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REVIEW



C. W. WARBURTON, Deputy Governor, Farm Credit Administration

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

An Extension Program for the Entire Family

■ A real challenge to every extension agent was presented by the recent report of the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy. In view of the fact that 51 percent of all children live in rural areas, are the 7,000,000 farm families able to meet the needs of this large group in training them for citizenship in these troubled times? As a part of this conference we extension workers are interested in the various findings. The conference group of 500 educators, social workers, doctors, religious leaders, and others interested in child welfare emphasized the importance of the family in considering the problem. They considered necessary community, State and National programs to improve the condition of children, but these can only serve to help the home meet its responsibilities.

Begin Training at Home

What can you do for children, they said, if the family income will not buy food and clothing? What can you do for the children if the home harbors sickness and disease? What can you do for the children when the conditions in the home leave the child emotionally upset? To prepare children to become effective citizens, the conference members said that the home must be able to send forth children physically and mentally able to undertake the responsibilities of citizenship. The home is the place to begin work on the problems.

Extension agents, because of their long experience in working with rural people, are in an excellent position to take up the challenge of the conference. We need a farm family program—one which cuts across the farm program, the home program, the 4-H program, and the program for older youth, and focuses them all on the needs of the farm family. It will be a program involving all extension workers and all extension subject matter. It will be a program to help the farm family make the best use of its farm, the best use of its home, and achieve the best development for its members.

A beginning has been made in such activities as the whole-farm demonstrations. The needs of the child are already being considered; his health, education, recreation, training are a part of such farm and

home plans. The parents must have help on how to provide for the needs of the youthful members of the family just as much as they require aid on how to conserve the soil on the rolling land. If extension agents need further training in this field, that is a problem which we must face. The opportunity is there and the need is great.

Older Children Have Problems

The farm family in the democracy of today has its share of the unrest arising from changing conditions which disrupt old ways of living and farming. The worrisome burden of debt and tenancy weighs on the children as well as on the adults. Older children who are unable to find work in the city stay on the farm, unhappy, unneeded, and frustrated. There are thousands of these young people on farms today, many of whom make little or no economic contribution to the family.

Many farm families have had to leave their depleted farms and start anew in an economic period when starting a new farm requires more capital than ever before. Others are striving to make good on the mere fragments of fertility and markets left to them by years of depression and hard times. These are problems facing farm people—the situations in which the farm children are being trained as citizens of our democracy.

To help farm families cope with some of these problems, Congress in the last 25 years has created a number of agencies,

such as the Extension Service, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Farm Security Administration, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Rural Electrification Administration. But the very number and diversity of these agencies must be confusing to many farm families. Sometimes, not clearly understanding the new program before them, they long to go back to their old ways and the old days. Sometimes it is necessary for the family to shift to a different kind of farming. As the family life is built around the work program, this, too, makes change; and the change is apt to be irritating and trying. If the whole family does not understand the change, dissensions arise between husband and wife or between parents and children. This sort of situation necessitates a conquest of the environment in which farm families find themselves. In helping them it will require the pooling of all our knowledge, and it will require persistent and patient effort.

Families to Solve Problems

Extension agents have earned the respect and faith of the farm people who look to the Extension Service for leadership in this period of readjustment. We must help them to make the necessary adjustments and to build a good life now, making the most of all the means already at hand. We must help them to find their own resources and lead them into solving their own problems, thereby restoring some of their old feelings of independence.

We know that the well-being of farm children is of great importance to our national welfare. The falling birth rate in the city makes it dependent on the country for its continued population. Whether our Nation will grow and prosper will depend on how wholesomely these children have learned to live in their farm homes and how sturdy and strong they are—on how well they have learned to stand up to life and live and work together. This presents a real challenge to extension work—one that should stimulate us to renewed efforts to study the effect which present-day situations are having on family life and to build our extension program to meet these conditions, thus developing a strong, effective program for the entire family.



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EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • M. L. WILSON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

Hot Lunch for Healthier Children

■ "It has taken 4 years to get the hot school lunch on a working basis, but I believe we can now show some results," said Helen Schellinger, home demonstration agent in Kent County, Md. Back in 1936, when the school attendance records were published, the citizens were shocked to find that Kent County children, living in what was considered an unusually healthful spot on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, actually had the lowest school attendance rate in the State in both the elementary and high schools. Kent County children, they found, were subject to colds and sickness of many sorts, and they had also suffered a good many accidents, including broken bones.

The matter was discussed in home demonstration clubs and at parent-teacher meetings. The women, with the help of Miss Schellinger, decided to find out something about the children—what they ate and their habits of sleeping and living. Questionnaires were prepared to be filled out by school children. Home demonstration club members were surprised that school lunches seemed very inadequate in the light of their nutrition studies, so they decided to concentrate on the hot school lunch.

The first year, lunch was served in a few schools during only the coldest months in the winter; but last year, a hot dish for lunch was served in 11 schools during a 5-month period.

4-H hot-lunch clubs were organized in the schools. The parent-teacher associations and home demonstration clubs appointed committees for each school to work on the school-lunch problem. Miss Schellinger estimated the quantities of vegetables, milk, and sugar that would be required to give each child a nutritious lunch each noon.

The county health department took an active part in the work. The three public-health nurses in the county weighed and measured the children each year, and this was used as an opportunity to emphasize the need of well-balanced and nutritious lunches.

Last fall the State health nutritionist, Katharine Leaming, came to the county with her "healthmobile" to talk to each of the parent-teacher groups. She had collected health facts on pre-school and school children to show what it means to them to get enough milk and nourishing food. She also tied her facts into the plans for a hot school lunch, and her work greatly strengthened the program.

Much depends on the interest and cooperation of the teacher in the smooth running of the school lunch, and Miss Schellinger made many personal visits to the schools to talk the plans over with the teachers.

In the fall, when school opens, plans are made for obtaining the food that would be needed throughout the school year. One day is set aside for canning vegetables, soup mix-

Cook for the 4-H hot-lunch club seasons the day's soup.



tures, and tomatoes. The older boys and girls in the 4-H Clubs help. The canning is done in the school kitchen, and the parent-teacher committee is in charge, with the help of Miss Schellinger. Last fall, 7 schools canned 901 quarts of mixed vegetables and tomatoes at the school canning days. A supply officer elected by the 4-H Club takes charge of the food which is kept in the school. The milk is donated by parents who agree to supply it for certain days. Each child is expected to bring something each week or month toward the hot lunch. In some schools a barrel is kept in the hall for contributions; and cabbages, potatoes, turnips, carrots—anything the child can bring—are deposited there.

Each 4-H Club appoints hot-lunch officers to take charge, including a cook, dishwashers, waitresses, and sweepers. A typical schedule for a week's hot lunches is vegetable soup twice a week, cocoa once a week, lima beans or little white beans once a week, and potato soup once a week.

As the work developed, it became apparent that to get the vegetables needed by the children there would have to be more variety in the home gardens. 4-H garden clubs were organized, and the home demonstration clubs began to work on the problem of better vegetable gardens. It is now the usual practice to make two plantings of root vegetables instead of one to insure young and tender products for the table and for canning. It is also customary to make several plantings of corn, string beans, and cabbage.

The results show in the attendance records. In 1936, Kent had the lowest attendance of any county in the State; in 1937, the average attendance for the State was 90 percent, and Kent County had an average of 91.8 percent. In 1938, the elementary schools in the county showed an attendance record of 93.4 percent and the high school a record of 95.2 percent. Kent County is hoping that further improvement will be registered in the 1939 figures.

Clyde W. Warburton Made Deputy Governor of Farm Credit Administration

■ On February 1, Clyde W. Warburton, director of extension work since 1923, accepted appointment as deputy governor of the Farm Credit Administration to carry out the plans of the Secretary of Agriculture for the coordination of the educational and service work for those who use the credit facilities of the Administration.

"I do not think there is anyone in Government better fitted for this job than Mr. Warburton," the Secretary said in making the appointment. "He organized the Federal Extension Service in its modern form, supervised the Federal emergency flood loans of 1927 and the drought loans of 1930 and succeeding years. To his new post he brings an intimate knowledge of Federal credit policies and of Federal and State agencies and their relationships."

The cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics was 9 years old when Clyde W. Warburton was called to the newly created position of director of extension work. Extension organization and extension programs and policy were in the formative stage.

"Better organized programs of extension work and a better understanding among all people and agencies of the States as to what these programs are and how they may all work together toward a common end" were the two needs the new director outlined in his first report to the Secretary of Agriculture. With thoughtful persistence and a broad understanding of relationships and human values, he has given 16 years of service to these purposes.

All extension workers in 1923 reached a total of only a few more than 4,000. Only 2,000 of the agricultural counties employed an extension agent. Today there are agricultural extension agents employed by all agricultural counties. The staff of State administrative and subject-matters specialists totals about 2,000 persons.

Two lines of extension work to which Dr. Warburton gave much thought and labor are those which relate to the farm home and to the farm boys and girls. When he came to the Extension Service, fewer than 900 counties had the service of a home demonstration agent. Now there are 1,824 county home demonstration agents. The home demonstration program, under his encouragement, expanded beyond its narrow wartime limits and today keeps the rural homemaker in touch with the progress in all lines of modern research and methods which relate to the home.

Dr. Warburton found a 4-H Club membership of 459,000. He reported recently a total

of 1,286,000 rural boys and girls now engaged in 4-H Club work—nearly three times the number in 1923. With the passage of the Capper-Ketcham Act in 1928, it was possible to extend the work for the home and for rural youth, a possibility to which Dr. Warburton gave every encouragement. The

million dollars; and the county and local organizations' share is 7¼ millions.

During Dr. Warburton's service, cooperative extension work was provided for the Territories of Hawaii and Alaska and for Puerto Rico.

Need of extension workers for facilities for

Too often we do not fully appreciate how much association with individuals or groups of people means to us until something happens to break the connection. Now that I am leaving extension work after more than 16 years of intimate relations with extension personnel in Washington and in all the States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, I realize more than ever before just how close the contacts have been and how much they have meant to me.

In recent years there has been a growing public appreciation of extension work and extension workers, not only on the part of rural people but on that of the public generally. I think this is due to a realization that extension workers are earnest, diligent public servants who can render real service in helping to solve rural problems, and to a realization also that the scientific facts which extension agents can supply are important in the everyday lives of all of us. Most important of all, perhaps, is a recognition of the truly cooperative nature of extension work, cooperation between Federal, State, and county agencies with rural people on the farms and in the homes, all with the objective of improving rural conditions and building a better rural America.

You have the trust and cooperation of the farmer, the homemaker, the boy and the girl who live not only along the main-traveled roads but along the byways you have reached on your visits. You have brought not only new ideas but a smile and a handclasp of friendship, which often are more important and more appreciated than the ideas. You have had the help in each county of dozens, even hundreds, of volunteer local leaders who have multiplied your effectiveness. You have had the joy of working with hundreds of fine boys and girls in 4-H Clubs, who look to you for guidance and who regard you as a close friend. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with you through the years. I am happy to know that in my new position I shall have opportunity to maintain many of my extension contacts.

All of you know the new director of extension work who has had long experience in the extension field and who has done so much as Under Secretary and chairman of the Department's Committee on Federal-State Relations to promote closer relationships between the Department and the land-grant colleges. You will, I am sure, give him the fine cooperation that you have given me and will go on to still larger service and accomplishments.

C. W. WARBURTON.

4-H membership, together with the 1,104,000 rural women who are now participating in home demonstration activities, give some indication of the interest and confidence rural people have in the extension program.

Important evidence of the attitude of the country as a whole toward the cooperative extension work would certainly be found in the funds appropriated for the work. In 1923, there was a total of \$7,504,960 set aside for extension work from Federal funds; State funds totaled a fraction less; and the county and local organizations put into the work something over \$4,800,000. For 1940 extension work, the Federal funds total \$19,448,447; State funds are nearly 6½

professional improvement and opportunity to bring themselves up-to-date on new lines of research and thought received Dr. Warburton's early attention. He gave encouragement and support to the organization of graduate classes in the land-grant colleges and the Department, to provisions for sabbatical leave, for collegiate extension courses, and for fellowships.

Dr. Warburton served on the land policy committee appointed upon the recommendation of the land-grant colleges, on the Agricultural Program Board, the special joint committee on relationships of the Land-Grant College Association, as chairman of

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M. L. Wilson Returns to Extension

NEW DIRECTOR WAS PIONEER COUNTY AGENT

Milburn Lincoln Wilson, or M. L. as he is known to a host of friends, brings to the duties of Director of Extension Work an understanding of farming, farm living, and extension work obtained from original sources. He started out as a tenant farmer in Nebraska the year he graduated from college. Homesteading in Montana followed, and in 1913 he became Montana's first county agent.

Every county agent of today would view that pioneer agent with admiration. He went into a county about as big as the State of Connecticut, where farming was hazardous, where the 150 miles from boundary to boundary were traveled slowly and with difficulty—a hard experience but a revealing one and rich in ideas which he has been developing ever since.

The new agent found farming in this area—in parts of it at least—exposed to unusual risks. Every so often droughts came and threatened to put an end to farming. When this happened, some homesteaders were not able to stay on. They gave up all they had put into the land and left to seek a foothold elsewhere. So young Mr. Wilson began to wonder whether there could be any permanent farming under these conditions. With characteristic realism he started out to find the answer right there in the county. He studied the farmsteads that were abandoned. He questioned the farmers who stayed. Then he did his favorite mathematical formula—he put two and two together. He found some facts which later sent him into new fields of thought and action, but the immediate use he made of them was to start a "Farm Success Survey." The result confirmed his first belief that many homestead farms were too small for economical management, that those settlers who had farms large enough to use larger machinery and make efficient use of their labor were the ones who were able to stay on through disastrous droughts until the next good year.

He enlisted the cooperation of a railroad, loaded a car with machinery of the type that had won success for these farmers who stayed on, and invited all the people of the county to study the machinery as the train passed through. He did another very characteristic thing. He found a farmer who had developed a whiffletree that made the best use of a "big hitch" of horses, and saw to it that all the farmers knew how this economical "power" could be applied. Then, as now, he looked for simple measures, believing that often the best solution of a big problem is found in simple things.

Of course, this led naturally into the field of economics, and Mr. Wilson went back to college to study. Thence he went to the United States Department of Agriculture to

become head of the division of farm management and costs in what was then the Office of Farm Management. In 1926 he returned to Montana State College as head of the department of agricultural economics.

One of his beliefs, developed in the Montana work, was that one solution to the prob-

I am very happy to be in the extension family again. I enjoy extension work and feel that it has a great place in the American way of life. Extension work performs a unique service to agricultural science in keeping it constantly invigorated by the experience of the farmer who works with the Extension Service. Just as agricultural science, in the narrow sense, has remained close to the soil, so, I believe, will the newer phases of agriculture—the so-called "action" programs—be invigorated and kept practical by this same method. The Extension Service can capitalize upon the participation of the individual farm and the farm community in the newer programs.

We frequently speak of farming as a way of life. There are many different ways of farm life right now. Social evolution may produce ways of farm people in the future which will be different from and better than any we have now. They might become much more cooperative, much more competitive, or much more mechanized, specialized, and commercialized than they are today. The ways of life and the patterns of culture of farm families have been and are changing just as rapidly as the world keeps changing.

The most intelligent, most democratic

lem of successful farming was having the "right man on the right land, farming in the right way, and growing the right crops." Ever practical, he was the prime mover in the "Fairway Farms" undertaking. Farmers were selected who gave reasonable promise of having the qualifications for successful farming; farms of what were considered the "right" size were located for them, and they were given backing over a long period of years so that they might become owners. He spent some months studying the economics of wheat production in Canada and Europe and the wheat consumption possibilities in the Orient.

But his economic analyses led him to the conviction that some agricultural problems were too great for the individual farmer.

Out of his experience and studies, Mr. Wilson developed the ideas of the domestic allotment features which formed the basis of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933. He served as wheat production administrator of the AAA. After getting the first wheat production control program under way, he became

way to give direction to social change is by and through education—the kind of education which we believe in here in America, and which grows out of the basic democratic doctrines of our country. It is the education that is going on now which will largely control the affairs of men tomorrow and the day after tomorrow.

Most modern theories of education emphasize participation and experience, an extension principle of education from its beginning. The problems in agriculture today, even with the acceptance of agricultural science and with the great improvements that have taken place, are twice as numerous, twice as difficult, and twice as big as they were a generation ago. Farmers of the future, educated in agricultural science, will expect more from science, from formal education, and from agricultural extension than they would have expected if they were living according to the pattern of ideas and ways of life of the past generation. I expect the scope, the opportunities, the prestige of extension work to be increased by the new agencies and changed attitudes. I see it faced with greatly increased demands and greatly increased responsibilities. It is a fine thing to be a part of so splendid a mission.

M. L. WILSON.

Director of the Subsistence Homesteads Division in the Department of the Interior. In 1935 Mr. Wilson returned to the United States Department of Agriculture as Assistant Secretary, and on January 1, 1937, became Under Secretary of Agriculture.

In his work as Under Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wilson has dealt closely and continuously with the relationships between the Federal Department of Agriculture and the State research, service, and extension work cooperatively supported by Federal, State, and local funds, and carried on in collaboration with the Department by the land-grant colleges. He has served since December 1936 as chairman of the Department of Agriculture section of a joint committee of officers

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1,600 Nebraska Farmers Cooperate

GEORGE S. ROUND, Extension Editor, Nebraska

■ They—meaning farmers, businessmen, and agricultural extension workers—started something in Nebraska 5 years ago. And it has not stopped yet but is gaining momentum as the years go by.

Oddly enough, it is not a fast-moving stage production or a sensational agricultural invention. Rather, it is a State-wide agricultural educational program which has gained national attention as a means of coordinating the activities of all groups into one common purpose for the benefit of the State's basic industry—agriculture.

It is known as the Nebraska pasture-forage-livestock program. Everyone in the State knows it, of course, as the P-F-L plan; and the press, radio, and individuals call it that. Probably never before in the history of agricultural extension work within the Cornhusker State has a name and program caught the imagination of the public as much as this program.

The program was started in 1935. That was the year following the great drought of 1934 which seared pastures, caused livestock on farms and ranches to be sold, broke the hearts of farm and city people alike, and weakened the morale of the State's citizens. One problem was at the top of the pinnacle following that disastrous drought. What was to be done about the grass and pasture problem?

More than 50 percent of the State's acreage is devoted to grass and pasture; and when the drought literally wiped out a large percentage of this vast acreage, it was easy to tie all hands together in a common move to find out something about grasses and pastures which might help the situation.

Briefly, that is how the present P-F-L program originated in Nebraska. The cooperation given to it by all groups of citizens and the coordinated educational program in which practically all branches of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture participate are basic reasons for the exceptional success of the program.

Out of it all evolved first what was known as the Nebraska pasture-improvement contest. Farmers were enrolled, and records were kept on their pasture management. County agents and specialists visited these people during the year, took a few notes on the farmer experiences, and collected some records. Then, at the end of the year a finish-up or recognition meeting was held in Omaha. There the farmers and businessmen got together and dissected the grass problem. They feasted at a banquet and heard farmers tell their own stories of successful pasture management.



The finish-up meeting in Omaha shows the type of cattle the market demands.

Why in Omaha? Simply because one of the prime movers in the program was the agricultural committee of the chamber of commerce there. With them in sponsoring the movement were the Extension Service, the Nebraska Crop Growers' Association, and the Nebraska Livestock Breeders' Association. The latter two groups put up a little cash along with the Omaha Chamber of Commerce to finance the finish-up meeting and other incidental expenses.

For 3 years the pasture contest flourished. Farmer experiences were recorded. Farmers were honored. Largely, however, the program was one involving primarily the agronomy department of the College of Agriculture.

Then, in 1938, the need for broadening the educational movement was seen. There was a need for producing more drought-resistant feeds, such as the sorghums, and a necessity of balancing the livestock farming enterprises. Around a table gathered representatives of the Extension Service, the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, the crop growers, and the livestock breeders. Out of the huddle came the pasture-forage-livestock program with emphasis on flexibility each year.

Farmers were enrolled in the 1938 program. They filled out what were termed "balance sheets" in the spring to determine their feed needs for the year. They got a liberal education in livestock units and the amount of feed necessary to carry a "critter."

So did the extension agents and specialists. On the basis of their "balance sheet" some 1,300 farmers planned their farming operations for 1938. They kept records during the summer and summarized them at the end of the year. Then they went to Omaha 600 strong from more than 60 counties for the finish-up meeting.

The attendance at the banquet, following the afternoon "clinic," in the chamber of commerce banquet room, was the largest there since Woodrow Wilson visited Omaha while he was President. It meant that the P-F-L program had finished up another year.

That brought around 1939, the fifth year of the educational program. More agencies and groups were brought into the picture. Director Brokaw pointed out early in the year the necessity of most departments on the campus cooperating actively in the program. Federal agencies such as the AAA, SCS, and FSA gladly agreed to assist in any possible manner. District conferences in February brought out representatives of these agencies. From each of their clients came cooperators—or demonstrators—in the program.

Information about the P-F-L program was disseminated to all these Federal agencies. They knew at the outset that the theme of the 1939 program was a balance between livestock and feed on farms in Nebraska. They knew, too—as did farmers—that the slogan of "grow into livestock; don't buy into livestock" has something of definite value. The year's review of the markets bore out the soundness of the program.

But State and Federal agencies were not the only ones cooperating. Bankers joined in evening conferences over the State in February to discuss the program and more particularly the livestock-financing picture. Everyone was agreed then that "growing into livestock" was more sound than sudden speculating on large numbers of stock. A total of 1,600 farmers enrolled as cooperators.

Civic groups caught the spirit of cooperation also. Regional finish-up meetings were scheduled at four out-of-State points. Farmers were brought together for a full day's program. There farmers told their own stories, college of agriculture specialists told their stories, and outstanding cooperators were honored.

No wonder then that the finish-up meeting of the State program in Omaha on November 28 of last year was a huge success. Representatives from 63 of Nebraska's 93 counties attended. They looked over a livestock-marketing demonstration at South Omaha in the morning, listened to "clinic" speakers in

the afternoon, and 800 of them jammed the chamber of commerce dining room for the honoring ceremonies during the evening.

Among the features of the finish-up meeting was the showing of 1,400 feet of colored motion pictures depicting the eight points under the program itself. These pictures had been taken throughout Nebraska during the spring, summer, and fall months by Director Brokaw and were shown by him at the clinic.

But previous to the Omaha gathering, many counties held P-F-L recognition meetings and banquets. Civic groups cooperated.

Not all activity, however, was confined to the enrollment of cooperators and the collection of farmer experiences. Related projects were listed under P-F-L and carried on in that manner throughout the year. These projects included district sorghum days which attracted 1,500 people at one meeting, the instigation of an annual sorghum-topping contest with 6,000 people on

hand, conducting sorghum tests, feeding trials, and many other activities.

Thus again the P-F-L program was brought before the people by all means available. And thus ended another year of a coordinated educational plan which goes into its sixth year in 1940.

Already the Omaha Chamber of Commerce has appropriated \$1,000 from its 1940 budget and given permission to its P-F-L committee to raise an additional \$1,000 for its part of the 1940 program. Already the Extension Service has set up the central office committee for handling the details, and district conferences with county extension agents are scheduled.

And again it looks as though the Extension Service, civic groups, Federal agencies, farmers, newspapers, radio stations, and representatives of all Nebraska are ready to go into another year and toward a more coordinated agricultural education program.

Planning for Forest and Farm

The county planning committee in Coos County, Oreg., a unified county, has made a detailed study of the local land use situation and is developing an agricultural program to meet county needs, as described on the National Farm and Home Hour. This is the fourth article on the work of a county planning committee based on one of the land use planning programs on the air over a coast-to-coast hook-up every Thursday.

■ Coos County, Oreg., with 50 miles of coast line, contains more than a million acres of land. This land is of three general types—agricultural, grazing, and forest.

The agricultural land is the smallest part of the county, is located along the coastal region, and is used for dairying and potatoes, truck crops, small fruits, and special seed crops. Its pastures will support three cows to the acre, as compared to a county in the Great Plains, for instance, where it takes 40 acres to support one cow.

The second type of land is in the low rolling hills, and here the fine range grazing area is used to raise beef cattle and sheep.

Last, but far from least, the third type of land in Coos County is the mountainous forest area. One of the most heavily timbered counties in the country, more than two-thirds of Coos County is in timber; and already more than two-fifths of the county—more than 400,000 acres—is in cut-over stump land.

The pioneers in Coos County started with the types of agriculture that still suit the climate, the lay of the land, and the markets. There was dairying in the valleys, range live-

stock grazing in the hills, and lumbering on the mountains. As a result, according to the Coos County Land Use Planning Committee, only minor adjustments in land use are needed today, chief of which is the problem of what to do with the cut-over forest land.

That committee has found that much of this cut-over land is reverting to the county in lieu of taxes, resulting from the tendencies of some timberland owners to allow their land, after the timber is harvested, to be forfeited to the county for unpaid taxes. This throws a heavier burden on the owners of the remaining land, who are forced to pay higher taxes per acre to support schools, roads, and other public services. Recent figures show that tax delinquencies in Coos County amount to more than \$3,000,000.

Other needed adjustments outlined by the committee include: Some land now in range should be in trees, and some of the timberland should be in range. In the rich bottom land along the Coquille River, the farmers are faced with the problem of how to keep their acres from being flooded 3 to 5 months every year. Farmers in the sand-dune area,

near the mouth of the Coquille River and Coos Bay outlet, are troubled by wind erosion. Another problem confronting the dairy farmers along the north fork of the Coquille River is that of irrigation in a land of heavy but seasonal rainfall.

The Coos County Land Use Planning Committee has already made some definite recommendations which it believes will help to solve these problems. And with the selection of the county for the development of a unified program, the committee is hard at work on the development of a sound agricultural program for the individual farmer and for the county.

This land-use committee is a development from the work of a series of county agricultural economic conferences sponsored by the Oregon Extension Service, which had already laid the ground work for the orderly improvement of the county's agricultural industry.

In making its recommendations, the committee has kept in mind the need for increasing the tax base by finding a profitable use for many acres of land now going to waste. This land will eventually supplement, on the tax rolls, timberland and other assessable property now being depleted.

Specifically, the committee has recommended that 300 new farms should be developed in the county by clearing 10,000 acres of timberland and developing 150,000 additional acres of land. It also asked that 200 farms be diverted from farm land to other uses such as timber production. These farms are located for the most part at the heads of streams, and it was believed that they were not capable of providing a reasonable standard of living for farm families. In addition, the committee suggested that 5,300 acres of hill land be diverted from grain hay to perennial grasses and clovers to check losses by erosion, maintain soil fertility, and provide a more profitable system of farming.

Result of these recommendations would be that the farm population of the county would be increased by about 400 people, and there would be 100 more farms than there are today.

The county land use committee is working on a coordinated program for flood control, wind erosion, and related problems with the War Department, Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Agricultural Economics. For the people of Coos County realize that their prosperity depends upon the development of a long-time land use program for the county in which forest land, range land, and farm land each yield maximum benefits.

■ Twenty-three counties in Oregon last year made use of the home economics extension play-loan service by borrowing a total of \$26 plays, from which between 75 and 100 were finally selected and produced. Ninety-three organizations in 79 communities made use of this service.

Developing a Regional Marketing Program

WILLIAM C. OCKEY, Senior Extension Economist, United States Department of Agriculture

The Northeastern Vegetable and Potato Council, after 2 years' activity in promoting and encouraging the advancement of the vegetable industry in the Northeastern States, has some impressive achievements to its credit. Membership in the council is composed of representative growers from each of the cooperating States from Virginia to Maine. The majority of the members represent associations or organizations of growers in their own States. During the first year, an average of 20 growers from 4 to 7 States attended the monthly meetings of the council, and in recent months the attendance has increased considerably. Representatives from the State extension services, State colleges, and State departments of agriculture also attended and participated in the meetings.

Distributor Groups Cooperate

It soon became apparent that before any practical marketing program could be developed, the advice and assistance of retail and wholesale distributors of vegetables and potatoes should be obtained. Consequently, at the regular meeting of the council in April 1939, the cooperation of various distributor groups was requested in formulating a marketing program for the 1939 season. Representatives of the National League of Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Distributors, corporate chains, voluntary chains, National Association of Food Chains, and the Cooperative Food Distributors of America were present and discussed marketing problems of the northeastern vegetable industry. Representatives were appointed from these groups to meet with representatives of the northeastern council, the Extension Service, the Federal Department of Agriculture, and State departments of agriculture to draft a tentative marketing program which, after considerable discussion and some changes, was formally adopted at the next regular meeting of the council.

The Northeastern Vegetable and Potato Council sponsored the coordinated program for the entire area. Market committees were then organized through the assistance of the Extension Service to develop the program around the principal market centers, including New York City, the Connecticut Valley, Albany, Buffalo, Syracuse, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. This allowed greater flexibility in operation to meet local conditions. In some centers the market committees were composed only of growers, whereas in others both growers and distributors were members. In all instances, distributors were asked to meet with the market committees on various

phases of the program and were particularly helpful in conducting special merchandising campaigns and in discussions pertaining to grades and packages.

One of the most successful parts of the program was the improvement in adequate and timely market and crop information. Growers felt that a market news report from the New York City market should be available at an early hour in the morning so that the information could be used as a guide in their harvesting and marketing operations. The New York office of the Market News Service furnished a man to obtain market price and supply information relative to about 12 crops by 6 a. m. each morning. This special report was then telephoned to Radio Station WOR at Newark, N. J., by 6:15 a. m. and released on the farmers' program at 6:30 a. m. The list of vegetables for which special market information was obtained was changed with the seasons. In connection with this report, a market flash on spinach was wired to Radio Station WTAR in Norfolk, Va., each morning, to be broadcast to the spinach growers in the Virginia area.

A somewhat different type of market information was developed in connection with the marketing of early potatoes in up-State New York. Potato growers believed that price conditions were being adversely affected by lack of information on prices offered throughout the area, particularly by trucker buyers. To meet this need, a program was developed in which information on the harvesting of the crop and the prices paid to growers was assembled by county agents and telephoned to the Market News office in Rochester each evening. The following morning a market report for potatoes, showing quantities received and prices obtained on the Syracuse and Buffalo markets, was telephoned by the Market News reporter to the Rochester office. This information was broadcast each weekday from 7:30 to 7:45 a. m. and also was posted on bulletin boards in strategic places where farmers could easily see it. The net results of these efforts were that growers throughout the producing area had as much information as the buyers and, consequently, were in a better position to obtain the full market value in making sales of their product.

Grades and Packages

Standard containers for certain vegetables were recommended at the meeting of the council in March 1939, and an effort was made to bring this matter to the attention of the growers. The various market com-

mittees discussed the question of grades and packages at considerable length; and, in the Buffalo area, representative distributors offered to discuss at farmers' meetings the types of containers which could best satisfy their demands. Packaging and grading demonstrations were arranged in the Albany market for the benefit of farmers waiting in line with their trucks. All market committees are asking for more work in this field.

Merchandising Campaigns

Special merchandising programs were developed for early potatoes, cauliflower, squash, and peaches in the 1939 season. In addition, similar programs were conducted for tomatoes, sweetpotatoes, and melons in one or two local market areas. These programs were designed to obtain the cooperation of the trade in simultaneously pushing the sale of products when it appeared that very heavy supplies at the peak of harvest time would be available on the market.

The local market committee decided when a merchandising program was needed and the crop to which it should apply. The trade was consulted at least 3 weeks in advance of the tentative date. Crop conditions were checked to determine as closely as possible the exact date of the peak movement of supplies, and then a definite date for the program was set at least one week in advance to give distributors a chance to arrange the details of the sale. The trade then advertised and gave extra merchandising effort to move the designated crop during the dates of the campaign, usually about 1 week, though in the case of squash and cauliflower the campaigns were longer.

In view of the heavy crop of peaches last season, growers asked the council to help in developing a merchandising program to move New York State peaches. Large supplies of peaches were moved into surrounding markets; and, in spite of the unusually heavy crop, growers were able to find a market for their peaches.

In order to obtain a more widespread understanding on the part of consumers of the time when locally produced vegetables were of finest quality, in abundant supply, and, therefore, were a good bargain, the home economics and editorial departments of the State colleges and State departments of agriculture assembled information on methods of preparing different vegetables, recipes, and suggestions as to the most advantageous time to buy these products. This information was released to the newspapers and over the radio station networks and was

timed to coincide with special sales efforts in the merchandising campaigns. Information concerning many products was released during the peak of harvest.

The program of the Northeastern Vegetable and Potato Council is a long-time program, through which it has sought to direct the

combined efforts of existing organizations toward some practical solution of the problems affecting the vegetable industry in the Northeast. Perhaps the fine cooperation received from growers, distributors, and public agencies is one of the best results of the 2 years of effort.

have been conducted to study American agriculture. From Aroostook County, Maine, to Olympia, Wash., and from the great central California Valley to the Atlantic Coastal Plain, members of these tours visited and studied examples of scientific commercial farming, subsistence farming, and of pioneer settlement in cut-over timber areas. They talked with AAA cooperators in the Corn, Wheat, and Cotton Belts; with FSA rehabilitation clients; with soil conservation district supervisors; and with members of resettlement communities in a dozen States. The scope of their observation and study was even wider than this. Members of these conferences saw the vital relation between sustained-yield forest management in the Rockies and the irrigation agriculture of the High Plains. At Mesa Verde, Colo., and elsewhere in the semiarid regions, they saw evidence of the effect of drought on prewhite habitation and on the natural vegetation. In western Kansas they saw what could be done in restoring land by the insistence on a few simple conservation practices. In the cotton South and in mountain areas of the Appalachians, they saw the effects wrought by family-living plans on the health and stability of FSA clients. In half a hundred ways they observed the range and variety of natural and cultural conditions under which American agriculture is carried on and to which agricultural land use planning, if it is to be feasible, must be related.

Building programs which will make the best use of our agricultural land resources is a pioneer field into which farmers, technical experts, and administrators of the land-grant colleges and the Department of Agriculture are just entering. The series of traveling conferences recently completed was a new experiment with an educational device long known and employed by agricultural extension workers. The use of such "county agricultural tours" would appear to improve greatly the chances of the success of agricultural land use planning.

Farm and City

Farmers and businessmen are cooperating wholeheartedly in Ben Hill County, Ga., in a movement to establish better relationships between the two groups. Sixty-eight leading farmers and farm women assembled at the Fitzgerald Courthouse recently for the farmers' rally day sponsored by the county agent, R. D. Stephens, and the businessmen's club. County agricultural program planning was discussed by the agent, and three extension specialists made short talks in regard to their respective work. They were Charles E. Bell, Jr., swine specialist; Frank W. Fitch, dairyman; and J. A. Johnson, district agent for southwest Georgia. Great interest was manifested in the meeting, and Ben Hill County farmers and businessmen have high hopes of going places with this method of cooperation.

Traveling Conferences Show Regional Land Use Problems

DONALD C. BLAISDELL, Assistant to the Under Secretary of Agriculture

■ A "county agent's tour" on a regional scale—this in a phrase describes the traveling conferences on agricultural land use planning completed in January. Policy making, operating, research, and extension people from the Department of Agriculture, from its field services, and from the land-grant colleges were among those who took these tours.

These were study tours, and the hours of study were long. Sometimes the "students" put in a 10-hour day; more often it was 12 or 14. And anywhere from 250 to 500 miles were covered every day. The range of discussion was equally wide. Planning for a more stable agriculture was the subject under discussion. Agriculture was thought of as something more than the raising and disposing of crops and livestock. It was thought of from other angles as well. Anthropology, geology, history, and social psychology shared with biology, botany, genetics, and economics the time and attention of those taking part in the tours. Planning the use of agricultural land would be no problem if there were no people and no human institutions to take into account. But with people and their ways firmly established on the land, planning becomes an art requiring understanding of human relations as well as wide technical knowledge for its successful practice.

Under the terms of the Mount Weather agreement (July 1938), agricultural land use planning is a joint and cooperative responsibility of the land-grant institutions and the Department of Agriculture. Among other things, the colleges agree to establish and maintain State and county land use planning committees, and the Department has in each State a representative of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics' planning agency for its over-all program. Plans worked out by county committees and forwarded through the State committee to Washington are there reviewed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and an interbureau committee and, as far as possible, are incorporated into current action programs. Thus representative

farmers work with Extension Service people and field and Washington representatives of the Department of Agriculture in adapting national programs of agricultural adjustment, conservation, erosion, and flood control, and rural rehabilitation to local needs and resources, as far as is legally and administratively possible.

Automobile study-conference tours provide a tool shaped to facilitate this process of agricultural land use planning. They aimed to bring together within a given farming area those State and Federal officials from the Extension Service, the experiment stations, and from the Department of Agriculture who have responsibilities for carrying out this planning process, and to provide them with an opportunity for collective study of the area and its people. A series of four or more regional conferences in city hotels might have been held for this purpose. But they would not have brought an area's possibilities and problems as forcibly to the attention of the group as an automobile tour through the area. So traveling tours were decided upon.

Since last July seven of these tours have been held. Six of them were held between July 1 and Christmas time; the seventh was completed in January. They covered: (1) New York and New England, (2) the Pacific Coast States, (3) the Northern Great Plains, (4) the Southern Great Plains, (5) the Lake States, (6) the Corn Belt, and (7) the Cotton Belt. In each case the route was worked out by land-grant college and Department of Agriculture people, the governing factor (other than available time) being the desire to include as many opportunities as possible to observe how the various agricultural programs were working out in practice and how well they were adapted to the needs of a more secure agriculture in that area. In each State, provisions were usually made in the itinerary for two meetings, one with a county land use planning committee and the other with the college extension service and experiment station staffs.

Throughout the United States, these tours

The White House Conference on Children in a Democracy

Five hundred members of the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy met in January to discuss the many problems of children in the modern world. Educators, social workers, religious leaders, Government officials, labor leaders, and others interested in child welfare made their contributions. The President of the United States discussed the problems with the conference members in the East Room of the White House, and Mrs. Roosevelt took an active part in the meeting. Among those taking an active part in the committee discussions and working on the reports was Hortense P. Hogue, home demonstration agent in Mason County, W. Va. In the following article she tells of what the meeting might mean to a home demonstration agent. Following Miss Hogue's article are some of the high lights in the follow-up program adopted by the conference. The excerpts given here indicate some of the general recommendations of the group.

From a Home Demonstration Agent

■ The White House Conference on Children in a Democracy spoke to all the people for all the children. There are some 36 million children under 16 years of age in the United States and about 5 million more aged 16 and 17 years. They are the citizens of our United States upon whose shoulders rests the future welfare of our national democracy.

During the period of growth of the child, we are able to recognize certain individual needs, as well as other needs which are connected with those of his family or community. Many different groups, agencies, and individuals in addition to his own family, take an active part in training the child. None of these, however, can successfully give service without regard for the others. Oftentimes the work of one has failed through ignorance of the efforts of another. Thus, in order for the plans brought forth by the conference to be effective, there must be a correlation of the work of all of these agencies.

We in the home demonstration program and in extension work in general can have a very active part in the work set up by the White House Conference.

Membership in the conference was made up of representatives of practically every organization and agency dealing with child life. The members came from all parts of the United States and the territories, giving to the conference a broad outlook on existing situations.

Discussion groups under the following topics were made up: Family life as the threshold of democracy; Economic resources of families and communities; Housing the family; Economic aid to families; Social services for children; Children in minority groups; Religion; Health and medical care; Education; Leisure time activities; and Child labor and youth employment.

Recommendations were made by the discussion groups for the general conference, and definite things that could be worked out and put to a practical use were presented.

The conference was merely a planning group and was only the beginning of the program which must reach children in every community and every State to be effective. It must mean something to Johnny, whose father is dead; to Mary who shares in the work of the family as it follows the crops, never staying in any one place long enough for Mary really to become settled in school; to undernourished Stephen or crippled Susie; or to George whose mother is at her wits' end to know why he is forever coming to the attention of the police and the juvenile court.

The follow-up program of the conference will vary in each State and each community according to the immediate needs. In light of the fact that the conference approached the problems from the family standpoint, we, as extension leaders, can interpret the conference in our work in the following ways:

If we can only help our rural families to become more self-sufficient and thereby improve their economic status, they can have

money to spend for needed physical comforts. This can probably be done through homemakers keeping household accounts and budgeting the farm income. We can help them through encouragement of planning the family food supply so as to include an adequate amount of protective foods grown in home gardens. Thus the nutrition of the children will be improved.

By means of study groups in our home demonstration clubs, let us encourage broader family relationships which will include the children in family council and in making decisions about family problems. Mrs. Roosevelt in her talk to the conference members asked that children be given more responsibility, adding that much was to be learned by doing.

Definite problems may be taken and worked through in our own counties. For instance, if we can help all school children in our counties to be better nourished through a school lunch program, then we have done a great deal toward preservation of the health of the children of our country.

A committee composed of representatives from each organization and agency in our counties which work with children could be formed to work on such a problem.

If we but strive together, we can present to the world a picture of the Nation devoting thought and resources to building for the future. Thus the fourth White House Conference for Children will serve the child of today and the children of the future.—*Hortense P. Hogue, Home Demonstration Agent, Mason County, W. Va.*

From the Follow-Up Committee

■ To put the recommendations of the conference into effect is not a matter of creating new agencies. Existing organizations need a continuing source of information and help in directing their efforts into the most fruitful channels and in more fully coordinating their activities. There is need also to bring the work of the conference to the attention of individuals all over this country so that the goals for childhood which the conference set forth may be realized.

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The committee recommends that follow-up work should be started at once and that responsibility for national leadership in the follow-up program be placed in a national citizens' committee and a Federal inter-agency committee on the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy. The

national citizens' committee should be non-governmental in character, representing various organizations and associations that have participated in the work of the conference. The Federal inter-agency committee should include representatives of Federal agencies that have participated in the conference activities.

State follow-up programs should be inaugurated and adapted to the special problems and circumstances in each State.

State groups responsible for follow-up programs should provide leadership to local communities which desire to organize or expand local programs for determining the ways by which children may be given more adequate care in their homes and through community services.

4-H Club Sets up Wildlife Area

■ The establishment of a 12,320-acre wildlife-management area was an accomplishment of the 18 members of the Twilight Community 4-H Club in Laclede County, Mo., in 1939. The small-game refuge is the first in the State to be sponsored and set up by members of a 4-H Club.

The club evidenced an interest in wildlife-conservation work early in the year when the members requested 200 pounds of lespedeza seed from the Missouri Conservation Commission. This they seeded along gullies, in little-used fields, and other such places for the benefit of quail. Later, club members ordered black-locust seedlings to be set out in eroded spots so that cover would be furnished for game.

When the transplanting of seedlings ended, the group decided to attempt the formation of a refuge area to embrace the entire community. They sponsored a series of community meetings at which the general plan was presented. Sentiment appeared to be favorable, so the group began a complete survey of the area. To do this, individual members visited each farm and drew in on a map the fields, streams, waste areas, ponds, and woodlands.

As the work progressed, it attracted increased interest among the farmers of the community, and they gave full cooperation to the survey. Then, when the survey was completed, the farm owners and operators met on September 15 at the community center and agreed to follow an area-management plan. This plan included provisions for restricting game killing, improving natu-

In all States and in local communities, existing organizations interested in child welfare shall participate to the fullest extent possible; and national, State, and local organizations shall stress continuity and progressive development of the services they are prepared to render.

In this hour of world-wide confusion, we met in our Nation's Capital to accept a call for action to do those things that can be done now for children, to safeguard the strong family life which is absolutely essential to our democracy, and to plan now those things that must be left for the morrow. We can present to the world a picture of a nation devoting thought and resources to building for the future. Thus the fourth White House Conference for Children will serve the child of today and the children of the future.

ral cover for wildlife, and making available greater amounts of water and feed.

The details of the plan were worked out by the club members with the help of Hensley Hall, county agricultural agent of Laclede County, and of Arthur Denny, field biologist of the State conservation commission. The plan was accepted by the commission without revision and was put into effect the first of November.

Already, the area has been posted with 2,500 signs bearing the wording, "Owner's permit required for hunting, trapping, fishing, or trespassing." Ten additional ponds have been planned for the area to insure an adequate water supply, and one is already under construction. The equipment for this work is being furnished by the community and the conservation commission. The ponds, which are to be one-fourth acre or more in size and at least 6 feet deep, will have spillways and will be fenced. Water for livestock will be piped to tanks below the ponds. The banks and edges of the ponds will be planted to aquatic plants, such as spikebrush and arrowhead.

An interesting result of the establishment of this game-management area has been that two other communities in the same county also have decided to set up such an arrangement. One of these new areas will consist of 17,120 acres and the other of 10,432 acres. They are being established by the farmers themselves. However, they are an outgrowth of the interest created when the twilight 4-H Club established their area, according to County Agent Hall.

M. L. Wilson

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of the Land-Grant College Association and the Department of Agriculture, which has formulated the modern principles of relationship between the Federal and the State agencies. This committee was the author of the agreement of July 8, 1939, which now directs the local-State-Federal system of agricultural program planning.

Mr. Wilson has been a leader in developing the administration of the Federal programs for assistance to the underprivileged group in agriculture whose problems have increasingly become of concern to the entire Nation. He has been active also in work of an interdepartmental nature. In 1935 President Roosevelt appointed Mr. Wilson to the Committee to Coordinate Health and Welfare Activities. The proposed national health program, of which the recently recommended hospital construction program is a part, grew out of the studies and recommendations which this committee made to the President.

Mr. Wilson has long concerned himself with the making of new ways for enriching and advancing the processes of democracy. The extension worker schools and discussion group program carried on by the program planning and discussion section of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics offers such opportunities. Another instance of this concern was his organization of the "democracy lectures" offered by the United States Department of Agriculture Graduate School in 1937-38. The book, *Democracy Has Roots*, was an outgrowth of this series of lectures and discussions. Sometimes this concern expresses itself through creating opportunities for enabling people the better to understand the problems which our democracy faces. Or perhaps a new technique or procedure will provide for widespread popular participation, thus embodying his belief that people must work in the ways of democracy if they are to work for democracy. The community and county AAA committees, the soil conservation districts machinery, and the county agricultural land use planning committees are examples of pioneer thinking in the field of implementing democratic representative government in agriculture. All of them bear the imprint, in one way or another, of Mr. Wilson's democratic philosophy and inventive mind.

Perhaps Mr. Wilson's best-known characteristic is his warm sympathy for every human being. His friendly welcome to great and small is as real and as vivid as in the days when he knew practically every Montana farmer by his first name. To most of them he was just "M. L." Since then hundreds of others have come to know him by the same name. It sums up, as nothing else can, the sympathy, tolerance, and understanding of the new Director of the Department's Extension Work.

Low-Cost Milk Program Seeks Wider Outlets

■ An effort to help restore at least part of the dairy farmers' sharply curtailed outlet for fluid milk among needy and relief families is being made through low-cost milk programs operating with Federal funds.

The typical family receiving public aid buys little or no milk. The reason for this is quite obvious. Relief families have very little money to spend, and what purchasing power they have must be stretched as far as it will go. The ordinary cost of fluid milk is such that needy families generally feel they cannot afford to buy it.

Dairy farmers who produce milk for fluid markets are well aware of the inroads which the lack of adequate buying power among millions of needy consumers has made in the sale of their product. The resulting curtailment in fluid milk consumption among these people has lowered returns to producers and added to the problem of price-depressing surpluses in their markets.

Benefits to Dairy Farmers

The low-cost milk programs are designed to overcome this situation for dairy farmers through encouraging increased fluid-milk consumption among relief families by making available supplies at less than the customary retail price in the market. Where these programs are in effect they supplement operations under Federal marketing agreements and orders which regulate handlers in fluid-milk markets. This assures that benefits of the low-cost milk program which are intended for dairy farmers will be reflected to them in full.

The idea behind the low-cost milk programs is simple. In the first place, the programs bring into use with higher returns to dairy farmers substantial quantities of milk which these producers had been selling for cream and manufacturing purposes at lower prices. Secondly, the operation of these programs makes available additional supplies of milk to many needy families, and quantities of milk to other needy families who were unable to get any milk because of their inability to buy. And from the standpoint of the handlers, the programs mean a larger volume of milk running through their plants.

Low-cost milk programs are in effect in the Boston and Chicago milk markets. Extension of the programs to other fluid-milk markets is contemplated. Special producer prices, which would apply in the event a low-cost milk program should go into effect, are provided in a number of the Federal marketing agreements and orders regulating the handling of milk in fluid markets. Among these are the New York, District of Columbia, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Fort Wayne markets.

The low-cost milk programs are developed in the Dairy Section of the Department of Agriculture's Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements. The operation of these programs depends upon the cooperation of producers, handlers, and municipal authorities.

Up until about 2 years ago, only manufactured dairy products, such as butter, evaporated milk, dry skim milk, and cheese were bought under surplus removal programs to aid the dairy industry. About the middle of 1937, a program was inaugurated for buying fluid milk for relief distribution to supplement operations under the Federal order for handlers in the Boston milk market. When this program was started, the milk was bought by the Federal Government and donated to the welfare agencies in the Boston area. These agencies paid 2 cents a quart to cover the cost of processing, pasteurization, and delivery to relief distribution stations by the handlers.

In the summer of 1939, Congress authorized a somewhat broader means for increasing the use of agricultural products through indemnity or other payments. This made it possible to modify the mechanics of the relief milk program in the Boston area.

Low-Cost Milk in Boston

The modified program has made it possible for eligible needy families in the Boston area to buy the milk at low cost instead of having it given to them. Under the low-cost milk program, the Federal Government pays indemnities to handlers in connection with the sale of the milk through public relief agencies. In Boston, persons receiving general relief pay 5 cents per quart, and persons receiving other public or private relief pay 7 cents for the milk. The rate of the indemnity amounts to a little under 2 cents per quart, which is the difference between the class 1, or fluid milk, price to producers under the terms of the Federal order in the Boston market and the 5-cent selling price.

Welfare agencies have the milk bottled, pasteurized, and delivered to the distributing stations through competitive bids from handlers. It is rather interesting to note that the cost of these services in Boston averages less than 1½ cents per quart. Although the agencies pay the processing, bottling, and delivery costs on milk sold at 5 cents to persons receiving general relief, persons receiving other types of aid meet this cost by paying 7 cents per quart. The distributing depots are provided and maintained by the relief agencies.

Under the low-cost milk program in the Boston area, relief families are buying about 65,000 quarts of milk a day for 5 and 7 cents

per quart at approximately 100 depots. Before the program started in 1937, a survey revealed that 45 percent of the relief families were buying no milk at all. The families in the remaining 55 percent were purchasing milk in various quantities, but on the whole, nowhere near the amount needed for well-balanced diets. The low-cost milk program has brought about a definite increase in fluid-milk consumption, and this gain is reflected in returns received by all producers of milk for the Boston marketing area.

Milk for Chicago's Needy

The low-cost milk program in effect in Chicago since November 13, 1939, operates on a slightly different basis. The Chicago Relief Administration pays 4 cents a quart for milk delivered by handlers to distributing stations, and 5 cents per quart for milk delivered to the homes of relief families. Relief families get this milk free in addition to relief checks, or as food supplies in place of a part of the relief checks if the relief commissioner has no special funds for buying fluid milk for distribution to the needy. Handlers who supply the milk are paid a Federal indemnity which is in addition to the amount paid by the Chicago Relief Administration. When the program started, bids accepted from handlers required an indemnity payment averaging 2.4 cents per quart on milk delivered to homes and 1.47 cents per quart on milk delivered to distributing stations. Recently new bids were accepted on station-delivered milk, and these averaged 0.98 cent per quart for deliveries to 21 depots.

More Milk Consumed

Under the order regulating the handling of milk in the Chicago market, the special price established for producers on milk used in the low-cost milk program is about 3 cents per quart. Reports from the Chicago Relief Administration show that through the low-cost milk program the agency is able to furnish free to approximately 72,000 needy families 100,000 quarts of milk daily.

In carrying out the low-cost milk programs, one of the prime objectives is to make it possible for people to use milk in greater quantities with a minimum amount of interference with regular business. The programs indicate the possibilities for increasing fluid-milk sales to low-income consumers through prices which involve a minimum of service and risk. Obviously, there is an opportunity for substantial increase in milk consumption among low-income families, with real benefits to producers through improved returns.

School Lunch Program Uses Farm Surpluses

■ More than a million children are each day helping to eat farm surpluses in the free school lunch program of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

Surplus agricultural commodities are bought by the FSCC and donated to State welfare agencies under the direct purchase and distribution phase of the Corporation's surplus removal activities. Some of these surplus commodities are then made available to local sponsors of the school lunch programs for undernourished children.

Free school lunches became an important outlet for farmers' surpluses during the school year 1938-39. In that year, an average of half a million underfed children in 8,600 schools received these lunches each month. The program expanded rapidly and, at the peak, served nearly 900,000 children in 14,000 schools.

About 29 million pounds of surplus foods were used in preparing the school lunches during the year. Oranges and grapefruit, raisins, and dried peaches were leaders among the surplus fruits available for the lunches. Butter and dry skim milk were most important among dairy products; and the list of staples included such items as potatoes, rice, dried beans, wheat cereal, corn meal, and white and whole-wheat flour.

The school lunch program is very definitely a cooperative project. The part that the FSCC plays in the program is primarily that of providing the surplus commodities. These donated commodities make the lunch programs possible; and interested local groups supply equipment, labor, and any additional foods needed in the preparation of well-rounded lunches. The actual initiation, operation, and sponsorship of the lunch programs is the job of these local interests. The sponsoring groups include educational, civic, and welfare agencies. In many instances, the local agencies receive aid from the Work Projects Administration.

School officials and health and nutrition authorities have reported that children receiving the lunches last year improved in health, showed gains in weight, and had fewer absences from school. Because of these benefits to undernourished children, and the fact that the program provided an effective outlet for farm surpluses, the FSCC planned to encourage expansion of the program for this year. To this end, arrangements were made to assist local groups in organizing lunch programs.

During November of this school year, 1,100,000 children received the free lunches each day. Nearly 15,000 schools, in every State and in more than half the counties, were participating. About 7,500,000 pounds of

surplus foods were used in the lunches during that month.

Incomplete returns for December and January indicated still further expansion of the lunch project. The FSCC and the cooperating agencies were continuing their efforts to use farm surpluses in a program which guarantees hungry children at least one good meal a day.

Working with REA

Home demonstration agents and agricultural agents have been doing good work in cooperation with REA in many counties to their mutual advantage. For instance, at the turkey festival in Rockingham County, Va., the home demonstration agent, Regenia Fuller and the REA home electrification specialist, Elva Bohannon, worked together in putting on a turkey-cooking contest which was combined with a demonstration of all kinds of electrical equipment. Four teams of 4-H Club girls roasted 16 turkeys in electric ranges and roasters.

Appreciation of the cooperation given by county extension agents was recently expressed by Boyd Fisher, chairman, National REA Membership Enrollment Committee, in a letter to the Director of Extension in which he said in part: "Excerpts from the reports of our field people reveal the fact that extension people generally put their shoulders to the wheel in the membership campaign, and this constitutes a milestone in the relationship between REA and the Extension Service. Of course, the real campaign is the slow drive for members on the projects, and we shall continue to need the moral support and advice of the county agents. I should not wonder if the effect would increase as the word gets around among the extension people of the really fine effects of collaboration so far."

Some of the excerpts from field REA reports referred to by Mr. Fisher were:

"The county agent in Paulding County, Ohio, said we could depend 100 percent on his cooperation because it meant more than anything which had come to this county in the last 50 years.

"The Delaware State extension agent and the county agricultural and home demonstration representatives from two counties promised full cooperation. This means much for our Delaware project because these men and women are leaders.

"We found the people in Scott County, Minn., interested in going ahead, with County Agent Miller more than usually interested. Mr. Miller is of the opinion that plenty of men can be found who will work without compensation on this project. The others were inclined to agree with him.

"I can surely say that we had fine cooperation in Idaho from the Extension Service and the college. They seem anxious and willing to fit into our plans and also to help these projects give the greatest possible service to their communities."

C. W. Warburton

(Continued from page 34)

the committee for cooperation with the Tennessee Valley Authority, and as a member of a number of committees dealing with emergency conditions created by floods, droughts, and hurricanes. These various activities have given him a comprehension of the assets which the country has in technical knowledge, practical wisdom and experience among rural people and the agencies serving them. With this knowledge, he has gained the confidence of local people as well as that of workers in other Federal organizations and has developed an efficient organization for the cooperative extension service.

Dr. Warburton is a native of Iowa and received the degree of bachelor of science from Iowa State College in 1902. He came to the Office of Farm Management in the United States Department of Agriculture in 1903 as a scientific aid. From 1904 to 1906 he supervised demonstration farms in Texas for that office, and in 1907 he was transferred to the Office of Cereal Investigations of the Bureau of Plant Industry. In 1911 Dr. Warburton left the Department to become associate editor of *The Farmer*, published in St. Paul, but returned to the Bureau of Plant Industry in 1912 in charge of oats investigations, continuing until 1918, when he was given supervision of all agronomic cereal research. During the war period, and also later, he was in charge of emergency seed loans.

In 1923 Dr. Warburton was appointed director of extension work, United States Department of Agriculture. He also has given unstintingly of his time, counsel, and advice to such administrations as the Agricultural Adjustment, Resettlement, Soil Conservation, Emergency Relief, Federal Housing, Rural Electrification, and others.

The whole Extension Service is indebted to Dr. Warburton for his success in dealing with both the regular and special appropriations, particularly the Capper-Ketchum Act and Bankhead-Jones Act. His easy accessibility to all extension workers and his generous cooperation have won for him admiration and popularity in the Washington office and in the States. The Iowa State College conferred upon him the honorary degree of doctor of science in 1925. Dr. Warburton is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Epsilon Sigma Phi, by which he was awarded the ruby for distinguished national service to farm people.

Homemakers Forum on the Air

**ELIZABETH G. LEAMING, Home Demonstration Agent at Large,
New Jersey**

Seven years of experience with the Homemakers Forum have shown us in New Jersey that the radio is a valuable medium in disseminating information gained from scientific progress. The Homemakers Forum originates in Newark over Station WOR and is carried from coast to coast through the Mutual Broadcasting System. But even after 7 years, we still feel that the venture is an experiment, for all radio work seems to change so fast that it never becomes stable. Perhaps that is a part of the fun of teaching over the air waves.

When New Jersey first launched its experiment with radio home economics, there was little sequence of thought from one program to another. Each was a unit in itself. Then came the idea of series of broadcasts, with all programs based on one central theme. Study groups were organized throughout the State, and mothers gathered in one home within a community, settled themselves for 15 minutes around the radio, and then discussed for hours the points sent to them by their leader. One leader could reach many homes and communities all at one time—homes of the most urban type and those in the most isolated sections.

Series Broadcasts Prove Successful

The idea of series has remained, and during the last year we have had four, each with a different basic theme, but all in the interest of children and family living—useful and happy living. The large response coming from practically all States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, and even Honolulu, from individual listeners, from study groups, and from educational leaders has been gratifying and indicative of the value of the broadcasts.

Mrs. Marion F. McDowell, State extension specialist in child development and family relations, of Rutgers University, is the central figure of this radio activity. From her direct contact with home demonstration agents, the women of the State, and educational leaders of the field, and with her own insight into "what makes humans tick," she has first-hand knowledge of the problems that parents face in setting up successful living; her leadership is the guide of the forum. However, the forum is by no means a one-woman job. It is cooperative teaching, drawing on the home demonstration agents for ideas, for study group organization, and sometimes for the programs themselves; on much of the State extension staff; and on leaders in cooperative agencies as well as on the staff of WOR. These groups repre-

sent many minds, and often before a program is finally set up there are many stimulating clashes in thought.

Our first series of 1939 was called Family Fables, and was based on excerpts from two of Dorothy Canfield Fisher's books, *Fables for Parents* and *The Homemaker*, with discussions given by specialists. The time of the program was 1:30 p. m. in the East—a time not so advantageous for study groups because it was too soon after lunch for mothers to get together. Still, there were 214 groups organized with a membership of 2,387.

According to Mrs. McDowell, one reason why teaching in the field of family relations is so difficult is that the discussions often become too personalized and the mothers camouflage their own home conditions. Parents never want—and probably rightfully so—to air their shortcomings or family difficulties to the public. The Family Fables groups gave the homemakers a chance to discuss the "Bill" of the excerpts, who merely represented their own "Toms" and "Dicks," without making their families the subject of neighborhood gossip. The series offered much material for study-group discussion.

The study groups have their ups and downs of course. Our time has now gone back to 11:45 a. m., which is not a good time for group listening. The mothers, however, listen individually, read our digests of the talks, and then gather at a more appropriate time for discussion. Too, there are seasons of the year when homemakers do not spend their busy hours in group discussion. This was one reason why our summer series,

A Nation on the Move, was planned for individual listeners and with vacationists in mind. Then in the fall, the forum took on a more serious aspect again with its series, *Twelve Typical Children*, planned in the interest of such children as the crippled and the mentally handicapped who need great understanding. It proved a good subject for group listening, just as did the series, *Your Child's Health*, given in the spring.

The Medical Society of New Jersey and the New Jersey State Dental Society both cooperated extensively with the spring series in the effort to bring broader understanding of some of the health problems common to children from infancy on through adolescence. Twenty-five thousand copies of the printed program were distributed; and the response was large from grateful parents, doctors, nurses, dentists, dietitians, hospitals, welfare associations, boards of education, and church organizations. Leaders of both the cooperating societies expressed their appreciation of the opportunity provided to present reliable health information.

Security of Program Time

Another difficulty that the Homemakers Forum experienced in its early days was the insecurity of the program time. At times women were ready to listen; then a station change would either shift the program to some other time during the day or cut it out entirely. But WOR officials have been most cooperative and have remedied that situation by guaranteeing the time against commercial sale for a complete series at one sweep.

The first series of 1940 runs through March. We are trying *Chats With Father*, based largely on Mrs. McDowell's statement that the new thing in parent studies is to enlist the interest of fathers—another experiment! It is on the air Wednesday mornings at 11:45 E. S. T.

Putting their heads together for the Homemakers Forum on Your Child's Health are Marjorie Merritt, of the editorial staff; Dr. Joseph H. Kler, of the Medical Society of New Jersey; Dr. Philip L. Swartz, vice president of the New Jersey State Board of Dental Examiners; and Mrs. Marion F. McDowell, specialist in child development and family relations.



Have You Read?

The Agrarian Revival, by Russell Lord. 236 pp. American Association for Adult Education. New York. George Grady Press, 1939.

This is the newest book in a series of studies issued by the American Association for Adult Education, with the aid of funds made available by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. This series includes such books as *Listen and Learn*, by F. E. Hill, and *Rural America Reads*, by Marion Humble.

The author says: "This is an account of action teaching in the open country . . . I shall try to bring together . . . a succession of facts and instances by which readers interested in the American dream, in public education, in democracy . . . may estimate the educational progress of a movement which in many of its aspects may be called . . . 'a revival of America's agrarianism, led from colleges.'"

Mr. Lord was at one time an assistant extension editor in Ohio. He now lives and writes on his farm in Maryland. In travel, reading, and writing, he spent most of a year on this book. Present-day extension workers will find in it a history they have helped to make. People they have known, some 150 of them, are named, what they thought, said, and did. It is that sort of history. Time marches on under such chapter headings as the following: *Extension Before Bureaucracy*; *They Made a Law*; *Drumfire*; *Lean Years*; and *New Dealers*. Some critical paragraphs are:

"The blessed word 'extension' has at least the virtue attributed to the sort of dress called a 'Mother Hubbard.' It covers everything and reveals nothing. But this advantage is . . . offset when extension workers seek to win public understanding of their work. They are endlessly handicapped by an elegant fuzziness of terminology.

"I have seen many good agents, both men and women . . . prevented from doing their best work . . . by local domination . . . many more than . . . because of overhead domination from the State college or from Washington."

An appreciation of extension teaching methods is found in this comment:

"Workers in no other field of adult education have done as complete a job as have extension workers in disseminating information by word of mouth, by printed word of action, by plain words printed in pamphlets, circulars, bulletins, reports."

Mr. Lord concludes his study with this statement: "The methods may be crude at first; the programs diffused and ill considered; the training of the staff inadequate; and the demands on time and strength beyond reason; but I have found in nearly all programs of agricultural extension a close grip on actual and pressing problems, an earthy

and healthy sense of dealing barehanded with reality, and—how shall I say it?—a sustaining sense of motion."—*Florence L. Hall*, senior home economist, *Extension Service*, *United States Department of Agriculture*.

Summer Workshop

Merrill-Palmer School, Detroit, Mich., will offer a summer workshop in child development from June 24 to August 1. The program will be planned for both men and women supervisors, teachers, extension workers, group leaders, and social workers who wish to gain an understanding of the growth and development of children in the family. The approach will be either from the point of view of those working with children or of those working with parents and other adults who are responsible for children.

A large share of the instruction will be given at the Merrill-Palmer School in Detroit, and the students will live in the school residences. They will, however, be detailed for a certain amount of time in the country where they will live with the children.

Application forms should be requested from the registrar of the Merrill-Palmer School, 71 East Ferry Avenue, Detroit, Mich., and returned by April 1. If it is not possible to spend the full period, applicants may apply for 3 weeks.

Turkey Cooperative

A nonstock turkey cooperative, started with a few members 3 years ago in Buffalo County, Nebr., has grown from an annual output of 2 cars the first 2 years to 11 cars in 1939. The members of the organization meet every month to discuss their turkey problems.

"Last fall we inspected the turkey breeding flocks and selected a shorter-legged, broader-breasted type," said County Agent Leonard Wenzl, who has carried on an intensive turkey program since coming to the county in 1936. The hens were banded. Most of the growers obtained their toms from the same source in order to have rather uniform flocks. These were called "approved flocks," and eggs from these flocks were used to form an egg pool. The association set up a cooperative processing plant at Gibbon, Nebr., and arranged to buy feed cooperatively through a local grain dealer. Last year, turkey producers contracted for refrigeration and started processing in October.

Turkey growers in the locality have established an enviable record in the quality of birds shipped. In the 11 cars were 297,807 pounds of turkeys of which 213,842 pounds, or 71.8 percent, were U. S. Prime grade.

Reasons for the high percentage of prime turkeys are: First, a high-quality turkey was raised as a result of the meetings (tours,

schools, demonstrations), and, second, processing was done by the growers themselves who took every painstaking effort possible to dress out an attractive carcass.

Two or three cars of capons are to be processed and shipped from the county following the turkey shipments. These were produced largely to provide a longer season and an increased volume for the processing plant and at the same time put to good use surplus farm labor which, for the most part, would be idle at this time of year. Capons became a cooperative marketing possibility because they were hatched early to get chicks brooded and out of the way in time for the same brooding equipment to be available for poult.

It would be difficult to enumerate the many helpful things that can come out of good farmer discussion meetings. The fine turkeys and capons, the efficient use of equipment and labor, not to mention the value of working together, have all contributed materially to an increased farm labor income and in so doing have helped to improve and maintain the farmer's buying power and his standard of living.

Farmers and City Men Meet

A new approach to a mutual understanding of the various problems which confront both farm and city people of Oregon is being made through a series of "farmer-businessmen" meetings which began in Yamhill and Umatilla Counties in December.

The meetings, held at McMinnville and Pendleton, were sponsored by the county agricultural conservation committees, with the Oregon Extension Service and the county planning committees cooperating. City residents were guests of farmers at evening dinners which were followed by open-forum discussions of local agricultural problems.

■ Charles O. Jeffries, Negro county agricultural agent in Amelia and Nottoway Counties, Virginia, his wife, and three children were burned to death when their home at Wellville was destroyed by fire the night of January 7. Mr. Jeffries, who had a bachelor of science degree from Hampton Institute, was appointed Negro county agent in Amelia County on July 1, 1932. About 1,500 farmers were cooperating with County Agent Jeffries in his demonstration work. He was especially successful in developing leadership among the Negro farmers of his counties. Mrs. Jeffries was the daughter of J. B. Pierce, Federal extension field agent in Negro work.

■ Men and women of Oswego County, N. Y., cooperated on problems of home meat supply and revived the fine old crafts of home butchering and canning. It was a 2-day affair—*butchering for the men and canning for the women out on the farm the first day and cutting and canning in a grange hall for both men and women the second day.* More than 100 people took part.

Selecting Land Use Planning Committees

Determination of farmer membership of county land use planning committees by that method that assures most representative committees is urged by both the Extension Service and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

To date most county committees have been chosen by the various appointive methods, but a few States have experimented successfully with elective methods. One such State is Maryland.

Last year, in each Maryland county in which land use planning was under way, a nominating committee named by the county committee of the previous year selected the farmer candidates for the county planning committee. This nominating committee obtained in each community the names of 12 to 14 farmer leaders whose names were then presented on a ballot to all adult farmers in the community. The 7 farmers receiving the largest number of votes were then named by the nominating committee to represent their community or area on the county committee.

Other counties where elective methods have been used include Lewis County, W. Va., and Ward County, N. Dak.

The method used in Lewis County was to divide the county into eight rural working communities, each with a conveniently located community center or meeting place. A community land use planning committee, composed of at least three farmers, one farm woman, one older 4-H Club boy or future farmer, and one older 4-H Club girl or future homemaker, was elected by the people in each community. The county committee is composed of eight farmers who are also chairmen of their respective community committees.

In Ward County, N. Dak., community meetings were held in each community to select the members of the community committees. It is estimated that one-fourth of the farm families in the county were represented at these meetings, and not one farmer refused to serve after his election.

The success of the land use planning project, to a considerable extent, depends on the degree that the committee members represent the farmers of the county and understand the different physical, economic, and social problems and interests affecting farm people.

The Department of Agriculture has not taken the position that one method is better than any other in selecting the farmer members of land use planning committees but urges that the most democratic methods be used for developing recommendations that incorporate the contributions of farmers, technicians, and administrators who know the interests, wants, and needs of farm people.

Public confidence in the membership of the land use planning committees is necessary

if the work of these committees is to be effective in obtaining farmer support for and administrative adoption of their recommendations. A method involving elective features generally enhances public confidence in the resulting committee.

Better Trained Leadership

About 175 local 4-H leaders representing 37 counties assembled in 5 centers in South Carolina at regular intervals for more definite training in the planning and conducting of monthly 4-H Club programs.

With better 4-H programs as a theme, the local leaders analyzed the meetings of the 4-H Clubs of Pickens, Aiken, Florence, and Lancaster Counties. These open meetings served as a basis for discussion of the program and leader and member participation.

The demonstration which is the characteristic feature of any 4-H Club meeting was supplied in each place by 4-H members. In three training centers, Rocky Bottom, Camp Long, and Lancaster, Peggy and Marian Funderburk, Lancaster clothing-demonstration team, gave their demonstration on protective clothing. Colleton poultry team demonstrated poultry judging to the Walterboro group, and Gwendolyn Carter graded canned products at Florence.

The group of local leaders afterwards discussed the demonstrations, methods, and what had been learned from the presentations.

These leaders were representative of about 500 leaders in the State. The five overnight or all-day meetings were planned by the State club leaders and district agents on suggestions made by local leaders. One specialist or more gave subject-matter training to each group requesting this type of assistance. This included clothing, housefurnishing, home management, and food and nutrition.

A committee was elected from each group to formulate plans for local leader training in 1940.

A committee of agents and State workers, after making some minor changes, endorsed plans used for several years for recognizing the work of local 4-H leaders. These plans include certificates and achievement seals. At the State fair last year, certain local leaders were recognized for service of 5 or more years.

Scores of 4-H leaders will receive certificates for the year's activity in training and club work at the annual State 4-H leadership-training and achievement camp at Camp Long this spring.

Reports show that 205 training sessions have been held, 36 of which have been county meetings. Seven hundred and ninety-six persons attended the county meetings. Then, as a result of training and leadership selection, leaders of girls' clubs, in the absence of the home agent, conducted 162 local meetings attended by 2,677 persons.

Illinois Women Study AAA

Two district educational meetings and a few county meetings to aid home demonstration agents and leading county homemakers in understanding the policies of the agricultural conservation program mark the entrance into a new field of cooperation on programs of the United States Department of Agriculture by the Illinois Extension Service.

Mary Stansifer, home demonstration agent at large, who was appointed recently to further the AAA educational program for women, met with the agents from 11 counties at the district AAA meeting at De Kalb and again with 14 agents at the district meeting held at Pontiac. Home demonstration agents for the first time met with the farmer fieldmen, supervisors, and county agents from 2 of the 7 districts to talk over the policies of the AAA program and to receive suggestions on how to present the information to their women. Home demonstration agents attended from Stephenson, Winnebago, Ogle, Whiteside, Lee, McHenry, Lake, De Kalb, Kane, Du Page, Henry, Bureau, La Salle, Knox, Stark, Peoria, Marshall, Putnam, Kendall, Grundy, Livingston, Ford, Will, Kankakee, and Iroquois Counties.

The main point which will be emphasized, as educational material is presented through minor project lessons, will be promotion of a better understanding between rural and urban people. The educational side of the consumer-producer problem will be studied.

Winnebago County is one of the most forward counties to hold an educational meeting to which homemakers were specifically invited. Wives of the county committeemen and one representative of each of the home bureau units were invited to the meeting. Miss Stansifer met with the women in the morning. A joint session was held in the afternoon with a panel discussion devoted to AAA problems.

Another county completing a similar type of meeting was Williamson. Du Page County later held a meeting, and Woodford County planned one for January 6. Many of the counties, reports Miss Stansifer, have gone ahead on their own to carry out minor projects on the AAA. Some counties will relay the information through their executive boards and advisory councils.

One county, Pike, had a local-leader-training meeting on the subject on January 15.

■ Clinton County, Ohio, farm groups have used the twenty-fifth anniversary of extension work as an occasion for presenting the year's achievements in a "farm progress book." The book relates the objectives, function, and achievements of the various groups, including Federal agencies, toward the solution of farm problems and the enrichment of farm life. Farm groups contributed toward the expense of publishing the book, which was made available to 2,500 Clinton County families.



F. L. Ballard, New President, Oregon State College

Frank Llewellyn Ballard, vice director of the Extension Service in Oregon, has been chosen to become president of Oregon State College on July 1, 1940, when Dr. George W. Peavy, head of the institution for the past 7 years, will retire because of age limitations.

The new president-elect was born on a New Hampshire farm 48 years ago and was reared on that farm which had been in his family for five generations. He went west when he was 21 and entered Oregon State College; but the call of the home folks in New Hampshire was strong enough that, after his graduation, he returned there and took a job as county agent. After a year he was offered the position of assistant to the State commissioner of agriculture, but he decided instead to return to Oregon where he became field agent in marketing on the college staff. His next position was assistant county agent leader for 5 years, after which he was placed in charge of all the county agent work, which position he held until he succeeded Paul V. Maris as vice director of the extension work in 1934.

His leadership with the Extension Service has been characterized by his intimate knowledge of Oregon's needs and by the development of extension programs to meet these needs. He took a leading part in the pioneer movement inaugurated in Oregon by his predecessor, in which the Oregon Extension Service sponsored State-wide and county economic conferences with farmers and businessmen to plan the development of the State's agricultural industry. This began back in 1924, a decade or more before the Nation-wide emphasis was placed on land use planning.

Mr. Ballard says that Oregon's efforts in this type of work were successful primarily because the college men merely helped the farmers in formulating their own programs rather than taking a program out and inducing the growers to adopt it. This idea of keeping close to the people and to their problems is what the president-elect plans for the entire institution.

Soil Conservation Increases Income

Can a farmer carry out his farming operations under a soil-conserving system and still maintain as satisfactory income as under his old method? David H. Walter, assistant in agricultural economics with the United States Department of Agriculture, has conducted a study under the joint supervision of the Department and the Pennsylvania State College which gives the answer.

The investigation was made in the Crooked Creek watershed in Indiana and Armstrong Counties, Pa., where the Soil Conservation Service is cooperating with many farmers in carrying out a soil-conserving program on their farms. Detailed studies were made of farm incomes for both cooperators and non-cooperators in 1934 and again in 1938.

"Our studies revealed that farmers following the soil conservation program made a greater increase in their labor incomes over the 4-year period than the noncooperators," reports Mr. Walter. "The net increase in labor income in favor of the Soil Conservation Service cooperators, after deducting the agricultural conservation program payments and a fair charge for materials furnished by the Government, was: Large dairy farms, \$228; small dairy farms, \$107; poultry farms, \$75; and general farms, \$11.

"Very little, if any, of this increase in income can be attributed to saving the soil over such a short period but must be credited primarily to the change in land-use and farm-management practices on these farms," explained Mr. Walter.

The American Society of Agricultural Workers

The American Society of Agricultural Workers has been chartered in Boone County, Ark., reports T. J. Silvey, Newton County, Ark., agricultural agent, the newly elected secretary-treasurer. The purpose of the new organization is to study agriculture from both a practical and a scientific viewpoint and to coordinate all agricultural agencies for services toward the advancement of agriculture.

The idea originated in 1937 at a get-acquainted meeting of agricultural workers in Harrison, Ark. The project manager of

the Soil Conservation Service was appointed temporary chairman, and the discussion proved so popular that the Agricultural Workers' Club was organized to carry on similar meetings and discussions. This club included workers from the Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Vocational Agriculture, Crop Production Loan, Resettlement Administration (now Farm Security Administration), Forest Service, ECW work, the agricultural department of a railroad, and a cheese plant.

At each of the monthly meetings, one of the members presented the work of his organization, and the group discussed it. The members were all agricultural graduates actively engaged in some agricultural pursuit. So much was to be derived from membership in such a club that the original members decided to make a similar organization available in other parts of the country. A committee was appointed to work out the proposed constitution, articles of incorporation, and bylaws, which were passed upon and filed before the judge of Boone County on October 30, 1939.

At the December meeting of the board of directors, Henry Cochran, district vocational supervisor, was elected president; W. O. Melton, assistant soil coordinator, vice president; Dr. Lee T. Railsback, veterinarian, of Boone County, second vice president; and T. J. Silvey, Newton County agricultural agent, secretary-treasurer.

Good Land Use

Today's goals in soil conservation in Michigan are to put what's left of our poor lands to the best use, but more important, to direct attention to the conservation of the more valuable acreages in what still is comparatively good farm land.

With that statement, E. C. Sackrider, Michigan State College representative and State coordinator in the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, uses total acreage figures, not to alarm landowners, but to prove points of the 1940 goal.

According to the most accurate Nation-wide survey to date, Michigan has a total of 619,000 acres on which severe erosion has made the land economically of no use for crops or grazing.

Contrast that with the State's total farm land acreage of more than 18 million, and the situation does not seem serious. But on 4,497,000 other acres some serious erosion has occurred. Control measures must be applied to insure continued productivity.

Within this State, too many farmers still crop the top lands and hills and pasture the bottom lands. These fertile, cultivatable bottom lands likely have equal productive possibilities with less susceptibility to erosion, and the top lands can grow the pasture.

More Coordination

We have just recently put into force an idea which I have had in mind for several years and which I notice by a recent memorandum sent out by the Secretary's office is in line with the objectives of the United States Department of Agriculture.

For several years I have had the idea that much more effective work could be done if the representatives of the various action agencies would get together at stated periods to discuss the various programs. We held the first of such meetings on January 9 and another on January 15, meeting regularly every 2 weeks for a noon luncheon since that time. At these meetings we plan to discuss the various programs, the new rulings related to these programs, and the activities of these programs in the county and how they can best be coordinated into a general land-use program.

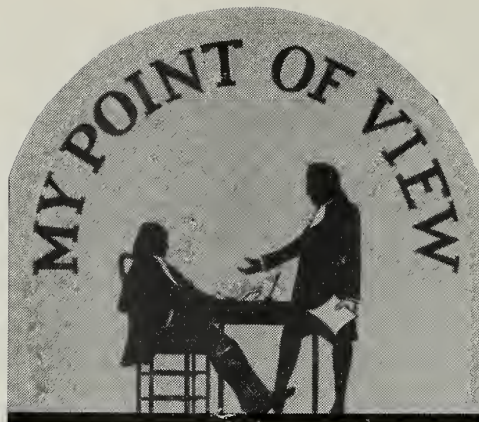
The agencies represented at these meetings are the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Security Administration, Rural Electrification Administration, Emergency Feed and Seed Loan, Extension Service, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and Emergency Relief.

I have taken the initiative in arranging for these meetings and have obtained very fine cooperation from the agencies. I do not know whether this idea has been tried out on the county level in other States.—*Walter M. Zellers, county agricultural agent, Adair County, Iowa.*

Demonstration Development

An effective program in this county means a program with emphasis placed on those phases of crop and livestock production and soil management which most vitally affect the income and living conditions of the greatest number of people. Demonstration work is needed in connection with the development of increased small-seeds production, fertilizer practices on field and small-fruit crops, economy in dairy feeding, improvement of planting stock in all our small fruits, and improvement in the quality of our prune crop. These general demonstration needs carry with them, of course, the necessity of imparting information; and, in several instances, there are related phases of demonstration and educational work which should be followed vigorously to maintain a program vital in its relation to the agricultural income. If this kind of program is maintained, with the facts developed in the course of carrying out such a program presented to the producers of the county, there is no reason to doubt or question the outlook for extension work.

One of the more doubtful phases of extension activity is that pertaining to the continuous requests for more personal services. Although these requests are important—sometimes of extraordinary importance to an individual—they are of extremely minor



This is a place where agents are invited to express their ideas and opinions about anything which seems important to them. Those things which please, bother, or help one agent in his work are just the things which prove valuable to other agents.

importance in their relation to improving the income even in individual cases, and the solving of them contributes nothing towards improving economic conditions generally. The increased demand for this type of service handicaps the development of the more vital phases of the program. Requests cannot be shoved aside; they must be scrutinized with some discrimination. Requests for information should be grouped together according to the necessary subject-matter material and the location of inquirers, and the facts involved should then be presented to groups. This has been done to some extent in the past, but the practice should be more generally developed.—*W. F. Cyrus, county agricultural agent, Washington County, Oreg.*

ON THE CALENDAR

Central States Regional Conference for five States east of the Mississippi, La Fayette, Ind., May 2-4.

American Council on Education, Washington, D. C., May 3-4.

Central States Regional Conference for seven States west of the Mississippi, Lincoln, Nebr., May 6-8.

Eighth American Scientific Congress, Washington, D. C., May 10-18.

American Library Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, May 26-June 1.

National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D. C., June 12-19.

American Home Economics Association Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio, June 23-27.

Seventy-seventh Annual Convention of the National Education Association, Milwaukee, Wis., June 29-July 4.

Tribute to Whom Tribute Is Due

An interesting and beloved display of extension photographs adorns a fitting space in the State office of girls' 4-H Club work in South Carolina. In this anniversary year of the demonstration work, especial admiration has been given to those pioneers to whom we owe much of the progress of the Extension Service.

These well-recognized figures are: Dr. Seaman A. Knapp; O. B. Martin; Dr. D. B. Johnson (founder of Winthrop College who cooperated with Dr. Knapp and Mr. Martin); Marie Cromer Seigler, organizer of the first girls' club under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture; I. W. Hill, Dr. C. B. Smith, and Gertrude Warren, 4-H organization; Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, first agent in charge of one county, 1911, and State specialist since; Hon. A. Frank Lever; and Dr. W. W. Long, former extension director in South Carolina.

Now there have arisen since the early days other groups upon which the Extension Service over the country is very dependent. Daily they are with us, helping to make real and workable many plans put into their hands in "scratch" form. There is no necessity of enumerating what every county, State, and national extension worker already knows—the multitude of duties and the great blessing of an efficient, loyal office assistant. At annual report time, especially, we are grateful for someone who can make a report "look the part," as well as tell something worth while.

So this tribute of sincere appreciation is offered for all contributions made by office staff members everywhere in the Extension Service.—*Harriet F. Johnson, State girls' club leader, South Carolina.*

4-H Work Spreads Extension Influence

It is encouraging to know that more than 97 percent of our farm families in Lancaster County, Nebr., have been reached in some measurable way by the Agricultural Extension Service, according to a recent study made by the Works Progress Administration. Many of the problems confronting farmers earlier have been overcome through 4-H Club activities alone. Each year during the past 17 years of my work in this county, more than 600 boys and girls have enrolled in projects relating to the farm and home. During this 17-year period, more than 4,000 boys and girls have carried on one or more 4-H projects which have given them practical experience and technical training in better farm and home practices. We find that adults learn readily from the work carried on by the boys and girls; not only do the boys and girls get the technical training and experience but often the whole family gets the same information through the 4-H demonstrations.—*J. F. Purbaugh, county agricultural agent, Lancaster County, Nebr.*

IN BRIEF

4-H Achievements

A million hours of cooking and housekeeping—that is the amount of time Maine 4-H Club members spent on that project this year. A summary shows that Maine 4-H boys and girls made a profit of \$62,000 on their club projects in 1939. They raised 81 acres of beans, 40 acres of sweet corn, 93 acres of garden, and 78 acres of potatoes. In livestock projects, they cared for 493 dairy cows and calves, 599 pigs, 3,984 hens, 40 baby-beef steers, and 9 geese. They canned 59,568 pints of food, raised 28,608 baby chicks, prepared and served 203,281 meals, and made 15,302 articles in the sewing project. All told, the cash value of their projects is conservatively estimated at \$134,689.

New Sound Motion Picture

"Do Unto Animals" is the title of a new two-reel sound motion picture portraying proper methods of shipping livestock both by rail and by motortruck. The film, recently released by the United States Department of Agriculture, was sponsored cooperatively by specialists of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board. It is available in both 16- and 35-millimeter widths and requires approximately 21 minutes for projection. Responsible organizations and individuals may obtain the use of the film on application to the Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Family Gardens Pay

Records kept on demonstration family gardens in Pennsylvania show an average cash cost of \$9.07 per garden for a family of five persons. The average total cost of labor and materials was \$36.89. The average estimated value of the vegetables harvested totaled \$163, leaving an average net profit of \$126.11. The average value of vegetables used fresh was \$62.71; canned, \$80.13; dried, \$2.90; and stored, \$17.26.

An increase in the use of canned tomatoes has been noted in counties where demonstration gardens have been grown and where educational work has been carried on.

New Pasture Developed

Eighty-nine thousand acres of new permanent pastures were established by Florida cattlemen cooperating in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration programs in 1937

and 1938, according to H. G. Clayton, Florida AAA administrator.

Allowing cattlemen \$3 an acre for developing and seeding these pastures, the AAA paid out a total of \$267,000 during the 2 years. Cattlemen supplemented the \$3 per acre payment with funds of their own to do the work.

During 1937, the first year the AAA allowed payments for establishing permanent pastures, cattlemen seeded 31,000 acres; in 1938 they seeded 58,000 acres.

Mr. Clayton estimated that approximately 90 percent of the pasture-development work done in Florida in 1937 and 1938 represented cooperation of cattlemen with the agricultural conservation programs.

4-H Swine Achievements

The activities of 61 4-H boys and girls enrolled in swine projects last year in Scotts Bluff County, Nebr., have done much to improve the quality of hogs raised there, according to Agricultural Agent C. W. Nibler, who reported that all but 10 members completed their work. Several of the club members have obtained high-quality hogs from breeders of eastern Nebraska; 20 purebred boars have been sold by 4-H Club members to breeders in this area; approximately 150 head of high-quality hogs were exhibited at the county fair; and most of the club members attended the 4-H practice judging and demonstration days.

"The distribution of good purebred boars to many breeders has been one of the biggest accomplishments of the 4-H swine club members," said Mr. Nibler. "Seven or eight 4-H Club purebred herds and the vocational agricultural herds now comprise the entire purebred swine population of the county."

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AMONG OURSELVES

■ C. P. CLOSE, before his retirement a few years ago as extension horticulturist in the United States Department of Agriculture, developed an early red apple called the Close apple, which is now on the market. It has been tested at a number of experiment stations in the East, and good reports have been received on the Close apple from New England as far south as Tennessee.

■ ARTHUR M. SOWDER has been added to the Federal Extension staff to assist in carrying out the national forestry extension program and to provide closer cooperation with the States in the development of extension forestry under the Clarke-McNary and Norris-Doxey Acts.

Mr. Sowder, a native of Wisconsin, received his bachelor and master of arts degrees from the University of Idaho and later the degree of master of forestry from Yale University. After 3½ years as extension forester in Idaho and 5 years of teaching forestry at the University of Idaho, he entered the Forest Service in 1936 and transferred to the Extension Service in 1939.

■ PROF. J. W. WUICHET, animal husbandry specialist, Ohio State University, and representative of the university on the Ohio AAA State Committee, died January 13. "Pat" was born in Dayton, Ohio, February 4, 1887, graduated from Ohio State University in 1908, and was appointed specialist in animal husbandry in 1916.

To the Ohio Extension Service the loss is irreparable. "Pat" had the faculty possessed by few persons of being able to guide the energy created when discussions became debates and tempers frayed into channels where it would turn useful wheels. His promises became performances collectible on the first minute of the hour due.

Going to a train out of Chicago, "Pat" excused himself from the others in the party to stop in a candy shop. His reappearance with a neatly wrapped box drew the usual jokes about carrying home peace offerings. The remarks became quite pointless when "Pat" commented that the box was a duplicate of one purchased in the same store for his wife years ago and of the one bought on every subsequent trip to Chicago.

He said his wife told him that if the man she had lived with 30 years could not be trusted, he was not worth watching. Saying goodbye to "Pat" was one of the hardest duties imposed on his colleagues in the Extension Service.

A BETTER CHANCE FOR EVERY CHILD

Is the Aim of the Children's Bureau

Are you concerned about—MOTHERS AND BABIES • CRIPPLED CHILDREN • OTHER CHILDREN NEEDING SPECIAL CARE • CHILD LABOR?

Under the Social Security Act, the Children's Bureau provides funds for State services for maternal and child health, crippled children, and child welfare. Publications on the care of children from the prenatal period up through adolescence are available to the public. Among these are the following:

PRENATAL CARE • INFANT CARE • THE CHILD FROM ONE TO SIX • CHILD MANAGEMENT • ARE YOU TRAINING YOUR CHILD TO BE HAPPY? • GUIDING THE ADOLESCENT.

Many studies have been made by the Children's Bureau on vital questions affecting the life, health, and well-being of mothers and children; on institutional and foster-home care, juvenile courts, adoption, birth out of wedlock, and other phases of child welfare; and on special child-labor problems.

Recently published leaflets include:

BETTER CARE FOR MOTHER AND CHILD
A BETTER CHANCE FOR EVERY CHILD
FACTS ABOUT CRIPPLED CHILDREN
WELL-NOURISHED CHILDREN
FACTS ABOUT CHILD HEALTH
ADOPTION: WHAT IT MEANS
FAIR LABOR STANDARDS FOR CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S BUREAU
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

