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Emergency workers help harvest second largest crop in history

■ As the harvest season reaches its peak and American farmers prepare to reap the second largest crop in history, county agents and other extension workers are intensifying the campaign to recruit United States Crop Corps workers for meeting emergency labor demands.

That this source of farm labor is really coming to the rescue is indicated in results of the survey compiled from August 1 reports from the 48 State extension services. This compilation shows that 600,000 placements of U. S. Crop Corps workers were made during the month of July. Including those made prior to July 1, a total of 1,100,000 placements have been made since April 29, 1943, when the passage of Public Law 45 resulted in the Extension Service's being given major responsibility in the farm-labor program.

This number of placements included 500,000 intrastate farm workers, 50,000 out-of-State domestic workers, and 60,000 foreigners.

Of the total placements made during July, 310,000 were men, 110,000 were women, and 180,000 were boys and girls under 18 years of age.

The August Farm Labor Report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates that about 11,000,000 persons were working on farms in the United States on August 1. By October 1 this farm force is expected to be up to 11,750,000 workers, an addition of 750,000. As this estimate is based on full-time experienced farm workers, however, several times this number of Crop Corps workers may have to be mobilized to meet the needs.

Already several farm labor crises have been met and successfully overcome. The Kansas wheat harvest, which presented a big problem 2 months ago, was completed without appreciable loss of the State's 150,000,000-bushel crop—one-fifth of the Nation's wheat supply. This was accomplished when thousands of

emergency volunteer workers pitched in to do the jobs formerly handled by experienced hands.

The peanut area of the Southeast is another place where a labor shortage developed in August, with the digging and stacking of the largest peanut crop in history. For example, in Americus, Ga.—in the heart of the peanut belt—the stores closed 1 day a week during the latter part of August to allow city people to go to the farms and help handle the peanut crop. Elsewhere in this issue will be found stories of how the farm-labor problem is being met in all parts of the country.

Landmarks sighted for post-war plans

■ After the war what will the farm situation be? What problems will face farmers? What phases of extension work will be most helpful and should be strengthened, looking forward to that time? These and other such questions are receiving thoughtful consideration by farseeing extension workers. As the war news becomes more optimistic, discussion on post-war problems becomes more urgent and receives more attention all along the line, from the President to the local farmer.

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard called a conference July 26 to 31 in Milwaukee, Wis., to discuss agricultural post-war programs. The Extension Service was represented by Director H. C. Ramsower, of Ohio, and Louise Bryant, of Texas, representing the Land-Grant College Committee on Extension Organization and Policy, and by Director M. L. Wilson, Karl Knaus, P. V. Kepner, and W. B. Stout, of the Federal Extension Service.

These stories show the results of good local mobilization efforts. County and community leaders are helping with the program in many areas, and in numerous small towns assistance is given by civic groups and other local organizations.

The farm labor problem is not yet licked, but it *will* be solved if present efforts are continued in recruiting and placing available workers. City people have indicated their willingness to help harvest farm war crops. On the other side of the picture, farmers have shown an increasing willingness to use emergency volunteer labor from the towns and cities.

No one should expect Crop Corps workers to be as efficient as experienced labor. However, there is a job to be done, and volunteer workers are ready to do such an important war job as harvesting the crops.

It was agreed that planning for agriculture after the war must be done by the farm people themselves to be effective. Many States are looking ahead, studying trends, encouraging discussion, and working out post-war plans that will help agriculture in the transition to peacetime conditions. Department representatives considered the need for further study on a national basis and for working out definite plans of cooperation with the States. Regional committees which have been working for the last 2 years agreed to intensify their efforts.

Some of the other topics on which committees of the conference worked were production adjustments during the demobilization period, post-war marketing and distribution problems, public-works programs, agricultural-industrial relations, disposition of land temporarily used by military forces and war plants, and opportunities for settlers on the land after the war.

Just ahead of the flood waters

High water threatened the levees in Union County, Ill. Two hundred and fifty farm families had to be moved out in haste. About 12,000 farm animals had to be evacuated. E. A. Bierbaum, county agent, took the helm, and his notes, made during the critical time, give some idea of his achievement and of the contribution extension agents made in the whole flooded area. One Army colonel who worked with extension agents in flood relief remarked: "We are trained in organization, and we are able to recognize it when we see it in others. The agents did a wonderful job of keeping ahead of the situation."

■ May 20. Workers were placed on levees, checking for any weaknesses. Each landowner or farm operator in the district was responsible for furnishing two men for this work. They worked in 12-hour shifts. Red Cross local canteen corps furnished sandwiches and coffee for these workers.

■ Sunday, May 23. At 11:40 a. m., the State police felt that evacuation was inevitable.

I telephoned four leaders in Alto Pass, four leaders in Cobden, two leaders in Dongola. I asked each leader to call all farmers on all rural telephone lines and have them, with their trucks (tanks filled with gas) report to me immediately at Ware, Ill., to evacuate the bottoms. I called a farmer keyman on each rural line of the Anna exchange and had him, in turn, call all farmers on his line and ask them also to report.

At 2 p. m. I arrived at Ware, where there were approximately 80 trucks ready to go. More came later, making an estimated total of 125.

Evacuation Directed by Leaders

These trucks were directed to go to key farmers in the six districts of the bottoms and from there were directed to individual farms to evacuate livestock and household goods. As one place was evacuated, the trucks were directed by local leaders in the district to other places. This operation continued until 11:40 p. m., Sunday, when the levee broke. The break was in the Mississippi levee on the west side. Barring other breaks, we figured we could work 18 hours before the water would close our way out to the hills. All trucks were directed to the vicinity of the break, and practically every farm was evacuated at once.

Knowing that two ridges would be the last places under water, farmers not evacuated were directed to drive all livestock to the ridges and be loaded from the Howard Rendleman barn, which had good loading equipment, or to the large

barn on the Ralph Spring farm, which, too, had good loading facilities.

We were in communication with leaders in the hills, who determined where pasture spaces were. Livestock were evacuated to the pasture area indicated. As the water came in and time became short, stock was placed in the nearest pastures on high land and later distributed to other pastures.

■ Monday, May 24. Two additional breaks in the levee at 2 p. m. shortened the time for action in the upper district, where two farms could not be evacuated of livestock. These farm folks placed their hogs in the barn loft and closed them in. By 7 o'clock all except 60 cattle, 300 hogs, and 15 mules at isolated spots had been evacuated. Evacuation continued until 7:30 p. m., when the water closed the road.

Amphibian jeeps from the Ordnance Department of the Army arrived and permitted evacuation of any persons left in the flooded area.

■ May 25. This morning, a complete survey was made. The flooded area was divided into 10 districts, 8 of them in Union County. In each district two jeeps (with crews) were assigned under the leadership of the keyman, who knew every farm in the district he was assigned to, but had no property interest there. These men were told to visit every farm home and (1) evacuate any persons; (2) determine and record the amount and kind of livestock, if any, at each farm; (3) see if household goods had been evacuated, elevated on scaffolds, or were under water.

Reports turned in at 5 p. m. showed all farms in 6 Union County districts completely evacuated. In 1 additional district, 200 hogs were in barn lofts, some men were with work animals in barns and preparing to stay, and 10 cattle were in barn lofts or on the levee. In another district, the report showed that 38 cattle, 40 hogs, and work stock were on farms out of water but soon to be inundated.

■ May 26. I conferred with the sheriff about barges. No barges were idle, but 2 would be available as soon as they could be pushed through breaks in the levee. By noon, one United States barge was in the flooded area, and a second was on the way. At 3 p. m., the first barge was placed in contact with farms having cattle and hogs on land soon to be inundated. The second was sent to the same place. One load was put off on the levee, driven to dry land, and hauled to pasture. The second barge load was taken to the hard road at Dug Hill, unloaded, and taken to pasture. The first barge stuck on the ridge on Rail Road. The second was tied up for the night, and the next morning after all listed stock in the southern area had been evacuated, it was ordered to stand by to help the other barge. Eight mules and 40 hogs were brought out.

■ May 27. Communication with the Coast Guard brought a Coast Guard cutter into the flooded area. It pulled barge No. 1 off the ridge.

In the meantime, a third barge was brought in and sent to the farms in the upper bottoms, where cattle, work stock, and hogs were in barns. These were evacuated to Missouri, as there was no way to get to high land in Union County.

Farm Damage Reported Promptly

■ May 28. All stock except the 200 hogs in barn lofts not accessible by barge, was evacuated by noon today, and the barges and cutter were sent out into the river. (We didn't want any large boats high and dry looking for water if the water went down fast.)

In company with two leaders, Howard Rendleman and Ralph Spring, we surveyed the entire upper bottoms, keeping a log on the trip. I noted how high the water had risen in the house, the barn, and the corncrib; whether buildings had floated away or others had floated in, and any other damage seen. I noted the water level on each side of the levee and the direction and speed of the water at various points, and any land out of water. Farm equipment—tractors, combines, automobiles, and trucks—under water was listed. Livestock found, such as 200 head of hogs in barn lofts with floors of lofts 4 feet above water level, were fed and watered.

The log was typed and a copy placed at Red Cross headquarters, the Farm Bureau office, and in the hands of those accompanying me. One radio period was devoted to broadcasting bits of the log. This was really interesting information for the people "flooded out." Considerable anxiety was avoided, and there was a decided curtailment in de-

mand by farmers for boats to visit their places. Forty pictures were taken during the survey.

After evacuation, it was necessary to find additional pasture space, arrange for emergency feed, and care for evacuees. The American Red Cross was headquarters for all such readjustments.

A conference of all United States agricultural agencies was called. It was decided to have AAA order two cars of feed wheat and issue permits for CCC corn. The Red Cross furnished seed potatoes (one-half bushel to a family), and Federal loan agencies took loan ap-

plications. The theme was to "help the people to help themselves."

Drinking-water was of first consideration. A sanitary engineer was given help by the Illinois Militia in clearing sources of drinking water and making privies sanitary. Leaders from each district were designated to assist the militiamen in locating farms. (As the water went up again, this help had to be given once more.)

To date, we have no record, actual or verbal, of any human or livestock losses except a small number of chickens unaccounted for.

Where flood and tornado hit

Illinois and Texas home demonstration agents prove the value of their trained canteen groups when disaster strikes their counties.

■ Jackson County, Ill., was in the flood area. Families had to be evacuated and fed. Miss Jeannette Dean, home-demonstration agent, was on the job; and within a few hours after the call went out, mobile and stationary canteens were set up, supplies obtained, and workers assembled. The Red Cross had confidence in Miss Dean and placed her in charge of all feeding in the county. Canteens were set up in a church in Murphysboro and at a CCC camp mess hall. Food was sent to those marooned, to the Army men guarding the area, and to civilians doing rescue work. Several hundred refugees were fed daily.

Trained Women Prepare Food

Women trained in canteen work, home-bureau members, and various church groups were responsible for preparation of the food. After the area was taken over by the Army, Miss Dean continued to purchase the food at its request.

Refugees housed in churches and homes who had no resources and no kitchen facilities were fed at the canteen opened in the Methodist Church by Miss Donovan Hester, home demonstration agent for Menard and Cass Counties. Miss Mary McKee of the State extension staff, and Mrs. R. B. Roher, past county home-bureau chairman for Menard and Cass Counties, assisted in supervising the canteen. The canteens were operated for 13 days, a total of 4,634 meals being served to refugees and 444 to helpers. Civilian-defense chairmen and high-school teachers were helpfully cooperative in both the housing and feeding.

In Greene County, Lucile Hieser,

home demonstration agent, was requested by the Red Cross to take charge of the canteen work. The canteen was kept open 24 hours a day, and more than 200 meals were served daily to levee workers, Army men, and civilians doing rescue work.

Miss Eureath Freyermuth, agent in Morgan County, and Miss Mary K. Hardesty, county canteen chairman, organized two canteens. One was formed at Jacksonville High School with the assistance of members of two canteen classes, volunteer workers from nutrition classes, and the women's civilian defense division. The second canteen was organized in Meredosia where, through the aid of local women, the soldiers guarding the levees were fed.

In Union County, when Agent E. A. Bierbaum called on district leaders to have trucks in readiness, Mrs. Bierbaum summoned her three canteen groups for a practice demonstration. Equipment was assembled in one of the churches, supplies were obtained, and the canteen was in operation night and day supplying food for the evacuation workers.

After the Tornado

After the tornado had struck San Augustine County, Tex., Annie Mae McMullan, county home demonstration agent, found plenty for her group of trained canteen workers to do. Soldiers and units of the Defense Guard took charge of the town, but food was unobtainable at any of the cafes. The county home demonstration agent was asked to take charge of canteen units, which were necessary to supply food for these workers. She learned of this need at 10 o'clock the morning after the tornado,

and by 1 p. m. had set up units at 2 of the churches and served lunch to 250 people.

Members of the nutrition course taught previously by the agent were the first to offer their assistance. They brought with them cookers, gas burners, large cooking utensils, dish towels, and other necessary equipment. Many other volunteers offered their services also, and the 2 groups were quickly organized. The chairman of the local Office of Price Administration issued a blanket order for the county home demonstration agent to buy all foods necessary. This order was also sanctioned by the chairman of the Red Cross. Two meals were served at the 2 units on Saturday and 1 at 1 unit on Sunday, making a total of 5 meals served to approximately 525 people.

A bread company sent in all the bread needed, not only for these meals but to supply civilians who did not have a supply on hand when the storm came. This was very helpful, for no food stores were open and many of the homes had no electricity, water, or gas.

Some of the local stores were generous enough to donate foods such as meat, lettuce, tomatoes, and celery.

Soldiers Enjoy Well-Balanced Meal

The first meal included foods that could be quickly prepared, such as soup, Irish stew, beans, fruit, bread, and coffee. The last meal prepared was well balanced and the soldiers enjoyed it immensely. The fare consisted of steak, gravy, English peas, Irish potatoes, combination salad (lettuce, tomatoes, and celery), peaches, gingerbread, and coffee. Some of these foods were prepared at homes, where there were utilities, and brought to the unit ready to serve. One of the meals had to be served by candlelight as there was no electricity.

People's response in helping these units was excellent, and the canteen workers felt that their efforts were well spent.

■ The Chatham County, Ga., Master 4-H Club, the first to be organized in the State, now has 34 members. This club has established a fund to supply a baby spoon to each baby born to a county Master 4-H'er. Four such spoons have already been given.

■ A total of 275 boys and girls in Salt Lake County, Utah, worked in organized beet-thinning crews, earning more than \$6,000. These youths helped 54 different farmers by thinning 650 acres of beets. In meeting requests of sugar-beet growers for workers, 1,197 placements were made.

4-H Clubs find war work to do

■ Since Pearl Harbor, club enrollment has steadily increased, with 40,000 more club members enrolled in 1942 than in 1941. This year's figures already indicate an even larger increase—in fact, it looks as though the 1943 enrollment would be well over 1,500,000.

This has meant hard work all along the line. Maine set its goal at 20,000 members in food production and conservation projects, and on June 1 had exceeded that goal by 440. This is three times the enrollment in pre-war years. Rhode Island and Vermont made an equally good record, while a number of other States, including New York, Kentucky, and North Carolina, have more than doubled their enrollment.

War needs called for a revision of many 4-H projects during the past year. One of the signs of the times is a shift to food production, indicated in the "Feed a fighter" theme of 1943 mobilization in many States.

Their contribution to the total food supply will be substantial. The 4-H Club boys of Dallas County, Iowa, for example, plan to produce more than 85,000 pounds of pork and beef this year, according to reports gathered by Wayne Fritz, county extension associate in youth activities.

In Kentucky, poultry-for-Victory groups have been organized in 4-H Clubs in Harlan County. The Cumberland club with 214 members, is raising 4,900 chicks, and 86 club members at Loyall are raising 4,500. Men's service clubs in the county are sponsoring 108 poultry projects. One thousand hogs ready for market in September or October is the aim of 4-H Club members of Logan County.

Texas 4-H Club boys have answered their country's call and are really in the front lines of the battle to increase our meat supply. They are now feeding for mass production. Commercial practices are being followed that make it possible for a boy to feed several calves, when formerly he may have fed-out two or three.

These boys are also making group shipments to market. To make a good shipment, the boys from a county pool their livestock. Since February, eight counties have included calves in their shipments for a total of 218 head. Milam County made the largest shipment, 38 calves, which sold for \$5,360.24.

George Smith, of Cochran County, fed 70 steers weighing 63,000 pounds. That's a man-size job—and meat enough to feed 50 soldiers for 1 year. Drew Word, from Gray County, sold 10,487 pounds of beef.

Over in east Texas, A. T. Smith, Jr., of Navarro County, sold 42 steers which weighed 43,302 pounds. Out in Concho County, Dale Malechek sold 19 steers whose total weight was 13,095 pounds. In Castro County, 12-year-old Buddy Hill produced 11,970 pounds of beef and Rodney Smith produced 7,760 pounds. Both are members of the Hart 4-H Club. These are only a few of the beef-calf boys who are doing their part on the home front.

The 14,000 4-H Club members of Puerto Rico have food production as their main contribution to the war effort.

Among the wartime production projects is one which José Angel González, 4-H Club member in the José G. Padilla Club of Yeguada in the Vega Baja district, has named his Victory Broiler Unit.

Completing his first batch of baby chicks in December 1942, he sold 424 pounds of broilers to Uncle Sam's armed forces and to his neighbors, thus alleviating the meat situation in his com-

munity with his maximum output in as short a time as 6 months.

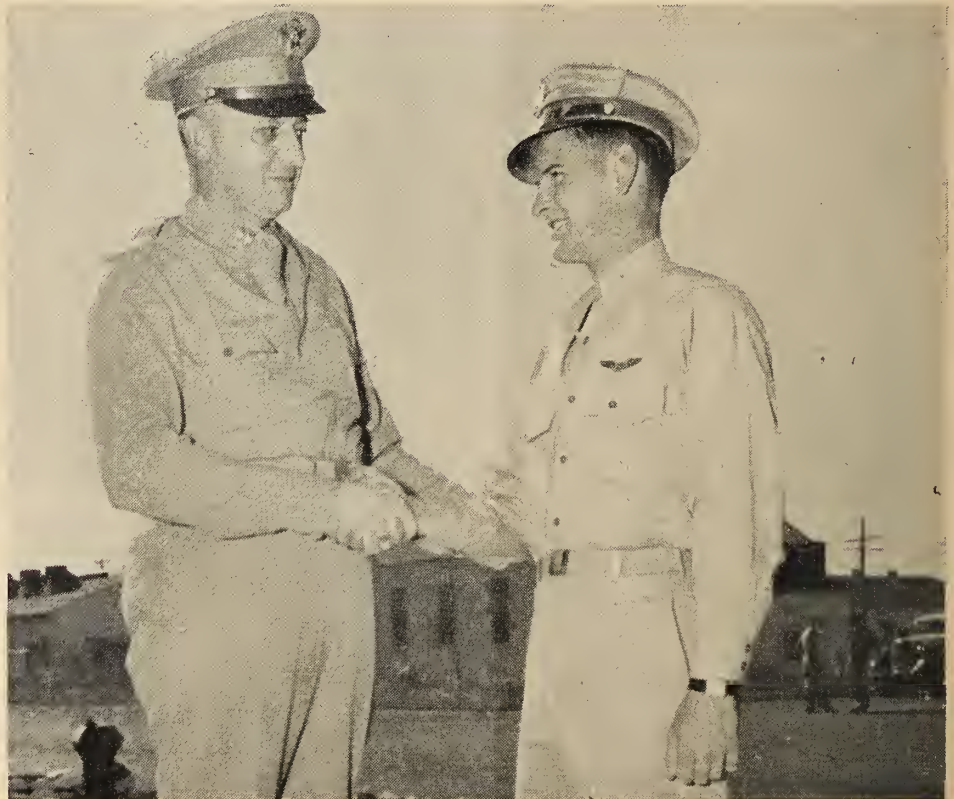
During 5 years, José Angel has completed seven projects. Last year he started on poultry work with a \$100 loan granted by the Farm Security Administration and \$297 earned in other club projects.

Under the direction of his county agent, González built a broiler unit with capacity for 1,000 birds and two 4-tier coops with a capacity for 200 2-pound broilers. Necessary equipment, such as brooders, feeders, and waterers, was purchased on a priority basis.

José Angel says: "It will be 1 full year before I am in the fighting lines. Meanwhile, I'll produce enough broilers to keep some of our boys strong and healthy for a while. I'll keep fighting on the home front until it's time to join the battle front."

Not only do 4-H Club boys and girls work on their own projects and help their parents, but they apply the good-neighbor policy by helping other farmers, and thus contribute to the Nation's food and feed supply. In Grainger County, Tenn., when Farmer Booker Harris be-

"If you are half as good a pilot as you were a pig raiser, you're a wonder," says Capt. Richard C. Kuehner, former county club agent of Lane County, Oreg., to Second Lt. Jim Ed. Duncan, who had been a 4-H Club member and was recently graduated from the Luke Field Advanced Flying School, where he received both his wings and commission. Captain Kuehner is secretary of the Luke Field School now, but in the 15 years before the war he developed many national 4-H Club champions and was head of the "Keep Oregon green" fire-prevention campaign described in the September 1942 REVIEW.



came ill in mid-June, 4-H members agreed to meet on his farm and work-out his crop. On the appointed day, they brought hoes, plows, and work stock and put everything in shipshape order.

In Illinois, the goal that 4-H Club members have for home-grown and home-preserved produce this year is 300,000 containers as compared to 117,723 filled a year ago. Probably 100 percent of the Illinois members have Victory Gardens. Club members also expect to produce tons of beef, pork, and butter, and many dozen eggs this year.

In Michigan, where more than 55,000 boys and girls are active in 4-H Clubs, emphasis is placed on food production. Teams are being trained in every county of the State to demonstrate canning, food preservation, and vegetable storage. In the country as a whole, over 300,000 4-H Club members report they have given demonstrations before groups of farm people on practices that are essential to the food conservation program.

In addition to producing food for fighters, 4-H Club members have distinguished themselves in collecting scrap and selling war bonds. Over 300,000,000 pounds of scrap are estimated to have been collected, and over \$15,000,000 worth of war bonds either purchased or sold by 4-H Club members this year.

Where location and circumstances permit, Larimer County, Colo., 4-H Clubs have been doing a "bang-up" job of collecting and delivering scrap. Members are following a plan of "Clean up your own back yard first and then tackle your neighbor's," with the neighbor's permission, of course.

This effort is not a frenzied 1- or 2-day drive. It is a cumulative endeavor which is planned to last throughout the war. Each club member starts a scrap heap on his own place. As he runs across material that has nothing but salvage value, he tosses it into his ever-growing scrap pile. Just before each club meeting, he makes an estimate of the amount of scrap he has assembled. This figure and a description of the type of his salvage material he gives to his club secretary. The secretary records the estimate opposite the member's name. When the secretary reports that the members have collected a pick-up, or truckload, several boys, and sometimes girls too, get together, go around the club territory, pick up the scrap, haul it to town, and sell it.

Several clubs on a day after a rain, when it is impossible to work in the fields, have dismantled old combines or other machines donated by some neighbor. The boys living in the foothill regions have collected a great deal of valuable scrap, abandoned years ago in fence corners, on hillsides, and along streams.

In addition to the regular 4-H projects club members of Bernalillo County, N. Mex., were carrying, these 1,300 boys and girls decided to enlarge their sphere of action.

Club members, under the direction of Cecil Pragnell, county agricultural agent; Mrs. Maude Doty, home demonstration agent; and local leaders, donated various 4-H Club articles which were auctioned off in conjunction with war bonds at the sale. The highest bidder on each article received not only the article in question but a war bond. The 4-H Club members received no profit whatever from the sale.

Different service clubs and businessmen in Albuquerque helped with the

details of the sale and in buying bonds.

Preceding the sale, a 4-H Club parade, consisting of 21 wagons, carts, and trucks, passed through the business district of Albuquerque. These vehicles were loaded with articles donated for the sale and were all appropriately decorated with 4-H Club flags and colors. Approximately 700 Bernalillo County club members attended, riding on the wagons, on bicycles, or on horseback.

The 104 articles auctioned off included calves, pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks, eggs, vegetables, baked goods, fruit, and a number of miscellaneous articles.

Results showed that \$35,400 worth of war bonds were sold, and the bids varied from \$10 to \$11,500.

Rats tell the story of why a good school lunch

MYRTLE CARTER, Home Demonstration Agent, Umatilla County, Oreg.

■ Advertisers have long known that when a store window displays anything alive, such as small animals or pets, it will attract more attention than practically any other kind of display.

We made use of this fact in the fall of 1942 in providing an interesting object lesson on the value of proper nutrition for growing children, particularly as it applies to school lunches. The basis of the display was three pairs of white rats obtained from Oregon State College.

These rats were separated, so that for 3 weeks before being placed on exhibit three were fed a poor but all too popular cold lunch, while the other three were given exactly the same amount of lunch well balanced nutritionally. The daily diet of one group consisted of a sandwich of jelly on nonenriched white bread, a small cookie, a slice of fresh apple, and 1 ounce of a cola drink. The daily diet of the other rats consisted of a sandwich of peanut-butter on 100-percent whole-wheat bread, a small cookie, a slice of fresh apple, and 1 ounce of fresh, whole milk.

At the end of 3 weeks, one rat from each group was placed in a store or newspaper window in towns in three sections of the county. The rats receiving the diet of nonenriched white bread and the "coke" were jumpy and irritable and showed almost no growth, while those receiving whole-wheat bread and milk made rapid gains in weight and displayed no signs of nervousness.

To add to the value of the demonstration, two pairs of the rats were lent

to the home-economics department of the Pendleton Junior and Senior High Schools before being placed on display. In this way, the girls could watch the daily changes in the animals on the growth charts and see even more clearly the effects of the two diets.

The art department of the Pendleton High School prepared large background charts explaining the rat stories, which were placed in each of the windows. Local merchants cooperated wholeheartedly, keeping the display in place for a full week. Newspaper and radio explanations called attention to the displays and told where they could be found.

An estimated 4,500 persons saw the rat demonstrations. Large numbers who had given little thought to the real value of a balanced diet were impressed by this concrete object lesson with the necessity for seeing that the right food was eaten, not only in lunches but also in regular meals.

After the rats had served their purpose as window exhibits, they were sent around in cages to various other schools and organizations throughout the county. It was explained that the same results appearing so quickly in the rats would take place in human beings under similar conditions, although the results of a poor diet would show more slowly.

As a result of this demonstration, many a mother reported to us that she was giving more attention to school lunches than ever before and that "Johnny, after seeing the white rats, is now drinking his milk."

"Sure, we'll use Peddie boys again"

New Jersey Private School Has a Victory Farm Volunteer Corps That Spreads Satisfaction.

■ Scattered throughout New Jersey are farmers who swear they'll never have another high school boy on the place as long as they live. And they feel they have good and sufficient reason for that attitude.

Farmers around Peddie School in Central Jersey feel differently about it. Take Kelsey Booth, for example. Booth is a general farmer who milks a herd of cows, keeps a few chickens, and last year had 35 acres of white potatoes, 30 of soybeans, 25 of rye, 12 of corn, 10 of hay, and 12 of wheat—a total of about 124 acres in cultivation. Victor Booth, an only son, was in the Army. Here's Booth's story as told to Frank Knowles, extension economist:

"When Peddie came along with its offer to let some of its boys help us farmers, I jumped at it. I always liked boys anyway; and when I learned that these lads from Peddie were to be led by one of their teachers, I was perfectly willing to sign up for a dozen to 15 boys. I figured that these boys—they were about 14 to 17 years of age—could be taught to do the work of the 6 or 7 adults I needed.

"The boys were green as grass at farm work when they first came here. Every one of them was city-raised. Some were sons of lawyers and other professional men, and they had never done anything like farm work. One boy even had a chauffeur and somebody else to look after him, but he and all the others were made to feel that they were helping to win the war by working for me. That's what their leader, the English teacher at Peddie, and I kept in front of them all the time.

"I never saw a man who could handle boys as that teacher did. He was with them every minute during the whole summer, and I never heard him holler at them once. He played with them, worked with them. He settled their arguments and differences fairly but firmly. The boys thought the world of him, and I soon saw that it was best for me and for the boys to work through their leader. Of course I tried to be nice to them. That's one of the secrets of working with boys—be friendly and treat them as well as you would your own boy.

"These boys were keen, and they had a million questions every day. Some of them sounded a bit funny at times, but

I made up my mind I was going to answer every question they asked me, if I knew the answer.

"We potato growers ought to be thankful that Peddie is organizing a program to let some of its boys work on farms again this year. It helps us farmers, helps the Nation to get needed food, helps the boys, too. I'll bet those boys who worked on farms last summer will never forget the experience. It was healthful for them, too. At first hardly one of them could lift a 100-pound bag of potatoes. Before the season was over, every one of them could toss a bag of potatoes almost anywhere he needed to. And when we saved the soybeans—boy! They were seasoned veterans and did a fine job.

"These city boys who work on farms take away with them an appreciation of what farming is, and that's something to chalk up in favor of farming and the farmer's problems.

"Mrs. Booth and I gave the boys a

pint of milk apiece every day to have with the lunches they brought with them from Peddie. Sometimes Mrs. Booth would make them a big pot of soup. And one night I got about 200 ears of good sweet corn ready, and they had a corn roast right out in the yard. Well, sir, I never saw anything like it. About 15 boys ate so much of that corn you could almost see it running out of their ears! They won't forget that roast as long as they live.

"And that brings us to some large 'don'ts.' Don't expect a boy to do a man's job. Don't expect town or city boys to do farm work without being shown how. Don't put boys at any job without an adult leader or supervisor whom they respect. Don't keep boys at the same job too long; vary the work. Don't fail to try to answer their questions, even if some of them sound silly. And don't be hard on the boys. Handle them as you would your own, and give them a treat once in a while.

"Yes, I'm going to use boys from Peddie this year. I've got more potatoes—45 acres now—and other crops they can help to harvest. The Army has given my son, Victor, an honorable discharge to help run this 160-acre farm. We're producing food for Victory—food Peddie boys are going to help harvest."

Success of the Peddie School Victory

Boys from the Peddie School, supervised by their own teachers, made a good record for themselves as pickers in the central Jersey bean fields.



Farm Volunteer Unit was not an accident. Peddie School is a famous old boys' preparatory school, and the authorities know how to handle teenagers. Don Rich, who supervises the farm labor project, is a member of the school staff, and he works hand in hand with the farm labor committees of the boards of agriculture in Middlesex, Mercer, and Monmouth Counties—the counties where the boys do their farm work. He has a special advisory committee composed of the three county agents and J. C. Taylor, State supervisor of emergency farm labor for the Extension Service.

This year the VFV unit numbered 110 to 115 boys throughout the season, which began June 14 and was scheduled to run through Labor Day. Boys were admitted on application from their parents, applications being accompanied by a \$5 registration fee. The minimum age is 14 years. Boys are charged a dollar a day for board and \$4 a week for room, which includes laundry services. They have the use of recreational facilities at the school—swimming pool, billiard and ping-pong tables, tennis courts, reading lounge, and ball diamonds.

The day begins at 6:15 a. m., when the boys are jarred out of sleep by a gong. They dress, make their beds, and are in place at the breakfast table by 6:30. Breakfast is substantial, including fruit, eggs, cereal with cream, and plenty of milk. Then the boys fill their lunch boxes and run for the "gym" where they change into their work clothes, load onto trucks, and go to the fields at 7.

They get back about 5 or 5:30 p. m., get out of their sweaty clothes, duck under the showers and take a refreshing swim, then into their clean clothes for dinner at 5:45. No dowdiness at the table, either. Coats on, if you please, and hair neatly combed. No loud talking. And when the bell rings for an announcement, immediate and profound silence results. The boys aren't suppressed, but they have been taught discipline.

Dinner is an ample, well-cooked meal at Peddie School, and well planned from a dietary standpoint. Service is simplified by having the boys take turns waiting on table.

After dinner the boys play games, write letters, or go to the show. The "bank" is open at that time so that boys can deposit their earnings in a safe place. All must be in their rooms by 9:15 with lights out at 9:30.

When they're in the fields the boys are closely supervised. Rich refuses to put out groups of more than 8 or 10 boys on a farm without a field supervisor approved by the school. The school staff consists of Rich, a farm supervisor who looks after placement of the boys on

farms and whose job it is to keep them all busy, an assistant supervisor, a nurse, and 5 field supervisors who also serve as hall masters at night.

The boys are not getting rich, but those who work hard will come out at the end of the season with a nice "chunk" of spending money. And most of them are working hard. Those who soldier or cause trouble are weeded out in a hurry. A long waiting list of boys eager to get into the unit has enabled Rich to send the undesirables home and replace them with others. This knowledge, that they'll go out on the next train if they don't live up to the rules, has been a big factor in maintaining discipline.

The boys have been handling all kinds of farm work. Four of them work at the Hightstown Cooperative Auction Market, hustling eggs and produce around; several at a large dairy farm.

Working instead of waiting

■ Salt Lake County, Utah, is now in the heart of an industrial area where numerous opportunities beckon to farmers to leave their fields and corrals and join the ranks of industrial plants. County Agent Martineau knew this long before the 300 pea growers in his county received their orders to cut this necessary war crop. Furthermore, he did something about preparing for the day when viners would have to be manned to shell the peas from the pods—and manpower is exceedingly scarce. He called in Joseph E. Blake of Bennion, chairman of the county farm labor committee, and the organization meetings were under way. These men reported 100 percent cooperation among the growers approached, or a sign-up of more than 200.

Here's the Martineau plan, and here's how it worked: The 200 growers were organized into 8 groups. Each group promised to work 9-hour shifts at the viners when the peas were ready to be harvested. This would enable the farmer-operated viners to run 18 hours a day, and each group would be allowed about half a day to get its peas cut and hauled to the viners. The canning companies that owned the machinery and equipment for caring for the peas consented to pay each farmer 70 cents an hour for all the time he put in at the viner. That meant the farmers could collect pay for the time they ordinarily would wait for their turn at unloading. It also meant that the loads were rushed through more rapidly, thus assuring the

They have made hay, shocked wheat, driven tractors, picked beans, tomatoes, and potatoes, harvested fruit, and everywhere their record is good. It's true, however, that they do better on jobs giving them a variety of work than on monotonous occupations such as picking beans. If you've picked beans all day in a hot field, you won't blame the boys for preferring general farm work.

Sundays were somewhat slack, so Rich and his supervisors got 100 families in Hightstown, where the school is located, to agree to "adopt" a boy. As a result, boys who aren't working on Sundays are invited to eat with the families.

Experience with the Peddie School project has convinced J. C. Taylor, supervisor of emergency farm labor, that a boys' prep school is an ideal place for Victory Farm Volunteer units.

farmers the best grades for their peas. The farmers were intensely interested in good grades, because good grades mean more dollars a ton. Shelled peas are graded on the basis of a tenderometer test; and the quicker they are shelled after being cut, the better they rate. More interest also was taken in the grading, because farmers were there to check from time to time.

Mr. Martineau has figured that during the pea harvest the 200 growers who subscribed to his plan put in 2,250 man-days for an extra income of \$14,175; and that amount does not include any part of the extra pay they received for their better grades of peas, which resulted from more expeditious handling of this perishable crop.

In the preliminary process of taking care of the peas, the farmers did all the work except grading and managing the viners. They were paid for the time they put in after they arrived at the unloading stations, except when they were assigned to do the stacking of the vines; but the vines will go back to the farmers, so they couldn't expect the company to pay for this phase of the processing. Vines, which run about 3 tons to 1 ton of shelled peas, are used for livestock feed. Because of the apparent feed shortage in Utah this coming winter, the growers took extra pains to see that all vines were saved.

This is one example of how farmers are meeting their labor problems—just another application of the little-red-hen philosophy.



Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll of honor continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces.

Agriculture in Africa

I had always thought this a rocky, rough, and barren country, but I have seen some beautiful scenery in my travels through the northern part of Africa. It is very green and well covered with vegetation and is a fertile land. However, vineyards, fig and olive orchards, poppies, native grass, a variety of wheat, and a little wild hay are all the crops I've seen. It is surprising what can be done with crude tools of cultivation. I've seen worse cultivated fields with modern equipment in the States.

The sheep, chickens, and other stock graze up to the doorstep, if they live in the country, and are fed outside the doorstep if in a village. It's not uncommon to see a big, husky Arab driving his burro to and from the village. The burro is about the size of a big collie dog and loaded with three times its own weight. They just plod along; and if the Arab wants to stop the burro, he pulls back on the burro's tail. Or if he wants to turn, he goes ahead and turns the burro's head in the direction desired.—*Joe Davis, formerly 4-H Club agent, Iowa County, Iowa.*

Traveling the South Pacific

I am an extension traveler by this time. There is little of the South Pacific that I haven't been on and looked over from the air or from the water. And then I have also made some extension studies of some other regions. All in all, I have done diplomatic, economic, military, and professional work in this entire area. Aside from being in the war program near this great combat area, I have been doing some work that

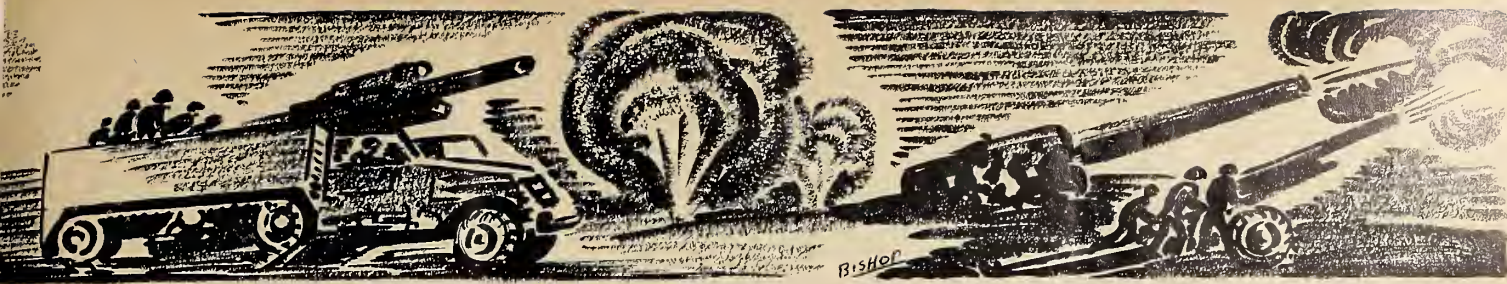
will contribute to the welfare of these people in the post-war era, which we hope will be a better one. If ever I get home again and peace is secure, I feel that my background and my new experience in international approach to problems should make a more valuable extension man out of me.

A fellow naturally wonders if he is missed. Will he ever be wanted again? What will the future hold? Not that I am worrying; it is just the reality of the situation I am looking at. Maybe it was good for the Extension Service to get rid of me. They will have a chance to see if it clicks better in New Jersey without me. If so, it is better that we both know it. In the meantime, I am working hard to be a good naval lieutenant which, as you well know, requires that a fellow know a lot, especially an officer of the line.

The South Pacific in war is not pacific, and it isn't what the movies paint it to be. But, in the panorama of nature at her best, this is a show one long remembers—the brightness of the southern polar skies, the Southern Cross, winter in our own summer months, tropical vegetation, the lines of demarcation between temperate and tropical vegetation, flora and fauna that are queer, and the color of the skies.—*Francis A. Raymaley, formerly county agent, Cumberland County, N. J.*

From the Far North

I have a couple of brotherly volcanoes nearby to keep me company, and as they puff away I am reminded how short is a lifetime and how minute a man. But your letter reminds me that you and the rest of the "boys" must be work-



ing hard o'nights to keep ahead of your job. The lapses of the meat, milk, and many other items on conventional menus tell me what a job you have in keeping us and the wolf apart, with us on the outside. But most of the time we have plenty of food and warm clothing. Otherwise, we should perish before we finish our job. There are so many threads, and even shreds, to this fabric of civilization we are striving to retain by war that many of us know little of what is going on elsewhere. The intensity of our own bit under the conditions we work just about uses up all that is within us. I find a hopeful attitude among those about me, and that is a great incentive to drive ahead. I have been elevated for the time being in job as commander but have not received the promotion that goes with it. But it is the job that interests me rather than recognition. That does not increase my abilities or intelligence a whit.—*John Peterson, assistant farm adviser in Sacramento County, Calif., from 1934 until he entered military service in August 1941.*

Extension Helps in the Army

In January they picked their men for special jobs. Major Topping of West Virginia interviewed me. When I informed him that I had previously worked for the Extension Service, he asked if I worked with 4-H. Of course I said "Yes." Well, the rest of the interview consisted of his telling me what a fine thing 4-H was, the great work it was accomplishing in West Virginia, and that it should be encouraged, for the training received was invaluable for future life. He was well posted on 4-H, too.

I'm still not sure whether it was I or my 4-H background that got me the job.

I miss Extension and all the gang. I've found that the training and background derived from Extension definitely prove beneficial in Army work. The ability to work with people, the knowledge of how to plan your work ahead in an efficient manner, as well as many other things, all tend to make one's Army life a lot easier.—*Arthur B. Dobbas, formerly assistant agent, Yuba County, Calif.*

The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

LOUISIANA

Lt. C. J. Arceneaux, Army.
 Ens. B. O. Berry, Navy.
 Beatrice Broussard, WAC.
 Lt. J. D. Carter, Army.
 Lt. Walter D. Curtis, Army.
 Capt. C. W. Davis, Army.
 Pvt. Basil Doles, Army.
 Pvt. Woodrow W. Downs, Army.
 Sgt. E. Alva Edwards, Army.
 William Guidry, Navy.
 Rosabelle Guillory, WAC.
 O. C. Guiton (col.), Army.
 Lt. C. L. Hill, Army.
 Lt. Edgar J. Hitzman, Army.
 Capt. J. B. Holton, Army.
 John E. Jones, Army.
 Lt. A. G. Killgore, Army.
 Pvt. Charles Knight, Army.
 Pvt. Donald Lindee, Army.
 Lt. E. R. McCrory, Army.
 Lt. W. S. McGregor, Army.
 Lt. A. S. McKean, Army.
 Joe Mixon, Army.
 Lt. A. P. Parham, Army.
 Emmett L. Peterson, Army.
 Lt. Col. R. V. St. Dizier, Army.
 W. P. Sellers, Army.
 Lt. A. K. Smith, Jr., Army.
 Capt. N. E. Thames, Army.
 Corp. Tech. Murphy Veillon, Army.
 Fannie Ree Vernon, WAC.
 E. A. Woodard, Army.

MICHIGAN

Kenneth Anderson, 4-H Club agent, Army.
 Pvt. John Doneth, farm management specialist, Army.
 Capt. Earl Haas, 4-H Club Agent, Army.
 1st Lt. John Moilanen, county agricultural agent, Army.
 Carl Moore, 4-H Club agent, Army.
 Maj. Nevells Pearson, asst. State club leader, Army.
 Pvt. (1st cl.) Fred Roth, specialist, agricultural engineering, Army.
 Ens. Roy Skog, specialist in forestry, Navy.
 Capt. Howard Zindel, 4-H Club agent, Army.
 Ensign Ray J. Stanley, radio program supervisor, Navy.

Two other Michigan men are engaged in work recognized by the Army as very essential: Raymond Klackle, formerly district agent in the Detroit area in charge of vegetable work, is with the Firestone Rubber Co. in Liberia; and T. C. Stebbins, specialist in horticulture, is superintendent of a rubber plantation in Haiti.

MINNESOTA

Pvt. Edward Aiton, assistant State 4-H Club leader, Army.
 Pvt. Ben Dietz, assistant agricultural agent, Army.
 Lt. Col. Robert M. Douglass, district county agent leader, Army.
 Pvt. Kenneth Hanks, agricultural agent, Army.
 Pvt. Allan M. Hoff, agricultural agent, Army.
 Corp. Burton Krietlow, assistant agricultural agent, Army.
 2d Lt. R. E. McMillen, agricultural agent, Army.
 Ens. Ellen L. Moline, home demonstration agent, WAVE.
 2d Lt. Frank Svoboda, agricultural agent, Army.
 Pfc. Harold Swanson, assistant editor, Army.
 Corp. Fred J. Taylor, agricultural agent, Army.
 Sgt. Harry C. Tooley, county club agent, Army.
 2d Lt. Erwin J. Wamhoff, county club agent, Army.

MONTANA

Lambert Hruska, acting agent in Yellowstone County, Army.
 George Loomis, assistant agent, Army.
 Jack Maguire, extension agent for Madison and Jefferson Counties, Army.
 Carl B. Peters, assistant agent, Navy.
 Carl A. Peterson, assistant agent in land use planning, Army.
 Robert F. Rasmussen, Sheridan County agent, Navy.
 Robert Rorvig, assistant agent, Army.
 William D. Ross, Stillwater County agent, Army.
 Maurice H. Zimmerman, Garfield County agent, Navy.

NEW JERSEY

Ens. Spurgeon K. Benjamin, district club agent, Cumberland and Cape May Counties, Army.

2d Lt. Benjamin C. Blackburn, extension specialist in landscape gardening, Army.

Lt. Thomas J. Blanchet, club agent, Warren County, Marines.

Pvt. Joseph R. Kenny, club agent, Middlesex County, Army.

Lt. Mary L. Race, assistant home demonstration agent, Mercer County, WAC.

Lt. Francis A. Raymaley, county agricultural agent, Cumberland County, Navy.

1st Lt. Edgar T. Savidge, Jr., club agent, Salem County, Army.

NEW MEXICO

Sgt. A. G. Apodaca, county agent, San Miguel County, Army.

1st Lt. Leonard Appleton, extension economist, Army.

1st Lt. S. S. Baker, county agent, San Miguel County, Army.

Ens. Howard Ball, extension soil conservationist, Navy.

Capt. G. L. Boykin, county agent leader, Army.

Mdn. S. L. Brock V7, livestock specialist, Navy.

Lt. Col. R. H. Buvens, extension soil conservationist, Army.

Capt. G. R. Hatch, State club leader, Army.

Lt. Thomas G. Jones, student assistant, bulletin room, Army.

Lt. N. C. Long, student assistant, bulletin room, Marines.

1st Lt. P. M. McGuire, asso. extension editor, Army.

Pfc. T. W. Merrill, extension economist, Army.

Ens. Craig C. Nicklas, county agent, De Baca County, Navy.

S. E. Stone, county agent, Harding County, Army.

1st Lt. C. P. Wayne, extension agronomist, Army.

Capt. Frank L. Wayne, county agent, Bernalillo County, Army.

NORTH CAROLINA

H. E. Alphin, Nash County agent.

R. R. Bennett, Pitt County agent.

W. Flake Bowles, assistant agent, Watauga County.

R. G. Broaddus, agricultural engineering specialist, Raleigh.

T. L. Brown, assistant agent, Pasquotank County.

Paul Choplin, Dare County agent.

H. L. Cook, assistant agent, Nash County.

Plese Corbett, Negro county agent, Alamance County.

W. A. Corpening, Haywood County agent.

F. E. Correll, assistant agent, Graham County.

P. M. Cos, assistant agent, Craven County.

H. H. Cummings, assistant agent, Robeson County.

Oscar W. Deyton, assistant agent, Wilson County.

S. H. Dobson, assistant agent, Polk County.

J. I. Eagles, assistant agent, Martin County.

Clarence Early, assistant agent, Anson County.

J. C. Ferguson, agricultural engineering specialist, Raleigh.

Paul P. Fish, assistant agent, Swain County.

John W. Fox, assistant editor, Raleigh.

O. R. Freeman, assistant agent, Lenoir County.

J. W. Green, specialist in land use planning, Raleigh.

W. A. Hash, assistant agent, Chatham County.

J. L. Heffner, assistant agent, Transylvania County.

W. A. Hylton, assistant agent, Guilford County.

D. E. Jones, agricultural engineering specialist, Raleigh.

J. C. Keith, assistant agent, Wake County.

W. H. Kimrey, assistant agent, Davie County.

J. C. King, assistant agent, Caswell County.

Eugene S. Knight, assistant editor, Raleigh.

S. B. Lacey, Jr., assistant agent, Graham County.

Margaret Lawhorne, home demonstration agent, Alleghany County.

Lester B. Laws, assistant agent, Cumberland County.

J. C. Lynn, district agent, Asheville.

George R. McColl, assistant agent, Catawba County.

E. H. Meacham, soil conservation specialist, Raleigh.

N. B. Nicholson, assistant agent, Alamance County.

W. J. Page, assistant agent, Caswell County.

Joe H. Palmer, assistant agent, Madison County.

D. L. Paschal, assistant agent, Haywood County.

J. W. Pou, assistant agent, Iredell County.

Jack Price, assistant agent, Iredell County.

Anne Priest, home demonstration agent, Lincoln County.

W. H. Pruden, assistant agent, Montgomery County.

H. D. Quessenberry, assistant agent, Ashe County.

C. B. Ratchford, farm management specialist, Raleigh.

F. W. Reams, assistant agent, Halifax County.

D. T. Redfern, assistant agent, Iredell County.

T. L. Reeves, assistant agent, Guilford County.

John L. Reitzel, assistant agent, Haywood County.

Joe B. Richardson, specialist in agricultural engineering, Raleigh.

J. T. Richardson, assistant agent, Vance County.

J. O. Rowell, specialist in entomology, Raleigh.

Maud K. Schaub, map planning specialist, Raleigh.

H. G. Snipes, assistant agent, Northampton County.

A. W. Soleman, Negro county agent, Bladen County.

L. M. Stanton, assistant agent, Nash County.

Mary Blanche Strickland, home demonstration agent, Tyrrell County.

C. D. Thomas, farm management specialist, Raleigh.

L. E. Thornton, assistant agent, Cleveland County.

L. W. Troxler, assistant agent, Stanly County.

V. G. Watkins, assistant agent, Durham County.

J. W. Webster, assistant agent, Lincoln County.

G. H. Wheeler, county agent (relocation work), Clay County.

S. L. Williams, assistant in animal husbandry (beef cattle), Raleigh.

W. F. Wilson, assistant agent, Rockingham County.

W. N. Wood, Rowan county agent.

(Continued next month)

■ D. W. LEE, Arkansas Negro movable-school agent, succumbed to a heart attack on June 29. Lee's sudden death brought to an end 12 years of service to his people, first as county agent in Jefferson County and then as movable-school agent. He worked faithfully and diligently to help Arkansas Negro farm families.

■ J. V. WEBB, until recently with the Soil Conservation Service at Spartanburg, S. C., has been appointed to a liaison position as Extension-SCS conservationist and will work in the Southern States, i. e., Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. This liaison position is the one formerly held by Glenn E. Riddell, who is now a major in the United States Army.

The crop was harvested

An early start plus organization recruits 500 farm workers in Falmouth, Mass.

■ For many years the residents of the small village of Falmouth, Mass., between 4 and 5 thousand population, have been more interested in the trade of summer visitors than in the important industry of strawberry growing throughout the township, although 150 to 200 growers in the township produced about 400 acres of strawberries in 1943. Very few, if any, of the local businessmen realized that strawberry growing was a major enterprise in the vicinity.

Pickers for the annual harvest had been recruited by the growers from surrounding cities—Fall River, New Bedford, and others. The growers recruited, transported, and paid these out-of-town laborers, without any regard whatsoever to the local people. This type of help disappeared almost overnight when the war started.

Obviously, something had to be done if the berries were to be harvested and put on the market, so County Agent Bertram Tomlinson started about 2 months before the season began to recruit 1,000 pickers.

Mr. Tomlinson first got in touch with the chairman of the local board of trade.

Harvesting Committee Appointed

The chairman agreed to appoint a strawberry harvesting committee, made up of the people in the community rather than of the growers. This committee was made up of the local postmaster, chairman of the town's agricultural association, secretary of the board of trade, and several other men and women representing various local organizations. Under the guidance of Mr. Tomlinson, the committee considered itself a sort of manpower commission to solve the problem of obtaining pickers for the strawberry growers.

Further assistance came to this unique and effective organization from Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner, rural sociologist of Columbia University and adviser to the United States Department of Agriculture. He was appointed emergency farm labor assistant by the Barnstable County Extension Service. Organization of this committee was but the first step in solving the problem. Subcommittees were appointed to handle publicity, transportation, school posters, and records for recruitment.

A publicity campaign made the people

of the village of Falmouth strawberry-conscious. Articles regarding the seriousness of the situation appeared in the local newspaper and in other papers circulated in this area. Several circular letters, prepared by Mr. Tomlinson, were distributed wholesale by mail carriers to every family in the community. These letters emphasized the shortage of manpower and that the only way the crop could be harvested was by the full cooperation of local people. The food value of strawberries was stressed, and it was pointed out that to permit the fruit to rot on the vines would make a further shortage in our total food supply.

Several meetings were held with the local school teachers to acquaint them with the situation—one way to pass on to the boys and girls in school the information that pickers were needed.

The subcommittee on posters got in touch with the art teachers in the various schools and offered prizes of war stamps to boys and girls for the best posters on strawberry harvesting. A total of 168 posters was submitted. The best of these from each grade were placed in the windows of various merchants in the village. Some of the posters were very creditable and attracted considerable attention. Furthermore, they helped to impress the boys and girls that strawberry picking was their job in helping out in the war effort.

The publicity committee obtained a contribution of \$50 from each of the four commission men who handled most of this fruit on the Boston market. The money was used to run full-page advertisements of a patriotic nature in the local papers just previous to the beginning of the harvest season. A large sign, 12 by 4 feet, requesting strawberry pickers was made and placed in front of the community hall. Announcements over the radio and at meetings of the various organizations in the community and personal contacts were used.

The county agent met with the growers to discuss picking problems. The first and normal reaction of these men was, that "We just can't use this type of help." When they were informed that no other help was available and the only way to get the crop picked was by using this inexperienced help, they began "to see the light." It was emphasized that they must be patient with these people, take considerable time to teach them just

how to do the job, and do as much supervising as possible. At this meeting it was also agreed among the growers to pay 4 cents a quart for harvesting. This was the highest flat rate ever paid in the community, but the growers felt that, as the outlook for prices of berries was good, 4 cents would be satisfactory.

In this whole matter of recruiting local help to harvest this important crop many problems were involved. Most of the growers were relatively small producers and unaccustomed to handling large or difficult enterprises. Also, the majority of them were Portuguese and did not understand the English language very well. Many of them spoke in more or less broken English.

Committee Aids in Financing

In past years, the tickets given to the workers for each basket picked had been cashed at the end of the season. In 1943, this would hardly be possible because some workers did not pick through the whole season and therefore would desire their money immediately. Some farmers did not have cash enough to pay off all the pickers at once because they had not received their returns for the berries shipped. The harvest committee assisted in solving this problem by having some of the commission men underwrite the cashing of the tickets.

Another problem was, that the growers were very indefinite on the number of pickers they would want for any one day. This made it hard for the central office, which was doing the recruiting of workers. The problem was overcome somewhat by checking and rechecking, by use of the telephone, and visits just before the pickers were sent out to the farm.

A few days before the actual picking started, the emergency farm labor assistant and an interpreter made a careful survey of all the growers in the township. This was an important part of the working out of the daily plan of supplying pickers. These men obtained from each grower his estimate of the number of pickers he would need.

People from practically all walks of life in that community were recruited to help in this important enterprise—Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, school teachers, boys and girls, society women, stenographers, wives of Army officers and of businessmen, college students, sailors, soldiers from the Antiaircraft Division and Amphibian Engineer Corps, and students from the Oceanographic Institute. This group totaled more than 500 who had never before picked berries. The best estimate obtainable is that there were only about 300 experienced pickers.

One Way

Produce vegetables cooperatively

Eight farmers in the Finchersville community of Butts County, Ga., who "teamed-up" this year to produce food for Victory are getting good results from their cooperation now, according to County Agent M. L. Powell.

Powell said today that these eight farmers have planted for market: Pole beans, 9 acres; bush beans, 12; squash, 13; crowder and black-eyed peas, 30; butterbeans, 25; eggplant, 5; cantaloup, 13; okra, 2; turnip greens, 5; watermelon, 6; sweetpotatoes, 15; peanuts, 20; collards, 1; and tomatoes, 3.

"Cooperating in the use of transportation and marketing is proving a big help to these men," according to Mr. Powell. "If one man does not have a load of his own, he finishes it out with produce from other members. Another advantage is that one man of the group can remain at the market almost every day necessary.

"These farmers have found that there is an art in selling produce. It must be fresh, graded according to size and shape, and packed in a suitable container."

Rates for machinery use

Many Kentucky farmers are hiring work done by tractors, combines, hay balers, corn pickers, and other equipment for the first time this year. To help owners arrive at rates to charge and to acquaint farmers with usual rates for hiring work done, the experiment station has issued a report on custom rates suggested for farm jobs. Much big machinery is used for such a short time that costs run high. In four of the best Kentucky counties, tractors were found to be used less than 10 days in a season; few were used 100 days. Where two-plow tractors were used 50 days in a year, the cost averaged \$5.10 a day; where used only 17 days, the cost averaged \$9.10. Where tractors were kept going an average of 98 days in a season, the daily cost dropped to \$3.64.

Minutemen sound a warning

Arkansas minutemen saved their neighbors in Bradley County a loss in cotton last season by their prompt and efficient handling of information on the cotton leaf worm. On August 12, cotton

leaf worms were reported in two localities in the county, and the next day all seven minutemen received a letter asking them to be on the alert. Cotton was still growing, and the need for worm control was imperative. Then, the minutemen went into action: they used rural telephones; they went by automobile, on horseback, or walked to see their neighbors. Word was passed on at Friday and Saturday night rural meetings. Warnings were read aloud at many Sunday school and church meetings.

The following Wednesday, August 19, 80 percent of the farmers had reported finding leaf worms before they had done any serious damage. Leaf worms were finally reported on 95 percent of the farms. Of these farms, 96 percent had used poison for worm control. Proof of the efficiency of the minutemen's warnings was seen in the local sale of calcium arsenate. Local stores sold 350 drums of arsenate on the first 3 days of warning, enough to supply poison for one-half of the cotton acreage in the county. In the first 7 days, about 750 drums of poison were sold.

Labor-saving plans

About 10,000 sets of plans for making labor-saving implements were supplied in 2 months in answer to Missouri farmers' requests. Implements made in largest number were buck rakes, hay stackers, lime spreaders, and field cultivators, all from salvaged parts of old machinery.

Haying in a hurry

Sixty-three businessmen and farmers from the Montezuma community in Poweshiek County, Iowa, recently put 25 tons of hay into the barn on the farm of Harry Mathes in 1 hour and 15 minutes. The hay was baled, and they did the hauling with 14 trucks and pickups. Most of the helpers previously had signed up with the U. S. Crop Corps and expressed their willingness to help with farm work in emergencies.

The emergency was real because Mr. Mathes had fractured his leg when a horse fell on him. Although his two daughters and his son did most of the farm work after the accident, they were handicapped by wet weather. So the use of these emergency volunteer workers saved the hay crop.

Farmers list fair rentals

Fair rent for a walking plow is 5 cents an hour. For a mower or grain seeder it's 15 cents. A hay rake costs 7 cents hourly, and a rubber-tired wagon a dime.

Those are just a few of the rental rates worked out by farmers themselves for the Poland school district, Maple Grove, Shawano County, Wis., to encourage sharing of labor-saving machinery in this critical crop year.

The rates were developed because almost every farmer in the community could use machinery he doesn't have, but which a neighbor does. Yet the difficulty of setting fair rental values was discouraging farmers from trading back and forth.

The question came up at local neighborhood-leader meetings and was assigned to a production committee made up of Joseph Szprejda, Rob McGillivray, and Ed Malcheski.

Committeemen reported back with a complete rental list, specifically worked out for local farms. Even the use of a team and driver received an evaluation. It's worth 60 cents an hour, the farmers figured.

The most expensive equipment listed was a medium-size tractor operating either two plows, disk, three-section spring-tooth harrow, quackgrass digger, or silo filler. If the owner furnishes both fuel and driver, the arrangement costs \$1.75 an hour.

An 8-foot grain binder should rent for \$1 an hour, the group decided; and "quack" diggers, hay loaders, and fertilizer sowers are worth 25 cents each, hourly.

The single fertilizer distributor available in the community has been busy all spring, thanks to the rental-rate program, neighborhood leaders said.

County agents in every part of Wisconsin have received copies of the Shawano rates as a possible basis for similar local estimates.

Bombs on Tokyo

Hawaiian neighborhood leaders carried out a campaign known as Bombs on Tokyo, cooperating with the Office of the Military Governor. The purpose was to raise money from people of Japanese ancestry to buy bombs in answer to the execution of American flyers in Japan.

to Do It

Negro farmers step up production

On farms visited by Georgia Negro extension workers and neighborhood leaders in the first 6 months of 1943, farmers had 169,518 chickens, 36,019 hogs for pork, 6,088 turkeys, and 1,737 guineas; and 5,854 acres have been planted to gardens with a wider variety of vegetables growing than in previous years.

Farm folk also canned 24,544 containers of food products and sold \$75,742.90 worth of milk, vegetables, beef, eggs, chickens, hogs, etc. Georgia Negro farmers collected 82,231 pounds of scrap rubber and iron and purchased \$8,154.91 worth of war bonds and stamps.

Neighborhood leaders chosen by extension workers early in the year are working "hand in glove" with them in organizing communities for increased food and feed production. Of the 2,789 selected for this activity, 2,663 have made reports to their agents. They have held 1,012 neighborhood meetings, and agents have conducted 935 neighborhood demonstrations. Both extension workers and neighborhood leaders held 1,115 garden and 355 canning demonstrations.

4-H pigs pay

The 4-H pig chains have done more than anything else to improve the breeding of hogs in Alabama. The purpose of this work in Alabama is: (1) To teach the fundamentals of pork production to Alabama farm boys and girls, and (2) improve the quality of hogs.

The work is divided into the market-pig project and the pure-bred-gilt project. The market-pig project is designed for boys with limited experience. The 4-H Club member must own and feed out one or more pigs, depending on the amount of feed available. Supplement and pasture are recommended to reduce the amount of grain feed needed to finish the hogs for market. This project involves feeding, management, and marketing, and also offers an opportunity to discuss the type of hog required to suit market demands. In 1942, a total of 15,898 boys and girls enrolled in pig-club work, and 11,820 completed the project.

During the past year, considerable interest has also been shown in the pure-bred-gilt project, which is designed primarily for 4-H Club boys who have

demonstrated their ability by making a success of the market-hog project. It has also served the purpose of supplying better-bred hogs to farmers who are interested only in commercial hog production. Each 4-H member has been required to give one gilt from the first litter to some other boy selected by the county agent.—*W. H. Gregory, Alabama husbandry specialist.*

Business closes at 4 o'clock

In Saline County, Mo., business houses in Marshall have agreed to close at 4 o'clock each afternoon, except Saturday, so that more townspeople will be able to work in the fields after business hours. Several men in the town who are past the age when they can be of much help with the work, have volunteered to provide cars for transporting workers. As the businessmen leave town about 4 in the afternoon and work until 8:30 or 9 o'clock, farmers are arranging to provide sandwiches and milk in the field about 6:30. In that county also, a women's division is being organized. These women will be available for work in the farm home, to assist in the preparation of food for workers, do canning or other work around the house. A merchant's committee is proving helpful in carrying on the campaign for farm workers there.

Share your pressure cooker

The "Share your pressure cooker" campaign is an activity of Washington neighborhood leaders, who took a survey to determine the present supply of pressure cookers and the need for them. These leaders then made arrangements for pooling the cookers available. In visiting their families, the leaders developed a great deal of interest in community canning centers.

Field days

The annual farm and home week in Louisiana was discontinued because of shortage of transportation and farm labor. Field days at various university experiment stations throughout the State during the summer served as a wartime substitute. Lectures, demonstrations, round-table discussions, and regular classes on timely topics were features of field day.

Pineapples bought cooperatively

Cooperative buying of pineapples for canning, a practice established in pre-ration-book days, has been flourishing in Texas.

Through the marketing committee of the Young County Home Demonstration Council, about 275 dozen pineapples were sold to more than 500 families in the county recently. The fruit was obtained at a cost of \$3.50 a dozen. According to reports received by Olyne Jeffries, county home demonstration agent, the 3,294 pineapples yielded approximately 12,000 pints of canned fruit. Each pineapple weighed from 4 to 7 pounds, the average exceeding 5 pounds in weight. The highest known yield was 60 pints from a dozen fruit.

Townspeople of Graham and Olney also benefited from the cooperative purchase. Their orders were taken by sector and block leaders of the OCD organization and by the Olney Chamber of Commerce. Recipes for preparation and preservation were distributed with the fruit.

Home demonstration club women in Stephens County bought 150 dozen pineapples during the last 10 days of May. The transaction was handled with the help of local merchants, and the county home demonstration agent gave assistance in canning the product to each club. Jones County club women had "pineapple chairmen" taking orders and money for cooperative purchases by women in 33 communities.

More cheese

A program was launched in the spring to help New York cheese makers increase their production. Last year, loss of skilled labor, truck-transportation tie-ups, and manufacturing problems resulted in failure to meet specifications for lend-lease purchases; but expert technicians from the experiment-station staff are helping to locate and correct these troubles this year.

In Missouri, too, a cheese program is under way. Fifty Missouri cheese factories are cooperating in an educational effort for better milk, cream, and cheese which will increase to maximum the proportion of their output grading high enough to be accepted for the fighting men of the United Nations.

Organizing for the harvest in Smith County, Tex.

■ Smith County's farm labor program quickly got past the talk and committee stage. In less than 3 weeks' time it could be expressed in crates of berries and bushels of beans.

Close cooperation among growers, buyers, canners, and townspeople especially, saved the berry crop. That meant Smith County farmers received about \$3,000,000 which might easily have slipped from their fingers if the unpicked berries had fallen from the vines. It meant, too, that the fruit of 6,000 acres was saved to replenish Uncle Sam's wartime pantry.

And, what's more, it made people aware that if they could save blackberries, they could save peas and tomatoes and sweet-potatoes when the time came for everyone to lend a hand.

In the main, it was town and city people who furnished the necessary labor. Mayor Leon York of Lindale, a village of 820 people, set the pace by getting all the business firms to close on Tuesday and Thursday until the crop was harvested. Tyler, with a wartime population close to 40,000, recruits about 400 volunteer laborers daily; and the city fathers have agreed, "We'll close this town as tight as Dick's hat band any time the situation gets acute enough."

Saying that townspeople, in the main, have done the job should not imply that others haven't contributed. Farm people, whose working hours compare with those of soldiers in combat, have carried on with amazing endurance. And a few migratory workers who follow the harvests have pitched their tents and parked their trailer houses in the hills around Lindale. But where there previously have been 600 of them, this year there are only a third as many.

The man who is a master at obtaining cooperation is hard-working County Agricultural Agent C. R. Heaton. And he has been blessed with wholehearted assistance from his coworkers: Mary Sitton, county home demonstration agent; L. M. Hendley, assistant county agricultural agent; Fay Croslin, assistant county home demonstration agent, and the two Negro county extension agents, B. J. Pryor and Hattie G. Sneed.

Often 75 percent of the volunteers are Negroes, a higher percentage than the Negro population ratio. Mr. Heaton says that's indicative of the fine job done by the county's Negro agents.

When the campaign got under way, the Tyler papers, the Courier-Times and

Morning Telegraph, carried stories daily on the need for farm laborers. The local radio station, KGKB, used a 15-minute Country Gentleman transcription on the labor program once a week. Spot announcements were given at intervals throughout the day. And the cooperative sheriff released a statement that he would arrest for vagrancy any able-bodied persons not at work. The Negro Ministerial Association used its own educational methods with excellent results.

Meanwhile, OCD block leaders in Tyler began a farm labor survey in the city which soon should be of added value in locating and recruiting workers. And Clifford P. Edwards and J. A. Stevens of the USES were showing the ropes to County Agent Heaton.

An individual case of how townspeople have saved the day will illustrate the simplicity and success of the program:

One Saturday in May, Mrs. J. K. Bateman, wife of a prominent dentist in Tyler, Tex., read in the paper that berry pickers were badly needed. She went to the telephone and offered her services to Mr. Heaton. He assured her that her

services would be welcome and agreed to inform her later where she might go to help.

At the county labor meeting that same afternoon, Mr. Heaton remarked that a prominent Tyler woman had offered her services. Up popped Mrs. C. L. Duncan of the Hopewell community, member of the State Land Use Planning Committee and chairman of the Smith County Home Demonstration Council, and announced that she would like to hire that first volunteer. And, furthermore, she hoped the Tyler woman would bring a couple of carloads of her friends. County Agent Heaton passed the word along.

Three times a week the women came, sometimes one carload of them, sometimes three. They didn't ride the big trucks, as they first had to get their men-folks off to work and a few household duties performed, so often it was 10 o'clock before they reached the fields. It was growing hot by that time, but they didn't complain about the heat, the sand, the wasp stings, or spilled drinking water.

"At first I believed they thought it just a lark," Mrs. Duncan confesses, "but they humbled me. Yes, they crowded us farm folks. We had to hump to keep up with them. Having them on the farm has been one of the richest experiences of my life."

A sociologist might be able to evaluate the program in terms of improved rural-urban relations.

Machinery redistributed at auctions

■ Oren Johnson, Vernon County, Wis., agent, is a director of the Viroqua Chamber of Commerce, and at one of its meetings last spring he suggested a machinery-redistribution auction.

Other directors agreed. They had seen idle machinery on some farms and heard how badly needed it was on other farms.

The Chamber of Commerce went ahead to arrange a sale, and County Agent Johnson helped to locate more than 200 pieces of idle machinery. Clerks and auctioneers donated their services, and farmers came in from all the nearby area.

The auction occupied one afternoon and carried on into the next. Machinery which needed extensive repairs sold almost as quickly as newer pieces. Farmers showed how badly they needed labor-saving field equipment.

Vernon County plans another sale before harvest, with harvesting machinery on the auction block.

Meanwhile, Milwaukee County neighborhood leaders carried on a similar

venture. County Agent R. C. Swanson helped to direct it, but neighborhood leaders brought the equipment together, got in touch with nearby farmers, and did the general planning.

The Milwaukee sale also helped to redistribute about 200 pieces of equipment and was so successful that a later one is planned.

Milwaukee will schedule its next sale in the evening, Swanson reports, to reduce interference with farm work.



Farm families read neighborhood "leave at homes"

Nearly all of the farm families interviewed in May in Mineral County, W. Va., who had received from their neighborhood leader the leaflet, *Produce Your Own Food*, had read it. About three-fifths of the families reported making some use of the leaflet. One-half said the page entitled, "Grow Food—It's Ammunition," helped them to decide to try raising more food; one-third planned to use the food conservation plan; one-fourth said the food guide helped them to plan how much food they needed; and one-fifth planned their gardens by it.

This was the first "leave-at-home" material given out by neighborhood leaders in the county. It was well prepared and rated high on the leaflet check list. Principles of leaflet simplification and readability were followed in its preparation. Even so, the page on *How To Use the Food Guide* was rather difficult reading for many families. Those who read only part of the leaflet were inclined to skip this page, which contained a comparatively difficult sentence. During the interviews two difficult phrases in this sentence were checked to determine how well the families understood them. Forty-two percent did not understand the phrase "equivalent number" in the sentence, "After determining the *equivalent number* of adults in the family, *figure in whole numbers*, not fractions, using the next higher whole number." Forty percent did not understand the phrase, "figure in whole numbers" in this sentence.

A third of the families did not understand the word "essential" in "If it is impossible to produce some of the *essential* foods such as milk or eggs, try to grow more green leafy vegetables, more soybeans, and use more whole-grain cereals to substitute in part for them." In spite of careful attention to the simplification of literature, difficult words and phrases will creep in.

The 14 neighborhoods selected for study were scattered widely over the county and located in poor and better farming areas, former mining sections, narrow creek valleys, bottomland and mountain hollows. About half of the 70 families interviewed had received the leaflet. The neighborhood leaders did not give it to families they thought would not read it. Those who received the leaflet were accustomed to reading nearly twice as many magazines as those who did not receive it.

One leader, who was a friend of the 12 families he was chosen to reach and who was familiar with their habits, said, "The people in these 'hollas' are not

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Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

much interested in new things. It's hard to get them to do different." Visits to the families supported his observation. The situation is not sufficiently encouraging to give him the incentive to walk 9 miles to cover his half of the neighborhood. However, because of his central location and friendly and progressive attitude, the families often come to him for help and to visit. This leader's help is mostly in the way of service, although to some families, providing information is a fruitful function. For example, members of a young family that recently moved into the neighborhood came to him for help in running a farm. The leader is able to give them many practical tips.

Mineral County is 100 percent organized for neighborhood-leader work with a man and woman leader in each neighborhood. Usually, the man covers one-half of the neighborhood, the woman the other.

For instance, Mr. W. is responsible for reaching 6 of the 13 families in his neighborhood, where he and his wife have lived 14 years. He has visited all his families. They have received the leaflet, *Produce Your Own Food*, and have read and made use of it. Mr. W. thinks they understand the neighborhood-leader system rather well and appreciate his help because he calls their attention to wartime jobs.

Before being selected as a neighborhood leader, Mr. W. had participated in extension work, but never as a leader. He says his leadership work takes considerable, "but not too much," time. To reach all his families requires walking 6 miles. He lives in an isolated section about 2 miles from the main-traveled road. Mr. W. has no car or radio and does not take a daily newspaper. He said that except for reading three magazines, about the only outside contact he has is through the neighborhood-leader material mailed to him. This material, which is much appreciated, has helped him to keep in touch with wartime activities. He would like more neighborhood-leader literature and more visits from extension agents.

This study, *NEIGHBORHOOD "LEAVE-AT-HOMES,"* by Fred Frutchey, of the Federal

Extension Service, and Walter Gumbel and other West Virginia Extension Service staff members, has not been published.

Similar studies on the simplification of leaflets used by neighborhood leaders in North Carolina and Georgia were reported in the July and August issues of *THE REVIEW*. Plans are being made to interview farm people in other States, to get their reactions to simplified extension leave-at-homes.

Problems of Texas Negro agents studied

In developing their extension programs and organization, three-fourths of the 80 men and women Negro extension agents studied in Texas said they had difficulty in obtaining the cooperation of the farm people; in securing help from local officers, leaders and parents; and in selecting local leaders. Other problems included: Planning a program to provide for adequate food, clothing, and shelter for Negro farm people; improving health and sanitation facilities; and helping croppers and tenants to improve their situations.

Problems encountered by two-thirds of the Negro agents in supervising and carrying out their programs were: Developing definite plans to follow; planning demonstrations with adults and getting them to carry out demonstrations according to plans; carrying out a live-at-home program, such as growing more and better gardens, and producing adequate dairy and poultry products and meat; building, remodeling, and repairing homes and outhouses; getting farmers to practice better land use and to grow more feed and increase the farm income; working through organizations and placing more responsibility on people; and writing news stories and circular letters.

In carrying out their 4-H Club work, two-thirds of the Negro agents reported difficulty in arranging details and in guiding club meetings; training 4-H Club leaders in subject matter; keeping up 4-H Club members' interest in the work and encouraging them to complete their projects; increasing 4-H Club enrollment; and obtaining greater interest of parents in club work.

Two-thirds of the Negro extension agents had considerable difficulty in understanding how to analyze and evaluate the results of their extension activities, and in obtaining accurate records to show progress with adults.—*A STUDY OF EXTENSION WORK WITH NEGROES IN TEXAS*, by Erwin H. Shinn, *Federal Extension Service. Texas Ext. Serv. Pub.*, 1943.

The once over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

1944 PRODUCTION GOALS are in the wind at the Department of Agriculture. Commodity committees, after careful study, have prepared tentative goals which were presented to the Department Goals Committee late in August and which will be discussed and revised at State conferences in October.

A WOMEN'S LAND ARMY TOUR through the Northeast would strengthen anyone's faith in the ability of the American people to meet their problems. Thousands of city women are working in orchards and vegetable fields for the first time, picking apples, peaches, or tomatoes in the hot sun for 8 to 10 hours daily. They are college girls, school teachers, business girls on vacation, and professional women who surprise the farmers with their ability to "take it" day after day. The farmers like their intelligence, their determination, and their spirit. They say: "The best green-horns I ever had"; "I don't know what we should have done without them"; or "I don't know about women farm workers in general, but the girls I have are exceptional." Such camps as Pitman, in New Jersey; Mil-Bur, Maryland; Southington, Connecticut; or Lubec, Maine, dedicated to war service on the food front, are an inspiration.

THE WLA TRAINING COURSE for year-round workers at Farmingdale Agricultural Institute, Farmingdale, N. Y., is now being sponsored by the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut, which recruited the women for the September session. The 4-week course gives some training in poultry, dairy, and general farm work, besides conditioning the women for hard farm work. The 45 graduates now working on farms are making good. Their work and their spirit are a credit to the Women's Land Army. These pioneers are setting a high standard for those who follow them.

MORE THAN TEN MILLION TONS OF FOOD was produced in Victory Gardens this season; but it is not enough to meet the need for health-protecting vegetables, which will be even greater in 1944. The Department Victory Garden Committee, meeting with representatives of OCD, OPA, and the Office of Education, August 5, recommended that the goal be set higher in 1944, with every farm and every rural residence, wherever climate and water supplies permit, growing a

garden. Those attending the meeting pointed out the better fertilizer situation and the plentiful supply of seed as an added incentive for gardening next year, but recommended that attention be given to a better supply of garden tools. State garden conferences were advocated for this fall to include State and regional representatives of Government agencies and representatives of private, trade, and educational agencies. These conferences would clear objectives, agree on a program, and set goals for farm and town gardens, as well as make plans for cooperative work in attaining these goals.

DATES FOR THE OUTLOOK conference have been set for the week of October 18, when State extension economists, farm-management specialists, home-management specialists, and other State workers will meet with representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture to study the situation as it bears on the farm and the farm home.

FIVE REGIONAL TWO-DAY MEETINGS were arranged in Florida instead of the usual State-wide meeting of the State Council of Home Demonstration Work. Built around the theme, "Planning to meet the needs of the home and community in wartime," the program included reports on achievement, discussions on the future functioning of home demonstration councils, food for Florida families, home resources, and wartime

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responsibilities in general. The meetings were held at Camp McQuarrie, Miami, Largo, Tallahassee, and Bonifay, August 9 through 27.

DESTRUCTIVE COTTON INSECTS are the field for war action by Texas and Oklahoma young 4-H war-emergency reporters on cotton-insect pests. These reporters were selected by county agents in Oklahoma in the ratio of 1 to every 1,000 acres of cotton. Information on five fields are sent in weekly by the reporter, who examines them for the presence of boll weevils, flea hoppers, boll-worms, leaf worms, and other insects. For the week ending July 31, reports were received from 413 Texas farms in 63 counties well distributed over the entire cotton-growing area. Such information is proving valuable for local control measures, and is being forwarded to Washington for incorporation in regional and national surveys.

SAVING MONEY, LABOR, AND STRATEGIC MATERIALS is the aim of the upper Mississippi Valley forecasting service, whose cooperators have planted infected seed potatoes and carefully watched them for appearance of late blight. The reports are sent weekly to Dr. I. E. Melhus at Ames, Iowa, who summarizes them and sends weekly air-mail reports to all the States in the area, thus making it possible to spray and dust with strategic copper when and if absolutely necessary. This is a cooperative arrangement between the extension services and experiment stations of the upper Mississippi Valley and will continue until frost.

RED CROSS RECEIVES A PRIZE LAMB from the Egli boys, Emil and Floyd, of Tremonton, Utah, in their fourth year as 4-H sheep-club members. The Hampshire lamb was sold at the Intermountain Junior Fat Stock Show at North Salt Lake and brought \$36.85, the third-highest price for any sheep sold at the show. The check was forwarded to the Box Elder County Red Cross.

On the Calendar

American Society of Agricultural Engineers, North Atlantic Section, Belmont-Plaza Hotel, New York, N. Y., September 27-28.

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, October 2.

Child Health and Welfare Exposition, New York, week of October 11.

National 4-H Achievement and Reorganization Week, November 6-14.