

Extension Service

Review

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We EAT—thanks!

■ Sure we will get enough to eat this year . . . good, nutritious food for all . . . we'll have to share it, but thanks to the farmer there'll be enough to go round if we're careful. The farmer is winning the battle of food.

Yes, thanks to the farmer, we'll eat. Thanks for the 5 percent more food he raised in 1943. That additional food meant to him sweat, toil, extra long hours . . . it meant sharing his tools and his labor with his neighbors . . . struggling against the weather, insects, diseases, against lack of fertilizers, machinery, labor. It meant sacrifice, determination, and patriotism . . . but without these typical characteristics of the United States farmer enough food could not have been produced. Nor could enough have been produced if the farmer had not followed the best-known practices of good farming . . . the technical advice, the encouragement, the "needs-and-how-to-produce-it" information given to the farmer by hard-working county extension agents, community and neighborhood leaders, specialists of the Department of Agriculture and of the land-grant colleges.

Sure, it took hard work, long hours, helping farmers to plan ways of doing the things many said couldn't be done. Some casualties appeared along the way . . . workers whose spirit was stronger than the flesh. But by and large the extension worker is a hardy soul . . . one whose long years of fighting emergencies have inured him to sacrifice of personal time and to mental and physical strain. Now that the year is over, another food production record broken, the men who shoot the guns, the men behind the guns, the men who make and take the guns, and all the rest of us can eat. For this we say thanks to the farmer . . . and thanks to the crew behind the farmer.

Wartime Extension

Extension folks . . . agents and leaders alike . . . had little time in 1943 to tell the

world what they were doing or how. In every county of rural importance . . . 2,941 counties to be exact . . . extension agents were circulating, urging, helping, guiding farmers in the big job of meeting war goals.

Farmers had learned . . . in nearly 30 years and from the experience of World War I . . . to depend on the county extension agent for technical advice, advice based upon the results of research available at experiment stations and at the U. S. Department of Agriculture. They looked to the extension agent as their guide and adviser, their source of scientific farming facts . . . practical facts which could be made to work for individual success . . . and for meeting farm goals, thereby discharging a war obligation to the United Nations.

Accomplishments of wartime extension in 1943 were measurable and immeasurable. The job was bigger . . . the challenge was greater . . . than in World War I . . . 30 million more U. S. A. people . . . a bigger army . . . more soldiers of allied armies to help feed . . . a smaller rural population to draw from for farm work. Project reports don't show what farm output does show . . . success in the food production front . . . all previous records smashed . . . smashed for the fourth year straight . . . and that despite floods, drought, unfavorable weather in many places, and lack of materials and facilities. The Extension record shows successful recruitment and placement of labor to plant, cultivate, harvest, and care for crops that might have been lost and wasted . . . 4-H Club enrollment of 1,700,000 members, showing an annual increase five times the usual . . . 1,669,226 rural homes enrolled in family food supply preservation . . . 4 billion jars of fruits and vegetables preserved . . . nearly 100 percent rural participation in Victory gardening . . . 19 million city and farm gardens producing 8 million tons of extra food . . . and many, many more accomplishments.

Building programs that fit the need of the State, county, neighborhood . . . get-

ting facts to farmers in a way to help production most . . . that was Extension's 1943 job. Such program building requires a plan . . . a grass-roots plan . . . dovetailed with national plans, worked out to help each individual farmer most.

The programs which Extension built made use of every agricultural resource and facility . . . neighborhood interest, neighborhood patriotism, neighborhood will to win. Volunteer Extension neighborhood leaders, 500,000 of them . . . took part in extension work . . . asked their neighbors what extension aid was needed most . . . helped locate and place farm labor . . . distributed information on rationing; care and repair of farm machinery; food production, preservation, and storage; nutrition . . . aided in war-bond, and salvage, and fats collection drives . . . did all that could be done to help the war get won.

Farm Engineering

Successful farm production began in the tool shed . . . the machine shop . . . the barnyard. With little chance for new machinery, Extension urged farmers to repair, care for, and share machinery . . . showed how to make at home, equipment no longer to be bought . . . helped find repair parts . . . taught how to protect gears, belts, pulleys, fans, and fast-moving wheels with shields and safety devices. Food yields in many counties exceeded warehouse capacity and brought special problems . . . problems of storage . . . of utilizing the best knowledge available to keep produce from wasting.

Food and Feed

Food production and feed production were high on the must list in the 1943 goals . . . more heads were to be fed . . . many more heads of livestock and poultry for the Nation's war larder . . . for civilians at home . . . for troops abroad . . . for lend-lease and foreign relief.

Local situations in many counties required level-headed planning—alertness against overstocking . . . early steps for a county feed program . . .

home-grown roughage, more and better hay, increased legume acreage . . . improved pastures, properly fertilized and managed, emergency pastures, rotation grazing . . . more silage for feeding dairy cows in winter to meet pasture shortages.

Hens' Eggs for Victory

Poultry and egg production has grown with extension work. Since 1914 . . . through 29 years . . . extension programs brought farmers the latest in poultry science . . . helped annual egg laying climb from an average of 85 hard-shells to 113 per hen. Poultrymen last year raised 16 percent more chickens . . . showed a 15 percent rise by midyear over eggs produced a year before. Nonlayers and poor layers were culled—augmenting the meat supply . . . conserving the feed supply. Eating of eggs increased too . . . from 320 eggs per person in 1942 to an estimated 345 in 1943. More eggs for health . . . more eggs for morale . . . a contribution to Victory!

Meeting Milk Goals

The year saw increased demand for milk and dairy products . . . increased production to be met despite fewer milk hands and more feed troubles in many counties. Extension workers sponsored emergency programs . . . urged small producers to milk more cows, improve feeding practices, adopt better herd management . . . they worked with 4-H Dairy Club members to increase milk production on many farms. In the South . . . to improve farm family health and nutrition . . . a family cow program made considerable headway.

Meat Points and Livestock

Millions learned that a steer's carcass yields more than beefsteak . . . that meat growing requires more than packing plant operations . . . that good range, green grass, golden corn plus hard work, careful planning, devoted husbandry determine the value of red stamps in the wartime civilian ration book.

Extension agents early recognized the ranchman's, the farmer's, the feeder's problems . . . developed programs accordingly. Farmers were encouraged to feed hogs to heavier weights . . . feed more cattle to moderate finish . . . produce more meat through disease prevention, parasite control, worm control. Sheepmen cooperated generally with a shearling skin program in which domestic production was more than doubled. Livestock rearing and killing for farm family purposes reached peak levels . . .

thus relieving wartime strain on commercial handling and transportation. Extension stressed spoilage-prevention through proper butchering . . . conservation of meat through full use of all cuts and products . . . proper curing . . . fat salvage . . . intelligent locker plant storage and full use of local meat handling and slaughter facilities. Information was furnished on farm slaughter rules, sharing, and rationing to help farmers avoid unwilling black market transactions.

More Than Production

While food production received number one emphasis, Extension's grass-roots home demonstration workers were actively engaged on the conservation front. Fat-saving, food-saving, and fabric-saving . . . proper use of wartime canning equipment . . . community canning centers to utilize Victory Garden surpluses . . . wartime nutrition . . . family health and fitness programs . . . interpretation of rationing rules . . . salvage campaigns . . . bond sales and other special wartime endeavors.

With farm women generally doing more farm work in field and barn . . . fewer hands had more to do . . . had to butcher, to preserve and conserve yields from farm Victory Gardens . . . had to work with badly needed repair parts for equipment not to be had at the factory. Extension programs to lighten these tasks made farm family life in wartime more bearable. Kitchen improvement . . . streamlined laundering . . . simplification of housework in many ways became unusually popular Extension projects among farm women.

4-H Projects

The war contribution of 4-H Club members, under the leadership of Extension workers, was vast. They made special efforts to enlarge the food and fiber supply . . . to store and preserve food . . . took an active part in helping to relieve the farm labor shortage. They served as neighborhood leaders . . . demonstrated practices of first aid, child care, home nursing . . . taught good practices of meal planning, canning, care of farm machinery, rural fire control, dairying, and poultry raising. They collected scrap iron, fats, and rubber. They raised food to feed fighters . . . did civilian defense duty . . . sold war bonds to buy ambulances, planes and ships . . . and counted 750,000 of their former comrades in the military services.

In a letter to all 4-H Club members prior to 4-H Mobilization Week in February, President Roosevelt paid tribute to their services. He said:

"The whole Nation recognizes your self-reliance, your steadfast determination to attain your goals, and your patriotic devotion as individuals and as a group . . . We know that you, like your brothers and sisters in the Service, have the spirit and perseverance that will bring victory in the fight for human freedom and a world at peace."

More Than Food

Wartime Extension in 1943 dealt first of all with food . . . but also with more than food. Practical farm forestry . . . paper and pulp production . . . fiber crops . . . new special crops like hemp, sisal, herbs . . . the war needed them . . . in growing them, farmers most frequently relied on Extension to tell them how. Care of the sick . . . child care programs . . . neighborhood planning and sharing . . . handicraft training, activities designed to welcome and re-establish disabled, discharged soldiers in farming . . . all entered into Extension's wartime service to rural people during the year.

Soil-saving practices increase

Another "front"—the good-farming "front"—has been markedly advanced by 5,881 Illinois farm operators joining for the first time with the group already using contouring and other special soil-conservation measures in their wartime food-production drive.

Contouring was carried out for the first time by 1,970 farmers on 49,902 acres, according to E. D. Walker, Illinois extension soil conservationist. On 240 farms, strip-cropping was carried out, involving 7,208 acres; and more than 57 miles of terraces were constructed on 174 farms.

Stephenson County topped the list of counties by contouring 7,735 acres on 309 farms for the first time. Grass waterways constructed in the State involved 2,021 farms and a total of 1,843,153 linear feet, and drainage operations were carried out on 249 farms in this connection. Open ditches to the extent of 133,320 feet were constructed, and 209,753 feet of tile lines were laid.

Interest in this land-saving farming system is increasing through the combined efforts of the Extension Service, the 33 organized soil-conservation districts, and the Soil Conservation Service. It was also aided by the production practice payments of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

These figures represent only work carried out by farmers starting the various practices for the first time this year, not the total for the State.

Another winter may be too late

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

With characteristic vigor, the Secretary of Agriculture here presents a challenge to Extension to speed the encouragement of farmer thinking on post-war problems. "Another winter," he says, "may be too late."

■ Winning the war has claimed so much of the time and energy of extension workers and the rest of us that there has been a natural tendency among some to think that post-war planning could wait. Until recently, at least, there has not been a general acceptance of the necessity for planning that far ahead. But my observation is that the situation has changed materially lately. There now appears to be a definite sentiment for some rather clear-cut plans to challenge post-war complacency. Many of us believe that to postpone definite planning for another winter may be too late.

For one thing, a realization is growing that sound thought intelligently directed toward our post-war problems need not jeopardize our all-out war effort. Another is, we all know that we have an obligation to our fighting men to do some straight, practical thinking about post-war problems long before the end of the war. Agricultural post-war planning has taken on a new complexion now that industry has launched an active program of after-the-war planning. In view of these developments, we need urgently to speed up agricultural post-war planning as rapidly as possible. To expedite this thinking is a challenge to you extension workers all along the line.

Appraisal of Farm Problems

The big job of the land-grant colleges and the Department is to *get facts, to make appraisals, to stimulate interest, and to get people to thinking about post-war plans*. To give impetus to this planning work, the nine regional committees on post-war programs, working closely with the colleges, are developing a State-by-State appraisal of farm problems, especially those relating to the demobilization period. Their objective is to project those problems into the future so as to arrive as nearly as possible at an approximation of the situation which will exist in each State when the war ends and to determine what measures are needed to cope with those problems.

The need for definite post-war planning was recognized by the land-grant colleges when they took steps at their fall meeting to establish a national committee on post-war problems.

In order for this tremendous job to succeed, it will require the cooperation of every group that has an interest in agriculture. In addition to cooperation at the national level, there needs to be cooperation at the State level. Some States have already set up State agricultural policy committees to work on post-war planning, bringing together all the people who are interested in this problem. These committees are sponsored and serviced by the Extension Service, and the Director of Extension is usually chairman.

Organizing Committees

I have urged the land-grant colleges through Extension to take the lead in organizing these committees in States where they are not already functioning. Membership might well include representatives of farm organizations and other private groups interested in the welfare of agriculture, as well as representatives of the Extension Service, experiment stations, State commissioners of agriculture, State planning boards, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other public agencies.

It is highly desirable for the States to organize such committees to plan for the adjustment of agriculture to peacetime conditions, and the Department offers (1) to make information available for the use of such committees; (2) to arrange for members of its staff stationed in the various States to serve on State committees; (3) to cooperate with them insofar as its facilities permit.

In order to achieve the best results at the lowest cost, there should be active cooperation by the colleges and the Department workers on the problems of mutual interest. We particularly invite the colleges to determine the problems of major State and local interest so that the colleges and the Department may cooperate in the search for solutions to them.

In addition to these State activities, I hope to see, as soon as feasible, this planning work reach down into areas and communities. Already recognized by extension workers is the fact that a very real part of post-war planning will come from the people themselves—the farmers and others who will give thought to the

problems and through their experience and sound judgment contribute ideas to a common pool of post-war plans.

The first and primary step is to be sure that you establish channels through which ideas of the people can be piped to the proper groups for consideration. You should make a special effort to encourage and assist farmers and rural groups to take more initiative and responsibility in developing post-war programs applicable to their particular local problems and conditions. The colleges and the Department need to help inform the general public on agriculture's post-war interests and needs, of the significant features of the programs developed, and of rural opinion on national and international affairs.

One particular pitfall should be avoided—that is, thinking too much in terms of past agricultural problems. Of course, I don't mean to give the impression that we should overlook the things we have learned in the past. We can still profit by what we learned from the farm programs of the twenties and thirties and our more recent war experiences. But, if we look to the future, we can see potentialities of post-war trouble for agriculture which, if we were not prepared, would make our previous aches and pains seem like minor irritations.

Plan for Post-war Demands

That is why I think all of us should do some bold thinking now if we are to fashion a program that will meet the demands of the post-war period. We need to explore new patterns. For some time, I have been thinking that very likely a period of perhaps a few months will follow immediately after the war ends when we shall have a momentous opportunity to make decisions and to take new action which will be decisive so far as the future of agriculture is concerned. I am deeply concerned that agriculture be ready for such an eventuality, and I know that you are, too.

Upon you in the Extension Service will fall much of the responsibility for arousing the thinking of farm people on post-war problems. To do it now—*this winter*—is especially important. During bad weather, while farm people are doing their chores around the farm, they will have time for thinking through some of these problems. We urgently need the benefit of that counsel. When they get into the hard work of next year's staggering production job, their minds will be occupied with the work at hand. Now is the time for State and county extension workers to encourage farmer thinking along these lines and to tap farmer ideas. *To wait for another winter may be too late.*

Education faces new responsibilities

MILTON S. EISENHOWER, President, Kansas State College

■ The rapid transition achieved by the people of this country in this war is one of the monumental events in history. The striking power of democracy is now felt on battlefields throughout the world. The lasting power of democracy will bring us victory.

But not merely a victory of our arms. That is not the end for which we fight. We must achieve equally the victory of our minds. War is a physical struggle between peoples of opposing convictions, and one side will prevail. Our convictions, I think, are relatively simple: Above all else, we have faith in people—in their virtues and in their potentialities. We, therefore, hold that human beings are more important than the institutions they create. We will not permit any institution or system of whatever political, economic, or military complexion to become our master. We believe government must be of the people, by the people, and for the people, if the sciences of peace are to contribute to human betterment.

Indeed, the only reason we now wage war is that these beliefs, with all that they mean in terms of human dignity and freedom, shall prevail over the concepts of our enemies. If we were willing to compromise these beliefs, no doubt we could end this war tomorrow.

But our convictions will not prevail, even with military victory, if we are complacent and take them for granted, as we did in 1918. Noble concepts worth holding are also worth working for, constantly, tirelessly. The victory of our arms in this war will do no more than offer a new generation a chance to work for a fuller life in an environment of individual liberty and social justice.

Two wars in one generation have convinced many people that knowledge, even though widely diffused, is not in itself enough to guarantee these goals. By no means do I imply that research has fulfilled its mission and that the modern task is to find better methods of applying that knowledge. On the contrary, accelerated research achievements since the last war have merely brought us to a new frontier of knowledge. Each discovery develops potentialities manyfold greater than itself. Any institution or civilization that fails to fight vigorously to push back what is still a vast area of darkness will decay.

But I do mean to say that the fruits of science and technology cannot, in themselves, automatically instill into us the wisdom, the tolerance, the integrated

On September 30, 1943, Kansas State College installed a new president. He is Milton S. Eisenhower, at one time Associate Director of the Federal Extension Service and for many years in various responsible, policy-making positions in the Department of Agriculture. Just prior to returning to Kansas State College, his alma mater, he was Associate Director of the Office of War Information. The address given by President Eisenhower, at the time of his inauguration, was inspiring. It served as a challenge to the field of higher education. It pointed out that if civilization is to survive, we must supplement technical progress with progress in the building of integrity. Thus only can we look forward to a period of prolonged peace. The EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW herewith prints parts of President Eisenhower's address, which may well serve as food for thought in discussions and plans dealing with the post-war period.

reasoning required for the management of individual and organized affairs in a complex and rapidly changing civilization.

The discovery of knowledge is one vital step. The widest possible dissemination of knowledge is a second vital step. A third vital step, in this modern complexity we have been long building, is the fostering of judgment. Democracy will endure only if responsible citizens are able to arrive at sound judgments in a great multitude of fields.

The discovery of knowledge requires more and more specialization. Sound judgment in making decisions requires more and more integration. Judgment requires a careful fusing of facts from a great many disciplines. It requires a broader and broader understanding of manifold relationships.

Research increases knowledge and makes judgment possible. But, I repeat, neither research nor the mere dissemination of knowledge can guarantee sound decisions by an individual or by society as a whole.

Everyone will agree, I am sure, that the noble concepts which we in this democracy hold cannot be maintained, in the face of economic complications

multiplied by social complexities, unless human knowledge is matched by human wisdom. Everyone will also agree, I think, that educational institutions have as great a responsibility for fostering wisdom and tolerance as they have for fostering research and the dissemination of knowledge.

The people of France, of Poland, of the Low Countries, even of Germany and Hungary, have possessed the same fruits of research as we. They have had the same scientific tools to work with. Prior to the dark decade of the thirties, before intellectual repression in the enemy countries became so terribly efficient, they also enjoyed a wide dissemination of the results of research. Yet one nation became strong and ruthless, while others became weak, bitterly divided, and easy prey to German arms.

I do not want to overstress the point, but if we are not forever vigilant in this country, we could easily drift into some of the difficulties that held France, the Low Countries, and Poland so helpless in the late thirties. Bitter disagreements of long standing between great economic groups in the absence of the restraining hand of simple human tolerance and cool, broad judgment—are the stuff on which revolutions and the monsters of tyranny and repression feed.

One of the heartening things about this war is that, in spite of all kinds of opinions and differences of opinion, we in the United States can unite in a mighty, fighting organization, reaching from the geographical center of the United States here in Kansas to the East, the North, the West, and the South—all built in an incredibly short time and swung into action to defend our simple, understandable, human concepts.

We can, and I believe we will, do the same thing in our peaceful pursuits when this war is over. Surely we are as capable in peace as in war of defining our objectives, of determining the facts relevant to a solution of the problems involved, of laying our plans intelligently, and of rigorously carrying them out. But the task will not be simple. The generation that goes forth into a peaceful world when this war is won will face problems infinitely more complex than ours when we left college at the end of the last war.

Some of you here today remember when your most difficult economic problem involved the trading of eggs and grain for salt and sugar. The world we shall live in after this war will present to every one of us problems of agriculture, industry, labor, national and international finance, taxation, economic organization, social organization, education, employment, peaceful intercourse among nations, and a multitude of other things which will dwarf those

of the 1870's as well as those of the 1930's.

It will not be enough for a man to know how to build Grand Coulee Dam or the Golden Gate Bridge. It will not be enough for a man to know how to till the soil and protect it. It will not be enough for a man to know how to heal the sick. For every man with a useful place in society will have several great responsibilities. He will have the responsibility of using his specialized talent to make a living for himself and his family. As a citizen in a democracy, he will often have the responsibility of applying his specialized talent to the solution of community, State, and national problems within his field of special competence. And as a citizen in a democracy, he will always have the responsibility of making manifold decisions on complex problems outside his own discipline—decisions which, if made in ways compatible with our democratic methods, can spread the blessings of democracy, strengthen democracy, and guarantee its future.

American educational institutions, along with our churches, free press, and governmental agencies, have a profound duty to perform if we are to help guarantee the future. There can be no real

freedom without sound education. There can be no true education without freedom. The two are inseparable.

The history of the land-grant colleges is a story of change. The history of Kansas State College, written by our devoted friend, Dr. J. T. Willard, is a story of change—change to help the people of Kansas and of the Nation to meet problems presented by onrushing development.

Our concern, then, for the immediate future is this: How can Kansas State College maintain and strengthen its excellent research; maintain and improve the quality of its technical and cultural training; and also provide to this generation, including the men and women who will return from the armed services and war industries, those methods of teaching and those broad educational foundations which will yield integrative habits of thinking, a broad understanding of relationships, and sound judgment in a complex society. Our concern is that men shall conquer machines, that machines shall not conquer men. Our concern is that men and women trained in scientific methods shall also gain tolerance, understanding, and wisdom. Our concern is with the education of men and women determined to be free.

Measuring war production

W. H. UPCHURCH, County Agricultural Agent, Randall County, Tex.

It was evident that the farmers in Randall County, Tex., were doing their part and more in food and feed production; but, as a matter of curiosity, a "measuring stick" was worked out to see just how much they were aiding in the war effort.

With the help of the Quartermaster General's office and several agricultural statisticians, a formula was worked out to measure the food production of a farm by a point system or food equivalent, rather than by dollar value. For example, it is possible to estimate how much of any one food a farmer would have to produce as the equivalent of 1 year's total food requirement for a soldier.

A typical example of Randall County's production in 1942, measured by this formula, was a highly mechanized farm of about three sections producing enough wheat, beef, sheep, hogs, chickens for meat, eggs, and butterfat to feed 130 soldiers. Only 6 people living on the farm did the work.

A dairy farm in the county produced enough milk, pork, eggs, chickens, wheat,

and turkeys to feed 77 soldiers, with 6 people doing the work.

Four people on one of the typical small diversified farms in the county raised enough wheat, butterfat, eggs, beef, and chickens for meat to feed 32 soldiers, besides the food consumed for home use.

These figures are interesting for several reasons: The larger commercial farm in Randall County produces nearly three times as much food per worker engaged as the smaller diversified farm. It is proof of how farm production has increased in America by improvements in methods and by mechanization of agriculture.

In George Washington's time, about 6 farm people were required to produce food for themselves and 1 extra person. In Lincoln's day, 1 farm family fed 1 city family. Around 1918, a farm family was able to produce enough to feed 3 or 4 city families. By the end of 1942, American farmers were producing at the rate of more than 5 to 1. Yet, Randall County did even better—the smallest farm in the 3 examples given produced at a

ratio of 8 to 1; and the largest, 21 to 1.

Randall County topped the 1942 State average of 29 percent more cattle marketed in 1942 than in 1941 and increased pork production in 1942 about 44 percent over the previous year.

Farmers in the county will have marketed or used about 1,137,000 dozen eggs in 1943, in addition to the eggs produced in towns. Gross value of the egg crop will be more than one-third of a million dollars—about the value of all crops and livestock produced in the county for 1934.

Randall County farmers planted about 70,000 acres of grain sorghum in 1943, which is about double the average for the past 5 years.

In short, Randall County farmers have put winning the war first on their list of "musts"; and, in spite of hardships, food and feed production is going to remain at top billing.

New Jersey team wins bonds at State fair

This winning team at the New Jersey State Fair in Trenton put on a demonstration of freezing fruits and vegetables, and each girl won a \$25 war bond. The girls were judged on choice of subject, organization of their demonstration, presentation of subject, and results of their work. They are both 4-H Club Victory canners, which means that they have canned or frozen at least 100 quarts of garden produce or enough to feed a fighter in 1943. Mary Bernard (in the middle) has 116 quarts to her credit, and Annabelle Flitcraft (at the right) has 239 quarts.

Two other teams in the contest were rated excellent; one was composed of two boys who put on an excellent demonstration of how to can tomato juice. These teams received \$5 in war stamps.



War sagas from the 1943 record

Deep grow extension roots. The war food push found agents and their trained local leaders strong and ready. Their deeds were seldom spectacular; but their skill, their knowledge, and their experience formed a sound foundation on which to build. The sum total of the work such as is described on this page is a tremendous influence in war food production. These examples could be duplicated many times in many States.

Efficiency à la carte

■ Twenty-five years ago another World War was being waged, and food was as important then as it is now.

In Fresno County, Calif., the hub of the raisin country in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, thousands of tons of luscious Thompson, Sultana, and Muscat grapes were drying on trays set out between rows in the vineyards.

The California sun beat down on the miles of trays * * * capturing the rich food values that are raisins * * * imprisoning and expanding sugar content that means energy * * * drying and shrinking the fat grapes into small, easily packed units that wedged thousands of vitamins into each small carton.

Then, one September day in 1918 it rained. And the next day it rained. And the next. And the next. Hundreds of hastily recruited workers raced up and down the rows, stacking wooden trays, rolling paper trays, covering the stacks. But there weren't enough workers, and they couldn't work fast enough * * * so thousands and thousands of vitally needed tons of raisins, nearly half of the harvest, "grew whiskers" from the damp and were lost to the fighting men of the AEF.

The Fresno area then, as now, was the hub of the raisin country and produced nearly 80 percent of all the raisins in the world. This year a bumper harvest of a million tons of fresh grapes was picked and spread on trays for the sun to convert into more than 365 thousand tons of raisins * * * 80 percent of the United Nations' supply. Eighty percent of the vitamin-rich, sugar-filled raisins ordered for their fighting men were lying out in the vineyards with the blue skies and the sun's rays for a covering. And the threat of RAIN!

With visions of the 1918 downpour before him, County Agent N. D. ("Nat") Hudson of the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California, made that "threat" his personal business * * * and did something about it.

Advance news on weather was needed; manpower * * * quickly assembled, easily moved manpower * * * plenty

of it, was needed; a skeleton field force was needed; centrally located mobilization points were needed.

So, weeks in advance, Nat Hudson started to work.

The Government Weather Bureau in San Francisco was quick to cooperate. News on weather changes indicated for the San Joaquin Valley * * * signs of the slightest precipitation * * * would be flashed to Hudson at his office or residence * * * at any hour of the day or night.

For manpower * * * the quickly assembled, easily moved kind * * * well, there are a lot of Army Air Forces training fields up and down the Valley, with plenty of ground crews and trainees and trucks. Twelve thousand of them were ready to move. One call to an Air Force colonel would do the trick.

In Fresno, 2 or 3 keymen at the other end of the telephone were each ready to call 8 or 10 more keymen; each called 15 or 20 more * * * and a volunteer brigade popped out of their homes and offices and stores.

Another key group, raisin men this time, telephoned growers, and 40 of them rallied at 40 district schoolhouses to re-route the soldiers and volunteers when they arrived. Farmers with trucks picked up where army trucks left off. And 12,000 to 15,000 emergency workers were spread in a belt across Fresno County and into neighboring Madera, Kings, and Tulare Counties.

The climax * * * there's no climax. It didn't rain! True, there were four "alerts" * * * and the machinery functioned like a streak. Once, it even reached the "get ready to move" stage, but they didn't have to "move," and the United Nations will get every pound of raisins on every tray they requisitioned.

Around Fresno County they say it's a good thing it didn't rain. They say * * * "Nat Hudson would of whipped it to a frazzle."

Young recruits marshaled

■ Doing something to help win the war is practically an obsession with County Agent G. A. Roberts of Greene

County, Tenn. Among "soldiers of the soil" Roberts is a four-star general; and his 4-H Clubs form an outfit of 2,112, the highest total club enrollment in the State.

"General" Roberts stepped up his recruitment program immediately after Pearl Harbor, and the 2 years since that time have seen the ranks of his boys' clubs increased by almost 30 percent. Total enrollment now includes 907 boys (highest in State among counties not having an assistant agent) and 1,205 girls, all breathing life into the slogan, "Food Fights for Freedom."

Here is the second war-year saga of "General" Roberts and his Greene troopers:

This year there were 246 members enrolled in swine projects, 136 in dairy work (highest in State), 98 in beef cattle (one of highest in State), 673 poultry club members, and 866 garden club members.

They staged the largest 4-H county club fair ever held in Tennessee, with more than 3,000 exhibits, including 88 dairy cattle, 64 beef cattle, and some 140 pens of poultry. Greene tied with Claiborne County for the most choice calves at the east Tennessee beef-cattle show and sale in February. And they have put out more new dairy calves than any other county in the State.

But to continue with the Food for Freedom story—

Greene 4-H'ers held their roaster sale and show in October, for the third consecutive year, one of the biggest in the State. They contributed some 13,000 pounds of chicken dinners to the Nation's food stockpile.

Greene County has one of the best groups of volunteer leaders in the State, and Roberts has carried on one of the best extension programs. He has found time to create much good will and co-operation between business and agricultural groups of the county.

In addition to their food, feed, and fiber output, the Greene "Mountain boys" stand among top ranks as scrap collectors and have pushed war bond sales and other drives bearing on the war effort.

Yet this is merely a one-county example of what Tennessee Extension workers are doing to help win the war and write the peace.

Leaders that led

■ Dave Williams, county agricultural agent in Sauk County, Wis., believes that neighborhood leaders are supposed to lead. Where the leader organization work was set up in his county, he saw to it that every leader selected was given a job to do and that his responsibility did not end with joining the leader movement. He was singled out for the com-

pletion of local arrangements. Sometimes he was the guinea pig upon which certain farm practices were tried; and he was, in addition, the man to whom was transferred the task of making any new practices workable in his community.

One excellent example of the results accomplished through organized groups was that of swine-parasite control. Sauk County raised nearly 70,000 hogs in 1943. This tremendous number created a real swine problem in parasite control, and Dave Williams believed that here was a field of effort in which leaders could really do something worth while.

He set up a program of education that would be carried to every corner of the county. He arranged at least one demonstration on the control of mange and swine roundworms in each township. Neighborhood leaders made local arrangements. They provided the herds for demonstration and the crowds for attendance. After a demonstration in the herd at each meeting, neighborhood leaders took hold themselves and did much of the work, thereby learning by doing. They assisted in arrangements for obtaining oil of chenopodium and

castor oil for community distribution. They set up meetings of their own to keep the program alive and functioning. Interesting stunts were arranged to attract good crowds. News reels, sound movies, and motion pictures of the war-time work in Sauk County itself proved to be good bait. Insistence by neighborhood groups that women should play a big part even in this kind of work was used. The evening, probably the time of greatest leisure for farm people, was chosen for most sessions.

Twilight meetings and demonstrations in August brought an attendance of 650 people. Fifty farmers who attended dipped and dosed more than 1,500 hogs. That is a high percentage of "take," as with these demonstrations, soil conservation and poultry culling were also discussed.

To go to every township with the same program and with the local people in charge is an extremely good "cover-all" method. In Sauk County it brought results; and, to put it in the modest language of Mr. Williams, "such meetings will contribute greatly to the successful pork production in the Food for War Program."

"Warsages" for Hawaii

■ Ever hear of "warsages"? Members of girls' 4-H Clubs on the Island of Kauai in Hawaii sold \$2,838.45 worth of them during the spring and early summer.

A warsage is a corsage made from war savings stamps attractively covered with

cellophane of different colors and put together to resemble flowers.

For many months the girls collected and saved bits of cellophane and wire for making the corsages. In this way the material cost them nothing, and the warsages were sold at the price of the

stamps alone. Several business firms on Kauai advanced money to the clubs for purchasing the stamps in quantity. A number of women's university extension clubs helped the 4-H members to make the warsages.

The biggest selling day was May 1, which is Lei Day in the islands. In peacetime, colorful pageantry marks Lei Day—pageantry in which Hawaii's flowers play an important part. In 1942 and 1943, Lei Day in Hawaii became a day devoted to buying war bonds and stamps.

Kauai 4-H girls were on the streets early on Lei Day. The Inouye twins, Hitoe and Futae, sold one of the first corsages to Major General Rapp Brush. These girls are Americans of Japanese ancestry—"AJA's" they are called in the islands. The names of other club members and club leaders who rendered outstanding service in the warsage selling drive indicate that the AJA's in Hawaii are playing an important part in the war effort.

Of the warsages sold by the Hibiscus 4-H Club at Lihue, Hanako Koigawachi and Barbara Miyoshi each sold approximately \$150 worth. Mrs. Fujiko Ota is club leader. The Friendly 4-H Club at Waipouli sold \$208.75 worth. The Rainbow 4-H Club at Lawai cooperated with the Busy Bees University Extension Club in selling \$313 worth of stamps. The girls in the Rainbow Club also made and sold several war-stamp leis, each containing \$18.75 worth of stamps.

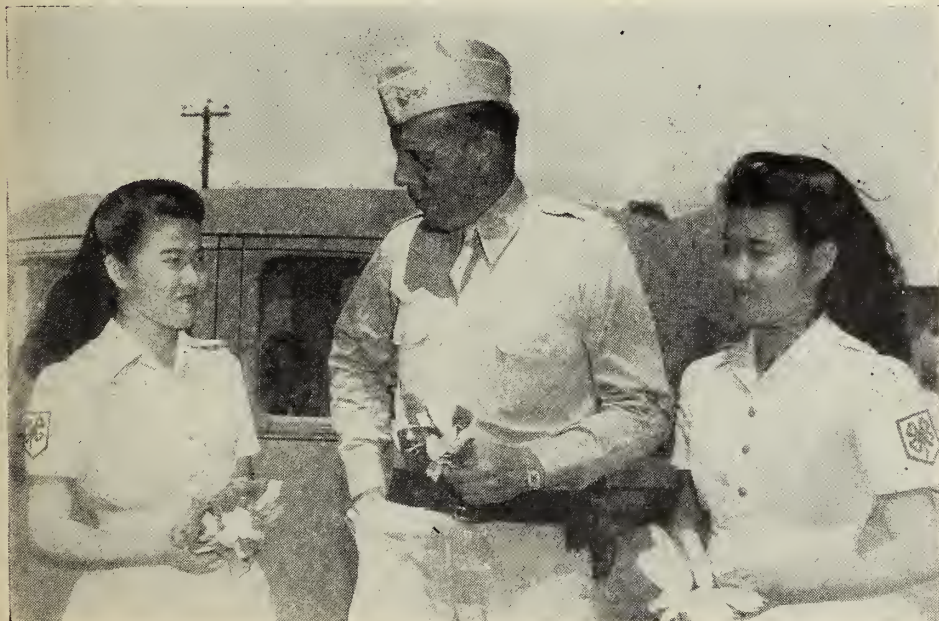
Esther Rugland is home demonstration agent on Kauai.

Census Bureau breaks new ground with agriculture handbook

Numerous maps, colored illustrations, examples, and descriptions of the uses made of Agriculture Census statistics in education, agriculture, business, post-war planning, and research are presented in the Agriculture Handbook published by the Bureau of the Census.

The first chapter is devoted to the mechanics of tabulation; the second to the interesting examples of the uses of Census material in schools, extending from the lower grades through post-graduate work. The business chapter describes special research tabulations made to solve advertising, marketing, manufacturing, and other industrial problems. The final chapter is an intriguing description of a new method of visual or exploratory analysis which offers almost unlimited possibilities and facilities for the study of a wide range of problems.

Extension workers may obtain copies from the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C.





Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

Arabian Farming

This is a peculiar country over here. Most of the land is excellent for farming. The main crops are wheat, oats, and barley. There are no hogs to amount to anything, partly because there is no corn, and the Arabs won't have anything to do with hogs. There are millions of cattle, sheep, and goats. The cattle seem to be a poor dairy strain or poor beef. I have seen no efforts to improve the cattle for either beef or dairy. It would take some time to acclimate some good bulls to this country, but it would be well worth the effort.

Of course there are worlds of grapes and other fruits, plenty of oranges, figs, and olives. It's lucky that the Germans were run out before the grain harvest. For the first time in 2 years the people over here are getting plenty to eat—even sugar and chocolate are on the market, but rationed. I had dinner with a French family in Tunis a week ago, and chocolate pudding was served for dessert. They explained that it was the first sweet dessert they had eaten in more than a year. I felt sort of guilty eating any of it, but it was very good.

This is a beautiful country, especially the northern coast—all the way from Tunis to Gibraltar. The Mediterranean is beautiful and offers perfect swimming. Carthage is probably one of the most interesting places I have visited. It's all in ruins, of course, but from the foundations you can tell that at one time it was a very beautiful city. Tunisia and Eastern Algeria are both covered with Roman ruins. Roman roads, buildings, bridges, and aqueducts in Constantine and Tebessa are actually in use today. I think the most interesting ruins are

near Setie at an old Roman town, Djemila. Here the actual buildings remain but with no roofs. The men who built them were certainly good at cutting stone.

How wet this country can be in the winter and how dry in summer. In February and March our vehicles would get stuck most any place we left a main road. That is the principal thing that held up the campaign this winter. Even on the hills we would get stuck. It doesn't seem quite fair, but it's true. Now, though, we can drive any place and never get stuck. The ground is dry and cracked; some places the cracks are 3 inches wide and several feet deep.

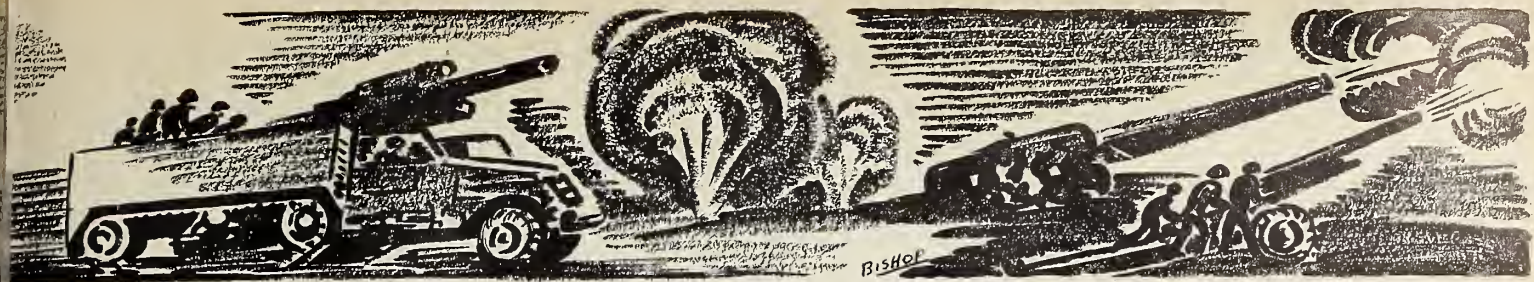
The Arabs have a novel way of drawing water from their wells. They use an ox or a mule and draw the water as we would in a bucket. They use a 30-gallon bucket (wooden, but some of them use German GI cans that were left around). I have timed them on several occasions, and they can get an average of 40 to 50 gallons a minute.

These Arabs cut their wheat with a scythe, or rather a sickle, 5 or 6 inches below the head, and when they get a good handful they tie it with a piece of straw. I wish you could see them hand it in from the field. They seldom use wagons except for hauling stone or rocks. Everything else they tie on the back of a donkey—sometimes even rocks.

I don't care how much they put on the back of the donkey; an Arab always rides on top of it all to balance the load.

It's very interesting to watch the people thresh their wheat. They take the heads of grain home, and if it is in small lots they stomp it out with their bare feet on a hard dirt floor. There are some Arabs in the threshing business; if so, they hoist a white flag above





their grass hut. These fellows have spent a year or more hardening a big bowl, maybe 50 feet in diameter. It is just black dirt but gets hard as rock. The heads are put into this bowl about a foot deep. Then, with two oxen or horses, mules, or donkeys hitched to a sled, the wheat is threshed. This sled is just two boards nailed together with sharp rocks set in the bottom of it; it's about 20 inches wide and 3½ feet long. The Arab rides it as if it were a chariot and whips the oxen into a run. It takes about 5 hours to thresh this bowl of grain. Then, with forks, the chaff is removed. The wheat, chaff and all, is thrown into the air; and, of course, the wheat falls straight down and the chaff is blown to the side.—*Maj. Wilmer W. Bassett, in North Africa on leave as assistant State boys' club agent in Florida.*

KANSAS

Sam Alsop, S 1/C, Haskell County agent, Navy.
 Capt. Dewey Axtell, assistant county agent, soil conservation, Nemaha County, Army.
 Pvt. Evans Banbury, Sherman County agent, Army.
 A/C Dwight D. Blaesi, assistant county agent, soil conservation, Lyon County, Army.
 Lt. John K. Blythe, Morton County agent, Army.
 S/Sgt. Dean W. Brown, DFRA field man, Army.
 Sgt. Earl L. Bundy, DFRA field man, Army.
 Cpl. Orville B. Burtis, Hodgeman County agent, Army.
 Pvt. W. W. Campbell, Rush County agent, Army.
 Lt. Lloyd M. Copenhafer, specialist, landscape gardening, Army.
 Lt. W. R. Crowley, Morton County agent, Army.
 Lt. Wilbert Duitsman, Osage County agent, Army.
 Av/c Vernon E. Eberhart, Kearny County agent, Army.
 Lt. Carl M. Elling, Hodgeman County agent, Army.

Aux. Lois Ellsworth, Clark County, office secretary, WAC.
 Clarence W. Engle, S 1/C (R), DFRA field man, Army.
 Cpl. Frederick D. Engler, Clark County agent, Army.
 Pvt. Raymond E. Fincham, assistant county agent at large, Army.
 Pvt. Taylor L. Fitzgerald, Haskell County agent, Army.
 Lt. Hobart Frederick, Barber County agent, Army.
 Lt. George W. Gerber, Osage County agent, Army.
 Lt. Ralph F. Germann, Russell County agent, Army.
 Pvt. Dave J. Goertz, Seward County agent, Army.
 Cand. Ralph I. Gross, Rooks County agent, Army.
 Cand. John B. Hanna, Butler County agent, Army.
 Av/c Maxwell A. Haslett, DFRA field man, Army.
 Roger Hendershot, Coffey County assistant agent.
 Sgt. Howard M. Hughes, DFRA field man, Army.
 T/5 Elzie W. Humble, DFRA field man, Army.
 Lt. K. Johnson, Labette County club agent, Army.
 Eugene F. Keas, DFRA field man, Navy.
 Lt. Donald Kinkaid, assistant county agent, Army.
 Kenneth Kirkpatrick, Rice County club agent, Army.
 Capt. Arthur Knott, Montgomery County agent, Army.
 Lt. A. F. Leonhard, Coffey County agent, Army.
 Lt. Roscoe D. Long, Franklin County assistant agent, Army.
 AVCAD Karl Ray Marrs, DFRA field man, Navy.
 Capt. J. Edwin McColm, Meade County agent, Army.
 Pvt. R. G. Merryfield, Cloud County assistant agent, Army.
 Lt. E. F. Moody, Phillips County agent, Army.
 Pvt. Wendell A. Moyer, Mitchell County agent, Army.
 Aux. Norma D. Moore, Kingman county office secretary, WAC.

George A. Mullen, Jr., Russell County agent, Army.
 Ensign Oscar W. Norby, Crawford County club agent, Navy.
 Cand. Albert A. Pease, Crawford County club agent, Army.
 Lt. Charles W. Pence, Dickinson County club agent, Army.
 Pvt. Harold E. Peterson, assistant county agent, Army.
 Cpl. Winzer J. Petr, Wyandotte County club agent, Army.
 Cpl. Harlan R. Phillips, DFRA field man, Army.
 Lt. Kenneth Porter, Rice County club agent, Army.
 Cpl. Harold Reeves, DFRA field man, Army.
 C. Allan Risinger, A/S, Ellsworth County agent, Navy.
 Cpl. Warren Rhodes, Smith County agent, Army.
 Brace Rowley, Haskell County agent.
 Cpl. J. W. Scheel, assistant extension editor, Army.
 Pfc. Deane R. Seaton, DFRA field man, Army.
 A/C Harold D. Shull, Washington County agent, Army.
 Maj. Harold E. Stover, extension engineer, Army.
 Lt. Warren C. Teel, Jefferson County agent, Army.
 B. W. Tempero, Marshall County assistant agent, Coast Guard.
 Pvt. L. E. Watson, Rice County agent, Army.
 Pvt. Dean Weckman, Doniphan County assistant agent, Army.
 Cpl. Willis R. Wenrich, Gray County agent, Army.
 T/5 Herman W. Westmeyer, Harper County agent, Army.
 Pvt. Earl L. Wier, McPherson County agent, Army.
 Lt. R. Gordon Wiltse, Miami County agent, Army.
 Lt. W. A. Wishart, Greenwood County agent, Army.
 Lt. S. H. Womer, assistant county agent, Army.
 Lt. Frank Zitnik, Rush County agent, Army.
 Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Wichita County agent, Army.

On the docket for 1944

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ 1944 will be the busiest year extension work has faced in its 30 years. It will be a crucial year in wartime food production. It will also be a year when, without indulging in unwarranted optimism, we must recognize that the war will be over sometime; that victory will be on our side; that our country, its people, and its institutions will be looked to by the world to provide much of the leadership needed for an enduring peace.

The Food Front

The pressure on United States food will be great, even if military action in Europe is successfully concluded in 1944. State conferences on goals were held earlier last fall than in the previous year. Farmers have a better picture of what they will be expected to do. They have more time to plan their individual production to fit into the community, county, State, and national requirements. They know that they may expect good prices for the different crops. They know that the 1944 goals place greater emphasis on the proteins and fats. What they will need most is help in applying the "know-how" of scientific farming methods afforded by agricultural research and experimentation; improved production, harvesting and conservation methods; specific and definite help in solving labor, machinery, transportation, processing and distribution problems. The liaison between the "know-how" and the farm is the agricultural extension system, with a county and a home demonstration agent in each important rural county.

The services available to farmers are many. All of them must be a part of a successful extension program, fitted to the needs of each State, county, and community. In the counties, farmers look to the extension office as the source of information, both from the college and experiment stations and from the United States Department of Agriculture. This fact is recognized in the assignment of all educational work to the Extension Service by the War Food Administrator. War Board Memorandum No. 31 means that the Extension Service will be held responsible for all phases of educational work, including production, conservation, marketing, and utilization of farm products.

This over-all assignment makes it urgent that, in addition to use of printed materials, meetings, demonstrations, contacts be established with every last

farmer down the road. Great progress in doing so has been made in many States through enrollment and training of volunteer extension neighborhood leaders. They have been very important in urging their neighbors to employ better production methods. They will be even more important in 1944, when efficient farming methods will play a prominent part in determining how well United States agriculture meets its food production goals.

Early Planning Vital

From the standpoint of building a successful county extension program, 1944 is full of opportunity. The preliminaries are out of the way. National and State goals are known. Responsibilities are more clearly defined than in any other year since the war started. The important need of the moment is to insure an early start. State and county extension services have a real opportunity to develop educational plans that will definitely earmark the extension program.

What are the production goals for the county? How much machinery and what kinds of repair parts will be available to farmers in the county? What further efficiencies will be necessary in transportation? Are processing facilities adequate? Will storage facilities meet the need? What is the feed situation? What can be done toward increasing the regular feed supplies in the county? What emergency crops and pastures can help maintain the desirable livestock population? What conservation measures will help save food? What steps have been taken to reduce crop damage from insects, diseases?

These are only a few of the questions that extension people should be asking now, as the year turns, of the farmer members of their county boards; of the AAA committees; of farm people and farm leaders; of the councils of defense; of every agency, public or private, through which assistance can be had to make the local job of meeting 1944 food goals as successful as weather and Providence permit.

Machinery and Equipment

Although more machinery will be available than in 1943, farmers will still have to use the greatest care with regard to tractors, motors, trucks, combines, and machinery. During the winter months farm machinery repair schools, en-

couraged by the Extension Service in cooperation with vocational agricultural departments, machinery dealers and the like, are a great service. In many States training schools and community repair centers are being organized. Unskilled farm helpers are given the opportunity to learn about proper handling and care of machinery. The same applies to equipment in the home. Here, too, home demonstration agents will want to give all assistance possible toward seeing that the very best use possible is made of home equipment.

Farm Labor

The emergency farm labor program will continue to be one of the chief extension assignments. This will include everything from the recruitment of young farm people as volunteers in the United States Crop Corps to organizing farm efficiency programs; training farmers in the more economical use of labor; and holding training centers for year-round workers and inexperienced men and youth who do seasonal work. In some States extension instruction and training for women recruits for the Women's Land Army will also be given.

Finding labor short cuts, particularly during the critical periods of peak labor needs, will be an important part of the extension program. An important responsibility of extension work is to link research and experimentation to the land through encouraging farmers to adopt improved practices. Very often the organization of neighborhood machinery exchanges and the construction of home-made, labor-saving devices, can accomplish much in the way of meeting acute labor shortages.

Victory Gardens

The Nation's food goals call for greater production from Victory Gardens. There will be more gardens in 1944, but a great deal of increased production can be had through better gardens. Nearly one-third of the Victory Gardens in 1943 were on farms. In some States as many as 95 percent of the farms had Victory Gardens. In 1944 farm gardens can be responsible for a great amount of the needed increase in fruits and vegetables. In all rural counties, technical guidance and leadership for the Victory Garden program will continue to come from the county agricultural and home demonstration agents.

Home Demonstration Work

Home demonstration activities have become increasingly important as the result of war.

Without sacrificing gains made through the years in achieving improved homes and improved home life in general, the 2,930,000 women who participate in home demonstration work have adapted their whole program to meet wartime needs.

Activities having to do with food production and food preservation have had and will continue to need major emphasis. It is to be remembered that so far as food is concerned what was essential in wartime is also essential in peace and that practices we have had to correct in wartime along nutritional lines are things which should not happen again.

Home improvement, child care, and family life, and other activities having to do with the improved physical and mental health of the family will become increasingly important as the year advances.

In developing State and county extension programs, there should be included definite and specific plans to aid people in getting control of endemic diseases; to improve home sanitation; to avoid malnutritional disease. Better physical and mental health of rural people should be a goal of both war and peace.

The war has shown that operations of the farm and the home are inseparably tied together. In a like way, home demonstration programs should be a part of the complete county extension program. Home demonstration programs as well as agricultural programs have become an essential part of our farming system without which farm families could not produce so efficiently or enjoy so high a standard of living as they do in the United States.

The needs of 1944 will cement—even closer than ever before—the relationships between the agricultural and home demonstration programs.

4-H Club Work

The 4-H Clubs will stress increased food production and conservation; pro-

mote facilities for rural young people to establish themselves on farms of their own on a sound social and economic basis; provide skilled guidance for rural youth seeking agricultural employment; develop programs leading to a fuller appreciation of the values of country living; increase emphasis on recreation; stress a better understanding of world problems today.

Preparing for Peace

In 1944, as victory comes closer month by month and week by week the Extension Service will become increasingly concerned with the problems of peace. While the Extension Service will have a major responsibility in the wartime food production, conservation, and marketing programs, we must keep the implication of the coming peace in mind.

The problems facing the United States in the demobilization period will be different from and bigger than those of the 1920's. It will be more difficult to convert from wartime to peacetime production. From 8 to 10 million men and women now in the service will be back in civilian life. A considerably larger number will have to be diverted from production of civilian goods and services. This in itself will entail some great economic and political problems. We shall have a national debt which may reach or exceed 250 billion dollars.

Yes, post-war planning is a big job. Extension work has as big a responsibility in providing educational leadership in this field as it has an obligation to stimulate food production. We shall have a big educational job to do among farm people, if they are to understand and participate in the building of programs and help to determine action that will insure a lasting peace. Such programs must be based upon the presentation of facts, all the facts, and without prejudice, if education is to serve its fundamental purpose, that of providing a basis on which an enlightened public opinion is built.

cotton pickers. In doing this essential work for the War Food Administration, they will be aided by the regional office of the Cotton and Fiber Branch, Food Distribution Administration, in determining the areas in which adverse weather or other conditions are causing losses in grade due to poor preparation of cotton.

One of these specialists, Fred P. Johnson, is stationed at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., with field work in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and western Tennessee, with continuation of his previous contacts in North Carolina. Mr. Johnson has been employed by the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture since 1937 in a similar program in which he has cooperated with the U. S. Laboratory and the North Carolina State Agricultural Extension Service in assisting ginners to improve their ginning facilities and methods of operation, with very gratifying results in the records for upgrading the preparation of cotton in that State. Prior to 1937, he had 18 years' experience in cotton ginning, including the commercial erection of plants and the operation and management of gins.

Atlanta and Dallas Headquarters

J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., with headquarters at the Cotton Division, Southern Region, Food Distribution Administration, Western Union Building, Atlanta, Ga., is the specialist for Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, and eastern Tennessee. For the past 9 years he has been an agricultural engineering specialist for the Georgia State Agricultural Extension Service, and for 7 years of that time has conducted cotton-ginning improvement work in cooperation with the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory. This extension work developed cooperation of county agricultural agents and farmers in promoting clean, dry picking of cotton, as well as the service and advice to ginners based on the experimental work of the United States Laboratory.

Alfred M. Pendleton, specialist for the Southwest, will limit his work this season to Texas and Oklahoma. His headquarters will be at the Cotton Division, Southwest Region, 425 Wilson Building, Dallas, Tex. Mr. Pendleton has been engaged in the management and operation of cotton gins since 1932, and since 1937 has been in charge of operations of the cotton gins of the East Texas Cotton Oil Co. This work has involved modernizing as well as new installation of cotton-ginning equipment in numerous gins. His consultations with the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory in planning gin installations have given him practical experience for his Extension Service work.

Extension cotton-ginning specialists

■ Three Federal Extension cotton-ginning specialists were appointed in October by the Extension Service, War Food Administration, to carry information from the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., to cotton ginners throughout the Cotton Belt. This information concerning the selection, maintenance, and operation of cotton-ginning equipment will aid in bring-

ing about a general improvement in grade in the cottons, especially needed for military and related uses.

These specialists will cooperate with State Agricultural Extension Services and their county agents in work with cotton ginners and farmers to bring about clean, dry picking of cotton and such improvement in ginning as can be obtained in spite of scarcity of skilled

Bean-picking "bees" bring out the townspeople

D. D. OFFRINGA, County Agent, Bremer County, Iowa

Because members of his own family were in the hungry Netherlands, County Agent Offringa was determined that no food should go to waste in his county. He tells how he achieved that goal.

■ First, the following radio announcement was repeated four times on July 26, 1943 by an Iowa station. Three other large radio stations repeated similar announcements.

"A bean-picking bee will be held tonight at the Harold McClure farm, north of the Children's Home in Waverly. Bremer County Extension Agent Offringa reports that 7,000 pounds of beans must be picked this evening to prevent waste of the crop. Civic organizations are cooperating. Transportation will be provided for volunteer pickers. The bean-picking bee will be held from 6 to 8 this evening, and pickers will receive 2 cents a pound. Volunteers are asked to bring a pail with them. If you do not have transportation, wait at the Waverly Post Office or at Roy's Place."

Every one of the 4,100 residents of Waverly received a large handbill on his porch by noon of that day, inviting the entire family to help. The Waverly Women's Club, the chamber of commerce, and the Masonic lodge invited their members by telephone or mail. Result? Two hundred people picked practically 8,000 pounds of beans, for which they received 2 cents a pound, cookies, a cold drink, and a stiff back, in the most extensive community effort of its kind in the history of Bremer County. It was the forerunner of 7 similar "bees" where business and professional men and their families assisted in the harvesting of 44,000 cases of beans.

When Congress, on April 29, 1943, charged the Extension Service with the responsibility of the farm labor program, the Iowa Extension Service had preliminary plans well under way.

In Bremer County, a county-wide farm-labor committee was called together for a meeting at the county farm, on May 4, to survey the farm-labor situation and to make plans. Attending this meeting were Fred F. Clark, district extension agent; and Arthur R. Porter, district farm-labor representative of the Extension Service, together with the Farm Security Administration supervisor, the AAA chairman, the county farm bureau secretary, the vocational



agriculture instructor, farm labor committee members from each community, representatives of the newspapers, chamber of commerce, and the American Legion, and representative farmers.

After the meeting, every high school in the county was asked to cooperate in obtaining enrollment of students from the fifth grade up to assist with farm work in general and the bean-picking program in particular. All rural boys and girls from the fifth grade up received a letter, together with an enrollment card, asking them for their cooperation.

On May 17, a big county-wide Food for Freedom meeting was held at Waverly, where Paul C. Taff, assistant director of the Iowa Extension Service; A. J. Loveland, chairman of the State AAA; and "Andy" Woolfries, well-known radio announcer recently returned from a special mission with the British Navy, addressed a crowd of 600. The purpose of the meeting was an appeal for still more acres of beans and the necessary labor to harvest them in the summer.

Just before the bean-picking season started, a letter was sent to all children

giving them the names of the bean growers in their vicinity.

Bean growers at that time received letters from the extension office stating that, according to plans formulated by the farm-labor committee and the management of the canning factory, pickers would be invited to a free picnic at the close of the canning season. Growers reported that this proposed picnic had a definite effect on the morale of the pickers.

In the meantime, a former 4-H girl was employed as farm-labor office assistant and an assistant coach of the Waverly High School as special farm-labor field assistant.

Notwithstanding surveys, assembly talks at high schools, and the finest kind of cooperation on the part of newspapers, community clubs, commercial clubs, teachers, preachers, the canning factory, and bean growers, when the critical time came, all preliminary activities proved inadequate. It was soon found that most growers needing extra help could not depend on the usual sources. Boys and girls who had picked beans in previous years were now taking the places of men and women in the armed forces and other essential war work. Bean growers planning on picking grade I beans soon found them growing into grade II beans, thus reducing the price from \$4.75 to \$2.75 a hundred pounds although they were still paying 2 cents a pound for picking.

But when the situation became most serious, patriotic citizens rallied to the cause. The old-fashioned bean-picking bees dramatized the dire necessity of getting the beans picked.

An emergency call was sent to the extension office at nearby Waterloo, and as many as 108 boys and girls from that area came to the rescue daily, through the cooperation of County Agent Paul B. Barger.

44,000 Cases of Beans Canned

A final check-up showed that a total of 44,000 cases of beans were canned; and, according to a quotation from a full-page ad in a local paper by a canning company " * * * We feel certain that without the help of the Food for Freedom volunteers, not more than half this amount could have been harvested * * * Our faith was justified; and through the cooperation of the county extension service, city organizations, and individuals everywhere the task has been completed."

The job was climaxed by the bean pickers' picnic, where roast-corn-in-the-husk, ice cream, soft drinks, and chicken sandwiches featured the menu and a patriotic program included the awarding

of certificates of service to every person who helped with the bean-picking program; and war stamps were awarded to the five people who picked the most beans.

Perhaps having members of my own family in the Netherlands where, according to the last letter before Pearl Harbor, the menu excluded coffee, tea, rice, eggs, sugar, and included barely 1 ounce of meat for each person a week, and where my brother has "delivered" 22 of his milk cows to the "master race," I feel strongly about this matter of food.

Town and country fight infantile paralysis

■ Home demonstration club women, 4-H Club members, as well as extension agents, are particularly interested at this time in the campaign to help those stricken with infantile paralysis to recover from that dreaded disease.

Despite a widespread popular impression that infantile paralysis is largely a disease that hits the cities and congested areas, this mysterious enemy of the home front strikes in its unexplained manner on the farms all over the Nation, The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, New York, points out in making its annual appeal for funds, January 14th to 31st, through the March of Dimes.

The 1943 epidemic of this disease—the worst in 12 years—included many people from the farms among its nearly 12,000 victims. Poliomyelitis is always like that. Far from areas where other victims had been hit, a farmer's wife or his children were stricken.

In northern Colorado, polio struck swiftly last October in one family. Three times within a week it hit the same family—a little 5-year-old girl, her 17-month-old sister, and their 4-year-old cousin. In Kansas, Mrs. Norabelle Hammond, a 46-year-old farm housewife, died in the poliomyelitis isolation ward at Grace Hospital, Hutchinson, a week after she was brought there from her farm home. She had not been away from her farm for several weeks, according to her friends. When she arrived at the hospital she was in serious condition and was immediately placed in an iron lung.

But the dimes and dollars which are given by people from the cities, towns, and the countryside all join together in helping these victims, regardless of age, race, creed, or color and regardless also

Having a definite part in this food production and conservation program this year gave me the greatest happiness ever enjoyed in any project during 21 years of being Iowa extension specialist and county agent of Bremer County.

Fellow extension workers, space does not permit emphasis on the greatest opportunity ever presented to us in helping to feed a starving world. Let's thank God that we live in the United States where we can have a real part in ultimately saving millions of wonderful people to whom starvation is a stark reality.

of whether they live in the cities where help is available or in some lonely farmhouse.

In Texas, home demonstration club-women found a way to meet the situation when an epidemic of infantile paralysis threatened.

With no hospital and no practicing nurse in Hood County, Tex., there was much concern recently when three cases of poliomyelitis were reported in the county. Fort Worth hospitals were overcrowded, and an epidemic threatened.

Forethought by the local chapter of the infantile paralysis foundation and interest by home demonstration club-women helped the county to meet this situation.

Recently, when a course in the Sister Kenney method of treatment of the malady was offered at a Fort Worth hospital, Mrs. Myrtle Negy, county home demonstration agent and member of the local chapter, got in touch with three rural homemakers who formerly had been nurses. Mrs. Ray Baker, a member of the Hill City Home Demonstration Club, agreed to go and work with "polio" patients for 1 week, studying the new method of applying hot packs. Her expenses were paid by the commissioners' court.

Meanwhile, the county health officer discussed the situation with the Hood County Home Demonstration Council. They obtained the cooperation of community clubs in raising \$500 to take care of Hood County victims of the disease who could not be admitted to a hospital nearby. Mrs. Baker's services will be available if new cases are reported, and her expenses will be paid from the local emergency fund. Already, financial assistance has been given to families of three children with the disease.

To prepare for a possible epidemic,

Mrs. Baker gave a demonstration of the Sister Kenney method of treatment to 100 women and girls of the county early in August.

Neighborhood leaders bring in blood donors

Incidentally, while out in the State the other day, I ran across a short item which you might find worth while for the REVIEW.

It happened in Sauk County, when the Red Cross made its regular stop for blood donations at Baraboo and found that volunteers were a couple of hundred short of meeting the 750 quota.

Farmers were in the middle of filling their silos, but the local chairman visited County Agent Dave Williams to see if rural people could be reached. Williams sent the information along to neighborhood leaders, and within 24 hours applications began to come in. Altogether, 600 farm people asked for blood-donation appointments within 5 days.

Of course that carried the supply away beyond the quota, and only part of these volunteers were called upon. But the rest are on the list for the next contribution to the blood bank.—*Bryant Kearl, assistant, Department of Agricultural Journalism, Wisconsin.*

■ New picture charts on soya flour and grits, put out by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics are just off the press. Four in number, the charts tell by action photograph, sketch, and short caption the how, what, and why of soya—how soya stretches scarce protein foods like meat and eggs, how soya enriches soups and spreads, what basic rules to follow in cooking, why soya is a valuable new food on the home front. Designed to help home demonstration agents, discussion leaders of 4-H Clubs, and others interested in introducing soya to the American family, these charts point up a "Food Fights for Freedom" theme.

Charts are 14¼ by 20 inches, printed in brown and peach ink. Order from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., and be sure to include 20 cents per set in cash, money order, or certified check.

Companion to the charts is a new folder, "Cooking With Soya Flour and Grits," AWI-73, containing recipes tested in the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics laboratories.

■ *Russia Fights Famine*, a 12-page pamphlet issued by Russian War Relief, Inc., 11 East 35th Street, New York 16, tells a vivid story of Russia's wartime food and agricultural problems, which will interest Extension workers.

OURSELVES

■ **DR. WILMON NEWELL**, director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service, and provost for agriculture at the University of Florida, died at his home in Gainesville, October 25.

Since going to Florida in 1915 to head the newly created State Plant Board, Dr. Newell figured notably in much of the State's agricultural advancement and won wide national acclaim for his able leadership of pest-eradication forces. The State Plant Board was formed during a heavy outbreak of the dreaded citrus canker disease, and this menace was forever removed from Florida groves after a few years of eradication efforts under Dr. Newell's direction.

So successful had been this performance that when the Mediterranean fruit fly was discovered in Florida in 1929 the United States Department of Agriculture chose Dr. Newell to lead its Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine forces, combined with those of the State Plant Board, in an eradication campaign which proved successful in 18 months, and freed the citrus and other fruit and vegetable industries of Florida and the South from the ravages of a severe pest.

Dr. Newell was director of the University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service since 1920. He was dean of the College of Agriculture from 1920 to 1938, when he was made provost for agriculture.

As director of the Experiment Station, he played a prominent part in the development of the tung oil industry in Florida and other Southern States, the research here having been the first to reveal that the tree could be grown successfully in this country.

For his outstanding ability and accomplishments, Dr. Newell received numerous honors. In 1920 he was president of the Association of Economic Entomologists; in 1929-30 he was president of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers. For years he was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

■ **ARTHUR P. SPENCER**, formerly associate director of the Florida Agricultural Extension Service, has been appointed director of extension of that State to succeed the late Dr. William Newell.

Mr. Spencer went to Florida in 1910 as district agent with the Extension Service and was made assistant director in

1916 and vice director in 1919. For the past 4 months he has served as associate director of the organization which supervises the work of county and home demonstration agents of the State.

Mr. Spencer received his B. S. and M. S. degrees at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

H. H. Williamson goes to OPA

H. H. Williamson, of Bryan, Tex., for 8 years director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, has been appointed agricultural relations adviser of the Office of Price Administration.

When making the announcement in November of Mr. Williamson's appointment, Chester Bowles, Administrator of the Office of Price Administration, said that for some months he had been concerned over what seemed to be a sincere lack of understanding on the part of many of our farmers on the problems and necessity for wartime price controls. He also believed that there have been several instances of OPA regulations which have been improperly keyed to practical farm problems.

For both of these reasons, it seemed essential to Mr. Bowles that the viewpoint of the 12 million farmers and the viewpoint of the Office of Price Administration should be brought much closer together, and the position of agricultural relations adviser was thus established to fill this need.

Through meetings and personal contacts, Mr. Williamson will stimulate discussion of the present program to develop among farm people a better understanding of the stabilization program.

Mr. Williamson, a native of Texas and lifelong farmer, is well acquainted with farm groups throughout the country. He has been associated with the Texas Extension Service for 32 years—as county agent, State boys' club agent, assistant State agent, State agent, vice director and State agent, and extension director. As State director he headed an organization of some 600 to 700 persons.

Because of the importance of cotton in the farm economy of Texas, Mr. Williamson has been especially interested in its improvement and utilization. Whereas, 8 years ago there were fewer than 30 one-variety cotton communities in the State, there are now 1,082.

When cotton surpluses were piling up, Mr. Williamson launched a "buy or make a mattress campaign" in the fall of 1939. The next spring the Government launched its national cotton mattress campaign, during which rural families, trained by extension workers, made 4,133,999 cotton mattresses in com-

munity centers; Texas leading the Nation with 550,374 completed under the program.

Approximately 60,000 neighborhood leaders make up the "human chain of communication" for Texas farm and ranch families to send and receive wartime messages related to agriculture.

Taking action to conserve food, Texas appointed special home demonstration agents in the early summer to aid with the food preservation work in 20 Texas cities, including Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, and others.

Under Extension's "Live-at-home program" Texas has increased the number of freezer lockers for storing foods from 2 in 1938 to about 130.

To avert a serious feed shortage during the winter and spring of 1944, Texas farmers were urged late last summer to plant every available acre to feed, providing moisture is sufficient. Trench silos for storing feed now number 38,054 in comparison with 5,474 when Mr. Williamson was made director.

Since a specialist in cooperative marketing was appointed by Mr. Williamson in 1937 active farmers' cooperatives in Texas have increased from 520 to 832.

At one time State leader of 4-H Club work in Texas, Mr. Williamson has been much interested in the work of boys and girls. When he became director in 1935 the enrollment in club work was 36,992 and has increased to well over 100,000 boys and girls now enrolled in 4-H club work in Texas.

Mr. Williamson's experience in working with farm people and the confidence he has won through the years will be a great asset in creating an understanding of the stabilization program and cooperation with it.

■ **JOHN J. McELROY**, formerly Wyoming State Supervisor, extension farm labor program, has joined the Federal Extension Service staff as senior agriculturist, Division of Recruitment and Placement, extension farm labor program. He will have field headquarters at Laramie, Wyo., by cooperative arrangement with Director Bowman of the Wyoming Extension Service. The greater part of his time will be devoted to field work on the farm-labor program, principally in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada and Utah.

Mr. McElroy joined the Wyoming Extension staff in 1927, serving as county agent of Carbon County until July 1, 1936, when he was appointed crop and soil specialist. He was executive assistant of the State AAA from 1938 to 1942, and was secretary of the National Beet Growers' Association in 1942-43.

Food markets save garden surplus

VIRGINIA BERRY, Home Economics Extension Specialist, Indiana

Although Madison County, Ind., is located in an agricultural area, 85 percent or more of its population comes from industrial families. In spite of many city Victory Gardens, these families created a large and ready market for canning produce during the past summer. Grocers could not possibly hope to supply enough fresh fruits and vegetables to meet the demand. However, many of the county's home economics club members had prolific gardens that were expected to produce surplus crops.

Supply and demand were brought together in mid-June when extension food markets were organized in the county's two largest towns, Anderson and Elwood. Plans for each market were developed by a committee of five women—one city and four rural homemakers. A sixth woman was selected to act as market manager. Miss Ethel Nice, home demonstration agent, who had suggested that such markets be established, served in an advisory capacity to the two committees.

Before the opening of the markets, an outline of the proposed plans went to all home economics club members, with an invitation to become sellers. Radio and newspapers announced the opening days to people throughout the county. However, only one paid advertisement was used by each market. More advertising was unnecessary, for market day brought more buyers than produce.

Each Saturday from 11 to 3 is market day. Operating hours were chosen so that fruits and vegetables brought in could be sold while fresh.

Sellers in the markets are all home economics club members, members of their families, or 4-H Club members. Members of home economics clubs may sell for other persons who guarantee their produce. Each seller must leave a health certificate at the manager's desk before being assigned to a booth. A fee amounting to a certain percentage of receipts from the produce sold must be paid to the market at the close of each day. These fees are used to meet overhead expenses for equipment, rent, and manager's salary.

Four rules govern actual selling: All produce must be fresh, booths must be kept clean and tidy; selling prices must be set by the manager for the entire market; all delicatessen products must be kept covered.

Both markets operate under store li-

censes. Originally, they were formed to sell only fresh fruits and vegetables, but the sales stock has been expanded to include other items such as dressed poultry, butter, cottage cheese, chicken and noodles, pressed chicken, potato salad, baked beans, rolls, pies, cakes, cookies, canned fruit, and other delicatessen items. Ration points are collected for any rationed goods. The addition of new products put the markets on a year-round rather than a seasonal operating basis, although one market closed temporarily while most of its sellers worked for a few weeks in tomato-canning factories.

Sales figures indicate that the project has been a success. During the initial 3 months of operation, sales totaled approximately \$4,730, with poultry products bringing in the largest share of revenue.

Although the markets are doing well, there have been numerous problems and difficulties. At the beginning, many women were reluctant to come into the organization to sell, preferring to wait until the market was well established. The business of selling was new to many of them, and they had to learn more businesslike sales methods. Some difficulty was also experienced in getting fees adjusted to cover overhead expenses. Products were not always uniform, and uniform prices had to be worked out. But gradually both sellers and markets are solving their problems. The markets have helped to supply canning produce for a large number of industrial people. For families who are selling, the markets provide a means of additional revenue—a ready source of cash income if a financial crisis should face the family in a day less prosperous than the present.

Every 4-H member buys a bond

"Come on, 4-H'ers everywhere, let's club the Axis with war bonds," is the latest battle cry of the Baldknobbers 4-H Club of Mount Vernon, Posey County, Ind. Not satisfied with letting the tremendous job of food production they are doing represent their part in the war effort, these boys and girls, in seeking other avenues of service, hit upon the plan of encouraging every 4-H'er to buy at least one bond.

The fathers of the club members, asked to sit in on a meeting held for the purpose of formulating the project, endorsed it enthusiastically. A roll call revealed that all but one member of the

club already owned bonds, and that member pledged to buy.

R. A. Burger, assistant county agent of Posey County, says the purpose of the venture is threefold:

1. To advance the cause of 4-H Club work.

2. To show that in addition to producing food, the 4-H'ers are doing an all-out job in supporting the war effort.

3. To stimulate more bond buying among 4-H boys and girls and young people generally.

The Baldknobbers Club has operated for 9 successive years under the direction of Adult Leader Charles W. Schmidt.

Repair farm equipment

To keep farm machines operating efficiently on the New York State food-production front, the 15 district agricultural engineers of the State helped to repair or adjust nearly 7,000 farm machines in the first 9 months of 1943.

They answered 4,385 trouble calls from farmers whose machines had broken down in the field or did not work at the time they were needed. More than 6,960 machines were repaired in these visits. In their clinics for repair of farm equipment, each lasting 3 to 5 days, and in field showings of the proper way to adjust plows, combines, mowers, and other farm tools, they aided 29,016 other farmers.

As most rural communities now have few men skilled in mechanical repairs, break-downs of farm machines have become serious problems. The 15 district engineers work on funds provided by the New York State War Council.

The engineers have worked on practically all the major farm machines: plows, tractors, potato sprayers and diggers, manure spreaders, corn harvesters and choppers, binders, combines, drills, mowers, electric motors, and rakes. In group meetings, they have shown how to adjust the tools; and in clinics lasting 3 to 5 days each, they have supervised farmers in repair of their machines.

In farm visits, they ironed out troubles with plows, tractors, mowers, binders, and in construction and operation of buckrakes. The farmers gave their trouble calls to their local extension committeemen or extension minutemen to pass on to the county agricultural agent who made calls for the engineer.

Population estimates from 1900 to 1943 have recently been issued by the Bureau of the Census. On January 1, 1943, the estimated total population of the United States was 135,603,500; the farm population, 27,821,000, and non-farm population, 107,782,500.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

HITTING ON ALL EIGHT POINTS, the dairy program to help farmers meet war milk goals got off to a good start in a series of a dozen intraregional conferences from Boston to Berkeley. In some of the principal dairy sections, extension workers reported that they were well supplied with materials, but the personalized touch was needed to make the program effective on every dairy farm. Some States thought this might be done by using neighborhood leaders; others suggested help of feed dealers, milk distributors, cooperatives, dairy herd-improvement associations, or dairy project leaders. The meetings were attended by extension specialists in dairying, agronomy, and economics, representatives of the supervisory staff and some meetings were attended by extension directors and editors, and a representative of the Dairy Industry Committee.

A RETIRED VIRGINIA AGENT, H. B. Derr, was in the office recently and reported a busy season with his collection of 150 mounted specimens of insects most injurious to Victory Gardens. The exhibit, mounted in cases with glass fronts, was set up in the hotel lobby for the meetings of the State Grange, November 26 and 27, and aroused much interest. It was also exhibited to the State Academy of Science in Richmond during the past season. As Mr. Derr points out, 60 percent of the beans were lost to the bean beetle and 70 percent of the potatoes to potato blight, so Victory gardeners must learn to know these insects. He particularly likes to show his exhibits, which he has spent a lifetime collecting, to young folks; last year he took them to 21 schools in his county and gave several thousand young folks a chance to look and ask questions.

A COUNTY AGENT INVENTOR is M. H. Kimball, assistant county agent in Los Angeles County, Calif. He visualized the principle of using a long boom in making a successful walnut shaker which has been built by the experiment station and is being demonstrated on farms in the county. On November 17, 70 farmers saw the machine, made from old automobile parts, second-hand pipes, and guy wire, shake a 60-foot tree in 5 minutes. This method is a great improvement over the old one of men using long poles. Agent Kimball has also perfected a simple but successful dehydrator which is being demonstrated by 4-H Clubs in the county.

FIRE LOSSES ARE INCREASING on the farm, wasting resources needed to wage war, according to progress reports given at a joint meeting of the Agricultural Committee of the National Fire Waste Council and the Farm Fire Protection Committee of the National Fire Protection Association, held November 29 in Chicago. The estimates indicate farm fire losses 10 million dollars above the 80 million dollars of last year. However, higher valuation of losses on the basis of present replacement costs for labor and materials is involved, which indicates that the loss of farm facilities is not much different from that of last year. A report on the Extension Farm Fire Prevention Program was given by S. P. Lyle of the Federal Extension Service.

KEEP FARM BUILDINGS IN USE to produce and conserve food. Repair and keep them in good condition. Convert their construction to serve the 1944 housing and storage needs, and if new construction is needed to increase or save food, do it on time. "Keep farm buildings fit and fighting" was a special message of the War Food Administration in December to farmers, and to the building materials' manufacturers and dealers and the various government agencies that can help farmers procure and use building materials as one means of accomplishing 1944 Farm Goals.

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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KEEP ALL FARM MACHINERY RUNNING was the theme of the recent meeting of extension engineers with representatives of other public agencies, trades, and industries interested in 1944 farm equipment. With the news that more machinery could be expected in 1944 than in 1943, many farmers relaxed their efforts to keep machinery repaired and in good running order; although the truth of the matter is that to grow and harvest the farm crops needed next year, all farm equipment that can be made to run will be needed in addition to the new equipment promised. Maintenance and repair of farm machinery is even more important.

A WAR HOUSING UNIT spread over the California hills like mushrooms and housing 3,000 families of shipyard workers furnished an opportunity to Maybell S. Eager, home demonstration agent of Solano County. Ten women volunteered as food preservation leaders. They were trained and then helped about 100 other families with food preservation problems. More than 52,000 quarts of fruit and tomatoes were put up; 3,000 quarts of vegetables were processed in pressure cookers; and 3,500 pounds of fruits and vegetables were dried. A fair on the porch of the community shopping center brought out 800 war workers anxious to compare the produce—fresh and preserved—from their Victory Gardens. Typical of the reports of these leaders is one from Nellie Johnson who says: "I had 6 new leaders at my home to dehydrate beans, potatoes, beets, carrots, and squash. Had a nice write-up in the paper and am keeping up my display of preserved fruits and vegetables for my neighbors to see."

FARMERS AND POULTRYMEN throughout the country have given wholehearted support to the wartime poultry-production program. Each of the past 2 years, poultry raisers have met and exceeded all production goals that have been set up for poultry and poultry products. For 1944, we are forced to maintain essential production of poultry meat and eggs with a less abundant feed supply. This calls for extra heavy culling during January. The War Food Administration is requesting the skilled flock owner to improve the efficiency of this year's flock by removing the low-producing birds. This calls for an extra heavy culling during January of birds not in laying condition and of late, slow-maturing pullets. This weeding out will give a 1944 Victory flock that will make efficient use of all the precious feed available and still achieve the food-production goals.