

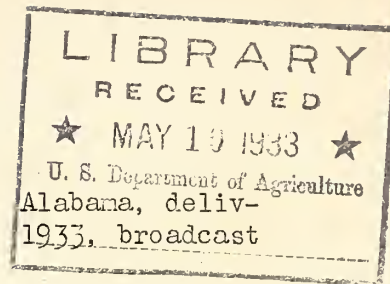
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OUR 4-H CLUB PLANS AHEAD FOR THE YEAR



A radio talk by George Peasant, club boy, Dallas County, Alabama, delivered in the National 4-H club radio program, Saturday, April 1, by a network of 59 associate NBC radio stations.

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My 5 years of experience as a 4-H club member of the Richmond Community, Dallas County, Alabama, have been an inspiration to me in every way. The twelve members of this club have conducted projects in soy beans, corn, pigs and poultry. The gross returns from these projects for the past 5 years have been five thousand and nineteen dollars, out of which I have received three hundred and seventy dollars in cash. The 370 dollars have been used to help myself in school. It has been our privilege to display our exhibits in 4 community fairs, one county fair, and 3 State fairs. In each fair our exhibit took first place and first and second places in the county 4-H poultry show.

We have 12 clubs in Dallas County with 210 members who have planned their program for the year. These members are working hard to better their conditions on the farm. They are using projects that will bring them the greatest returns this year. Two clubs have signed contracts with three of the largest dairymen in the county to furnish the corn to be used in these dairies. There are 74 members in these clubs, who will grow 5 acres of corn and soy beans each to fill the contract. These clubs will be able to sell to the dairies 50 bushels of corn a week for 32 weeks, beginning September 1.

In spite of hard times and lower prices, Dallas County club boys have increased their sales in soy beans. The total sales of four clubs for the year amounted to one thousand, nine hundred sixty-four dollars and fifty cents, an increase of one thousand, three hundred forty-eight dollars and thirty-two cents over the total for 1931. Since the club members began selling soy beans to the local farm bureau and farmers in 1929, two thousand, six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-four cents have passed into the hands of 74 members. The boys decided that the price of cotton was too low to grow cotton; therefore, no boy grew cotton last year, nor plans to grow any this year.

Sixty-three members are growing hogs for their projects this year. Each member has a brood sow from which he will raise a litter of pigs for the fall market. These members all belong to the 12 clubs in the county. Aside from having the brood sow, each member must grow his feed, have a pasture and must market at least two hogs this year.

We have 4 judging teams among our 4-H clubs who are working to become the best teams in the State. We have a team in judging dairy cattle, poultry, hogs and seed corn.

Seventy-five members in 5 clubs have taken poultry for their projects this year. The project was started in the Bogue Chitto and Martin Station communities last year with 25 members, through the interest of two landlords, who gave \$30 each to get the baby chicks. Each member built his brooder and provided adequate feed for the chicks. When the pullets began laying, the members put aside in

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their club treasury \$60 with which to start off 25 new members with poultry this spring. As a result of this project, 25 other club members in three other communities purchased 2,500 baby chicks through their clubs and with the assistance of their parents. From their poultry sales, they have too begun their project again this spring.

An annual poultry show was held at the county seat the past November where these club members exhibited their poultry. Fifty-six pens of purebred poultry and 150 dozen eggs were displayed. Chicken crates and uniform egg cartons were furnished by a local packing house. 1,500 pounds of chicken feed and 100 baby chicks were given as premiums by merchants and bankers. As results of the show, one wholesale house bought the 150 dozen eggs exhibited and agreed to buy all the eggs the clubs could furnish each week thereafter. The poultry show will be an annual event among 4-H clubs in Dallas County and local bankers, merchants and landlords are cooperating with the clubs this year to make the project a success.

In connection with the plans for the year already started, we also plan to hold a 4-H club membership drive during the month of August; to hold district leadership meetings every three months for all 4-H club officers; to establish in our county a 4-H club camp for the purpose of teaching members how to improve our health and instil good habits of living in each of us. By doing this, we hope to raise the educational standard and the standard of living on the farm among 4-H club members.

I wish that the negro boys and girls in every county could have a club organization like the one we have in Dallas County, Alabama.