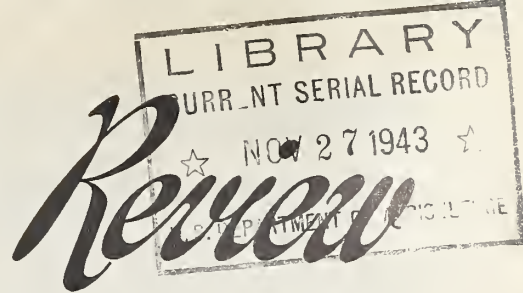


# Extension Service



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## Food to fight with

### The war food campaign is launched to focus all effort on making food fight for freedom

■ A day of thanksgiving is proclaimed by the President—a day when American families come together to give thanks for the food to meet their needs in the winter months ahead. This year when the family gathers around the festive board, in many homes there will be someone missing—someone who gives thanks for the 1943 harvest in the jungles of New Guinea, the ancient cities of Italy, or the frozen wastes of Attu.

The fruits of a good harvest are also a cause for thanksgiving to the Russians, who are getting a fighter's rations from lend-lease ships, the war-weary Italians, who are receiving the first good meals they have had in many a day. American food has gone to war to fight for freedom in the far corners of the world. The Thanksgiving proclamation this year calls on every American family to produce, conserve, share, and play square with the food supply; calls for the training of an army of civilians in the production and use of food as a weapon of war.

In every phase of the war food situation as it affects rural families, extension agents are active. County extension programs are continually being shaped to deal effectively with problems of production, conservation, rationing, and price ceilings. The Food for Freedom Campaign not only brings further encouragement and help to farm families to increase production, but brings to people in all walks of life a realization of what it means to produce food and how to get the utmost out of the food produced.

American families will get the food fights for freedom message from their daily newspapers and magazines, outdoor billboards, local motion picture theaters; will hear it on their favorite radio programs or through their nutrition committees, defense councils, civic organizations, and churches. They will see the posters in their grocery store and

hear about it from their neighborhood leader. All these food facts can also key into the county agricultural goals, the home demonstration food and nutrition work, the 4-H feed a fighter activity.

Production in food as in other weapons of war is of first importance, and steps to increase production are under way.

"Maximum food production with good soil management is imperative in 1944," said the Extension Wartime Advisory Committee of State Directors meeting recently in Washington. The committee went on to say, "An effective educational program is the best medium to bring about the adoption of plans and practices on individual farms that will contribute most toward this goal."

This educational program has been outlined at each State war food pro-

duction meeting. Typical of these is the report of the Indiana committee, which set down three fundamental phases of the all-out production job, which should be discussed with farm people: (1) What the farmer by his own individual effort and ingenuity can do to get maximum production, regardless of shortages of feed, fertilizer, machinery, and labor; (2) what farm people in a community can do by working together; (3) what assistance is needed and available from various Government agencies.

It is when national war needs are translated for use on county and community basis in terms of local conditions that farm families understand these needs. Recently, an emergency feed situation faced North Carolina farmers.

Small area meetings were held for 5 to 8 county agents who went home and held similar training meetings for neighborhood leaders. Leaders worked out just what they themselves could do community by community. In a remarkably short time farm families were well on the road to understanding the feed situation.

## A 4-H report to our fighting men

■ A feature of the 4-H annual achievement week Farm and Home Hour broadcast, November 6, was a 4-H report to the fighting men of the Nation, personified in a certain Pvt. Joe Thompson of the United States Army. Private Joe had been a 4-H Club member back home; and two of his fellow members, a boy and a girl, told him what the 1,700,000 members were doing to support his work at the battle front and to keep things going at home.

Any real soldier listening in must have been encouraged by the numbers the young folks piled up—the 5 million bushels of Victory Garden products, the 9 million birds in 4-H poultry flocks, the 90,000 dairy cows cared for by club members, or the 300 million pounds of scrap collected.

If the soldier happened to come from Oklahoma, he would like to hear about

the big event at the State fair this year when, 4-H Clubs presented a whole bomber squadron to their country. Seventeen counties sold enough bonds to buy a flying fortress, and the flagship was bought by the State. These young folk sold bonds at a purchase price of 9 million dollars.

Or if the young soldier was a Georgian, how proud he would be of the 4-H Liberty Ship Hoke Smith, named for the Georgia coauthor of the bill which established the Extension Service. 4-H Club members sold almost 10 million dollars worth of bonds to pay for this ship.

A sister ship—the "Lever"—named in honor of the other author of the Smith-Lever Act, will soon slide down the ways. This ship will be christened by a South Carolina 4-H Club girl and paid for by money raised by South Carolina 4-H Club members.

# Soldiers honor 4-H Club boys who fed a fighter in '43

■ Uncle Sam's armed forces have paid tribute to the husbandry of Texas 4-H Club boys. As honor guests at 12 Army airfields and posts scattered over Texas' broad landscape, 612 boys received the accolade of the fighting forces for their achievements in production of food in 1943.

Necessarily, the honor was a token recognition of the fulfillment by a large number of club boys of a pledge to "feed a fighter in '43." In carrying it out, they produced in beef, pork, poultry, eggs, lamb, and fiber and field crops not only the equivalent of the food and clothing budget of one fighter each, but in many instances individual boys produced enough to supply a score of soldiers. If channeled directly into the Army, their output was sufficient to feed and clothe several thousand fighting men for 1 year.

## A General Backs the Idea

The idea for this recognition of achievement originated during a conversation between Maj. Gen. Richard Donovan, commander of the Eighth Corps Service Command, and L. L. Johnson, State boys' club agent for Texas. The general approved cordially a suggestion that the Army honor boys who had made conspicuous records in producing food, by inviting them to tour airfields and Army posts to observe how soldiers are trained for combat aground and aloft. County agricultural agents were asked to select groups from their club boys able to qualify, and the Amarillo Army Airfield of the Army Air Force Technical Training Command was designated as the host for club boys from Extension District 1. The general believed that these visits perhaps would stimulate the club boys to greater efforts on the home front.

Successively, the South Plains Glider School, Lubbock, entertained club boys from District 2; Goodfellow, San Angelo, those from District 6; Camp Berkeley, Abilene, District 7; Sheppard Field, Wichita Falls, District 3; Camp Howze, Gainesville, District 4; Camp Maxey, Paris, District 5; Ellington Field, Houston, Districts 9 and 11; Fort Brown, Brownsville, District 12; Fort Sam Houston and Randolph Field, District 10; and Camp Hood, District 8.

In the tours the boys were permitted a look behind the screen of high fences and armed sentries, rarely privileged to other civilians, at the training of Amer-

ica's youth for the grim business of war. Indeed, there was little of the routine within those closely guarded precincts which the visitors failed to observe at close hand.

They saw the methods by which their brothers, cousins, companions, and neighbors are transformed into skillful airplane pilots, trained ground-crew mechanics, and toughened doughboys. They bounced over the rough in sturdy jeeps, "flew" the link trainers, and climbed freely over the majestic spread of great bombing planes. Light and heavy machine guns chattering on the ranges came under their close inspection, and some had the thrill of holding and aiming a soldier's rifle at targets.

The boys walked across a swiftly laid pontoon bridge and marched through miles of storehouses and refrigerators where equipment, clothing, and food are conserved until needed. They shook hands with smiling officers who welcomed them and praised their fine production records, inspected the mess halls and kitchens, and observed how the soldiers are fed by sharing their mess.

## Farm Boy Reviews the Flying Cadets

At the South Plains Glider School, George Kveton, 18, of Lubbock County, State winner of the home beautification contest, was chosen as the representative of the 90 boys present to share with Brig. Gen. Hornsby, Col. N. B. Olsen, commander of the field, and Maj. W. J. Rosson, the honor of reviewing the flying cadets at the end of the day.

An insignia bearing the 4-H emblem and the legend, "I feed a fighter," was presented to each boy upon arrival at the fields.

Amid the vast array of military preparations which greeted the club boys, the arts of peace as represented by the 10-acre Victory Farm on the glider field at Lubbock came into sharp relief. The farm was conceived by Mrs. N. B. Olsen, wife of the commanding officer, to provide fresh vegetables for Officers' Row and other homes on the field, and literally in "No Man's Land." Mrs. Olsen explained that the planting and cultivation of the garden was her own work and that of the women members of families of other officers and privates. "No man," she added, "was permitted a part in the work except a corporal-overseer who was associated with an agricultural agency before entering the Army."

The colonel's lady had marshaled her sisters of the hoe, who were in the field busily tilling the long rows of green vegetables when the boys drove up in five big army trucks. The boys were invited in, to give the volunteer workers the benefit of their gardening knowledge and to pose for a picture, when one youngster raised a wave of laughter by shrilling: "I'll take the one in shorts!"

## Boys Given Freedom of Camp

Illustrating the freedom for observation extended to the boys, they were conducted through the hangars at the Amarillo Army Airfield and permitted to examine at will the largest bombers used in the American Air Forces which were being worked on by student mechanics. At the South Plains Glider School, Randolph Field, San Antonio, and at Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, they were conducted through the technical room and allowed to "fly" the link trainers under the direction of technical instructors. These mechanical devices are "flown" blind and simulate the behavior of airplanes in take-off, in flight, and in landing. Incidentally, the group at Lubbock essayed the obstacle course used to train fighters to negotiate difficult terrain, and Troy Overman of Hockley County covered the hazards and flats in 3 minutes. The record was said to have been 2¼ minutes . . . And Troy did it in his Sunday suit.

District 5 club boys saw the engineers in operation at Camp Maxey, Paris, and were allowed to cross a bridge newly laid. Antitank guns in action thrilled District 8 boys who visited Camp Hood in Bell County, which is known as the tank-buster school. In addition, they were taken through the repair shops and ordnance department, as well as the motor pool, stocked with antitank weapons. At other fields and camps, they saw heavy artillery, amphibian jeeps, camouflaged trenches and gun positions, fox holes, airplane repair under combat conditions, troops simulating removal of wounded, men marching with full kits, and, from a distance, a "Nazi village," reproduced to the last detail for maneuvering troops to avoid the hazards planted by a retreating enemy.

All in all it was a great occasion for the farm boys, who went home resolved to work even harder to grow the food to keep these fighters in trim.

THE CORN-MEAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM in South Carolina was presented at Long Camp to all the State's 4-H clubbers attending their annual encampment. Corn meal in various guises was also featured on menus, and all of it was enriched.

# England refuses to be starved out

A first-hand picture of agriculture in England from an extension reporter, F. J. Keilholz, extension editor, Illinois, who made the trip to England in the interest of effective United Nations cooperation on the farm front.

■ England today is history's epoch of a people who retained the will to fight and produce after a 4-year test in the worst war of high explosives, fire bombs, and land mines the world has ever known. Its people have refused to be starved out or bombed out; its agriculture and industry have produced at record rates, and its future is being faced with a spirit that is beginning to approach optimism.

For Extension Service workers in the United States, there should be new inspiration and satisfaction in the fact that success of the amazing British wartime food-production campaign, as well as of the war itself, is being credited largely to the efforts of volunteer leaders working with their neighbors, with their educational agencies, and with their government officials.

How successfully and famously this teamwork, similar in many respects to the Extension Service set-up, has operated can be judged from the fact that Great Britain during the war has increased the net output of food derived from her own soil by 70 percent. Two-thirds of Britain's food supply is now being produced at home, whereas before the war she was importing two-thirds of it.

This is particularly impressive in view of the fact that Britain's prewar agricultural production was equal per square mile to that of Iowa and Indiana. The increase in high rate of production by 70 percent, is really an achievement.

To do this, England, on the one hand, has had to increase enormously the production of food for direct human consumption, mainly wheat, potatoes, vegetables, and sugar beets; on the other hand, she has had to replace millions of tons of formerly imported feedstuff for her livestock by growing millions of tons more fodder crops at home.

Milk is priority A in the British production schedule, and the country's milking herds are now greater in number than they have been before in her history. In the last war, British milk supplies fell by something like a third. In this war, consumption of liquid milk has actually risen by one-third, and farmers are producing the milk to meet the increased demand.

All this has been accomplished through widespread plowing up of grassland; the control of cropping and general improvement in productivity; marked resourcefulness in getting supplies of machinery, feedstuffs, fertilizers, and other requisites; remarkable mobilization of a supply of labor for farms; provision for technical advice for farmers; and collaboration with the Ministry of Food in regard to the prices to be fixed for home agricultural products and the arrangements to be made in connection with the purchase of products by the Government.

Although the food situation is still what Americans would consider acute, British food control and rationing have been very successful in providing an even and adequate flow of food into channels of distribution and in distributing those foods equitably to all individuals and classes in the community. Rationing, of course, is far more extensive and stringent in England than it is in the United States.

Speaking of the astonishing achievement of British agriculture in increasing food production during this war, R. S. Hudson, minister of agriculture, said: "The real credit goes to the farmers and farm workers and to those 5,000 farmer volunteers on the county war agricultural committees and on the district committees."

British women, especially, have earned a tribute which should give heart and spirit to the rural women of the United States. "Without the countrywomen," Minister Hudson said, "we could not have done the job. But they too often are forgotten—our country wives and daughters. But they're doing their bit, just as much as the women in the forces and the munition factories. The only difference is that they don't get the excitement of change. All they get is more and harder work."

In addition to the countrywomen who have always been on British farms, there are now 79,000 women in Britain's Land Army.

After working with a land-army crew during one of his furloughs, U. S. Private Eugene Jasper, 30, former tobacco warehouse worker of Chippewa Falls, Wis., said: "I don't see how these English girls do it on a cup of tea and a cheese sandwich. They look healthy, though, and you've certainly got to admire their spirit and their determination in working like that to get the grain in."

What the British have achieved is all the more remarkable in the light of hardships and obstacles which they have

had to overcome. Tractor operators trying to get crops planted have even been machine-gunned to death by enemy raiders.

In many cases, farmers have had to plant, cultivate, and reap in fields studded or strewn with obstacles of one kind or another to prevent enemy aircraft from landing.

When they are not working at the job of food production, rural people take their place in the Home Guard or on some other front. Shortages of time, labor, machinery, fertilizers, feedstuffs, and other requisites have all worked against British farm families while a modern war has raged over their very homes, fields, and barns. Nevertheless, they are now well on their way to doubling their production of foodstuffs as a prelude to peace and a promise of what they can do in post-war rehabilitation.

Already, post-war agricultural policies and programs are subjects of widespread interest and discussion throughout Great Britain. Official committees, including representatives of the United States, are at work in London and elsewhere on world-wide, as well as European, post-war agricultural problems.

## Better babies for the post-war world

■ The home demonstration club women in Arkansas are already looking ahead and discussing post-war problems. They have decided that, more than ever before, the rearing and training of healthy children is most important.

The child-development leader of Lawrence County home demonstration clubs says: "Now that so many of our doctors and nurses have been conscripted for military service, good health is most important; and our better-babies groups are laying a foundation for health by learning how to build stronger bodies and maintain health from babyhood."

Through discussions on child development and family relationships in each club, suggestions for child guidance are introduced that have helped mothers appreciably in child management.

The child-development program has expanded during the last 10 years to 61 counties in which 6,249 families enrolled 8,448 children.

Two hundred and thirty-four better-babies clinics, in which the county health units cooperated with the home demonstration clubs, were reported from 58 counties last year. The home demonstration club women arranged places for the clinics and brought the mothers and babies to them. The county health departments state that this has been a great help to them.

# Women prove their mettle

Women and girls went to bat this past summer for the farm crops of Maine. Not only did the home folks go to work in earnest, but girls came from New England colleges and other schools to take their places on the food-production line.

Last year when there was a shortage of farm help Katherine L. Potter organized the WEFS (Women's Emergency Farm Service) which is now a part of the Women's Land Army. This year new recruits joined to cultivate and weed, pick fruit, berries, and vegetables, drive trucks, work in hayfields or dairy barns, or do any of the numerous jobs that go along with summer days on the farm. Some came for the summer and others for only a few weeks.

As the fog blew in from the Atlantic where Quoddy Head stretches into the ocean as the most eastern point in the United States, County Agent Clyde Higgins and I stopped at the Sherwood Prout truck farm in Lubec. Maine's First Lady, Mrs. Sumner Sewall, was there to work with the girls on the truck crops. That morning they had cut lettuce in the fields, washed, iced, packed it, and nailed the crates so that by noon trucks loaded with lettuce were on their way to be in the Boston market by early morning.

Mrs. Sewall, whose mother was Polish and father an English officer stationed in Poland, knows the horrors of an oppressed country, for she lived in Poland during the first World War. As she rose from weeding lettuce in a 7-acre field where about a dozen Smith College girls and 15 local boys were working, she looked out across the fields of beans and potatoes toward the ocean and said, "Because we are lending and helping to feed other countries God has been good and given us a bountiful crop. It would be criminal to let it go to waste. I think it is the duty of all who can, to help save the crops. I feel that I can be more useful on a farm than in a canning factory because I fear machinery."

She waved her hand toward the girls. "These girls fear nothing. They are not afraid of hard work or things they may have to do in the effort to win the war. All of us get up at 5:30, and a little later when we are in the truck going to the fields the girls are laughing and singing. And, are they healthy? One slender girl has gained 14 pounds since she came here."

Mr. Prout and his foreman, Leroy Young, said that they were depending on the college girls and a "mosquito" crew of farm workers recruited from youngsters of the neighborhood, to keep

the fields weeded and to harvest the crops from the 40 acres of lettuce; 40, cauliflower; 25, peas; 20, beans; 2, cucumbers; 40, potatoes; and 8 acres of blue Hubbard squash. The previous week he had had 75 on his pay roll, which group included about 25 girls between the ages of 11 and 15. Mr. Prout and Mr. Young agreed that all were doing a marvelous job and that they deserved a lot of credit. They hope that these young people will return next year.

So that farmers may have good certified seed potatoes to plant for their 1944 crop, women and girls in the potato empire of Maine (Aroostook County) have spent many summer days roguing in the fields. Usually boys have done the roguing, but they were greatly needed to take the places of their older brothers to drive the tractors, cultivate and spray potatoes, and to do much of the other heavy work. So the girls pitched in to help wherever they could.

First, they had to learn to identify diseased potato plants so that they could dig them up and destroy them. On the way to a field entered for certification two Easton girls, Virginia Rackliffe and Esther Turner, told me that their high-school agricultural instructor, Kenneth Clark, had classes three evenings at the high school to instruct girls, women, and boys, and then he spent 3 days with

them in the field. After that training, the girls rogued a few rows which Mr. Clark inspected. He also looked at the plants that they had taken up as being diseased. Being satisfied that they "knew their potatoes" he told them to go ahead "on their own."

The girls were dressed in sturdy slacks, heavy shoes, shirts, and broad-brimmed hats, for they worked in all kinds of weather—in the sunshine, wind, and rain. Each had a potato sack slung over her shoulder for the diseased plants. Armed with their short-handled three-tined potato diggers they walked down the rows while carefully looking at each plant.

The roguers were looking for plants having any of four diseases—blackleg, mosaic, leaf-roll, or purple top, as well as any plants that were of a different variety than that planted in the field.

Besides spending 22 days in Easton and Caribou roguing 94 acres of seed potatoes, which passed inspection for certification, the girls helped their fathers in the hayfields, harrowed with the tractor, pulled mustard and other weeds, and did other jobs on the farm. These are only two of the many women and girls who have done their part to insure disease-free seed potatoes for next year's planting.

Among the many women who went from other States to help Maine farmers were two teachers from a private school in Washington, D. C., and a woman from Boston. These 3 worked together for 6 weeks.

Virginia Rackliffe and Esther Turner roguing potatoes in Easton.



The three women got up at 4:30, drove the cows into the barn, and milked them with milking machines. After breakfast they cleaned the dairy room and washed the utensils used. They also cleaned the barn from "top to toe," which job took until lunch time. Later they brought the cows in from pasture and did the evening milking.

Although the work was new to them they enjoyed it, loved the people of Maine, and are looking forward to going back next year. Mr. Gould had said that at first he was afraid that women could not do the work as the 26-pound milking machines were so heavy to lift, but when they left to go back to their teaching he was convinced that women have their place on the farm as well as in the farm home.

About 40 girls of high-school age, called the Junior WEFS, lived as a group at a camp in Newport. Each morning at 7 o'clock they went by truck to weed in the fields and harvest the seed for seed and packing companies. They worked until 5 in the afternoon,

with time out for eating their box lunches and resting. At the end of the warm days they enjoyed a swim in the lake.

Girls at Camp Tanglewood in Lincolnville, under the supervision of Gladys Russell and counselors, helped materially in harvesting crops. One day in August 112 girls gathered the almost unbelievable quantity of over 2 tons of beans at a farm in Belfast, and the next day 29 completed the work. Some of the girls stayed after the camp officially closed to pick blueberries.

Women, boys, and girls proved their worth on Maine farms throughout the summer. Even as late as the middle of October they braved frosty mornings, the wind, and the cold to help pick up the bumper crop of Aroostock "spuds." Young folks love a race, and were they not in this race with the farmers, the people who had come from Oklahoma, Arkansas, West Virginia, and Kentucky, and the Boy Scouts to beat Old Man Freeze?—*Dorothy L. Bigelow, editorial assistant.*

tension district agents to work out plans for producing truck crops which might be delivered to Camp McCain.

The seed for planting the sweet corn was obtained by the Extension Service and allocated to the producers by county agents and farm security supervisors, according to the acreage which each producer decided to plant.

The corn, which was planted beginning April 10, began to move first from Quitman County on June 23. From that date on through the next 2 months, the requirements of Camp McCain were supplied; and, in addition, two shipments were delivered to the concentration camp at Jerome, Ark.

All the corn was delivered to the Grenada Branch, Mississippi Federated Cooperatives, where it was concentrated in cold storage until sufficient volume was obtained before the cooperative delivered it in lots of 2,250 dozen to the camp.

The cooperative paid the farmers promptly for their corn instead of their having to wait for payment from the quartermaster's office.

Union County led the other counties with a delivery of 7,740 dozen ears of corn which brought the producers \$2,167.20. Quitman County was second with 6,575 dozen, bringing \$1,841; and Montgomery County was third with 5,955 dozen, amounting to \$1,667.40.

Despite the dry weather, in a number of the participating counties the producers were well pleased with the returns of this crop. They plan to increase their acreage next year. Extension specialists will work out a plan for planting based on the requirements of camps within trucking distance. After working out these plans, county and home agents will be allotted acreage for their counties, and they in turn will allot this acreage to producers with a schedule of planting dates in order that plantings may be staggered in such way as to give a supply of corn throughout the spring and summer months.

Farmers have been assisted this year, and will be assisted in the future by extension specialists in production, grading, and packing of the corn so that it will be of highest quality and acceptable in every way in accordance with specifications set up by the Government for Army camps.

Although many agricultural leaders assisted in making this program successful, most of the credit is due J. E. Stanley, extension economist in marketing; K. H. Buckley, assistant extension horticulturist; County Agents Luther Brown, Montgomery County, L. V. Henson, Quitman, B. U. Jones, Union, W. Y. Parker, Yalobusha; and Farm Security Supervisors Max Harding, Yalobusha, Creola Mitchell and Mr. Brooks, Carroll.

## Farmers work together to supply corn for Army camp

■ A civilian in the Army Quartermaster's office said it couldn't be done. It never had been done before in Mississippi. However, the Extension Service's program of organized production, harvesting, and cooperative marketing of sweet corn in north Mississippi on a commercial scale has proved highly satisfactory to both producers and consumers.

Soldiers at Camp McCain are glad that this project was successfully carried out. Many a soldier remarked that this corn was one of the best foods they had at camp.

Army officials were highly pleased with the quality of corn delivered, stating that it was on a par with any corn of that variety delivered from other sections of the country.

Producers from 5 counties around Camp McCain sold 25,990 dozen ears of corn at 28 cents a dozen, realizing a total of \$7,277.20. J. W. Fisackerly of Montgomery County proved to be the champion 1-acre grower, selling 900 dozen ears of corn from 1 acre, for which he received \$252. In addition to these sales, Mr. Fisackerly used some of his corn at home for eating and canning.

Producing and marketing truck crops in this section—Union, Quitman, Montgomery, Carroll, and Yalobusha Coun-

ties—had never been attempted before on a commercial basis. But Extension felt that it had a job to do in helping to feed soldiers at Camp McCain; and the farmers—mostly because of their patriotism and not because they thought they would make as much money as they would from their usual crops—quickly responded to the appeal made by Extension and Army leaders. This proved to be another example of where patriotism paid big dividends.

County agents, extension horticulturists, and marketing specialists, as well as farmers, knew that corn, being a perishable crop, must be handled with "kid gloves." They were fully aware of the fact that this sweet corn must be harvested at the proper time; that the corn must be kept in a cool place at all times after being harvested; must be cooled with water; must be quickly shipped to the cold-storage plant. And, too, they knew the production must be on a graduated scale so that the market would not be glutted 1 week and no corn would be available the next week.

Extension began to work on this project early in the spring. County and home agents and farm security workers of several counties around Camp McCain met with the horticulture and marketing specialists at the call of ex-

# Shaking peanuts for a holiday



■ A few years ago, Sumter County, Ga., grew about 30,000 acres of peanuts and had plenty of labor at harvesting time for the necessary hand work of picking them up after they had been plowed out, shaking the soil from the peanuts, and stacking them around a pole to await the thresher. This year, in response to wartime needs, Sumter County planted 50,000 acres. About 1,000 boys of the county are in the armed services and that many more in war industries who used to help on the farms.

The farmers with the help of their wives and daughters, handled the preparation of the land, planting, and cultivating all right, but when it came to harvesting and the hand labor necessary in shaking and stacking, the situation looked grave.

County Agent J. K. Luck got busy. With the help of the chamber of commerce, civic clubs, and other groups, a plan was made. The town of Americus announced 4 peanut-shaking holidays on 4 consecutive Wednesdays, when all the stores would close and the storekeepers and clerks would go to the peanut fields.

More than 1,000 townspeople turned out to shake peanuts on that first Wednesday, August 18. The white people and many of the Negroes did not ordinarily do field work, but they stacked about 187 tons of peanuts—11,000 stacks. "At first the farmers were somewhat skeptical of the idea of city folks doing farm work, but after that first day they were thoroughly sold on the idea," reported County Agent Luck, who believed that not an acre of peanuts was lost because of lack of labor.

The "Peanut Shaking Holiday" was responsible for the harvesting of at least one-half of the peanuts in Sumter County.

As one editorial put it, "The Battle for Food was on in Georgia to save the last pound of Spanish peanuts our boys need so badly for oil to grease their rifles, as well as for food in a hundred ways."

Everyone turned out for the peanut-shaking holiday, even Congressman Stephen Pace who worked for several days in Sumter and surrounding counties and was much photographed on the farm of one patriotic farmer who put in 125 extra acres in peanuts.

The second and third "holidays" turned out to be cotton-picking holidays as the need for cotton pickers began to be felt more acutely than the need for peanut stackers. On these days, the townspeople picked about 120 bales of cotton and harvested 60 tons of peanuts on each holiday.

## 4-H Clubs welcome VFV

■ Wilbur Pease, 4-H Club agent in Suffolk County, N. Y., was asked to assume responsibility for the recreation programs in the six labor camps of the county. He and Eloise Jones, associate county 4-H Club agent, swung into action immediately. The 4-H department financed recreational equipment such as bats, balls, and games, and solicited magazines, games, puzzles, and the like from the 4-H groups throughout the county. Two dances and parties were also staged.

The Senior 4-H Club in Wyoming

County, N. Y., held an outstanding meeting during the month of July. At this meeting, Arthur Smith, farm replacement representative, was invited as guest speaker. Mr. Smith invited four New York boys to attend and tell of their reactions to the country and how they felt about the work and the contrast to city life. Every one of them brought out the fact that he was homesick, had no place to go, and was working harder than ever before. I believe this gave the 4-H Club members a different slant on these boys working in the country. As a result, a letter was sent to leaders encouraging them to invite New York boys to their club meetings and to ask 4-H Club members to help make them feel at home. Two of these boys asked the club agent about carrying on a short-time 4-H project. They felt that they could learn a lot during the summer months. Could this type of thing be a 4-H program that we are missing?

The Yates County, N. Y., 4-H Club Council met with the girls of the Lake-mont Berry Pickers' Camp one evening for a picnic supper, followed by a ball game and a campfire program. Club Agent Wes Smith reports that the council members had a very enjoyable evening, and he has heard that the girls at camp were much pleased to get acquainted with people of their own age.

## Let's think it over

■ The Cooperative Extension Service, because of the confidence which rural people have in it, has a heavy responsibility in this war period for exerting a stabilizing as well as a stimulating influence on the war effort of rural people. It is highly important, therefore, that cooperative extension workers, in view of this position of influence, *strictly avoid engaging in public discussion either political in character or involving controversial issues of national policy.* As public officials, cooperative extension workers have a high and vital responsibility for reflecting through the proper official channels the needs, problems, and opinions of the rural people with whom they are in close and intimate association.

There has never been a time when information of this character has been more needed or welcomed by governmental authorities concerned with the formulation of national policy and the conduct of governmental agencies. The proper and effective way to render such service is by the transmittal of clear-cut and accurate statements bearing on such needs, problems, and opinions to the State director of extension and through him to the Federal Extension Service, the

War Food Administration, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Under wartime stresses and as a result of the pressure of local sentiment and individual conviction, an extension worker is being occasionally reported as forgetful of his responsibility as a public official and of the fact that it is a part of his duty to report through the proper official channels the needs, problems, and opinions of his people. In these cases the cooperative extension worker has made public statements, sometimes unthinkingly, either political in character or involving highly controversial issues of governmental policy. Such statements tend to undermine confidence in governmental policy and tend likewise to destroy confidence in the individual making them, as well as weakening the service with which he is associated.

It seems desirable, therefore, that all cooperative extension workers be cautioned in this respect and that they be requested to avoid embarrassment to themselves and to the extension organization by strict avoidance of participation in public discussion either political in character or involving controversial issues of governmental policy.—*Excerpt from letter of August 9, 1943, to State extension directors from M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, War Food Administration.*

## Production goes up with farm accounting

■ Farmers keeping accounts in Illinois are contributing generously to the Nation's increased food and feed production by tackling their agricultural problems in a businesslike way, according to a summary of annual farm business reports of 3,192 Illinois farms for 1942.

"Gross cash income a farm" (a measure of volume of production) averaged \$3,252 more on the accounting farms than on the average by all farms in the State when adjusted to the same size as the accounting farms. The average net cash income an acre on accounting farms rose from \$1.42 at the bottom of the depression in 1932 to \$9.91 in 1941. It reached a record peak of \$14.99 an acre during the past year.

These higher cash earnings are attributed to higher prices combined with an accumulation of grain and livestock resulting from 6 years of better-than-average crops.

Responding to the wartime demand for production increases over 1941, accounting farmers last year milked 5 percent more cows, weaned 6.8 percent more pigs, and kept 13.8 percent more hens than in the previous year. Machinery invest-

ments were up 12.3 percent, and 0.9 percent less labor was used.

Corn yield on accounting farms was 66.2 bushels an acre, as contrasted with 54.5 bushels for all farms in the State; oats, 44.3 bushels in comparison with 40 bushels; wheat, 14.8, compared with 13; and soybeans, 21.2, compared with 21. Higher grain yields an acre on these farms, as compared with all farms in the State, may be attributed for the most part to the long-time, cumulative effort of better extension practices.

Carried on for more than 25 years, this accounting system serves to indicate possible changes for more profitable and ef-

ficient results in addition to providing a wealth of information about farming practices in general.

■ County Agent Bill Marschall of Tom Green County, Texas, appears in the Saturday Evening Post of October 23 under the title, *Grassroots Bureaucrat*, and gives a good account of himself and the county agent tribe in general. "Next to the farmer he's the man most likely to keep us eating" states author Neil M. Clark. Early last summer, this Mr. Clark of Cedar Crest, N. M., came around to see the REVIEW editor to get some suggestions and background for an article on the county agent.

## Club boys learn insect reporting

■ County Agent W. E. A. Meinscher of Austin County gives a few insect pointers to Allen Hillboldt, one of 511 Texas 4-H cotton-insect reporters representing 69 of the principal cotton-growing counties in the State.

During June, July, and August, the boys made reports each week after an inspection of their cottonfields. Spot checking revealed that the boys' reports were unusually accurate. Similar work was done by 4-H Club boys in Oklahoma, Mississippi, Georgia, and Louisiana.

The reports proved so valuable that the information they contained aided materially in the distribution of calcium arsenate and other insecticides. In 1942, the inability of some farmers to get

poisons was due to improper distribution of insecticides and not to inadequate supplies. This year, weekly reports on infestation have been sent to Government officials in Washington by the State Extension Services and other agencies, and the unsatisfactory distribution of insecticides experienced in 1942 was not repeated. Generally speaking, pests have been comparatively light this year in Texas, although Haskell and Jones Counties and the Coastal Bend and Gulf Coast sections have had some damage from insects. As the survey showed lighter infestation in Texas, insecticides which might have been shipped and possibly used in Texas were released for use elsewhere.





## 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. Next month will be listed additional names received since the first list was made up.

### From a Paratrooper

Well, at last I made it, 2 weeks longer than it was supposed to have taken me; but that was due to a little leg injury I acquired early in the game, which caused me to lose some time. Despite the fact that the magazines and papers all say we're different and, presumably, much tougher than the rest of the Army, I don't as yet feel much different than I did when Gould and I were stabled in 210 together. It wasn't much harder to jump out of that plane than it would have been to ask Mr. Fite for a raise.

Monday of our third week in training was the big day for the first jump; and, although we had been anticipating it for months, there wasn't one of us who didn't "sweat it out" over the week end. What we were most afraid of was being afraid. We knew that not only were we on test as individuals but also as a caste. In the history of the school there has been no case in which an officer has refused to jump, and it would be a shame to break that record. When I first woke Monday morning, I heard those big transports down on the field warming up. They do that every day, but Monday I heard with a new appreciation. Everybody was attempting to build up our morale by singing to us snatches of "Happy Malfunctions to You," which is sung to the tune of the birthday song. It was a "malfunction" that the paratrooper of the song fame had. As we assembled, we joshed each other about imagined errors made in packing the chutes. For example, not tying one cord might result in a delayed opening. The apprehensive type could really torture himself by wondering if he had actually tied that blamed cord. Down at the hangars we were lined up, with an officer

leading each group of eight men. We marched in and got the chutes which had been packed over the week end, and with none too steady fingers strapped them on. As we loaded into the planes we were a grim-looking bunch. Our safety belts were fastened, and before we knew it we were off. The jump master told us again what we were supposed to do; and then, while the plane was gaining altitude, somebody started the paratrooper's song. To the question, "Is everybody happy?" we answered with a thunderous "Yes," but the jump master just grinned and said, "Liars!"

In what seemed like an incredibly short time, the jump master said, "First group, stand up; hook up." (That was my group.)

Hooking up involves the attachment of the static line on the chute to a cable running the length of the plane. When the jumper leaves the plane, the static line yanks the cover off the chute and pulls out the folded canopy. The canopy is attached to the static line by that break cord I mentioned earlier. If the cord should not be tied, there would be nothing but the slip stream of the falling body to force that silk out into the breeze where it can fill with air and slow down the rate of descent.

We hooked up, making darn sure we were properly hooked; and in what seemed like just a second the command was "Stand in the door." As I stood there, with my nose sniffing the cold morning air, I had the feeling that there was something damn foolish about the whole thing, I reminded myself of the cartoon of the man in the same position who said, "There's been some horrible mistake. I only signed up to be an air-raid warden."

Regardless of my feelings, the jump





master tapped me on the leg as we reached the proper spot, and I was out in that cold prop blast. When I felt that tap I could no more have remained in the plane than I could have stopped its motors by looking at them. Before I could utter "One thousand, two thousand, three thousand," the thing opened up with a bang. Opening shock is certainly well named, for I felt it to the nails of my toes. I glanced up, and there was that beautiful silk canopy blossomed out over my head. I immediately experienced a feeling of real joy, as I felt myself floating effortlessly, silently, down. The ground looked far away but not at all uninviting.

In fact, it looked rather soft. I experimented with the methods we had been taught of controlling the chute. Sure enough, by pulling on certain risers, I could influence not only the direction of drift but also the rate of descent. Playing like this, I was down almost before I realized it. As the ground came up, I prepared to land and, luckily, got in a good downward pull just at the right time and landed no harder than if I had jumped off my desk. A tumble completed my first jump; and as soon as I had collapsed the chute, got out of my harness, and rolled up the silk, I too had become convinced that there was nothing else like it. From the field, we rode back to the hangars in trucks, and every man in that group was telling everybody else all about HIS jump.

Nobody heard him, of course, but everybody felt good about it.—*Paul McGuire, formerly associate extension editor, New Mexico.*

#### VERMONT

Cpl. Edward J. Cook, Jr., Windsor County agent, Army.

Maj. Warren A. Dodge, land use planning specialist, Army.

Pfc. Leroy J. Dopp, Jr., office manager, Army.

Pvt. Glenn F. McPhee, Orleans County club agent, Army.

Cpl. Robert Turcot, clerk, Army.

#### WASHINGTON

Lt. (j. g.) Cal Anderson, extension editor, Navy.

Lt. Sylvia E. Antilla, Skagit County home demonstration agent, WAC.

Maj. H. L. Axling, Spokane County club agent, Army.

Helmer W. Basso, R. T. 2/c, Wahkiakum County agent, Army.

Ens. Mary Ann Faletto, Thurston County home demonstration agent, Navy.

Cadet Gale Gurtle, Whatcom County assistant agent, Navy.

Candidate Donald J. Haibach, forestry specialist, Army.

Lt. David D. Jackson, Chelan County assistant agent, Army.

Vincent E. Johnson, Clark County assistant agent, Navy.

Pvt. Alton N. Lorang, Thurston County assistant agent, Army.

Lt. E. C. Reif, Spokane County assistant agent, Army.

Cadet N. E. (Ned) Shorey, Kittitas County assistant agent, Army.

Orlie Smith, Pierce County assistant agent.

Shirley Stewart, Skagit County assistant home demonstration agent, WAVE.

2d Lt. Carl Stock, Whatcom County assistant agent, Army.

Capt. James W. Stubbs, forestry specialist, Army.

Lt. Col. Henry M. Walker, 4-H Club agent, Army.

Ruth Wallace, secretary to subject-matter specialists, WAVE.

#### WEST VIRGINIA

2d Lt. E. W. Beatty, extension forester, Army.

1st Lt. Jack Beyers, assistant county agent in forestry, Preston, Tucker, and Grant Counties, Army.

Ens. Victor E. Bird, formerly assistant county agent in forestry, Logan and Boone Counties, Navy.

Lt. H. S. Cassell, assistant county agent in forestry, Monroe County, Army.

Ens. R. Lee Chambliss, Jr., assistant extension economist in land use planning, Navy.

Lt. James H. Clarke, assistant extension economist, Army.

Lt. (j. g.) James A. Corrick, Jr., county agricultural agent in Mercer County, Navy.

Ens. John R. Dolly, county 4-H Club agent in Harrison County, Navy.

D. M. Foley, county agricultural agent in Ritchie County.

1st Lt. John W. Hammer, assistant county agricultural agent, Barbour County, Army.

Lt. Robert L. Hammer, county agricultural agent, Randolph County, Army.

Capt. T. R. Hash, county agricultural agent in Hancock County, Army.

Ens. H. E. Helnick, assistant county agent in forestry in Mingo County, Navy.

1st Lt. Arnold Hutson, county 4-H Club agent in Wood County, Army.

Ens. Walter E. Jett, county agricultural agent in Pocahontas County, Army.

Frances E. Lafferty, home demonstration agent, Jefferson County, WAC.

Abe S. Margolin, extension assistant in visual aids, Army.

Aviation Cadet Paul A. Miller, county 4-H Club agent, Nicholas County, Army.

Lt. Robert E. Reno, extension assistant in radio, Army.

Aviation Cadet William D. Scott, county 4-H Club agent in Raleigh County, Navy.

Corp. John L. Scranage, county 4-H Club agent in Kanawha County, Army.

Charles T. Shackelford, county 4-H Club agent in Fayette County, Army.

Capt. Harold H. Smith, assistant county agricultural agent in Greenbrier County, Army.

Ralph Edwin Spears, Jr., extension assistant in radio, Navy.

Lynn Spiker, county agricultural agent in Lewis County.

Pvt. Ernest C. VanMetre, county 4-H Club agent in Berkeley County, Army.

Lt. John R. Vaughn, extension plant pathologist, Army.

Corp. Werner Wegman, county 4-H Club agent, Randolph County, Army.

Capt. A. F. Wilson, county agricultural agent, Mason County, Army.

Ens. Werneth L. Wilson, home demonstration agent in Morgan County, WAVE.

#### WISCONSIN

Maurice Haag, extension editor, Army.

Milton E. Bliss, director of farm radio programs.

# One Way

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## Texas community centers active

A survey in 186 Texas counties revealed that 543 community food-preservation centers are aiding Texans in stocking their wartime pantries.

These centers have been available both to rural and urban people. County home demonstration agents have given aid to 479 of them, or about 88 percent of those reported. This assistance may have been in planning or arranging the center, in training supervisors, in giving demonstrations on preservation, or in meeting other problems of the center.

Two hundred and fifty-seven home demonstration clubwomen trained under the agents' direction were reported to be supervising food conservation centers in the State. Their years of practical experience in food preservation have enabled them to render a great patriotic service to their neighbors, many of whom had no previous experience in canning and other conservation methods.

## 4-H campers study tractor

South Carolina 4-H Club members old enough to drive tractors received special training in tractor care and operation this summer at Camp Long.

Heretofore, 4-H camp activities have been largely recreational, but this year the older club boys were given training and instructions on how to operate farm tractors and other types of farm machinery.

This training enabled many of these boys to operate and care for machinery in their communities. In addition to tractor driving, care, and operation, the boys were also given training in the repair of such machinery as plows, mowers, and other types of machinery. Special work was also given in the farm shop, including blacksmithing, tool grinding, and sharpening.

## Telephone mart

The new Victory Garden Telephone Mart, organized by Mary Lenore Moore, home demonstration agent in De Kalb County, Ind., proved successful in keeping surplus Victory Garden crops from going to waste. Telephone Mart committees were organized in each of the county's four largest towns—Auburn, Butler, Garrett, and Waterloo. Persons

interested in buying vegetables and fruits for canning called a committee member and gave their name, telephone number, and information regarding the kind and amount of produce they wished to buy. When a gardener had enough surplus produce for canning, he notified a committee member, who checked the list of prospective customers for someone interested in that particular crop. Committee members also took over the job of helping gardeners to find help to harvest excess crops. Miss Moore feels that both gardeners and consumers must cooperate to see that crops are actually used when they are in the best condition for canning. Thorough newspaper and radio publicity was given within the county to make sure all interested persons knew about the market.

## Farm-labor club

The need for emergency farm labor hasn't bothered the residents of the little community of Porters Falls in Wetzel County, W. Va. They have their own way of solving the problem. Employees of the Manufacturers Light & Heat Co. and of the United Gas & Oil Corporation who live in Porters Falls have organized a farm-labor club. On their days off from their regular work, these employees of the two companies spend the time aiding the farmers in the neighborhood in any particular seasonal activity.

Some of the club members have farms or large gardens of their own, so they spend their time off engaging in their own food-production activities.

## 4-H Family Day

More than 500 Negro farmers attended the seventh annual 4-H Family Day Program of Halifax County, N. C., held at Mack Faulcon's fishpond near Littleton.

R. E. Jones, State Negro leader, stressed the need for clearing farms of mortgages, the building of better health, and the purchase of war bonds and stamps. Mrs. Fannie T. Newsome, Negro district agent, discussed the mother's part in the 4-H Club work and urged parents to cooperate in the club work by furnishing the necessary money and materials for the projects.

A dress parade was held, showing uniforms made from fertilizer and feed bags.

## 4-H Club promotes bond drive

The 4-H community club of Eden Valley, Sweetwater County, Wyo., took charge of the June bond drive for the entire community. The club of 26 members was divided into small groups in order that travel would be reduced to a minimum. Every farm in the valley was visited, and bonds totaling \$1,850 were sold. As a further contribution, the club held an ice cream social in the evening following the drive, which netted \$50; and the money was used to purchase a bond for the club, and thus the total purchase of bonds for the day's work reached \$1,900. Neighborhood leaders gave some assistance in their immediate neighborhoods.

## Missouri leaders

Neighborhood leaders of Polk County, Mo., recently raised \$9,725 for the Red Cross, which was 61 percent more than the quota for this strictly rural county. They also took part in a county health campaign in which 4,727 persons, or 28 percent of the county's entire population, were immunized within a 3-week period. Another of their achievements is the organization of 28 community 4-H Clubs with 425 members carrying more than 500 war production projects.

In Osage County, Mo., leaders listed all boys and girls of 4-H Club age in every school district and also listed potential farm workers. They carried to each of their neighbors information on regulations for slaughtering meat. They were the leading spirits in farmer-discussion meetings attended by 750 local farmers. They talked about feed conservation, construction of self-feeders, stretching the protein supplements, and other livestock problems. Fertilizer dealers of the county met with these leaders to talk about the uses of fertilizer to get greater production of needed food and feed. They are playing an important part in seeing that every farmer in the county understands the war program and takes his place in an effective functioning of the program.

Missouri neighborhood leaders also looked for available black walnut trees and found them on 13,743 farms. Follow-up cards were then mailed to owners. More than 750 leaders in 97 counties took part in this survey.

# to Do It

## Ohio soil districts make progress

Ohio has 12 soil-conservation districts organized and working. Some of them have been in operation a year.

In Morrow County, 25 pasture-improvement demonstrations have been established, and farmers are invited to visit these fields between 1 and 5 p. m. any Sunday. The average number of visitors has been 75, and they have been able to observe for themselves the increase in yields of feed on the treated pastures and also the condition of the livestock harvesting the feed.

Soil-saving plans have been put into operation on 65 Coshocton County farms in the past 4 months. The Highland County district is cooperating with the Hillsboro High School class in vocational agriculture to establish a series of test plots to show the amount of soil removed from fields by run-off water.

All the Ohio districts are working on projects to maintain or increase war food production without damaging the soils which produce the crops.

## Feed company launches wartime service program

County agents in many sections are making use of a service program for helping farmers to improve poultry and livestock production.

This is a Food for Victory Crusade launched by Purina Mills and featuring service work by their sales and service force and 7,000 local dealers and their trained employees. As the demand for their feed exceeds the supply, the efforts of salesmen and dealers have been diverted from the promotion of sales to helping food production by farm service calls. The company has set a goal of 500,000 calls completed by the end of this year.

The purpose of the calls is to help locate and check production leaks caused by faulty management, poor sanitation, and other practices that can be corrected by the farmer. In doing this work, the service men will be guided by a series of five "action" sheets which list recommended practices on egg, milk, pork, broiler, and turkey production.

The recommendations are directed toward counteracting faulty farm practices, found through a survey of approximately 10,000 farms by the com-

pany's field force. All action sheets have been submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture and extension chiefs of 40 colleges, and have their approval. The sheets are strictly service in nature and do not mention any brand names or products.

Field men have been asked to submit plans for local calls and operations to county agents in their areas so that these plans may be coordinated with the program being carried out by each agent.

Several county agents and club leaders have given their 4-H Club boys an opportunity to help in this farm check-up work by giving them the action sheets to fill out at home and with their neighbors. Already, many thousands of these sheets and more than 60,000 service circulars have been ordered for the use of county agents and vocational agricultural teachers, either directly or through field men, according to Purina Mills officials.

## 4-H Club members save beans

Members of the Ranger 4-H Club, Tiverton, R. I., by volunteering for farm labor, saved more than 2 acres of beans. The beans were about to be plowed under for lack of help to harvest them when a group of 4-H members was organized by R. B. Wilson of the farm-labor office and 4-H Club Agent Carl B. Garey. They picked more than 75 bushels of beans in their first 2 days of work. Some of the beans were sold to the Fall River Canning Center, and others went to the wholesale market.

## Meeting the poultry goal

Replacing all mongrel birds with good chickens was the war goal that Evangeline Parish, La., poultry producers set for themselves at a meeting in Ville Platte.

The program was designed and set up by all agricultural agencies in the parish who will cooperate to build up the poultry industry. Extension agents, farm security workers, Triple A parish committeemen, vocational agriculture teachers, and representatives of hatcheries have all pledged themselves to participate in flock-selecting and blood-testing work, prerequisites to achieving the goal.

Evangeline Parish now has more than 100 flocks in the parish to be culled and blood-tested, as compared with five approved flocks 3 years ago. This selection of flocks is of significant importance this year because there is a shortage of feed; and poor layers can be eliminated, which will result in much feed saved.

The two approved hatcheries in Evangeline Parish provided a steady market for hatching eggs. One of the hatcheries sold more than 200,000 baby chicks in the first 6 months of 1943, and all the birds were hatched from eggs produced in the parish. The market for all poultry and poultry products has been greatly improved.

## Tribute to farm workers

A crowd of Goshen County, Wyo., people estimated at 1,000 persons attended a ceremonial to pay tribute to farmers and ranchmen for their supreme efforts in the War Food Production Program and to the nonfarm women, boys, and girls who worked in beet, bean, and potato fields in response to the extreme need for agricultural workers.

## A fair exchange

River-bottom farmers of Crittenden County, Ky., have done a good job of swapping work and power machinery to make up for the labor shortage, relates County Agent O. M. Shelby.

Farmers who were behind with their breaking or disking were assisted by men with tractors, with the understanding that they would later repay in work as needed. As a result, tractors have been in operation day and night.

■ In recognition of the excellent job they are doing in producing milk, meat, eggs, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and other farm products, approximately 10,000 New Hampshire farmers were awarded Certificates of Farm War Service by USDA War Boards.

■ To introduce edible soybeans in Brown County, Tex., the county extension agents, Maysie Malone and C. W. Lehmborg, bought 24 pounds and distributed them to good gardeners over the county. Each demonstrator was asked to return this fall twice as much seed as he received, for the use of other gardeners.

## 4-H sets record in scrap drive

■ The Bond County, Ill., Salvage Committee held a scrap-iron drive to obtain the quota of 1,200 tons for the county as set up by the War Production Board. In 1942, 1,200 tons were obtained in the county; and since January 1, 1943, 1,900 tons have been collected and sold.

A nonprofit corporation, called the Bond County Scrap Drive Association, was set up for the purpose of buying and selling the scrap metal. The Bond County Farm Bureau set up and sponsored a contest for 4-H Club members. The rewards of this contest consisted of a trip on the *S. S. Admiral* on the Mississippi River to the club that collected the most scrap per member, a 4-H automatic magazine pencil to every member who collected 4,000 pounds of scrap or more, and an appearance on the radio program for the three club members highest in individual collections.

Bond County 4-H Club enrollment is 252, of which number 170 members took an active part in this program. They

solicited, collected, and sold 322 tons during July, the period of the contest. One hundred and two members won pencils, which meant that they collected 4,000 pounds or more of scrap each. The three highest club members, of which two were girls, collected as follows: First, 38,400; second, 31,365; and third, 22,406 pounds.

Each member had a supply of contest cards. They first solicited the iron in their communities by seeing their neighbors and getting them to sign a card. When the member had a load or more solicited, he got a truck from a volunteer father or neighbor, and they picked up the iron and took it to a Scrap Drive Association receiving station. There it was weighed, and the receiver signed the card, putting down the weight.

An official weight ticket was filled out by the seller to the Scrap Drive Association and given to their treasurer, who would issue a check to the owner.—*W. H. Tammeus, county agent, Bond County, Ill.*

## Texas lays in a food supply

Cooperation is the spark plug of the home food-conservation programs of the home demonstration club women of Montgomery and Fort Bend Counties. The bursting pantries of these practical women are big success stories. "If interest in saving crops continues," says Mrs. Grace M. Martin, Montgomery County home demonstration agent, "the greatest supply of canned products in the history of home demonstration work in the county is in prospect." Twenty women have asked for plans for making ventilated pantries.

Town and country women alike are busy saving food, Mrs. Martin adds. There is a long waiting list for the five cookers and sealers owned by the county. One day a week is given to canning meat and poultry. An average of 50 families attend the community canning center weekly, with an output of about 3,500 cans. With the help of the canning-center supervisor, women have taken charge of preparing and processing vegetables for neighboring families handicapped by illness.

After a check-up in June, Wanda Kimbrell, Lipscomb County home demonstration agent, reported she could not find a family in the county without a Victory Garden.

■ **MARTHA IRVINE McALPINE** has been appointed parent education

and child development specialist in Georgia. For the past 5 years, she has served as associate home management specialist in the regional office of the Farm Security Administration in Montgomery, Ala. She is a graduate of Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., and did undergraduate and graduate study at the University of Georgia. She was awarded a year's fellowship for study at Columbia University, the New School for Social Research, the Child Study Association of America, and the University of Iowa. She served for 2 years as a member of the University of Georgia staff as the first social director and instructor in physical education for women, and later as field worker in parent education.

■ **ELOISE JONES**, associate 4-H Club agent in Suffolk County, N. Y., has been requested by the women's personnel director of Grumman's Aircraft Plant to help set up a program among the children of the employees to stimulate them to take over more of the household duties. Miss Jones says: "I feel that the war jobs or projects of a similar nature will be of value. The biggest problems involved, among 8,000 women employees, are to find those who have children that would be interested and to get these children located, as the employees live in widely scattered areas covering the west end of Suffolk County and Nassau. We are making arrangements to work first with a group of employees in one

plant which draws from a slightly smaller area, and thus try to find a system which will work for the larger group."

■ **MARY LOUISE COLLINGS**, Louisiana home management specialist, and **J. P. LEAGANS**, North Carolina program planning specialist, on leave of absence from their State extension jobs, will be on the research staff of the Division of Field Studies and Training of the Federal Extension Service for the coming year.

In her new assignment Miss Collings is planning to study the job of the home demonstration agent. During her extension career she has served for 5 years as home demonstration agent, 1 year as district agent, and for the past 7 years has been home management specialist.

Mr. Leagans will devote his time to administrative studies and to the Latin-American Program. He will have charge of the Latin-American students who are coming to the United States to study extension work. It is expected that students will come from Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, Mexico, and Haiti.

Mr. Leagans has been associated with the North Carolina Extension Service since 1936, first as assistant county agent and county agent, and since 1941 as program planning specialist.

**NEW EMERGENCY LABOR PERSONNEL** for the Federal office include Constance Roach, formerly of the Office of Civilian Defense, who assists Florence Hall in the Women's Land Army; Irvin H. Schmitt, formerly a vocational agriculture teacher in Iowa, who is now in charge of the Victory Farm Volunteers. Mr. Schmitt is assisted by Kenneth Ingwalson, formerly 4-H Club leader in New Jersey, and Anne Blaine, who did good work last year placing New York City boys and girls on Vermont farms. C. Herman Welch, Jr., of Minnesota, assists in the Labor Utilization Section. R. W. Oberlin, formerly with the Soil Conservation Service in Iowa; C. W. E. Pitman, from the War Manpower Commission; C. C. Randall, formerly with the Arkansas Extension Service; and John J. McElroy, formerly with the Wyoming Extension Service are assisting in the Recruitment and Placement Division.

■ The Ozark, Ala., Kiwanis Club of 32 members each shelled 1 bushel of seed peanuts for farmers. This not only helped to get the peanuts shelled but to give the townfolk a better idea of the local farm problem, reports the county agent.

# Do you know . . .

**E. R. Hancock**

## **A Michigan County Agent Who Uses a Well-Equipped Shop In His Extension Program**

■ A top-notch workshop is given the credit by E. R. Hancock for much of his success as a county agent. After 11 years in Shiawassee County, Agent Hancock works in and out of an office that is one of the best equipped and most attractive in any county in the State. When he was first appointed, some local prophets gave him 6 months; but he is still there, and his work has become increasingly indispensable in the county. Best proof of the county's confidence in the Extension Service was the appointment of a full-time home demonstration agent last spring.

The workshop is filled with power and hand tools that many a farmer has used to fashion a gadget. At this shop farmers have also learned how to fix up equipment at home. The power saws, power lathe, power and hand drills in the 20-foot-square model farm shop are adjacent to the county agent's office.

Plywood paneling in doors, walls, and cupboards in the office reflect the handicraft Hancock has made available to hundreds of farm families in the county.

In the basement of the community building is an attractive meeting room used by county extension groups. Com-

municating with the meeting room is a kitchen containing all the dishes and silverware necessary to serve a sizable number of people. With these facilities and services, Mr. Hancock has built a permanent understanding by Shiawassee County farm families of the service Michigan State College and the Federal-State Extension Services represent.

Five demonstration kitchens remodeled in as many townships bear witness to Mr. Hancock's handicraft and to his useful imagination in converting farm homes from old style to new.

The agent's genius for making things has been useful in many ways. He has taught farmers to make concrete sheep-dipping tanks; and one day a few years ago, a community tank took care of 2,380 sheep—a record, according to the State livestock specialist. There are 14 such dipping tanks in the county.

"Shiawassee has its share of insects and diseases and an occasional local flood, as in 1943," declares Mr. Hancock, "but the county is one of the most diversified and productive in the State, and its farmers are solidly back of farm-war-production efforts."



## **Have you read?**

**Field Crops and Land Use.** Joseph F. Cox and Lyman E. Jackson. 473 pp. New York, N. Y. 1942.

■ Extension workers are always looking for sources of information that will be helpful to them in giving farmers technical assistance on their farm problems.

A book recently published by John Wiley & Sons, which was written by Joseph F. Cox and Lyman-E. Jackson, is probably one of the most timely texts available. The title is "Field Crops and Land Use." The authors have done one of the best jobs I have seen in treating crop and soil management so as to show the relationships that exist between crops and soils, and the points that must be forever kept in mind if the productive resource in land is to be perpetuated and conserved. It will be most helpful to extension workers in assisting farmers to plan efficient production programs on their farms and in conserving soil at the same time.

You will find practices such as contour farming, strip cropping, and many others which are well illustrated with pictures. It also contains factual material on crops and soils which makes it an excellent reference handbook for county agents, Smith-Hughes teachers, and others needing scientific information on agricultural production.—*J. L. Boatman, Chief, Division of Subject Matter, Federal Extension Service.*

**Successful Poultry Management.** Morley A. Jull. 467 pp. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York, N. Y. 1943.

■ The author, while covering the subject-matter field of poultry husbandry, has presented these success factors in management in a plain and logical manner. Technical terms are used and explained, and there is a noted absence of high-sounding "5-dollar words." The author apparently believes in encouraging the enthusiasm and ambitions of young poultry raisers. The introduction states that "more farm youth are interested in poultry raising and egg production than any other single agricultural enterprise." 4-H poultry club members and vocational agriculture classes will find many useful helps on how to make their poultry project more successful.

Dr. Jull was formerly with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and is now head of the poultry department at the University of Maryland. He has been in close touch with the Extension Service of that State.—*H. L. Shrader, extension poultry specialist.*

# OURSELVES

■ EARL A. FLANSBURGH, pioneer, champion, and able leader in the field of both State and national agriculture, New York State leader of county agricultural agents since 1932, died August 30.

Mr. Flansburgh was recognized as a pioneer in county agricultural agent work. He had been in extension work since 1917 when he was engaged in county farm bureau work in New Hampshire. Prior to this, he had taught vocational agriculture in Castile in Wyoming County and accepted the county agricultural agent position in Livingston County in 1919. Thus coming up through the ranks, he became an assistant leader of county agricultural agents in 1921 and the State leader in 1932.

He had a capacity for perfect and wise counsel. He attacked the problems aggressively and brought to them cool judgment and decisive action. Yet no matter what the depth of the problem or the concern for the welfare of the State's agriculture, his sympathies were always broad and his attitude always friendly. His passing is a distinct loss to the work he so ably pioneered and developed and to the agriculture of the State and the Nation.

■ RUTH FAIRBAIRN, home demonstration agent in north Sebastian County, Ark., since 1929, died August 15.

Miss Fairbairn is especially mourned by the home demonstration club members of north Sebastian County, with and for whom she worked for the past 15 years, and by the rural women of Carroll County, with whom she worked from 1925 to 1929. Miss Fairbairn was a native of Nebraska and a graduate of the University of Kansas and of Colorado State College. She taught in the Kansas public schools before joining the Arkansas Extension Service.

■ JOHN HALL BARRON, extension professor of field crops, New York State College of Agriculture, died August 10. He was one of the first county agents, having completed 32 years of service last March. His retirement from active service was reported in the June issue of the REVIEW, but he did not live long to enjoy his well-deserved leisure. As one of the first cooperatively employed county agricultural agents, he saw the Extension Service develop from its small beginning to the present organization working in every agricultural county.

With the passing of Mr. Barron, the Extension Service loses another of its loyal pioneer workers.

■ MRS. SARAH PORTER ELLIS resigned as assistant director for home economics in Iowa September 1 to accept a position as director of farm-home service for the Southern States Cooperative of Richmond, Va. She served as State home demonstration leader in Iowa for the past 9 years and has been recognized throughout the United States as an outstanding leader.

■ LOUISE M. ROSENFELD has been named to succeed Mrs. Ellis in the capacity of acting assistant director for home economics. For the past 8 years, she has been associate State director for the Farm Security Administration in Iowa.

Miss Rosenfeld is a graduate of Iowa State College. Before entering the Farm Security Administration, she was home economics instructor in the De Soto and Randall consolidated schools, and for 3 years was home demonstration agent in Shelby and Pottawattamie Counties.

## From 4-H Club girls to home demonstration agents

■ On July 1, Missouri added to its staff six county home demonstration agents or assistants. They are Missouri girls who bring to their new work a background of years of 4-H Club experience. All but one of them also had the benefit of serving as junior assistant home demonstration agents during the summer prior to their graduation.

The girls are, from left to right: Vernie Backhaus, now home demonstration agent of De Kalb County; Mary Lou Welschmeyer, assistant home demonstration agent of Douglas and Ozark Counties; Marjorie Habluetzel, assistant home demonstration agent of Vernon and Barton Counties; Irma Nelle Evans, home demonstration agent of Atchison County; Maxine Henderson, assistant home demonstration agent of Pettis County; and Martha Jane Hodge, assistant home demonstration agent at large.

All the girls have a good 4-H Club

record. Miss Backhaus organized a club in her own community and was assistant leader 1 year and a full-fledged leader 4 years. Miss Habluetzel was a club member 10 years. She has been president of her home club and was president of the University 4-H Club. In 1941 she was the national 4-H leadership winner.

Miss Henderson was State home economics record winner in 1939, and Miss Welschmeyer had the same honor in 1940. Miss Henderson has an 8-year 4-H record. Last year she served as University 4-H Club secretary.

Irma Nelle Evans was a 4-H Club member for 5 years, during 3 of which she served as an officer. Miss Hodge was a 4-H Club member for 5 years. Such experience should serve to help these six girls develop outstanding records as county home demonstration agents.



## Block leadership studied

"Duty, to win the war," was the most frequent reason given for taking up block-leader work, by the "best" group of leaders interviewed in a recent survey. In all, 61 block leaders in low-income groups of a large city were studied. To compare the methods used by the leaders in getting information across to the housewives, the leaders studied were divided into four groups—good, medium, poor, and zero.

The best leaders—the 23 block leaders in the "good" group—were also the busiest people. Some of them carried on full-time jobs in addition to their housework. Even so, many of them found time to attend training meetings. In carrying out their activities, they distributed the leaflets to their neighbors and explained the contents to them. The leaders encouraged the families to cooperate in the war programs. All the "best" leaders had volunteered. None of them felt that the block-leader work took too much time.

The 21 block leaders in the "medium" group also distributed the leaflets in person but did not explain them. The leaders felt that the housewives they visited knew just as much as they did about war activities and therefore it was unnecessary to give them further instructions.

The 10 block leaders in the "poor" group left the pamphlets in the mail boxes or under the doorsteps of neighbors or, more frequently, hired children to distribute the literature. The "poor" leaders had no face-to-face contact with their neighbors.

The "zero" group took no part in the block-leader work.

Based on information obtained in the survey, the authors of the study make the following recommendations on selecting block leaders:

1. Choose leaders from volunteers or women who are elected by neighbors.
2. Before enrolling the prospective leader, carefully explain the meaning of the program and the difficulties and time-consuming factors involved.
3. Consider the leader's age (younger women are probably better prospects), the number and age of her children (women with young children have difficulty in getting away from home) and her attitude toward work and people.
4. Do not choose a block leader who considers herself superior to her neighbors, or who has any race prejudices.—**A STUDY OF SOME PERSONALITY FACTORS IN BLOCK LEADERS IN LOW-INCOME GROUPS**, by Mrs. Eva Shippee, Committee on Food Habits, National Research Council, Washington, D. C. Copies available.

# EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

## Nebraska farmers mobilize for war

Anton H. Anderson, social science analyst of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, made a study of the neighborhood leader work in Buffalo County, Nebr. Based on first-hand information, Mr. Anderson makes the following observations and recommendations.

■ Buffalo County, Nebr., is a good example of effective organization to mobilize the resources of agriculture for war. Planning, education, and action are fused in this wartime program which is being carried on successfully by neighborhood and community leaders with the assistance of county extension agents.

Buffalo County neighborhood leaders have served as local sources of reliable information to the farm people on many wartime programs; they have furnished factual information to extension workers; they have acted as leaders in cooperative neighborhood action; and they have helped to coordinate various wartime activities of neighborhood and community organizations. The community leaders have served as a vital link between neighborhood leaders and community organizations, and between the communities and extension agents, as well as between neighborhood leaders and extension agents.

To get the neighborhood-leader work under way, especially prepared material was passed out to the leaders for their own information as well as for distribution in their neighborhoods: Informational letters were sent to the leaders interpreting rationing and other wartime programs in terms of farm people and encouraging local efforts related to war work. Training meetings were held to make sure that the leaders understood the broad purposes of the work and to check the neighborhood groups which leaders should serve. The initial training meetings were in reality mobilization meetings. The neighborhood and community map of the county was critically examined at these meetings, and minor corrections were made.

Based on the information obtained on the war activities of the Buffalo County farmers, Mr. Anderson draws the following conclusions:

A. Neighborhood leaders can carry on a broad mobilization program effectively, provided:

1. Activities are well planned and well organized.
2. Activities are so well planned and interpreted as to appear significant to the leaders and to the farm people generally.
3. The neighborhood areas within which the leaders function represent natural neighborhood association groups, making leadership effective with a minimum of effort.
4. Neighborhood leaders selected are natural leaders in their respective neighborhood groups.

5. The neighborhood-leader system is itself well organized, with interested, skillful, and dynamic community leaders.

6. That leaders are given training and encouragement in groups, by individual contact or other means, and that strong personal relationship between individual leaders and extension agents are developed.

B. Extension workers can most effectively service the program if:

1. Neighborhood-leader activities are integrated with the broad wartime objectives of agriculture and other extension and community plans and programs.
2. The neighborhood-leader program is used as an approach to the wartime tasks of the Extension Service and is not viewed as another job. This requires careful planning, but it can greatly strengthen the wartime work of Extension and will increase the participation of farm people throughout the county.

C. The neighborhood-leader program can be of value in rural communities after the war, for the following reasons:

1. The local leadership discovered and developed in this program will remain as a socially valuable resource in the rural communities after the war.
2. The neighborhood participation developed through this program will give opportunities for expanding important extension activities in many localities.
3. The systematic organization of neighborhoods and communities holds possibilities for a new community integration, which has significance for the economic, social, cultural, and institutional life of the rural community. Community councils, with neighborhood representatives, can accomplish much in the way of coordination of community plans and activities.—**FARMERS IN BUFFALO COUNTY, NEBR., MOBILIZE FOR WAR**, by Anton H. Anderson, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

# The once over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS for agriculture was studied by more than 100 extension and experiment-station economists, editors, and administrators, meeting with Department specialists and national authorities on economics in the twenty-first annual agricultural outlook conference, October 18-23. Such factors as "hold the line" policies, food production goals, the international set-up on food and post-war adjustment came in for scrutiny. The last 2 days were spent taking stock of extension war activities.

FARM-LABOR PROBLEMS are still occupying a great deal of time in many States. In the country as a whole, October represents one of the peak months in farm labor. A fine spirit of cooperation has been shown by States in recruiting seasonal labor to emergency needs in other States. October records showed that 14 States had recruited workers whose transportation was paid by the WFA Office of Labor. More than 1,000 Kentucky workers were taken to the Aroostook County, Maine, potato fields and made a fine record for themselves with the Maine farmers. Tribute was paid to this group for their good-neighbor deed by Congressmen from both States when the group returned to their homes by way of Washington, D. C.

ONE AMONG MANY good examples of effective cooperation in harvest-labor emergencies comes from King County, Wash., where 40,003 farm-labor placements had been made up to September 1, with 95 percent of them boys and girls. Three days of rain matured hundreds of acres of beans rapidly; and yet it was so wet that no picking could be done, and the situation was serious. An intensive "save the bean crop" campaign was launched by farm labor committees, civic and service organizations, newspapers, and radio stations. Four thousand bean pickers were recruited. They cleaned up the fields in 3 days, saving virtually all of this essential food crop.

YOUNG AMERICA, the 4-H Club motion picture produced by Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation with Jane Withers in the leading role, has played in more than 11,000 theaters, according to word just received from their exploitation manager. While there is no exact count of the audiences attending the showings of this movie, the fact that it played in more than 11,000 theaters will give some

idea of the vast number of people who saw this 4-H film.

A STREAMLINED FIRE TRUCK was rigged up by Idaho's extension forester, Vernon Ravenscroft, and driven through the State as a demonstration of what communities can acquire in the way of fire-fighting equipment. The truck, when on tour, proved its worth in two actual fires.

REPLACING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE with four district meetings, the Arkansas Council of Home Demonstration Clubs reports successful meetings built around the theme, The Rural Woman's Part in the War and Post-War Activities. Delegates came from 76 of the 78 county home demonstration councils, and nearly 1,400 women attended. Among the resolutions passed was the following from the citizenship committee: "Believing that the young men who have received agricultural deferments and who are doing their share by producing food and feed are soldiers of the land and, therefore, are entitled to a fitting insignè, we, the Arkansas Council of Home Demonstration Clubs, resolve to do our part in furthering this plan."

CANNING EQUIPMENT sent to England through the generosity of American home demonstration agents and members of home demonstration clubs is getting full-time use in 3,244 food-preservation centers in England and Wales. In 1942, more than 1,100 tons of food was pre-

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## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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

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served. A recent letter from the National Federation of Women's Institutes expresses gratitude "to the people of America for their generous gift of seeds and canning machines" and the desire to tell them of their experiences in food production and fruit preservation.

AMERICAN SEEDS IN RUSSIA have been doing good work in making it possible to restore the normal life of hundreds of Russian families after the Germans left, reports a high ranking government official of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in a cable of thanks to those who contributed. Much of the credit is due to extension workers, seed-improvement associations, and individual farmers, who gave money, time, and seed for the cause.

A SCOTTISH VISITOR, A. R. Wannop, director of county agent work for the north of Scotland, is studying extension work here in the United States for the next few months.

VEGETABLES CANNED in Kansas kitchens reached the amazing total of more than 72 million quarts for the 1943 season. In addition, approximately 5 million pounds of vegetables were dried, brined, or frozen. This food came from 150,000 farm and 200,000 town gardens—an impressive dose of statistics, even from Kansas.

ELEVEN GOOD-NEIGHBOR STUDENTS from the other American republics to the south of us will spend a year studying the Extension Service and then will return to work with rural families in their own countries. They all will spend some time in Washington, D. C., studying the Extension organization and also will visit several State extension offices; but each will spend 5 or 6 months as apprentice to a county agent, actually working with the agent. Fellowships are being awarded to one qualified man and one qualified woman from Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Peru, and to one qualified man from Nicaragua. Colombia and Peru are expected to pay for an additional person each.

A FARM WORK SIMPLIFICATION course of 2 weeks, especially designed for extension men, is being offered at Purdue University. If enough States are interested, the course will be given December 6 to 17 and will include instruction and practice in the techniques of motion and time study, discussion of results of studies from all parts of the United States, and a seminar on extension experiences in working with farmers on better utilization of labor.