





**EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW** 

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## We Must Produce

## CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

In 1941, we in agriculture had the job of producing enough for two nations; we anticipated we might have to produce a little extra for a third. Suddenly, almost overnight, we find ourselves in a situation where we may have to supply other nations too. We are pooling our resources—all of the resources that can help to win the war—with 25 other nations who are fighting by our sides, shoulder to shoulder, to defend their land and ours, and the freedom that is cherished by all.

Most of us have not realized as yet how tremendous our task is. We have underestimated our enemies—and how much will be required to conquer them.

### Toughening Needed

We must, all of us, be prepared in spirit for the sacrifices that lie ahead. There are going to be plenty of them to make. Our old easy-going way of doing things on the farm, in the factory, in the office or the shop, must go. We have got to toughen ourselves for hardships many of us have never known.

Our sacrifices can prevent other and greater sacrifices. I am thinking of the sacrifice some young man in the armed forces may have to make because you or I failed to do our full part in this vital job of production. There can be no forgiveness if we fail in our duty to our fighting men.

At the present moment, we are unable to supply the United Nations with all the things we would like them to have. Why? Because of lack of shipping. But the ship-building program is progressing rapidly—thanks to the foresight of our President. We will build 8 million tons of shipping this year and 10 million tons more next year. We will have a bridge of ships extending across the Atlantic, across the Pacific, to the other American republics. As the bridge grows wider it will carry more; and more and more of our increased production will be needed.

The total volume of the things that will be needed to strengthen all the United Nations for the war effort is so great that it is beyond comprehension. All we can produce with every ounce of our effort and skill will not be too much; all we can give up of the things we now have without weakening ourselves will not be too much.

### Time to Plant

It is our job to prepare now to meet the demand, not tomorrow or the next day, but right now. There can be little delay in this business of farming. There is only one time to plant, and if you are not ready at the right time, you have lost a year's production forever. There is no way to make it up.

Consider the task as it has been outlined in the revised production goals for 1942. In order that our supplies of vegetable oils may be adequate, the Nation needs two and a half times as many peanuts as were produced in 1941; 50 percent more soybeans, and a third more flax for seed. We need 7 percent more milk. We need 14 percent more pigs slaughtered and 13 percent more eggs produced. We need more land planted to corn and other feed crops. We need more acres in tomatoes and peas for canning and more vegetables for fresh consumption; we need more canned and preserved fruit.

### Fats and Oils Cut Off

More than half of the oils and fats we import comes from the Far East. With the situation what it is in the western Pacific, we may be able to bring in very little. Fortunately, we have a good reserve of fats and oils—one that will last us for quite a while. If we step up our production enough, we may have enough to go round. But the "if" is rather large. Can we increase production enough in this field?

Well, that depends to a large extent on

every farmer who can grow peanuts and soybeans. These are our two richest oil-bearing crops.

Di William

How much should each farmer increase his-acreage of these crops?

The best answer to that question is: Asmuch as he can.

Peanuts and soybeans produce not only large amounts of oil, but also yield a fine, high-protein animal feed. And, incidentally, peanut flour and soybean flour are fine food for human beings.

#### Price Is Supported

Under a law enacted by Congress last year, the Secretary of Agriculture is required to support the price of any commodity for which he asks increased production. This support price must be at least 85 percent of parity. The support price of peanuts will range from 70 to 82 dollars a ton, depending on type, and for soybeans it will average not less than \$1.60 a bushel.

## Work Harder and Longer

The total job of producing is the greatest ever undertaken. It is being undertaken in the face of the fact that labor, supplies, and equipment will not be plentiful. We recognize that some of the needs of agriculture must be subordinated to the greater need for armament. I want you to know that the needs of agriculture for labor, equipment, and materials of many kinds have been and will continue to be placed before the officials who have the tremendous responsibility of deciding which needs come first in achieving our total production. After their decisions are made we can do nothing less than accept those decisions as being best for the national interest. It is up to us to get the job done in spite of all the handicaps that may come in our way. We have got to work harder and longer than ever before in our generation.

## County Planning Gets Back to the Community

## D. S. INGRAHAM, County Agricultural Agent and

MAE BAIRD, Home Demonstration Agent, Sheridan County, Wyo.

County planning for an agriculture and home program which meets the particular problems and needs of Sheridan County, Wyo., is not a new thing for us. Representatives from different commodity groups, farm organizations, Government agencies, and home demonstration clubs have long been accustomed to meet once or twice each year to talk over county problems and to make county-wide recommendations and resolutions on a commodity basis aimed to solve some of these problems.

These meetings proved very valuable, perhaps most valuable to the planners themselves. The next step seemed to be twofold to give more local farm people the benefit of planning, of weighing their resources and problems, and to gather more facts about these resources and conditions from local communities for more effective planning. To make the recommendations a part of the plans of every individual farmer, it was necessary to discuss these general problems in still smaller and more local units and to base them on more adequate information from each of the farms.

In setting up a scheme for community planning, the committee decided to use the same community divisions as AAA, as these had been used for 3 years, and farm families were accustomed to them. These did not necessarily follow geographic lines but did include entire ranching units and farms in one community.

Five common major problems were decided on so that the community organization should have uniformity, making a county-wide application possible. These were home and community problems, land classification, crops, livestock, and water.

The 19 home demonstration clubs in the county became responsible for the home and community phases of planning, including housing, health, education, and recreation. In January 1941, the clubs chose five members in each community, including men, women. and older youth, to act as a community sub. committee on the problems of home and community. A level-of-living survey was decided on to give more information about the way rural people live in Sheridan County and perhaps indicate their attitudes toward rural living. The committees believed that a publicopinion map of levels of living in the county would have something significant to say about the land's ability to support the family living on it. They also felt that the attention of the women's groups could profitably be turned from the perfecting of individual skills to the consideration of social and economic problems in the community.

The survey proved an eye opener in many instances. As one woman expressed it, "We have become so accustomed to our way of living that it took just this to show us that with a very little money and family help we could improve our living conditions a great deal."

No attempt was made to define levels of living to the committees. Each committee defined the term for themselves; but, as a whole, the differentiation was the same in each community. A high level of living, committees decided, would be one in which the family possessed a high proportion of material and nonmaterial things. They felt that many fam-

## On the Cover

Farmer Earl Smith of Santa Cruz, Calif., surveys his crop of Harding grass and along with every other American farmer figures how he can produce more of the foods needed by the United Nations.

Harding grass introduced into the county 20 years ago by the agent has proved one of the best dry-land pasture grasses. The 25 trials scattered over the county gave information which is coming in handy in increasing milk production now, says County Agent Henry Washburn, who took the picture.

ilies had been forced, due to financial reasons, to lower their level of living during the past 10 years, but that their standards were just as high as they had been prior to the depression period.

Factors listed as contributing to the level of living were: Condition and amount of land in the ranch, the type of land and cash crops grown, diversification of farming, the condition of the house and buildings, including the size of house in relation to the size of the family; whether there was water in the home, a bathroom, electricity, and the method of heating; the education and health of the family; and condition of the roads.

These factors were shown on AAA maps of the communities and studied by the community committees. All the committees on home community problems then met in a county-wide meeting to study and analyze the results of the survey and make recommendations. Two meetings on the survey were held with the agent in each of the 19 home demonstration clubs, and each community held 3 or 4 additional meetings to discuss the results.

On the agricultural side, the first communi-

ties to start organization for community planning were those with a functioning farm bureau, and they progressed further. In the other 7 communities, a general meeting was called to explain the community planning program, followed by the election or appointment of 12 committeemen with a chairman for each of the different subjects, 3 each to study land classification, crops, livestock, and water.

The county agent or other agency representatives met with the different committees of these groups at some home during the day or evening and helped them get started with their work. AAA community maps and colored pencils were furnished each committee.

The committees collected information about soils, numbers and kind of livestock, kinds and amounts of crops, and amount and use of water. This information was put on the map, which the committees studied and analyzed. Community planning meetings were called at which a summary of the situation as shown by the survey was presented by each chairman. The local people took a great deal of interest in these factual reports on their local situation. The community chairmen of the five subjects also met at the county seat to make a county report on their special field of interest and to recommend certain changes in county-wide practices in regard to water, or land classification, or livestock, or crops, or home and community. After all committees had met on a county level, a general county planning meeting was held to correlate the different reports.

The county planning committee consists of the chairmen of the county subcommittees, together with the county representatives of Federal, State, and county agencies having to do with agricultural programs within Sheridan County.

The plan has given a new outlook on our own situation by bringing to light more information about our local farms and farm families and has taken the planning idea back to the communities where the recommendations can be made a part of the community life and the farm and home plans.

### Reduce Fire Hazards

More than 3,000 persons attended home safety meetings held under the supervision of the Maine Extension Service in 1941. According to Edna M. Cobb, home management specialist, farm women saw to it that about 1,000 attics and cellars were cleared of rubbish to lessen the fire hazard. Many other conditions likely to result in fire were also eliminated or corrected.

## **Food Grows in South Carolina**

## J. M. NAPIER, Extension AAA Agent, South Carolina

Food grows in South Carolina today where it did not grow before, not by accident but as the result of a plan developed during the past 2 years. J. M. Napier, a pioneer county agent, described in the REVIEW of February 1941, the initial farm food supply survey and the organization the agents and people were perfecting to use this information. Now he can tell how it is working out.

The 26 families in Union community, located 15 miles from a railroad, have shown just what can be accomplished by the South Carolina plan of food and feed supply. It all began back in 1940 when, just like the other communities in the State, they took a AAA survey of 10 principal items which should be supplied from the home farm for the sake of good living. This record showed which farm families were producing adequate food crops and in just what way the other families were falling short, where they lived, and what they needed to grow.

Union fell short of the goal in a number of ways, just as did many another community. These farm families had never taken much interest in extension programs or other community-betterment activities. But after County Agents F. M. Rast and Carrie Carson held a community meeting of the leading farmers and farm women and explained the situation to them, five men and women volunteered to take the information to their neighbors and to help them with the problems of growing a more adequate food and feed supply. Each farm family was shown how it scored in growing an adequate supply of food and feed, and each pledged to do something to remedy the record.

Not only did they pledge but they really did it. The AAA records show that 15 deficit families who pledged 24 more acres of wheat grew 24.5 acres; 7 families who pledged an increase of 462 acres of corn grew 458 acres; 15 families who pledged 22.5 more acres in garden actually grew 23.7 more acres in garden; the 21 families who pledged 206 more hogs produced 205 hogs; the 6 families who promised to buy milk cows did get 5 cows; the 19 families who pledged an increase of 1,770 hens produced 1,805 hens, and thus down the rest of the 10 items on the list. They went a little beyond their pledge in practically every item.

Before 1941, the 26 AAA work-sheet signers who compose the neighborhood earned approximately 35 percent of the soil-building assistance available to them. No agricultural lime or winter legumes had ever been used in the neighborhood. The five volunteer leaders set as their goal the earning of 100 percent soil-building assistance, as well as the production of sufficient food and feed. The records show that 99 percent of the maximum assistance available in grants of limestone and winter-

legume seed was actually applied or planted prior to November 30, 1941.

In addition to the soil-building and foodproduction activities, the Union neighborhood exhibited at the county fair for the first time and displayed as many exhibits as any community in the county. The committee asked for a home demonstration club and a neighborhood 4-H Club for boys and girls. The farmers have asked for tobacco demonstrations and for help in buying five registered boars. Four 4-H Club boys wanted to enter exhibits at the county fair and were helped by the agents. All of this was accomplished with no more help from the agents than was given to any other community but the agents did follow a well-thought-out plan of enlisting and training local leaders and using the accurate information from the AAA survey on food and feed production.

That communities can be organized and made to function on a county-wide basis with the South Carolina plan is shown by Aiken County where Agents Ann E. Monroe and F. W. Corley report that 211 families who had not grown enough corn for home needs pledged an increase of 1,146 acres of corn and grew 1,132 acres; 181 families pledged an increase of 69 acres of garden and grew 57 acres; 213 families pledged 98 acres more of sweetpotatoes and grew 181 acres; 157 families pledged 31 acres of Irish potatoes and grew 25 acres; 129 families pledged an increase of 37 acres for sirup and grew 51 acres; 188 pledged 343 more hogs and raised 350; 37 families promised to get 37 cows and did get 37 cows; and 277 families pledged to increase flocks by 9,001 chickens and made good on 7,717 birds.

Throughout the State, more than 4,000 volunteer farm leaders have agreed to help in carrying forward this program of better farm living. It is impossible to appraise the potentialities of this large group of volunteer workers in their role as leaders in food production and civilian defense. In this time of national crisis, their services to the State and Nation are invaluable. These leaders were chosen not only because they are public-spirited and interested in the program but also because they are able to devise plans and to suggest to a deficit family ways and means of getting a job done. It is realized that the mere signing of a pledge card does not neces-

sarily mean that the pledgee would perform his stated intentions and that it is necessary to develop some plan of follow-up on the part of volunteer workers.

These leaders have obtained pledge cards from 22,705 farm families whose deficiencies in production of one or more essential food crops range from "zero" to 50 percent of their family requirements. They have promised, among other things, to increase their corn acreage more than 33,000 acres, put 4,687 more acres into gardens, kill more than 17,000 hogs, and buy more than 4,000 milk cows and 317,646 birds than the year before.

In the production of food and feed crops, the importance of soil improvement and conservation is fully realized, and the volunteers are instructed to show the farmer how to take full advantage of the soil-building assistance offered by AAA.

To summarize briefly, the South Carolina plan involves: (1) Locating the individual deficit families; (2) locating and developing farm leaders among the neighbors of these families; and (3) carrying forward a plan of personal contact. It involves the cooperation and coordination of certain phases of AAA, Extension, and volunteer farm people, each supplementing the work of the other.

It is felt that the approach and type of organization to increase food production begun in South Carolina in 1940 needs only to be continued and strengthened in order for her farm people to live better and meet their full share of the food-production responsibilities now facing the Nation.

## 4-H Clubs Produce Good Poultry

Iowa farm boys enrolled in the 1941 4-H poultry-marketing project produced flocks which are far superior to the average flocks in the State, according to W. R. Whitfield, Iowa State College extension poultry specialist.

Ninety-six percent of the chickens produced under the project this year sold as first grade, surpassing the State average of birds to attain this quality by a margin or 30 percent.

Moreover, 19 percent of the birds marketed by those in the project attained a weight of more than 5 pounds within 16 weeks, and 75 percent weighed more than 4 pounds within the same period. Some poultrymen require from 20 to 24 weeks to produce birds of the same weight.

The poultry-marketing project is a new one designed to teach poultry production and management to farm youths on a practical basis. Youths in the marketing program this year sold a total of 3,658 birds.

## **Organized to Produce**

BYRON DEMOREST, Editor, Omaha Daily Journal-Stockman

The feeders, the bankers, the farm organizations, and other citizens of Schleswig, Iowa, have worked with County Agent Paul A. Johnson, of Crawford County, in developing a pattern for financing, feeding, and marketing that has built up an efficient organization ready to produce for victory.

No matter how well you may be posted on such matters as cooperative farm effort, the chances are that you never heard of another livestock feeding group quite like the one that makes up what has come to be known as the "Schleswig Community" in Iowa.

In the commonly accepted sense of the term, the Schleswig area feeders are not members of any cooperative organization. Each runs his own farm and operates on his own money or his own credit. Yet, in a broader way, the system of beef production these feeders have evolved is probably as mutually helpful as that of any so-called cooperative group in the country.

According to County Agent Paul A. Johnson, who has made a rather close study of operations, the system, as it might be called, under which beef is now produced there had its beginnings 34 years ago. It was then that Ed Reimer, long one of the leaders in the community, started buying calves and producing baby beeves.

### Calves Gain on Pasture

Prior to that time, the feeding animals purchased by farmers there had been 2- and 3-year-old steers, just as they were in practically every other part of the country. But Mr. Reimer and a few of his associates discovered what the feeding world as a whole has since learned; namely, that since calves both grow

and fatten, they make more economical gains than other cattle, and they are particularly adaptable to full-feeding on pasture.

Quick to see the advantages of the system was the late Theodore Rohwer, veteran Schleswig banker. Through his encouragement and later that of his son, Julius Rohwer, who now heads the bank, and the cooperation of many of the leading feeders, the "Schleswig system," as it might be called, has been evolved.

All in all, there is nothing complicated about it. Feeders buy calves and light yearlings in the late fall and early winter. They start their cattle on oats and alfalfa or clover hay, and gradually add ground ear corn in sufficient quantities to bring the cattle onto full feed by the first of April.

### Old Heads Help Newcomers

Cattle are watched with especial care whenever feed is being changed. If a man is new to the territory, some of the older heads, like Mr. Reimer, drop past his place, and either tell him he's doing all right or suggest a change here and there. For a period during the summer, the stock is fed on pasture. Then it goes back into the dry lot for finishing.

Favorable marketing times also have been carefully worked out. Many of the cattle are shipped in September, long one of the higher months of the year for prices on good fat

stock. Others go to the big carlot shows, some to the Ak-Sar-Ben at Omaha, and many more to the International. The rest are marketed in December and January, for the plan—and it is worked out just as carefully as the feeding program of the community—is to sell half of the crop by the end of October and the balance by the end of January.

#### Service with Every Loan

"When a man goes to the bank to negotiate a loan there, he gets a continuing service in addition to the credit," County Agent Johnson explained recently. "First, some officer of the bank, usually Mr. Rohwer, sits down with the borrower and figures out, before the cattle are bought, what they can be expected to gain, what that gain will cost, and what they will have to bring at marketing time to pay out. If that final figure looks too high, ideas of purchasing prices have to be scaled down, or the loan is not made.

"Then, if the borrower is a new man, some representative of the bank, usually a neighboring feeder, keeps an eye on the stock to make sure that the approved methods of finishing are being followed and that everything is going well. If the suggestions that are made are not followed, that man will find it hard to borrow any money the next year. Members of the Schleswig community know that their plan will work for anyone who follows it.

"It is the same way at marketing time. That goes according to plan also. At the same time, the community and the bank will stand behind anyone who is willing to go along and follow the established program."

Julius A. Rohwer says: "It was Paul, our county agent, who, with my father, the late Theodore Rohwer, and, of course, Ed Reimer, who organized our cattle feeders and the Crawford County Beef Producers Association.

"Each year, 2 or 3 meetings of this association have been held. At the first meeting, 70 persons attended; last January, 680 folks packed our new community hall at Schleswig.

"It has taken more than 30 years to standardize our methods, but we feel that the results justify our efforts. It is a program of profitable beef production and of good soil management and improvement."

One big factor in the success of the Schleswig "meat manufacturing system," as it is called, is the complete absence of jealousy among the various members. Some operate on a larger scale than others; but, instead of envying the more outstanding individuals, the whole community is proud of the exploits of any of its members. Possibly that is because everyone has found the plan profitable.

### Mr. Reimer Summarizes "System"

Mr. Reimer, recognized leader of the community, with more than 35 years of experience in feeding cattle, summarizes the system thus: Grow as many acres of clover and alfalfa as you need. The number and kind of cattle



fed depend on the amount and the kind of roughage the farm produces and also the amount of good pasture to feed on. Buy the best quality feeder calves you can get. It does not pay to feed a poor-quality calf. Buy calves. Put them on full feed and a long feed. Do not try to rough them on cornstalks or poor pastures. How soon they start making money for the feeder depends on how soon they are eating enough grain. "The eye of the master fattens the flock." That includes regularity of feeding, plenty of good water, clean feed lots, and bunks watched so as to prevent the accumulation of sour or moldy feed.

Anyone who would like to see for himself what the Schleswig community has accomplished will find that the feed-lot tours which are held there once or twice a year afford excellent opportunities for investigations. A dozen or more typical farms and feedir.g plants in the community are visited on each tour, and nowadays it is customary to conclude the tour with a barbecue.

Such a tour was held last October 16. As usual, it started at the Reimer farm, at the northwest corner of Schleswig. At each farm visited, the owner told of his operations. Later, community leaders and outside speakers summed up the results of the day's operations.

About 800 made the tour last fall. That was all right with the Schleswig folk. They are justly proud of their accomplishments and were happy to have a chance to show the rest of the world what they have done.

## A New Outlook on Farming

Sound farming—the keynote of the Whitesburg community farm operations—is paying off in dollars and cents. Not only this, but these Madison County, Ala., folks are bringing back appreciation and dignity to the mother of all occupations.

Since 1937, the community has been a demonstration area under a program sponsored by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Tennessee Valley Authority and has improved farming conditions to an appreciable extent.

County Agent J. B. Mitchell, who has been in this county for about 10 years, knows conditions and works closely with the farmers in the community. He is finding it an excellent demonstration to show other farmers in the county as they plan their all-out Food for Freedom effort. The annual tour to the community brings out several hundred farmers from adjoining counties to see how the methods of conserving the soil and carrying out a diversified program in use there are working out.

The demonstration area includes 16 farms with a total of 9,437 acres. These farms are cooperating in a phosphate-fertilizer-testing program sponsored by the county soil conservation association. Eleven of these farms, including 5,361 acres, have cooperated without making changes in operators or size since the establishment of the program in 1937.

This demonstration was begun with the purpose of improving the land, reducing operating expenses, and adjusting farming to new needs. The major objectives were to study the value, effect, and best method of using triple superphosphate; to determine the 'economic importance of phosphatic fertilizer and to demonstrate its value; and to make changes in land use, organization, and operation.

The area is representative of one of the major types of farming areas of Madison County in

respect to soil types and size of farms. It is also in line with the larger types of farming in other Tennessee Valley counties. The type of farming followed prior to 1937 consisted of cotton as the chief cash crop, corn as the main grain crop, and annual lespedeza as the leading soil-improvement and hay crop. Very little fertilizer was used except for cotton. Records show that no fertilized permanent pasture was established in the area before 1936.

With Madison County the leading cotton county in the State, these demonstration farmers were encouraged by their county agent, J. B. Mitchell, to cut down on their row-crop acreage and plant more cover crops. The result was that row-crop acreage was decreased 13 percent whereas cover crops were increased 39 percent. The biggest relative increase was that of winter legume seed saved, the amount saved increasing from 29,000 pounds in 1937 to 132,650 pounds in 1940, or an increase of 354 percent. Income from legume seed sales increased 300 percent during the same period. Combines contributed to the success of the farmers in gathering legume seed. The number for the area now stands at 14, and the county as a whole has only 200. There are also 4 spiral separators and 6 seed cleaners in operation in the area.

By producing more legumes, the farmers had less nitrogen fertilizer to buy. The use of nitrogen fertilizer decreased 15 percent. Expenses for fertilizers as a whole decreased but 4 percent because more phosphate and potash were used in the new farming program. The amount of superphosphate used annually increased more than 200,000 pounds during the 4-year period. The trend has been to increase the total pounds of phosphate used for cover crops and to decrease the total pounds used for row crops. This was due to the increase in fertilized cover-crop

acreage and reduced row-crop acreage rather than to any change in rates of application per acre

Livestock units maintained by 10 of the farmers in the area increased approximately 50 percent in 1940 over 1937. This increase was due to (1) increased feed acreage including permanent pasture, and (2) increased feed yields per acre. Operating expense on these 10 farms of the area was reduced \$16,-062 for 1940 through a reduction of labor and seed costs. Reduction in row crops, especially cotton, made possible the greater part of the reduction in expenditures for labor. The use of improved farm equipment was the second most important factor. This entire group has made a 38 percent reduction in their cost of farming, and the income for 1941 will greatly exceed that of 1937.

To get some idea of just what an individual farmer in this area is doing. Aaron Fleming is given as an example. At the beginning of 1941. Mr. Fleming had 114 ewes, 10 of which are registered, and 6 rams, 4 of which are registered. He sold 58 of the 98 lambs dropped in 1941 for \$311.40 and marketed \$11 pounds of wool for \$360.85, and still had 40 lambs on hand. Permanent pasture furnishes most of the grazing during the year, except in extremely cold weather when crimson clover and barley are used as supplements.

These farmers, as I see them, are cashing in on greater yields from their soil and in turn are living easier and happier. They are producing legume seed which saves money that has been going to distant States; they are also producing livestock and feed to feed them and food for their families.

There is a new outlook on farming in this area. Young men want to stay on the farms, for farming to them is a more dignified and more profitable business. Homes have also improved; and women and girls, as well as the young men, appreciate and enjoy the dignity of successful and profitable farming. This area has shown other sections what a wide-awake and energetic group of farmers can do by cooperating to the fullest extent.

Rural women have pledged their cooperation in the farmers' food-for-defense program next year in Pueblo County, Colo.

Members of the Pueblo County Home Council have agreed to do their part in the program, according to a report by Mrs. Clara Anderson, home demonstration agent.

They will do their share to make all rural people familiar with the food-for-defense program, working with the men's rural councils toward the same goal. They are plauning spring gardens, studying the preparation of ground for gardens in various parts of the county, studying insect control in gardens, making plans for preserving foods according to family needs for health, serving hot lunches for school children in every community where there is a home demonstration club, and promoting better understanding of food values.

## **Building Background for Planning**

MRS. THELMA C. GRUBER, Home Demonstration Agent, Rock County, Wis.

Much of the agent's work in program planning is done before the first meeting is held. It is building up a background for what is to come. Someone must start the people to thinking. In a homemakers' program, backgrounds include past programs, present programs and problems, and anticipated future problems.

Present problems or anticipated future ones can be obtained through the use of surveys and questionnaires. Without some such device, local committee members will sometimes make reports that overlook the real community problems because their own are uppermost in their minds.

Methods of distribution may vary, but I have had best results by sending the questionnaires directly to the farm woman and asking her to send them back.

A good questionnaire should not include all check questions or call for all numerical or statement answers. Numerical answers are too often estimates, and checks to questions are too automatic and fail to stimulate good thinking. The disadvantage of too many statement questions is that some people just won't take the time needed to write a good answer. Therefore, I use a combination but never put all statement questions at the end.

As to subjects, I omit those used recently, as previous answers are probably still good. As I go about the county, I note what the women are talking about. For example, if it is that their canned corn has been spoiling, I include a question or two which checks on amounts and kinds of spoilage in home canning. This method may also be a way of spotting interest groups. I also try to find some possible link between this year's and next year's program. For example, refinishing of furniture can well be followed with floor finishes.

### Make Questions Short

The mechanics of preparing a questionnaire is very important. Set off each question by itself, to make for orderly thinking. An important don't is: Don't have it too long. A single good page will bring the best results. Longer ones may be necessary at times. Make signatures optional, but request the name of the community for your own use.

When should one send out questionnaires? At least 2 months before the results are needed. This gives the agent time to tabulate the results, summarize the important parts, and send these summaries to all local presidents in advance of the planning meeting. When the council meeting is held, the representatives have a better idea of what are the needs and wants of the women all over the county, as well as those in their immediate vicinity. They will have had a chance to discuss these results with fellow members. More and more people will become indirectly involved in the planning.

Last winter, I felt the need for considerable information before we could tackle any program planning. I sent out a rather lengthy questionnaire which was divided into sections on clothing, foods, home management, housefurnishings, and child development and family relationships. I had heard the women talking about making rugs, handicraft, making pleated drapes, and that they needed something done to their living rooms. Under housefurnishings, I asked:

1. Which would you like to learn to do or do better:

Making rugs (hooked, braided, woven)

Making curtains

Selecting curtains

Knitting curtains

Chip carving

Making bedding and bedroom accessories? 2. Would you like to have living room ar-

- rangements discussed and demonstrated? 3. Check the following about which you
- would like more information before buying:

Furniture

Curtains

Bedding

Draperies.

arrangement and curtains and draperies had the widest interest. The committee put these subjects on the list of possibilities. The summaries were sent out to the chairmen of each local group, who had the opportunity to study them with the local women. The importance of finding out what people want and need was thus established in their minds. They came to the planning meeting with

Tabulated results showed that living-room

definite recommendations as to what was wanted on the program. And the best part of it is that they felt that they had all contributed to make this picture of the county needs and wishes.

One other survey I found helpful in that it was rather startling, and a good waking up does not hurt one. It showed that most of the women in our clubs were in the age group from 50 to 60 years. This is doubly disconcerting when one realizes that past the age of 50 one's capacity for learning has slowed down.

In addition to surveys on needs inside the house, a home economics program must not lose sight of its relation to the farm program. Good farm statistics are available. Land use planning counties may have more details in this field than those of us who have not adopted such a program, but we can make up a few charts and graphs on distribution of farm income, location of present extension groups, use of cropland, farm ownership, and such. We found that the people were interested in those. They do not all have access to this information and like to get it. As this knowledge increases, so does the quality of county 'program planning.

In closing, I would like to say: To me, getting the background is the only way a new agent in a county should tackle program planning, and it is probably the safest way for the experienced agent.

## A Most Valuable Activity

The Windham County (Vermont) Young Farmers Club is, in the estimation of County Agent E. N. Root and Club Agent Bruce R. Buchanan, "one of the most valuable activities of our entire extension program."

It is an informal organization holding an annual 1-day meeting during school vacation at New Year's time. The order of the morning is bowling followed by a dinner provided by the Farm Bureau. The afternoon is given over to discussion of farm-management and public problems led by the local agents, college and extension specialists, local bankers, credit men, and successful farmers.

The young men have proved that they can take some pretty heavy material and like it when it is properly presented. The agents have had difficulty in keeping these discussions on a practical basis and in language that the boys understand unless they steer the course themselves.

Some of the boys have attended these meetings for 6 or 8 years; and when they come to the point of going into business for themselves, they come freely to the agents for advice. During the past year, 8 father-and-son partnerships were successfully launched among members of the Young Farmers Club.

One hundred 4-H Club boys and girls of Nash County, N. C., have enlisted in the national defense program. They have agreed to raise dairy calves in addition to their regular 4-H Club projects.

North Carolina has been asked to increase its milk production in 1942 by 4 percent over 1941, which means that an additional 58 million pounds of milk must be produced in 1942. Nash County club members are taking the lead under the direction of Assistant Farm Agent H. L. Cooke and Assistant Home Agent Katie Niblock.

## 4-H Bull Ring Buys Defense Stamps



■ Nebraska farm youths in 4-H Clubs started putting their shoulders to the wheel in strengthening defenses by investing in the future of their country through defense stamps.

Twenty-two boys and girls around Papillion belong to the Junior Bull Ring. At their annual meeting, they found they had \$50 surplus cash in the treasury. Extension Dairyman M. N. Lawritson suggested that the money be used to buy defense stamps. The boys and girls voted unanimously in favor of the idea.

Postmaster George Miller of Papillion was consulted regarding the purchase. According to his interpretation, it was impossible for the boys and girls as a group to buy anything less than a \$100 bond; so they agreed to spend the entire \$50 for defense stamps.

County Extension Agent Gilbert Erickson

said the boys and girls were enthusiastic over the defense stamp idea. He said it would stimulate them to buy more stamps "on their own."

Kenneth Norlan is president of the bull ring association. He got his 20 or more members together in Papillion Saturday for a picture. All were there. Young Frank Cockerill, Jr., one of the members, said he already had \$3 in defense stamps and intended to buy \$8 more by Saturday evening.

Organized since 1938, the bull ring association in Sarpy County is a going concern with an adult advisory committee of farmers and parents. About 450 calves have been sired by the well-bred bulls owned by the boys and girls. County Agent Erickson says the club has raised the standard of dairy herds in the county.

## **Young Stockman Invests in Bonds**

Lyman Schwartz, 17-year-old youth of Paradise Valley in northern Humboldt County, Nev., purchased with funds which he, himself, earned, a \$1,000 defense bond.

The \$1,000 defense bond was purchased by the youth from the income which he received during 1941 from his 4–H Club project. The purchase of the bond required less than half of his total income from 4–H Club work that year.

Starting 6 years ago with an investment of only 10 cents, Lyman has developed his project into an enterprise which in 1941 brought him an income of \$2,135.50, and, that in the 6 years has yielded him a total of \$5,280.49.

As a member of the Humboldt County Livestock Improvement Club, Lyman has developed a breeding herd of purebred, registered Herefords which number a total of 35 animals valued at more than \$6,000.

All cattle in the breeding herd are free from debt and have been paid for by Lyman from the profits of his 4-H Club enterprise. In addition to caring for his livestock, the youth attends the Humboldt County High School at Winnemucca, where he is president of the senior class.

Using his initial investment of 10 cents for the purchase of a piece of cotton rope, the Schwartz youth was taught to tie the common knots used on a livestock ranch. During his second year of club work he fed a baby beef for exhibit at a junior livestock show. With the profits from prize money won, and from the sale of the animal exhibited at the first show, Lyman purchased two calves for his next project. Each successive year he has increased the value of his livestock program until in 1938 he joined with other Humboldt County 4–H Club members in purchasing pure-

bred, registered Hereford cows and calves as foundation stock for a breeding herd and organized the Humboldt County Livestock Improvement Club, the largest 4-H project, of which Lyman is president.

Young bulls and heifers from Lyman's herd and from the purebred, registered Hereford breeding herds of other members of the Livestock Improvement Club are sold to ranchers in Humboldt County and in other cattle-producing districts for the purpose of improving the quality of range stock produced by the buyers.

Bulls and other animals from these breeding herds of registered Herefords have been exhibited and have won numerous prizes at the Humboldt County Fair and Rodeo at Winnemucca and at the Junior Livestock Show at Reno and San Francisco.

Commenting on his livestock activities, Lyman says: "During the past few years I have been putting the profits from my 4–H Club projects back into the purchase of more purebred Hereford cattle; but now we are at war, and our Government needs money to buy materials to fight and win the war."

## All Out for Defense Stamps

Every 4-H Club member in Harper County, Okla., has pledged his loyalty to the Government by purchasing at least one defense stamp.

This news traveled across the country to the Treasury Department in Washington. "This patriotic participation by the 4-H Club boys and girls of Harper County in the defense of the country is worthy of the highest commendation and sets an example which might be duplicated with pride by 4-H Club members throughout the Nation," wrote the Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury, James L. Houghteling, in a letter to County Agent Bland.

The idea was first presented to the Selman Club by County Agent Bill Bland and Home Demonstration Agent Gladys Craig. Club members liked the idea, and within 2 weeks each of the 16 4–H Clubs in the county had a 100-percent record in having club members purchase 1 or more 10-cent defense stamps. This is the first county in Oklahoma, and possibly the first county in the United States, to report 100-percent purchase of defense stamps among its 450 club members and coaches. On November 15, 1941, a total of \$104.60 in defense stamps had been purchased by Harper County club youngsters.

According to Agent Bland, each member will be encouraged to add to his savings every month. The project is serving to educate club members to the responsibility they owe our Government and also to give them a lesson in personal thrift.

This is just the beginning, he pointed out. Later in the year, farm boys and girls will use a part of their project money to put into this type of investment.

# Secretary Calls Upon Extension To Carry Forward Wartime Responsibilities



The Extension Service has a vital responsibility in helping American farmers to meet their obligations as producers and as citizens in the war for freedom.

No one can forsee all the tasks that Extension, or any other agency, may be asked to handle in the months ahead. Even so, every public official wants to know now, today, what it is that he can do to contribute most to the grim business of winning this war. He wants to know this with certainty so that he may work with equal certainty, and with the assurance that other public officials will recognize his field of operations, in order to avoid wasteful duplication and to insure harmonious and effective working relationships. Consequently, I am setting forth in this memorandum some of the wartime duties of the Extension Service and their relation to the work of other agencies, .

## I. General Educational Work in Agricultural and Home Economics

(a) First af all, I am looking to the Extension Service to carry forward on every sector of the farm front the general educational work in agriculture and home economics essential to the success of our wartime job. Since every program administered by this Department—research, adjustment, conservation, rehabilitation, marketing, and everything else—is being realigned to make

the maximum contribution to the efficient production and delivery of essential farm products, it follows that the cducational program must, without exception, include all that is necessary to an understanding by rural people of each program individually and of all programs as a unified whole.

- (b) Each action agency in effectuating a credit, adjustment, marketing, or other program, must engage in certain types of informational work if it is to achieve intelligent farmer-participation in that program. Where, then, is the dividing line between Extension's and the action agency's responsibilities for educational work? How can each know definitely the scope of its responsibility? No doubt these questions can best be answered by having among the agencies which are helping to carry forward agriculture's total war effort the determined kind of cooperation that recognizes no qualification. The State and county U.S. D. A. War Boards provide the meeting place for reaching this kind of understanding and clear assignment of functions. In the hope, however, that it will contribute to clear-cut, vigorous, and unfaltering action in every theater of operations. I wish to make the following distinctions:
- (1) The Extension Service is recognized as the responsible subject-matter agency that taps the scientific and economic information of this Department and of the State experiment stations and uses this information in a practical way in guiding farm people on all phases of farming and homemaking in the most comprehensive sense.
- (2) The Extension Service is responsible for all group or general educational work essential to a fundamental understanding of all action programs. Extension should sponsor all officially called farm meetings for this purpose; it should otherwise see to it that no farmer or farm woman in America is left in the dark as to the why and how of all public effort affecting rural welfare.
- (3) Working principally with individual farmers in redeeming its responsibility for specific program effectuation and compliance, each action agency will engage only in such educational and informational work as is inherently part of the job of reaching the action program objective. Specifically: A rural rehabilitation supervisor will provide guidance to the individual borrower of Federal funds but will not give general farmmanagement assistance to all farmers in his area; the latter is the responsibility of the county agent. A technician of the Soil Conservation Service will aid the individual farmer in developing and executing a soilconservation plan for his farm; the Extension Service will handle general educational work

on conservation and will cooperate with the Soil Conservation Service in farm planning to assure uniformity in farm management and related recommendations of the Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Service. The Extension Service, working with AAA officials, will explain to farm people generally the background, scope, general nature, and limitations of the AAA program; but the AAA must of course negotiate with and provide information to the individual farmer in arranging for his participation in the program; AAA must also check compliance, assess penalties, and make payments.

(4) Under no circumstances should individual doubts about responsibilities in any area result in public confusion or inaction. It is imperative that the broad educational effort of Extension and the specialized educational work of each action agency be well coordinated as a truly cooperate enterprise.

## II. Specific Wartime Educational Work

War is bringing new problems almost hourly to every branch of agriculture. Many of these require widespread, rapid responses by farmers. We can forsee some of them in advance; but by no means all. Consequently, our concern is to have each State extension director do whatever needs to be done to assure prompt and complete educational work to meet situations as they arise. More specifically: (a) We are producing more than ever before and our goals for 1943 must be larger, while still holding down on the production of a few basic commodities. Practically every farmer, as he plans to increase production of milk, eggs, soybeans, peanuts, or other things, needs technical information on how he can attain the goals for his farm with minimum labor, minimum use of fertilizer, with maximum efficiency, and with minimum sacrifice, if any, of his long-time conservation goal. Here Extension must be on the firing line to furnish technical guidance with accuracy and dispatch.

(b) Shortages of fertilizer, machinery, processing equipment of all kinds, and other things present special problems in practically every area. Farmers and Extension workers together will have to use all the ingenuity at their command to reach the goals despite handicaps. For example, we know that tobacco cloth will be short this year—and yet we need an expansion in certain types of tobacco. It is too late to ration the cloth. Conesquently, the best means of meeting the situation seems to be to help farmers control blue-mold, thus maturing more plants despite the shortage of cloth. Perhaps something can be done to conserve supplies now

on farms. Perhaps community cooperation can help solve the problem. Extension is expected to do whatever needs to be done to meet this sort of a problem when it arises.

- (c) Some rationing in agriculture may be inevitable. Rationing is never pleasant. But farmers will suffer difficulties cheerfully if they understand the necessity for the rationing, the methods used to assure fairness in rationing, and what they may best do under the circumstances. Again, Extension has the responsibility for this type of specific wartime educational job.
- (d) Probably no other single factor is so important in the food for freedom campaign and no other single thing has so many ramifications as that of price relationships. Here is a problem that is difficult even for those who devote full time to it. It is affected by various Federal activities as well as by an abnormal market situation. Every Extension worker has the responsibility of keeping intimately informed on price relationships, marketing problems, and related factors and of conducting widspread educational work to promote the fullest possible farmerunderstanding. An increased marketing of range livestock and the orderly marketing of our record hog production will be achieved, for example, only if farmers obtain all the relevant facts and truly understand those facts.
- (e) I am depending on Extension to train a much larger number of local volunteer leaders to help in carrying forward all phases of Agriculture's wartime program.
- (f) I look to you to keep all Extension workers promptly informed of the specific educational jobs that we here at headquarters discover must be done. And as I said before, I look to every State director to take the initiative in his State as problems arise there.

## III. Extension and the U. S. D. A. War Boards

The State and County U. S. D. A. War Boards will coordinate all our wartime activities in agriculture.

- (a) As members of State and county boards, State directors and county agents are expected to participate in all work of the boards. No member agency should fail to do its part, and all must share the responsibility in making the board's work a model of clear-cut efficiency in this Nation's war effort.
- (b) Extension's responsibility for educational work with respect to the program of the War Board is precisely what it is with respect to any other program.
- (c) In fulfilling its obligations, each board from time to time will make specific assignments to agencies represented on the board. These assignments will ordinarily be compatible with each agency's direct line responsibilities. But probably there will be exceptions. I am counting on each agency, including Extension, to carry out every assignment without stint or qualification.

In a memorandum dated February 11, 1942, the Secretary of Agriculture called upon the Cooperative Extension Service to carry forward in all States and counties responsibilities which are vital to agriculture's contribution to victory. His memorandum is so important to our work that I have asked that it be reproduced in its entirety in the Extension Service Review.

Since it will influence greatly the wartime character of extension work, I recommend that every extension worker study it carefully and consult with his or her State supervisor and State extension director with reference to adjustments in local programs that may be necessary to fulfill our obligations.—M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work.

## IV. Extension Participation in Program and Policy Formulation

It goes without saying that during this war there will be constant adjustment in programs and policies. I want to have maximum consultation before, not after, decisions are made, though despite all good intentions vital decisions sometimes must be made on the spot and without the benefit of advice from experienced people in the field.

- (a) Your membership on the recently established Agricultural War Board, which meets almost daily with me, as well as Extension membership on the State and County U. S. D. A. War Boards gives us assurance that we shall have the advantage of Extension experience and judgment as changes are considered and agreed upon.
- (b) However, as a further safeguard, I would like to have you establish as soon as possible a Committee on Wartime Extension Work which will meet with you on your call whenever you feel that the advice and guidance of State directors would help in formulating national plans and policies or when such consultation would otherwise help to get our job done. I shall, of course, look to you to bring the results from this cooperative endeavor to bear upon the work of the Agricultural War Board and upon the thinking of the administrators of action programs.

## V. Extension and the Action Agencies

The Extension Service is the only organization in this Department and in the States and local communities which works constantly with every research, regulatory, service, and action agency. Consequently, it is necessary for Extension to have clearcut and well-understood cooperative relationships with each; while I have already stated the over-all responsibility of Extension to the programs of other agencies, it is clear that the widely varying character of the programs requires some variation in relationships.

(a) If you and the agency administrators find it would be helpful to do so, you may,

with the approval of the Office of the Secretary, enter into and widely distribute specific memoranda of understanding that spell out relationships in detail.

(b) While existing machinery at the State and county level seems to me to be adequate for the purpose, I can see that you may find it advisable here in Washington to establish more formal lines of consultation with the eight administrative groups of the Department in order to make sure that you are completely informed on all program matters, that the Extension program is constantly adapted to current needs, and that you are in a position to keep State directors informed of all significant developments. Therefore, I authorize the establishment of an Extension Liaison Board, with yourself as chairman, and with one representative designated by each of the eight program administrators of the Department, this Board to meet on your call, and to effectuate final arrangements on all matters that may arise within the whole scope of Extension's responsibilities as covered in this memorandum.

## VI. Special Wartime Programs in Extension

All of the foregoing deals principally with educational work and with the relation of Extension to the action agencies. In addition, the Extension Service is in the best position to handle some of the special war tasks that involve not only educational but also organizational and other work. Without attempting now to give a complete list of assignments, I ask that the Extension Service assume the leadership in the following:

(a) Organize rural America for defense against destructive fires. The Office of Civilian Defense is undertaking this task in cities and towns of more than 2,000 population. The Forest Service is responsible for forest fire prevention and control. The Extension Service should assume the responsibility for the balance of the field. Even in normal times, farm fire losses are staggering. Now the danger is greater, and every loss of

needed food and property is more costly. What can be done by voluntary organization of rural people should be done. If authorizing legislation and funds are provided by Congress, the start you make now will enable you to handle the bigger job more expeditiously.

- (b) Organize and direct educational campaigns among farm people for improved nutrition and for the production of farm-home food supplies.
- (c) Organize and direct campaigns and aid in organizing rural people for the general improvement of health.
- (d) Organize and direct rural and community gardening.
- (e) In cooperation with State and county councils for defense, organize and direct certain phases of civilian defense affecting farm people.
- (f) Aid in organizing cooperative-marketing associations and in effecting any other arrangements necesary to assure that all food produced in the food for freedom program finds a satisfactory market.
- (g) Organize and promote the effective functioning of rural discussion groups which consider the fundamental issues of the war and democracy's stake in it.

## VII. Rural Women and Young People in the War Effort

(a) Probably no other group in this country is so well organized and so prepared and ready to carry more than a full share of the war load than are our farm women. The leadership is abundant and willing. As in other democracies fighting the Axis, the women of this country are coming forward to do the woman's work and much of the man's work, too. Many labor shortages are going to be overcome by women. Safeguarding health; conserving food and clothing; effecting family wartime economies; home processing of foods to relieve pressure on commercial stocks; collecting and conserving metals, paper, rags, glass jars; organizing rural fire control associations; inventorying and obtaining the loans of equipment for special jobs; helping in school-lunch programs; organizing and managing community food preservation centers; aiding in war-savings, Red Cross, and related campaigns; and above all protecting the home—this great variety of tasks and many more will place rural women in the active service list.

I am depending upon home demonstration workers everywhere to take the leadership in helping the woman's army of rural America to fulfill its role in this war.

(b) Likewise rural young people, including 4–H Club members, have a most important and strategic part in meeting wartime needs. Already young people are making a contribution to the food for freedom campaign. Younger farm boys are helping to run the farm while other boys are joining the armed forces. In the conservation and collection of needed materials—in fact, in doing all the things listed immediately above—our rural young people will play an increasingly important part. These responsibilities and this training will develop muchneeded rural leadership now and for the future.

## VIII. A Wartime Financial Program for Extension

I recognize that these assignments of responsibility place a very heavy load on extension workers. Therefore, I should like to have you (in consultation with the Committee on Wartime Extension and the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy) examine the present resources of the Federal and State Extension Services with a view to making such modifications all along the line as will result in maximum absorption of the cost of this program within existing funds. If, however, you find that the total wartime program outlined herein cannot be accomplished efficiently with present resources, I shall be glad to receive from you a supplementary estimate of Extension's financial requirements. I must, of course, consider any such estimate in relation to the total financial requirements of the Department. Moreover, any recommendation I may be able to make must be submitted to the Bureau of the

ployment Service branch of the Social Security Board. In each of the 1,500 full-time United States Employment Offices which make up this Nation-wide chain, there is at least one person whose job it is to help farm employers find the workers they need. In addition, there are thousands of part-time offices—some in Farm Security camps, still others in strategic places where workers are needed on a seasonal basis.

In planning our farm-placement program for this year, we have been working very closely with representatives of the Department of Agriculture here in Washington. But the actual attack on the problem of farm labor supply will be made in the local communities from coast to coast, and that's the responsibility of the full-time and part-time United States Employment Offices.

County agricultural agents and home demonstration agents can be immeasurably helpful to the local United States Employment Offices. A local employment office must know what the local labor supply is; but, in addition—and this is where the county agent comes in, it must also be kept informed about changing labor requirements. By keeping the United States Employment Office in his community informed about current crop conditions, the county agent helps that office in making intelligent plans for recruiting workers.

There are other factors, too, which affect the supply and demand for labor. If, for example, the county agent keeps the local employment office informed about the extent of insect infestation, weather conditions, and other factors which affect the yield of a crop, the employment office can do a more effective job in mobilizing manpower for war production. And, finally, through his close contacts with farm employers, the county agent can help to make sure that the facilities of the United States Employment Service are used to their capacity.

Home demonstration agents and local United States Employment Offices can also work cooperatively to the same end-effective use of America's manpower. They can carry information into the farm home about the service a United States Employment Office can render in filling farm jobs. They can tell a farm employer who needs workers that the United States Employment Office in his community will try to find those workers without charge. If, on the other hand, there are people on a farm who would be available for employment for certain periods of time, the home demonstration agent can carry the message of free help from the United States Employment Office in finding work.

In short, with the active cooperation of the county agricultural and home demonstration agents the United States will be better equipped to discharge its responsibility—the fullest possible utilization of the manpower of this country. And with that cooperation, our goal—Victory—will be closer to realization.

## **Manpower for America's Farms**

## FAY W. HUNTER, Chief, Farm Placement Section, United States Employment Service

It is no news to most farmers that getting workers at the right time is going to be more of a problem this year than ever before. The Army, the Navy, and the war industry have made heavy inroads into the farm labor supply—and this at a time when agriculture's goal is the increased production called for by the "Food for Victory" program. The result is that in agriculture—as in industry—mobilizing manpower for war production

is a national, not an individual employer's problem.

The United States Employment Service can help the farm employer to find the workers he needs. To speed the recruiting of workers and to speed the filling of jobs, this service recently took over the operation of the public employment offices which had been operated by the various States and which had been loosely coordinated by the United States Em-

## The Saga of a Live-at-Home

MRS. M. O. LAWRENCE, Farm Woman, Madison County, Miss.

Both home demonstration clubs and 4-H Clubs in Madison County have given major emphasis to home-grown supplies. Eleven community garden leaders demonstrated year-round gardens. They grew vegetables new to their communities and gave them to the neighbors to try out. They helped Negro families near them by giving them seed and plants. An abundance of wild berries and hard work gave the garden leaders a chance to get canned fruit into many homes. A spring-garden exhibit aroused interest, with 142 women exhibiting. All in all, the farm women of Madison County, under the leadership of Home Demonstration Agent Julia Street, are, as Mrs. Lawrence expresses it, joining hands to grow the food to win the war.

Five years ago, in January 1937, we moved to our new home. As we had always striven to grow all the things we needed at home, our thoughts turned first to an orchard; so we put out 37 peach trees that I had ready to plant. Our old home orchard was of seedling trees; so I had selected seed from the best trees, planted them, and had trees of a nice size to transplant. Our orchard site is an ideal one, and had it not been for the late freeze we would have had fruit enough for home use in 1940. In 1941, the trees were loaded with extra nice fruit; and after canning enough for my family of 3 and for our 3 married daughters, we sold 21 bushels. We add new trees as we can and now have a very nice orchard of 54 trees, including peaches, pears, apples, plums, apricots, and figs.

The garden was next in our plan. I knew if it was located close by, I could spend much more time in it; so it is about 15 steps from the kitchen door and is my special hobby, as I have been the garden leader in our home demonstration club for the past 2 years.

In 1941 I grew 46 different varieties of vegetables. I always plant a few new varieties each year to see if they are practical for this area and to encourage my family to eat all the different foods that are good for them. This year I tried edible soybeans, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, celery, petsai, and salsify. All were satisfactory except the cauliflower and celery, and they may do better if we have a summer that is not so dry. We built a hotbed at a cost of 50 cents (spent for canvas for the top), so we grow all our plants at home.

I canned 211 quarts of vegetables for my own use, 50 quarts for the school cafeteria, and quite a lot for my daughters who live in the city. I also cured 47 bushels of potatoes. By doing this we leave the factory-canned products for those who cannot have a garden, or perhaps to be sent to England. That is one

small way to help win the war. The things I find helpful I try to pass on to my friends, so I always show visitors my hotbed and garden. I have quite a few more plants than I need, so I take them to club meetings and give them to ladies who want them. Then, I tell them how to fight insect pests and how to fertilize and grow better vegetables. All my surplus vegetables, not canned, used fresh, or sold, are very profitably fed to the hogs and chickens.

I have a flock of about 55 purebred White Wyandotte chickens. I have only two buildings at present—a small house for the grown chickens and a good brooder house with an oil drum brooder stove and small yard. I use home-grown feeds with an occasional sack of commercial laying mash. I sell all surplus eggs and chickens at our local market. At least I exchange them for the needed groceries—sugar, salt, flour, and coffee—instead of spending cash. In response to Secretary Wickard's plea for more poultry products, I

Mrs. Lawrence talks over garden problem with N. S. Estes, county agent.



am planning to increase my flock to at least 100 hens this year.

Our cows add quite a bit to our income each year by way of butter and calves for sale; plenty of good fresh milk, butter, and beef for the family; and milk for the chickens and hogs. We have five head of milk cows, four calves, two heifers, and one bull.

We keep enough hogs to furnish meat and lard for the family and some for the girls, and I have some fresh sausage to sell. We never have to hunt a market because everyone likes good country sausage. The cost of this meat is small; the garden and extra milk make the growth, and home-grown grain fattens the hogs in the fall.

By having an orchard, garden, flock of poultry, a few cows and hogs, we really live at home and have the best of health. I learned to plan good balanced meals in the home demonstration club, so I know these five sources of food are the reason for the good health and strength of our five children. If all farm families will grow all they and their city children need to eat, it will release all the factory-canned vegetables for those who cannot grow them and for those countries resisting aggression. So, farm wives, let us join hands and do this and help to win this war to save democracy.

## New Hampshire Studies Philosophy for Action

"When can we have another?" was the enthusiastic comment of everyone present at the School of Philosophy held at the University of New Hampshire January 5 to 7, with the cooperation of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture.

This comment summarized the success of the school, the one hundred and eighth in the Nation, the second in New Hampshire, and the first to be held in the Granite State for extension workers. Coming as it did in a week of conference which included the annual winter extension meeting, the sustained interest in the lectures and discussions brought forth by the school was remarkable.

Attended by the 70 extension workers of New Hampshire and by 40 other New Hampshire residents—rural ministers, social workers, Triple—A field men, Farm Security supervisors, and plain New Hampshire citizens—the school started off with a bang on Monday morning and ended Wednesday afternoon with the members of the school still popping questions at the panel of lecturers.

Speakers obtained through the efforts of Perley Ayer, field agent in general extension of the university, working with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, proved their merit in helping the Granite Staters handle the theme, New Hampshire Agriculture Takes Stock in a Time of National Crisis. Experts in social, economic, and political fields described the outlines and backgrounds of current problems.

## **''King Spud'' Rules Aroostook**

## MAINE FARMERS IMPROVE THEIR SEED POTATOES

Farmers of Aroostook County, Maine, produce nearly half of the certified seed potatoes of the United States. With the Food for Freedom goal calling for 3 million acres where there were but 2,800,000 acres in 1941, ample supplies of disease-free seed are important. Dorothy L. Bigelow, of the REVIEW staff, visiting some of the potato seed growers with County Agent Verne C. Beverly, finds the farmers awake to their responsibility.

Potato growers in the "Land of King Spud"—Aroostook County, Maine—are working diligently to rid their potato crops of seed-borne diseases, and in cooperation with the extension agents are developing more efficient methods of improving their seed.

One of the first farmers in northern Maine to try to improve his seed by modern methods, of Spaulding Rose variety which he planted in a plot by themselves by the tuber-unit method. If any plants showed disease during the growing season he destroyed the whole unit. From this beginning he grew his foundation stock and later began selecting Cobblers the same way. He cuts each potato into four pieces and plants each set of four pieces in



Good isolation is insurance against infection from other potatoes.

and who is still an active leader in this field, is H. H. Higgins, of Mapleton. When in 1919 John Scribner, then county agricultural agent of Aroostook County, told Mr. Higgins what could be done by selecting and growing good seed Mr. Higgins decided to follow Scribner's suggestions. The county agent knew of the certification of seed potatoes already being done in Maine, Wisconsin, Vermont, and New York. He also knew that in 1911 Dr. W. A. Orton, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, had observed and studied the certification system in Germany.

Mr. Higgins carefully selected three tubers

separate units. If any plant in a unit shows disease, all four plants are destroyed, because if a plant from one seed piece shows disease the plants from the other three pieces are also likely to be infected even if they appear healthy.

As Mr. Higgins learned how plants having mosaic or spindle tuber are a source of injurious infection to healthy plants he decided to isolate his seed plot. By isolating his seed plot he would prevent various kinds of aphids from carrying certain diseases from infected fields to healthy seed plots. During the past summer he had a seed plot on the side of

Haystack Mountain, which is several hundred feet from the nearest potato field on one side and on other sides there are forests extending for several miles.

Mr. Higgins' son, Clifton, who is doing much of the seed certification work, showed us the Haystack plot where they had just started early harvesting, that is pulling the vines as soon as the aphids begin to appear. As it takes 12 to 14 days after the aphids have attacked the plant before the disease carried by these insects gets down into the stalks, early harvesting or the pulling of the vines prevents the potatoes from being affected. The potatoes that are harvested early will be the seed for the foundation stock the next year. Although the yield is cut by about 30 percent these farmers believe that pulling the tops is a good practice.

Many farmers of northern Maine are carrying out practices to produce better and better seed potatoes. The three county agents of Aroostook County, Verne C. Beverly, who has been in this county since 1923; Bryce M. Jordan, assistant since 1937, and Carl Worthley, assistant since 1941, work with the farmers and the State inspectors throughout the growing season, often going into the fields with the roguers.

In the heart of potato-producing Aroostook, six townships alone had approximately 12,-800 acres certified in 1941.

In late July and early August anxiety showed on the faces of potato farmers as they talked together about whether or not their crops would be damaged by blight or whether the aphids would be swarming upon their fields in hordes to carry diseases to their plants. Especially serious were those farmers who for years have been working valiantly to rid their potatoes of disease, planting in different isolated fields each year, planting only carefully selected tuber-unit certified seed, roguing many times each summer, and carefully storing and inspecting the seed while in the bins. Many long hard hours had been spent and much care taken to get the desired result.

First, in the spring, members of their families cut the seed that had been tuber-unit certified the year before. All machinery and equipment used on last year's crop has been disinfected as a precautionary measure against any ring-rot infection.

Then during the growing season many days are spent in the fields with the State inspectors and the county agents roguing the fields to be sure that all diseased plants are eliminated. Not only are plants which show disease pulled out and carried to the end of the row for carrying away and destroying, but if, as sometimes happens, only one or two hills show disease all four plants in the unit are also pulled and destroyed.

Each of these farmers has sprayed and dusted, pulled out and destroyed the mustard and kale and other weeds that might be hosts to the aphids. Each has also cultivated and hoed. When the farmer, the roguers, and inspectors go into the seed plots they disinfect their high boots with a solution of blue vitriol as a protection against the dreaded ring-rot disease.

The Extension Service has been active in creating five areas where practically every farmer in the area is growing foundation seed. In each of these areas the farmers' neighbors have united in fighting disease and insects vigorously so that they have a better chance of winning their fight than they would if some were careless or disinterested.

Some seed plots are separated from other potato fields by many miles of woods and are known as isolated seed plots. In this manner insects traveling from other fields are reduced to a minimum. The isolated plot has become popular in recent years in Aroostook.

The potato fields that in late July and early August were luxuriant with sturdy green plants and white or orchid-colored flowers are now covered with snow and ice, criss-crossed with ski trails and snowshoe tracks where the young folks enjoy some of the winter sports.

Each winter seed potatoes from Maine are sent to sunny Florida and are grown in test or trial plots to determine the absence or presence of disease. If they prove to be good seed the potatoes from the same units will be planted in Aroostook in the spring. If disease shows up in any units in the test plantings in Florida, seed from those units will be discarded. Dr. L. O. Gratz, of the Florida Experiment Station, started this testing of Maine potato seed in 1925, and the work has been continued there and in greenhouses on Long Island, N. Y., since that time.

While blustery March winds blow, Aroostook farmers anticipate warmer days in May when they will plant next season's bigger and better crops of certified "spuds."

## West Coast Girds for War

## B. H. CROCHERON, Director of Extension Service, Calif.

The centering of wartime industries and military activities in this State makes California particularly aware of its strategic importance in this emergency. The danger of air attack, and even of a sea-borne military expedition, is one which cannot be ignored.

Under these conditions, it seemed clear from the first that the California Extension Service must at once move into the field of "protection to persons and property" in the rural areas. No other agency is so well experienced in rural affairs or is held in such high respect by farm people. Locally, extension agents were asked to serve on many committees and to head up various activities. In general, our policy has been to advise them to accept appointments wherein their special knowledge and experience would be of value but to decline those in which their training gave them no special experience. For example, to accept appointments involving the organization of rural forces but to decline such appointments as members of county automobile tire allotment committees for which they had no particular fitness.

Evening meetings at once became unsuccessful. Practice black-outs meant that people could not move along the roads after a black-out started and, therefore, hesitated to leave home lest the start of a black-out keep them out all night. People did not know what to expect. Several of our agents were among those who watched Japanese submarines at work off the California coast.

The radio and rural press became a valuable method for extension work. People kept their radios continuously tuned to local stations to get warnings as soon as they were given. The voice of the county agent and

home demonstration agent were welcome words from a friend.

We immediately began issuance of material on black-outs-how to do it and what materials to use. The black-out of dairy barns, for example, is a real problem in the market milk areas. We are now holding an extensive series of barn meetings throughout the State illustrating methods of dairy-barn blackout. Necessarily these meetings are held in the daytime. Poultrymen using lights were supplied with advice on methods of black-out for poultry houses; and, of course, the home demonstration agents supplied information on methods of black-out in farm homes and in the creation of a "refuge room." The British publications proved especially helpful, but our own laboratories here did considerable rapid work testing out various methods.

California handles its grain in bulk, and the loss of the Far East and the consequent shortage of grain sacks makes imperative the immediate formulation of some other method of harvesting crops. We are actively at work with local meetings demonstrating the handling of grain in bulk, but the shortage of materials, labor, and time to make the transformation is a handicap. At my instance, the State USDA War Board has forwarded a recommendation for the immediate erection by the Government of a large terminal elevator.

The labor shortage here will probably be more acute than elsewhere because the number of defense industries is greater here than in any other region adjacent to rural areas. Defense wages are so high as to reach fantastic proportions for unskilled and semiskilled workers. Boys and young men are

leaving the farms wherever possible. Under these conditions, we can only do our best to organize farmers to exchange labor and machinery and to utilize the labor remaining to the best degree possible.

Fire remains the great hazard. We are planning a great organization of neighborhood fire companies and are now in negotiation with forest officials, the State fire chief, and others to make sure before we embark upon the plan that we have their approval and that we fit into the general scheme. In the last war we formed, and the farmers operated, 343 rural fire companies as an emergency organization. In this effort we plan that there shall be several thousand rural fire companies formed with such equipment as can be gathered locally and without calling upon the already overburdened factory production in any way.

4-H Club work is participating in the general scheme of rural organization. The club leaders who remain with us are anxious to be of service, but many leaders are resigning to accept defense jobs or to serve on defense committees. Our club work is likely to have hard sledding in the immediate future.

The attitude of the entire extension staff has been admirable. They were quick to adjust to the emergency and competent in their new duties. Among many other agencies they shine outstandingly. I am proud of them.

## Thanks From England

I think you will like to know that at the Federation's Consultative Council, at which practically every county in England and Wales was represented, held in Oxford recently, the following resolution was passed with acclamation:

"That this meeting desires to put on record the sincere gratitude of Women's Institute members for the sympathy and timely help given to them by their many friends overseas, particularly in the U. S. A., and asks Mrs. Winant to convey their thanks to American countrywomen for their wonderful generosity."

I also give below the text of a resolution carried with enthusiasm at the Autumn Council Meeting of the Wiltshire Federation of Women's Institutes held at Wilton on October 4th:

"That this council would like a message of gratitude to be conveyed to our friends in America for their generous gifts of seeds, fertilizers, and hand-sealing machines. These gifts and the thoughts which prompted them have been greatly appreciated by us all."

I would be most grateful if you could make known as widely as possible our resolutions of thanks which record a very deep and genuine sense of gratitude for all that American women have done and are continuing to do for us.—F. Farrer, general secretary, National Federation of Women's Institutes, London (in letter to Grace E. Frysinger).

## Pamphlets on Democracy in the Present Crisis

## WILLIAM T. STONE, Vice President, Foreign Policy Association

It was with full understanding of the threats to democracy, both within and without the United States, that the Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard, called together a group of men and women in January 1941 and asked them to formulate a statement on "moral issues in the present crisis" and "the meaning and practices of democracy." That statement, "Democracy in the Present Crisis," was sent to agricultural extension workers in Extension Service Circular 351, March 1941.

With our country now in the war, the crisis has become greater. The need for understanding our responsibilities has deepened. The intelligent, democratic discussion of immediate problems and of postwar reconstruction problems is one step toward solving them. We need to expand our rural extension discussion groups until they include a goodly representation of farm and village men and women in every county in the United States.

In April last year, M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, invited representatives of organizations and publishing houses to meet in the Department of Agriculture Library with Extension Service officials and prepare a list of inexpensive, readable pamphlets and books that would be helpful to rural groups studying the problems outlined by the committee of scholars in "Democracy in the Present Crisis."

With the cooperation of the American Library Association, this group, of which I served as chairman, prepared the following preliminary list, in consultation with rural libraries and other rural leaders.

Through the cooperation of the publishers, copies of most of these pamphlets were sent to every State agricultural extension director. Extension workers and discussion leaders can order copies direct from each publisher. The entire set listed costs less than \$7. This list does not include all the pamphlets that are useful, but it will give a nucleus from which to build an active, growing pamphlet collection. Each publisher listed also maintains mailing lists for announcements of inexpensive pamphlets and books for rural readers.

### General

- The A B C of the U. S. A.: A series of miniature essays on democracy. National League of Women Voters. 1939. 10 cents.
- Chase, Stuart. Primer of Economics. 1941. Row, Peterson. 32 cents.
- Childs, Marquis W. and Stone, William T.,Toward a Dynamic America. (Headline Books, No. 30.) Foreign Policy Association. 1941. 25 cents.

The Dangers to Democracy: A list of readings. *The Booklist*. American Library Association. Vol. 37, No. 8. January 1, 1941. 25 cents.

#### Basic Documents

Basic Documents of Democracy. Supplement to Current Events, September 22, 1941. American Education Press. 5 cents. (Includes: United States Constitution; United States Declaration of Independence.)

### Democracy vs. Fascism

Freedom or Fascism? Connecticut League of Women Voters. Yale University Press. 1940. 25 cents.

Bryson, Lyman. Which Way America? Macmillan. 1940. 17 cents.

#### Civil Liberties

- Freedom of Assembly (Defense Digest).

  American Association for Adult Education. 1940. 10 cents.
- Williams, Chester. The Rights We Defend (Our Freedom Series) Row, Peterson. 1941. 48 cents.
- Cushman, Robert E. Safeguarding Our Civil Liberties. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 43) Public Affairs Committee. 1940. 10 cents.
- Murphy, Frank. In Defense of Democracy.

  American Council on Public Affairs. 10 cents.

### Propaganda

Carr, E. H. Propaganda in International Politics. Pamphlet on World Affairs, No.
16. Oxford University Press (formerly distributed by Farrar and Rinehart) 1940.
10 cents.

## Consequences of Defense on American Life

- Bidwell, Percy W. If War Comes. Mobilizing Machines and Men. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 48) Public Affairs Committee. 1941. 10 cents.
- Your Town and Defense. (Defense Digest)
  American Association for Adult Education. 10 cents.
- Women in Defense. (Defense Digest.)
  American Association for Adult Education. 10 cents.
- Stone, Wiliam T. America Rearms: The citizen's guide to national defense. (Headline Books, No. 28.) Foreign Policy Association. 25 cents.
- National Resources Planning Board. After Defense, What? Government Printing Office. 1941. 5 cents.
- Carskadon, T. R. Labor and the Defense Crisis. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 58) Public Affairs Committee. 1941. 10 cents.

#### Education and Defense

- Educational Policies Commission. Education and the Defense of American Democracy. National Education Association. 1940. 10 cents.
- American Council on Education: American Youth Commission. Education and the National Defense. 1940. Free.

### Economic Democracy

- Goslin, Ryllis A. Cooperatives. (Headline Books, No. 8.) Foreign Policy Association. 1937. 25 cents.
- Melder, Eugene. State Trade Walls. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 37). Public Affairs Committee. 1939. 10 cents.
- Lehner, Anthony. What We Ought to Know About Credit Unions. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative Association. 1940. 10 cents.

### Insecurity on the Land

Vance, Rupert B. Farmers Without Land. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 12) Public Affairs Committee. Rev. 1940. 10 cents.

### Social Security

Social Security. Building America. Vol. 2, No. 4. 1937. 10 cents.

#### Conscrvation

Stewart, Maxwell S. Saving Our Soil. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 14) Public Affairs Committee. Rev. 1940. 10 cents. Conservation. Building America. Vol. 2. No. 7. Rev. Oct. 1939. 30 cents.

### Taxation

- Nugent, Rolf. Guns, Planes, and Your Pocketbook. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 59.) Public Affairs Committee. 1941. 10 cents.
- Stewart, Maxwell S. How Shall We Pay for Defense? (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 52.) Public Affairs Committee. 1941. 10 cents.

### Housing

Housing for Citizens. (Defense Digest.)
American Association for Adult Education. 1941. 10 cents.

### Food, Health, and Defense

- Foster, William F. Doctors, Dollars, and Disease. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 10.) Public Affairs Committee. Rev. 1940. 10 cents.
- Amidon, Beulah. Who Can Afford Health? (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 27.) Public Affairs Committee. 1939. 10 cents.
- Stewart, Maxwell S. How We Spend Our Money. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 18.) Public Affairs Committee. Rev. 1941. 10 cents.

### Youth Problem

Stewart, Maxwell S. Youth in the World Today. (Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 22.) Public Affairs Committee. Rev. 1940. 10 cents. Meyer and Cross. Making Democracy Work—How Youth Can Do It. Civic Education Service. 15 cents.

#### Latin America

The Americas South and North. Survey Graphic. March 1941. 50 cents. McCullough, John I. B. Challenge to the Americas. (Headline Books, No. 26.) Foreign Policy Association. 1940. 25 cents.

Our Latin-American Neighbors. Building America. October 1939. Rev. March 1941. 30 cents.

## New World Order

World Government or Anarchy: Our Urgent Need for World Order. World Citizen Association. 1939. 11 cents.

What Kind of World Order Do We Want? Town Meeting, December 2, 1940. Vol. 6, No. 3. Columbia Univ. Press. 10 cents.

## **Addresses of Publishers**

American Association for Adult Education, 525 West One Hundred and Twentieth Street, New York, N. Y.

American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

American Council on Public Affairs, 1721 Eye Street, Washington, D. C.

American Education Press, Columbus, Ohio. American Library Association, 520 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

American Youth Commission, American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Building America, 546 West One Hundred and Fourteenth Street, New York, N. Y.

Civic Education Service, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Educational Policies Commission, National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street NW., Washington, D. C.

Foreign Policy Association, 22 East Thirty-Eighth Street, New York, N. Y.

Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

The Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, Washington, D. C.

National League of Women Voters, 726 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Oxford University Press, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative, Harrisburg, Pa.

Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y.

Row, Peterson and Company, Evanston, Ill. Survey Graphic, 112 East Nineteenth Street, New York, N. Y.

Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West Fortysecond Street, New York, N. Y.

World Citizen Association, 84 East Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn.

## 4-H Clubs Join the Movie Colony



The 4-H Club feature picture, "Young America," produced by 20th Century-Fox, was released in February and is showing regular motion picture audiences throughout the country what a 4-H Club really is and what rural 4-H boys and girls do. The picture stars Jane Withers as Jane Campbell, a city girl who, under protest, comes to a California farm to live.

Jane does not begin to see anything in country life until she decides to join the local 4—H Club, and from then on her life hums with interest. Her induction into the 4—H Club, the meetings and rallies, the exhibit at the fair is familiar ground to anyone who ever has been a 4–H Club member. Jane's hopes and disappointments, Elizabeth's troubles, and little David's attachment to Henry, his pig, pull at the heart strings of both young and old, rural and urban.

Jane Withers not only joined a 4-H Club in the picture but received an actual Special 4-H Award of Merit at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago last November after the 1,570 club members there had seen her picture. In giving her the award, M. H. Coe, chairman of the National Extension Committee on 4-H Club Work, said that it was "in recognition of the fine way you portrayed the ideals of the 4-H Club movement." In response, Jane wrote: "The 4-H Club means more to me than just a movie that I appeared in, and I will try always to be a credit to our club."

The picture has been enthusiastically received by 4-H Club leaders. Gertrude L. Warren of the Federal Extension Service calls it "a fine portrayal of the ideals and objectives of the 4-H Club movement." W. J. Jernigan, Arkansas State club agent, says: "A good por-

trayal of the objectives of club work and the spirit and attitudes club work strives to inculcate in the minds and hearts of young people." V. V. Varney, assistant State club leader in Wisconsin, says: "It has a fine variety of emotional levels, both of humor and of the serious side of life. Every community, urban and rural, ought to see it."

Negro farmers in Alabama and Georgia are playing a very important part in the transition from cotton to dairy and beef cattle, reports T. M. Campbell, Negro field agent. Some 1,400 Negro farmers of Dallas County, Ala., found it necessary to seek dairying for a cash income and sold \$34,700 worth of milk and cream last year, according to Agricultural Agent S. W. Boynton. These farmers ranged from "one-cow dairymen" to those milking from 10 to 30 cows. They are trying to make the dairy business profitable by using purebred bulls, building good pastures, and producing an abundance of forage feed. Several of the farmers report that the dairy activities have kept them from losing their farms and have helped to keep their children in school. Eleven Negro farmers in this county have produced nearly \$35,000 worth of beef cattle since 1934. Two of the farmers, who have made special trips to the State experiment station to learn more about beef cattle, marketed nearly \$3,000 worth of calves last spring.

A gross income of \$300 per month from a herd of 31 Jerseys is reported by a Negro farmer of Perry County, Ala., who retails a large part of his milk in Uniontown and sells the surplus to a cheese plant. He attributes his success to raising his own feed.

## Ohio Agents Evaluate Advanced Study

What benefits extension workers have received from graduate training taken on sabbatic leave is the basis of a study made by the Ohio Extension Service. The 72 Ohio extension workers who during 1937–40 attended 16 different institutions throughout the country on sabbatic leave, evaluated the 295 courses taken. Their evaluation of the courses in helping them in their extension work is as follows:

Courses	Percentage of workers taking courses	Percentage rating courses	
		Much value	Some value
Education Economics Sociology Agriculture Home economics Other courses	61 54 22 25 12 46	76 72 62 75 54 55	22 24 37 11 21 24

In answer to the question, What courses should be available that are not now provided? The following were some of courses suggested: Seminar for extension students; organization and functions of extension councils; extension methods; extension news writing and publicity; extension administration, including how to organize and manage the office and how to manage people; program planning; history and philosophy of education; psychology, emphasizing human behavior, and how adults learn; land use; surveys and tabulation; evaluation; methods in teaching certain phases of home economics; and current affairs in agriculture.

Also brought out in the study are the extension workers' reactions to the following questions: If advising another Extension worker about to go on leave, what would you tell him to do before going on leave and while on leave? Would a problem study be more useful than course work? Should extension students be required to register for credit courses? From the point of view of Extension administration, what would you say is the best way to provide for the improvement of the staff?—A Study of the Professional Improvement Program for Agricultural and Home Economics Extension Staff Members, Ohio, B. B. Spohn, Ohio Extension Service. Typewritten.

## Which Homemakers Join Extension?

In a study of 800 Cortland County, N. Y., farm families, it was found that 1 out of 5 farm women belonged to the Home Bureau. Brought out in the study are the similarities and differences which characterized the farm women who belonged to the Home Bureau and those who did not belong.

Although slightly more of the Home Bureau members were from owner families, and more



of them lived on better land, the farms of both members and nonmembers were similar in size and in type of farming. The members were slightly older, had more formal educational training, joined more local organizations and held more offices in them, than the farm women not belonging to the Home Bureau. The members moved less frequently; more of them lived on better roads and owned cars. Many more of them drove cars. Onethird more had telephones, running water, bath rooms, and electricity. Health conditions for both groups were similar.

These findings are similar to those brought out in studies made in Massachusetts, South Carolina, Washington, Indiana, and Maine, in cooperation with the Division of Field Studies and Training, in which participating homemakers in Extension are compared with nonparticipants. These studies (reported in May and August, 1941 Reviews) indicate that families with homemakers participating in Farm Bureau or Extension have a slightly higher socio-economic status than those families in which the homemakers do not participate.-Farm Women in the Home Bureau-A Study in Cortland County, N. Y., 1939, W. A. Anderson, Cornell University. Cornell Univ. Mimeo. Bul. 3, October 1941.

## Occupational Choice of Son Influenced by Size of Farm

Of the 101 sons of farmers who were in the high school class of 1934 in Whitman County, Wash., 40 were farming in 1940. Only 2 of the 79 whose fathers were engaged in other occupations were farming. Of the young men classified as "farming," 2 percent were owners, 43 percent were tenants, and 55 percent were working on the home farm as partners or assistants.

The size of the father's farm was a very important factor in the occupational choice of the son. Only 19 percent of those whose fathers had farms of less than 500 acres were farming, compared with 71 percent of those whose parental farms were 500 acres or larger. Other factors that tended to influence farmers' sons toward farming as an occupation were: "Having a father who is owner of a farm," "Coming from a family whose annual income is more than \$1,000 a year," and "Receiving parental financial aid of \$1,000 or more to get started in farming."

"It is significant that the education of the youth, the education of the parents, and all community factors seem to be unrelated to becoming a farmer in Whitman County," the authors of the study, Bogue and Weeks, point out.—Factors in the Occupational Adjustment of Male Youth in Whitman County, Wash., Don J. Bogue and H. Ashley Weeks; pp. 119–133, Research Studies of the State College of Washington. June 1941.

Young men living on large farms in Blackford County, Ind., are more likely to choose farming as their life work than young men living on small farms. Eighty percent of the young men living on large farms (120 acres or more); 66 percent living on medium-sized farms (80—119 acres) and 55 percent living on small farms (less than 80 acres) reported farming as their occupational choice, in a recent study.

The larger farms tended to be the ones on which young men were farming with their fathers. These were mostly 2-men farms or larger. The average annual income of the 32 young men surveyed who were farming with their fathers was \$608: The young men farming for themselves were generally on farms only about half as large. The average annual income of the 16 in this group was \$789. The average annual income for all 183 young men studied was \$424.—Occupational Choice of Blackford County Rural Youth 18 to 28 Years of Age in 1940, by Harry Francis Ainsworth, Indiana Extension Service. Typewritten thesis, Purdue University, June 1941.

## Negro 4-H Club Trends

There were 15,088 Negro boys and girls enrolled in North Carolina's 1940 4–H Club work, an increase of 2,028 members over 1939. The percentage of completions, however, in 1940 was 76.39, as compared to 78 in 1939. An average of 412 boys and girls reached club age in the 35 counties carrying the 1940 extension projects. An average of 37.56 percent of those reaching the starting age were enrolled in club work.

Nineteen home demonstration agents devoted, on the average, 38 percent of their time to 4-H Club work; and 34 agricultural agents devoted, on the average, 33 percent of their time to this work.

Trends in this study reveal: (1) An increase in the number of 4-H Clubs in the State, due in part to an increase in the number of agents; (2) an increase in the number of club members who reenroll; (3) an increase in the number of new members; (4) an increase in the total enrollment and completion of projects; (5) an increase in the percentage of boys and girls being reached as they become of club age; (6) a decrease in 1940 in the number of club members per county agent; and (7) a decrease in 1940 in the percentage of completions for the State.— Statistical Analysis of Negro 4-H Club Work in North Carolina for 1940, by R. E. Jones. North Carolina Extension Service.

## AMONG OURSELVES

- JOSEPH E. CARRIGAN, Director of Extension Service in Vermont for the past 10 years was recently elected dean of the Agricultural College and Director of the Experiment Station, taking up his additional duties on July 1. After graduating from the University of Vermont in 1914, Director Carrigan joined the extension staff with title of county agent at large and 10 months later was appointed county agent in Addison County. After 2½ years in Addison County, he joined the State staff as assistant county agent leader in the fall of 1917 and on June 15, 1931, was elected Director of Extension.
- CHARLES A. McCUE, former dean of the School of Agriculture and Director of Extension at the University of Delaware, died January 12. He resigned as dean and director in 1939 because of failing health and has been confined to his home most of the time since.

A graduate of the University of Michigan, he entered the United States Forestry Service as field assistant in 1901. Two years later, he went back to the University of Michigan in the Department of Horticulture. In 1908, he came to Delaware as professor of horticulture and horticulturist of the experiment station. Eleven years later, he was named director of the agricultural experiment station, dean of the school of agriculture and director of the Extension Service. He was secretary and treasurer of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities from 1927 to 1929, past president of the American Society for Horticultural Science, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

### ON THE CALENDAR

Family Welfare Association of America, Providence, R. I., March 26–28.

American Institute of Nutrition, Boston, Mass., April 7–11.

American Association Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, New Orleans, La., April 15–18.

National Congress of Parents and Teachers, San Antonio, Tex., first week of May.

American Home Economics Association, Boston, Mass., June 21–25.

American Society Agricultural Engineers, Milwaukee, Wis., June 22–25.

American Dairy Science Association, East Lansing, Mich., June 23–25.

National Editorial Association, Quebec, P. Q., June 23–25.

National Education Association of United States, Denver, Colo., June 28–July 2. ■ SUSAN Z. WILDER, extension nutritionist at South Dakota State College, who died October 30, 1941, closed a 24-year career in home extension work.

She organized the system of central training schools for home demonstration agents, club officers, and local leaders. Her enthusiastic work in nutrition probably left South Dakota people more familiar with vitamins, balanced diets, and protective foods than the folks of any other State. She was the prime factor and chairman of a State nutrition committee organized in 1937, which has been a big force in furthering nutrition work in the State.

She also was instrumental in establishing the custom of honoring two eminent homemakers each year during the college Farm and Home Week. She directed the selection of the 1941 candidates for this honor from her deathbed.

Miss Wilder was born on a farm in Rice County. Minn., March 23, 1882. She taught a rural school 1 year before entering the University of Minnesota, where she was graduated in 1908, with a bachelor of arts degree. Then she taught science in the Renville, Minn., high school and returned to study in home economics at the university. She received her bachelor of science in home economics in 1910.

Between 1910 and 1918, she taught home economics in the school of agriculture, teacher's summer training school and rural extension, at Morris. On various leaves, she studied at Cornell University and the University of Chicago, receiving her master's degree from the latter institution in 1918. Between 1918 and 1921, she served as home demonstration agent in Hancock County, Ill., before coming to South Dakota to become State home demonstration leader in 1921. She became extension autritionist in 1923.

Miss Wilder enjoyed a wide recognition over the State and Nation. She was unexcelled in the ability to translate scientific information in terms of simple demonstrations. She was in poor health during her last year. Miss Wilder wrote, upon her initiation to Epsilon Sigma Phi, extension honorary fraternity: "My greatest satisfaction in life has come from knowing many fine people. I hope I have given them something worth while. I have received much from them."

■ EMMA ARCHER, beloved extension pioneer in Arkansas, recently died. She organized the first girls' canning club in the State in January 1912 while teaching in the Mabelvale school. She was appointed canning club agent for Pulaski County in March 1912 and continued in that capacity for 2 years. As a result of her work with rural girls and women, the first home demonstration club in the State was organized in the spring of 1914. From 1914 to 1917, Miss Archer served as State agent in charge of women's and girls' work.

## IN BRIEF

## The Home Front

Each home demonstration club of Ashe County, N. C., is having the honor and privilege of hearing read by the club president the very interesting article, On the Home Front, in the December issue of the Extension Service Review. This message has been so inspiring and so encouraging to both the president and club members that they have asked to see the picture of their extension director.

If there is a large picture of Director Wilson available, will you please send it to me or notify me where I may get one to hang on the wall while 10 other community project leaders hear the article read during their defense programs in January?—Mrs. Gorda C. Boney, county home demonstration agent, Ashe County, N. C.

■ Members of the El Paso County, Colo., Woman's Club recently obtained a loom which they own cooperatively and which will be used by first one group of women and then another in weaving articles for their homes.

Rural women who belong to the Calhan Country Club have been the first to use the loom. An illustration of how extensively the new loom will be used is the fact that Mrs. Jess Townley and Mrs. Gerald Little of the Calhan community have woven for themselves 39 attractive rag rugs.

According to Ruth Appelthun, El Paso County's home demonstration agent, the loom will weave any designs. Each community represented by the El Paso County Woman's Club will have the privilege of using the loom for a month at a time.

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## Kansas Picks the Best

WINNING PICTURES IN ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST

A Kansas farm woman withdraws deposits from her storage cellar where she has banked her surpluses as insurance against rising prices. One of the first-prize group of three photographs taken by Vernetta Fairbairn, home demonstration agent, Butler County.

First prize in color slides went to Dr. E. G. Kelly, extension entomologist, for a series of 12 pictures on the chinch bug.

This farm family sold \$610 worth of vegetables and canned 400 quarts in 1941—all from 5½ acres of land. One of the second-prize group of three photographs taken by George Sidwell, county agent, Rice County.

Second prize in color slides went to Ruth K. Huff, home demonstration agent, Doniphan County, for a series illustrating the live-at-home program in her county.

Coaching four earnest young 4–H sheepmen in ways of showing their sheep to best advantage before the critical eyes of the livestock judge. One of the third-prize group taken by Kermit V. Engle, Kearny County agent.

Third place in color slides went to E. H. Teagarden, district agent for southwestern Kansas, for a series "The Romance of Agriculture," depicting soil building for erosion control, for profitable production, and for a permanent agriculture.