of Garden Clubs of Bergen County will also contribute regularly to the program.

## National 4-H Club Radio Program

Annual Theme: 4-H Club Work Influences the Farm and Home

Sixth Phase—Satisfactions in Rural Life Emphasized in 4-H Club Work

Saturday, June 2, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time

Why I Have Decided to Be a Farmer.....	4-H club boy from Tennessee.
4-H Club Work Develops Self-Reliance.....	Boys' club leader from Tennessee.
The 4-H Club Girl has Many Interests.....	4-H club girl from Indiana.
4-H Club Work Helped Me to Get a Start.....	A farmer from Indiana who was once a club boy.
Satisfactions in Rural Life.....	C. B. Smith, United States Department of Agriculture.
Music We Should Know—Sixth Phase of the 1934 National 4-H Music Hour—Featuring Compositions by Sousa, Sodermann, Speaks, Schumann, Gounod, Greig, and Friml.	United States Marine Band.

Jersey Bulletin, or any other publication which he sees, he tells about it, giving credit to the publication. Most of the subject matter is obtained through interviews with the specialists on the State college staff, but other sources are not disregarded. It developed long ago that an interview was a better way of getting information than asking a staff member to prepare a paper for the radio program. The paper usually was late and then had to be rewritten to make it sound conversational.

The programs are divided on the basis of subject matter. Monday is devoted to fruit growing; Tuesday, poultry raising; Wednesday, vegetable gardening; Thursday, dairying; Friday, home-ground improvement; and Saturday, miscellaneous. With such an arrangement, some of the specialists are called on practically every week. Were it not for their cooperation, it would be a physical impossibility for one man to assemble six 15-minute programs of information every week.

# Kansas and the Adjustment Program

**D**IRECTOR UMBERGER of Kansas was besieged with questions as to the attitude of Kansas farmers toward the Agricultural Adjustment program. To obtain a good picture of these attitudes, he wrote a letter questionnaire to 49 Kansas newspapermen. After summarizing all of these, then talking them over with Agricultural Adjustment Administration officials and field workers, he gives us the following summary.

The majority of farmers in Kansas are generally agreed upon three fundamental facts about the present agricultural situation:

1. That they do really have a surplus of agricultural products.

2. That the Government is in earnest about putting into operation plans to insure for the American farmer a reasonable return for his efforts, resulting in an improved standard of living for himself and members of his family.

3. That the Agricultural Adjustment program of production control is fundamentally sound, and is at least the best proposal in sight at present for accomplishing that end.

Farmers generally look upon the immediate benefit payments as relief for the present situation only and not as a permanent solution of their problem.

Farmers look upon the present Agricultural Adjustment program as a promise for a more intelligent control of agricultural production. They have become vitally interested in the proposals as set forth by the National Administration in the hope and ever-strengthening belief that there will be forthcoming a broader and more comprehensive plan for the farming industry—a plan in which agricultural production, living standards of the farm home, consumption of farm products, and the utilization of agricultural resources will be coordinated. As a result, they visualize the present plan as being the foundation for a Nation-wide movement in which they will concentrate their farm-

ing efforts in the development of only those areas that will, through intelligent management, return an adequate income, thus resulting in improved economic and social standards on the average American farm.

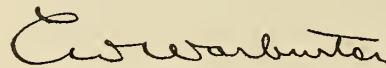
The attitude of a strong majority of farmers toward the production-control program is most favorable. A very substantial element favors going even fur-

them believe that it is the initial step toward a more unified and prosperous agriculture. The immediate adjustment payments have reacted favorably upon business, and business men recognize that improvement in agricultural returns will be immediately reflected in their own business.

Sixty days ago the rural town business man looked at the program as a temporary wildcat relief scheme, but there now seems to be an undercurrent of opinion which results in the expression that prices of farm products will never be so high that they will give farmers big margins of profit. But the progressive and unified program will tend to bring about a stabilization and more equal market condition, which will avoid the extreme lows. All of which is looked on, of course, by the conservative man as an ideal condition. Generally his information regarding codes and other mat-

## Brigham Detailed to Adjustment Administration

**R**EBUBEN BRIGHAM, of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, will relinquish for the present his responsibility for the work of the visual instruction and editorial section, including the editing of the *EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW*. Upon the request of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, he has been detailed to head up the new regional contact section established in the A.A.A. Division of Information. As chief of this section, Mr. Brigham will have charge of commodity informational campaigns conducted through the weekly newspapers and farm journals with the cooperation of State extension editors and responsibility for maintaining contacts with rural organizations that will keep them constantly informed about the activities of the A.A.A. Mr. Brigham has been editor of the *EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW* since its establishment in May 1930. Lester A. Schlup, who has been associated with Mr. Brigham in administering the work of the visual instruction and editorial section, has been designated as acting editor of the *REVIEW*. Policies of the *REVIEW* that have prevailed during the last 4 years will be continued.



Director of Extension Work.

ther with the program to the point of compulsory control. This sentiment is growing stronger as the program proceeds, and the cooperating farmers have a better opportunity of observing nullifying influences of their adjoining neighbors who refuse to cooperate and who even increase their production. It is now apparent to them, that if the program fails, it will do so because of the failure of others to cooperate.

Farmers are of the opinion that the program promises them a more favorable outlook for their industry, and as a result will point to greater security for the average farm business. Farmers who have signed up and who plan to sign up are fairly optimistic about their future.

Adjustment benefits received by farmers are almost universally being spent wisely, not for luxuries that they cannot afford. Reports from farmers, field workers, editors, and others list the expenditure of benefit payments to date in the following order: Taxes, debts and interest, and imperative family needs.

Business men in rural towns react favorably to the program. The majority of

ters has caused him to believe that some program of this sort is essential, and he believes it has been of value as an emergency measure and is willing to see it adopted as a permanent program, if it can be paid by a processing tax. They look upon it more favorably than at first.

These statements are based on reports gathered from farmers who have been actively engaged in carrying out the program in cooperation with the Kansas State College Extension Service and the opinions gathered from newspaper editors of Kansas.

**M**ORE than 5,000 men in Illinois carried the campaign for the adjustment of corn and hogs to farmers in the State. Meetings for the training of these committeemen were held throughout the State, and these men in turn have aided the farmers in cooperating with the Government in the adjustment of production and in obtaining the benefits offered.

# Agriculture and Industry Are Interdependent

**T**HE FACTOR of national income is the solid core which runs through the welfare of agriculture. As factory pay rolls in the cities increase, city people will have more money to spend for agricultural products. This prosperity of the cities, upon which agriculture relies so greatly, is not a thing apart. It is dependent upon the purchasing power of the entire country. With the loss of export markets which resulted from the World War, and with the accumulation of immense surpluses of basic farm products such as cotton, wheat, hogs, and tobacco, prices fell to the lowest levels on record. The effects of loss of farm purchasing power gradually spread to the rest of the country. When factories began to close or cut down their labor forces and unemployment increased by millions, the farmers in adjacent territory were affected. Their markets suffered. Unemployed people, or people working only part time, had less money with which to buy farm products. Prices of farm products went down.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act was devised to restore the purchasing power of the producers of basic farm crops. This has been sought through reducing the immense surpluses that have beaten down prices. Adjustment of production to the realities of world demand is sought as a means to restore a balanced situation, and to bring buying power of the basic farm products back to the level of 1909 to 1914. We know what conditions were when the act was signed 11 months ago. Wheat prices were weighed down under a 386-million-bushel carry-over. The world carry-over of American cotton amounted to 1 year's total crop. The export market for pork and lard had virtually disappeared as a result of foreign tariffs and import quotas.

## *Plans for Adjustment*

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration employed its powers in a series of emergency measures of great scope to correct these situations. We reduced a potential 17,500,000-bale crop of cotton to 13,177,000 bales. We signed up half a million wheat farmers to make an 8-million acre reduction in this year's planting. We tackled the tobacco problem with separate plans for producers of six types of tobacco. We paid out up to March 1 over 220 million dollars for benefit payments and relief purchases and up to that date we had collected 216 million dollars in processing taxes. As a result, it is apparent that American agriculture has experienced a considerable

recovery. Total farm income from crops in 1933, including rental and benefit payments, increased 55 percent or more than a billion dollars over that of 1932. The rise was from \$2,113,000,000 to \$3,271,000,000. This does not include livestock or dairying, where quick adjustments were not possible.

Favorable effects of increased farm buying power have been reflected in improving business and industrial conditions. Only a little while after the rise in agricultural prices began last year, signs of general business improvement appeared. In fact, long before the cotton farmers of the South received any rental payments, increasing mill activity and employment of New England textile workers anticipated the results of the cotton program.

## *Recovery Evident*

The evidence of recovery now is clear throughout the Nation. Growing employment has meant more money to spend for products of the farm. One indication of that is the trend in sales of groceries. January wholesale grocery trade in the country increased 29½ percent over that of a year ago. This wholesale trade along with hardware showed one of the biggest yearly gains ever known. Recovery works that way. The money that goes to agriculture in the West and South is not hoarded. It is spent for necessities. It goes into the channels of trade. It stimulates business and adds to employment. The same thing is true of the recovery expenditures for public works and civil works employment, and of increased industrial pay rolls under N.R.A. codes. The economic condition of the big eastern cities is linked closely with the national recovery. The more money the people in these cities have, the more they will spend for products of our farms.

I think it is of the greatest importance that the Nation should not again invite the dangers of a prostrate agriculture. The time has passed when segments of industry and agriculture can ignore their interdependence. We can face the future with hope and confidence, so long as the whole country keeps on the upgrade. We should look upon our agriculture as a part of the economic fabric of the Nation. Its welfare is linked to the economic welfare of the people employed in the mills and factories of our great cities. And the roots of their prosperity in turn are watered and fed by the entire Nation.



*Administrator, Agricultural Adjustment Act.*

PERTINENT PASTURE  
PUBLICATIONS

A PASTURE HANDBOOK  
M.P. 194

*Clovers*

SWEET CLOVER IN CORN BELT  
FARMING, F.B. 1653

ALSIKE CLOVER, F.B. 1151

RED CLOVER SEED PRODUCTION,  
L. 93

RED CLOVER FAILURE, L. 98

RED CLOVER CULTURE, F.B.  
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*Lespedeza*

LESPEDEZA, L. 100

*Grasses*

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ES, F.B. 1254

CULTIVATED GRASSES OF SEC-  
ONDARY IMPORTANCE, F.B.  
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*Soybeans*

SOYBEANS—CULTURE AND VA-  
RIETIES, F.B. 1520

SOYBEAN HAY AND SEED PRO-  
DUCTION, F.B. 1605

SOYBEAN UTILIZATION, F.B. 1617

*Cowpeas*

COWPEAS—CULTURE AND VARI-  
ETIES, F.B. 1148

COWPEA UTILIZATION, F.B. 1153

*Miscellaneous*

WINTER LEGUMES FOR GREEN  
MANURE IN THE COTTON BELT,  
F.B. 1663

GREEN MANURING, F.B. 1250

RAISING SHEEP ON TEMPORARY  
PASTURES, F.B. 1181

CONTROLLING SMALL GULLIES BY  
BLUEGRASS SOD, L. 82

# FACTS FOR BACK-TO-GRASS AND FORAGE CAMPAIGN

A substantial increase in grass and forage acreage is being advocated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and many of the State agricultural colleges as a means of putting the national farm plant on a more permanently satisfactory basis. This is explained in the article by J. T. Jardine on page 49 of this issue. Extension agents and other educational workers are urged to bring to the attention of farmers facts showing that this shift to less intensive methods of farming is desirable from the vantage point of public policy and increased returns for agriculture as a whole. The informational material listed will help supply basic facts, which may be adapted to fit local conditions as needed, and to supplement State publications. Extension agents may procure supplies of this material from the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Orders should be sent through the office of the State extension director.

EXTENSION SERVICE,  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.