

# Extension Service

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## Mobilizing 3,500,000 farm workers

■ Recruiting for the U. S. Crop Corps is now in full swing, aiming to enlist 3,500,000 farm workers before the season is over. The Extension Service has an important part in the program, being responsible for the mobilization of local labor resources. The Farm Security Administration is responsible for the transportation of workers and the operation of farm labor supply centers for the housing of these workers. The U. S. Employment Service is handling recruiting in towns and cities outside strictly agricultural areas, with the aid of county councils of Civilian Defense and other local volunteer groups.

Three types of workers are being recruited; year-round workers needed on livestock, dairy, and diversified farms; seasonal workers, needed during the crops season or for the summer; and emergency harvest workers who will be recruited from villages, towns, and cities to work a certain number of week days, half days, week ends, or evenings.

### Agents to Place Workers

In all agricultural counties, county agents with volunteer help are registering recruits for the U. S. Crop Corps and are listing individuals for specific jobs at specific times. In rounding up help for harvesting and other special emergencies, many agents are finding their experiences of last year helpful. At that time they found labor resources in the county that they did not know existed. Some of these resources have been recorded in the REVIEW, such as the account of railroad shopmen in Pettis County, Mo., who helped harvest the grain crop when they heard of the need from the county agent.

Accurate information on just how many of the three types of workers will be needed in each county will be one of the first considerations. County AAA committeemen are now at work on the 1943 farm plan sign up which gives information on the number of workers available on each farm and the additional workers needed.

If the number of Crop Corps recruits the agent is able to enlist meets the need, the labor program in that county will consist of following up the recruitment program to see that workers are placed when and where

needed. If there is a shortage of local labor and there is not a sufficient surplus in adjacent or nearby areas, the county agent can report that fact to the USDA War Board which will call upon the Farm Security Administration to furnish workers from outside sources. The transportation program is available for transporting seasonal and year-round workers. Farm Security will sign up these workers and move them to the areas where they are needed:

The national program calls for transporting about 275,000 seasonal workers, many of whom will work at several different locations.

Year-round workers, to be drawn mostly from the less productive farming areas where there is a surplus of agricultural manpower, will be transported principally into dairy and livestock areas to replace experienced workers who have entered the armed forces or war industries. The program calls for the moving of 50,000 of these workers and for short courses of training at State colleges of agriculture and elsewhere for those who need training before taking jobs. It is contemplated that some of the year-round worker recruits will be placed as renters of farms which otherwise would stand vacant this year.

The victory farm volunteer branch of the Crop Corps will recruit 650,000 nonfarm high school youth in cooperation with the Office of Education to work on farms during the summer months. The need for these young workers is determined by the county agent in cooperation with other agencies. The placement and supervision will be in the hands of the agent. The young people will get some training in school on what to expect in farm work, but their success will depend a great deal on the judgment of the agent in placing them and to what extent he can enlist the interest and cooperation of farm families.

The Women's Land Army branch of the Crop Corps will be composed of nonfarm women interested in serving regularly as farm workers, and is being developed by the Extension Service cooperating with the U. S. Office of Education, FSA, U. S. Employment Service, and other interested agencies. Some women are already receiving training for such work in special courses offered by the University of Maryland, Connecticut Agri-

cultural College, Farmingdale Agricultural College, and other qualified schools. To utilize last year's experiences in this field, the Extension Service called together representatives of all agencies—public and private, which had organized city women to do farm work. They met on January 8 and 9 and formulated recommendations calling for a women's land army under the direction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and gave certain suggestions for conducting it. These were developed in more detail by a workshop committee of extension workers, State and Federal, meeting in Washington early in February and were discussed with State directors at the two regional conferences.

### Events Move Fast

The entire Department of Agriculture's labor program has been developed since January 24, when the War Manpower Commission assigned full responsibility to Secretary Wickard. Responsibility for the development and direction of this program has been placed with the Agricultural Labor Branch of the Food Production Administration, with Maj. John O. Walker in charge under M. Clifford Townsend, Director of Food Production.

A request has been presented by the President to Congress for funds to finance this program through the 1943 crop year. These funds would be used to provide transportation for workers, to operate 250 new farm-labor supply centers in addition to the 95 present centers, and to enable the Extension Service to employ labor assistants to handle local recruitment and placement.

The phases of the program to be handled by the Extension Service were first considered by State directors serving on the Extension Committee on wartime policy called to Washington January 29 and 30. Their suggestions were further developed in a workshop conference the following week in which both State and Federal extension workers and also representatives of organizations which had been active in mobilization of farm labor took part. These plans were then considered by State directors and those appointed to head the labor activity in each State at regional conferences held in Baltimore, Md., February 12 and 13, and St. Louis, Mo., February 15 and 16, preliminary to getting the program under way in March.

# March is the month to plan for victory home food supply

■ Rural women everywhere are this month answering the roll call to say: "Yes I will grow and conserve all the food my family will need this year aside from certain staples. In this way I will be sure of sufficient food at my very doorstep, on my shelves, and in my cellar. Thus, I will release food needed for fighting men and I will also relieve the strain on transportation."

Home demonstration agents, club leaders, and neighborhood leaders are on the job taking the roll call. California, where the season is earlier, got under way the first of the year. Neighborhood and community leaders are working so effectively that State mailing facilities are strained to the utmost to meet the big demand for the simple printed leaflets dealing with the main problems of home food production in California.

All families in the State of Washington are receiving a visit from neighborhood leaders trained in county schools. Eleven members of the State staff made the circuit of the counties to help start these county training schools.

The March roll call is adding impetus to a live-at-home program already under way in many States. The Michigan roll call fits right into an intensive program on gardens. From four to six meetings are being held in each Michigan county to consider what particular things must be kept in mind in planning a garden and preserving the produce grown.

Live-at-home campaigns with a farm family sign-up are well known in a number of States. But this year there is a special urgency about it in these States as Frank Jeter, North Carolina extension editor, expresses it: "All-out food production to meet the demands of ruthless war is something else again."

The experience gained in these earlier drives is however proving very helpful in the present effort. North Carolina county agents last year devoted 1 day in 12 exclusively to educational work on the production of better food for the family table. As a result, of 278,000 farm families in the State, 147,310, or more than half, reported specific improvement in the food they were growing for family consumption. The agents had never before received so many calls for aid in home butchering, in the making of butter and cheese at home, in canning foods, in growing a good garden, in the proper storage of perishable foods, and in the expansion of poultry flocks and beef and dairy herds.

Tennessee, with 2 years' experience in enrolling farm families in a State-wide home-food supply program, last year enrolled more than 80 percent of the farm families in the State.

Arkansas, with Food for Victory as a slogan, stepped up the tempo of food production in

1942, with the help of 10,481 trained volunteer leaders working in 4,453 communities. Reports showed that slightly more than one garden had been planted for each of the 216,000 farms in the State. The garden acreage had increased 25 percent and the number of fall gardens, 100 percent. More than 85,000 Arkansas farm families followed the State extension food supply plan, figuring out the amount needed for good nutrition for their own family. These results were obtained, in spite of transportation handicaps, by intensive use of

## Mrs. Ola Powell Malcolm heads Extension home food production and conservation program

■ That the important home food program of the Extension Service may be planned and coordinated on a national scale, Director M. L. Wilson has assigned Ola Powell Malcolm of the Washington Staff, the important job of working with State and Federal representatives of national programs, State agricultural colleges, State and county extension workers in developing practical ways and means of getting a food job done that will result in maximum production, processing, and storing of food for local consumption.

Home production, preservation, and preparation of food are vital to the health of the Nation and daily become of greater importance. "If the major food needs of our 30 million farm people are taken care of largely with what is grown, processed, and stored on their farms a victory—boosting avalanche of food could be released for our fighting men, our Allies, and our city workers," said Director Wilson, announcing Mrs. Malcolm's new assignment.

Since the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, Mrs. Malcolm has been in charge of home demonstration work in the Southern States, actively developing the live-at-home program. Over a period of many years this program has increased farm home gardens, orchards and vineyards, successful canning and preserving of food products, the number of well-filled farm home pantries, smokehouses, and food cellars, farm poultry flocks, and family milk cows. The work has included the standardization of high quality surplus home produced products for sale on local farm women's markets.

Mrs. Malcolm's book, *Successful Canning and Preserving*, proved extremely valuable in furthering similar war activities during the first World War.

Because of outstanding accomplishment, the French Minister of Agriculture requested loan

trained local subject-matter leaders and the establishment of the neighborhood minutemen system to speed the getting of information down to the last farm. The 1943 program is being built on this same solid foundation.

The South Carolina 75 percent food and feed production program begun in 1940 was easily geared to the war situation and has proved invaluable. A tribute to this program and its contribution to the war program was paid by Governor Jefferies on January 18 in his last public address before leaving office. He himself had signed the 12,000 certificates of merit and seals given out to South Carolina farm families who grew 75 percent of the food they consumed on their own farm. More than 68,000 farm families have enrolled since the program was started, and it is planned to intensify the work this year.

of Mrs. Malcolm's services for two consecutive years in reconstruction work in rural France. She was in charge of a Franco-American unit working under the auspices of the French Minister of Agriculture and the American Commission for Devastated France.

Later Mrs. Malcolm was sent by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to Spain and Italy to study methods used in preserving and utilizing Spanish pimientos and other fruits and vegetable products and to obtain other information to use in home demonstration work. This trip was made with the cooperation of Dr. David Fairchild, who was then Chief of the Department's Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction.

Of particular interest in Italy was the visit to the International Institute of Agriculture and the many other opportunities afforded Mrs. Malcolm because of the special honor that had been conferred upon her father in Rome when his exhibit in the International Agricultural Exhibition won the highest award for showing the best and the most practical ways of helping the poor to help themselves.

Mrs. Malcolm before joining the Extension Service assisted in work of the Philadelphia Vacant Lot Cultivation Association. She also assisted Vacant Lot Gardening for poor families in Cleveland, Ohio, where she held the position of Curator of School Gardens.

Through the efforts of all State and territorial Extension Services and the various agencies of the Department concerned with food production and conservation, "We aim," Mrs. Malcolm said:

1. To make more food products available.
2. To maintain health, nutrition and morale on the farms.
3. To aid morale on the battle front through armed forces knowing that all is well on the home food front."

# Training underemployed farmers for work on Ohio dairy farms

FLOYD S. DE LASHMUTT, Extension Specialist, Farm Management, Ohio

An experimental program of recruiting, transporting, training, and placing year-round agricultural workers was started when 60 Kentucky farmers were sent to Ohio State University for a short training period before being placed as dairy hands on Ohio farms. Mr. De Lashmutt, "dean" of the training school, here reports on how this part of the experiment is working out.

■ Farm Security Administration contacted our Dean John F. Cunningham and J. I. Falconer, chairman of the department of rural economics, in December to discuss the possibility of developing a training course for Kentuckians recruited for farm labor in Ohio.

A joint committee from the college, the Extension Service, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and the Farm Security Administration was set up to discuss the matter. The committee decided in favor of a trial group. To work out details, a college committee was set up to plan and schedule a course following the suggestions made by the policy-making committee mentioned above.

The college committee set up a 2-week training course as a "feeler." This course was weighted by 2 days' work in the dairy barn, ½ day in the poultry plant, ½ day for interviews (by groups) with the Rural Sociology Department, and the rest of the time was scheduled for farm machinery. The committee believed that most of the time of the trainee should be devoted to machinery used on farms in Ohio.

We organized the trainees in groups of 10 men each. Then we asked each group to elect their own group leader, which they did. The trainees really came through on this, and the group leaders took their position seriously. All orders, changes in schedule, and the like were handed to the group leaders in an evening session to be relayed to members of their groups. Suggestions for improvements came from the leaders at our request. These leaders were a great help in maintaining morale.

The first 2-week training period was, in our opinion, too long; so we carefully studied the situation and shortened the second group's training to 1 week of intensive work. We cut the dairy-barn work to 1 day, left the poultry work and interviews at ½ day, and intensified the farm-machinery work by grouping only six men in each group and spending more time with each man. The result at the end of a week justified the change, we thought.

It is difficult to keep up the morale of a homesick trainee, with no certain job in sight, for more than 1 week. At the end of a week, the man gets restless and wants to talk about work and wages. He wants to see something

definite in sight. In the evenings, we showed these men films and sound movies on subjects suggested by the Rural Sociology Department. Some of these films were entertaining, but most were educational.

We planned this work so that every trainee actually did the work and handled and adjusted the machinery. We did not make the training a lecture course. About the only lecture was a "Safety First" talk presented by an agricultural engineer on the first day. We wanted to be sure that these men realized the dangers from fire and power machinery.

The faculty was at first picked from those men on our college and extension force who have had experience dealing with adults. We didn't want ordinary student methods used. The college farm superintendent and his crew of farm workers handled a large part of the machinery work. These farm workers did a real "bang up" job of instructing. So did all the rest of the instructors, too. The point is that it was not necessary to have all college-trained men for this work.

The trainees in both experimental groups reacted very well. Some few got homesick and went home. For the most part, they "ate up" the farm-machinery work. That was what they liked, and that was what they needed.

The comments from the instructors were very favorable. A few of the trainees were slow but no greater percentage than is found in any group of students. The farm superintendent who directed all these men through the work on tractors and planting machinery speaks very highly of the ability of these trainees to absorb knowledge of these complicated tools.

We divided the machinery work for study into tractors, plowing and fitting tools, planting tools, hay tools and harness, combines and harvesters, lime and manure spreaders.

We gave the first group some work with small tools and ropes but found that it wasn't needed. We cut that out of the schedule.

In the dairy barn, we gave the men experience in getting cows in and out; cleaning and bedding; getting out silage; feeding, clipping, and cleaning cows; and observation of machine milking.

In the poultry house, the trainees learned how to enter a poultry house, some points on sanitation, filling feed hoppers, watering devices, and cleaning.

Quite a few of these trainees had opportunities to leave before the last day of the training period (1 week) was over and would not go until the course was completed.

We feel that, although improvements still could be made, the course is worth while as an orientation effort. These trainees all felt a little more confidence in themselves as prospective farm workers.

We felt that the effort was sufficiently worth while to justify setting up a schedule for 12 1-week training periods following January 1, 1943.

## 324 meetings on same night

Farm people in southwest Missouri started their planning for 1943 food production by meeting simultaneously in 324 neighborhood groups on the night of December 1. Meetings were held for the most part in schoolhouses and were led by neighborhood leaders who had received special coaching from their county extension agents.

In small groups, where neighbors felt free to speak frankly of their problems and limitations, 4,300 persons discussed the labor situation, the repair and exchange of farm machinery, and labor-saving equipment in general. They were especially interested in building home-made buck rakes and hay stackers and in pick-up hay balers.

Most of the groups listened to a special program broadcast by the Extension Service through two southwest Missouri stations, KGBX at Springfield and WMBH at Joplin. Seven-minute talks were made by four members of the extension staff including J. W. Burch, the State director.

The meetings were marked by a general determination to increase food production in 1943 despite the shortage of labor and machinery. The neighborhoods represented had lost an average of nine men each to the armed forces and seven men to other occupations during the year. This shift in manpower, it was believed, would leave an average of five farms (450 acres) per neighborhood idle in 1943.—*F. E. Rogers, State extension agent.*

## More feed

Farmers of Talladega County, Ala., cooperating in the soil building program have already ordered 2,500,000 pounds of 20-percent superphosphate and are expected to order 8 million pounds this winter, reports O. V. Hill, county agent. Ninety percent or more of this phosphate will be applied to pastures which will be used in increasing livestock production in the county. Mr. Hill is using community and neighborhood leaders in encouraging farmers to use more phosphate on their pastures.

# Relation of war to civilian economy

JAMES F. BYRNES, Director of Economic Stabilization

Excerpts from a talk by Mr. Byrnes given at the New York Herald Tribune Forum November 16

■ In time of war we must deal with hard realities. We have no time to theorize and play with words. Military men must discard their technical talk about principles of logistics, get down to brass tacks. They must discuss their problems in the language of the ordinary citizen, in terms of ships required to move troops, and the food and ammunition which we must move to battle areas in order to enable the troops to fight. Likewise, now that we are getting down to organizing our home front for the prosecution of the war, I think we should avoid, as far as we possibly can, theoretical terms like "inflation" and "stabilization" and consider the very concrete problems which we have to meet.

## Mobilizing Civilian Economy

Our first and chief problem is to consider how we are going to organize our civilian economy to win the war. We must consider the men we shall have to take out of civilian life in order to have the soldiers to fight; the food and materials we shall have to take out of the civilian economy to feed and equip our soldiers and to help feed and equip the soldiers of our allies; and the food and materials we shall have to take out of our civilian economy to provide minimum sustenance for the civilian population in allied and occupied countries. In a real sense these requirements are war requirements. No one who knows the conditions prevailing in war-stricken countries can accuse us of planning to pamper other people or to impose unnecessary hardships on ourselves. No matter what hardships we endure, America still is and, in all probability, will remain the best-fed, best-clothed, and best-sheltered nation on earth. Certainly, for example, we are not taking on ourselves undue hardship when we limit ourselves to 2½ pounds of meat per person per week whereas the average Englishman can buy but 23 cents' worth of meat per week.

We cannot consider how we are to take the necessary men and food and materials out of our civilian economy without considering how those of us remaining in civilian life are going to be able to produce the food and material required for our fighting forces, for our fighting allies, and for our own sustenance. In total war we are all war workers.

Of course, the American people need direction and guidance from their Government as to where there is the greatest need for restraint in their normal living habits. But just as our soldiers, buck privates as well as generals, take pride in the initiative and enterprise they show on the field of battle, so it is up to us at home to take pride and satisfaction

in the initiative and enterprise we can show in drawing in our belts before the Government compels us to do so. We should not have to be constantly told we are in a total war for our own survival. When our soldiers face the anguish of death on the battlefield, we should be willing to undergo the inconvenience of rationing at home. We should take pride in showing how much we can get along without and how little we can get along with.

Nothing has distressed us more than the suggestion that the great mass of American citizens will not follow a direction or an order or even a law of their Government unless it is enforced to the last slacker. I do not believe it. The great mass of American citizens are all out to win this war. They are intelligent enough to know that they can win it even if a small minority of slackers fail to do their duty. They are not so stupid as to believe that they will win the war if they wait for slackers to turn patriots. There are few willful slackers in America. There are quite a number of thoughtless slackers, and the quickest way to bring them into line is not to put them in jail but by our example to put them to shame.

## Distributing the Burdens Justly

In wartime, price controls, wage controls, and rationing controls are not ingenious devices to punish people and to make the grim business of war grimmer than it need be. They are measures designed to help our war effort and to reduce the hardships of war, particularly on the family in modest circumstances. By and large, the average citizen, be he a farmer, a wage earner, a business or professional man, has less to fear from price, wage, and rationing controls than he has from their absence. Of course a person would be better off if he could get any price he wanted for the goods, commodities, or labor he had to sell, and if the Government could see that the prices of the goods, commodities, or labor that he had to buy did not rise. But no government can do that. The cost of living cannot be kept down or the greatly reduced supply of civilian goods be fairly distributed by someone waving a magic wand. The burdens of war can be equitably shared only if all of us, industrialist, farmer, and worker alike, cooperate in sharing those burdens. It is clear that we must ration many more commodities. But, before a commodity is rationed, we must be careful to let the people know the facts upon which we base the decision that rationing is necessary, and we must be careful to see that there are no conflicting statements by responsible officials of Government as to the necessity.

Wartime controls, however carefully devised and administered, will bear more severely on some than on others. That is inevitable, just as it is inevitable that some of our soldiers will make the supreme sacrifice whereas others will return unharmed and wrapped in glory.

In the war for survival, we must not seek individual advantage. If we do, most of us will be bound in the end to suffer from our own selfishness. If we are farsighted, instead of seeking to escape the controls necessary for our own well-being, we should be alert that our burdens are not increased by too long delay in the imposition of necessary controls. I should be the last to favor unnecessary controls, but it is better that we draw in our belts a little tighter than hindsight may prove to have been absolutely necessary, than that we should regret our inability to realize how serious was the need.

## When the Army Comes Marching Home

Twenty-four years ago we had another war. When our Army came home broke and jobless and learned how their neighbors had profited, they angrily demanded that it should never happen again. Every man in public life, regardless of political affiliation, solemnly pledged that we would take the profits out of war. It has not been done. Some day another army will come marching home. There will be some without an arm, some without a leg, and many without a job. In that hour I pity the man who profited while these men suffered. If we would preserve private enterprise, if we would preserve the profit system, we must now take the profit out of war.

There is a third and very important problem that we must bear in mind in organizing our civilian economy in wartime. That is the problem of the peace that follows war, the question of the effect of what we do during the war on our national well-being after the war: Do not misunderstand me. In a war for survival we cannot trifle with victory just to promote some desirable post-war objective. But it so happens, I think, that the most effective way of organizing our civilian economy to win the war is not only the fairest way of organizing it to distribute equitably the burdens of war but is also the best way of organizing it to enable us to return with the least hardship to the paths of peace. What is thus doubly desirable is doubly imperative.

But if we allow ourselves to outbid and outsmart each other to get goods and services that a country engaged in total war cannot produce, prices will rise, wages will rise, and profits will rise; but we shall not have more food to eat or clothing to wear or better houses to live in. The money we earn will buy less, and savings of past years will be dissipated in a mad effort to get our fair share of the things we need in competition with those who happen to have more money than we have.

If we allowed ourselves to indulge in any such folly, where should we be when the war comes to an end? With inflated prices for goods and services, we could not successfully compete in the markets of the world. For a while we might keep busy making up some of the most urgent and acute war shortages. We might even have a short-lived post-war boom, but then prices would begin to decline and wages would begin to fall; profits would begin to shrink, and factories would begin to close. We should have unemployment and poverty.

If anything like that happened, our people would not be ready to take the part which

we are pledged to take to organize the world for peace. There could be no greater tragedy. After a while, by drastic national action and radical social planning, we should recover; but there would have passed the time when our leadership must be asserted if peace and order are to be established in a prostrate world. We, the strongest and most powerful nation in the world, must keep our own house in order. We must be in a position when the war is over to turn our energies, our productive resources to the arts of peace. We must show the way to a world of expanding freedom. We must show the way to a lasting peace.

Mrs. J. B. Raven, winner of one of the awards along with her husband. Mrs. Raven was on the program to respond to the address of welcome. She said:

"It is an honor and a great responsibility to represent the women of the VE families in expressing thanks. We did not toil this past year for rewards. We did not know anyone was watching us to see if we were doing a good job. We did what we could to provide for our families and to prepare for a possible future shortage. We were just glad to do our share in releasing labor for the armed forces and industry. We are not just citizens of Henry County and of Georgia, but we are Americans; and as Americans we wanted to show that we appreciate our freedom and our liberties.

"In the words of Patrick Henry, 'We are not weak if we make the proper use of those means which the God of nature has placed in our power. The battle is not to the strong alone. It is to the vigilant, the active, and the brave.'

"We thank you for your courtesies and pledge to you our vigilance, our activity, and our bravery in standing shoulder to shoulder and arm to arm in achieving victory through efficiency."

## Victory through efficiency

### Leaders of Henry County, Ga., select 73 farmers for VE awards

H. E. WOODRUFF, County Agent, Henry County, Ga.



Seventy-three outstanding farmers were selected by the Victory Volunteers of Henry County, Ga., for the VE award presented to them on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1942.

This action is thought to be the first attempt to adapt the Army and Navy E to agriculture, and only efficiency in the production of war commodities was considered for the award. Leaders in each of the neighborhoods in the county, together with the other farmers, selected one farmer and his wife to receive this recognition from that neighborhood. The businessmen of McDonough arranged a program on Pearl Harbor Day with a presentation of certificates and entertained the VE farmers at a barbecue. The McDonough Weekly Advertiser published a special VE number the preceding week with detailed information concerning the program and congratulatory advertising from local merchants.

A committee was appointed to select a name for this award; and, after careful thought, the "V" made famous in England as a symbol for Victory was combined with the E from the Army and Navy award. The slogan, Victory Through Efficiency, was then combined with the name VE because these farmers had contributed to Victory by efficiency in the production of necessary farm commodities. An emblem was designed by the extension clerk showing a blocked V overlapping an outlined E.

The director of the Georgia Extension Service, Walter S. Brown, permitted these certifi-

cates to be presented in the name of the State organization and signed each certificate personally. He had planned to make the presentation but was called to attend the Memphis meeting at that time. Acting in his behalf, L. I. Skinner, assistant director and a former county agent of Henry County, made the presentation. Congressman A. Sidney Camp of the Fourth Georgia District gave the principal address; and Radio Station WSB, located in Atlanta, sent its farm director to broadcast a part of the program from McDonough. In his remarks, Mr. Skinner suggested that other counties in the State adopt similar programs and announced that the Extension Service had adopted the Henry County plan including name, emblem, slogan, type of certificate, and general plan to recommend to other counties.

Statistical information was obtained from the VE farmers, some of which was used at the Memphis conference in mapping out the 1943 program. As an indication of what the farmers in Henry County have done, production of canned food increased 60 percent over that of 1941 and receipts from sale of vegetables almost 100 percent; yield of cotton was about 40 percent greater on the same acreage. Although sales of meat animals increased about 50 percent, yet home slaughter was up only 4 percent, indicating that these leading farmers were not hoarding their increased production of meats. One out of six of these farmers were renters or sharecroppers, and 60 percent had less than 100 acres of cropland each.

Participation in special war drives was not considered in making the awards, yet it is interesting to note that the VE farmers bought war bonds to the amount of \$200 each and that on an average each contributed 1,600 pounds of salvage. Possibly the feeling of the VE farmers was summed up in the words of

### Fire losses

The estimate of farm fire loss in 1942 was placed at \$80,000,000 by the Committee on Farm Fire Protection of the National Fire Protection Association. This is about 10 percent less than the estimate in 1941, a fine tribute to the fire-prevention work done last year. The figure for 1942 farm fire losses was based largely on the experience of 41 relatively large farm mutual fire insurance companies. The aggregate fire insurance in force in these 41 companies amounts to about one-tenth of the total fire insurance in force in all farm mutuals in the United States.

In general, the companies in the East that were included in this sample reported a large reduction in their loss rates. Those in the Middle West and the Far West also in general reported reductions, though not so large as those in the East. The reporting mutuals in the South showed increases in most instances, but their average increase was greatly outweighed by the reductions in the other sections of the country.

### Sharing machinery

Greater and better use of machinery is one plan that will be used to solve the farm labor problem in Kentucky. Some of the 12,000 farm tractors are now used less than 10 days in the year, others, 100 or more days.

Exchange, lend, and hire plans will be worked out to get maximum efficiency. Balers, ensilage cutters, and combines may be used for whole neighborhoods. Priority for purchase of new machinery may be extended to men who are particularly capable of handling farm machinery on a custom basis.

# The Victory Garden program for 1943

H. W. HOCHBAUM, Chairman, Department Victory Garden Committee

■ There is great need for a bigger Victory Garden year in 1943. Our armed forces and our allies will take one-fourth of all the food this country can produce next year. More than half of the prospective 1943 commercial pack of canned vegetables will be required by the Government. The planting of certain vegetables like peppers, cucumbers, cauliflower, head lettuce, asparagus, and blanched celery, as well as such things as watermelons and cantaloups, often requiring long hauls, will be curtailed in 1943. The problems of transporting food and military supplies are enormous. The shortage of labor, machinery, and certain supplies makes the problem of food production more difficult, and as in wartime especially, our people should have adequate supplies of protective foods in order to maintain health.

Prudence, patriotism, and reason, therefore, dictate that wherever possible every family should produce and conserve for home use all the vegetables it can. Especially do the following points in the Victory Garden program want to be emphasized.

1. Every farm, where climate and water supplies permit, should grow all the vegetables needed for the family's entire year's supply in fresh or processed form.

2. All town and suburban home owners who have sufficient open sunny space and fertile ground should likewise produce as much as possible of the family's yearly vegetable supply, especially green and leafy vegetables, tomatoes, and yellow vegetables.

3. If the home lot is not large enough to allow this without destroying permanent ornamental plantings, then Victory gardeners should seek garden space in a Victory community or allotment garden, accessible by bus, streetcar, or bicycle, where on plots 30 by 50 feet or larger they can grow the supplies needed.

4. In the densely populated metropolitan areas, those who wish to garden, likewise, should find garden space in a community garden.

5. Good food habits require that 4 to 7 servings of fruits and vegetables should be eaten daily. Therefore, on farms and suburban homesteads, people should plant small fruits, grapes, and certain tree fruits in order to have adequate supplies for home use.

6. In many town and rural schools, the school garden effort should be specifically directed to growing large supplies of vegetables for school lunch purposes.

7. Not one bit of garden produce should be allowed to go to waste. All surpluses from home gardens or, where possible, local market surpluses of good-quality vegetables and



fruits should be canned or otherwise preserved for use in homes, school lunches, or for welfare purposes.

8. Wherever the ground space is large enough, people in towns and suburbs may well produce eggs, poultry, rabbits, and even milk for home consumption. Certainly every farm should raise sufficient poultry, eggs, and milk to fully meet the family's needs.

Improvement in our farm gardens may be sought in the following: The farm garden needs to be a long-season garden, large enough so that, with home-grown and purchased foods, 100 to 125 quarts of fruits and vegetables or the equivalent will be stored, canned, dried, brined, or otherwise processed for every person in the family. This is in addition to what may be eaten fresh out of the garden. By means of succession and companion planting, by planting late-maturing vegetables, as Chinese cabbage, late cabbage, collards, kale, and some root crops, the garden can be made to produce from early spring until hard-freezing weather. Of course, in the South and in many areas on the Pacific Coast, farm and town gardens can be made to yield something all winter long. Much can be gained in some areas by planting the garden vegetables along water courses or by using large porous canvas hose to carry water from windmill or pump to the growing vegetables during dry weather.

There is a tendency in some places to recommend too many kinds of vegetables and

thereby to discourage the family not now planting much garden stuff for home use. Ten kinds or so may be recommended from among the leafy vegetables which lend themselves to fall and winter gardens, especially in the South, such as lettuce, cabbage, kale, turnip greens, chard, collards, and spinach; root vegetables which may be easily stored, such as turnips, parsnips, beets, carrots, and rutabagas; and miscellaneous vegetables, such as tomatoes, bush and pole beans, Lima beans, peas, onions, radishes, cucumbers, squash—Hubbard and yellow summer—and sweet corn.

It is assumed that farm families will also produce enough white potatoes or sweetpotatoes, or both, for home use throughout the year.

About the same principles and directions given for farm gardens may be applied to the town and suburban gardens. Although every bit of garden produce grown near the doorstep helps, often city back yards are so small and the soil so poor that the earnest Victory gardener will not be contented. For him, allotment or community gardens, easily reached by streetcar, bus, or bicycle, hold promise. Here on plots 30 by 50 feet, 40 by 70 feet, or larger, he may really grow a big supply of vegetables for his family.

## Extension Agents Help

County extension agents will find this field one in which they can give much help. In the first place, their help is needed to bring the local town and metropolitan area garden enthusiasts together to understand the food situation and needs, agree on a program, and set up a committee or committees to help direct the garden effort. The agents can locate suitable ground around industrial plants or in vacant real estate development tracts. In some cases, local florists will offer ground around their greenhouses for community gardening. The agents can also help in planning the lay-out, give information on garden plans and on gardening, organize garden courses with the help of the horticultural specialist, distribute letters and circulars on gardening, and in some areas develop garden centers to aid in directing the Victory Garden effort. In many States, the steps leading to this have been taken at the State level by holding State Victory Garden conferences followed by county Victory Garden conferences attended by representatives of the various agencies most concerned.

In some areas, home demonstration agents can advance school lunch programs by enlisting the interest of school authorities and interested local groups in growing vegetables for school lunch use. In addition to the small individual garden plots for the younger children, which have increased so much in some cities, there is a decided need for school vegetable growing plots where the older children will grow supplies of vegetables to be used fresh or processed in the school lunches. Here the plots must be large enough

and the crops grown as in a market garden to yield not only the maximum of much-needed vegetables but also to yield greater educational value. Hotbeds and cold frames will be necessary adjuncts to such garden class work, and garden cultivation and care must be well organized, with delegation and acceptance of individual and class responsibility. Summer care and cultivation must also be provided by hiring boys or other help under the watchful supervision of the instructor or a gardener. Provision must be made also, with the aid of some pupils and instructors or a local committee of interested parents, to harvest the vegetables when ready and process them for school lunch use. The opportunities here for consolidated rural schools or the schools of smaller cities and towns are very great.

Our extension agents can do very much in encouraging people to plant more small fruits, grapes, and certain kinds of tree fruits. The care that fruit requires is not so great that it should much longer bar farm families and also suburban families who have the ground from growing as much of a supply of fruit for home use as is possible. Thereby, diet and health of our people will be improved and, of course, much variety added to the daily meals. Certainly, it would seem that no farm should be without a small fruit garden, for the care of such gardens usually is rather easy. Our county agents will do the country a great service if they encourage such plantings and help people with directions on the selection of proper varieties and their care.

The home demonstration agents and the local home demonstration clubs and groups are planning to make 1943 the biggest home food preservation year. Their long experience and the unusually good results that have been obtained make this promise attainable. It may be that because of the shortage of pressure cookers there is opportunity in many rural areas to organize community canning bees and even community canning centers. Pressure cookers make the canning process so much easier and, above all, safe. Such bees or centers have been most useful, too, in canning surpluses from home gardens or local markets for school lunch and welfare purposes. Indeed, some groups like the Bedford, N. Y., garden group, have established such a center and have canned garden and orchard produce for possible war relief purposes, as well as for supplying its own members. Similarly, canning centers in churches were conducted in 1942 in Philadelphia and the surrounding area through the effort of a few public-spirited citizens, and here urban people canned food for their own use at home. Opportunities for extending this type of effort are almost boundless and should be used wherever possible. No local surplus of garden and orchard produce should be allowed to go to waste. As each kind matures, if the supply is too large for immediate use, it should be canned, dried, brined, processed, or stored for future use. The need for saving food is very great, and every provision for facilitating this may well be planned to accompany the Victory Garden effort in town, home, and allotment gardens, as well as on our farms.

## Everybody cans in Kentucky

In their State-wide food-conservation program, members of many homemakers' clubs in Kentucky helped nonmembers to can fruits, vegetables, and meats.

Rachel Rowland, home demonstration agent in Calloway County, tells how women who accompanied their husbands to help neighbors cut tobacco took pressure cookers with them. After the dinner was prepared and served to the men, the women spent the afternoons canning. Several hundred jars of vegetables, fruits, chicken, soup mixtures, and other products were put up in one community.

In Grayson County, one member of a homemaker's club helped six families, including a widower with five children, with their fall canning.

Members of clubs in Bourbon County gave the families of nonmembers enough vegetables and fruits to make 558 quarts.

## Fire-prevention awards

The treasurers of 183 North Dakota 4-H Clubs have received checks in recognition of outstanding fire-prevention work done by club members last year.

Approximately 1,500 club members, in cooperation with their families, inspected farm homes and other buildings for fire hazards and discussed fire prevention at 4-H Club and community meetings, reports H. E. Billing, State club leader. A special fire-hazard check sheet was developed by the extension forester for this purpose.

Reports from 4-H Clubs, based on the work of individual members, showed that numerous fire hazards were removed. One of the big values was that the families became fire-conscious and alert to hazards which are common on every farm.

Among the remedies most frequently mentioned in the reports submitted by the clubs were the repairing of defective chimneys, lightning rods, and electric wiring; the provision of safe storage for gasoline; more careful handling of lanterns, and the construction of firebreaks. In addition, many basements and attics were cleaned out and salvage turned over to the scrap drive.

A fund of \$800 to encourage the work was made available to the State 4-H Club members by the North Dakota Association of Mutual Insurance Companies through its secretary, C. J. Robideau of La Moure. The fire-prevention work is being continued by North Dakota club members in 1943.

■ Care of patients having communicable diseases was studied in the home demonstration clubs of Rosebud County, Mont., with the help of a local nurse. Each club has a Victory leader who presents all programs to her club on rationing, inflation, salvage, or saving that come up during the year.

## A call to the garden front

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

Victory Gardens offer those on the home front a chance to get into the battle of food. Although farmers broke all previous records of food production in 1942 for the third consecutive year, needs are now practically unlimited. We need more food than ever before in history—we need it for our armed forces in action on world-wide fronts, for our men and women in training, and for our fighting allies. We need it to keep those at home healthy and strong.

We are asking farmers to produce even more food in 1943 than last year, and they will do their level best to meet their goals. Every farm family will be expected, of course, to have a garden for its own use and, where possible, to send extra supplies of fresh vegetables to

nearby markets for agricultural produce.

At the same time, the residents of towns, cities, and suburban areas who have suitable garden space available can make an important contribution toward supplying our total food needs by growing Victory Gardens. The vegetables they produce will provide nutritious food for the family table, lessen the drain on commercial food stocks, and ease transportation burdens. Home-canned vegetables also will insure a reserve food supply for family use.

We are recommending that Victory Gardeners give special attention to the green and leafy vegetables, yellow vegetables, and tomatoes, as these kinds are rich in the vitamins and minerals necessary for good growth and health.

# Young girls trained as child care aides

■ One of the biggest problems of women war workers, whether volunteer or paid, is how to take care of the children. Care and training of children cannot be slighted or passed up for the duration. Women in all parts of the country are faced with the problem, but the mothers of the Williamsville Family Life Study Club, a home demonstration group in Erie County, N. Y., which has been studying together for the past 4 years, decided to do something about it by training young girls as child care aides. The girls and women who had been available to care for the children of the community in an emergency, or when mothers worked, found jobs for themselves in industry. Younger girls were willing but inexperienced.

The mothers talked over the situation with the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Mary Switzer. One member, Mrs. C. F. Crowe, took the leadership in drawing up a tentative outline of a course of study for the younger girls. Dr. Margaret Wylie, extension specialist in the department of family life, Cornell University, helped to work up the outline, and the Erie County War Council approved it.

The first class was started with 24 girls enrolled. Nineteen girls completed the course; 1 dropped out because of an emergency operation and 4 because of the pressure of other activities.

Mothers of the study club demonstrated bathing their babies and let the girls practice bathing the children. They arranged for the girls to observe the cooperative play group conducted by the study club. The mothers also supervised the girls during their "examinations" which consisted of caring for a child

after school through bedtime. The young candidate for junior child care aides supervised the play, gave the child a bath, dressed and undressed him, prepared and served supper, and went through the bedtime routine. The final lesson in the course was a discussion between the girls and mothers on the subject, What a Girl Expects of the Parents for Whose Child She Cares. Another lesson concerned care of children during blackouts and air raids.

The graduate child care aides wear blue aprons styled after nurses' aide aprons, with the red letters, C. C. A. The girls received certificates and copies of the leaflet, Child Care—the First Line of Home Defense, purchased by OCD.

The CCA girls volunteer to care for the children of a mother who wishes to attend civilian defense classes to learn how to care for and protect her family and home in wartime. For this volunteer duty, the girls are assigned by the Office of Civilian Defense to

homes in their neighborhood. They give 3 hours of their time, allowing the mother 1 hour to go and return home and 2 hours of class. Each girl has a card which the mother signs, crediting her with her volunteer work. A plan for recognizing the number of hours volunteered is being worked out.

The biggest demand for the girls has been for paid jobs when mothers leave home for other than defense work. The girls have decided upon a uniform wage scale—16 cents an hour before 6 p. m., a flat rate of 50 cents from 6 to 11 p. m., and 15 cents an hour after 11 p. m. Most girls want to be at home by 11 o'clock on school nights. All expect transportation or escorting home late at night.

The ages of girls trained are 12 to 18 years. Those 14 years and older have registered for part-time working certificates to comply with the New York State Child Labor Law. Those 12 to 14 years old care for children with the approval and at the discretion of their parents.

Since the graduation of the first class, 3 classes have been held in Snyder and 3 in Eggertsville, making more than 100 girls in town trained as junior child care aides. Other classes are planned.

## Indiana will award an agricultural "A" to high-producing neighborhoods

■ Indiana's farm neighborhoods that produce food and war crops to the maximum will have an opportunity to qualify for an agricultural "A" award, which is comparable to the Army-Navy "E" award for industry.

Rather than honor individual farmers for outstanding food production, the new Indiana program provides for the bestowal of public recognition upon all farmers within a neighborhood unit, provided that the neighborhood as a whole ranks high in food production. Thus, each farm family in any winning neighborhood would receive the attractive certificate of an agricultural "A" duly signed by persons charged with the responsibility of assisting farmers to get maximum results.

"For 1943 and succeeding years, agriculture is faced with the responsibility for producing food to its maximum capacity," declared Acting Associate Director L. E. Hoffman. "This responsibility will extend not only for the duration of the fighting but into the post-war years as well. This means that agriculture's high-production program will extend for several years."

The purposes of this Purdue "A" award program are to increase agricultural production by stimulating the competitive and patriotic desire for highest possible production; by promoting a cooperative attitude among

neighbors, thereby making for satisfactory exchanges of labor and machinery; and, as far as possible, through cooperative work, to get farmers of a neighborhood, which is a natural farm social and economic residential unit, to improve their own efficiency.

This recognition program will be carried out through the voluntary farm neighborhood-leader system. It is expected that all of the nearly 18,000 Indiana farm neighborhoods in the 92 counties of the State will be offered the opportunity of enrolling for the award; however, the honor would be bestowed only upon the top-ranking 25 percent of the competing neighborhoods.

This plan of award, along with other food-production programs, was discussed with county agricultural agents and home demonstration agents at district meetings.

■ Puerto Rico home demonstration agents cooperated intensively with the Office of Civilian Defense and the WPA in opening milk stations in the rural zone for children from 2 to 7 years of age and from 7 years up. Forty-one milk stations have been established with 2,800 children getting their milk daily. Men and women leaders, 4-H Club girls, and members of home demonstration clubs are enthusiastically cooperating in this project.





# Economics for leaders

JEAN WARREN, Extension Specialist in Home Management, Calif.

**Leaders working on wartime programs such as some of the anti-inflation measures need an understanding of economic principles behind them. This account of methods used in training leaders in some of these fundamentals is particularly timely.**

■ During the past 3 years, we have learned a good deal about teaching devices for use in the field of economics. Our work on textile price trends is an outstanding example. The bulletin prepared by the clothing and home management specialists is so planned that each person in the audience brings her own chart up to date. By actually drawing part of the chart, we find that lay people gain a new understanding of price charts. At one time we had the charts animated, with lambs gamboling over the peaks of farm prices of wool, a skier sliding down rayon prices, and so on. To accompany the discussion on textile prices, we prepared samples of different textiles. To show the effect of inflation, we had three pieces of wool cloth representing the amount of wool which could be purchased for a dime in 1940, 1941, and March 1942. The change in the purchasing power of money was obvious.

In the fall of 1941, we started a series of monthly one-page mimeographs called home-management letters. These letters are sent to the agricultural extension staff in each of the counties having county agents. In about one-half of these counties, project leaders are responsible for reading these letters at home demonstration meetings and other meetings where information may be needed, such as county club councils, parent-teacher associations, and church groups. In one county, the home demonstration agent has worked with the leaders for the past 10 months, and now her leaders are able to give a short talk based on the letter and to lead a discussion on the information in it rather than just reading the mimeograph.

In 41 counties last winter, about 2,500 selected men and women attended county economic conferences called by the Agricultural Extension Service. These conferences dealt with farm financial planning during the war. In the morning, subject-matter talks were presented, and then the group divided into committees. Each committee had certain subjects to consider and made recommendations concerning financial planning for families in that county during the war. A recommendation then had to be accepted by the entire conference before it became part of the conference findings. Each person attending was responsible for reporting the recommendations at every group meeting which she attended immediately following the conference. These recommendations

were really a county anti-inflation program. Both the men and women leaders seemed to have accepted their responsibilities and to have explained very well the reasons for the recommendations.

In training leaders in economic background in California, we have been encouraged by the results in Riverside County where about 75 women have had from 1 to 5 days training and where it seems to us that economic programs are more apt to be correctly interpreted than in many other counties.

In January 1939, a group of women in Riverside County met with the home demonstration agent, Mrs. Laura Mantonya, and me for a day's training on how to keep household records. The subject matter discussed included accounts, budgets, inventories, and net worth statements, as well as a talk on the general economic situation. These project leaders were selected because they had had training in office work, and most of them were former bookkeepers. They were gratified to have their previous training recognized and agreed to help any family in their community to set up a system and keep satisfactory household records.

At each succeeding meeting of this group, we have given them something to teach in their community and some economic information for their own use. The current outlook for farm family living has always been one of the topics considered. Other topics studied include: household filing systems, how to figure depreciation on household goods, use of credit by farm families for farm financing and for household goods, the home account summary for California families, spending habits as shown by the consumer purchases study, value of food consumed and dietary level, textile price trends, savings and investment program for farm families, and farm financing during the war. This list of subjects sounds like the curriculum of a course in family economics. It has been our purpose to give the leaders as much subject matter as possible at each training meeting.

The home demonstration agent helped the leaders to recognize their responsibility to teach other people what they are learning. At the next regular meeting of the community home demonstration group, the project leader reported what she had learned. Each leader filled out a questionnaire for the annual report telling all of her activities as a family economics project leader. We feel that it is im-

portant to tell the leader what is expected of her, to assist her in fulfilling her responsibilities, and then to check to see how she has succeeded.

To sum up our experience with project leaders: We have found that project or lay leaders must be chosen carefully for their interest in economics. Ability to teach can be taught to almost any interested person. For best results, leaders must have a specific assignment and must be checked to see if they do the job assigned. Training meetings in economics must be well planned so that leaders hear about three to four times as much as they are to try to teach. Showmanship is extremely important in teaching devices and subject matter. The group must enjoy the meeting and be thrilled with the valuable information they have to give to others. Leaders should be encouraged to continue from year to year. If they are too busy to take on a job one year, they may come back 2 years later and still be more valuable than an untrained person.

## Harvesting sugar beets

Another good story of ingenuity in meeting the labor shortage comes from Rosebud County, Mont. The county agent initiated the program which harvested 45 percent of the 4,100 acres of sugar beets in the county. School children, town people, Indians, and farm women and children were recruited as voluntary workers. A sugar beet subcommittee of the county labor committee functioned throughout the harvest season, keeping current and detailed surveys by farms of progress in the beet harvest, and directed workers to the places where they were needed most. The committee also organized crews and furnished transportation to the various farms. Approximately 20,000 tons of sugar beets would have been frozen in the ground this fall had it not been for these volunteer workers.

## One in each feed sack

Attractive, well-illustrated two-color leaflets, recently printed in Minnesota with an initial run of 500,000, are being purchased and distributed by the Retail Feed Dealers' Association and the large feed manufacturers. The plans for the leaflets were developed by a joint committee representing the Extension Service and the feed industry. It is planned that a leaflet will be put into each sack of feed sold. The leaflets are Help Save 3 Million Chicks and More Pork for Men at Work, Men at War, Our Allies.

■ A special monthly broadcast for victory councilmen—New Mexico neighborhood leaders—answers questions asked by the leaders. Letters sent to all victory councilmen asked for questions which they would like to have discussed on the radio. The question-and-answer programs have been favorably received.

# How to adjust to the job

A. E. DUKE, District Extension Agent, Idaho

Turn-over among county agents is 3 times as great as before the war. Last year more than 1,500 new extension workers had to be selected and trained, representing a challenge to the whole Extension Service. Mr. Duke studied the problem in a class on extension methods last summer and developed some suggestions which he has tried out since and passes on for other extension supervisors and new workers.

County agents and assistant agents have been and are being called into the armed forces. The men who take their places often have no extension training, and our problem is to see that they get an understanding of extension methods and ideals.

In my pleasant experience of helping new agents to get started, I have noted many common characteristics. These characteristics all applied to me when I began county agent work. I should say the new agent feels that he is directly responsible for the development of agriculture in the county. He feels that he should answer every question regarding agriculture that is asked of him. Many times he is of the opinion that farmers expect him to be a specialist in every phase of agriculture. Specialist help should be requested only on very unusual problems. Using committees, demonstrators, and specialists will lessen my prestige. If I can just meet these problems as they arise, I shall be successfully carrying on my work.

Extension work requires not only technical agricultural training but knowledge of organization and office administration. Extension work enlists the cooperation of all agencies and organizations in the county; it plans and coordinates educational activity. Extension is a method of teaching where participation is voluntary, and the program is designed to fit the needs of the entire family. These are some of the things which must become an integral part of the new agents' thinking and planning.

The new agent will find it helpful to make as soon as possible a thorough study of the county agents' handbook and of State and Federal bulletins on methods and procedure. Careful budgeting and calendaring of the agent's time to begin with helps him to get perspective on his new job. Some suggestions which have proved useful when kept before the new agent are:

Do not give too many direct answers, but arrive at a solution with the aid of both the specialist and the farmer through discussion. Handle office calls efficiently, and give follow-up help when possible. Plan the work to improve the social and economic position of all farm people. The farm family comes first—livestock and crops second. The latter is a means of promoting the former.

Be sympathetic with the problems of the people. Develop an attitude of open-mindedness, and do not assume that last year's program fits this year's needs. Recognize and develop leadership among farm people. Perfect the technique of getting people to do the things you want them to do.

Recognize the value of the neighborhood leaders' organization as the principal means of developing agricultural war programs in the county. Avoid spending too much time on projects which are personal favorites.

In developing a county extension program, it usually works more satisfactorily for the agent to carry out projects already under way in the county. The new agent then has time to familiarize himself with existing conditions

by making surveys and studying available background information. It pays to learn the workings of local organizations—the Grange, the farm bureau, service clubs, and commodity organizations. With the local situation well in mind, a long-time program can be worked out with the help of specialists and county and community committees. Frequent checks to appraise how far the program is being carried out as planned will help. Emergency jobs so often turned over to the agent, such as better feeding and management for war production generally, can contribute to the long-time extension goals for the county if the agent keeps the goal in the minds of the people.

At the present time, it is particularly important that every agent new and old adjust all extension activity to fit the war needs.

I have found it most helpful after discussion to leave a brief summary of suggestions on extension procedure with the new agent so that he may refer to them from time to time. In one county, the new agent was starting a county-wide noxious-weed program. As the project progressed, he found the suggested procedure most helpful, as it was necessary to have the help of many farm organizations in the county along with a special county noxious-weed committee. The job could be successfully accomplished through the work of committees but not single-handed. The project continues to be most successful.

## Rural leaders meet the challenge

ARNOLD BARBER, County Agent, Lewis County, Mo.

A rural leadership structure based on community and school district representation has been developed in Lewis County, Mo., which will not only be highly efficient in furthering war work but will also be invaluable in promoting a long-time agricultural program for the county.

The county now has 52 school district chairmen serving as coordinators at 11 community centers. Working with these chairmen and reporting to the county extension office through them are 156 job leaders. These leaders explain and give information on the storing of garden crops and the fat-salvage program and encourage boys and girls to contribute their part by enrolling in 4-H Victory projects that are definitely helping to win this war.

Additional job leaders are being trained on pork production and dairy production; and after the first of the year, poultry leaders will be selected by school district chairmen to carry forward the program for increased poultry production.

This development had its beginning in early August when J. D. Monin, Jr., State extension agent of the Missouri College of Agriculture, on request of the county exten-

sion agent, met with the county planning board at Monticello to consider ways and means of doing extension work most effectively for the duration. The planning board recognized the need for an over-all organization which would clarify departmental information and get it to all farm families in the shortest possible time. To do this with tire and, possibly, gasoline rationing, it was necessary to develop community centers based on the normal activity of farm people. In locating the community centers, the planning board used the trade territory largely with the idea that every family has a place to go that it calls its town.

Eleven community centers were drawn on the county map that evening with no attention being given to township boundaries. A committee of 3 was named for each of the 11 communities to be known as the agricultural and home economics committee of the community center.

As the types of agriculture and the interests of the people in Lewis County are so varied, the agricultural and home economics committee was given the responsibility of deciding the type of agricultural program needed in their community. Lewistown may

be taken as typical of the 11 centers recently developed within the county.

The agricultural committee of Lewistown was asked to appoint an outstanding man or woman for each of the four school districts comprising the Lewistown community center. When the chairmen had been selected, the county agent and home demonstration agent, with the agricultural committee, personally visited each of the four school district chairmen explaining to them the leadership structure, how it would work, and what it could mean to the farm families of Lewis County. The four leaders accepted the responsibility of chairmanship and gladly agreed to appoint job leaders on storage, fat salvage, and 4-H Club work. Cards were left with the school district chairmen to be filled out, including names and addresses of the different job leaders.

When the cards from the four districts were received in the county office arrangements were made by telephone with the agricultural committee for a training meeting. This committee was responsible for a suitable meeting place and for reaching the school district chairmen. The school district chairmen were responsible for seeing that the job leaders attended the training meeting. At the training meeting, all members of the structure were present, and the home demonstration agent trained the storage leaders on the why and how of storing all garden crops. The leaders on fat salvage were given information on that government program. The county agent explained the organization of the leadership structure and gave the 4-H Club

booster information on wartime activities in which 4-H Club members could take part.

The agricultural committee insisted that each school district hold a meeting in its own neighborhood as soon as arrangements could be made. Mrs. Stith, chairman of the Glaves school district, called a meeting at the schoolhouse on October 2 with 15 persons in attendance. Paul Sellers held his meeting at Turner on October 6 with 20 in attendance. Raymond Van Meter called the Oakland group together on October 12 with 26 neighbors present. Virgil Schaffer called the Brushy neighborhood together on October 10, at which time 60 were in attendance. At these meetings, all job leaders were present and discussed the information that they had received in the training meeting that was held at Lewistown.

The agents and agricultural committee personally reached the 52 school district chairmen in the county, and of that number only 3 refused to accept the responsibility of chairmanship. One leader was in poor health, another did not drive a car, and the third lived on a poor stretch of road. In each of the 3 cases, however, someone else was suggested; and while in the neighborhood, they reached those suggested.

A harvest show was held in Dover, Oyster Prairie, Selton, Maywood, Walnut Grove, Monticello, Derridge, Lewistown, and Shroeder communities with more than 1,300 farm people in attendance. At these shows, the storage leaders discussed the College of Agriculture's recommendation on the proper storage of farm-grown truck and garden crops.

One of the 10 farmers honored at the Columbus regional meeting was Merrick County's John Siemers, past 70 years of age, who had cut farming operations from 200 to 80 acres in 1935 to meet conditions brought about by the drought. Mr. and Mrs. Siemers, alone on the farm, milked 12 cows, increased laying hens 60 percent in 1942, and raised 2 more hogs. All of the farm is cropland, and pasture needs are supplied by brome grass, spring-seeded oats, and sweetclover—second year, sweetclover and sudan grass. Rotation grazing was practiced. For fall pasture he uses a one-way disk on stubble land immediately after harvest. This year's growth on such land provided excellent fall pasture, and part was put up for hay. Conditions have improved enough now to warrant seeding 6 acres of alfalfa next spring.

Also honored at the Columbus meeting was Earl D. Christensen, a young farmer from Dodge County who is now serving with the armed forces. His father is keeping his livestock for him on their 220-acre farm. He has 5 dairy cows and 4 heifers purchased as calves; part of the herd is registered, and he used a purebred sire. He has 10 purebred ewes and 10 purebred lambs. He is keeping up the registration papers on his livestock while he serves in the Army.

Honored and given outstanding recognition at the South Platte regional meeting at Holdrege were the Adkinson Brothers, Francis and Henry, of Dundy County, who operate 2,560 acres with 760 acres in crops, a well-balanced farm. For their improved herds of beef and dairy cattle, 204 sheep, 175 hogs and poultry (about 1941 production) they have raised an ample supply of hay, fodder, and silage from sorghums, rye, sudan, alfalfa, and sweet clover.

THE HAWAIIAN GARDEN SHOW in November was a big impetus to the Victory-garden movement which is considered one of the most important civilian activities there. With the motto, "Grow It and Have It," Victory gardeners are turning out about 100 tons of fresh green vegetables per month for kitchen use from about 15,000 home and community gardens in Honolulu alone. Two hundred acres of gardens in the city are being farmed by a labor group which in no way conflicts with important defense effort. These gardens are now in their optimum growing season.

### Colorado 4-H Victory Garden

More than 3 times as many Colorado 4-H Club boys and girls were enrolled in Victory-garden projects in 1942 than there were a year ago. There were 1,559 members this year as compared with 451 in 1941. This is well above the national average which indicates an increase of 58 percent in total enrollment—an increase from 208,422 to 354,717.

## Nebraska's pasture-forage-livestock program proves food-production asset

GEORGE S. ROUND, Extension Editor, Nebr.

■ When war came, Nebraska farmers lost no time in swinging into action in Uncle Sam's Food for Freedom drive. They were ready for it. Their machinery was in working order, for they had been pooling their best farming methods in the State-wide pasture-forage-livestock program started by farmers, businessmen, and extension workers 7 or more years ago, as described in the March 1940 REVIEW.

So important has this program become in farming circles in the Cornhusker State that the press, radio, and Nebraskans refer to it as the P-F-L plan.

The P-F-L regional finish-up sessions closed at Columbus on November 16, with Clifford M. Townsend, Director of Food Production for the U. S. Department of Agriculture there. The Columbus meeting was much like the others at Holdrege, Grand Island, Fairbury,

Wausa, Emerson, Bridgeport, and Ogallala, where town folk and country folk cooperated to make the sessions successful. All through the meetings ran the thought of wartime contributions of agriculture. Farmers honored told how they worked long hours, used labor-saving devices, and cooperated to get an important wartime job done.

They used electric fences when hogging off corn to save labor. They used mechanical pickers to harvest neighbors' corn. They fed more hogs on self-feeders. They upped their poultry production through use of obsolete farm buildings. They made greater use of proteins for greater livestock gains. Grass has been used more wisely.

Many a farmer had one or more sons in the armed forces and was anxious to do everything possible to see that his son or sons, would get the needed foodstuffs.

# What do Negro farmers eat?

A food-habits survey was taken among Negro farm families in 9 Southern States during the autumn of 1942. The need of more information on which to build a nutrition and production program for Negro farmers was keenly felt. Negro workers in Texas and Georgia discuss some aspects of this survey as it affected their extension programs.

## Putting the facts to work

E. B. EVANS, Negro State Leader, Texas

The food-habits survey taken last fall was built around five main points, the physical composition of the Negro family, their pattern of land use, their pattern of food consumption, the status of their health, and the organizational activities they engage in. The answers to these questions are proving of tremendous value in developing a practical food program.

Visits were made to 201 Negro families in 2 widely separated counties, both heavily populated with Negroes. Of the 201 families, 50 percent were owners, 41 percent were renters, and 8 percent were day laborers. In 1 of the counties studied, 52 percent of the families had 3 members, whereas 65 percent of the families in the other county had more than 3 members. Exactly 45 percent of the families in 1 county and 50 percent in the other had dependents or persons under 20 years of age.

These families used approximately 53 acres of land largely for pasturage, cotton, and corn. Most of the families had small gardens. There were a few who had no gardens at all. Of the families studied, 20 percent grew no vegetables, and 34 percent grew more than six different kinds. To be more specific, about one-eighth of the owners and about one-fourth of the renters grew no vegetables. The picture for day laborers was not so encouraging. Approximately one-half of them failed to produce any vegetables at home.

The food that these families obtained away from home showed alarming deficiencies from the nutritional point of view. If they had neither the interest nor the means to cultivate a garden, their income was too inadequate or their consumer knowledge too meager to supply the quantity or quality of foods necessary for the health needs of the family members of different ages and occupations.

For example, in one county, family menus showed breakfasts composed of 20 percent bread and 19 percent left-overs. There was a deficiency of fruits, milk, and vegetables. Fourteen percent of the families reported no fruit, milk, or green vegetables in their meals for the day they were interviewed.

Such a dietary deficiency has taken a terrific toll in indigestion, constipation, low vitality, and general physical disability. More

than these minor illnesses is the low morale or lack of zest in their work and in life itself.

We have not left these problems at their "finding stage." Aside from a radio address and conference discussions, there have been serious attempts to alter the pathological conditions which the survey has revealed. We have encouraged most of these families to become victory demonstrators. Most of them grew gardens this year, and, according to their reports, have had green or yellow vegetables all the year. They have killed, cured, and canned adequate pork and pork products this year under the direction of the extension agents. By acting in this form of cooperation, they have become models for many other families not included in the survey.

Another improvement was the use of demonstrations on food planning and food preparation. In 1 county, 1 member of each of 98 families attended the demonstration, and 93 of the families definitely showed signs of serving more balanced meals in their homes. These 2 lines of improvement were followed because they were considered the best available methods of getting information to the people and translating this information into human action.

## Survey taking has value

P. H. STONE, State Agent for Negro Work, Ga.

To locate some of the weaknesses in Negro farm family nutritional structure to be used as the basis for a more helpful extension program, 3 counties in Georgia typical of the 3 types of agriculture in the State—Bibb, Brady, and Newton—were chosen for a food-habits survey. In each county 150 families were visited by the farm and home agents. No effort was made to select families; they were just taken as they came along. They were always interviewed at home, never in the office or at a meeting. Each of the 3 Negro supervisors agreed to supervise the work in 1 county and made the first half dozen calls with the agents. After that, each took separate neighborhoods; and at night they all met, checking their records and telling of the interesting incidents they found as they visited the families.

It took about 3½ days to complete the survey in each county, and all of us made some important discoveries in doing the work. We agreed that there was a remarkable frankness on the part of the farm family heads in

answering all our questions. The instability of Negro family life was brought out by the frequent presence of children sent from maladjusted homes in urban centers to be reared by grandparents who still live on the farm.

As we neared towns, the dietary range of the family seemed to narrow. Purgatives were in common use in all homes we visited, which would seem to indicate general digestive troubles. Certain vegetables such as carrots, spinach, and onions were generally disliked by the rural Negro families. The absence of vegetables in the diet was especially noticeable among families with low incomes.

County extension agents working on the survey, visiting every house down the road, one after the other, were impressed with the fine reception from families with whom they had not worked before. It gave them the vision and the opportunity to reshape their future efforts to include all Negro farm families. At the conclusion of the survey in one county, an agent remarked: "It never had occurred to me before what an opportunity I was missing in passing up these little houses where people lived whom I didn't know. Every agent in the State should make one of these surveys. From now on, my approach is going to be different."

## Two in one

Traveling on foot and bicycle, members of a Saline County, Ark., home demonstration club visited 14 homes to inspect gardens, poultry flocks, and home improvements. While making this better-homes tour the women gave all the mail boxes a coat of aluminum paint with red enamel for the flags.

The club has been active in the collection of scrap iron and rubber. The women are now planning to care for and improve two cemeteries bordering the community.

## 511 acres of castor beans

Kentucky farmers have just harvested another war crop—castor beans. Farmers and 4-H Club members in 58 counties grew 511 acres this year. The largest acreage which was 62 acres, was in Leslie County. Members of 4-H Clubs in Jefferson County grew 20 acres. The crop this year was grown for seed only. Next year a large acreage may be grown for oil.

## Planning for pork

Sixty-six Texas Negro 4-H Club boys each received one registered pig to raise as foundation stock for increasing pork production for war needs. Each boy built a hog house and planted pasture before he obtained his pig. He worked out feed rations with the county agent. The pigs were bought by a commercial concern.

Nearly 1,300 Colorado 4-H Club members are participating in fire-prevention activities by joining club or community fire patrols, making surveys, and cutting fire lanes.

# Nutrition goes to town

LORENE STEVENS, Home Demonstration Agent, Upshur County, Texas

■ It would have been hard for anyone in Upshur County, Tex., the week of October 11-17 to avoid seeing, hearing, talking, and tasting nutrition. Clubs, churches, children home from school, the favorite newspaper, the corner drug store, all took up the matter of better food for better health.

Almost 4,000 people attended nutrition programs during the week. Sometimes the programs consisted of lectures, sometimes skits. One group participated in a Sop Supper and heard of the nutritive value of sirups, butter, and enriched bread. Another group ate soybean salad and salted soybeans and at the same time heard of their value as a food. Still another played the Vita-min-go game and checked their daily intake of vitamins and minerals. Whole-wheat muffins and whole-grain mush served to another group furnished a good starting point for a nutrition talk.

Upshur County not only heard but saw the nutrition message. Five hundred posters made by students were used at schools, community stores, Gilmer business houses, and churches. In Gilmer the window displays were sponsored by civic clubs. The business houses were classified and each assigned by the publicity subcommittee to a club which was responsible for calling upon the managers and helping with the display. Each business featured its own merchandise in the exhibit. The hardware stores displayed garden tools; seed stores showed garden seed, fertilizers, and insecticides for Victory Gardens; grocery stores displayed balanced meals, fresh fruits, vegetables, Victory special foods, or the Texas Food Standard; drug stores showed the value of fruit juices in the daily diet; cleaning shops emphasized cleanliness for food handling; the city hall displayed an exhibit showing the value of water in the diet; cafes attached Texas Food Standard cards to the menus and featured Victory food specials such as apples; the dry goods stores showed cotton materials, dresses, uniforms, hair nets, and other suitable clothing for handling food; banks had a stretch-the-food-dollar exhibit; dentists featured good teeth; beauty shops, well-groomed food handlers; flower shops, corsages of vegetables and fruits; filling stations, fuel value of available foods as compared to fuel value of a gallon of gas; bakeries, enriched breads; and ice cream parlors, milk in an adequate diet.

School children were given credit for making nutrition posters. If they had relatives in business, their posters were placed in such business places by request. Nutrition arithmetic problems were used; English topics for papers on nutrition were assigned during the week; and geography students learned of food of the countries studied.

Nutrition information centers were used at 38 schools which represented the 63 communities in the county. More than 60 different nutrition bulletins and leaflets, made available through the Texas and Federal Extension Service, were displayed at each school. Mimeographed Texas Food Standard leaflets were made available to them in quantity.

Many communities sponsored a Community Nutrition Night when everyone played nutrition games, looked at displays, sang nutrition songs, or enjoyed clever skits, a movie, or a good talk. Because of the importance of nutrition in the war program, school busses were authorized to run on nutrition night. The Victory Vittles short, in color, shown in Gilmer Movie House stole the show from the feature film. Victory gingerbread and Texas Food Standard leaflets were given to almost 200 people in the lobby of the theater.

Neighborhood Agricultural Victory groups put on Nutrition Night in Bethlehem. Each of the eight neighborhoods set up an exhibit of fall vegetables. The nutrition bulletin board was covered with bulletins and the walls solidly plastered with nutrition posters. In one nutrition skit, two small Negroes danced after eating vitamin-filled foods to show the pep and enthusiasm that come from the right foods.

Food-preparation demonstrations given during the week brought out 728 men and women. One of these demonstrations sponsored by the Gilmer women's clubs was given at the Negro Orphans' Home, and the Negro community agricultural victory leaders were invited. About 56 Negro women tried their best to write down every word that was said. They used notebooks provided with the compliments of the home. Whole-wheat muffins, coffee cakes, and gingerbread were made and served.

On Sunday, at least 400 people in Gilmer alone heard a nutrition sermon, and more than 700 were reported attending other churches in the county where special nutrition sermons were preached. In 1 Negro community, the sermon was taken from the Book of Psalms—"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help."

The daily paper gave a great deal of space to the activities and printed the Texas Food Standard every day for 2 weeks before Nutrition Week and also during the week.

The success of the venture was due to good organization and planning and to the whole-hearted cooperation of everyone. A county nutrition chairman served the city of Gilmer and the county as a whole. The subcommittee on organization, composed of three members—the county Red Cross nutrition chairman, a representative of the Gilmer civic

groups, and a rural representative—assumed responsibility for seeing that every organized group in the county took part in Nutrition Week. The publicity subcommittee was composed of all homemaking teachers, newspaper representatives, and county school lunch supervisors; and each person publicized the program in his own field. The subject-matter committee, composed of all persons in the county who have degrees in home economics, developed many and varied ways of presenting the facts of nutrition to every organized group.

Nutrition Week brought the importance of nutrition to the attention of Upshur County in a way people will not soon forget.

## Workshop method

The workshop method was used at the 1942 Greene County, Pa., 4-H local leader training meeting. Participation by leaders in general discussion at previous meetings had been a problem.

The making of sample club program folders was the feature of the meeting. This subject was selected because the material for discussion was largely concerned with the county and local club program. The material included discussion of subject-matter emphasis for the year, community service, and planning county-wide events. Local club program folders and their value to the carrying out of plans were emphasized. Each leader was asked to make, during the afternoon, a typical program to carry back to her club for use as a guide in making its own program.

Sample programs from other clubs were on hand for the members to look at, as well as materials to be used as covers. While discussing the types of covers that might be made, the leaders were asked to select and make one. They started applying the suggestions made, and soon they had suggestions of their own and were expressing them.

The making of the folders required the entire afternoon, because as each part of the program came up it was discussed. Each leader put in her program a page for the listing of the club officers and special dates for the club and county-wide events. In setting up the skeleton of the club meetings, a good opportunity was given for the discussion of the types of demonstrations that could be given and what should be included in a good club meeting. Community service was discussed and slides shown bringing out services that had been carried out by other clubs in the State. This group of leaders had never before contributed so freely to the program of the meeting. Both the county and State workers were pleased to find that contributions were made early in the meeting. Not only was good cooperation received from the leaders during the meeting but, for the first time, all clubs in the county made programs. More community service has been carried out.—*Martha E. Leighton, assistant State club leader, Pennsylvania.*

## County agent studies extension methods

The success of organized neighborhood family groups in getting neighbors to take part in extension activities is brought out in a recent study made of farm families in Cooper County, Mo. The success of the four neighborhood groups organized to obtain the participation of neighbor families in the county live-at-home program was measured by keeping an attendance record of those who took part in the activities.

The effectiveness of the various extension methods involved in teaching these Missouri farm people live-at-home agriculture was evaluated by making surveys before and after the group experiments of such factors as food production, conservation, and consumption; home conveniences; sewing; refinishing furniture; and health and recreation.

It is brought out in the study that organized neighborhood family groups will obtain maximum neighbor participation when there is an integration of all neighborhood social functions supported by local leaders; and when the programs attract and hold the people's attention, and are designed to meet a need recognized by the community.

Organized neighborhood family groups are an effective medium for extension teachings, under the following conditions:

1. When the technique of teaching is adapted to the social atmosphere of the family group meetings and to the social background of the people being taught.

2. When the teaching phase of the meeting programs is short, dynamic, and to the point.

3. When the teaching provides an opportunity for active participation on the part of the people being taught.

Other points brought out in the study are:

1. The work of leaders is more effective in organized groups than in unorganized groups because of the differences in the degree of recognition and acceptance of their leadership. Organized group activities are economical of a leader's time since it is possible to reach more people with the same effort.

2. Recreation has a definite and beneficial function in the activities of organized live-at-home family groups.

3. Moving pictures are an excellent teaching tool for group work, when the subject matter is adaptable and the picture has been made for teaching purposes.

4. Questionnaire surveys are reasonably accurate in determining existing facts, when the interpretation of questions is consistent and when a representative sample of people is surveyed.—EXTENSION METHODS INVOLVED IN LIVE-AT-HOME AGRICULTURE, by Webb Embrey, Missouri Extension Service. Master's thesis, University of Missouri, 1942. (County Agent Embrey's thesis was announced in the April 1941 Review in the list of Missouri extension workers studying for master of arts degrees under the University's revised graduate-school rulings.)

# EXTENSION RESEARCH

## Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

### Neighborhood leaders are effective in reaching people

More than 90 percent of the 113 families studied in Waldo County, Maine, during June 1942, were informed of the importance of growing better gardens and using enriched flour and bread.

More than three-fourths of the families had heard about the need for better gardens directly from neighborhood leaders. The leaders, in making personal calls, had left leaflets with these families—excellent short, separate leaflets on the growing, the preparation, and the value of tomatoes, kale, cabbage, and winter squash. One of the leaders held a meeting at which her neighborhood families received garden information.

These Waldo County families also received information through the usual channels of extension teaching, such as meetings, news stories, bulletins, and radio. Half of the families remembered receiving circular letters from the home demonstration agent on the garden program, a third of the families had read news stories on the work, and a fourth of them had listened to radio talks on better gardens.

In reporting the study, the authors record their observations, some of which are:

1. In any job neighborhood leaders are asked to do, the purpose should be made clear and the directions explicit.

2. Neighborhood leaders should not be asked to take more than one assignment a month with no assignments during the busy summer season unless very urgent.

3. Material for neighborhood leaders' use should be simple, as attractive and colorful as possible, and not too much of it should be given them at one time.

- a. Questions and answers are helpful.

- b. Use common, well-known words, short sentences, and short paragraphs.

- c. Itemize and number statements. Use underlining or capital letters for emphasis.

- d. Use cartoons or pictures where practical.

4. Public recognition should be made of neighborhood-leader work, not only to show appreciation of leaders' efforts, but to build up in the minds of farm people an understanding of this important new development.—INFLUENCE OF NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS IN WALDO COUNTY, MAINE, by Florence L. Hall and Laurel Sabrosky, of the Federal Extension Service. Ext. Serv. Circ. 389, September 1942.

tion Service. Ext. Serv. Circ. 389, September 1942.

A story, Maine Leaders Find "It's the Neighborly Thing To Do," appeared in the September issue of the REVIEW.

### Housing improvement literature surveyed

As a criterion for judging the effectiveness of home-improvement literature prepared by home management and home improvement specialists, Maud Wilson, member of housing division of American Home Economics Association, made a study of the house-improvement publications being used by extension workers. Home demonstration leaders and specialists from 35 States furnished information by questionnaire on the content and form of home-improvement bulletins; the use made of housing research findings; and regional collaboration in preparation of home-improvement literature.

Thirty of the States reporting were using extension mimeographs; 23 States had printed extension publications; 14 States made use of Government bulletins; 7 made use of State experiment publications, and 3 used extension publications of other States.

Of the sample State bulletins submitted, 31 percent of the pages were devoted to specific descriptions on home improvements. Fourteen percent of the pages were used for each one of the following: Dimensions, plans, and cost estimates of improvements; ideal housing conditions; and how to buy improvements. Eleven percent of the pages were devoted to problem diagnosis and solution, and 1 to 9 percent to propaganda, exhortation, and references.

The use made of housing research information is also brought out in the survey. Twenty-three States reported using research information obtained from various Government agencies, 11 States used such information received from experiment stations in other States, and 9 used information from their own State.

In summarizing this study, suggestions are given on how to increase the effectiveness of home-improvement literature, and the number of persons using the publications; how to improve the quality and widen the scope of usefulness of such literature; and how the time of preparation and cost of publications could be decreased.—LITERATURE USED BY THE EXTENSION SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS, by Maud Wilson, Oregon State College. Typewritten, 1941.

■ Farmers walk from 1 to 5 miles to attend meetings which interest them, report several New York county agents. They do not have enough gas to use their passenger cars and feel that it is unpatriotic to use their trucks for this purpose.

# AMONG OURSELVES

SEVENTY-FIVE COUNTY AGENTS were given awards for distinguished service at the annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Chicago, December 1.

They were: From Arkansas, C. F. Niven and P. R. Corley; Colorado, A. A. Goodman and P. B. Miles; Georgia, E. P. McGee, E. K. Davis, H. G. Wiley, and Byron Dyer; Idaho, W. W. Palmer; Illinois, J. G. McCall, Henry C. Wheeler, and Edward H. Walworth; Indiana, Warren O'Hara, Lyman M. Butler, and W. G. Smith; Iowa, Paul B. Barger, Harold M. Nichols, Paul A. Johnson, and Harley Walker.

From Kansas, E. L. McIntosh, Donald W. Ingle, and Robert L. Rawlins; Kentucky, Stuart Brabant, John C. Brown, and John W. Holland; Michigan, Carl H. Hemstreet and Harry Lurkins; Minnesota, Harold C. Pederson, George W. Chambers, and Ernest G. Roth; Missouri, R. Q. Brown, John Rush, and Harold Canfield; Nebraska, E. C. Nelson and R. A. Stewart. From Nevada, John Hyrum Wittwer; Maine, R. C. Wentworth; Connecticut, William L. Harris; Massachusetts, Bertram Tomlinson; New Hampshire, Daniel A. O'Brien; Vermont, Ralph C. McWilliams; New Jersey, W. Raymond Stone, Orley G. Bowen, and A. Howard Saxe; Ohio, W. H. Ford and Stanley Porter; Oklahoma, A. R. Garlington, J. B. Hurst, and M. G. Tucker; Puerto Rico, Teodoro Soto; South Carolina, S. W. Epps and T. A. Bowen; South Dakota, Al O'Connell.

From Utah, R. L. Wrigley; Wisconsin, C. O. Ebling, Howard Lathrope, J. F. Thomas; Wyoming, Dan S. Ingraham; Tennessee, Nate Semmes Martin, Ollie Upton McKnight, Charles Owen Woody, William Crowder Mitchell, Leonard Jasper Kerr, and Thomas Rudd Wingo; Texas, Grover C. King, Jake Tarter, B. J. Baskin, G. R. McNeil, M. C. Counts, Jack D. Hudson, Richard E. Homann, C. W. Lehmborg, Dor W. Brown, W. E. A. Meinscher, and William Lane Wilkinson.

DR. ERWIN H. SHINN has been transferred to the Division of Field Coordination of the Federal Extension Service to work on problems relating to 4-H Club work in the Southern States. He will also devote part of his time to Negro extension work in the same area.

EUGENE MERRITT has transferred to the Division of Field Studies and Training to work particularly on the development of programs and methods of conducting extension work with older youth.

MENA HOGAN took up her duties as field agent of the Division of Field Coordination of the Federal Extension Service on February 1. Miss Hogan comes from Arkansas where she has been serving as district home demonstration agent for northeast Arkansas.

She will work in the Southern States giving special attention to such war programs as production and conservation of food, production of farm home food supplies, Victory Gardens, and other activities, in which she has gained much experience in her native Arkansas. As home demonstration agent in Calhoun County and later in St. Francis County, Ark., she learned how these activities are put into effect on the ordinary farm. Miss Hogan was given a master's degree by the University of Wisconsin in 1942.

Of her work in Arkansas, Aubrey D. Gates, Assistant Director wrote: "The record that Miss Hogan has made in a supervisory capacity and as a worker in the Extension Service is very outstanding in Arkansas. We are proud that she has been selected by the Federal Extension Service because we believe that she had a contribution to make to southern agriculture."

## New officers

The American Association of Agricultural College Editors recently elected as president for 1942-43 Wilfred Porter, extension editor, Utah; as vice president, L. O. Brackeen, extension editor, Alabama; and as secretary-treasurer, Glenn Sample, extension editor, Indiana. These, together with Candace A. Hurley, home economics editor in Illinois; and Samuel H. Reck, Jr., extension editor in New Jersey, compose the executive committee.

## On the Calendar

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, March 6.

National Flower and Garden Show, Chicago, Ill., March 14-21.

National Livestock Marketing Association, Chicago, Ill., March 24-25.

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, April 3.

American Association for Advancement of Science, Southwest Division, Colorado Springs, Colo., April 26-29.

In carrying out their "Make and Mend for Victory" program, Oregon 4-H Club girls are salvaging their old wardrobes and are converting their formerly discarded knockabouts into clothing knock-outs, reports State Club Leader H. C. Seymour.

Leaders and 4-H Club members in Franklin County, N. Y., helped to remodel an old sheep barn into a 4-H hall for the county fair.

# IN BRIEF

## Fire control progresses in Oregon

Thirty-three Oregon county agents reported 1,069 fire-control crews trained in cooperation with the Forest Service, State and county fire-protective associations and city fire chiefs. These crews assisted in the control of more than 300 farm fires, arriving at the fire with proper equipment and knowledge of what to do. The principal benefit, however, was the widespread elimination of fire hazards. For instance, in Clatsop County, the agent reported that there was much activity in the early summer, cleaning debris away from the buildings. In bentgrass threshing season there were no fires, though normally there are several. Machine operators were instructed by captains and the agent to ground the machines well to prevent fire from static and to ground rubber-tired tractors for safety at refueling time.

A series of three educational exhibits in store windows in Warren County Ky., was an interesting part of its Victory Labor Day program and bond sale. Planned by the county home demonstration and agricultural agents, one window showed the ways in which Warren County farmers have met the need for new crops and increased production, another, the amount of home-produced food needed by one person for 1 year; the third, the neighborhood leadership program to take information to every farm family in the county.

Twenty Alabama home demonstration curb markets reported total sales of \$578,591.90 during the past 12 months. These 20 markets have furnished an outlet for many farm families to sell extra produce such as vegetables, eggs, chickens, and other home-grown products. During the war, these curb markets will play an increasingly large part in producing wholesome foods for their communities.

With the help of a \$100 donation from the homemakers' clubs of Fulton County, Ky., the school children had their teeth put in first-class condition. A dentist and trailer, furnished by the Kentucky State Board of Health, stayed at one school 3 weeks and at another school for 1 week. Children from other schools were taken to the trailer, so that six districts were served.

Delaware neighborhood leaders took part in a farm labor survey. They returned 800 questionnaires giving almost a 10-percent sample of all farms in the State with excellent distribution. Preliminary analysis indicates that about 20 percent of all local labor has been lost to selective service and industry since 1940.

# The once-over

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

FARM LABOR is the No. 1 farm problem under consideration this month. The extension phases of the national program described on the first page are in charge of M. C. Wilson of the Federal staff.

STATE VIEWPOINTS on labor problems are well presented in up-to-the-minute publications coming to the office. One of the best is a mimeographed bulletin from Illinois "Making the Most of Available Labor," by J. E. Wills, J. B. Cunningham, and P. E. Johnston. The authors give explicit directions, illustrated with Illinois examples, for using labor more efficiently in many practical ways. They discuss everything from scheduling the farm work, labor-saving practices, and pooling equipment and labor to keeping the hired man satisfied.

FARM WORKERS DEFERRED under the new selective service deferment regulations worked out jointly by the Manpower Commission and the Department of Agriculture, by the end of January numbered more than 350,000 farm operators and hired men. It is expected that deferring of essential farm operators and workers registered in the draft will continue at an accelerated rate.

CANNING CROP COUNTIES began some harvest labor recruitment last month to reassure farmers about labor at harvest time and to encourage them to plant, to the full extent of their resources, fresh fruit and vegetables for canning. County agents are working in cooperation with the canners, U. S. Employment Service, and the county council of defense. Local county and community committees are helping to call attention to the seriousness of the situation. By publishing the names of those local public-spirited citizens who are now pledging their time to harvest the crops interest is aroused in the sign-up.

WARTIME FOREST FIRE PREVENTION campaign is getting underway in the Northeast this month. In some regions of the country the campaign was launched last fall. The campaign will also put renewed emphasis on salvaging the waste caused by 170,000 or more forest and farm woodland fires each year. Extension agents are cooperating with the Forest Service in distributing printed material on forest fire prevention and emphasizing the subject in the course of their regular extension activities.

A NEW INFORMATION HANDBOOK on the Victory Home Food Supply is being distributed to State Extension Services this

month. The book contains suggestions for news and feature stories, some sample press releases, tips for radio programs, ideas for small exhibits, some illustrations which could be used on circular letters, and some other simple usable promotion ideas.

THE LATEST ON NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS comes from a workshop conference being held in Washington March 3-6. Every State was invited to send representatives, and the conference includes county extension agents, neighborhood leaders, subject-matter specialists, Directors and others besides the Federal staff and Dr. Edmund de S. Brunner, the conference adviser. The workshop groups work out statements on the following topics: (1) organization and objectives; (2) selection and planning of the jobs to be given the leaders; (3) training leaders; (4) publications and other written material used to train and support the neighborhood leader; (5) other methods of recognizing and supporting the leader; (6) the contribution of subject-matter specialists to the neighborhood-leader system; (7) evaluation as an extension method.

SLIDEFILMS ON WAR WORK recently issued by the Extension Service include two on gardening, No. 634, Planning the Farm Victory Garden, and No. 635, Care of the Farm Victory Garden. Available in both single and double-frame sizes, they are respectively 50 and 55 frames. Other recent slidefilms which might help in war activities include No. 637, Control Cattle Grubs; No. 636, Any Bonds Today? containing the words of the popular song;

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## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

M. L. WILSON, Director  
REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

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and No. 632, Brucellosis or Bang's Disease. New films now in preparation include one on time management in the home and one on how to use labor efficiently in farm operations.

WAR SERVICE AWARD of the Columbia Broadcasting System was given to the 4-H Clubs of America on their February 13 "Youth on Parade" broadcast. The Certificate of Merit, hand colored and engraved, was accepted by Gertrude Warren in behalf of all 4-H Club members. The certificate read "for outstanding service in the war program."

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION is the new title of Gladys Gallup of the Federal staff who received her degree from George Washington University on February 22. Her dissertation was a study of the effectiveness of the home demonstration work in reaching rural people and in meeting their needs. Her fields of specialization were adult education, tests and measurements, curriculum, rural sociology and family relationships.

FARM AND HOME HOUR comes in third on a survey of favorite radio programs conducted by Progressive Farmer. It ranks just behind "Grand Ole Opry" and "Aldrich Family." Pennsylvania Extension workers who helped take the survey polled 1,190 farm families and 57 percent said Farm and Home Hour was best of the agricultural broadcasting.

HOME AGENTS' NEWSLETTER, Vol 1, No. 1, dated February 1943, has just found its way to the editorial office from New Mexico. It is as up-to-date as the income tax and much more interesting. If the home demonstration agent follows the "What's Cookin'" department she is sure to know the answers.

LEASE-LEND FACTS brought out by Secretary Wickard at the House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings on February 4 showed that agricultural products, mostly food, constituted 22 percent of all our lend-lease exports up to December 31, 1942 and were valued at \$1,329,000,000. The food which we have shipped under lend-lease has been a major factor in keeping Britain in the war. Australia during 1942 did some lend-lease in reverse, contributing more than 80 million pounds of foodstuffs to our fighting men in the South Pacific. New Zealand did her share to the tune of 27 million pounds. In 1943, Britain has agreed to provide more than 290 million pounds of food to our overseas fighting men.

WARTIME EXTENSION WORK reported during February featured Victory Gardens, machinery repair, and farm mobilization. Connecticut is getting many requests for garden information. Mississippi is talking the year-round garden with neighborhood and block leaders signing up gardeners. Minnesota extension and machinery trades people held trade-center schools on machinery conservation in 48 counties. Montana machinery check-list cards distributed to farm families are effective.