News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
January 18 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, February 8, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Lady Luck

Some people are great believers in luck - and so am I - but it is peculiar how the elusive lady seems to sit most often on the shoulder of those who take every possible precaution to see that she doesn't fall off. A stitch in time saves lots of accidents.

Jim knew that the hay rope was frayed and he intended to splice in a new piece the day it rained, but it didn't get done, so he took a chance that it would hold for a while longer. Bill knew the single tree was cracked, but he thought it might hold another week or two. Ray knew the tugs were hitched too long, but he was only going to rake a little hay along the road and probably the tongue wouldn't come down before he finished. Tom thought the pigs needed more bedding - they slept on a wet floor - but it was too windy to carry the straw.

Jim cussed the luck when he was hurrying to get in the hay before rain and the weak rope dropped a sling full from the peak of the barn, breaking the carrier which came off the track to the ground, narrowly missing his head. In falling back on the rack, the hay cracked the bed pieces, and he had to build a new one to finish haying.

Bill forgot about the single tree until the team was pulling hard on the hay rope, with the sling just up to the carrier when, "bing", she let go. Old Pat fell ahead on his knees. Lady lunged ahead and then was jerked so hard her shoulder was wrenched. It was just a miracle that little Jason, driving the team, was far enough back so that the whiffle tree didn't cut him in two when it snapped around. Boys have been killed that way.

Ray didn't take time to shorten the tugs, the pole came down and scared the team which ran away with the hay rake. Ray fell in front of the tines and was rolled until the wheel hit a culvert and the machine jumped over him. As it was,

the harness and the rake had to be repaired at considerable cost. It didn't do the team any good, either.

Tom claimed he didn't have any luck with pigs because they got the flu. Some of them died and the rest didn't make a bit of profit. He fed up his whole corn crop and had nothing to show for it. He blamed the landlord, the government, the veterinarian, his neighbors and everybody but Tom, who didn't give the pigs a dry bed in cold weather.

Successful farmers need to plan carefully and then watch all the details so as to prevent accidents before they happen. Breakdowns, delays and smashes are too expensive for any business and it's worth something to avoid them. Now is a good time to drag small equipment into the shop and give it a good overhauling. A little fixing now may save hours and dollars during the spring and summer rush. Give Lady Luck every opportunity and a daily invitation to keep on your shoulder. She doesn't like carelessness.

— R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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St. Paul Minnesota
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OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Big Medicine

Most of us are like ants making an underground tunnel. Monotonously we repeat our daily job of chipping loose a grain of sand and carrying it to the big heap we are building. The stream of sand carriers is going so swiftly in both directions we have to run faster and faster to keep up, but no matter how much haste we make, one grain of sand seems to be about our daily limit.

Occasionally some of us are able to pry off an extra large grain of sand and stagger along with it to the top. When we dump that load on the heap, we want to stop all the other ants and tell them how heavy our load was, and how big a hill we ants are building due to the efficiency of some exceptional workers! Just then a cow may step on our ant hill, and all our sand carrying seems rather futile.

Apparently it's human nature to feel big and important one minute and utterly useless the next. We all have our ups and downs, so as long as they seem to balance each other, the average is probably about where nature intended it to be. It's when we "feel big" too much of the time, or want to crawl into our shells and stay there too long, that something is needed to set us straight.

Nature always has a remedy for every ill in her list. Our job is to find it. When everything has gone well for a while, and I'm inclined to take some friendly praise too seriously, or when some cow has tramped my ant hill into a hollow, one of my favorite remedies is to go out in the woods and look at the trees.

Trees are so positive that they have a place to fill and a job to do. They are so passive in a storm, letting the winds whip them from all directions, but always pushing up toward the light and calmly resuming their interrupted tasks as soon as opportunity permits.

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Trees are so patient, hunching their shoulders and waiting thru the cold, stormy months with their next year's growth all folded up in well protected buds, ready to jump into action as soon as the sap is started by spring.

Trees are so calm. They never get excited over Hitler, the coming election, or the price of butterfat. Rain, storm, cold, heat,-the old trees just stand and take what comes, never complaining, never gloating, always working, always peaceful. They must see comedies, tragedies, and all sorts of interesting things. Do they ever want to move somewhere else to get a little more sun or moisture? What do they think about the first hundred years? What things have happened beneath their mighty limbs?

The trees just stand there in silence, doing their job as they see it, without worry, while I fuss and fret over things I can't help and which will be forgotten almost as soon as last year's leaves. Somehow the age and dignity of trees help me to see things in better perspective. My "big" feelings shrink down to about normal, or my "personal blues" don't seem so important. If I can just do my best on my own little job for the first hundred years, no more will be expected of me. Big trees are big medicine.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

One Man Power

Once upon a time there was a baby, just like any other, except that this was a boy baby, and that made him different from half of the other babies. Like other boy babies he ate and grew, learned to walk and talk, read, write and do multiplication problems. That made him different than a good many of the other boys, because some of them thought it wasn't worth while to learn how to make figures tell true stories

As this particular boy grew up, he seemed to grow a little faster, he learned more at school, and he seemed to think more clearly than most boys. Somehow he got the idea that it was up to him to do things better than other people did them. He practiced until he could throw the best wrestlers of his age, shoot straighter than the expert marksmen, ride horses better than a cowboy, figure faster than his teachers and answer questions in history that his elders didn't know.

He got in the habit of playing a game with himself. Whenever he could find someone who knew more about a subject than he did or could do something better, this boy set out to see how quickly he could "catch up". It was a strenuous game, but he wasn't exactly a "panty-waist". Knowing things, and being able to do things, gave him a lot of confidence, so that he didn't need to tell others how smart he was. They soon found it out.

That must have been why, whenever he was with a bunch of boys, they elected him leader. He knew what to do and how to do it, so it was more fun all around when his plans were followed. Besides, he would often do the hardest part himself. Even older folks got in the habit of depending on this boy to get things done, and then they'd take the credit for themselves if they could. It seemed as though someone was always giving him a job to do that looked almost impossible, and then they'd pat him on the back and call him a "stout fellow" when he did it just the best ever.

Of course, a few people were jealous of him - that's human nature - and others tried to flatter him into thinking he was a Greek God or something, but neither seemed to bother the boy very much. He followed his own trail, did his own work, earned his own money and figured things out for himself. He liked people and learned to make most of them like him. He was a good boss when directing the work of others because he said, "Come on, let's do this" instead of ordering his hired men about like slaves.

When the boy grew older, he was so successful that lots of people thought he couldn't be wrong. They offered him honors and power which he probably could have used to good advantage, but he saw further than his own interests, and did what he thought was best for his country.

He was only one man - but what a man! That was the origin of the expression, "Let George do it."

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
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OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, February 15, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Farm Riches

Few people get rich from farming. That is, not many accumulate large holdings of what we call money. Farming isn't the kind of a business adapted to gathering large sums quickly. The business of living is usually so mixed up with the business of farming, that part of the income must be accounted for as shelter, food and freedom.

City people have to buy almost all of their living, and so, too often, all of our standards are set by the dollar mark, and we on the farm may feel that because we cannot write big checks as frequently as some of the people we read about, we must be downtrodden and under-privileged. A staggering amount of city money is spent for things the farmer can have so freely and in such abundance that there is danger of forgetting real values.

The city man pays $3 and up for an evening's entertainment, which may be a fight, play or party. The farmer has a daily diet of fights, plays and parties, as varied and as intricate as he is willing to watch and learn to appreciate. Every minute of every day is offering hundreds of interests to every farm dweller who is not too blind or inanimate to appreciate them. All of my life (so far) has been lived on the farm and I can't remember of ever being without something I wanted to do when time permitted.

As a boy it was collecting caterpillars and butterflies, watching snakes, snaring gophers, training calves, trapping, making sleds, skis, tents, teaching my corn plowing team to do tricks, training colts, learning to use an axe, camping - always things to keep busy when work and weather permitted. Mother went with me on many expeditions. Over the hill, into the swamp, thru the pasture or woods, always looking for the interesting and unusual.

Of course there is work to be done in the city and on the farm. Our usefulness is measured by what we can accomplish, but the attitude with which we approach the job makes it play or drudgery. It helps a lot if we can see beyond the scoop shovel and fork or the pencil and typewriter, to the big thing we hope to achieve. It helps if we can get a big satisfaction from doing our small jobs just exactly right. It helps if we learn to enjoy the little things along the way which make the road interesting.

Some people get such a thrill out of living, and others are so bored by it all It seems to be just an attitude of mind, and I can hardly think of any greater service to a boy or girl than to show them how to get the deep and lasting satisfactions from the days and years as they cross our little private paths. The farm can be just the place for rich experiences, rich thinking, rich opportunities, and above all, rich living.

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Long Live the Weeds

When nature tucks an embryo into a protective coat and turns it loose, we call it a seed. Some of these seeds are so carefully wrapped that they can live almost indefinitely until favorable conditions stir the dormant life and moisture causes it to expand and split the covering. As soon as a seed starts to grow, it becomes a tender young plant and is easily killed.

This is one of Nature's methods of making sure that fertile soil, adequately watered, will always be green. When men reach such a degree of intellect that they can kill each other faster than it is possible to reproduce, our fields will be untilled, but Nature will be ready with her stored seeds, to keep right on purifying the air and feeding her less "intelligent" animals.

Of course right now, farmers wish to raise grain or forage on their fields, so they have to pay for that privilege by keeping ahead of the hardy "weeds" which always threaten to chase them out if they "relax" too much. Nature wants those fields green. The kind of green it is, depends on who gets there first with the best plan of operation.

Many annual weed seeds are practically indestructible. The only way to rid the soil of them is to induce germination and then use some means of cultivation to root them out or cut them off. Deep-rooted perennial weeds such as Canada Thistle are often best left until they have moved most of the stored food from the roots to the plant above ground. Just about blossoming time the roots will be weakened and then they can be materially set back by cutting the tops and working the soil.

This simply shows that it is good business to learn the life history and habits of weeds in order to attack them at their weakest spot. Just reading a book about it

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is dry business, but if one first can learn all the possible facts about a certain plant in the field, then reading becomes alive and fascinating.

The boy who thinks it would be fun to explore Siberia or Africa for new food plants, can make a big start by studying the weeds in his own back yard. Their power of adaptation and their ability to exist under the most trying circumstances makes a story of breathless interest to those who learn to read their language.

Weeds are a good thing! Not in the field of course, where it is my business to beat them to the use of the land, but they are a very important part of Nature's plan of operation and help to keep life from becoming a bore.

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Tree Surgery

Most of us would like to get a dentist in a chair and bore a hole clear thru his tooth--just to show him what it feels like! Perhaps a good way to satisfy that urge is to play dentist or surgeon on some tree that is dying for lack of help.

Trees, as patients, give amateurs several advantages. First, they hold still without an anesthetic. Second, you can quit work any time you get tired and go back to it when the fancy strikes. Third, if it is your own tree, there will be no damage suit if the operation is successful but the patient dies. Probably it would have died anyway.

Of course, for valuable specimens, professional tree surgeons should be employed. Good men do a fine job, and charge for it. Beware of the quack who offers to grow grapefruit on a box elder for 50 cents by squirting a magic "serum" under the bark.

Trees do all their growing in the cambium or inner bark. On one side of this layer, they produce wood which makes the tree larger and stronger. On the other side they make an equal amount of bark which splits as the wood inside it expands, and eventually weathers away as it's usefulness is ended.

Various organisms causing rot are the great enemies of trees. When the plants are healthy and growing rapidly, the cambium can usually cover up injuries and smother the disease organisms. When water gets under the bark thru cracks or short stubbs of limbs, decay sets in, just as it does in a tooth. The principle of caring for bad spots is exactly the same as the dentist uses. Dig down to healthy material, disinfect thoroughly and fill the hole to keep out moisture and re-infection.

Several disinfectants are used, such as copper sulphate or blue stone. Cavities are painted with asphalt paint and filled with concrete or anything else which will

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support the tree. Cavities are sometimes covered with zinc sheets to keep out rain. It is important to keep the edges of the filling tight and just under the edge of the cambium layer, so new wood can grow over the scar.

This isn't intended to tell anyone just how to fix trees. It is only to get folks interested in a new and constructive hobby. If anyone starts cutting and patching, they will probably read a few books before they go very far--which makes it all the more fun.

Boys with spare time might study up and patch trees for the neighbors - but that's another angle.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
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OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, March 15, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Planning Pastures

Lucky is the man who has plenty of succulent pasture for all of his stock through all of the summer months. Perhaps he isn't lucky; he may be wise. If he's just lucky, the cattle may be too surprised to eat, but if he's wise, they'll get used to paying big returns for cheap feed.

Few subjects are more interesting to livestock men, and yet we know less about pastures than about most other crops. Soil and rainfall vary so much that good results are often hard to duplicate. What seems to work for one man kills stock for another.

Alfalfa is an ideal pasture in some respects, and I have seen herds of valuable purebred cattle grazing this crop year after year, but every time we've tried it, following their plans exactly, we've ended up with hides on the fence instead of on the cows. For hogs, of course, it is perfect if new range can be provided each year to avoid worm trouble. Perhaps we can grow alfalfa in mixtures which will make it safe.

The hardest nut to crack is when someone asks, "What can I seed this spring which will feed my cows all summer?" I won't tell anyone what to raise, because I don't know his soil or conditions and may be all wet as far as his problem is concerned. Even Solomon didn't know it all. I am perfectly willing to tell what we plan to do on this farm and if others try it, they do so at their own risk!

Due to a series of changes, we have no permanent pasture this year, so we plan to plant winter wheat, oats and barley for early pasture. Seed is certainly cheap, so we'll be a bit liberal with it. With the grain, we'll mix about 3 pounds per acre of brome grass. That can be planted deeply and it won't go thru a grass seeder. On top of the ground, which will be as firm as we can get it, we'll spread a shotgun

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mixture of seed and then roll it once or twice to cover. I'm particular about the rolling, because it seems that the harder the seed bed is, the better the grasses grow.

This shotgun mixture will make up about 12 pounds per acre. (With the brome, that makes 15.) We'll use about 3 pounds of alfalfa, 3 of sweet clover, 1 of alsike, 2 of timothy, 1 of red top and 2 of Kentucky blue grass. That should make a good combination of shallow-rooted grasses and deep-rooted legumes. Perhaps we'll substitute a pound of Reed Canary grass for some of the timothy or for the Kentucky blue which will come in anyway.

As soon as the grain is 6 or 8 inches high, we will turn in and pasture the land as long as there is feed, expecting it to last until we can get some sudan grass ready to carry the stock over the hot months. Then, by the time it's too cold for sudan, we hope the grass will have made a decent growth and furnish some fall feed. At any rate it should be ready to go the next spring.

What evidence we have, indicates that the early pasturing won't hurt the new seedling, but it isn't a sure thing. I could fill the paper with things which have happened or might happen, but my space is used up. What would you do?

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Grimm's Alfalfa

In 1857, Wendelin Grimm came from Germany and settled in Carver County, Minnesota. Little is known about him, except that he brought along some alfalfa seed and planted it on his new farm. Practically all of it killed out the first winter, but by saving seed from the hardy plants which survived, Mr. Grimm finally developed a strain which could live thru the extremes of heat and cold common to the state of his adoption.

Grimm called the new crop "ewiger klee" or everlasting clover. His neighbors got seed from him and grew alfalfa successfully. Finally, Professor Hayes and his young assistant, Andrew Boss, drove a team from St. Paul to the Grimm farm to see this new crop they had heard so much about. From then on, everyone knows the story. Perhaps no single crop has ever meant so much to livestock men of the northern states and Canada as this high yielding, deep rooted, hardy forage plant.

Today, every northern seed house sells alfalfa, and farmers are willing to pay a good premium for seed which can be traced back directly to Wendelin Grimm's small field in Carver County. Every man who forks down fragrant green hay to eager cattle should have a bit of respect in his heart for this pioneer who wouldn't give up when the going was tough.

To Wendelin Grimm

What visions filled the young man's mind
Who left the German soil
For Minnesota's wilderness,
Where farms were earned by toil?
What did he bring to tame the sod
And cut the logs he'd need?
One thing we know, he brought along
A little bag of seed.

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What did he think, as round by round
He worked the virgin land,
What hopes spread with the precious seed
That left his skillful hand?
Could he foresee the consequence
Of such a simple deed?
Could he imagine what was in
That little bag of seed?

The clover grew! But winter came,
And froze it in the ground.
The seed was gone, the labor spent,
A tragedy profound.
But wait! As he surveyed the field,
To see what he could read
He found a few survivors, from
That little bag of seed.

Impatient men would plow the field,
And plant a safer crop.
But this man, stubborn, saved each plant
His hopes too high to stop.
He nursed them carefully along,
He cut out every weed,
And harvested, from hardy roots
Another bag of seed!

For years he planted, watched and saved
The plants that stood the cold,
And thus he brought alfalfa to
The new world from the old.
The little field, his great success,
Has met a nation's need.
He fed a million cattle with
That little bag of seed!

He didn't get an iron cross
Or win a statesman's fame,
But greener fields from coast to coast
Do honor to his name!
What could replace this mighty crop,
The nation's choicest feed,
That came from hope, persistence,
And a little bag of seed.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Spring Babies

No matter what Hitler says, old Jacob, the son of Isaac, knew his genetics and had a keen sense of humor. His father-in-law, Laban, thought he was pretty smart and had pulled a shady deal or two, so Jacob, acting dumb, offered to take the few speckled and ringstreaked animals born each year, as herdsman's wages.

Laban thought he saw another chance to get something for nothing, and couldn't sign the contract quickly enough. Probably Jacob had planned the trick for years, because he certainly knew that the off colors were carried in a heterozygous condition in most of the stock. He knew that by making proper matings, he could either cover it up or bring it out. After the deal was duly witnessed, Jacob brought out the off colors in a big way and in a few years, Laban had only a few culls left, while Jacob, now wealthy, had to leave in a hurry to prevent trouble.

In order to make the joke better, Jacob went to great pains to set up some spotted willow rods near the water tanks, and made everybody believe that the rods changed the colors. In fact, his hoax was so good that for 4000 years men have more or less believed in prenatal influence and have even employed artists to paint pictures of model animals where they could be seen by females about to bear young.

I don't know whether Jacob ever told Rachel his wife all of the joke. Perhaps he didn't even trust her, but I can imagine how he took her out to the barn to marvel at all the lambs, kids and camel colts with broken colors which of course belonged to her smart husband. How he must have chuckled to himself!

Rachel may not have known all of the joke, but she probably did get a big thrill out of seeing and playing with all the young stock that belonged to her and to Jacob. That human instinct hasn't changed much, and almost every farm woman will be paying frequent visits to the barn this month, to help in a case of difficult birth, to

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carry some tid-bit to the little new arrivals or just to admire the new babies that are making their appearance every day.

What man doesn't get big satisfaction in seeing a fine litter of strong, happy, and contented pigs all lined up at the lunch counter, even if it was necessary to sit up thru a long, cold, lonesome night just to see that everything went right? What livestock man isn't impatient to see the new calf or colt, note its good qualities, and build a rosy little dream about how it will grow and develop?

March is a busy month with pigs, lambs and chicks arriving. Farm folks may lose a lot of sleep and feel all tired out, but it is also pay day. No cash is received with the youngsters, but there is a great outlet for human emotions in the successes, the failures and the fun when little pigs get in a tussle or a bunch of lambs play their graceful games.

Human beings have their instincts just as much as other animals, and they haven't changed much since history has been recorded.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

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March 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, April 26, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Idle Horses

Betty, Shorty's pony, looks rather moth eaten just now. Her "winter overwear" of long hair is matted and loose, coming off in spots to show the new spring ensemble beneath. She should have lots of grooming, but Shorty is too busy with other things to spend much time with the currycomb. She hardly gets time to ride, even on Saturdays.

Betty and Shorty both came through the winter in good shape. Shorty grew taller and Betty grew even fatter. Shorty thinks she has learned her 6th grade lessons and hopes to pass into Junior High School. Betty hasn't learned a thing, except possibly more ways of being ornery. No one but Shorty cares to have anything to do with her. Apparently they understand each other.

Shorty has been learning something new every day. Her mind has been expanding, because it's being crowded with new ideas, new information, new ways of doing things, new conceptions of responsibility. She has learned to adjust herself to others so as to get along with them more peacefully. She doesn't even fight (so much) with the older kids.

Betty has done nothing all winter but eat and grow hair. She hasn't learned anything new or found out how to cooperate for a common purpose. Is it because of idleness that her temper has become more uncertain, her heels and teeth more ready? We don't expect anything else of a pony.

After all, people are a good deal like horses. If they're busy with constructive work they're generally easier to get along with, more willing to give the other fellow a bit of advantage, more ready to put themselves out for the sake of the

(more)

Wednesday, April 26, 1939

common good. The teams that have worked fairly regularly through the winter won't have much trouble settling down to the hard grind of putting in the crop.

The horses that have been idle will waste a lot of energy "fighting the harness" before they finally become content to fit their actions to the rest of the team, the driver and the job to be done. After a winter of having their own way, they will find it hard to adjust themselves mentally and physically to the discipline and the continued effort incidental to earning their keep.

We hear much of "leisure" these days, but I wonder if it is a good thing. If leisure means idleness, what will be the effect when the present spree is over and we all have to get back on the job and start paying the bill? Who gets along better, those who are busy every minute or those who find time heavy on their hands? Who are the more selfish, who start more trouble, the busy people or the idlers?

There are today so much high school and even college graduates who "can't find anything to do". They have my sympathy, but what has been lacking in their training, that they have never been taught how to live? Even if no one has been found who is willing to provide them with tools, a place to work, explicit instructions, supervision and a regular pay check, there must be something wrong if with all their training they are unable to see something that needs doing and start doing it. Are they men or horses?

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
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Publicity

Release--Not before
SUNDAY - March 12.

A huge white birthday cake decorated in yellow and topped with 50 yellow candles will be the tea table centerpiece Tuesday afternoon (March 14) when the School of Agriculture home economics classes at University Farm hold their annual exhibit of work. The ~~xkx~~ cake, symbolic of the School's fiftieth anniversary this year, will be decorated by Maynard Anderson, only boy in the cooking classes.

The exhibits will feature needlework by students, soaps and water softeners, and a playroom for small children. Special projects will be exhibited by Ruth Pond, Shakopee; Marie Appledorn, Welcome; Frances and Eleanor Eichers, St. Paul; Alice Miller, Brewster; Gina Eastvold, Hartland, Irene Keller, St. Paul; Marie Hermes, St. Paul; Margaret Larson, Cass Lake; Erma Peterson, Bowlus, Opal Tjaden, Winnebago; and Dorothy Vestal, Jordan.

A style show, skits and a tea will make up the afternoon program. At the style show, members of three sewing classes will display cotton, woolen and silk dresses which they have made. In line with clothes and style, the girls of the related art class will put on a skit, "Choosing a Wardrobe". The boys of the home problems class--which studies food selection and preparation, nutrition, care of clothing, and family and social relations, will also present a skit.

The tea, which gives students practical experience as hostesses, will be the concluding event. More than 500 guests including school faculty and students have been invited.

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A1064

Cake Bearers

Marlis Johansen	- R. 1, Hardwick, Minnesota	- Rock County
Ruth Pond	- Shakopee, Minnesota	- Scott County
Eunice St. Martin	- R. 1, Minneapolis, Minnesota	- Hennepin County
Peggy Smart	- Lakeland, Minnesota	- Washington County

Graduates

C"M"

Lady Baltimore Cake

1 cup butter
2 cups sugar
1 cup milk
3½ cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon vanilla
Whites six eggs

Cream butter and add sugar gradually while beating constantly. Mix and sift baking powder and flour and add alternately with milk to first mixture. Then add flavoring and cut and fold in whites of eggs beaten until stiff and dry. Turn into buttered and floured tins and bake in an oven at 350°F. Put layers together with fruit and nut filling and cover tops and sides of cake with boiled frosting.

Receipe from: Fanny Farmer Boston Cooking School Cook Book

Publicity

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St. Paul, Minnesota
March 10, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Values of agricultural education featuring particularly the contributions of the School of Agriculture at University Farm during its fifty years, will be the subject of a radio round table to be presented over Station KSTP from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m., March 18. Leading the round table will be J. O. Christianson, superintendent of the School and two of its graduates, Dr. Andrew Boss of the class of 1891, and former vice director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, and Porter Olstad, class of '22, successful young farmer at Hanska.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
March 20, 1939

Release

TUESDAY evening papers
March 21, 1939

Governor Harold E. Stassen delivered the commencement address this afternoon (Tuesday, March 21) when 103 seniors of the School of Agriculture, University Farm, St. Paul, received their diplomas at the fiftieth annual commencement exercises of the School. The event brought to a close the School of Agriculture's celebration of fifty years of educating rural young people in practical farming and homemaking.

Diplomas were presented by Guy Stanton Ford, president of the University of Minnesota, to the following students:

Muriel F. Abraham, Lake City; Leo Ahsenmacher, Annandale; Harry H. Albrecht, Sauk Rapids; Arlin A. Anderson, Sherburn; Frank A. Anderson, Cedar; Marie H. Appeldoorn, Galena; Dorothie M. Arthur, Pine River; H. Marlowe Becken, Hanska; Glenn R. Beckwith, 3126 Irving Avenue, Minneapolis; J. Hobart Belknap, Ceylon; Arnold I. Berg, Sheldon; Margaret E. Berg, Houston; Genevieve M. Berk, Goodhue; Earl E. Boldt, Paynesville; Muriel L. Brown, New Ulm; Francis J. Bulfer, Fairmont; Anne M. Butkus, Duluth; Hubert F. Carlin, St. Cloud; W. Presley Caughey, Brainerd; Otis E. Clark, Madison; Margaret J. Cooper, Carlos; Harriet L. Crooker, Camden Station, Minneapolis.

Gordon M. Cusick, 1772 Laurel Avenue, St. Paul; Cathryn L. Dose, Lake City; Doris E. Downes, Rushmore; Arthur Dracy, Bruno; Pansy Drake, Mission; Alaire E. Dubbels, Lincoln; Gina T. Eastvold, Hartland; Eleanor A. Eichers, 1437 Chelmsford; Frances M. Eichers, 1437 Chelmsford, St. Paul; Doris A. Feldheim, Grandy; Dale E. Flueger, Trenton; Krvin E. Frels, Cable, Wisconsin; Edmund P. Gensmer, Altura; Donald W. Gound, Fairmont; Rosanna M. Hagel, Rogers; Barney C. Hamilton, Maple Plain; Alden J. Hanson, Odin; Alvin E. Helland, Bricelyn.

Clayton E. Helling, Hanska; Donald R. Hill, Winnebago; Harold E. Hoglund, Long Prairie, Walter E. [redacted] Hougham, Camden Station; Minneapolis; James R. House, Princeton; Laurence B. Hovland, Bricelyn; Harold A. Ingvaldson, 2422 So. Girard, Minneapolis; Everette L. Jacobson, Cannon Falls; Jerry J. Jerabek, Hutchinson; Layton R. Johnson, Hector; Virgil Neil Johnson, Sleepy Eye; Eldon F. Jones, Winnebago; Donald R. Kaehler, St. Charles; Adrian Keller, 1800 W. Larpenteur, St. Paul; Irene C. Keller, 1780 W. Larpenteur, St. Paul; Jens Knutsen, Morgan; Orville Kuhnau, Heron Lake.

(More)

Helen E. Lind, Winthrop; Geneva C. Lindquist, St. James; LaMore Belle Manners, 1712 Wellesly Avenue, St. Paul; Lucille A. Maurer, Sleepy Eye; Harold W. McDaniel, 1565 Chelsea Ave., St. Paul; Lucille H. Meyer, New Prague; Ervin J Molitor, Cold Spring; Ross A More, Elmore; S. Archie Mosman, Monticello; Lowell M. Neitzel, Minnesota Lake; Arline R. Nelson, 2403 Bayless Ave., St. Paul; Harold A. Nelson, Little Falls; Hilding E. Nelson, Anoka; Margaret J. Niemann, Hastings; Leslie W. Norskog, Bird Island.

Marie W. Oldenkamp, Waterville; Muriel A. Olson, Ormsby; Dorothy M. Oswald, Rogers; Joseph H. Patchin, Truman; George Penin, 127 S. Cleveland, St. Paul; Erma M. Peterson, Bowlus; Wallace J. Peterson, Graham; Julio J. Pineda, Minas de Oro, Honduras, Central America; Marvin H. Proeschel, Austin; Mary Ellen Pruter, Lake City; David R. Putnam II, 1721 Princeton Ave., St. Paul; Elno E. Radtke, Springfield; Lawrence G. Randall, Eyota; John H. Rosenau, Lamberton.

Robert P. Savory, 1900 West 49th St., Minneapolis; Roy H. Schafer, Goodhue; Leo G. Schwinghammar, Albany; Wayne E. Shilston, Spring Valley; Maurice L. Simonsen, Sleepy Eye; Vernon Skallerud, Madison; Maynard L. Smith, Parkers Prairie; Bernard C. Sonstegard, Georgeville; James I. Spidahl, Pelican Rapids; Lyle V. Teigen, Kenyon; James G. Thom, Verndale; Frances Esther Ulrich, New Ulm.

Ralph Webb, South St. Paul; Irene L. Wego, 1722 Pinehurst Ave., St. Paul; Aldo M. Welk, Blue Earth; Edmund J. Westra, Sebeka; and Carl P. Whingelby, Tyler.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
March 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, April 19, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Spring Rain

Down comes the rain! Just when we thought the ground would be dry enough to work nicely, here it is all jellied up again. The muddy water scoots in unexpected directions as my boots squirt the little puddles out of the way. Rain pours from the brim of my old felt hat and some of it gets inside the collar of my raincoat. The shoulders are wetting through. Some runs down my coat and into the tops of each boot. It seems a long way from the horse barn to the hog houses.

Shimmying along unsteadily with two pails of feed, the lightning lets go with a crack, followed by a roar of thunder, and a fresh cloud splits, dumping another lake or two into the present slough. It's hard to get a breath of air, and there is a temptation to drop the feed and try swimming for the surface.

Milking is a relief from the outside work, though the wet clothes and sox are not so very comfortable. Then the milk is separated, the calves fed, and another inspection made to see that all the stock is dry and comfortable for the night. The chores always seem to take so much more time when the weather is bad.

At last everything is done as well as possible, it is getting dark, and I head for the house. It has let up some, but promises to keep on dripping through the night. An evening like this makes a fellow appreciate a warm dry house with plenty of light and a big smile waiting at the kitchen door. "Supper will be on the table as soon as you get on some dry clothes. You look as though you'd been making mud pies and had fallen in the horse tank."

Does that kitchen smell good! Beafsteak for supper, and I can hear the potatoes being mashed. Doesn't it feel good to get into dry clothes and feel warm again! Isn't it pleasant to see mother stepping around, getting things on the

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table! Isn't it satisfying to dig into that steak, smother the spuds in thick brown gravy and then have a second helping! It takes time and effort to finish the second piece of pie!

Work done for the day, supper eaten, pipe lit, an easy chair, yesterday's paper, mother and the girls chattering as they do the dishes, war seems far away and even events in the next county appear to be of comparatively little importance. Our own home circle is complete and satisfying.

Hard work, disappointment and struggle are connected with farming, as with most other constructive tasks, but there are also compensations. Certainly it makes one appreciate animal comforts and a good home. The rain makes chores more difficult, but it will soak the ground well and perhaps insure a good crop. Then prices may improve and we'll be sitting pretty again. I wouldn't trade places with anybody. - not tonight, anyway.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
March 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, April 12, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Know Your Hybrids

George, who lives some 30 miles from us, came over the other day and after discussing the weather, lambs, pigs and horses, as farmers will, he got around to seed corn.

"I thought maybe I'd try about 10 bushels of that fancy corn you keep blowing about so much. Everybody's growing hybrid now, and I might as well get set along with the rest of them."

"What kind do you want?" sezi.

"What kind have you got?" seze. "It's all hybrid, isn't it?"

"Sure it's all hybrid," sezi. "Jerseys, Herefords and Zebus are all cattle too, but you might not make a fortune milking Zebus or running Jerseys on a dry range with barbed wire for protection during the winter. I've got hybrid seed to sell," sezi. "It's right in every way and just as represented, to the best of my knowledge and belief, but I don't want you belly achin' around here next fall saying I sold you a gold brick in corn's clothing. I don't know what my hybrid will do on your farm," sezi. "Do you?"

"No, I've never tried hybrid," seze. "But my soil looks just about as run down and barren as your farm here," seze with a sneering grin, "And I guess if you can make 90 bushels to an acre, I can make about 150, like the papers tell about. Besides, my neighbor grew some hybrid, and his hogs haven't starved so far this winter."

"What kind of hybrid did he raise?" sezi, pressing the point.

"It was corn," seze. "The seed was kind of small and on the irregular order. It came in a sack and I wouldn't call it nice planting corn, but that's all I know about it." seze.

"Well, now, this hybrid," sezi, "is made and developed to fit different conditions of soil, climate and the owner's disposition. Each seed company may have 20 or 200 different kinds, aimed to suit certain specific situations which they know or imagine to exist. Some mature early and some mature late. Some get hit with smut and some shed it like water. Some have big ears you can wring the water out of and some don't look so big but have more feed per acre. You've got to know hybrids by their first name, George, and recognize their peculiarities and idiosyncrasies if you're going to make a success of hybrid corn," sezi, thinking that would hold him a spell.

"Maybe I don't want any hybrid corn," seze. "According to your talk it's all a snare and a delusion."

"Don't you want to follow the steps of progress?" sezi. "Hybrid corn is the modern thing, and how are you going to make that 150 bushels per acre without it? I know that measly little stuff you've been growing can't possibly make more than 80 bushels, even on your undernourished, eroded and hard pan farm. Are you afraid to change your ways? Are you so settled in the rut of existence that you can't see the greener fields and the larger things almost within your grasp?" sezi.

"You don't know what corn is until you've grown hybrid, George." sezi. "The way the stalks all stand in even, straight rows, even after a wind which may scatter your house and blow your wife into the next county, is a sight to behold," sezi (knowing his wife was no feather). "Than there is a joy in having all the ears ripe at the same time so that soft nubbins won't start rot in the crib."

"First you tell me that hybrid corn is downright dangerous," seze. "And then you praise it to the skies," seze. "Perhaps you are driving at something in your own quaint way," seze. "But I'm adrift and have lost the compass," seze.

"It's as plain as the nose on your face," sezi (knowing his beezer would fill a mug). "You'd better stick to something you've tried and tested on your own land for your main crop so as to assure your pigs of next winter's feed. Then try anything new that looks promising on a few acres, and if it is really adapted to the puddled pot holes you call fields, get some more of the same kind next year. The kind of hybrid and the reputation of the outfit who grew it are what you pay the big price for," sezi. "Be sure you get your nickel's worth."

We spoke of other things, too numerous to mention, but I sold George a bushel of corn. Next year he'll be back and know what he wants, and he won't be gambling his whole corn crop on a mere guess. ----- R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
March 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, April 5, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Plant A Tree

In a few years I will be, "Gathered unto my fathers" and the old world will have to struggle along as best it can without the benefit of my labor and experience. It may not be very flattering--but I know it is true--that within a few days my place will be filled up and things will progress as usual, with no indication that I ever existed.

Under these circumstances it would satisfy my ego considerably if I could do something now which would be evidence of my activity after I am gone. Most of us would like to extend our ideas further along the path of history than any normal span of years and perhaps do someone some good long after we are forgotten.

Some people achieve this end by putting up a fine stone monument. Others do better and build libraries or endow educational institutions. That is fine, but it would take more money than I ever expect to accumulate. What can I do that will leave a mark to show where I enjoyed life while I was here?

My answer is to plant trees. They will live so long and be of increasing usefulness as the years go by. Some day they may make fuel, lumber or posts for men yet unborn. In the meantime they will furnish nests for birds, shelter for wild life and protect the soil from erosion. They will be building instead of tearing down, and all I need to do is spend a little thought and elbow grease giving them a start.

In addition, I expect to get a lot of fun and satisfaction from watching them grow, even while I am here to enjoy them. I have already eaten black walnuts grown from seed I planted, and have propagated, swapped or received as gifts varieties enough to make 57 species of trees around the home grounds. Most of the trees planted have a story connected with them and some day, for the fun of it, I'll put them down on paper.

People who like trees, like to trade seed or seedlings. It's quite exciting, and an interesting way to get acquainted. Just now I have seed of thornless honey locusts, and will be glad to trade or give some seed to anyone who may want to try them. I can get many other seeds in season, and have great fun inducing others to start on the hobby of tree growing. What better way is there to celebrate a big family event like a wedding, a birthday or the evening Fido got mixed up with a skunk, than to plant a tree, or a whole row of them?

There are so many places which need trees--roadsides, waste places, fence corners, vacant lots, pot holes, sloughs--places that need trees adapted to grow under a similar variety of conditions. Who'll help plant?

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
April 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, May 31, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Can You Name It?

Names for farm animals add nothing to their efficiency in turning feed into cash, but they do help to make individuals more interesting and provide a lot of fun for the family. Sometimes a name or nickname is descriptive enough to tell a story.

"Old Lady Washtub" was an ancient ewe of slightly moth-eaten appearance, but she always brought two dandy lambs to the feed trough. Her lambs were fat because she took such good care of them. The name was acquired because she insisted on drinking mother's soft water from the tub under the eaves. "Napoleon" was a ram who acted like the famous general in many ways, though he was not undersized.

Our pup is named "Chunie" because Bud read about an elephant by that name. The cat is named "Powdah" and mother says she wants another to name "Puff" and then we'll raise some "Powdah-Puffs". Shorty's rabbits were "Pop Corn" and "Snowball", but "Pop Corn" was eaten by a stray dog or something. Now we wonder if "Snowball" will last thru the summer.

We had a bull named "Pay Day" by the boys because he arrived on that auspicious occasion. Our present bull is "Caesar" because he came into the world by means of an operation so called. One horse is "Snoop" and one is "Dynamite", while Shorty's pony has been called a variety of choice but unprintable names because of her mean disposition.

Seven years ago we bought a Morgan colt to teach Bud something about horses and he called her "Topsy". Two years ago she had a colt, which was finally named "Tango" because she danced all the time. Now another blessed event has occurred, and there is another baby to be named. We weren't expecting this little lady quite so soon, and when the information was passed around, it caused considerable excitement.

(more)

Wed., May 31, 1939

Shorty almost flew out to the barn when she got home from school. "Oh, Daddy, she's so cute, and she tries to run on her hind legs but her front legs won't go fast enough, and she walks right under Topsy and when Bud rubbed her neck she shook her head and bucked as hard as she could and she sucks my fingers just like a calf and I think she will have black legs and be brown on top and she's prettier than Tango and I like her better and I wish she was old enough to ride already. I'm going to call her Turvey. Wouldn't that go well with Topsy?"

Of course naming a colt is a matter of deep concern and much discussion. It will probably take many days and dozens of names will be suggested, before a selection is made which will suit everybody. Bud, of course, has the final say, and he feels his responsibility deeply. It must be short and easy, equally useful when spoken in commendation or in reprimand. Preferably it should begin with a T but that is not essential.

Turvey, Rhumba, Teeter, Tippy, Tiny, Two-step and Tina have been suggested, but nothing decided upon. If anyone has other suggestions to offer which will help to settle this important question, we will be deeply grateful. In fact, I will pay $2.00 cash money to anyone who proposes the name we select. It isn't necessary to send a horse along with the name either. Not even a facsimile is required. Who'll name the baby?

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
April 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, May 24, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Birth Control

May is a month of reproduction for many of our most important insects and plant diseases. Their ravages are not so noticeable right now, but their numbers will be increasing like the charges on a taxi meter, unless we take steps early in the season to prevent their program of inflation. We have eliminated many of Nature's safeguards, such as birds, isolation and natural selection for resistance among the plants, so we will have to pay the bill with preventives judiciously applied.

Lime-sulphur, arsenate of lead, paris green, nicotine sulphate, mercury dust and copper sulphate sound formidable, and just the threat of such things should terrify the bugs, worms, beetles, hoppers and thrips, but, unfortunately, they have never learned to read, and threats do not scare them. So far as I know, no codling worm ever worried himself thin over the danger of being bitten when some fair lady ate the apple he lived in.

Insects don't get panicky. They just eat, sleep and propagate their kind with the greatest possible efficiency and the least possible effort. If we want to control them, it is necessary to put the death dealing substances our Experiment Stations have devised, in the proper form and place to destroy the digestive devices of our diligent enemies.

Sprays and dusts must be applied to be effective, and now, before eggs are laid, or while bugs are in their infancy, is the best time to get results. Those who wish to grow flowers, fruit or crops, must be just as persistant as the insects and a bit more skillful, if they wish to reap an adequate return for their efforts. It is war to the finish, with no holds barred.

Entomologists have studied the life histories of most of our destructive insects and suggested methods of control. For example, the White Grubs or June Beetles lay their eggs in sod during May or June. The eggs hatch in July and the grubs start eating. The next summer they eat in a big way and the third spring do a real job of it. When they have consumed enough plant roots to get good and fat, they go to sleep and wake up the next May, not as grubs, but as June Beetles, able to fly instead of crawl.

The June Bugs feed on tree leaves usually during the day, and at night mate and lay eggs in more sod, ready for another 4-year cycle. The flying beetles like to play near a light, and now traps have been devised to catch tons of them. Perhaps that will prove to be the best way of controlling this serious pest. Every bug has his weakness, and by learning to take advantage of it, perhaps the birth rate among our insect enemies can be reduced below the danger point. Prevention usually is less expensive than a cure.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
April 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, May 17, 1939

BOB HODGSONS'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Hunting Hidden Treasure

Expeditions setting out to hunt for buried pirate treasure on the Spanish Main must spend vast sums for equipment and months of laborious planning before they are ready to leave. Then they are often disappointed. My treasurers are much easier to find and almost never send me home unrewarded. Any time I can spare a couple of hours, my feet will carry me to more treasure than my eyes are trained to appreciate.

Along the open roadsides or in old pastures there may be a patch of crocus, or a snake shedding his skin; a family of young gophers or rabbits to watch. A meadow lark limps away in evident distress, and that is an invitation to stand perfectly still and go over every inch of the ground to see the cleverly camouflaged nest and the odd-looking, pin-feathered nestlings.

It is only a little way to the deep dark woods. They don't amount to much from the standpoint of timber, but this little piece is not pastured, and the wild flowers have had a chance to survive. Thru the leaf mould into the damp shade of the taller brush, the most delicate and charming of nature's creations have pushed their way, spending centuries of effort and supreme ingenuity in adapting themselves to changing conditions, just to give me the momentary pleasure of enjoying their beauty.

From early spring until late fall, they furnish a continuous cinema of thrilling action, with more comedy, tragedy and sometimes burlesque than we self-satisfied humans will ever be able to appreciate. We have trained ourselves to loll in cushioned chairs and let paid entertainers lull our idling minds with shadows of reality. One of the best ways to clear the carbon from our brains and stimulate our sluggish thinking, is to get back close to nature and learn what it is all about.

(more)

Wed., May 17, 1939

A carpet of Bloodroot in bloom, a fine patch of Trillium, an impudent Jack-in-the-Pulpit, some saucy Dutchman's Breeches, an intricate Columbine with its amazing flowers, stealthy violets and graceful Solomon's Seal, all guarded with an ample supply of poison ivy, looks to me like an illustrated book of rare value. Others regard it as a potential sheep pasture. One of the most exciting experiences I have ever had was when all alone in the woods, on my knees in a warm rain, setting a little tree, I discovered a whole bed of yellow lady slippers right under my nose.

My business is farming, and I like it. It has always provided me with a living, and I make a game out of matching wits with nature and the markets in order to keep up the payments on the place, but it isn't a business where one is apt to get rich quickly, so far as money is concerned. It does, however, offer all the buried treasure of interest and satisfaction that I am willing to hunt for. The limit is only my ability to understand and appreciate the things around me.

Things get pretty thick sometimes, and it's hard to see where we are going, but when I watch an old crow, who has raised a family with every man and boy able to tote a gun, banging away at him day and night, it seems there must be a chance to do something worth-while if I can keep my feet on the ground, my head in the air and my eyes open to the treasures about me.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
April 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, May 10, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

The Air Armada

Aircraft, thousands of them, from heavy bombers to the tiniest scout models, have arrived in the Northwest, to aid in the war against insect and rodent enemies. All are monoplanes with the best of motors and trained pilots, who furnish their own uniforms and fuel, only asking for suitable living quarters and a little protection from the people they have come to help.

Every craft will be on duty from dawn to dusk, seven days each week, until cold weather comes again and the enemy goes into winter quarters. Tons and tons of voracious insects which would consume all plant life if left unmolested, will be daily casualities. Companies, battalions, regiments and divisions of plant lice, grasshoppers, army worms, caterpillars, mosquitoes, flies, beetles, borers and field mice will be met every day and their ranks thinned by an incessant attack from the most skillful and efficient combat equipment ever devised.

A flock of martins spread out in all directions and maneuver by the hour, making it dangerous for many flies, mosquitoes and gnats to move their forces by air. On the ground, robins, blackbirds, and legions of sparrows from the dainty Vesper to the ubiquitous English scrappers, make it unsafe for any insect to crawl, creep or jump. In the gardens, catbirds have reported for duty and will help to grow a good crop of fruit so that they may enjoy a few bites to vary their diet of bugs when fall comes.

In the fields, blackbirds and gulls have followed the plows and harrows, cleaning up the egg nests, grubs, wire worms, cutworms and beetles before the grain was planted. Meadow larks, killdeers, pheasants and prairie chickens are searching alfalfa fields and pastures for weed seeds and animal life which may injure the crops. Grosbeaks are going over the walnut trees looking for caterpillars, keeping an eye on

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the potato patch for the first beetles, while phoebes, wrens and warblers inspect every twig of every tree and bush in order to prevent later damage if possible.

All the units keep in touch by bugle calls, and the variety is infinite. There is the klaxon of the crows, the bray of the bluejays, the sentimental twitter of the robins and the full song of the brown thrashers. Tiny wrens make a skillful two point landing on what seems to be nothing at all and sing a song of victory before the battle has more than begun. How the creepers and crawlers must hunt for a place to hide when they hear the war cries all about them!

The sociable blackbirds have formed a band and with high notes from the trees and low notes from the ground they practice endlessly their intricate compositions. The woodpeckers think the orchestra would be a failure without drums, and each does his best to provide what is lacking. They use enough ingenuity in selecting sounding boards to give most of the effects attained by the usual traps.

We have special weeks and days for so many purposes. Perhaps we should have a "Welcome Week" for our bird allies. Certainly we should do everything possible to show our appreciation of their generous and effective assistance in the annual campaign. Human existence would be difficult, if not impossible, without the aid of our air forces. In addition, for those who have acquired even a casual acquaintance, the birds are close friends who furnish an endless entertainment with their odd antics, peculiar personalities and vocal vociferations.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
April 20 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, May 3, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

War in the Cornfield

There are 48 gophers, 19 pheasants, a host of wire worms, cutworms, grubs and sundry diseases just waiting until I get this high falutin seed corn in the ground. Then they will all pitch in and get fat at my expense. There ought to be a law against it! Just as if a farmer didn't have enough to worry over - taxes, insurance, low prices and bad weather - without having to fight almost every individual member of the plant and animal kingdom, for the privilege of raising a few ears of corn which probably won't be worth what it cost to grow by the time it gets to market. As Andy says, "Oh me!"

Still there is some fun in planting corn. With a crack team, well prepared ground, with the air smelling of spring, the first 8 hours isn't bad at all. The last of the second 8 hours per day does get a bit tiresome, but look at the ground we have covered! "Click, click, click, goes the planter," and we hope that three fine, strong stalks of corn will mature in every hill.

One of the most important factors in making corn production profitable is yield per acre and yield varies directly with the stand. Empty hills are like boarder cows; they take everything you give them and return nothing. Almost everyone tests his corn for germination now. All are aware of the importance of planting seed which inherits the ability to resist lodging, mature early and yield good sized, well shaped ears of sound corn, but all of this care is in vain unless the proper number of kernels are placed in exactly the right spot at just the right depth and then left undisturbed, to ripen in the hot sun.

First, it pays well to check over the planter, to see that everything is working properly. Some planters get out of time, or string the seed. Sometimes the gears or dogs get worn so that the plates do not move the required distance.

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Sometimes the tongue is carried too low which makes a slow drop, getting the hills out of line crosswise of the field. Tongue trucks are becoming popular, because they avoid this possible error.

There are advocates of the shoe or the disk furrow openers, as well as edge drop and hill drop planters. All have their advantages - and disadvantages. Some folks are using a flat runner ahead of the furrow opener to prevent planting the seed too deep when crossing ridges or back furrows. It's up to the operator to see that the seed is put at just the right depth for the soil and moisture conditions he is working with. On our heavy clay, we like to get the corn just deep enough to be covered and reach moisture.

Of course the corn should be accurately graded for width and thickness and plates selected which will just fit, if accurate planting is to be done. Even then it helps sometimes if the last quart of corn is emptied out of the boxes occasionally, because there may be some seed too large for the plates and if this accumulates, the smaller seed may not get thru. These remnants can be planted with larger plates.

When all of this is taken care of, the man on the driver's seat must try to drive straight rows, get the proper tension in the check wire when end stakes are set, and watch everything every minute, if all "mistakes" are to be avoided and a perfect field obtained which will reflect credit on the operator. No wonder the most experienced man on the place usually drives the corn planter!

There will be much satisfaction when the corn comes up if all the rows are straight and the stand nearly perfect. It may help some if we put out some poison for those gophers and scatter a bushel of cheap feed corn along the alfalfa field and the edge of the slough, so the pheasants will take that instead of the fancy seed. Then they'll want to vary their corn diet and hunt up all the bugs they can find in the cornfield. In fact I'd like to invite a whole army of pheasants to live in my cornfield. They're much prettier than grasshoppers, grubs and wire worms! I have a standing invitation to all birds including hawks and owls, to hunt on this farm! Even skunks are welcome, if they stay on the lee side of the buildings and leave the poultry alone. They all help to grow a good corn crop.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
May 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, June 28, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Good Grasses

Cereals are grasses grown for their edible seeds. We don't always think of wheat, oats, barley and corn as grass, but they come in that classification because they have hollow, jointed stems with the leaves wrapped around them in sheathes, and fibrous roots. Corn has been changed by breeding and selection until it acts and looks differently than the small grains in many plant characters, but essentially they are the same.

Corn, for example, has been selected so that usually one stalk comes from a seed, but it is grass nature to send up several stalks from each new plant. We don't want "suckers" in corn, but we're thankful for them in grain. As many as 20 stems or culms may grow from one wheat seed, if conditions are right, and each may have a good head of grain.

Last month the wheat, oats and barley plants put in all their time growing good big root systems, long wide leaves and getting ready for the big push. This month the joints or nodes began to get further apart in each culm and we say the grain is "shooting" up. The last burst of speed comes after the heads have emerged from the boot and are held up on a long "neck", well above the leaves.

Before the head gets all of the way out, the three stamens have matured and their anthers have burst, shedding their "gold dust" pollen grains on the waiting feathery stigma of the flower pistil. The pollen grains begin to grow at once and soon one of them reaches the ovary, unites with the egg cell and a new seed of wheat, oats or barley is begun. This whole process takes place inside the husks or glumes which surround the young flower. Even farm boys do not always realize that grain has flowers.

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After the head is perfectly formed, the glumes open up a little and some pollen may be shed. Rarely, an unfertilized stigma gets pollen blown by the wind and natural crossing occurs. This is so unusual that two varieties of wheat can be grown side by side for years with no noticeable change unless mixtures of the mature seed occur. With rye and corn, the process is somewhat different, because they are normally cross-fertilized instead of selfed.

Now, with the grain all headed out, the plants are putting all their energy into making food to fill up the new seeds. First the germ is prepared, and then sufficient starch is stored beside it to keep it alive until it can make green leaves and take care of itself. The process has been going on, in wheat at least, for over 5,000 years.

It isn't all simple and easy either. Drouth and storms may interfere with normal development or disease may injure the plant tissues. If an epidemic of rust should occur, the plants have a hard time. Leaf rust just destroys some of the food-making cells, but stem rust pustules break open the protective covering or "skin" of the plant and allow the carefully gathered moisture to evaporate. When the rust pustules get numerous, the sap gets too thick to travel to the head, and then we have shrunken or shriveled grain. There are, of course, many other diseases which may cause damage, or the neighbors' cattle may get out and eat off the heads. Then a whole season's effort is wasted.

Some plants are able to resist certain forms of disease - but that is another story.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
May 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, June 21, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Buried in Hay

It's a grand good feeling along in February or March, to roll down the nice green alfalfa, all the stock can eat, without worrying over whether there will be enough to last until grass. Right now, however, it seems as though there is more hay than we know what to do with. Just when the weeds are getting the jump in the corn field and everything needs doing at once, there is the annual struggle to get the hay in before it gets wet.

For those who have a considerable acreage of alfalfa, haying is a rush job. There are only a few hours when hay is just right. It is usually too green, too wet, too dry or too something else. With the other work crowding. we plan as carefully as possible to put up the maximum tons in the minimum hours. Sometimes it goes in the barn, but usually the stack is quicker. We can haul it in later when the corn is picked.

We figure the hay can go in the stack a bit greener than when put in the mow. This adds a little to the time when we can handle it without losing leaves, vitamins, color or something else. Sometimes the hay is ready the day after it is cut. Sometimes it is two weeks before we can get it in. It's largely a matter of guess and experience, to know whether it is dry enough to be safe.

Stacking hay isn't so bad, but it's lots of work to get it up on the stack. Last year we made a windlass from the back end of a pea viner and elevated the hay by gasoline power. That worked pretty well, but we're planning to try a number of things before we decide which is best. We want the stacks about 25 feet high when finished, and we want to avoid matted wads of green material. We're looking for something that will spread the hay on top of a high stack. What is best?

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Of course we try to make tops which will shed water. Long green hay such as timothy or Sudan grass make an excellent top, but they are rarely available for the first cutting. This year we plan to try paper roofs on some of the stacks. It seems to me that there should be some provision for ventilation at the top, but perhaps enough will evaporate thru the paper.

Every feeder recognizes the value of good hay, but we're still groping for more information on curing and storing it. I am not yet convinced that silos are the best way out. It's too expensive handling the stuff that way. Baling from the windrow has advantages and disadvantages. Some people advocate chopping the hay into the barn as it comes from the field. This may be a way of getting the tobacco brown hay the cattle are so fond of, but it may be dangerous if the hay heats.

Sometimes I wonder if we know what good hay is. The cows don't always agree with me on the subject. They seem to have ideas of their own on color, texture, and quality. It's a big subject which I would like to know more about. In the meantime we have 70 acres to cut and cure, so here's hoping the rain holds off.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
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St. Paul Minnesota
May 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, June 14, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Corn Secrets

Swish, swish, swish, the long green leaves of the corn plants brush against the cultivator as they pass endlessly between the shovels. It's hot, and after a good dinner the monotony makes me sleepy. To keep awake, I let my mind wander to the stories the corn leaves seem to be whispering as they spread their arms to make the most of their power plant, the sun.

"Only a month ago, I was a sleeping speck of life beside a chunk of starch, enclosed in a smooth hard epidermis. Under this covering was a layer of material called the aleurone, which was very high in protein. Most of the enclosed space was filled with endosperm, over 90 per cent starch, but the important part of the kernel was the little oily germ.

"Under a combination of moisture, air and warmth, I, the only part of the seed with life, began to feel strong and started to stretch for more elbow room. I pushed until the epidermis split, and made way for the two tips I was pushing out. One tip had to go with the pull of gravity, and one against it. No matter in what position I lay, these growing points knew where they had to go.

"The moisture softened up the endosperm, and enzymes went to work, changing starch to sugar so that I could mix it with hydrogen broken away from water, and carbon taken from air to construct the cells which built up the growing tips in the same fashion as a mason adds bricks to make a wall longer.

"Down went the roots after more water, and they spread out fanwise, to get contact with as many soil particles as possible to dissolve from them the minerals needed when those in the endosperm gave out. Fine hairs grew like fuzz on the feeding roots, to make more surface connection with soil and moisture. The water and

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minerals got into the root hairs by osmosis.

"Up went the tip, until it pushed aside a clod and came out into the light. At once it turned green, which indicated that the chloroplasts were racing around in each cell, making more starch by photosynthesis, a process man has never been able to duplicate. Soon the hard pointed shoot which poked out of the ground began to unfold and unwind, and slim tapering leaves spread out flat to expose more area to the sun.

"By this time, the old endosperm is no longer needed. I am a new corn plant, well on the way to maturity. In my 6-inch stem, every node and leaf is big enough to be seen. My permanent roots have started from a node just so far under the surface, no matter how deeply you planted me. The branches on my tiny tassel are all in place and a bud is ready to start an ear shoot. All there is left to do is to enlarge the parts.

"If you want me to do my best, you'll have to quit cutting my feeding roots with those cultivator shovels and keep the dirt off of my leaves. It takes time to repair the damage you do every time you come along. If you aren't careful, I'll reward you with a soft, smutty nubbin."

The team stopped, and that was the end of the row.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
May 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, June 7, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Whither Away?

It is hard for a farmer to leave the innumerable things that always need to be done. We think twice before we trust our livestock and equipment to the tender care of the boys or the hired man while we skip gaily around the country on a vacation or even a business trip. We like to believe that everything will go to pot unless we are there to guard it every day. Undoubtedly Dad felt the same way, and yet many of us have had to get along permanently without him.

I don't believe in shirking responsibility, but too close an application to one task gets us in a rut and sometimes we can't see over the edge unless we make an effort to climb out and look around a bit. How can we decide about the best way of doing a job if we never see it tried except by our own pet method?

If the kids walk on tiptoe because "Pop has a grouch," and if you feel that no one loves you, that your best efforts are not appreciated and that the whole world is going haywire, it is probably because you are overtired, or your corns are hurting. In that case, one of the best remedies is to get away from the grindstone for a day or two and do something entirely different. Just grease up the gas buggy, get Ma to pack her grip and take a dose of spring tonic. The following prescriptions are recommended although the list is far from complete.

1. Go and make short calls on 20 people you know and "never get time" to see.
2. Just start, and spend two days, trying to find as many new roads as possible.
3. Go to the city, put up at a hotel, and see how you like it.
4. Go to see some herd of cattle, some farm, some factory or some place that you have always wanted to visit.
5. Go fishing, if you like to fish.

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6. Let Ma run the trip, and do everything just her way for two days.

(Perhaps that wouldn't be much of a change, but be gracious about it.)

The principal thing is to get a change of some sort, even if it's only to go a mile away. You'll probably come back feeling that the old familiar things are the best you can find anywhere. Possibly you'll get some new ideas about fixing this or that or sprucing up the front yard so as to make the old home more pleasant or comfortable.

The first step in achievement is to want something different. The second is to work out a definite plan, step by step, which will lead to the desired goal, and the third thing is to get at it. Most of us are so busy inching along on our little individual paths that we have no time to look up and choose a place to head for.

A friend of mine, once remarked, "A man can do anything he is willing to work for," and then as an afterthought he added, "except sing." It may seem hard for farmers to take time for a little holiday, but it can be done. Perhaps if you go, you'll be so glad to get back, you can't keep from singing.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
June 21 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, July 5, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS
By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Come To See Us.

Every once in a while, someone admits that he has read one of these weekly yarns somewhere, and asks about Shorty, the colts or other livestock which has furnished subject material. Yesterday an old friend accused me of holding out on him because I hadn't told about Shorty's "Two Gooses" and her futile attempts to help them raise a family. I can't keep up with all of the doings myself. Just last night, Shorty announced a "blessed event", consisting of 14 little guineas.

The only way you can check up on us is to look the place over for yourself. We have ordered the best weather we could get for Thursday, July 13th, and hereby invite you and your friends to visit us. We'll try to show you everything we can while you are here.

In addition to the kids and the riding stock, we have about 600 acres of land in various crops, and a lot of Shropshire sheep, Poland China hogs, Percheron horses and Milking Shorthorn cattle. Since this is an Experiment Station we have little plots of everything under the sun scattered about wherever they fit in best, each plot a part of the general plan to get Mother Nature to answer our questions.

Dr. H. K. Hayes, chief of the Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics of the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, is in general charge of the experimental projects in farm crops, and he will be here with members of his staff to answer questions about wheat, oats, barley, flax, soybeans, corn, pastures and forages. Professor W. H. Peters, chief of the Division of Animal Husbandry, is in general charge of all University livestock except the strictly dairy cattle, which Professor J. B. Fitch, chief in dairy husbandry, supervises. Dr. L. M. Winters is the animal geneticist who plans our hog breeding experiments.

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Wed., July 5, 1939

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the Department of Agriculture, is responsible for the whole agricultural setup of the University of Minnesota, including teaching, research, demonstration and extension activities. All of these men have been invited to be with us on July 13th to meet you folks and show you what we are trying to do at this one Branch Station. Of course other men you have heard about will be here too. Dr. E. C. Stakman of University Farm, a nationally-known plant pathologist, has said he will come if he can possibly get away. Dr. Ivar Johnson, the corn breeder, Dr. Forest Immer, barley specialist, - oh there will be a lot of men who are doing big things, and you will want to get acquainted with them.

We plan to introduce these men about 1:30, here on the Station Campus. Then we will go out in the field and see as much as possible of what is going on. We'll try to have things marked so you can drive around any time during the day and look things over. Picnic lunches can be eaten here in the grove where there is still shade enough for a good sized crowd. Of course you are welcome to visit the Station at any time, but we can't always take time to show the whole plant to each individual. On July 13th we'll try to do the job up brown.

"I'll be seeing you - "

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
June 21 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, July 12, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Stilt Walking

Jim nearly fell off the Christmas tree when he looked up and saw me towering above him. He was one of a large crew detasseling seed corn. All day he had been walking between tall green walls, reaching far above his head to pull the late tassels which had come out since the day before when he had walked down the same rows doing the same thing.

I knew that the corn was pretty tall for the boys, so I had knocked together a pair of stilts and thought I'd suggest that it might help if the boys wanted to make some, but not one of the 15 had ever walked on stilts! How do boys grow up now-a-days? I hadn't tried it for more than 25 years, but with some boards strapped to each leg, I could run, jump, dance, (that wasn't what the boys called it) and stride along with 6-foot steps.

There seemed to be several advantages in the stilts. I could get up even with the highest tassels and pull up instead of down. It was cooler up where the wind could reach me and not so dusty with pollen. Besides, I could see all over the field, watch the men fixing fence, see who was going by on the road, and judge the distance to the end of the row.

Once a stilt stuck in a wet spot, and I went flop in the mud. That's one penalty of getting up off the ground. It's further to fall, but it was so much more interesting up above the corn that it was worth-while anyway and long ago I learned how to get on my feet again.

Most of us spend our lives walking between tall corn rows, unable to see where we are going, and always fearful that something may jump out and scare us. Only a few are able to get up above the mud and see the interesting things which make our

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little everyday troubles seem insignificant. Some folks admire a fine stand of trees and are anxious to explore the depths of the woods. Others stay on the highway because there may be some poison ivy around.

Most of the boys wouldn't try the stilts. That evening I persuaded Bud to put them on, and he learned to stagger around, but he preferred roller skates. As boys, we had had so much fun with stilts, it was hard to imagine others not wanting to try them. We even mastered the five footers, and what a thrill it was, to get up above the crowd and see things from a new angle.

It takes effort and many bumps to get above the rut and do "out of the ordinary" things, but usually the results are well worth the cost. In the long run, each of us has to pay for what he gets.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
June 21 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, July 19, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

The Harvest Rush

Father used to tell about cutting grain with a cradle, and make us envious of his strength, skill and dexterity in "keeping up his station" when tying bundles by hand. We don't do that any more, but if someone ever tells you that harvesting grain, even in 1939, is all done by machinery so that there is no hard work, "don't you believe it".

We don't do so much hand labor, to be sure, but we have enough more acres to make up the difference. Men on farms still get up at daylight, milk the cows, feed the pigs, caution Ma about the scratch mixture for the chickens, grease up the tractor, oil the binder, tighten the canvasses, and then pound along, hour after hour, until it gets too dark to see or the dew makes the grain too damp to handle. Then a few hours of exhausted sleep and they do it all over again.

Men and horses still stink with sweat, still keep on working when muscles are numb with fatigue, still "keep up their stations" when the job has to be done. The whole year's effort is directed toward making a crop, and when the weather has been favorable and the grain is ripe, a real farmer will take care of it no matter what it costs in personal exertion and discomfort.

Stories have been told of great warriors who performed prodigious feats of valor, killing their enemies, as King David killed his tens of thousands, and yet just as much heroism, just as much skill, just as much persistence and courage are found today where farm men, women and children are calling on their last reserves of strength to accomplish the impossible task of harvesting the grain crop.

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This is constructive effort - making food for millions from land reluctant to give up its fertility. It is war with insects, war with weather, war with time, war with weeds and then the satisfaction that comes with a task well done, the grain bins filled with feed, the straw stacked for winter use, the mows filled with hay and the cattle snug for cold weather.

It is human nature to notice the spectacular, the unusual. We find tornadoes, fires, divorces, wars, and scandals written up in our newspapers, our short stories and novels. All of these are destructive, tearing down the things others have built up. The patient, plodding, persistent effort of those who struggle to make the world better, who dig out the raw materials used to make life relatively safe and comfortable, is rarely used as subject material because it is ordinary and commonplace. Nevertheless, it is such effort that keeps the wheels of industry in motion.

Harvest is a rush season and farmers are in the midst of it, but they ask for no glory or sympathy for their hard lot. They only ask a fair chance to make their contribution to the wealth and welfare of the nation.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
June 21 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, July 26, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Animal Parasites

Did you ever hear the poem entitled, "A Dissertation on the Antiquity of the Microbe"? I memorized it years ago, and can still remember every word of it, because it was not so very long. It is only 3 words. "Adam had 'em." Ever since Adam's time, man and animals have had other animals willing to live with and bother them, and these, in turn, have had other forms of life waiting to destroy them if possible.

It is all part of Nature's plan to balance things. Whenever rabbits get too thick, something happens to reduce their numbers. Whenever trees get too thick, some die out and moulds, fungi, or fires reduce them to their original elements which can be used over again by other plants. Animals eat plants or other animals and they, in turn, are destroyed and again changed in form to be used over and over again.

One man or one horned toad in an open desert would not be apt to suffer from parasites or disease, but when men congregate in cities and live in crowded houses, parasites of all forms find plenty of material to work on, and sooner or later they will get busy. Men have studied out methods of controlling most of these parasites, but it is still a contest to keep free from bugs and bacilli when crowds of men live together. Armies still need to be "de-loused" as frequently as opportunity permits.

The same thing holds true with farm animals. One pig on a farm isn't apt to suffer from worms, but a hundred pigs, kept year after year in the same quarters, are headed for trouble unless elaborate precautions are taken to keep them clean. Mange, lice, round worms, lung worms, all like to live on or in hogs kept in dirty places. That's the reason for portable hog houses, rotated pastures and general swine sanitation.

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It is true that shotes can be "wormed" by putting poison in the stomach, strong enough to kill the parasites but not quite strong enough to kill the pig. This requires carefully measured doses, an empty stomach and a strong pig. In my experience, the cure is just about as bad as the disease. Prevention doesn't penalize the pig and dissipate the profits.

Sheep are subject to ticks, mange, scab, tapeworms, stomach worms, liver fluke and other bugs that will ruin the best of flocks if they are permitted to prosper. We have to dip and change pastures frequently to get the best of these pests. The most common of these parasites is the stomach worm, and some people have to treat the whole flock once a month during the pasture season in order to raise lambs. The first year I handled sheep, 7 yearlings and 14 lambs died before I knew what was the matter with them. Sometimes I wished that the rest of the lambs had died. The maggots were something awful!

Sanitation, - keeping things clean, - is the best answer. Changing pastures, cleaning up barns, liberal use of boiling water and lye, dipping and watchfulness are the price of healthy animals. It isn't so hard to prevent trouble, but it's a mean job to correct it if it once gets a good start.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 6, 1939

Release

MONDAY, July 10, 1939

Nine million more pigs were farrowed in the United States this spring than last season, according to the spring pig crop report released June 28 by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The report also gave figures showing that farmers intend to farrow approximately 3,000,000 more fall pigs than a year ago. The estimated total production of 83,000,000 head to be sold during the marketing year 1939-40 is 17% more than the 1938-39 figure, and 16% above the ten-year average (1928-37) and will be the third largest marketing for any year since 1923.

S. T. Warrington, extension economist, University Farm, St. Paul, after reviewing the foregoing figures relative to estimated pork supplies, and after studying domestic and foreign consumer demand outlook, believes that little hope is in sight for favorable hog prices to producers this fall. In fact, says Warrington, lower prices are in prospect for hogs during the coming year. The price decline during the fall months is likely to be very severe if domestic and foreign demand does not improve considerably.

Although domestic demand for pork products is on a slightly improved level and our exports of pork and lard products are considerably above exports of the immediate past few years, U. S. producers have been unable to regain but a small part of the annual export outlet for approximately 25,000,000 hogs which they enjoyed 15 years ago.

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A1177 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 6, 1939

Release

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1939

Spraying dairy cows as a protection from flies may be more harmful than the flies, according to H. R. Searles, extension dairy husbandman at University Farm, St. Paul. Most sprays, if used in such an amount as to make the hair wet, will cause blistering and the result will be a greater decrease in milk flow than if no spray had been used.

According to entomologists at University Farm, flies can best be controlled in their breeding places--the manure piles, garbage dump, and decaying straw and vegetable matter, but where flies can be attracted in large numbers, as in dairy barns, fly sprays should be used. It is seldom practical to make fly sprays at home, but cheaper to purchase ready made fly spray of guaranteed pyrethrum content. Flies actually hit by enough oil and pyrethrum are killed; others temporarily paralyzed. So flies that are knocked down should be swept up and burned.

To kill flies during the milking period, spray the barn as soon as the cows are in their stalls, being careful not to get too much on the cows.

When milking a great deal of the discomfort can be removed by darkening the barn and painting the windows blue with some water paint, says Searles.

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A1175 - mh

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 6, 1939

Release

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1939

To Miss Marie Hoffman of Faribault, Rice county, went top honors in the Minnesota state egg meal menu contest held at University Farm, St. Paul today (Thursday). Eggs made a very conspicuous showing among the cooking ingredients assembled as nine Minnesota women matched their skill in this contest sponsored by the Minnesota Consumer Program committee of the World's Poultry congress with Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist, University Farm, in charge.

Miss Hoffman will be numbered among state titlists from whom 20 will be selected to go to Cleveland at the time of the World's Poultry Congress, July 28-August 7, and try for the national award of $1,000. Scoring 86 1/3 points out of a possible 100, she prepared a dish made of creamed eggs and chicken in rice ring with saute mushrooms.

Placing second was Mrs. E. M. Patch, Wayzata, who entered a dessert of angelfood cake, custard and strawberries. Mrs. F. C. Peterson of Detroit Lakes, was third place winner with a chicken pudding and bechamel sauce. Others who took part in the state contest were Mrs. Elmer J. Howard, Sebecca, Miss Kathryn Dolan, Duluth, Miss Aquina Shea, Glyndon, Mrs. A. G. Rouse, 614 Lake St., Minneapolis, Mrs. Theo. Thisius, Wells, and Mrs. Edith Kempton, Duluth.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 11, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Honors came in triplicate to T. A. Erickson, Minnesota 4-H club leader at University Farm, St. Paul, when he attended the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D. C., recently.

For the second time he was elected national chairman of the committee which studies and directs 4-H policies and programs. Then, he received a letter and statement from Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace commending him upon his 25 years of "faithful service in helping to forward the 4-H club movement." Finally, in token of "Dad" Erickson's quarter century of service, he was presented with an autographed picture of the National 4-H Club Camp by C. W. Warburton, director of the Extension Service in the United States Department of Agriculture.

A1180 -MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 11, 1939

Release

Thursday, July 13.

Former students of the Minnesota School of Agriculture, University Farm, and all friends of agricultural education in the state are invited to meet at Hutchinson, Saturday, July 15, to honor Professor W. W. Pendergast, first principal of the School. The event is a part of the Golden Anniversary celebration of the school this year, and has been arranged by J. A. Vye of South Haven, R. S. Mackintosh, University Farm, St. Paul, and Torger Hoverstad, St. Paul.

The program will begin at 10:30 with a tour of Professor Pendergast's former home, a visit to the "old farm", historical rooms, and other points of interest around Hutchinson. At noon there will be a picnic dinner either in the park or the school building.

John W. Olsen, former superintendent of public instruction in Minnesota, will open the afternoon program speaking on "Professor Pendergast, The Educator", following which Carroll E. Payne of Northfield and Andrew Boss, former vice-director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station will speak. Principal address of the day will be given by J. O. Christianson, superintendent of the School of Agriculture at University Farm. He will discuss, "Professor Pendergast and the School of Agriculture". Mr. Mackintosh will show stereoptican views of the School.

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A1181 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 11, 1939

Release

THURSDAY, evening papers
July 13, 1939

At the present time, the cost of buying an average dairy cow, relative to the price of butterfat, is the highest on record in the history of Minnesota, say W. C. Waite and W. B. Garver of the Agricultural Economics division, University Farm, St. Paul.

At 27¢ per pound in May, farmers were required to market 370 pounds of butterfat to pay the purchase price for a cow. At 370 pounds, the ratio is the highest on record. It dropped as low as 128 pounds in May, 1923.

According to these authorities, the extremely high ratio at present indicates that it is a good time to cull dairy herds closely. The high price of milk cows in the face of low butterfat prices appears to forecast further expansion of dairy herds with resulting increased production.

Whether such expansion is wise, depends, of course, upon the future of feed prices and butterfat prices, the latter, in turn, depends on consumer buying power and to some extent upon support given to the dairy market by government programs. The price of feed relative to the price of butterfat, is dependent to some extent upon this year's crop, but barring drouth or other disasters, the butterfat-feed price ratio will probably not drop much below present levels, say Waite and Garver.

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A1182 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 11, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Beautiful Itasca State Park at the headwaters of the Mississippi will be the setting for the fifth annual Biological Station Summer Session of the University of Minnesota July 31 to September 1. The Biological station is situated on the east shore of Lake Itasca only a mile away from a group of ancient Indian mounds, and is surrounded by virgin forests and innumerable lakes. Here, in this natural setting, elementary and advanced courses in the several fields of biology will be offered biologists, teachers, and students, as well as others interested in nature study and conservation.

The same scholastic standards are maintained at the station as on the campus of the University of Minnesota, and University credit is given for satisfactory work. However, some may prefer to take courses for self-improvement without credit at this "third" campus of the University. Well-known University staff members make up the summer session faculty, including Dr. William A. Riley, chief of entomology at University Farm; Dr. Samuel Eddy, associate professor of zoology, University of Minnesota; Gustav A. Swanson, in charge of wild life management, and Clyde M. Christensen, plant pathologist, both from the University Farm campus.

Among the pines and birches stand the log dormitory cabins and laboratories. The entire camp grounds, all laboratory and dormitory buildings are electrically lighted and modern.

For a minimum amount of expense, students may enjoy both an excellent University session and five weeks in one of the most famous vacation spots of Northern Minnesota.

The Biological Station Summer session is in charge of Dr. A. A. Granovsky of the entomology division, University Farm. For complete details and a copy of the summer session bulletin, write University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

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A1183 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 14, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Probably nobody ever saw, at one time, as many boys and girls as are enrolled in 4-H clubs through out the country--more than a million and a quarter of them.

In the 4-H club exhibit at the 7th World's Poultry Congress, Cleveland, Ohio, July 28 to August 7, the Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture will give some idea of what a million and a quarter boys and girls would look like. According to T. A. Erickson, state club leader, University Farm, St. Paul, it will show if all the 4-H club members in the country were to march single file, all in one long line, the line would be more than 700 miles long, and would extend from University Farm to the World's Congress in Cleveland. Eight Minnesota 4-H'ers and two leaders will attend the Congress.

A special feature of the exhibit will be a brooder full of baby chicks. The brooder was made by an extension poultry specialist especially for 4-H members and others who want to go into poultry in a small way. The brooder, a two-story structure, is heated by an old fashioned oil lamp, requires a space only 10 feet long and 5 feet wide, and is large enough to raise 50 or more chicks to frying age. The lamp in the lower story throws heat up against the tin floor and its covering of sand on the second story. The chicks rest on the warm sand in cold weather, and run on a screened-in sunporch adjoining the brooder in warm weather.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 14, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

On many farms early summer milk production is already on the decline. Good pasture, either native or rotation, while growth is abundant, will supply adequate food material for medium milk yield provided the cows are not driven to shelter by mosquitoes or flies, says E. A. Hanson, extension dairyman, University Farm, St. Paul. Where cows do not graze regularly, good hay or a simple grain mixture should be offered, for loss of body weight and a drop in milk flow are sure signs of insufficient feed.

No other hay compares with alfalfa as a pasture supplement, according to Hanson. After cows become accustomed to alfalfa hay in the manger night and morning, they will eat from 5 to 10 pounds daily. Ten pounds of alfalfa is equal in feeding value to 7 pounds of a corn and oats mixture or to 30 pounds of silage. The 10 pounds of alfalfa have twice the protein content found in 7 pounds of corn and oats and three times the protein in 30 pounds of silage.

Hanson advises omitting grain except to the heaviest producing cows when alfalfa is fed along with pasture. When grain is fed, ground corn and oats make an excellent mixture with pasture. It may be fed at the rate of one pound for each 6 to 8 pounds of milk. Each dairy farmer must study his cows, their production and the quality of pasture and then feed supplements in such amounts as will maintain the desired production.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 14, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University of Minnesota Department of Agriculture, has recently been appointed chairman of the sub-committee on Educational Institutions of the Joint Committee on Christian Education. He will attend a meeting of the committee in Cincinnati, Monday and Tuesday, July 17 and 18, at the Netherland Plaza Hotel.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 14, 1938

Release
IMMEDIATE

At the request of the Norman county land use planning committee and some forty farmers in the Twin Valley and Gary neighborhood who recently requested a soil erosion land use project for that area, a group of soil conservation and University Farm specialists met with a committee of local citizens and agricultural leaders at Twin Valley on July 11 and 12 to survey the area that will be affected by the project and draw up a plan of work to be carried out in the area, reports M. A. Thorfinnson, extension soil conservationist, University Farm, St. Paul.

Following a field trip made over the area from Fyre to Gary, on the first day of the conference, M. M. Kelliher, assistant state coordinator of the Soil Conservation Service, and D. E. Perfect of the Regional Soil Conservation Service at Milwaukee, outlined objectives of the conference and presided over group discussions, recommendations of the conference committees are now being whipped into final shape, and it is expected that actual operations on the project will be started early in August, says Thorfinnson.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 18, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Once horses have been affected by the heat, they never fully recover, so it pays to take increased care of them during the summer months, says A. L. Harvey, animal husbandry division, University Farm, St. Paul. Horses at work in hot weather must be watched closely. To avoid overheating, work them early in the morning, late in the afternoon and in the evening. Allow them to rest often, and give them an extra pailful or two of water in the middle of the morning and afternoon.

Many horsemen follow the practice of sponging work horses with water when they come in from the field on hot days. Start at the head and work down and back over the shoulders, body and legs. Five minutes of this is long enough for each horse.

According to Harvey, symptoms of overheating are: A slowing up of the natural gait, a tendency to wobble in walking, rapid breathing, excessive dilation and redness of nostrils, watery and bloodshot eyes, and high temperature, accompanied by little or no sweating. If such symptoms are noticed, the horse should be taken to a shady place, its body sponged, and its legs showered with cold water. Its mouth and nostrils should be washed out and ice packs applied to the head. It is wise to call a veterinarian.

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A1184 - MB-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 18, 1939

Release not before
THURSDAY, JULY 20.

To conduct cooking and baking demonstrations throughout Minnesota will be the work of Ina B. Rowe, recently appointed to the Agricultural Extension Service at University Farm, St. Paul, announces Paul E. Miller, director.

Miss Rowe plans to feature the nutritional value of the more common food products and will especially emphasize dairy products in her demonstrations. She will work through county agricultural agents and home demonstration agents, cooperating with the Minnesota Dairy Industry Committee, commercial clubs and newspapers and other local organizations in holding the cooking schools in the counties. This is the first time anyone has been available from the Extension Service for this type of work.

Miss Rowe has had wide experience in demonstrating, having conducted cooking schools and demonstrations for nationally known companies throughout the United States. Miss Rowe has also contributed articles on household subjects to well-known magazines of national circulation. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she received her Master of Science degree from Columbia University.

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A1185 - MF

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 18, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

S. T. Warrington, agricultural economist with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service at University Farm, will be one of the speakers at the fifteenth annual American Institute of Cooperation. The Institute will be held the week of August 7 at the University of Chicago. Warrington, speaking on the program of the livestock marketing section, will discuss operation problems of cold storage locker plants.

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A1186 - MB

Dr. O. B. Jesness, chief of the agricultural economics division, University Farm, will have a prominent place on the program of the Colorado State Wool Growers Association meeting July 27 and 28 at Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Dr. Jesness will speak on "The Wool Grower and the Foreign Market" and "Agricultura--Whither Bound".

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A1187 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 18, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

R. W. Gregory, specialist in part-time and evening school work in the vocational division of the United States Office of Education, Washington, D. C., is guest-professor at University Farm, St. Paul, this week (July 17-20).

Mr. Gregory is instructing teachers of vocational agricultural education in Minnesota enrolled in the regular summer session, but also in the class are other teachers who have come in for this week only to take advantage of this special 4-day session. He will speak at a meeting of superintendents and principals enrolled in the College of Education and to University faculty members at 3:00 o'clock Thursday afternoon on the main campus of the University of Minnesota.

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A1188 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 20, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Corn with a government loan value of over ten and a half million dollars is stored on Minnesota farms, according to Charles W. Stickney, state AAA committee chairman.

A total of over 1/8 million bushels of corn is sealed in the state under more than 28,000 loans. Of the total, 16 million bushels are ear corn of the 1938 crop, and 2 million bushels of the 1937 harvest were sealed last fall as both ear and shelled corn. The loan rate of 57 cents per bushel was the same for both programs. On 1937 corn, one and one-fourth million dollars was loaned under the resealing program. On the 1938 crop, nine and one-fourth million dollars was advanced.

" The money loaned under these programs does not begin to measure the benefits farmers received," Stickney said. "Loans were made at a time when market prices of corn were well below the sealing rate. Placing corn under government loan saved Minnesota farmers at least $2,000,000. Furthermore, this corn has been available on the farm for sale or for the feeding of hogs and cattle."

Both the 1938 and the 1937 renewed loans mature August 1, but no deliveries will be accepted until the size of the 1939 crop is determined. A new option, recently announced, is available to farmers with corn now under loan. They may reseal 1937 corn as shelled corn, and 1938 corn as either shelled or ear corn. The loans will be renewed at their present rate of 57 cents per bushel plus a storage allowance to the farmer and will run for 12 months, or until August 1, 1940. Farmers may also repay the present loan or release the corn to the government, if they so choose.

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A1190 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 20, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Because of light rain in Southeast Minnesota early this spring, erosion control practices weren't put to the test as "soil savers", but the "runoff" they stored in the ground may prove valuable to crops in case of drouth.

That was the comment Herbert Flueck, state coordinator for the Soil Conservation Service, made recently following a survey of erosion control demonstrations in project and camp areas.

"While erosion control practices weren't put to the test as soil savers, they increased the proportion of rain absorbed by the soil," Flueck said.

"Such erosion control practices as terracing, strip cropping, and contour farming are designed to conserve both soil and moisture," he explained.

"The only way to keep water from washing away soil is to break its force, slow it down, and reduce the actual volume of runoff. Naturally, this means increased absorption -- a factor as important to crops in dry years as it is to the soil in wet years."

Farmers in 4 project and 9 CCC camp areas are cooperating with the Soil Conservation Service and the University Farm, St. Paul, in erosion control demonstrations. In the Burns-Homer-Pleasant soil conservation district, farmers are entering into cooperative soil conservation agreements with the district supervisors.

A staff of Soil Conservation Service technicians has been assigned to the district and is helping farmers plan and carry out their soil-saving programs.

Two other districts are being organized in the state.

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A1191 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 20, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Representatives from 13 states, comprising the central region, will attend an extension conference on nutrition, marketing and 4-H club work at the University of Minnesota, Monday through Wednesday (July 24-26), announces Paul E. Miller, director of agricultural extension service, University Farm, St. Paul. Meetings will be held at the Continuation Center on the Minneapolis campus.

A number of extension workers from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., will speak at the conferences, many of which will be for the three groups jointly.

Eva Blair and Ines Hebart, extension nutrition specialists on the home demonstration staff at University Farm are in charge of the program for the nutrition section. Speakers include H. W. Hochbaum, chief of the division of field coordination, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. Donald K. Tressler, chief in research, Geneva Experiment Station, New York; Grace E. Frysinger, and Miriam Birdseye, both of the United States Department of Agriculture.

On the program of the marketing section will be A. G. Black, head of the marketing and marketing agreements section, W. B. Stout, senior economist in livestock marketing, and Bruce Silcox, extension economist in dairying, all from the U. S. D.A.

The 4-H club office also announces several prominent speakers on their program. States represented include Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

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All 9 2 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 24, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesota's champion egg menu contestant, Marie Hoffman of Caledonia, Houston county, has just received word that she has been selected one of 20 from the entire nation to compete for the national title and a cash prize of $1000 at Cleveland, Ohio, the week of July 30. The event will be a part of the World's Poultry Congress and is sponsored by its Consumer Program Committee.

Miss Hoffman won the state title in a 'cook-off' at University Farm, St. Paul, early in July, when she scored highest in a field of nine contestants chosen for the excellence of their menus using eggs. The state event was conducted by the Minnesota Consumer Program committee with Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist, University Farm, in charge.

The winning recipe is as follows:

Creamed Eggs and Chicken in Rice Ring with Sauted Mushrooms

4 hard cooked eggs
1 c. diced cooked chicken
1½ c. medium white sauce
2 cups cooked rice
Small can mushrooms
½ dozen stuffed olives
Parsley

Shell eggs and cut in quarters lengthwise. Pour white sauce over the eggs and diced chicken. Saute mushrooms in melted butter. Mold the hot rice in a ring mold and turn out on a large plate. Fill ring with creamed eggs and chicken, covering with the sauted mushrooms. Sprinkle shredded parsley over the rice ring. Serve immediately. (6 servings).

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All93 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
July 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, August 2, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

The Colt Is Named.

Way back in May, I told the good news that Topsy, Bud's Morgan mare, had a nice new colt and offered a prize for a suitable name. Since then, 20 suggestions have been received, and the family has held solemn conclave to decide the momentous question.

We went over the list of names slowly and eliminated some. Frank wouldn't do, because the colt isn't of that persuasion. Tillie-the-Toiler was suggested, but she's too fickle. We don't want our colt to be like that. Fern and Elmer Dahms of Winnebago sent in a list of good names, but they didn't seem to strike the family fancy. Frank, John and Beulah Strandberg of Butterfield sent in a fine lot of names and my choice was Tipsy. I thought that would go well with Topsy and Tango, but Bud said when that colt was trained, she would never be Tipsy, so that was out.

Dollar was suggested, and certainly a horse with such a name ought to go fast, but it didn't just fit this colt. We'll name a good Percheron colt Dollar, in honor of Mr. Holmes Pedelty of Triumph, Minn. Tangle, Tangee and Tempo, were submitted by Audrey Christenson of Butterfield, and all of them hit the spot. I voted for Tangee, but the rest wouldn't accept it. No second prizes were offered, but I'm sending a dollar to Audrey and to Beulah Strandberg for thinking up such good names.

We also liked Tagne, by Mrs. F. H. Griffin of Good Thunder. Mrs. Griffin gave us a good dog story which we used about a year ago. She is also helping to grow Thornless Honey Locust trees, having sent seed to Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan. Requests for seed have come in from 10 states so far, and it's fun to think of all the birds' nests that could be built if all the seed we have sent out grows into nice trees.

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What did we finally name the colt? Oh yes, I almost forgot. Mother and the kids all picked the same name -- Tally-Ho, submitted by Emil Dugstad of Mankato. The $2.00 prize was mailed to him in June. Perhaps some day he'll be going past and drop in to see the baby. I'd like to meet him.

If you are interested in the riding horses, Bud has been riding the 2-year-old, Tango, this summer. He put the saddle on her a few times and led her around, and then put Shorty on the saddle. Tango took it all quietly, though she was rather puzzled at times. Seeing that nothing happened, Bud got on bareback, and now he's teaching her to single foot and neck rein.

We'll have to buy another saddle. I like a stock saddle, and have been trying to persuade a neighbor to part with his, but haven't been successful so far. I'd rather have a good old one than a cheap new one.

By the time Tally-Ho is old enough to ride, Shorty will be too big for her pony and she will probably take over the training of the colt. Thank you all for suggesting names. It has been a lot of fun.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
July 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, August 9, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Crack the Seed.

The story is told of a middle-aged maiden lady who went to a seed store and blushingly asked to buy a small package of wild oats. The kind of wild oats she may have had in mind seems to grow in any season, in any weather, though they are more or less inhibited by drouth.

The wild oats which bother the crops, however, are extremely wary of when and where they grow. Seed maturing this year must go thru a dormant period and be subjected to low temperatures, before it will germinate. One of the most interesting things to learn about plants is the rules and customs or "instincts" which each group has built up for its own protection.

Most weed seeds will live in the ground for several years waiting for just the right combination of conditions to occur. Mustard will live over 50 years if buried, and grow when it is brought to the surface. This makes it impossible to kill weeds in our fields by preventing their growth. The only way to get the best of the deal is to encourage them to start and then slaughter them in a big way.

Some weeds such as wild oats, mustard, wild peas, etc. will germinate best when the weather is cool as it is in the spring. Others like purselane, foxtail (pigeon grass) and pig weed or red root, start best when the weather is warm. Almost all of them need to be very near the surface and have moisture to break their dormancy. A seedbed which is good for crops is also good for most weeds.

In school we learned that fall plowing should be left rough over winter, and undoubtedly that has advantages, but there is an excellent chance to fool the weed seeds if grain land can be plowed, disked and dragged right away this month. There

(more)

will still be enough hot weather to make the summer weeds think they should rise and shine. Then the fall weather will approximate that of spring and some of those trouble makers will start. Sometimes two crops of weeds can be killed in one fall. Then, in the spring the ground is smooth and another army of recruits gets started in time to be eliminated during spring work.

Last spring we dragged a loaded stone boat across one field before it was planted to corn. The weeds came so fast in the path that was smoothed and packed that it was easily seen until the corn covered it. Maybe it would pay to plant all the corn fields a bit earlier, so as to start more weeds before the corn is planted.

Weeds usually hurt our crops more than any other one thing and we're always trying to find some way to get rid of them with the least possible expense. How would you do it?

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
July 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, August 16, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS
By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Mud Baths

Every time I see hogs enjoying a mud wallow, it reminds me of the fun we had as boys along the river bank. The mud flats wouldn't particularly appeal to me now, but we used to work up soupy messes of black silt and water and roll in them to get a good "color". The warm mud felt good to our hides, and it must feel good to the pigs.

Swine do not have sweat glands in their skins and they cannot cool off as men and horses do by putting out a perspiration whose evaporation will lower the temperature of the blood. That's why hogs can't be chased around on a hot day, why they so often die from over-heating, and why a bucket of cold water, thrown on an overheated pig is often fatal. Too sudden a change of temperature drives the blood to the heart and lungs in such quantities as to overtax these organs.

Pigs crave a puddle of water where they can cool off gradually before they get too hot, and wise herdsmen provide shade and a wallow of some sort, especially for the older hogs, because pig comfort usually means better gains with less feed, fewer losses and more profit. Wallows also provide an easy way to kill parasites, such as lice or mites, which cause thick skins and irritation.

When the pigs have dug a hole, a few pails of water will keep it interesting. Then dip or used crank case oil can be added which will kill the bugs and keep the skin smooth, healthy and comfortable. We used to oil the pigs with a sprinkling can or smear it on with a paint brush, sometimes getting as much on our overalls as on the pigs.

(more)

Wed., August 16, 1939

Now we pour a 5-gallon can of used oil, hauled from the filling station down town, into a pig wallow and let the old sows do their own smearing. They are just crazy to get into it. For young pigs we have soaked sawdust with oil and bedded their sheds. This has worked out very nicely because the pigs seem to enjoy it, their coats are slick and shiny, with no "bugs" that we can find.

Some people object to the holes in the yards, and of course it is possible to avoid these by making portable wallows, built of plank on skids. Asphalt paint will fill the cracks if they are not too large. When the pigs learn to use these "clean" bath tubs, dip or oil may be poured in, which will float on top of the water and stick to every pig who goes in or out.

We also built some shades of poles on posts, thatched with Sudan grass bundles, which have been very effective and inexpensive. We believe that comfortable hogs are conducive to comfortable incomes.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
July 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, August 23, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Sun Power

When there are few clouds in the skies these late August days, the old sun makes himself felt in earnest, heating the earth and the air to almost the limit of our endurance. At such times we would like to hide from his direct rays, forgetting how pleasant he was last spring and overlooking his vital importance to our welfare.

The bathing beauty may regard the sun only as an agency for tanning her back, but a farmer realizes that the sun is nature's power plant, where she generates energy to operate her numerous and intricate mechanisms essential to life. The sun's heat on a green leaf is nature's chosen way of rearranging chemical elements for reuse.

The sun grew the oats and hay which furnish fuel for the horse I ride or drive. It grew the corn and grass to make the beefsteak I had for dinner yesterday. It grew the plants which were further processed to furnish the coal we will need next winter, the sugar we use for canning, the gas to run old Betsy, the disinfectant for our cuts, and the surface for our black top roads.

All this is possible because we stay just the right distance away from the old reliable source of heat. Astronomers have calculated that 93 million miles is just close enough to get sufficient heat and energy to support life. Isn't it fortunate that this earth is situated in just the proper location for us to live on it! Think of the swarms of people who have used the products provided by the sun in the last million years!

(more)

Wed., August 23, 1939

We probably get a lot of things from the sun which we know nothing about, and a few which we are just beginning to discover. We have some idea of how sunshine prevents rickets, and have evidence that sun-cured hay has qualities not possessed by hay cured in the shade. We have some information on how the sun acts as a disinfectant in certain cases and the opposite in others. We are just beginning to discover what the sun is good for.

Will some future scientist discover how to store some of this heat for winter use more directly than in the form of combustible plants? Will someone work out a method of using the sun's heat directly for operating machinery? We have learned how to cool our homes in summer and heat them in winter. What will be the next step?

It's interesting, but too hot right now to do much thinking or any more work than is necessary. I think I'll leave future developments to someone else and go swimming in the bath tub. That's an old way to cool off, but it's still effective.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
July 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, August 30, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Rows of Corn

It is a lot of satisfaction to look over a fine field of corn or wander up and down the lanes between the tall stalks and feel that one has had a part in making this magnificent achievement possible. Of course we recognize that God, or Nature if you will, provided the corn plant, the soil, the air, the water, the sunshine, and the spark of life or will to grow which is the essential part of every viable seed.

Nevertheless Nature, if left to herself, would have had no use for 100 bushels of corn per acre, and would never have produced it. It was man, with his unsatisfied desire to try new things, to improve his conditions, to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks, that tamed the wild sod and made modern hybrids out of the runty, flinty ears that Nature gave us to begin with.

Of course it was Nature that provided man with this insistent curiosity, and also with the mental ability to slowly and painstakingly learn her secrets as he became increasingly able to use them. Of course a vast army of men, living over a long period of years, had a part in making this present miracle possible. There were Indians, pioneers, scientists who never saw a corn plant, and farmers who worked out their own theories with prodigious mental and physical efforts. There were engineers, blacksmiths, miners, chemists, and keen businessmen who make it possible for us to have modern machinery with which to work the soil.

Every article used on the farm has a long and interesting history, illustrating how man has gradually made his environment more comfortable by specialization,

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research, and partial understanding of the forces of nature. All of these forces, working in such divergent lines, have finally come to a focus right here in a field of corn. This is one end-result of the energies of countless men, and a million years of time as we reckon it.

No man can say he produced a field of corn, and yet he can take full satisfaction in the thought that he brought together all the best products suited to the work and combined them skillfully so that this masterpiece of utility and beauty could be realized. Top crops don't just happen. They result from the most intelligent efforts of men, combined with the beneficence of God.

Walking between the ripening corn, noting the heavy ears all even in height, the straight, sturdy stalks, the full stand, the absence of weeds -- who can help a thrill of pride and a warm glow of pleasure. To know that one has prepared the ground, chosen the seed, planted it accurately, and cared for it efficiently, gives a feeling of partnership with the Almighty in a successful enterprise.

Farming is more than a business. It is an art, a craft, a way of living. Many of the rewards can never be measured in money, but come from the inner satisfaction in a task well done, from labor well spent, from forces efficiently utilized. A good corn field is a credit to the God of Nature and the skill of man.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 24, 1930

Release

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.

Grass clippings make an ideal mulch and fertilizer for perennials in flower gardens, or for rhubarb and other plants in the vegetable garden, says R. A. Gortner, chief of the agricultural biochemistry division, University Farm, St. Paul. Rich in nitrogen, lawn clippings contain a relatively small amount of fiber.

Place the clippings around perennials in layers up to 4 or 5 inches thick. They will decompose rapidly, and the nitrogen will leach down into the soil providing an excellent fertilizer.

Usually the clippings will completely decompose during the summer season, and if allowed to remain in place over the winter, practically all of the fertilizing elements will be incorporated into the soil.

Lawn clippings will conserve moisture and keep down weeds; furthermore, they will provide a footing so that the garden can be entered shortly after a rain, according to Gortner.

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A1194 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 24, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. W. A. Billings, veterinarian of the agricultural extension service, University Farm, St. Paul, will have a prominent part in events of interest to turkey growers at the World's Poultry Congress, Cleveland, Ohio, July 28 to August 7.

Monday, July 31, he will attend a meeting of the All-American Turkey Committee, and the following day will speak on turkey feeding problems. Dr. Billings will act as a host at a unique banquet to be served at the Carter Hotel, Cleveland, Tuesday evening. The dinner, in honor of foreign delegates, will duplicate as nearly as possible a Thanksgiving dinner as served in the avera American home. Speaking engagements also include a symposium of the American Veterinary Medical Association and a popular program on turkey diseases. Dr. Billings will be in charge of the turkey booth at the Congress for one day.

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A1195 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 27, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

An agricultural extension bulletin, "Hog Health Makes Wealth", by H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman, won first place in national competition, according to word received at University Farm, St. Paul, today. The contest was held as a part of the annual convention of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, this week.

Other national honors won by Minnesota include first place in the descriptive photo class; second in radio transcriptions and a group of five radio talks; third place in the technical bulletin class and honorable mention for newspaper short paragraphs.

The entries were submitted by the Publications Office at University Farm of which H. L. Harris is editor. E. W. Aiton, extension publicity specialist, and Mr. Harris are attending the convention.

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A1196 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 25, 1939

Release

Thursday, JULY 27.

If anybody can do it, 4-H club members are able to make their livestock show a return for their investment in stock, feed and labor, says W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman, University Farm, after summarizing the results of the first 4-H Club Western Lamb Feeding Project for this state.

In this special advanced 4-H activity for 1938-39, Morris reports that 152 boys and girls purchased 2,441 western feeder lambs of usual quality. Average net return per lamb, after the members deducted the costs of feeding and purchasing their stock, was 85 cents each. The 10 members with the most profitable flocks secured an average return of $1.35 per lamb, while the 10 who received the lowest returns averaged 35 cents per lamb above feed costs, says Morris. This project is a part of the regular 4-H program in the state, sponsored by the University Extension Service and supervised by local county agents. Rules require each member to buy, feed, and care for at least 15 lambs for a period of 90 to 100 days.

At the end of the contest period 4 exhibits or shows were held at Windom, Austin, Glenwood, and Crookston. Each show featured an inspection and grading demonstration by a packing house expert who grouped the entire lot of 2,441 lambs into 4 classes according to their finish and condition for the market. The top groun contained 749 "choice" lambs. There were 1,185 "good" lambs, 401 "medium" lambs and only 106 were judged to be too thin for slaughter and placed in a "feeder" group. Following exhibition and grading, all lambs were sold.

A1197 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 27, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Farmer co-ops, now doing a business of almost two billion dollars annually, are devoting increasing attention to improving market distribution as a means of bolstering agricultural income, it was reported today (Tuesday), before the Central States Regional Extension Conference by E. A. Stokdyk, deputy governor of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C. The conference is being held this week at the Continuation Study Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

In addition to stimulating demand through advertising, Stokdyk stated, the farmer agencies are giving major attention to the timing of sales, and to the allocation of available supplies with "equal pressure" on each market.

"One of the most important directions in which they are centering activity is in grading and packaging to meet the pocketbooks of various income groups," he said. "This involves recognition of the simple fact that not all consumers have large incomes or demand top quality.

"While there is magic to the farmer in high quotations for top grades, it must be recognized that greater total returns can often be obtained by grading and packing for those with low or medium income. Except for products which depend for their quality upon sanitation, ordinary quality which is wholesome may be all that is required."

Many of the cooperatives are gearing their sales program to reduce the spreads between the producer and the consumer, Stokdyk continued.

"By inducing retailers to take a reasonable instead of an excessive margin, co-ops in many ihstances are materially increasing the number of units sold. When wholesale prices are cut to move a given supply, however, the cut must be sufficient to influence the retail price, or little is accomplished as far as either the producer or the consumers are concerned."

In the timing of sales, the speaker said, the co-ops have abandoned the procedure of selling one-twelfth of the year's supply each month. Many of them employ trained economists to analyze seasonal swings in demand, and attempt to gauge their sales to their proportionate share of the total crop.

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A1198 - LB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 20, 1939

Release Not Before
SUNDAY, JULY 23, 1939

When the American Institute of Cooperation meets in Chicago August 7 to 11, it will scan the possibilities that may result from closer cooperation between industrial and labor groups and agricultural interests, says S. T. Warrington, extension agricultural economist at University Farm, St. Paul. Warrington is scheduled to take part in the institute's program when more than 100 speakers and discussion leaders will appraise and study the agricultural cooperative movement.

Two entire sessions of the 5-day Institute conference on the University of Chicago campus will be devoted to explorative discussions of inter-group cooperation. Each afternoon commodity group conferences will be held on livestock, dairy, and poultry marketing and cooperative purchasing. Emphasis will be placed on new developments affecting the field of cooperative marketing. In this connection, Warrington will discuss operating problems of cold storage lockers.

Other topics to be considered include the relation between the governmental monetary policies and farm prices, the question of new markets abroad for surplus American products, interstate commerce and federal anti-trust statutes. The education of cooperators--both present cooperative members and youths who will be future members--is to receive detailed study at the Institute sessions.

Several thousand visitors from all parts of the United States are expected to attend this fifteenth annual meet, according to Charles W. Holman, secretary of the American Institute of Cooperation, Washington, D. C.

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A1189 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 26, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, JULY 28.

With registrants from several states expected, the second summer session of the University of Minnesota will open its five-week's field course in conservation and natural sciences at Itasca State Park, Monday, July 31. Headquarters for the school will be the University's Forestry and Biological Station on Lake Itasca.

Headed by Dr. A. A. Granovsky of the University Farm division of entomology, this school will offer instruction in different phases of botany, entomology, forestry, plant pathology, and zoology for college undergraduates, high school teachers of biology and others interested in the natural sciences. The aim is to stimulate and promote a better knowledge of Minnesota's rich native plant and animal life. Graduate students wishing to carry on biological investigations may also enroll.

Assisting Dr. Granovsky on the faculty will be several well-known professors from the botany, entomology, forestry, plant pathology and zoology staffs of the University, as well as several guest professors from other institutions.

Dr. Granovsky says the courses to be given at this summer school are open to all qualified graduate and undergraduate students who have had the usual preliminary courses in biological subjects, as well as qualified high school graduates. Several courses are especially designed for teachers of biological subjects in high schools and public schools. Those desiring college credit should submit their credentials.

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
July 28, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

In view of the indicated corn supply, farmers are urged by _____, chairman (member) of the _____ county AAA committee, to help in supporting corn prices this fall by applying for extensions on present loans.

The July crop report estimates the 1939 corn crop at 2,570,795,000 bushels, as compared with 2,542, 238,000 in 1938, and a 10-year average of 2,309,674,000 bushels. The reserve carried over from previous years is expected to be about 400,000,000 bushels at harvest.

"In spite of a smaller acreage planted to corn this year than in 1938," _____ said, "the harvest is likely to be larger. Increased use of hybrid seed, together with unusually favorable weather conditions, are responsible for the expected higher production. In addition to the 1939 crop, we will have a reserve about twice as large as normal, but still believed by many to be too small for protection in the possible extreme situations which might arise. About 257,000,000 bushels of this reserve is covered by AAA corn loans which mature August 1.

"At this time, to dump corn under loan, onto the market would only help to drive corn prices lower than they are. By applying for an extension on existing loans, farmers can keep corn under seal on the farm, and thus reduce the possibility of

(More)

ruinously low corn prices which might lead to an over-expansion in livestock production."

Outstanding loans on 1937 and 1938 corn may be extended until August 1, 1940 at 57 cents per bushel. To encourage farmers to retain their corn, the program provides for the payment of six cents per bushel for storage if corn is delivered in payment of the loan at the end of the extended period. No payments will be made if the price of corn is higher at the end of the period than the loan rate plus carrying and storage charges, but it will be received in effect through higher corn prices.

However, if to make room for the 1939 crop, a farmer finds it necessary to provide additional storage facilities, at the time the loan is renewed, he may obtain an advance equal to the storage payment. This advance is to be used only for the purpose of providing cribs and bins, and will be in the form of an additional lien against the stored corn.

"Farmers lacking storage space will find the advance provision an economical way to secure necessary fuhds for such purposes", _____ pointed out. "By keeping corn on the farm where it belongs, farmers can assure themselves of a supply whenever it is needed."

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 2, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

For the best results when seeding a lawn, choose a time between the middle of August and September 10, advises L. E. Longley, horticulturist at University Farm. While the best type of soil for a lawn is a moderately heavy loam or sandy loam surface soil with a finely-textured sub-soil, usually it is necessary to use the soil that is available.

Plow or spade over the ground and cultivate to keep out weeds two or three months before seeding it; if possible during this period, add some type of fertilizer high in phosphorus, says Longley. Other fertilizers containing nitrogen may be added later as a top dressing.

Kentucky bluegrass makes about the best permanent lawn grass for Minnesota, although other varieties such as red fescue, creeping bent grass and velvet bent grass are desirable under some conditions. Longley suggests seeding a mixture of 6 parts Kentucky bluegrass, 2 parts red top; 1 part perennial rye grass, and 1 part white clover. Use 3 to 4 pounds of the mixture for each 1,000 square feet of lawn surface.

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A1199 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 2, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

If sufficient liquid skim milk is available on the farm, there is little reason to buy dried milk to feed the poultry, says H. J. Sloan of the poultry department, University Farm, St. Paul. If allowance is made for the water in liquid skim milk, it may be considered equal to the dried form in feeding value.

When enough milk is fed to replace water entirely, only one-fourth to one-third the usual amount of protein supplements will be needed in the mash. Be sure birds have milk available at all times if they are to depend upon it as the chief source of protein. When milk replaces meat scrap in the mash, one pound of bonemeal should be added for each 5 pounds of meat scrap omitted unless there is still 10 per cent or more of meat scrap in the ration.

If the supply is limited so that water as well as milk must be fed, the protein supplements in the mash may be reduced one third to one half. When only small amounts of milk are available, feed it in addition to the regular ration to either growing chicks or laying hens, says Sloan.

Milk protein is highly digestible, of good quality for poultry, and one of the cheapest and handiest sources of Vitamin G, which is essential for good growth and hatchability.

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A1300 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 2, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1939

Planting raspberries in late fall may be desirable in some localities where heavy soils or frequent rains are likely to delay planting in the spring, say W. G. Brierley and J. D. Winter of the horticulture staff, University Farm. In a publication of the Agricultural Extension service, Bulletin 199, "Growing Red Raspberries", they recommend that if the field is to be planted in the fall, only well-matured planting stock should be used and the soil well supplied with moisture.

Included in this 16-page bulletin is information on suitable locations, preparation of soil, systems and methods of planting, pruning, winter covering, control of insects, picking methods and types of containers.

According to the authors, the Latham variety, developed by the University of Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm, has shown that it is by far the best variety for southern and eastern Minnesota. It is hardy, vigorous and productive. The berries are large, with attractive color and are easily picked and hold up well in the market. For many localities in western Minnesota and the Red River Valley, Brierley and Winter recommend the Chief. However, this variety is not always satisfactory for shipping.

Copies of Extension Bulletin 199 may be obtained from county agricultural agents or by writing the Bulletin Office, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1201 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 7, 1939

Release -

Immediate

H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman at University Farm, St. Paul, had an idea that really bore fruit--in fact, last week this fruit, the "Northern Sweet" variety of watermelon,--beat all other local types to the Minnesota market.

In 1930, while in Russia, Zavoral bought a watermelon--a 12-pound round green striped melon. Its rind was thin, the seeds white, but the meat was dark red and far superior to any melon Zavoral had ever eaten. He saved the seeds and after returning to University Farm gave half to the horticulture division and planted the rest on his farm. After testing it thoroughly, the horticulture division named the variety "Northern Sweet" and distributed it widely. Today it holds first place among locally-grown melons, both as to flavor and early maturity.

The variety often ripens in 72 days, is a heavy yielder, and of a size easily kept in the refrigerator. Because of its thin rind, it is not a good type for shipping, must be picked when ripe and not allowed to remain on the vines too long.

A1202 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 7, 1939

Release -

Immediate

Minnesota lamb feeders should continue to receive favorable prices, says D. C. Dvoracek, extension specialist in marketing, University Farm, St. Paul. Slaughter supplies of spring lambs are expected to remain about steady until December 1 but demand for meat will probably be stronger.

The 1939 spring lamb crop of almost 32 million head, announced by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics on July 27, is about 1 per cent smaller than the 1938 record crop, says Dvoracek. All of the reduction of lambs was made this year in the western states. "Native" lamb-producing regions showed a slight increase.

The number of breeding ewes on farms is 2 per cent above last year and the highest on record. Early lambs coming to market have been poorer in quality than usual and it is expected that unfavorable western feed and pasture conditions will result in a larger than usual percentage of lambs of feeder quality reaching the market this fall.

A1203-(MB-NL)

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 7, 1939

Release -

Immediate

The number of boxes of strawberries picked in 1940 depends to a large extent on care given the strawberry bed from now until the first part of September, says E. M. Hunt, extension horticulturist at University Farm.

June-bearing varieties planted this spring should be cultivated every 10 days and as soon as possible after every rain. Do not disturb the young runner plants in the rows, and press them down so they will root quickly, advises Hunt. Rows 18 inches wide should have further runner growth stopped by means of the garden hoe or a runner-cutting disk attached to the cultivator. Cultivate the patch until the end of September and pick off any blossoms which appear the first season.

Old patches, which bore fruit this year, are useful only as producers of young plants. Mow off the old plants and burn them when sufficiently dry. Cut the rows down to an 8- to 12-inch width, by plowing the soil away from the rows into the aisles. Spread barnyard manure in the rows. Work down the ridges left by the plow, says Hunt, using a cultivator or harrow and then harrow the entire patch both crosswise and lengthwise. Tilt the harrow teeth back slightly so as not to damage the plants. Then, cultivate the patch as though it were new.

A1204 -- MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 11, 1939

Release - Immediate

The Minnesota Fruit Growers' association will tour the University Fruit Breeding Farm at Zumbra Heights, Monday, (August 14), according to J. D. Winter, horticulturist at University Farm and secretary of the Association. All fruit growers are invited to attend the event.

At 10 o'clock the group will meet at the fruit farm of Fred W. Braden, Wayzata, following which they will visit the Excelsior Fruit Growers' association packing plant. From 12:30 to 4 o'clock, the visitors will look over experiments at the Fruit Breeding Farm.

A1205- MB

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Dr. L. M. Winters, member of the animal husbandry staff at University Farm, St. Paul, left last week for Edinborough, Scotland, to attend the Seventh International Congress of Genetics, August 23 to 30.

Dr. Winters will present a paper at the animal breeding section of the Congress entitled, "Records of Performance for Meat Animals."

A1206- MB

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News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 11, 1939

Release - Immediate

An added attraction for 4-H club members taking part in the Minnesota State Fair competition, August 26-September 4, will be the 4-H Percheron Horse Judging contest in connection with the National Percheron Show. William A. Stewart, prominent Chicago horseman, will give a silver trophy to the winner, announces T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader, University Farm, St. Paul.

Nearly 1,000 4-H'ers are members of colt clubs. About 200 are expected to compete for the $1500 fair premiums including an additional $100 to be given in Percheron colt classes.

A1207- MB

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Three University Farm staff members will have prominent parts in the National Percheron show to be held in connection with the Minnesota State Fair, August 26-September 4. The University of Minnesota will exhibit 12 Percherons in competition with entries from all over the United States and Canada.

The University Farm staff members are Professor W. H. Peters, chief of the animal husbandry division, who will judge the special class on Percheron action and preside as chairman of the Breed Type Conference Monday, August 28. He will also be toastmaster at the Percheron Breeders' banquet at the Lowry Hotel, St. Paul, the following Wednesday evening. Professor A. L. Harvey will judge the special class for bone and set of feet and legs and will be chairman of the Breed Type conference, Tuesday afternoon, August 29. Joe Pearson, stud groom, will discuss the correct set of legs for Percheron horses at a meeting of the Breed Type conference.

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A1208- MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 11, 1939

Release -

Not before Wednesday,
August 16

Potato prices will be slightly higher than last year during the 1939-40 marketing season, believes D. C. Dvoracek, extension economist, in marketing, University Farm, St. Paul. The total United States indicated production of potatoes for this year is 366 million bushels, or 1.5 per cent less than last year's crop of 372 million bushels.

According to the July issue of the Minnesota Crop Reporter, the acreage of potatoes for harvest in Minnesota was placed at 239,000 acres, as compared with 230,000 acres last year. Crop prospects on July 1 indicated a 5 bushels per acre larger yield than the 90-bushel average yield of last year. The estimated potato production on July 1 for Minnesota, was 23 million bushels as compared with 21 million bushels last year.

The expected smaller total U. S. yield of potatoes, coupled with a generally stronger consumer demand, should assure higher prices for potato growers, says Dvoracek. Minnesota growers, with an estimated 2 million more bushels for sale, should be in position to take advantage of this higher price.

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A1209- MB (N)

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 16, 1939

Release - Immediate

The large black and orange colored spider common to Minnesota at this time of year is not the notorious Black Widow, says Dr. William A. Riley, chief in entomology at University Farm, St. Paul, in answer to numerous inquiries received in his office lately. It is the harmless Orange Garden spider and one of the orb weavers--so called, because it spins a very regular circular web for capturing its prey.

No authentic cases of bites

No authentic cases of bites by Black Widow spiders have been reported in this state and the few specimens of this spider have been collected by staff members of the Entomology division or students who made a special search for them, says Riley.

The Black Widow spider, whose bite is sometimes fatal, is a shiny, black spider with a bullet-shaped body about the size of a large pea marked on the underside by a red or orange colored hour-glass shaped spot. The spider spins an irregular coarse web of the cobweb type.

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A1210-MB

News Release
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 16, 1939

Release - Immediate

Originally set for September 5, 6, and 7, the dates for the annual poultry short course at University Farm, St. Paul, have been changed to September 7, 8, and 9, announces Dr. H. J. Sloan, head of the University Farm poultry department.

The course is given by the University's division of animal and poultry husbandry in cooperation with the Minnesota Poultry Improvement Board and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is intended primarily to provide special training for persons acting as flock-selecting agents and inspectors for hatcheries operating under the state and national poultry improvement plan. Instruction will emphasize culling for production and standard quality, and include subjects such as feeding, housing and general management of poultry flocks.

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A1211-MB

Dr. Lester O. Gilmore, assistant dairy husbandry specialist in the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service at University Farm, St. Paul, has been appointed extension dairyman at Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.

Gilmore was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1932, received his master's degree from Kansas State College in 1933, and this year was granted his doctor's degree at Minnesota. He has been assistant county agent and an instructor in dairy extension while a member of the University Farm staff.

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A1212--MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 16, 1939

Release - Friday, August 18

Two staff members from University Farm, St. Paul, will judge the first state-wide sheep shearing contest to be held in connection with the Minnesota State Fair on Thursday, August 31. They are P. A. Anderson of the animal husbandry staff, and W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman. Both have been actively interested in the development of the sheep industry in Minnesota.

Those who would like to compete in the contest may secure entry blanks from The Farmer Magazine, St. Paul, sponsor of the event and doner of the cash prizes offered. Only 20 competitors will be chosen for the contest, so entry blanks must be in by August 23. The event is limited to residents of Minnesota who have had machine experience in shearing.

The state winner will be eligible to represent Minnesota at the national sheep shearing contest to be held in connection with the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago next November.

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A1213-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 18, 1939

Release - Immediate

Two weeks at Camp Miniwanca in the famed wooded sand dunes of Western Michigan, was the coveted award Florence Koeps of Glyndon, Clay county, and Lloyd Shold, Grand Marais, Cook county, received for outstanding work as 4-H club members, according to T. A. Erickson, state club leader, University Farm, St. Paul. Florence attended the camp July30 to August 12, and Lloyd is now in camp.

Camp Miniwanca, on Lake Michigan, is held each year for young people interested in leadership, including training in "self-discovery", life planning and the development of a life philosophy.

Both Florence and Lloyd were selected as alternates for the National 4-H Club Camp at Washington, D. C., this year.

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A1214-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 18, 1939

Release - Immediate

Selected for their outstanding project and leadership achievements in 4-H club work, 21 Minnesota club girls will attend the rural girls' camp at University Farm, St. Paul, the 1939 Minnesota State Fair, announces T. A. Erickson, state club leader. A regular program of work, recreation and sightseeing trips is planned for this honor group.

Club girls chosen to attend are:

Dorothy Gripp, Tenstrike, Beltrami county; Ruth Riley, Amboy, Blue Earth county; Edna Nelson, Kasson, Dodge; Elin Greenquist, Evansville, Douglas; Virginia Trittelvitz, Wayzata, Hennepin; Persis Nelson, Houston, Houston; Myra E. Smart, Birchdale, Koochiching; Hilda Laabs, LeSueur, LeSueur county; Lucille Gruber, Bemidji, Mahnomen; Martha Jorgenson, Fairmont, Martin; Marlys Gilbert, Foreston, Mille Lacs; Florence Schletty, White Bear Lake, Ramsey; Lorraine Sjulstad, Northfield, Rice; Gladys Hanson, Jasper, Rice; Edith Johnson, Parville, North St. Louis; Delores Messner, Gaylord, Sibley; Laura V. Olson, Belgrade, Stearns; June Biksen, Morris, Stevens; Ruth Jacobson, Benson, Swift; Regina Schildt, Wheaton, Traverse; and Loretta Bauers, Armstrong, Freeborn county.

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A1215-NB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 18, 1939

Release - Immediate

For outstanding work in their 4-H activities this last year, two boys have been selected from each county in Minnesota to attend the Farm Boys' Camp, one of the popular regular departments of the Minnesota State Fair, announces T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader. Boys chosen for this honor are at least sixteen years old or winners of state championships in their club projects.

Eighteen honor campers will also be at the camp. These boys were outstanding campers of 1938 and have been asked to return this year as assistant leaders. Honor campers are:

Donald Piets, Windom, Cottonwood county; Richard Featherstone, Red Wing, Goodhue; Robert Hasse, Blue Earth, Faribault; Marvin Zuelke, Twin Lakes, Freeborn; Dick Stenberg, Spooner, Lake of the Woods; Lyle Lieder, Lonsdale, Rice; Corwin Ost, Montevideo, Chippewa; Eugene Kearney, Savage, Scott; Leon Schrober, Osage, Hubbard; Eldon Strand, Mankato, Blue Earth; Merton Quist, Route #2, Nicollet, Nicollet; Frederick Reiners, Mispah, Koochiching; Orville Nasby, Northfield, Rice; Roman Lamecker, New Ulm, Brown; Lester Rund, Gatzke, Marshall; Marvin Boettcher, Jordan, Scott; Donald Moore, Pipestone, Pipestone county; and Robert Day, Medford, Steele.

Attending the Farm Boys' Camp for the first time will be:

Hubert Jacobson, Aitkin, and Glenn Spencer, Palisade, Aitkin county; Robert Wyatt, Bethel, and Donald Grant, Wyoming, Anoka county; Roy V. Mix, Detroit Lakes, and Leonard Eischens, Arago, Becker county; Donald Colvin, Puposky, and Marion Dreyer, Bemidji, Beltrami county; Herbert Beehler, Oak Park, and John Honebrink, Sauk Rapids, Benton; Leonard Schaller, Gracesville, Big Stone county;

(more)

Arlo Johnson, Lake Crystal, Owen Hewitt, New Ulm, Blue Earth; Eugene Maurer, Sleepy Eye, Willard Gluth, New Ulm, Brown; Ambrose Gulliton, Holyoke, George DeCaigney, Carlton; Leander Kerber, Excelsior, Elvin Williams, Cologne, Carver; Edward D. Yochum, Longville, John V. Sullivan, Pillager, Cass; Gordon Kanten, Milan, Robert McLane, Renville, Chippewa; Donald Pearson, Taylors Falls, Robert Chamberlain, Lindstrom, Chisago; Delmar Krabbenhoft, Sabin, Raymond Jacobson, Moorhead, Clay; Warren Marmorine, Gonvick, Bennie Johnson, Clearbrook, Clearwater; Jacob Aarsvold, Karl Anderson, Grand Marais, Cook; Peter A. Baerg, Bingham Lake, Donald Cambronne, Lamberton, Cottonwood;

Donald Moldenhauer, Brainerd, Norman Olson, Brainerd, Crow Wing; Herman Butherus, Prior Lake, Harold Chamberlain, Hastings, Dakota; Lester Blaine, West Concord, Herbert Sheppard, Kasson, Dodge; Norbert Zarbok, Parkers Prairie, Ovia Siira, Brandon, Douglas; Donald Overbo, Bricelyn, Gerald Bobler, Wells, Faribault; Clair Rongley, Canton, Roelif Laughlin, Mabel, Fillmore; Leonard Kycek, Hayward, Richard Arett, Austin, Freeborn; Dean Poe, Cannon Falls, James O'Kane, West Concord, Goodhue; Walter Bacon, Herman, Wilfred Mann, Wendell, Grant; Merlin Snodgrass, Buffalo, Gustave Roehlke, Rogers, Hennepin;

Also--Lloyd Melling and Junior Myhre, Caledonia, Aloysius Langen, LaCrescent, Houston; Marshall Christopherson, Guthrie, David Skorseth, Park Rapids, Hubbard; Stanley Carlson and Wilbert Erickson, Cambridge, Isanti; Lawrence Marsh, Goodland, Gordon Tucker, Deer River, Itasca; Arnold Rients, Lakefield, Amos Halverson, Alpha, Jackson; John Roeschlein, Wahkon, Ruben Buethner, Mora, Kanabec; Marvin Pitcher, Spicer, Loren Anderson, Willmar, Kandiyohi; Edmund Karboviak, Orleans, Donald Nelson, Kennedy, Kittson; Edward Nelson, Ericsburg, Ray Lindvall, Littlefork, Koochiching; Roy Ranggard, Canby, Vernon Skallerud, Madison, Lac qui Parle; Manley Daranek, Two Harbors, Junior Ogard, Knife River, Lake; Horace Hooper, Pitt, Milton Mollberg, Baudette, Lake of the Woods; Kenneth Roskos, Elysian, Clayton Saam, Cleveland, Le Sueur;

And--Benjamin Madsen, Canby, Burton Hanson, Lake Benton, Lincoln; Elmer Grandpre Jr., Marshall, Willard Peterson, Ghent, Lyon; Dale Beach, Hutchinson, Cletus Roufs, Winsted, McLeod; Paul Ronet, Mahnomen, Alvedo Haak, Waubun, Mahnomen; Marion Przybylski and Adler Strandquist, Argyle, Marshall; Joel Hiller, Granada, Donald Schuder, Winnebago, Martin; Ervin Dahl, Kimball, Duane Johnson, Grove City, Meeker; Jack Klein and Bertil Johnson, Onamia, Mille Lacs; Lloyd Hanson, Little Falls, Lyle Nelson, Randall, Morrison; Everett Jacobson, Racine, Victor Dungum, Sargeant, Mower; Paul Larson, Avoca, Albert Mealman, Woodstock, Murray; Wilfred Gintner, St. Peter, Fillmore Wilking, Nicollet, Nicollet;

James Dickey and Edward Cunningham, Worthington, Nobles; Ervin Ingebretson, Ulen, Thomas Hall, Grandin, N.D., Norman; Raphael Jack and Frank Schoonover, Rochester, Olmsted; Milford Nelson, Fergus Falls, Clarence Larson, Battle Lake, West Otter Tail; Earl Sieling, Perham, Arvild Jacobson, Sebeka, East Otter Tail; John Swanson, Goodridge, Dake Ayers, Thief River Falls, Pennington; Milton Hamm, Hinckley, Glen Kick, Pine City, Pine; Donald Long, Pipestone, Pipestone; Vernon Hoppe, Crookston, Elton Oberg, Angus, West Polk; Chester Lee, Fosston, Alvin Bolstad, Fertile, East Polk; Leonard Erickson, Starbuck, Allan McIver, Farwell, Pope; Jerome Jerecsek, St. Paul, and Carlton Sandeen, St. Paul, Ramsey; Clarence Hall, Brooks, Arne Haparanta, Plummer, Red Lake; Vernon Barnum, Redwood Falls, Warren Pack, Walnut Grove, Redwood; LeGrand Kronlokken, Renville, George Ewer, Hector, Renville; Maynard Tralle, Northfield, Wrey Kummer, Faribault, Rice; Raymond Mannigal, Laverne, Russell Blandford, Edgerton, Rock; Walfred Anderson, Roseau, Ruben Larson, Malung, Roseau; Waino Torma, [redacted] William Harjamaki, Embarrass, North St. Louis; Stanley Sevruk, Floodwood, Leafy Lundquist, Duluth, South St. Louis;

Donald Mueller, Prior Lake, Elmer Rushling, New Prague, Scott; Junior Egge, Princeton, Diner Peterson, Clear Lake, Sherburne; Vernon Carlson, Gibbon, Clifford Oakland, Winthrop, Sibley; Harold Kunkel, St. Cloud, Dennis Ruehle, South Haven, Stearns; Sanford Johnson, Owatonna, Glenn Oldefendt, Hope, Steele; Harold Gausman, and Ernest Larson, Morris, Stevens; James Regan and Odell Barduson, Danvers, Swift; George Thompson, Round Prairie, Amos Hayes, Clarissa, Todd; Robert Geurts, Graceville, George Kracht, Wheaton, Traverse; Harry Tibisar, Kellogg, Robert Lamb, Lake City, Wabasha; Albin Nikkari, Wadena, Everett LeCount, Menahga, Wadena; Joseph Joyce, Waseca, Elmer Fennert, Waldorf, Waseca; Glenn Welander and Edward Goetschel, Stillwater, Washington; George Meist, and Kenneth Mays, St. James, Watonwan; Louis Buth, Wolverton, Paul Shinsky, Breckenridge, Wilkin; Leonard Burfeind, Stockton, Walter Jenkinson, Houston, Winona; Roger Vollbrecht, Hanover, Glenn Abrahamson, Enfield, Wright; Warren Heen, Maynard, Robert Busack, Echo, Yellow Medicine;

Additional members named are: Reuben Watlov, Underwood, Otter Tail; Morris Jacobson, Ulen, Clay; Harry Gustafson and Russell Rinnan, Grand Rapids, Itasca; Russell Henningsgaard, Alexandria, Douglas; Ronald Finstrom, Kerkhoven, Swift; Murrel Carpenter, Wheaton, Traverse; Edward Hustad, Starbuck, Pope; Francis Thompson, Kensington, Douglas; Donald Anderson, Marine on St. Croix, Washington; Sherman Dalen, Verndale, Wadena; and Donovan Daniels, Rochester, Olmsted.

A1216-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 18, 1939

Release - Immediate

The bright warm days of August are ideal for a final drive to poison grasshoppers and prevent egg laying, says A. G. Ruggles, state entomologist, University Farm, St. Paul. The females, if not poisoned at this time, will lay hundreds of eggs to carry over for another year.

No serious migrations have taken place in Minnesota this year, but grasshoppers are moving from one farm to another during August and if poison is applied, the results should be excellent, Ruggles believes.

Deep early plowing of ground infested with grasshopper eggs will do much to reduce the grasshopper population. Grasshoppers usually do not lay eggs in plowed ground and, therefore, plowing will restrict the egg-laying area. Ruggles advises that where eggs have already been laid, the eggs be plowed down to a depth of 5 or 6 inches.

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A1217-MB

Four University Farm staff members took part in the Milk Sanitation Seminar held last week (August 14-18) at the Center for Continuation Study, University of Minnesota. From the dairy division were S. T. Coulter who discussed cleaning dairy equipment, H. Macy who talked on milk laboratory procedure, and W. B. Combs, who discussed the subject of milk cooling. Dr. W. L. Boyd of the veterinary medicine division, talked on the subject of mastitis.

The meeting was sponsored by the State Board of Health and the United States Health Service and was attended by members of health departments and milk inspectors from 7 midwestern states.

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A1218-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 22, 1939

Release - Immediate

Where soil is heavy and there is likely to be delay in spring planting, it may be desirable to plant red raspberries in the late fall instead of the spring, says W. G. Brierley and J. D. Winter of the horticulture division, University Farm, St. Paul. The two men are co-authors of a new Minnesota Agricultural Extension bulletin, "Growing Red Raspberries for Market".

In Extension Bulletin No. 199, four systems of planting and training raspberry canes, practical suggestions on culture, tips on selection of varieties and suggested methods of harvesting are given. Brierley and Winter recommend that growers follow a planned system of raspberry culture. The hedge row, wire trellis, staked hill, and tepee systems of planting are considered best for Minnesota.

The Latham raspberry for southern and eastern Minnesota and Chief for western and northern sections are thought to be superior, but it is suggested that growers make limited test plantings of such varieties as Taylor and Marcy.

Free copies of Extension Bulletin No. 199, "Growing Red Raspberries for Market", will be obtained from a county agricultural agent or from the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1219-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 22, 1939

Release Not Before
Wednesday, August 23, 1939

Approval of a 40,000-acre wind erosion control project in Norman county, Minnesota, has just been announced by the Washington, D. C. office of the Soil Conservation Service, R. H. Musser, regional conservator, said today.

Headquarters of the project will be at Twin Valley, Minnesota, Musser said. A staff of three Soil Conservation Service technicians, under the leadership of Arthur Libby, has been assigned to the project.

Purpose of the project is to demonstrate, on a farm basis, such wind erosion control devices as improved crop rotations, field stripping at right angles to prevailing winds, soil "roughing" tillage, and tree windbreaks, Musser said.

No effort will be made to establish demonstrations on every farm in the 40,000-acre area, the conservator said. Thirty-three farms--averaging 300 acres in size--will be used for demonstration purposes.

The 33 selected farms will be well scattered over the area, so that each will serve as a "focal point" for a spread of conservation practices, Musser said. Every acre of each selected farm will be included in the planned demonstration of coordinated land use, and whatever practices are needed on that farm will be employed, he explained.

Cooperative agreements between the Soil Conservation Service and the individual farmer will be signed for each of the farms used as a demonstration. The Service and the University Farm, St. Paul, are cooperating in project plans and operations.

The Norman county project is the first wind erosion control demonstration to be established by the Soil Conservation Service in the Upper Mississippi Region, Musser said.

"Wind erosion is a more serious problem in Minnesota than most people realize," the conservator explained. "Surveys made in 1934 revealed that nearly 13 million acres in the state are subject to soil blowing. Some damage has already been done on approximately 3,500,000 acres."

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A1220-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 22, 1939

Release - Immediate

About a dozen common poultry diseases account for nearly 90 per cent of the flock losses, says Dr. W. A. Billings, extension veterinarian, University Farm, St. Paul, in Extension Bulletin No. 154, "Timely Truths About Poultry Troubles". This bulletin, with Billings as author, has been reprinted recently by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

The bulletin is not a "doctor book" of prescriptions, but a handbook for poultry owners who want to cut down losses from certain diseases and desire information which should help prevent trouble in the flock. Some of the more common diseases and poultry troubles discussed in the bulletin are tuberculosis, fowl or range paralysis, leukemia, roup, chicken pox and canker, cholera, pullorum disease, blackhead, coccidiosis, worms, and lice and mites. Symptoms are described, control suggested, and preventive methods given.

For a free copy of Extension Bulletin 154, write the Bulletin Office, University Farm, St. Paul, or contact the county agricultural agent.

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A1221-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, September 13, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Corn Shows

No man living can tell by looking at a live frog, how far it can jump in an emergency. Likewise, no man can tell how many bushels of dry shelled corn per acre can be produced just from looking at a 10-ear sample. Judging at a corn show is like judging a baby contest. The blue ribbon may be tied on the kid most nearly approximating our ideal of health or beauty, but the homeliest one may grow up to be President, and the prettiest one may go to jail.

The first thing the corn judge looks for is adequate maturity. Seed corn should be able to get ripe. Jim's corn was picked a week ago and dried over the kitchen stove until it is so solid and hard the ears just ring when tapped together. Joe's corn was picked a couple of days ago and the corn has dried, but the cob is still wet. Both may be equally advanced, but the judge will put Jim's corn up, because Joe's is loose, rubbery, and shows to poor advantage.

The next thing to look for is breed type. Old standard varieties were judged on the number of rows, the shape and size of kernel, the color of corn, color of cob and the filling of tip and butt. The length and circumference of ear were set measurements for each variety and the dentation of the kernels was supposed to be of considerable importance.

Then there was disease to look for, and uniformity of ears, uniformity of kernels, straight even rows, starchiness, amount of corneous endosperm, size of germ and plumpness. All the way along, samples could be eliminated until the one which best met all requirements was awarded the honors. Men often spent days and days selecting their samples to please the judge. In many cases it helped a lot if they knew who was to do the placing. Different men emphasized different qualities.

(more)

Now when a judge is confronted with say 50 ten-ear samples of hybrid corn, what basis can he use for selecting the "best"? Hybrid corn is grown for yield and standing ability, uniformity of ripening and feeding quality. The smallest samples are most mature and perhaps the latest give the best yield. All hybrids should show more uniformity in appearance than open-pollinated sorts, but appearance is not particularly important.

There are hundreds of hybrids, some good, some bad, and few if any of the judges know all the characteristics which distinguish the different kinds. Except for maturity, almost none of the qualities which make hybrid corn valuable on the farm, can be discovered by inspecting a 10-ear sample. What is the poor judge to do?

With modern corn, modern show standards are needed. Field run samples, estimated yields, measured moistures and observations on standing ability are necessary in judging the value of hybrids. The weight per bushel of dry shelled corn, the percentage of damaged kernels, and unmarketable ears, help to put judging on a sound basis.

The old type corn show is an attractive display and a thing of beauty, but its educational value is largely past. The useful, income producing corn, skillfully raised, deserves the blue ribbons.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, September 6, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Garden Sass

There is one difficulty in having several varieties of apples, plums, grapes and mellons in the garden. Every time I start out to decide which variety is best, it ends up with a belly ache, so the question is never fully settled. It's just like the boy who ate green apples. It hurt a bit at the end, but it was such fun getting there!

When I began setting out fruit trees, nut trees, grape vines and raspberries, many people told me it was no use. I'd never stay here long enough to get any good out of them; therefore it was a waste of effort to dig and get a back ache just for someone else. Now they come around to try out the fruit and remark how nice it would be to have such an orchard and garden!

Most of farm work is routine. We haul the feed in, haul the manure out and then grow another crop to haul in. Similarly, mother fills her cans thru the summer and we empty them in the winter, ready to fill again when the fruit is ripe. It may seem monotonous, but it's interesting. It's too interesting for an "easy keeper" such as I am, but I'll still vote for home-grown fruit on the table every day. It's living!

We have a nice assortment of apples and plums, two pear trees and a grape arbor of which we are especially proud. We set two rows of 10-foot posts in the ground and joined them at the top with 2 x 6 planks. (Home-grown trees make inexpensive posts and lumber.) Then we found some heavy wire the telephone company was discarding and put several rows of wire on top of the cross pieces and along the posts.

(more)

Wed., Sept. 6, 1939

The grapes seemed to like the new arrangement, because they grew up both sides, over the top and then hunted for more wire to climb on. They make a long dark tunnel, always cooler than the rest of the garden, and the grapes hang down out of the way of birds (more or less) but within easy reach for a hungry man. The whole under side of the arbor seems to be made up of grapes, each bunch just asking to be tested for quality and quantity. What satisfaction for such a small investment!

The "tunnel" runs slightly down hill, and I'm planning to install a track and a carrier so I can lie on my back and slide gently down the slope as I eat. The only part yet to figure out is how to get back! It would be impossible to walk up the hill after such a feast, so it will probably be best to use the feet until some device can be invented to pull me into bed to sleep it off.

Few orchards in this locality bring much cash return to the farm, but most of them pay good returns in interest, enjoyment and health. (The over-eating is only seasonal.) Surely I'm going to keep on planting things which will make life on the farm so much more pleasant--for me or for someone else.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, September 20, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Flushing the Ewes

Some work has been reported which indicates that flushing a band of ewes before the mating season has no effect on the lamb crop. I have only my own experience and what I have heard from sheep men to refute the argument, but still it seems to me that flushing is a mighty good practice.

Certainly ewes can get so fat they will not raise lambs, but more of them get so thin and run down that they haven't the energy to undertake the job. Pastures on many farms are only exercise lots in late summer and no sheep can raise lambs on thistles, a few grass roots and some moldy straw. The ticks and stomach worms suck her blood, there is sand in everything she eats, her teeth wear off - and then some "good farmer" says the sheep business is not profitable!

We try not to let our ewes get too thin, so we plant a few acres of Sudan grass for hot weather pasture. When the lambs are weaned, the fat young ladies go on the poorest range we have until 2 or 3 weeks before we plan to turn in the ram. Then we let them have some rye or new winter wheat which peps them up so much they are willing to try a "Dionne" for us. Grain will do for flushing if no lush fresh pasture is available, but personally, I prefer grass. It's cheaper and less work.

We like the practice of letting the ram out nights and shutting him up with an old ewe and a good feed of oats and alfalfa for company during the daytime. By evening he is ready to knock down 2 gates and a caretaker, he is so full of ginger. We believe it pays or we wouldn't do it.

At one time we planned to sell all ewes reaching the age of 5 and keep only a young and vigorous flock. Experience changed my mind. If a ewe raises the kind

(more)

of twins we want, she can stay as long as she likes. It is true that some of the old ladies wouldn't take a prize in a beauty contest or at the county fair, but that doesn't worry me a bit if they raise lambs that will. Probably I'd look worse than they do if I had worked as hard.

There's "Old Faithful", born in 1926 and still on the job. No one would be foolish enough to give me six bits for her now, but she has raised 11 pairs of twins. This year she took it a little easier, but her ewe lamb (her 23rd offering) is worth $15.00. Few would believe that such an old skate once raised a fleece that took first prize at the State Fair, that two of her daughters have attended the International, that another daughter founded a fine purebred flock, that her son and grandson have sired some of our best sheep and that several boys and girls have won club honors with her offspring.

Some of the pert and portly yearlings occasionally try to push her around a bit, but my handful of oats always goes to Old Faithful. She has earned my warmest friendship and deepest respect.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 24 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, September 27, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Must Do and May Do

There are two kinds of jobs on the farm, those which must be done at once and those which may be done now but can be put off for a while if necessary. Haying, harvesting and threshing are "must" jobs when time and weather are right. Replacing a broken fence post is a "may" job in April, still a "may" job in June, but a "must" job when the pigs break out into the neighbors' corn, probably just as the threshing is nicely started and everybody trying to do three things at once.

Mother always told me that if I'd keep all the "may" jobs done up, the "must" jobs would never be able to crowd me when I was in a hurry. How true her teaching was! Like a lot of other people, I'm a natural procrastinator. It's so easy to put off things which don't have to be done just now. It's so easy to think up good excuses for not getting down to work in the odd times when a lot of little things could be cleaned up.

I do enjoy trying to kid my conscience by reminding myself that "I've worked so hard the past month, I need a little rest" or "maybe something else will turn up". Almost everyone knows my stock of excuses - and probably almost everyone uses them. My private trouble is, that after the old conscience is all drugged with fairy stories and I have settled down to read a good yarn instead of working on some cattle records, I can just see mother pointing her finger at me and repeating, "If you're going to do it, Robert, do it now."

The pause between harvest and corn picking is such a nice time to relax a little after the big rush, but it is also the best possible time to move fertilizer from yards to fields, get the fall plowing cleaned up, fix fences, repair buildings, get some ground ready for flowers, fruit or trees next year - oh there are a thousand

(more)

and one "may" jobs, all clamoring to be done at once.

Some people seem to get things done easily and smoothly. Sometimes we say they're lucky. Sometimes we realize that they look ahead further than the average person and plan their work so that "must" jobs will never get them in a dither -- because the jobs were undertaken while they were still on the "may" list. Of course there are others who work best at high pressure, but these are fairly rare on the farm.

Keeping ahead of the work is highly essential if the operator is to run the job. When work gets the habit of piling up and coming in overwhelming bunches, then the job is running the manager. The difference may be due to the use of "odd times", and whether the "may" jobs were delayed until they became "musts".

After many years I have made the profound discovery that mother knew a lot more than I ever gave her credit for. Her advice was sound, and when I follow it, things go pretty well. When I try to kid myself, sooner or later hot water surrounds me. That sounds as though it was settled, but I know it isn't, and I won't try to kid myself into believing I won't try it again.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 25, 1939

For Dailies

Release Wednesday Evening, August 30

One new district, including 320 farms and comprising 54,120 acres, began soil erosion control operations and conservation practices during the past fiscal year, according to the annual report of H. A. Flueck, state coordinator for the Minnesota Soil Conservation Service. Two other districts completed the process of formation.

Each of the 1,878 farms, on which demonstrations have been established, is a "focal point for a spread of soil-saving practices" which eventually will "blanket all eroding Minnesota land". These farms together with the nine CCC camps assigned to the Service in Minnesota comprise 199,666 acres. On them 61,180 acres of contour tillage and 26,830 acres of strip cropping have been established. A total of 6,050,000 trees have been planted in gullies and on denuded hillsides for erosion control. Three thousand and fifty acres have been protected by soil-saving terraces, according to Flueck's report.

Farmers, officials at University Farm, St. Paul, and the Soil Conservation Service are cooperating to make this land-use program effective in Minnesota.

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A1232-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
August 26, 1939

For Evening Papers

Release Wednesday, August 30

Problems of the poultry raiser will be studied at the annual poultry flock-selecting and pullorum testing agents' school at University Farm, St. Paul, for three days beginning Thursday, September7. According to H. J. Sloan, of the poultry department, the event is primarily for those agents and inspectors for hatcheries operating under the state and national poultry improvement plan.

Principal speakers include Paul B. Zumbro, senior poultry coordinator, Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C., Dr. Hubert Dunyee, veterinarian, also from the Washington office, and C. E. Cotton, secretary of the Minnesota Sanitary Board.

Discussion and lecture sessions will deal with the national poultry improvement plan, crossbreeding, feeding, problems in testing technique, leukemia, pullorum control and related diseases.

The Minnesota Poultry Improvement Board, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and University Farm are sponsoring the short course.

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A1226-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 30, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

For the second time in 11 years a serious epidemic of late potato blight has appeared in Minnesota, reports R. C. Rose, extension plant pathologist at University Farm, St. Paul. Indications are that all of the eastern half of the state is affected.

Rose has received numerous reports of the disease and says it threatens to cause very heavy losses this year, especially if the weather continues humid for a few days longer since heavy dews are very favorable to development of the blight which may completely cover a field and kill the vines in 48 hours. He describes late blight as a tuber-rot disease caused by a mold or fungus bacteria. When the epidemic hits a field, water-soaked pale spots appear on the leaves and stems, which later wilt and blacken. Often a white coating of mold will appear and almost cover the foliage. Damage to the tubers themselves result from spores that drop from the vines to the soil and thus reach the potatoes by rain water seepage or when the tubers are dug.

Rose says that diseased tubers, even though they are unsightly, are fit for food provided the diseased parts are cut away. They should not be stored unless they can be kept dry and the temperature held below 40°F. They should never be used for planting another year.

It is not generally advisable to dig a diseased field while the soil is wet. If a field on light soil becomes badly affected and the weather turns dry and frosting time is near, it is advisable to delay digging until after a frost, which kills both the vines and the fungus.

If a crop grown on very wet, heavy soil becomes diseased during wet weather, it may be advisable to dig at once in order to save some of the crop, even though the chances of losing much of it are very great.

Piles of tubers in the field should not be covered with diseased vines, as the disease may thus be carried from the vines to the tubers. In fact xxxx growers whose potatoes may be affected should avoid selling them immediately after digging as it may take a few days for the disease to show up on the tubers. Mr. Rose recommends that if blight is suspected the potatoes be held for about a week to see if tuber damage develops. Dry, well-ventilated quarters are best for storing potatoes during this period.

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A1324 - D.

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 30, 1939

Not to be released before
Wednesday, September 6.

Central Minnesota seed producers, the general farm public and county agents in corn-growing areas will have the opportunity to attend a Hybrid Corn Field Day at University Farm, St. Paul, Friday, September 22, announces Dr. H. K. Hayes, chief in agronomy, University Farm. For those in southern Minnesota, a similar field day will be held at the Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca, September 28.

Highlight of the field days will be a showing of a new group of hybrids being tested for the first time this year in yield trials at University Farm and Waseca as well as in several localities throughout Minnesota. These new hybrids have been developed after many years of breeding studies in the development of inbred strains having outstanding ability to withstand lodging and resist corn smut. Also an outstanding characteristic of these new hybrids is their uniform ability to withstand lodging. After a severe windstorm recently, the standard varieties as well as Minhybrids were badly lodged, but the new crosses had very low lodging percentage and degree of lodging.

Field Day visitors will see the single crosses used as parents in the production of new double crosses approved for distribution at the 1939 branch station conference, and inbred strains used in all University Farm corn hybrids.

The St. Paul event will begin at 1 o'clock and will be under the direction of Dr. Hayes, R. F. Crim, extension agronomist, and Dr. Iver Johnson of the University Farm agronomy staff. The Waseca meeting is being arranged by R. E. Hodgson, superintendent of the Station.

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Al225 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
August 30, 1939

For Release
Week beginning
September 3, 1939

(To the Editor: - The following is the item to which I referred in letter of August 15th. We greatly appreciate your fine cooperation in directing this to the attention of the farm young folks of your community.
J. O. Christianson, Superintendent)

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In discussing detailed arrangements for further agricultural training for those farm young people who plan to become better farmers and homemakers, Superintendent J. O. Christianson of the School of Agriculture at University Farm, St. Paul, says, "It is now but a few weeks before the opening of the fall term and those who are planning on enrolling at the School of Agriculture at University Farm, St. Paul for this fall term beginning Monday, October 2nd, should have information as to cost, state aid, National Youth Administration aid and various means of financing the cost for the school year. The total cost for each term of three months, including board, room, laundry, books, tuition and entertainment, is approximately $70.00. The tuition and deposit fee of $5.00, amounting to $17.00 for a term, must be paid in advance at the beginning of the term. The board, room and laundry may be paid in full at the beginning of the term or by installments by the month, the first payment being made at the beginning of the term and the other payments at the beginning of each month during the term. For those students who are worthy, who come well recomended and who are needy, there are many opportunities for part-time work in order to pay part of these School expenses. Some of the students work for their board. Others work for part of their board, or for their room. Employment is furnished both through the National Youth Administration and through part-time work in the various divisions on the farm campus. Application for work should be made directly to Professor L. B. Bassett at University Farm, St. Paul. There are also student loan funds available whereby students may borrow part of their expenses to be paid back sometime during the school

year or in cases where a student is well recommended, his loan may be paid back during the following summer.

"For those farm young people who are not yet 21 years of age who have completed the eighth grade, but are not yet high school graduates and who come from a school district which does not maintain an accredited high school within its own jurisdiction, the State will pay the tuition, laboratory and equipment fees at the School of Agriculture. This will leave for those young people only their board, room and laundry to pay. Students planning to enroll for the fall term beginning Monday, October 2nd, should write directly to Superintendent J. O. Christianson, School of Agriculture, University Farm, St. Paul, and make arrangements."

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 6, 1939

Release not before
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Soybean hay reaches its highest feeding value and yield when the pods are well filled and before too many leaves drop, says W. W. Brookins, extension agronomist, University Farm, St. Paul. The lower leaves turn yellow at this stage and indicate the proper cutting time.

If Minnesota strains of Manchu and Habaro varieties are seeded around May 15, generally they will be ready for cutting during the last week of August and the first week of September. Later varieties, such as Illini, Mukden and southern strains of Manchu, require a week to 10 days longer.

While it is often considered cheaper to cut hay with a mower and cock it, good quality is not always obtained, because drying is slow. When cutting with a binder, make small bundles and put up in narrow shocks to dry, advises Brookins. The hay may also be cured in small windrows, the same as alfalfa, but more time is required for drying. Turning windrows when the leaves are somewhat tough from dew will reduce losses from shattering leaves. Better quality hay results when the leaves are retained.

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A1227 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 6, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A series of 5 leader training meetings will be held by Minnesota Rural Youth organizations in each of 7 districts this fall, according to L. A. Churchill, state rural youth leader.

One hundred sixty young men and women -- leaders in their own county rural youth groups -- will attend training and educational meetings at Ada, Aitkin, Monticello, Mankato, Rochester, Slayton and Alexandria. After the sessions they will present the lessons in their home counties at regular rural youth group meetings. Ruby Christenson, state rural youth agent, University Farm, says that the latest information on topics such as hospitality in the home, planning the farm business, what the well-dressed young woman will wear, livestock diseases, and wise selection of farm crops will be discussed by specialists from University Farm.

Rural youth organizations were started in 1933 as an experiment of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service in four southern Minnesota counties. They proved so popular that now 43 groups are active in 40 counties. The groups are educational in nature, organized and supervised by county extension agents. Besides their educational programs, they take part in community service activities and include recreation and entertainment at their meetings. Membership is limited to young men and women 18 years of age and over who live in rural communities.

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A1228 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 6, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Demonstrations, lectures and entertainment make up the 3-day program of the Refrigerated Locker Short Course at University Farm, St. Paul, September 19, 20 and 21. S. T. Warrington, agricultural economist, in charge of arrangements, announces that eight members of the University Farm staff will take part in the program.

The short course is offered at the request of the Minnesota State association of refrigerated locker owners and managers and will deal primarily with problems in connection with the operation of such plants. Subjects of lectures include trends and general problems in Minnesota locker plants, varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for freezing, cutting and wrapping meats for locker storage and sanitation and laws affecting locker plants.

Anyone interested in locker management and operation is invited to the short course. Short course visitors are invited to attend the dinner on Wednesday evening to be arranged by the Minnesota State Locker association. Further information on the short course may be obtained by writing L. A. Churchill, in charge of short courses, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1229 -- HR

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 6, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesota's farm population was 4,800 larger on January 1, 1939 than on the same date in 1938, says Lowry Nelson, chief of the rural sociology division, University Farm.

According to the division's survey made in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at the United States Department of Agriculture it is estimated that 27,000 persons left the farm for the city last year, but 18,000 city folks left for the farm. The loss to the farms was more than made up by the greater number of births than deaths and by those who came in from other states. The greatest population gain occurred in northeastern Minnesota.

Estimates are based on reports from over a thousand farmers covering nearly 8,000 farms in 12 selected counties.

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A1230 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 8, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Fifteen hundred or more high school students of vocational agriculture in Minnesota, northern Iowa, and western Wisconsin are expected to attend the 1939 Marketing Day school and program to be held at South St. Paul, Friday, September 15, says A. B. Smeby, chairman of the Marketing Day committee. Among those assisting with the program are Dr. A. M. Field, chief in agricultural education, University of Minnesota, and Dr. George Ekstrom, professor of agricultural education, both from University Farm, St. Paul.

This year's event which will be confined to one day is planned with the idea of showing to the Future Farmer exhibitors and visitors the various steps that take place at the public stockyards during the unloading, handling, selling, sorting and weighing of livestock in the regular commercial manner.

The chief feature of the program will be a sorting, grading and selling demonstration which will be staged in the livestock pavilion at South St. Paul during the forenoon. The Future Farmers and their leaders are scheduled to assemble at the pavilion at 8 o'clock on Friday, September 15, for a meeting with their own leaders with the livestock demonstration scheduled to begin at 8:30.

Following the forenoon program in the pavilion, those who market livestock on that day will have an opportunity of visiting the alleys of the commission firm to which their stock is consigned and see their stock graded, sold and weighed.

A lunch is planned at noon in the pavilion and a number of tours and classroom discussions are planned for the early afternoon hours. Late in the afternoon the exhibitors can call at the commission company offices in the livestock Exchange Building to receive checks for the livestock which they consigned for sale on that day.

All livestock consigned by the Future Farmers will go directly to the commission company alleys in the yards and will be handled in the usual manner.

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A1231 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 8, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. A. R. Patton, who received his Master's degree in 1932 and Doctor's degree in 1935 from the University of Minnesota's division of agricultural biochemistry, recently was appointed head of the chemistry department at the Montana Agricultural Experiment station. Dr. R. E. Gortner, chief of agricultural biochemistry at University Farm, St. Paul, says Dr. Patton majored in animal nutrition at Minnesota with Dr. L. S. Palmer as advisor.

Besides his graduate work at Minnesota, Dr.Patton had research experience at Cornell University, the University of Arkansas and Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station. At Montana he succeeds Professor Edmund Burke who retired September 1.

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A1232 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 15, 1939

Release not before
SUNDAY, SEPT. 17.

C. H. Bailey, vice director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station will welcome those attending the Refrigerated Locker Short Course at University Farm at its opening session Tuesday. (Sept.19). The short course is primarily for those interested in locker management and operation and will continue through Thursday,(Sept. 21) says S. T. Warrington, extension economist, University Farm, who is in charge of the short course.

Speakers taking a prominent part in the 3-day program will be Gladys Gilpin, home economist, P. A. Anderson, animal husbandman, A. A. Dowell and Warrington of the agricultural economics staff, Dr. W. L. Boyd, veterinarian, J. D. Winter, from the division of horticulture, and Inez Hobart, extension nutrition specialist--all members of the University Farm staff. Eric Ahlstrand, director, dairy and foods division, State Department of Agriculture, will be a guest speaker, and locker-plant operators will join the discussion.

On the Tuesday program topics to be discussed include economic aspects in the future development of locker plants, selection of animals for quality meat, detection of diseases in living and slaughtered animals and judging quality in meats. There also will be a lamb-slaughtering demonstration.

Wednesday's program will consider varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for freezing, methods of preparing fruits and vegetables, cutting and wrapping meats for locker storage, sanitation and laws affecting locker plants, and curing and smoking. A demonstration of cooking frozen foods will be given by Miss Gilpin. All short course attenders are invited to a dinner sponsored by the Minnesota State Locker association in the Andrews Hotel at 6:30.

Operating costs, income possibilities, and locker storage from the homemaker's standpoint are on the closing day's program. Following a question box session, the State association will hold its business meeting.

A fee of $3.00 is the charge for the entire short course.

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A1233 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 15, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

The average dairy herd in the state of Minnesota produces only about 190 pounds of butterfat per cow and is not profitable -- would not be profitable even under normal conditions, says H. R. Searles, extension dairyman, University Farm. A good dairy cow turns feed into a product that sells for more money than the feed would have brought on the market, but over half the dairymen in the state are feeding poor, inefficient cows. Their feed would bring more income if used in some other way.

According to records of 54 cow testing associations in the state, herds averaging 300 pounds of butterfat used only $14 more feed per cow than herds averaging 200 pounds, yet they brought in $30 more in butterfat.

Searles emphasizes that the typical 10-cow herd averaging over 300 pounds of fat returned $562 above feed cost, while those below 200 pounds left their owners only $204 to pay for labor, housing, taxes, interest, etc. It will pay, says Searles, to keep accurate butterfat and feed records for each cow to know if herds are paying their way. Farmers interested in joining a cow testing association should see their local county agricultural agent.

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A1234 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 15, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Do not use galvanized or zinc containers when putting up pickles is the warning issued today to Minnesota homemakers by Dr. R. A. Gortner, chief in agricultural biochemistry, University Farm. The acid of the pickle brine or sirup will dissolve zinc. Zinc is quite toxic, is known as an irritant poison, and as little as 15 grains may cause death.

Dr. Gortner's warning comes as a result of several complaints by letter and by visitors to his office within the last few days. These complaints report that pickles, put up in galvanized tubs, have a peculiar appearance and appear spoiled. In cases of this type, Dr. Gortner recommends that to avoid possible trouble, the pickles should be thrown away.

Granite wear, glass, or aluminum containers are safe for storing pickles.

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A1235 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 19, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

New varieties of apples will "hold the stage" when the Minnesota Horticultural Society observes its annual Apple Day at the University Fruit Breeding Farm, Excelsior, next Saturday. (September 23).

R. S. Mackintosh, secretary of the society, says that the principal attraction of the day will be an exhibit of Minnesota varieties of apples and a fine showing of trees of Minnesota 1007, McIntosh seedlings, and Minnesota 724 and 396. The new variety, Minnesota 396, is of such excellent quality that it will be named soon and introduced on the market.

There will be a picnic at noon, a meeting of the Horticultural Society, and a tour of the grounds. Prof. W. H. Alderman, chief of the horticulture department at University Farm, St. Paul, and other staff members will be in charge of the tour and will explain the work being carried on at the Fruit Breeding Farm.

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A1236 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 19, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A six-man team will represent University of Minnesota students in the Belgian Horse judging contest at Waterloo, Iowa, Monday, September 25, says A. L. Harvey, animal husbandman, University Farm, St. Paul, who is coaching the team. The judging contest is being held in connection with the twenty-first National Belgian Horse Show September 25-October 1.

Members of the University Farm team, leaving Sunday night for Waterloo are Raymond Anderson, Le Roy; Aage Buhl, Tyler; Russell Henry, Owatonna; Fay Meade, Marshall; Richard Radway, Roosevelt; and Joseph Raine, Marshall. They will compete with teams from middlewestern states in judging six classes of horses.

The University of Minnesota will enter eight head of purebred Belgian horses in the show, including one grand champion and two junior champions--as judged at the Minnesota State Fair this fall.

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A1237 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 19, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

The development of the cold storage locker has brought about the first significant change in the system of farm processing and storing of meat during modern times, A. A. Dowell, economist at University Farm, St. Paul, told those attending the refrigerated locker short course on the Farm campus.

Said Dr. Dowell, "The use of cold storage lockers may result in a change in the relative proportions of meats consumed on the farm as the locker plant now enables the farmer to slaughter or to purchase meat at wholesale from others at any time during the year and preserve it in a fresh frozen state."

So far, according to Dr. Dowell, the movement in Minnesota has been confined largely to farm families. If it spreads rather generally, it will be due chiefly to possible cost savings.

The refrigerated locker short course is being given primarily for those interested in locker management and operation. At the concluding day's program, Thursday, September 21, operating costs, income possibilities, and locker storage from the homemaker's standpoint will be discussed. The State Association will close the short course with a business meeting.

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A1238 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

Release not before
Sunday, Sept. 24, 1939

The audience will take over a part of the program when the seventeenth annual Swine Feeders Day is held at University Farm, St. Paul, October 18. Minnesota farmers attending the one-day short course will tell each other how they raise hogs, says E. F. Ferrin of the animal husbandry staff, who is in charge of the program. In addition University Farm animal husbandmen and other men prominent in livestock circles will speak.

Delmar La Voi, for several years a member of the Minnesota Agricultural College staff and now with the National Livestock and Meat Board, Chicago, will discuss the lard problem, and W. T. Reneker, in charge of buying for Swift & Company, South St. Paul, will speak on the subject of "The Hog and His Carcass". Al Smeby, South St. Paul, prominent radio speaker and editor of "Markets", a livestock publication, also will take part.

From the University Farm staff, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ W. H. Peters, chief in animal husbandry, H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman, and Mr. Ferrin will speak on other subjects of vital interest to the swine industry.

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A1239 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, October 4, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Colored Leaves

October is the month of football. It is also the month of fall plowing, corn husking and manure hauling, all of which obviously require hard, continuous exertion if results are to be realized. Whether life is a good fight or hopeless drudgery, depends on the point of view.

Some people merely "put in time" on a job, their minds seeking relief from routine by wishful thinking or daydreaming. A boy or man may mechanically operate a tractor, while his head is filled with a lovely vision, wherein a beautiful lady clings to his neck and insists that he alone can save her.

Some people, while engaged in routine tasks are continually figuring and scheming. "How can I get a little more land?" "How can I make a little more money?" "How can I do this job more cheaply?" They are usually miserably discontented or successful, as success is measured by money. Sometimes they make very good neighbors too. There are people gifted enough to accumulate wealth and still resist the temptation to make gold their God.

But most people don't hanker for vast wealth or unlimited power. They realize that the big majority of their time, strength and intelligence is required to earn a bed and board. They don't fear or dread this edict of nature, but pitch in and do their best at whatever lies before them. While thus occupied, they may be alert for enjoyment all along the way. Sometimes it is the thrill of a tough battle, such as a hard game or a difficult job well done. Sometimes it is the satisfaction of providing for loved ones or doing a constructive kindness of some sort. Sometimes it is just the joy of good health and strong muscles lifting heavy loads.

Farm people are apt to be sensitive to the good things around them. They may

(more)

not say much about it, but a splendid sunrise or a gorgeous sunset does not leave them unmoved. Working close to nature they have learned to endure her frowns and enjoy her smiles as a part of the day's work. Pa may even grunt to ma, "There's a rainbow out the east window," and she knows he wants her, too, to absorb some of its beauty, its symbolism and its promise.

It is a pleasure now and then to look through the diaries left by my mother's father. At four, he followed a covered wagon from Pennsylvania to Illinois and lived his whole life where people were few, but nature was abundant. He wasn't a very progressive farmer according to father's father, but he did enjoy life as he went along. He even took time to write down some of his experiences so they would last longer.

I can imagine father's father would have said, "Planted 12 acres of corn today. The colt held out pretty well." Mother's father wrote, "Mr. Bluebird, Mr. Oriole and I planted corn this morning."

Now most of the birds are gone, but nature is putting on her last lavish display before winter sets in, and all of us should take some time to soak up a bit of sunshine, fill our minds with the beauty of fall colors, and stretch our muscles on a few more good hard jobs before old man winter shuts us in.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, October 11, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Nuts

For one raised on the prairie where trees were rare and precious, it was a great treat to come and live in a part of what had been the "Big Woods". It seemed like a rare privilege to go out in someone's pasture and pick up sacks of black walnuts and butternuts, just for the asking. It was fun to fell white oak trees, to make fence posts and to have hard wood to burn just for working it up. It was an unusual experience when we needed a pole or a stick to repair farm equipment, just to shoulder an axe and bring in the needed material from the woods.

The trouble is that now trees are getting scarce. The dry years have taken an exceedingly heavy toll, and the pasturing of woodlands has prevented reproduction. The "Big Woods" is going the way of the buffalo unless a great many people get the planting fever and get it soon. Fence rows, odd corners, roadsides, all should be growing trees.

Walnuts are one of the nicest trees forfall planting. They grow rapidly in favorable locations where plenty of moisture is available; they make excellent lumber, posts or firewood and the nuts make a very interesting addition to the products of the kitchen. The Indians and pioneers even used walnut hulls to dye their cloth.

These trees have a very long tap root and if this is cut or broken when transplanting, recovery will be very slow. I have planted nuts beside six-foot transplants, and in 10 years, the trees grown from nuts were far ahead.

I have heard that if the tap root is cut with a long knife or a tilling spade and then the tree is transplanted a year later, more fibrous roots will have formed and it will not be stunted. We're trying that now with some trees the squirrels planted.

(more)

Our best success has been with layering nuts in the fall. We lay a piece of old window screen or hardware cloth on ground free from grass or weeds and mark around it. Then we dig a hole that size and three or four inches deep in which the nuts are laid in rows just far enough apart so they don't touch. If we can get fresh nuts with the hulls on, we can pack them about as close as they will lie. Next we cover them up with the dirt taken from the hole and fasten the screen on top.

The screen is necessary here because of the squirrels. They can smell nuts a long ways and seem to think we are the scum of the earth to do our own planting. They come close and express their feelings in no uncertain manner. If we leave our basket of nuts a minute, they will be in and out like a flash. Sometimes they'll almost come up and take the nuts from our hands. If we didn't use screen, we'd have nothing to dig up next spring.

We try to remember the nuts about the first of May, and look to see how many have started. The sprouted nuts are easily put where we want the trees to grow - but again we must cover them with screen for squirrels have pulled up trees over a foot high to get at the nuts. We use old rusty window screen, a foot square, with a small hole in the center for the tree to grow through, and the sides stapled down with bent wires. Next year the screen will rust away.

It only takes a few hours of interesting work to plant a whole row of walnuts which in due time may make worth-while returns. If one wishes to go further, the three- or four-year-old trees may be grafted to improved varieties or to the new hardy English walnuts we are trying. This year we grafted shagbark hickories of several selections to butternut trees growing wild. Several of the grafts were successful.

Hickories, oaks, butternuts and locusts can all be handled in this way. What better way to get the youngsters interested in nature, or what better monument can one leave than a lot of fine trees in what might otherwise be a barren land.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 4, 1939

Attention -- Editors

To the Editor:

CORRECTION

Re: Bob Hodge's Farm Talk for

October 11

On page 2, 5 lines from the bottom, please change "butternut" to "hickorynut"

Thank you

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, October 18, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Explosives

Few people like to handle dynamite, but it is sometimes necessary to lift some stumps or blow some stones which occupy tillable land or are a menace to machinery. We usually keep a few pounds in the basement and in 20 years have had a number of experiences, some of them scary and some of them funny.

The closest call was when I chopped a spade thru a stick that had a cap in it. The most humorous was when the dog didn't mind.

Trixie was a pup we got from the neighbors. His mother was a good stock dog and his father was unknown, but we took a chance on it. By the time he was a year old he was beautiful, but so dumb we gave up trying to train him. He was afraid of the stock, afraid of strangers and most of all, afraid of a gun. He'd run through a bunch of sheep, scattering them all over the yard, and when I scolded him, he'd run to the house and hide under the porch. He hadn't been abused. It was just natural cussedness, and we didn't like that dog.

One day I started out to blow some big stones and Trixie jumped in the truck - he was always willing to ride, but never willing to work. I set charges under three big stones, drove the truck far enough beyond them, and lit the fuses, one, two, three. It was about 150 feet between stones and I hustled to get the last one set and reach the truck before the first one went off.

Trixie was asleep in the truck, lazy as usual, so I paid no attention to him, until the first blast went off, when he certainly woke up in a hurry. He left the truck on a run and started for the house in spite of whistles and calls to stay back.

The fuses had been cut at different lengths so that all would go at about the same time, so Trix was just about even with the second stone when that let go. Did

(more)

that dog ever tear! He just stretched out and floated. A coyote could never have kept ahead of him, and jack rabbits would have been trampled under foot.

Just as the dog got into high gear in a big way, the third blast went off, about 100 feet to his left. Trix had been sprinting along beside a pasture fence, but this was too much, and he took off for the clouds in a maze of dust. I doubt if he saw the fence at all. He just sailed over it automatically.

It was about a mile to the house and I wish I could have seen him come in. How he ever stopped for the porch is more than I know. All we could see of him was a tan streak followed by a dust storm. He wasn't hurt at all, and we were glad to see him get the worst of things for once. Dynamite was certainly a cure for laziness that day.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, October 25, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Corn Husking

One of the most tedious farm jobs 30 years ago was getting in the corn. Out before daylight on cold frosty mornings and unloading well after dark, sore hands cracked and chapped until they often bled, old stocking-legs pulled on over shirt sleeves to prevent excessive wear, smelly mittens drying all over the kitchen stove - the picture will not soon be forgotten.

All alone in the field, day after day, making the hands fly and the aching back bend and straighten, it was jerk, grab, twist, throw, over and over with deadly monotony. Any little excitement such as a flock of prairie chickens, or even a mild runaway was welcome relief. It took a lot of ears to fill a wagon box and of course even the boys had to come in with a "respectable" load.

Then there was the job of shoveling off 40 bushels of ear corn by lantern light, bumping heads on low stringers, heaving each shovelful high into the darkness. The team would be restless and anxious to get to the warm barn, one's stomach seemed to rub the spine and the back ached from ears to heels. Oh, yes, corn husking was lots of fun.

Now we pick an 80-acre field in from 4 to 6 days, driving the tractor or hauling corn to the crib where a mechanical elevator piles it up. It is work, and the machinery hasn't learned to oil itself and make repairs yet, but it isn't the hard long grind that it used to be. True, the cost of machinery and fuel eat up most of the profits, but hand picking would probably cost just about as much if the labor must be hired. At any rate, I notice that most farmers with considerable corn acreages are turning to the use of machinery as rapidly as they can.

Corn husking, old style, might soon become a thing of the past if some of the

(more)

farm papers hadn't taken it up and organized it as a sporting event. Now a corn husking contest draws as big a crowd as a football game or a prize fight. Certainly it is just as much of an athletic event and requires as much skill and stamina as any other competition where brain and muscle is involved.

Corn pickers must train carefully, and while doing so they are performing useful work. A lot of corn gets picked when thousands of husky young men set out to see whether they can go fast enough to compete in the county contest. Racing against time, estimating the percentages of husks and the corn left in the field, makes dull work into an exciting game with benefit to all concerned.

A clean husker who can throw 40 ears a minute, get all the corn and keep it up, must be in the pink of condition mentally and physically. He must have strength, agility, rhythm and speed to keep everything working smoothly. He is no stranger to hard work and he must enjoy his job, because the cash rewards are comparatively small. The papers that have popularized these contests have done a real service to those of us who farm because we like that kind of work.

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

Release

MONDAY, SEPT. 25

Some of the top animals among the state's Aberdeen Angus cattle have been consigned to the first annual sale of the Minnesota Aberdeen-Angus association at Blue Earth, Friday, September 29. Prominent breeders, including the University of Minnesota, have been asked to consign choice animals, says Clement C. Chase, secretary of the association.

Members of the sale committee are Kenneth McGregor, Ada; E. W. Brown, Luverne, A. M. Falkenhagen, Dodge Center, and Mr. Chase.

H. O. Tellier of Farmington, and Walter Carlson, Triumph, will auction off the 26 bulls and 30 females up for sale beginning at 12:30 noon on Friday. The sale will take place at the County Fair Grounds.

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A1240 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 21, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. Charles F. Rogers, instructor in agricultural biochemistry in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, and assistant chemist in the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment station has accepted a position at the Ohio Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio. His work there, as associate professor in biochemistry, will be in the Department of Agronomy and in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, dealing with fundamental studies of the corn plant.

Dr. Rogers was granted his Bachelor of Arts degree at Nebraska Wesleyan University, his Master's Degree from Iowa State College, and in June of this year received his Doctor's degree from the University of Minnesota. He has been a member of the Minnesota staff since 1928.

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A1241 - MB

Release

IMMEDIATE

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 22, 1939

Funds toward the national dairy advertising program have started pouring in to the Dairy Industry committee from the 734 dairy plants of Minnesota who voluntarily signed contracts to contribute, says W. H. Olson, committee manager, University Farm, St. Paul. After several years of planning, the actual collections got underway August 1 when dairy plants began paying in to the advertising fund at the rate of 50 cents for each 1,000 pounds of butterfat purchased.

It is estimated by the Committee that the contributions on the butterfat handled by the Minnesota dairy plants will amount to approximately $100,000 annually, says Olson, and that for the nation somewhat over $600,000. The funds received in Minnesota will be used along with funds raised in other states such as Iowa, Wisconsin, Washington and others to put on a nation-wide advertising program informing consumers of the desirability of using more dairy products.

Officers of the Minnesota Dairy Industry committee are: President, Dan T. Carlson, Willmar, Northwest Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers; vice-president, John Brandt, Land O'Lakes Creameries, Minneapolis; Secretary, W. B. Combs, Dairy Division, University of Minnesota, St. Paul; Treasurer, Oscar Swenson, Minnesota Association of Local Creameries, Nicollet.

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A1242 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 26, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Southern Minnesota corn growers, seed companies and county agents will have a chance to "preview" the corn of tomorrow when they attend the hybrid corn day at the Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca, Thursday (Sept.28).

R. E. Hodgson, superintendent of the station, says a tour of test fields will show new hybrid corn varieties that stand straight and tall in the midst of lodged and twisted rows of other hybrids and open pollinated strains--formerly the best available. These new hybrids have been developed after many years of breeding studies in the development of inbred strains having outstanding ability to withstand lodging and resist corn smut.

The corn program will begin at 1:00 o'clock with H. K. Hayes, chief of agronomy and plant genetics, University Farm, St. Paul, and members of his staff in charge.

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A1243 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 26, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

By stepping up their 1939 flax harvest 150 per cent from 453,000 acres in 1938 to 1,132,000 acres this year, Minnesota farmers set an all-time high record in flax production. The Minnesota flax harvest alone is expected to be 32 per cent above the entire United States acreage of 1936. Notwithstanding this, flax prices for the 1939 crop should be relatively favorable compared with other grains, says D. C. Dvoracek, extension marketing specialist, University Farm, because flax is still on an import basis and consumer demand appears to be increasing.

Conditions as of September 1 indicated a production in Minnesota of 10,754,000 bushels compared with 4,756,000 bushels for the state last year and a total production of 8,171,000 bushels for the United States last year. Minnesota farmers this year will harvest 56 per cent of the total United States acres and 62% of the total indicated bushelage. Although the 1939 United States indicated production of 17,246,000 bushels will be more than twice last year's output, the domestic production of flax is still about 10 million bushels short of the 10-year average amount used which should make the 65-cent import duty effective in maintaining prices to producers.

Demand is being stiumlated by a prospective increased activity in residential building and greater consumer demand

(More)

for linseed oil products. Moreover, the Argentine flax crop is smaller than average this year, and flax prices in Buenos Aires have increased. Domestically produced fats and oils, with the exception of raw linseed oil, have declined as have also imported drying oils, tung and perillo. Soybean oil will undoubtedly increase.

Because of the record production of flax this year, farmers might normally expect some drop in price, but this decline should be tempered by the tariff on substantial imports, the increased consumer demand, and the possible rise in general price level as a result of war in Europe. At least, concludes Dvoracek, flax prices should be relatively high as compared with other grains.

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A1146 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 28, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Completing 11 years as a member of the agricultural economics staff at University Farm, St. Paul, Dr. W. P. Ranney has resigned to become associate professor in the department of agricultural economics and rural sociology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Ranney was born on an Illinois farm, was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1917 where he specialized in farm accounting and farm management, and then served in the World War.

Included in his 26 years of training and practical experience in farm management and keeping farm accounts are five years in the grain, beef cattle and hog farming and livestock shipping business in Illinois, shipping an average of 100 carloads of livestock each year and keeping a complete account of the business. In 1925 and 1926 Ranney cooperated in the first Farm Bureau Farm Management Service started in the United States, both years ranking in the upper fifth of over 200 participating farmers in financial returns. Ranney was an assistant in farm management at the University of Illinois in 1927 and in 1928 was granted his Master's degree. He received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Minnesota this year.

At Tennessee Ranney will teach farm accounting, farm management and marketing and do research in the farm management phase. He is a member of Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta and Sigma Xi, honorary professional fraternities.

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A1247 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 26, 1939

Release

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28.

Mr. R. S. Wilcox of St. Paul, one of the state's leading amateur rose fanciers, will step to the University Farm Hour microphone over WLB, Friday to speak on "Fall Roses in Minnesota". Mr. Wilcox will discuss the blooming of the many fall varieties which grace the gardens of the gopher state, their care and nurture as well as offer suggestions on preparing the plants for the winter.

The University Farm Hour is from 12:30 to 1:00 each Monday, Wednesday and Friday noon over WLB, 760 kilocycles. The program originates at University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1244 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 26, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Wilbur M. Nelson, photographer in the photographic laboratory of the University of Minnesota from 1929-1937 and for two years a member of John Deere Company staff at Moline, Illinois, has accepted a position at the University of West Virginia, Morgantown. He will do photographic and publicity work for the experiment station and extension service.

While at Minnesota, Mr. Nelson conducted lecture and laboratory classes in photography besides his laboratory work. He has won numerous national awards, was a member of the Minneapolis Camera Club, and is known throughout the state as an expert in pictorial photographs.

Mr. Nelson also is an associate of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain.

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A1245 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 28, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A series of eight regional hybrid corn field days will be held in Minnesota, beginning October 3 in Meeker county and ending October 24 in Houston county. Each of these meetings, designed to show farmers how hybrid corn varieties differ and which are best for each corn growing region, will be held at a regional test field. At the test fields, hybrids of agricultural experiment stations and of leading seed companies have been grown side by side in test plots under typical farm conditions.

R. F. Crim, extension agronomist, University Farm, who has charge of the meetings announces the following schedule: Meeker county, October 3; West Otter Tail, October 4; Yellow Medicine, October 6; Sibley, October 10, Nobles, October 12; Watonwan, October 17; Dodge, October 19; and Houston, October 24.

Seed entries at the eight test fields total 97, including hybrids and three open-pollinated varieties--Murdock, Silver King, and Minnesota 13--put in as measuring sticks for the hybrids.

In the forenoon of the field day, samples of corn from each variety will be husked, weighed, and piled up for farmers to see, when the meeting opens at 1:30 p.m. Visitors may study each variety on the stalk, as well as husked, see what it looks like and how it yields, judge of its maturity and resistance to disease, and hear reports given by Mr. Crim and others on the program.

The hybrid field trials, started 2 years ago, are being conducted cooperatively by the Minnesota agricultural experiment station and extension service, county agents, hybrid corn growers, the Minnesota Crop Improvement association, and commercial seed companies. Varieties on test have been entered by the Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa experiment stations, the Minnesota Hybrid Corn Growers association, and commercial seed companies.

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A1248 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
September 28, 1939

Release not before

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1939

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture, St. Paul, Minn., left yesterday (Saturday, September 30) for Chicago to join sheepmen and research workers from all parts of the United States who are making a 2-weeks' tour of important eastern sheep marketing centers. They will visit New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Washington, D.C.

The group will have an opportunity to become familiar with the demands of the large lamb consuming cities, view lamb buying and slaughtering methods, compare grade of lambs alive and dressed, see the same carcasses both in Chicago and eastern consuming points, and meet with packer representatives.

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A1249-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 3, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

There are many things that can be done now to insure an attractive lawn next May, says L. E. Longley, horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul. It's a mistake to think that care of the lawn is just a spring and summer job.

Usually little cutting is needed after October first, as it's a good idea to have the grass from one and one-half to two inches long when it goes into the winter. A few scattered leaves may be of benefit, but avoid allowing masses of leaves or other litter to collect and remain over the winter months. If October is a dry month, sprinkle the lawn once in a while. A well-saturated lawn just before the ground freezes will winter better, Longley says.

If it is the practice to use manure for fertilizer, apply a coating just before the ground freezes. The manure should be well-rotted and finely divided so that it can be evenly and lightly distributed to avoid smothering the grass. Rake the excess material off in the spring. Lawns may be somewhat more weedy in the spring if manure has been applied.

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A1250 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 3, 1939

Release not before
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Improper care and feeding during the first few weeks of a calf's life account for most of the troubles in calf raising, says T. W. Gullickson, dairy division, University Farm, St. Paul.

Observance of cleanliness and the ordinary rules of health in feeding and care are the main requirements to insure healthy and proper calf development, writes Gullickson in a new folder, "Care and Feeding of the Dairy Calf." He cites management practices that cost little, but pay big dividends. These include feeding the colostrum or first milk of the mother, avoidance of overfeeding, gradual commencement or skim milk or milk powder feeding at the age of 2 weeks, feeding of hay and grain as soon as possible, early dehorning, and giving the calves roomy, clean, dry, well-lighted quarters.

Copies of Extension Folder 74, "Care and Feeding of the Dairy Calf," will be supplied without charge by county agricultural agents or the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1251 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 3, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

E. R. Draheim, instructor of agriculture at the New Ulm high school, has been appointed assistant in the division of rural education at Cornell University, New York, announces Dr. A. M. Field, head of the agricultural education division, University Farm.

Draheim was graduated from University of Minnesota, College of Agriculture in 1933 and received his Masters Degree from the same institution in 1939. Since graduation he has taught agriculture in Howard Lake, Lakefield, and New Ulm.

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A1252 - MB

Release

IMMEDIATE

Buyers from four states purchased animals consigned by the University of Minnesota to the sale of Aberdeen-Angus cattle held at Blue Earth, Minnesota, September 29.

Purchasers of the University Farm animals were Andelot Stock Farms, Worton, Maryland; Dr. L. W. Larson, Greenville, Iowa; C. E. Ortman, Canistota, South Dakota; and R. M. Lee, Lyle, Minn.

Plans are being made by the Minnesota Aberdeen-Angus Breeder's association, sponsors of the sale, to hold two sales next year, announces Clement C. Chase, secretary. One will be at South St. Paul in March, and the second one the latter part of September at Blue Earth.

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A1253 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 3, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Kenneth W. Ingwalson, a Minnesota 4-H club agent since 1936, has resigned to become state 4-H club leader of New Jersey, announces Paul E. Miller, director of the agricultural extension service, University Farm, St. Paul, today. At the same time Director Miller announced the resignation of May Sontag, also a state club agent, who has accepted a position at the University of Missouri.

Mr. Ingwalson was born on a farm in St. Croix county, Wisc., attended Mechanic Arts high school, St. Paul, and was granted his Bachelor of Science degree from the Minnesota College of Agriculture in 1931. Active on many agricultural college and all-campus affairs, Ingwalson was president of the Agricultural Student Council, and a member of the All-University Council and of the Student Board of Control. He was elected to the honor society, Iron Wedge, to Alpha Zeta and Gamma Alpha, honorary fraternities, to the professional fraternity, Alpha Gamma Rho, and was the first to receive the coveted Dean E. M. Freeman student leadership medal.

In 1930-31-32, Ingwalson was an assistant in the college botany department and for six seasons worked in the United States Bureau of Plant Industries carrying on educational activities in cooperation with the public schools and the extension service. From 1934 to 1936 he was in county agent work, first as emergency agricultural agent in Anoka, Isanti and Kanabec counties and later on acting county agent in St. Louis county. He became state 4-H club agent in 1936.

In commenting upon Ingwalson's leadership ability and experience, Director Miller says -- "The 4-H club staff, as well as the 45,000 boys and girls in Minnesota congratulate New Jersey on securing him as their state Club Leader."

Miss Sontag, a graduate of the North Dakota Agricultural College, served as home demonstration agent in North Dakota for two years and in Minnesota for four. She was appointed state 4-H club agent at University Farm in 1936. Miss Sontag is a member of Gamma Phi Beta, sorority and a member of the Home Economics Club. She will be 4-H club agent with the rank of assistant professor at the Missouri School.

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A1254 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 5, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A. B. Nystrom, senior extension dairyman, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. is in St. Paul for a few days meeting with extension dairy husbandmen at University Farm.

Nystrom, who is in charge of dairy extension work in the 13 north-central states, will speak on "Herd Improvement and Breeding" at Shell's Hall, New Ulm, Tuesday evening, October 10, and at the high school in Cannon Falls, Wednesday night. The meeting in New Ulm is in charge of the Brown Swiss Breeders association of canton No. 3 , while the Cannon Falls event is being sponsored by five cow testing associations of Goodhue, Rice and Dakota counties.

Everyone is invited to the meeting which will be of special interest to all dairymen. Nystrom also will make some stops in each community to see farm herds.

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A1255-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 5, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Two Minnesota 4-H club members, Elmer Ruehling of New Prague and Myrtle Gebeke, Detroit Lakes, won top prizes in a reporting contest open to all farm boys and girls in 13 states, announces T. A. Erickson, state club leader, University Farm, St. Paul. Ten prizes totaling $150 were awarded by the Horse & Mule Association of America for the most interesting and informative short articles about methods followed by some successful farmer in the community who does all field work with horses or mules.

Elmer, 20 years old, captured the first prize of $30. He is a veteran 4-H'er, has carried numerous club projects, and been active in both general livestock and crops judging.

A $20 award went to the 17-year-old Detroit Lakes girl who is comparatively "young" in 4-H club work. It was presented to her by Mr. Erickson Thursday evening at a county-wide banquet given by the Kiwanis and Rotary clubs of Detroit Lakes.

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A1256-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 5, 1939

Release not before
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8.

S. T. Warrington, extension assistant in livestock marketing at University Farm, St. Paul, has been appointed associate agricultural economist in the Cooperative Research and Service Division of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., announces Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. He will be in charge of work connected with frozen fruits and vegetable marketing and cold storage locker problems.

Warrington came to University Farm in 1934 as assistant in the agricultural economics division, and in 1936 he was made assistant marketing specialist. Prior to 1934 he studied land utilization and for 18 months was field agent for the United States Department of Agriculture. He has had experience in wholesale meat work and in livestock buying.

Born on a livestock farm near Austin, Minnesota, Warrington was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1932 and was granted his Master's Degree in 1936. In collaboration with other economists at University Farm, he has published several articles and bulletins dealing with livestock problems and locker plant operation.

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A1287 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 10, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. Eric G. Shorvelle of Lon-field, Kent, England, has been appointed assistant professor in the division of plant pathology at University Farm, St. Paul, announces Dean W. C. Coffey, director of the University Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Shorvelle spent 1938-39 at the New York Agricultural Experimentistation, Geneva, investigating fungicides for the Crop Protection Institute, and for the last few months he has been carrying on the same investigation for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven. At University Farm, he will conduct experimental work on fruit diseases.

After being granted his Bachelor of Science degree at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, in 1930, Shorvelle received his Masters degree from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada in 1932 and his Doctors' degree from the University of Minnesota in 1934.

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A1258*LB

Release

IMMEDIATE

T. A. Erickson, state 4-H leader, left University Farm Tuesday evening for Detroit, Michigan where he will give an address before the American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods, Thursday, October 12. Erickson, who received 3 national honors at the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D. C. last June, will explain the 4-H Club program and the effects it has on rural young people.

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A1259*LA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 10, 1939

Release

THURS., OCT 12

Seven Minnesota 4-H Champions are leaving by auto Saturday, October 14, to represent the state in 4-H contests at the National Dairy Show in San Francisco next week, announced T. A. Erickson, State 4-H Leader, University Farm, St. Paul.

Patsy and Marvalla Nick, 15-and 18-year-old sisters from Hunters' Park, St. Louis county, who are the state champion Dairy Manufacturing demonstration team will explain the making of cream cheese at home. They are accompanied on the trip by Miss Mabel Fertig, assistant club agent in St. Louis County. In the same car will journey 19-year-old Maurice Annextad and his 16-year-old brother Carl, members of the State Dairy Production Demonstration Team. The boys live at St. Peter in Nicollet county and through their 4-H projects have acquired a share in their home herd of holstein dairy cattle. They will demonstrate pasture improvement.

Three boys from Stearns County, Earl Boldt, 18, Paynesville; Bernard Sonstegard, 17, Georgeville; and Conrad Gehven, 18, of Sauk Center; who won championship honors as dairy stock judges at the State Fair, will ride with Everell Smith, County club agent who helped coach the team. They will compete against teams from other states for national honors.

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A1260-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 10, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Mr. Carl Hamalainen of Duluth, Minnesota, who will be graduated with a Master's degree in agricultural biochemistry from the University of Minnesota this fall, has been appointed a full-time research assistant in biochemistry in the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at College Station, Texas, R. A Gortner, chief of the Biochemistry Division at University Farm, St. Paul, announced today.

At Texas, Hamalainen will work on the biochemistry of meat with particular reference to problems of evaluating tenderness. He is a 1936 graduate of the Duluth State Teachers' College and taught science courses in the Chandler Minnesota High School during 1936-37.

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A1261-EA

Release

IMMEDIATE

The appointment of Carol Syndergaard as assistant home demonstration agent in Redwood county, Minnesota, was announced today by Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, St. Paul. Miss Syndergaard, a graduate of Iowa State College at Ames, will serve as assistant to Lenore Golden, Redwood county home demonstration agent. Her home was in Della Center, Iowa. She served as county 4-H club agent in Olmsted county this summer.

Miss Newton also announced the resignation of Eunice Snook, assistant home demonstration agent, Waseca county. Miss Snook has been employed by the Waseca county extension service for the past year.

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A1262-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 12, 1939

Release

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, OCT. 17

Why does the packer pay $2 per cwt. less for some hogs than he is willing to pay for others? What's really the matter with the extremely heavy hog or the thin rangy pig oh which the hog raiser takes such a "licking" when it comes to market? W. T. Reneker, chief hog buyer for Swift and Company, Chicago, will demonstrate with 18 hogs taken from the South St. Paul run -- 9 slaughtered and their 9 "twins" on the hoof -- why consumers will not pay top prices for cuts from undesirable type hogs. This is only one topic picked out of the all-day program of educational subjects listed for University Farm's seventeenth annual Swine Feeders' Day tomorrow, (Wednesday), says Professor E. F. Ferrin, Swine Day chairman.

Delmar LaVoi, University of Minnesota alumnus and now with the National Livestock and Meat Board at Chicago, who will discuss the lard problem, and Al Smeby, South St. Paul radio broadcastor and editor of MARKETS, who will discuss factors affecting hog prices, are the other main speakers on the afternoon program.

The morning program which begins at 10:00 o'clock will be given over to discussions by Minnesota swine raisers, who will tell how they raise hogs, and to discussions on: Hog Health by H. G. Zavoral; Keeping Feed Costs Low, by W. H. Peters, and reports of feeding experiments by E. F. Ferrin, members of the animal husbandry staff at University Farm. Particular emphasis will be given to discussions on the efficient use of different protein supplements that may be used to secure the cheapest and fastest possible gains from Minnesota's large corn crop this fall. Opportunity will also be given for the more than 300 visitors expected, to view the University Farm barrows and breeding stock. Ferrin extends a general invitation for swine breeders and the public to attend this popular event.

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A1263 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 12, 1939

Release

SATURDAY, OCT. 14.

The resignation of J. H. Neal, associate professor in the division of agricultural engineering at University Farm, St. Paul, was announced today by W. C. Coffey, dean of the department of agriculture.

Neal leaves Minnesota October 15 to become head of the department of agricultural engineering at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama. He has been associated with the University since September 1, 1924, when he started as an instructor in the agricultural engineering division. He received his bachelor's degree at the Kansas State Agricultural College in 1924, his master of science degree from the University of Minnesota in 1929, an AA degree from the University of Minnesota in 1934, and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Missouri in 1938. He is a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and Sigma Chi and Gamma Sigma Delta fraternities.

Simultaneously with Neal's resignation, Dean Coffey announced the appointment of Philip W. Manson to fill the vacated position. Manson was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1929 and received a part-time instructorship in the division of agricultural engineering in 1934. He is a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and a popular University Farm Campus figure.

Manson recently received nation-wide recognition because of studies on the effect of weak acids on concrete mortars. His study was made in cooperation with Dalton G. Miller of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Charles F. Rogers of the division of biochemistry, University Farm. In it an important new process was developed to test the resistance of concrete silo blocks to acids found in silage. The new process makes it possible to quickly determine the length of time that concrete silo-construction materials will last under actual farm use conditions.

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A1264 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 12, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Ten students in the College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, left University Farm, St. Paul, by auto Wednesday to uphold the honor of the state in the Collegiate Judging contests held in connection with American Ag. Royal Show at Kansas City, Missouri, October 14 to 21.

Members of the general livestock judging team are Donald Hanson, Graceville; Russell Henry, Owatonna; Donald Jordan, Morris; Fay Meade, Marshall; Joseph Raine, Marshall; and Richard Radway, Roosevelt. Five of these men will be named to the team, the other five will serve as alternates, says their coach, A. L. Harvey, assistant professor of animal husbandry. The team will stop at Iowa State College at Ames and at several Iowa and Missouri farms where they will secure additional practice before the contest October 14.

Three members of the meats judging team to represent Minnesota will be chosen by Coach P. A. Anderson, animal husbandry division. The four candidates taking the trip are Cecil Fausch, Morristown; Robert Hjetland, Duluth; Glenn Long, Clearbrook, and Fay Meade, Marshall. The two teams will compete against entries from other agricultural colleges in the middlewest and southwest.

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A1265-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 12, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

January 3 to February 28 are the dates this year for the annual Creamery Operators' Short Course offered by the dairy division at University Farm, St. Paul, announces J. B. Fitch, chief of the division.

High school graduates with at least one year of dairy products processing experience are eligible for the course. Others may have to take an examination. A Dairy School certificate is awarded those who successfully complete the course.

Details may be had by writing W. B. Combs, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

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A1266 - EA

Release

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

T. A. Erickson, State 4-H Club Leader, announced today that 5 carloads of western feeder lambs have been purchases by over 100 boys who are 4-H club members in western Minnesota counties. The western lamb feeding project is a new 4-H activity started in Minnesota last year. Each boy enrolled purchases 15 lambs, feeds them, and keeps a cost account record for a period of about 100 days. At the end of the feeding period, district shows and sales will be arranged in several sections of the state, Erickson said. The project is supervised locally by county extension agents.

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A1267 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 17, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Dual purpose cattle have a place on Minnesota farms, fitting in especially well on farms of medium size that are somewhat long on feed and short on labor, say University Farm dairy and animal husbandry experts.

W. H. Peters, J. B. Fitch, H. R. Searles and W. E. Morris have recently completed a new bulletin on the subject "Dual Purpose Cattle". Very little has ever been written on this subject by experiment stations in the past. These men say, however, that Minnesota is the center of production of dual purpose cattle in the nation and after studying cost account records from a member of dual purpose herds throughout the state, they are convinced that this type of cattle can be profitable on many 160-320 acre farms.

Milking Shorthorn and Red Polled are the two common dual purpose breeds. Calves from cows of these breeds will consume surplus pasture, forage or grain without greatly increasing the labor and equipment needed for the milking herd. The calves may be raised from skim milk and then fattened and marketed as fat yearlings, if the extra feed is principally corn or grain. Or they may be grown out and marketed as feeders if the surplus feed is pasture and roughage.

These men definitely disapprove an "in and out" system of raising dual purpose cattle on farms primarily suited to dairy cattle, with the expectation of allowing calves to nurse and thus produce beef if butterfat prices are low. They believe that the fad of mating dairy type cows to a beef bull is likewise unsound.

It is pointed out that dual purpose cattle will give best results (on farms that are especially adapted to their production) when they are of good breeding and when they are consistently managed so that the cows produce about 250 pounds of butterfat per year. The calves should be fed surplus grain, pasture and roughage and marketed for beef. Income from dual purpose herds compares favorably with income from dairy herds where these conditions exist.

Free copies of Extension Bulletin 203 "Dual Purpose Cattle" may be secured from a county agricultural agent or the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1268 -EA

in 1914," he said, "there is no immediate need for expansion of cultivated acreage. Many acres weakened from the hard farming of the past few decades would be further injured by another orgy of too intensive cultivation. Continued farm prosperity depends on maintaining topsoil for permanent and efficient production.

"The upper Mississippi region--Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois--has 63.6 per cent of all the Grade 1 or best farm land in the United States. That capital investment is well worth saving.

"But soil resources cannot stand an increased strain because 41 per cent of the soil in the region has already lost from one-fourth to three-fourths of its topsoil, and more than 15 per cent is seriously gullied."

Increased use of conservation measures, such as contour tillage, strip cropping, terracing, gully control, production of hay, pasture or trees on sloping or steep land, and crop rotations which hold erosion to a minimum, is of vital importance, said Musser.

"Good land use is the basis of soil conservation," he explained. "Land should be used for the purpose to which it is best suited. Use the strong acres for heavy production and the weaker or more erodible acres for lighter production. Even strong acres, however, need protection by contour tillage, strip cropping, or other conservation practices."

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A1269 * EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 17, 1939

Release

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Though separated by thousands of miles from Europe's battlefields, American farms may be severely damaged in the present war unless farmers continue their soil-conserving programs.

This statement was made at Milwaukee today by R. H. Musser, regional conservator for the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in an appeal to farmers to "stand steady and not depart from practices which will conserve soil and fertility."

"Otherwise, their farms at the war's end may look like battlefields--gashed with gullies, pock-marked, stripped of fertile topsoil," the conservator said.

Statements by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace indicate that present supplies of farm products probably will be adequate for the next year or more. He is urging farmers to stay within their AAA allotments.

"In view of these facts," said Musser, "there is no reason for risking the ruin of good land by plowing up erodible acres that should be kept in pasture, hay, or trees. Expansion of acreages of corn, wheat, or other erosion encouraging crops might result in a reduction rather than an increase in Midwest farm income in view of surpluses now on hand."

Musser referred to the great expansion of cultivated acreage during the last World War as partly responsible for the eroded condition of much farm land today.

"Since we have large surpluses today as compared with supplies

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 17, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Of special interest to thousands of Minnesota farmers and homemakers is the announcement that January 15-19 are the dates selected for University Farm's annual Farm and Home week. The choice of dates for this well-known event is made public by W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture.

Dean Coffey says the event has become established, during its 39 years, as a time when farm men and women can come to University Farm and avail themselves of the services of the various divisions of the Department of Agriculture. It offers 5 days of classes, conferences and entertainment.

Three special conferences are held in connection with Farm and Home Week--community leadership, rural youth and the 4-H club leaders' conference.

Announcement folders will be available early in December and may be obtained by writing A. E. Engebretson, in charge of short courses, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1270 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 19, 1939

Release

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Mingold, a new yellow variety of tomatoes recently named and released from University Farm, St. Paul, is responsible for bringing a shiny new silver trophy to Dr. T. M. Currence, professor of horticulture, who developed the variety.

After observing the results of field trials this past summer, a national seed dealers' association "committee of judges on all-American selections", announced recently that Currence would receive the award. Mingold was termed one of the most promising new vegetable crops of the year.

Currence developed the new variety by painstaking inbreeding and hybridization of several old strains. Last spring Currence sent a small supply of seed to each of 12 judges in different sections of the country. These officials grew the plants under normal commercial production conditions and selected for national honors those that showed promise of becoming commercially important.

The Mingold tomato, as described by one of the judges, has a short vine, gives a tremendous yield of globe-shaped fruit, is golden in color, has a yellow skin and is of good quality.

The chief advantage of Mingold, over the standard red varieties of tomatoes, is its appearance and sweetness, says Currence.

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A1277 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 19, 1939

Released

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

During November, farmers in 17 counties of southern and western Minnesota will have an opportunity to observe the practices of successful beef raisers.

County extension agents and University Farm animal husbandry specialists are arranging a series of community tours to study beef purchasing, feeding, breeding, and management problems, says P. E. Miller, state extension service director, University Farm.

The first of the tours will be conducted in Watonwan county, November 3. Beef feeding, management, and selection problems will be the main features of each.

Typical farms representing each of three or four feeding and management methods are being selected to demonstrate successful beef-raising practices. A farm where calves are raised, one where heavy feeders are purchased, another where calves are purchased and fed, and one where common cattle are fed will be selected in each county to show desirable methods of handling stock under these conditions. Rations and market outlook will also be discussed at each tour, says Miller.

Tours will be conducted by W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman, in the following counties: Watonwan, November 3; Nobles, November 7; Jackson, November 8; Martin, November 9; Faribault, November 10; Lac qui Parle, November 14; Yellow Medicine, November 15; Redwood, November 16; Brown, November 17; Murray, November 21; Pipestone, November 22; Rock, November 23 and Cottonwood, November 24.

H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman will conduct tours as follows: Freeborn county, November 14; Fillmore, November 15; Olmsted, November 16; and Waseca, November 17.

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A1272 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 19, 1939

Release

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

Nearly all phases of the 4-H club program will be explained or demonstrated by club members before a luncheon meeting of the St. Paul Rotarians Tuesday noon, October 24, says T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader.

Six members of Ramsey county 4-H clubs, their county leader, Mrs. Clara Oberg, and T. A. Erickson will give brief talks and demonstrations that show what the 4-H program means to rural young people.

Ethel Strand, St. Paul, will explain "What the Heart-H Stands For". She will also sing a solo. Helen Hammersten and Dorothy Jeneczek, St. Paul, plan to explain "How Home Economics Projects are Helpful", while Charles Wood, member of the White Bear 4-H club will give a construction demonstration showing how to build feeders.

Thomas Jamsa, president of the Ramsey county 4-H federation, is preparing to give a talk on organization of 4-H clubs. Earl Ford, member of the Maplewood club, talks on the value of records. The members will be introduced by Mrs. Oberg.

Erickson will briefly summarize 4-H work and explain its place in home and community life.

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A1273 - EA

Release

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

Lincoln Common, Grand Forks, North Dakota, who received a master of science degree in agricultural biochemistry from the University of Minnesota in 1938, has been appointed a staff member of the research laboratory of General Foods, Inc. at Hoboken, N.J.

This announcement was made today by Dr. R. A. Gortner, chief of the biochemistry division, at University Farm, St. Paul. Gortner says that Common, who took his biochemistry work under Dr. C. H. Bailey, will do research work in cereal chemistry in his new position.

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A1274 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 19, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

M. J. Blish, the first man to receive a Ph.D. degree from the division of agricultural biochemistry, University of Minnesota, has been appointed chief of the proteins division of the new regional research laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, at Albany, California.

R. A. Gortner, chief of the division of biochemistry, when announcing the appointment, said that Blish is professor and head of the department of agricultural chemistry at the University of Nebraska. He received his Ph.D. degree in 1915, specializing in the field of cereal chemistry under C. H. Bailey, eminent chemist and at present vice-director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station. Since 1915, 108 additional students have received the Ph.D. degree from this division, Gortner said.

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A1276-EA

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. J. Holmes Martin, director of the regional poultry research laboratory at East Lansing, Michigan, will be at University Farm, St. Paul, Wednesday, October 25 for a conference of poultry scientists, specialists and representatives of commercial poultry concerns announces Dr. C. H. Bailey, vice-director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

The regional research laboratory at East Lansing has been established by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to study problems of poultry diseases, says Bailey. This conference is called to give counsel to Dr. Martin and outline possible lines for research activity.

The program for the day will be in charge of H. J. Sloan, poultry department chief. The morning session will be attended by staff members of the Minnesota experiment station and agricultural extension service. To the afternoon meeting will also be invited representatives of poultry associations and commercial and private organizations.

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A1275-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
October 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, November 1, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

A Partner With Dad

It takes labor, capital and management to make a successful farm business. Often all three are combined in one man, so that Mr. Jones as manager tells Mr. Jones as capitalist how the firm's money is to be spent and the firm's equipment is to be used. Then Mr. Jones as manager directs Mr. Jones as laborer to get busy with the hog feeding and the cow milking. In cases such as this there is a very real sympathy by labor for the problems of management, and both are concerned that adequate returns be made for the use of capital. In such an organization strikes are unknown. Close cooperation is the rule.

A young man starting out to be a farmer usually has an ample supply of labor in his own strong back and willing arms. He may be short of capital and management experience, but as he goes along the experience accumulates and if properly used, that permits the capital to pile up, little by little. By the time the farmer begins to show age he may be long on experience and have adequate capital, but his ability as a laborer begins to fail. Always something is out of adjustment.

Most men look forward or have looked forward to an old age where their experience and hard won capital will be supplemented by the labor of a son or sons, again making a combination capable of greatest efficiency. It is pitiful to see how seldom this rosy dream becomes a reality.

Men raise a grain crop every year and learning from their mistakes, are able to improve their technique as they grow older. Men raise their sons but once and mistakes are often undiscovered until it is too late to correct them. I have known men who slaved and saved a lifetime so as to leave each son a farm, well built and

(more)

well stocked, but they had never taken the time to teach the boys how to manage land or money. It's harder to hang on to money than it is to make it.

Another tragedy is when the boys leave home--thoroughly disgusted with farming. Perhaps their father was so obsessed with the importance of a good income that he showed his boys only the grinding hard work of the farm, month after month, with no time to go fishing with them and no time to discuss problems of management. A goal and an interest make hard work a pleasure.

The ideal way is a partnership between father and sons. At the end of the year when the expenses and income are all added up, interest is charged for the use of the capital and then the balance is divided between dad's management and the boys' labor, increasing proportions going to the latter as their skill becomes greater and their managerial ability better developed. In this way, boys can gradually work into the harness without being overwhelmed by sudden responsibility too great for them to assume.

There's a lot of difference between, "Working for the old man", and "Partnership with dad". A good father and son combination is the most efficient organization possible in the farm business.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
October 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, November 8, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Records Tell the Tale

Charlie told me that the way he kept farrowing records was to file a little notch at the base of his thumb nail when the sow was mated. When the notch had grown out to the end, ready to break off, it was time to shut the pig in family quarters. He didn't state whether other fingers would do, or what arrangements could be made if 12 sows were kept.

Every man has his method, but it would be easier for me to get a nickel notebook and write down the date for each sow on a separate page, then put down her due date and leave room for some notes about the litter when it arrived. Perhaps that's wasting paper, but it might save a pig or so, and it helps a lot when selecting breeding stock for the next year.

A lot of the fun in raising livestock is the record of what they do from year to year, combined with the ambition to better previous records if possible. It helps to make the job interesting. Prolificacy, cheap gains and freedom from disease are the things which make livestock profitable if they are raised for market. Selection by guess or on looks alone is likely to be very expensive in the long run.

Raising livestock may be compared to running a boarding house. If all the boarders pay a fair assessment, there will be enough income to buy food and pay the labor and overhead. If some boarders don't pay, the others must make up the deficit or the landlady will go broke. What could you think of a landlady who kept no records of who paid and who didn't?

(more)

Records may be very simple or very complex. They should at least give some idea of feed cost and income produced by each animal or each group of animals. I like to have a card for every ewe. On this we jot down how much wool she shears each year, her lambing record and something about the quality of her offspring. Notes about her condition are useful whenever there is anything unusual.

A card will do for each cow, keeping a record of her breeding, her calving and the butterfat she produces. It's a nice job for a cold winter evening to study over the cards and decide which animals are worth keeping and which had better be sold. I often find that the butcher can have some of the best looking individuals in the flock or herd, while some who look pretty tough arrived at that condition by hard work done for my profit.

Beauty in farm animals is a distinct asset from the aesthetic point of view, but except in the case of breeding stock sold, beauty alone pays few bills. The combination of beauty and utility is of course ideal, but if I can't have both, I'll take utility. Records tell the tale.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
October 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, November 15, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Advertising Pays

In the city we used to hear the hucksters rattling down the road, calling at the top of their voices, "Apples, cabbages, tomatoes, bananas". The pop corn wagons often had a little whistle. These things attracted attention and made people "Vegetable conscious" or "Pop corn minded" as the case might be.

We can't sell all of our farm products that way, but a little ad in the paper doesn't cost much, and it lets other people know we have something to dispose of. If the ad is attractive and well thought out, it may make some folks "Corn conscious", "Bull minded" or "what have you"! Modern papers and magazines are possible only because advertising pays.

An interesting statement of what one has to offer may bring prospective buyers to the door, but it doesn't send them home with new goods or leave their money with you. That's selling, and often a farmer can make very decent wages for several days' work during the year if he knows a little about how to sell things. Most farm managers have a fairly good idea of values, but not all know how to make a sales talk most convincing. Often they go to the opposite extreme.

Some salesmen figure on new customers for every transaction, but farmers generally find repeat orders their most substantial business. A neighbor who gets good seed corn, a good sire or good service of any sort, usually comes back again when he needs more of the same commodity. He might even tell his friends about it! A sore and dissatisfied purchaser will also advertise, high, wide and handsomely.

(more)

Some big stores make the claim - "The Customer Is Always Right", believing it is better to take a small loss, sometimes an unreasonable one, in order to keep the goodwill of those who buy. Farmers too will find that it pays in the long run to be sure that each purchaser is fully satisfied that he has received something of more value than the money he parted with. Everyone likes to feel that he has spent his funds wisely.

Personal friendliness is much appreciated. People like to go back again where they have received special personal attention. One man told me he always bought seed corn from Jim, "Because he knows me and is interested in how my corn did last year. He always seems to want to help me do a little better." Advertising may bring customers to the door, but the personality of the salesman moves the goods and paves the way for future transactions.

Appearances, too, help make sales. Folks like to go to a farm where things seem to be run on a business-like basis. Clean, neat and well-kept yards and buildings inspire confidence in the purchaser. A thin dirty bull in a dirty dark barn might be hard to sell at $50, while $10 worth of feed and $2 worth of elbow grease in cleaning up, might move him easily at $100. Intelligent people don't hesitate to pay good prices for what they want if they feel they are getting full value for their money. It's all advertising, and advertising pays.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
October 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, November 22, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Let Winter Come

When the wind bites as we go out to do the morning chores and the snowflakes whirl in the afternoon while we shovel corn and cob meal into the feed bunks, it's a pretty good sign that the summer's work is ended. Hay, silage, corn and grain are safely stored for the coming months, and now all we have to do is parcel it out to hungry animals who will make good use of it.

Most of us have plowed as much as possible, to be ready for next spring's rush and put all the machinery away under cover, thankful that another crop year is over. The next three months there will be fewer emergencies when the days aren't long enough to get things done. Work will settle into a routine, there will be time to check account books, read some of the articles we have saved and possibly attend a few meetings.

There's a tendency to stay in bed an extra half hour in the morning, but after we get bundled up and out to the barn, we feel some of the pep that the cold weather generates. The line of waiting cows gives a morning greeting, which we take as a personal compliment even though we know they are only interested in hurrying the feed basket and the milk pail.

The gilts which we expect will be next spring's matrons, come out of their warm beds when we appear, and run to the feeding flour with a woof-woof and silly capers to show that they are feeling fine and are ready to eat their oats. The sheep crowd their wooly bodies about our legs, seemingly trying to trip us up so as to spill the contents of the basket a little sooner. Every one insists on having the first bite.

(more)

The steers are beginning to "Feel their corn" and have preferred to sleep outside, protected by their heavy coats and the layer of fat they have laid on. With grunts and groans they get on their feet and line up for breakfast, trying not to be too eager, but finally scooping up great mouthfuls of grain with oil meal sprinkled on top for frosting.

The horses have been nickering and pawing in their stalls, impatient at being left until last. In the summer they get first attention so as to be ready for the field but now they're loafing and they only get a couple of ears of corn. They'll be out in the stalk fields all day and have a nice manger full of hay tonight. We don't want them to get as fat as the steers or they won't go thru the barn door.

All this time Shep has been supervising the work, being helpful wherever possible. Now he jumps and races around as we start for the house, knowing that he will be allowed to snooze beside the kitchen range until mother "thinks up" something to feed him. All this brisk labor in the snappy morning air has done something to us too, and the oatmeal, cakes, toast, bacon, eggs and coffee seem to melt from the table.

Winter has its aggravations and discomforts, but there are compensations. With plenty to eat and the will to eat it, plenty of work and the strength to do it, I wouldn't trade the old farm for the whole of Europe, with all of their troubles thrown in. I like my job.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul · Minnesota
October 23 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, November 29, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Thanksgiving

It would take more space than this paper presents to list in detail all the things I have to be thankful for. Probably you wouldn't be interested anyway, so I'll just hunt out one little item and then take a small part of that and fill all the room your editor can allow me.

I'm thankful for friends, lots of them, and each has some trait or ability which I admire. Just to single out one for right now, I'll pick a young man with a wooden leg, but with no wood in his head. As a boy he was a tumbler and gymnast, active in all sports, but a slight infection in his knee developed seriously and at 19 they took off his leg, which he says is very serviceable because, "They took my leg but I still have a foot." (The stump is just a foot long.)

Jim made up his mind it wouldn't get him down. He spent day after day practicing with an artificial limb until he could load hay, shock corn, drive a car and do almost anything but dance. After 15 years of practice, he could work with a bunch of men all day and they would never know anything was the matter.

Best of all, Jim doesn't feel sorry for himself. He can keep a crowd laughing until they hurt with stories of his experiences. The dog which rushed out and grabbed him viciously was unfortunately surprised when he almost broke a tooth. Can you just imagine how the hound looked when he bit that leg?

One extremely hot day we were laying concrete in a corner where the sun beat down, but no breeze reached us. I was afraid someone would get overheated, so we sat down in the shade of a tree to have a smoke and cool off a bit. We found plenty

(more)

to smoke but not a dry match in the crowd, until Jim reached into his pants pocket and passed around plenty of matches in perfect condition. His clothes were just as wet as ours, and we couldn't explain the dry matches until he said, "You see how handy it is to have one leg that doesn't sweat." Just the same, I'll bet that stump, wrapped in seven layers of heavy wool and that harness over his shoulder, was most uncomfortable. He never complained.

One time Jim started on a long trip with $250 in small bills. "They made such a wad wherever I put them, that they just seemed to invite everyone I met to take the money away from me. At last I thought of tucking them in my wooden leg. It's as good as a bank -- unless I get into a fire!"

Whenever I feel a bit "downtrodden" because of some difficulty, it makes my troubles look smaller to think of what Jim takes on the chin every day. What wonderful things people do as individuals, and then what a mess they sometimes make of things when acting collectively!

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 23, 1939

Release

THURSDAY, OCT. 26.

The farmers of Minnesota who carry out soil-building practices on their farms under the AAA program are not only improving their soil but also cooperating with the sportsmen of the state, points out Chas. W. Stickney, chairman of the state agricultural conservation committee.

Virtually every practice with which a farmer may earn part of his soil-building allowance is also of benefit to wildlife, Stickney said. At a recent wildlife conference in Washington, additional soil improvement practices beneficial to game and bird life were recommended for inclusion in the 1940 farm program.

Under the farm program, Minnesota farmers have in recent years earned soil-building payments for seedings of alfalfa, sweet clover, and native grasses. All of these, Stickney explains, provide feed and cover and increase nesting areas. Food, cover, and nesting grounds are also provided by the practice of reseeding depleted pasture.

Many of the erosion control practices of the program also are a boon to wildlife, the state chairman said. Terracing for example, provides nesting grounds and shelter, while reservoirs and dams increase the water available for fish and like game and raise the water table for a greater growth of food and cover for land animals and wild fowl.

Planting of trees and shrubs is one of the most valuable practices in conserving animals and birds. Not only are cover and nesting places provided, but the fruit of trees and shrubs is an important source of food for wildlife.

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A1277-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 23, 1939

Release

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

University Farm is represented by five specialists and research men at a district soil conservation planning conference starting this afternoon at Caledonia, announces Dr. C. H. Bailey, vice-director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Purpose of the meeting is to develop a detailed plan of work to control erosion in the Root River soil conservation district. This area comprises 360,000 acres in Houston and Winona counties.

The conference includes a field survey trip this afternoon and general session and committee meetings tomorrow.

University Farm men, who are counseling with district and state soil conservation service officials, are: H. B. Roe, division of agricultural engineering; Henry Schmitz, forestry; S. A. Engene, economics; A. C. Arny, agronomy; H. P. Hanson, extension and M. A. Thorfinnson, representing the soils division.

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A1278-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 23, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesota's state champion 4-H dairy judging team placed fifth at the National Dairy Show contest in San Francisco, Saturday, October 21, announces T. A. Erickson, state 4-H club leader.

The Minnesota boys, who hail from Stearns county, competed with teams from 16 other states. They were accompanied to the National Show by their coach, Everell A. Smith, Stearns county club agent. Members of the team are: Earl Boldt, 18, Paynesville; Bernard Sonstegard, 17, Georgeville and Conrad Zehrer, 18, of Sauk Center.

Zehrer was fifth high individual in the contest and second high in Jersey and Guernsey classes. Boldt and Sonstegard tied for second place in Ayrshire judging. The team ranked third in Guernsey judging and eighth in Jersey classes.

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A1279-EA

Release

IMMEDIATE

Miss Marjorie Affleck has been named county home demonstration agent of Pipestone county, announces Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader. Miss Affleck's appointment was effective Monday, October 23. This is the first time Pipestone county has had the services of a full-time home demonstration agent.

Miss Affleck was born at Grand Rapids, Minnesota and attended the public grade and high schools there. She was graduated in 1930 from the University of Minnesota, College of Home Economics. She taught home economics in the Cromwell Minnesota high school, 1930-34, and in the Coleraine Minnesota high school 1934-until the present time.

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R1280-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 26, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Patsy and Marvalla Nick, 4-H club members of St. Louis county, really know their dairy products.

They not only were the state champion dairy manufacturing demonstration team of Minnesota, but in national competition at the National Dairy Show now going on in San Francisco, they placed in the prize-winning blue ribbon group, announces T. A. Erickson, state 4-H leader, University Farm, St. Paul. Patsy and Marvalla demonstrated how to make cream cheese at home.

Minnesota can also be proud of its 4-H dairy production demonstration team, says Erickson. Maurice and Carl Annextad, 19-and 16-year-old brothers of St. Peter, Nicollet County, placed fourth among the 13 teams competing for national honors from the central district. The boys demonstrated pasture improvement.

Miss Mabel Fertig, assistant club agent, St. Louis County, coached the girls' dairy manufacturing team and E. M. Nelson, Nicollet county agent, coached the dairy production team. Both coaches accompanied the teams to San Francisco.

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A1281-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 26, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

Four economics specialists from the agricultural extension division at University Farm, St. Paul, are leaving by auto today for Washington, D. C., where they will take part in the annual agricultural outlook conference, announces P. E. Miller, state director.

The Minnesota delegates are: S. B. Cleland, farm management specialist; Miss Mary May Miller, home economist, and D. C. Dvoracek and Wm. A. Dankers, marketing specialists.

On the occasion of this conference, delegates from nearly every state convene at Washington to present and hear statements on crop and livestock production estimates, and consumers' income status, says Miller. On the basis of these findings, U. S. outlook reports or statements will be prepared and published early in November.

Miller says the group from Minnesota will return October 30 and immediately prepare Minnesota outlook reports for the use of farmers, homemakers, and the general public in planning their operations for the coming year.

An important feature of the Minnesota outlook information this year, says Miller, will be a report on business and employment conditions, which vitally influence the demand for agricultural products.

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A1282-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 26, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Research guns of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station are expected to start firing soon at one of the worst enemies of poultry producers and the poultry industry, the disease known variously as range paralysis, fowl paralysis, leukemia and by other names. A big barrage in this direction has already been opened by the new regional poultry research laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture recently established at East Lansing, Michigan.

Dr. J. Holmes Martin, director of the regional laboratory, conferred all day Wednesday with poultry and veterinary research workers and experiment station administrators at University Farm, describing the new laboratory and its program, work underway, and plans for cooperation with state experiment stations, including Minnesota. Though set up on a permanent basis for research in poultry diseases, the laboratory is devoting all of its attention now to finding the precise nature, causes and means of prevention or control of fowl paralysis. Poultry industry leaders of the state attended the afternoon session of the conference, heard the plans and gave their views.

Up to now, it was brought out, little is known of the causes of fowl paralysis, how it spreads, its relation to heredity, to nutrition, or to other diseases, or about possible methods of control. It is hoped that with the regional laboratory heading up a big program of its own and coordinating the work of state experiment stations attacking various phases of the problem that a solution will be found. Twenty-five north central and northeastern states are included in the region and several, including Illinois, Iowa and Missouri are studying such angles as nutrition and breeding.

The Minnesota station is considering a project cooperating with the regional laboratory centering around the search for and nature of the causative agent of the disease now generally thought to be a virus. Search for the virus will be conducted by veterinary workers at University Farm, through use of an ultra-centrifuge machine now under construction. Dr. H. J. Sloan, head of the poultry section, is Minnesota's collaborator in the regional research program.

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A1283-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
October 26, 1939

Release

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.

Simple and practical is the method suggested by M. A. Thorfinnson, extension soil conservationist at University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota, for measuring soil losses on Minnesota's farms.

"Take a spade and dig down into one of your sloping cultivated fields," Thorfinnson told farmers in a recent announcement. "Measure the depth of the dark-colored surface layer of soil. That's topsoil--the crop-grower."

Then dig down into a similar slope in a pasture or area that has not been cropped or overgrazed, but protected by grass, Thorfinnson continued. Measure the depth of topsoil there.

"Chances are that you'll find 25 to 75 per cent more topsoil in the protected area than in the cropped one, even though the two slopes are the same," Thorfinnson says.

Marked differences can be noted between sloping land that has been farmed to a "good" rotation--including a legume hay crop--and slopes that have been cropped to corn or small grain most of the time, he says.

"If you make this test, you're going to be more concerned than ever before about your soil losses; unless, of course, you live in a non-erodible area or have been following an unusually good soil management program," the conservationist asserted.

He urged farmers to consider revising their cropping plans to include more erosion-resistant crops on "erodible acres" as well as such control practices as contour tillage, strip cropping, and terracing.

"Topsoil is the basic farm capital," Thorfinnson concluded. "No farm without it is worth very much."

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A1284-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 2, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture, and Isabel T. Noble, professor in the home economics division, University Farm, St. Paul, are in Chicago this week (November 1-5) attending a meeting of the cooperative meat investigations committee. Dean Coffey is committee chairman. The meat investigation work is under the direction of the agricultural experiment stations and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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A1285 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 2, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

City lights still beckon rural young people. At least a survey made by Dr. Lowry Nelson and Don Mitchell, division of rural sociology, University Farm, St. Paul, reveals that one youth in every three leaves his farm home. The survey shows that country girls find better economic opportunities in the cities while most boys take laboring or white collar positions.

In selected townships of Douglas, St. Louis and Dodge counties, 881 rural young people were contacted. Four hundred and seventy brothers and sisters of this group had moved from the farm. One hundred and fourteen girls had gone to cities mostly taking domestic, professional, or clerical positions. Of the 54 boys going to the cities, only two joined the professions while the others entered skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labor fields. Half of the 70 boys who left home for other rural areas entered agriculture, while of the 55 girls in this group, 40 went into domestic work (including housewife) and 10 took up professional work.

According to the survey 177 of these 470 young people moved to towns or villages.

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A1286 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 2, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Six Minnesota 4-H club members, the entire state club staff from University Farm, the Gopher 4-H chorus and Raymond Lee, secretary of the Minnesota State Fair Board will highlight the national Farm and Home Hour over Station WTCN at 11:30 a.m. (November 4) Saturday. The hour will feature the national 4-H club achievement day program and also, in Minnesota, marks the last year of club work under the leadership of T. A. Erickson. Mr. Erickson, who has been Minnesota club leader since 1913 will retire in 1940 having completed 27 years at University Farm work with rural young people.

The first and last 15 minutes of the hour will be broadcast from Washington and Chicago over NBC blue network with the program from 11:45 to 12:15 originating at WTCN. In interviews by State Club Agents Amy Wessel, Mildred Schenck and A. J. Kittleson, 4-H members will tell of their progress and achievement during 1939.

Richard Hull, radio specialist, University Farm, is in charge of the Minnesota part of the program.

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A1287-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 7, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Miss A. Elizabeth Burr, home demonstration agent in Winona county since July 1938, has been appointed to the same position in Faribault county, announces Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, University Farm, St. Paul. Succeeding Miss Burr in Winona county will be Esther P. McKowen of Lake Crystal.

Miss Burr will conduct eight training centers in her new county with over 700 women enrolled in the adult home demonstration project work. The county also has two active rural youth groups.

Miss McKowen is a graduate of the Stout Institute at Menommonie, Wisconsin, has done social service work in coal mining villages of Tennessee and Alabama, and was recently head of the Foods Department of the School of Vocational and Adult Education at Green Bay, Wisconsin. She owned and managed a farm at Lake Crystal from 1927 to 1933.

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A1288-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 7, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Miss Mildred Sailor, former county home demonstration agent of Fillmore and Faribault counties, has been named to fill the position of assistant state home demonstration leader, recently made vacant by the resignation of Mrs. Beatrice McGrath — Fleck

The announcement comes from Miss Julia O. Newton, state home demonstration leader, University Farm, St. Paul.

Miss Sailor has had several years of excellent training and background for the new state position, including farm home experience in Minnesota and Iowa, high school home economics teaching experience, and four years of field training as county home demonstration agent, says Miss Newton. In both Fillmore and Faribault counties, Miss Sailor demonstrated her ability to organize and conduct a highly efficient and well-balanced program of home demonstration activities, she said.

In her new capacity, Miss Sailor will give assistance to county extension agents in organizing and carrying out home project activities.

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A1289-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 7, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Mulch strawberry beds before freeze-up, advises E. M. Hunt, extension horticulturist, University Farm, St. Paul. The best time to apply the mulch is the last day before the first heavy freeze, for too early covering may injure the plants.

Mulch the beds with 3 inches of loose meadow hay or straw. Then, in the spring, uncover the plants as soon as the weather turns warm and the buds begin to unfold and start growth. This is before any of the leaves turn yellow. Most of the mulching material can be left between the rows and plants to help conserve moisture in the soil, keep down weeds and add humus to the soil, says Hunt.

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A1290 * MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 7, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, NOV. 10.

Dr. Henry Schmitz, chief of the forestry division, University Farm, St. Paul, will leave Sunday night (November 12) for San Francisco, California, to attend the annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters. The event will be held November 21-25 following a session of the division of education. Dr. Schmitz, who is editor of the Forestry Journal, plans to visit the Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment station at Portland, Oregon, while at the West coast.

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A1291-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 9, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

A cord of dry hickory, hackberry, ironwood, black locust or white oak has fuel value equal to or greater than a ton of good grade soft coal, says Parket C. Anderson, extension forester, University Farm, St. Paul, in comparing fuel value of wood and coal.

White ash, red oak, white elm, paper birch, hard maple or honey locust wood, weighing between 3,500 to 4,000 pounds to the cord, has a heating equivalent of about 1,800 pounds of average coal--or not quite a ton. Lighter woods, says Anderson, such as black walnut soft maple and rock elm, weighing only 3,000 or 3,500 pounds to the cord will equal about 1,500 pounds of average coal.

While green or wet wood helps hold a fire for long periods, it absorbs much of the heat, makes more smoke and is harder to keep burning. Pile wood cut this winter for use next summer and winter on a high, well-drained area so that air can circulate through it freely, says Anderson.

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A1292-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 9, 1939

Release not before
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

MINNESOTA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
ANNUAL MEETING THIS WEEK

Minnesota horticulturists will reserve next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (Nov. 14, 15, and 16) for their society's seventy-third annual meeting at Hotel Radisson in Minneapolis, R. S. Mackintosh, secretary-treasurer, University Farm, St. Paul, says the program will include talks by University Farm staff members and prominent horticultural authorities outside the state.

The only meeting on Tuesday will be that of the Executive Board at 6 o'clock. On Wednesday morning at 9:30, T. E. Carpenter, St. Paul, society president, will open the first regular sessions with W. H. Alderman, chief of the horticulture division at University Farm, W. G. Brierley, of the same staff, Fred E. Haralson, superintendent of the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm, and George M. Schwartz, department of geology and mineralogy, University of Minnesota, as speakers. At 11:30 there will be nomination of officers.

R. R. Rothacker, associate professor, landscape gardening, Iowa State College, Ames, will be Wednesday afternoon's headline speaker. He will discuss planning the flower border. E. Grant Perl, Minneapolis landscape architect, will show color movies of gardens abroad.

Special feature for Thursday morning will be a fruit judging contest sponsored by the Minnesota Fruit Growers association.

(More)

At the same time two sections will hold meetings--the horticultural society and the Minnesota Fruit Growers. The two groups will join for the last speaker of the Fruit program--George Leslie Smith of Rock Island, Illinois. He will discuss "Making the Orchard Pay."

The largest rose grower in America, T. Horace McFarland of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, who for more than 20 years has edited the "Rose Annual" will speak at the Thursday afternoon session of the Minnesota Garden Flower Society. His subject is "The Rose for All America." Meeting at the same time, Minnesota Fruit Growers will hear discussion of new orchard fruits for Minnesota and problems in the growing, transportation and refrigeration of berries.

Climaxing the event will be a banquet in the Gold Room at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

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A1193-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 9, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Five members of the University Farm staff, St. Paul, will attend the annual Land Grant College meeting in Washington, D. C. November 14-17. Dean W. C. Coffey, director of the University Department of Agriculture, will take part in a panel in the section on resident teaching discussing "Training for Public Service in the Field of Agriculture." Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, will speak on "The Specialist in a Coordinated Program of Agriculture. Presiding at a home economics section will be Wylle B. McNeal, chief of the home economics division. Dean E. M. Freeman of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, is chairman of the graduate work section and will preside at its meeting. Dr. C. H. Bailey, vice-director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, is the other University Farm member who will attend.

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A1294-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 13, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Are men superior to women even in the domain of cooking? Yes, says Dr. W. A. Billings, veterinarian of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, University Farm. No, argues Miss Eva Blair, nutrition specialist of the home demonstration staff. To prove his point, Dr. Billings will give directions for making his famous turkey dressing when the two specialists appear on the regular University Farm Hour program over Station WLB, Wednesday (Nov.15) , at 12:30. Miss Blair will give suggestions for cooking the holiday bird.

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A1295-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 13, 1939

Release

THURSDAY AFTERNOON PAPERS
NOVEMBER 16, 1939

Branding as false the idea that agriculture is a decaying industry, Dr. Charles M. A. Stine, an executive vice president of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, told the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities today that the unrealized possibilities of agriculture for expansion are probably greater than those awaiting any other industry. Dr. Stine, recipient for 1940 of the coveted Perkin medal awarded by the Society of Chemical Industry, asserted that they may conceivably equal the possibilities of all other industries combined.

The speaker declared that future houses, highways and automobile bodies, all fabricated from annual farm-grown crops, by no means are fantastic prophecies in the light of present chemical knowledge. He described research that they may lead to the selective destruction of weeds and of pests like the Japanese beetle and to a control of the flowering and fruiting of plants, rivaling in effect such revolutionary things in industry as nylon textile fiber, the radio, and television.

Five members of the University Farm staff , St. Paul, are in Washington, D. C. attending the Land-Grant College Meeting.

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A1296-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 13, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1939

Minnesota's first entries for the 1939 International Grain and Hay Show to be held at Chicago, December 2 to 9 in connection with the International Live Stock Exposition, were made by Ben A. Vorlicek, a St. Louis county grower. This was announced by R. F. Crimm, extension agronomist, University Farm, St. Paul.

Vorlicek will exhibit 10-ear samples of yellow corn, which he has selected from his 1939 crop recently harvested on his farm near Silver Lake.

Crim will serve on the corn judging committee of this year's crops show, to be held for the twenty-first time in connection with the International Live Stock Show.

In addition to the cash premiums offered in scores of classes featuring corn, small grain, seeds, and hay, the Minnesota Crop Improvement association will pay bonus prizes for worthy exhibits from the state in a number of classes, says Crim.

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A1297-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 13, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Dr. Lowry Nelson, head of the department of rural sociology, University Farm, St. Paul, will attend an agricultural committee meeting of the International Labor Office, Geneva, Switzerland, at Havana, Cuba, November 23. Dr. Nelson, who is the United States representative, will partake in discussions concerning the effect of the present war situation on the agricultural populations of various countries, and forms of social insurance for rural people. He will stop in Washington to attend a dinner observing the twentieth anniversary of the First International Labor conference.

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A1298-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 16, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Twenty-two young farmers of Minnesota are recommended to receive Sears-Roebuck and Company scholarships in the College of Agriculture, University Farm, St. Paul, announces Dean E. M. Freeman.

The scholarships, ranging in value from $50 to $200 are awarded to freshman and sophomore students in the College of Agriculture who live on farms, are partly or entirely self supporting and who have demonstrated superior scholastic ability and achievements.

The following freshmen students have been recommended to the University Board of Regents to receive scholarships valued at $120 each: Harold Milton Hamm, Hinckley; Urban Lees, North Branch; Ervin Hoberg, Lake Benton; Harold Hoglund, Long Prairie; Warren Jepson, Hamel; Howard Scherer, Foley; Robert Engstrom, Rush City; and Clifford Thoreson, Montrose.

Freshman scholarships of $50 each are being recommended for Warren Anderson, Quamba; Walter Bjoraker, Claremont; Charles Harding, Montevideo; Kermit Christensen, Forest Lake; Devayne Eppler, Hawley; Harlen Hartman, Anoka; Norbert Nystrom, Foreston; Edward Slettom, Little Falls; and Russell Winter, Aldrich.

Waldo Erickson of Deer River, a sophomore and a Sears-Roebuck freshman scholarship winner last year, is being recommended by Dean Freeman to receive a $200 award this year. Selection for the honor is based on grades and general all-round record made during the freshman year.

Four additional sophomore scholarships of $50 each have been recommended on the same basis. Those recommended are: Malcolm Bren, Hopkins; Russell Olson, Hector; Howard Ottoson, Detroit Lakes and Donald Sandager, Tyler.

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A1299-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 16, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

The new federal seed act which prohibits inter-state shipment of seed into Minnesota and other states unless it conforms to legal requirements established under state law, is a definite benefit to Minnesota farmers in their fight to control weeds, says R. F. Crim, extension agronomist, University Farm, St. Paul. Commenting upon the law, Mr. Crim points out its provision for correct labeling of all seed, and no false advertising by mail, radio or press.

To help Minnesota farmers further along this line the 1939 Minnesota legislature amended existing laws. No agricultural seed may be sold if they contain field bindweed (creeping jenny) while the number of other primary noxious weed seeds allowed per pound was lowered from 90 to 25, and seed packages containing weed seed are required to be labeled with the correct percentage of such seeds.

The Minnesota statute also provides for the free testing of 5 samples of crop seeds for any one person. This work is done at the State Seed Testing Laboratory at University Farm, St. Paul. Additional samples will be tested at cost by the laboratory.

According to law, hybrid corn offered for sale in Minnesota must now be labeled with the name of the county and state in which it was grown, the year grown, and must/the approximate number of days of growing season required for maturity in the section of the state for which it is intended.

state

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A1300-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 16, 1939

Release

TUESDAY, NOV. 14.

Minnesota homemakers on the lookout for salad "makings" this winter will find celery-cabbage taking first place honors, says Inez Hobart, nutrition specialist, University Farm, St. Paul.

A native Minnesota crop, its mild cabbage-like flavor and excellent keeping quality give it a unique place among vegetables. It not only is a substitute for lettuce as a salad base, but comes on the market during the late fall and winter months when lettuce is expensive and has little flavor. Pound for pound, the celery cabbage is cheaper.

From a vitamin standpoint, celery cabbage is up at the top, says Miss Hobart. It contains Vitamins A, B, and C, and is a source of both iron and calcium. She suggests chopping celery cabbage fine and mixing it with French dressing, or, for a particularly effective party dish, either cut the head in small rings for the center of the salad, or spread stalks with soft cheese. Of course, it may be creamed in the same way as celery and cabbage.

Gardeners around the Twin Cities are finding celery cabbage an excellent fall crop, especially on peat lands. Due to the careful methods used in its production, this home-grown product compares favorably with that shipped in from distant markets, and, if stored at a 40 degree temperature, will keep well during the winter.

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A1301

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 16, 1939

Release

MONDAY, NOV. 20

Growing Christmas trees commercially around the Twin Cities and selling them on a "cut-your-own and carry-it-home" basis is the idea suggested by E. G. Cheney, of the forestry division at University Farm.

Most everyone would like the fun of choosing his own tree, says Cheney. He figures that 2,000 Christmas trees could be grown to merchantable size on an acre of land within 8 to 10 years. By planting them two feet apart, the stand could be thinned out by those people desiring table trees. Growers could plan on a survival of 85 per cent of the stand, believes Cheney, especially if White Spruce or Balsam is the variety planted. These two types are best for Christmas-tree purposes. Selling the trees at an average of 50 cents per tree, and spreading profit over a ten-year growing period, there would be a gross profit of $100 a year per acre. Original cost of the 2000 trees would be approximately $50.

Speaking up for the children and spiking the popular fear that the cutting of Christmas trees is bad for our famous northern Minnesota woods, Cheney stresses that cutting out these trees as thinnings does not injure the stands whatever. But, when the trees are cut so early--the 1939 Christmas crop is already down--they are tied in bundles, freeze, get scrubby, and as soon as set up in the home, the needles start to drop. "Cut your own and carry it home" would insure a shapely, fresh tree that would hold its needles for months if so desired.

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A1302-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 22, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, NOV. 24

Three conditions which may be the cause of "cornstalk poisoning" are described by Dr. C. P. Fitch, chief of the veterinary division, University Farm, St. Paul. The exact cause of the disease reported when stock is turned into husked cornfields is not known.

Toxic poisoning is undoubtedly one cause, says Fitch. Experiments at Iowa State College, Ames, show that when drouth conditions prevent the normal growth and development of corn, certain substances may develop that are highly toxic for cattle. Moldy corn is apt to affect horses, but apparently is not dangerous for cattle.

Indigestion may result. However, if the same stalks are cut and fed in bundles, apparently no danger exists.

A third condition often associated with the disease is hemorrhagic septicemia. Bacteriological studies, however, have failed to show the presence of virus or bacterial forms usually associated with septicemic conditions.

Fitch suggests that farmers call a veterinarian at once when "cornstalk poisoning" is suspected.

--*-- A1303-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 22, 1939

Release

SUNDAY, NOV. 26

The School of Agriculture at University Farm, St. Paul, will usher in the holiday season with its annual Thanksgiving Eve Ball, Wednesday (November 29), from 8 to 12 p.m. in the campus gymnasium. All former students and graduates of the School of Agriculture are invited. Hilary's orchestra will play and refreshments will be served, announces the committee in charge.

Arrangements have been made by the combined membership of the Councils and include:

Harold Madsen, New Brighton; Donald Palmer, Lake City; Melvin Bernard, Chatfield; Earl Ness, Glenville; Joseph Patchin, Truman; Earl Meschke, Welcome; and Eric Bremer, Lake City; Norma Poppe, Caledonia; Ruth La Plante, Elk River; Murial Brown, New Ulm; Violet and Leona Flohr, Newport; Louise Wichelmann, Lake Elmo, and Betty Wadsworth, Osseo.

Hosts and hostesses for the occasion will be faculty members and their wives -- Messrs. and Mesdames J. O. Christianson, N. N. Allen, T. M. Canfield, and Elmer Johnson, and the Misses Johanna Hognason and Laura Matson; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Quist of Minneapolis, and Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Wilcox, St. Paul.

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A1304-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
November 22 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, December 6, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Fixing Things

Father often said that when farm tractors learned to raise little tractors he would buy a trio. Apparently tractors and their cousins, the autos, have learned the trick, because they have certainly multiplied - even faster than guinea pigs or rabbits. The fields are so noisy with the exhaust of tractors, trucks, cars and airplanes that horses are fairly discouraged. They have almost forgotten how to whinny.

But farm machinery doesn't take care of itself. When the motor has a valve stuck or a rock goes thru the cylinder of a combine, it doesn't help any to turn them out in the pasture for a couple of weeks. It seems to be a necessary part of modern farming to accumulate a herd of wrenches, hammers, hack saws and drills, a pair of dirty overalls and a flock of grease guns, oil cans and lifting jacks.

Then it helps a lot if the farmer can be enough of a mechanic to make at least minor adjustments and repairs at home. We still have a few men on the farm who use three blows on each nail. First they hit the nail, then the board beside it and lastly smack their own thumb. By far the majority, especially the younger fellows, show surprising ability with machinery, especially when their limited equipment is considered.

When I first came to this farm a good pitchfork and a bald-headed hammer seemed to be the total list of tools. Little by little we have added other things as we were able. As soon as possible we put up a shop 24 x 24 in one end of the machine shed. That gave us a place for the tools and we tried hard to keep every tool in its place.

(more)

One rainy day we built a forge with a blower from a mail order house. Then the old railroad rail was replaced with an anvil. Later we built a long bench of home sawed lumber. Another rainy day we put in a concrete floor. We found an old school house heater at the junk yard and bought it for $3.00. Then we made a lot of boxes for bolts, a rack for saws, chisels, etc., and drawers for small tools. Now our shop is fairly complete, but we want a power saw and planer, and are planning for it as soon as we are able.

I'm not a mechanic, but it's surprising what handy things can be made and what repair bills we can save by using our stormy days. Certainly the shop has been a good investment financially and a big satisfaction all along. It affords a change of work which is as good as a rest. It fosters a sense of pride in keeping things right up to snuff - painted, oiled and fixed ready to go. The Engineers even took a picture of our shop to use in a bulletin!

While some fellows are in town spending money, we're in the shop saving it. Perhaps we don't make big wages all of the time, but it's a lot of fun, just tinkering.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
November 22 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, December 27, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Stop or Go

This is the last story for 1939, and another year's work is completed. For six years I have scribbled each week something connected with kids, crops or livestock, and have been surprised at the number of editors who make room in their papers for just the ordinary happenings to an ordinary farmer on an ordinary farm.

This writing was started as publicity for this unit of the University of Minnesota Department of Agriculture. It seemed to be a possible way of putting the information we gained from experimental work into the hands of those who might use it to advantage. Then other ideas crowded in and it has become more of a family affair because after all, living on a farm and operating a farm are pretty much parts of the same thing.

Sometimes I think the editors use these stories because they are sent out from the University without cost. I do the writing in odd times as a part of the regular chores and the Station here pays for the mimeographing and mailing. Still it costs more to set type and print the stories than to throw the copy in the waste basket, so the editors must get some sort of interest from their readers or they wouldn't use them so often.

Once in a while someone tells me they liked something I wrote, and of course even fat people enjoy hearing such remarks. I always try to note what it was they liked so that that kind of a story may be tried again. Sometimes the ones I think are fairly good, never get a peep and then someone compliments me on a story which didn't seem so hot when it went out.

(more)

Most of the comment has been about the family and pet stories. The attempts to tell about experimental work, or to suggest methods of management which might work are usually met with stony silence. That's not always true though, because my own brother once told me he got a good idea from one of the stories he happened to read, and when a kid brother gets a statement like that from one who has always seemed so much older and wiser, it's something! It's just one of those things to put away and keep.

It cost me $5 but I did get some reaction on naming the colt, and honey locust seed has been sent to 13 states after that story appeared in Hoards Dairyman. That indicated that some folks do read the stories and it may be possible to think up more stunts which will get a rise out of someone.

Now 1940 is "just around the corner" and unless I'm fired, I'll try to think up 52 more subjects. Any suggestions you may offer will be greatly appreciated. Anyway, to all the editors, the typesetters, the regular readers, the occasional readers and the never readers, may I wish you and yours, A Happy New Year.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
November 22 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, December 13, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Feeding Time

Getting just the right feed to just the right animals in just the right quantities and at just the right time for highest efficiency in health and economical production, is a science, an art and a darn hard thing to do. In view of our much advertised "over production" perhaps it is a good thing to waste feed and decrease the efficiency of our farm animals, but from the standpoint of the individual farmer, it means he doesn't have the income he might have made.

Fine animals are the result of a combination of careful breeding and skillful feeding. Neither can achieve much success without the other. A scrub cow can't be fed into a grand champion and the best bred cow in America wouldn't win a prize if she was fed what many cows get to eat.

Most farmers plan to keep their stock filled up if they possibly can and certainly a lot of feed is used every year, but a trip thru any stockyards will tell a series of sad stories. The big run of cattle have had good grass in the spring, lots of cornstalks in the fall and some feed in-between.

One farmer I knew fed all the alfalfa his cows would eat during November, December and January. Then they had nothing but shredded cornstalks during February, March and April. Another man mixed alfalfa and corn stover all thru the winter with excellent results. Methods of feeding are just as important as the quantity and quality of feed.

This year we have an abundance of cheap corn and I predict a lot of grief next March and April at farrowing time. Corn is an excellent feed, but corn alone is wasteful for fattening and almost ruinous for breeding stock. Animals have wonderful ability to make adjustments, but there are limits.

(more)

A carburetor mixes air and gas so that they will explode properly in a motor. The air is cheaper, but the gas does the work. Similarly, animals must have carbohydrates for heat, energy and fat while proteins are needed for bones, muscles and blood. If the mixture is too lean or too rich, it is wasteful and inefficient. A mechanic can set a carburetor and it will stay just right as long as the same fuel is used, but a feeder must constantly adjust his variable feeds to meet the needs of his animals according to age, condition and the work they are expected to do.

That's what makes feeding so intricate and so interesting. Even the best scientists don't know everything about the subjects, but enough is known and enough has been published, so that most farmers could save several hundred dollars a year by a little home study or the careful practice of things they already know. Get a boy interested in the science of feeding, and he will begin to see some of the possibilities in farming.

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul Minnesota
November 22 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE

Wednesday, December 20, 1939

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

There Is A Santa Claus

Pete and Mary hurried into the store, intent on getting some Christmas shopping done as quickly and painlessly as possible, then getting home to the cows, pigs and chickens which would be waiting for their evening feed. They almost forgot Little Joe and Anna except to see that they adventured into no mischief.

The clerks were rushed and tired from the extra crowds. While they tried hard to be pleasant and patient, it was plainly an effort to answer all the questions politely, keep an eye on the toys and wrap packages.

In twenty minutes Pete and Mary were ready to go. They found Little Joe standing with his hands behind his back, admiring an air rifle with such a light in his eyes that Pete promptly added that item to his private shopping list. Anna was harder to find, but she was at last located near the door, gazing out of the window while two big tears left salty paths down her cheeks. All the way home she wouldn't say a word, while Little Joe talked incessantly about all the things he had seen in town.

After the chores were done and supper eaten, Pete settled in his easy chair with the paper, and then remembered the tears and Anna's unusual quiet. On an impulse he called her and took the little girl up in his lap. She lay still for a minute and then her arms crept around his neck and the flood broke.

It took some time before the cry was over and the reason discovered. It seems she had seen such a lovely doll and had asked the clerk if Santa Claus would bring her that one. The clerk had snapped, "Oh sure. Anything you want," and then in an aside to one of her friends, "The fool kid is still depending on Santa Claus," at which they both laughed.

(more)

When things were quiet, Pete held her tighter and told how he had seen Little Joe looking at the air rifle. "It made me want to buy him a dozen air rifles, just to see how tickled he would be. When a nice little girl admires a beautiful doll, I want to see how pleased she will be if she can hold it and know it is all her own."

"You're making a dish holder for mother for Christmas, aren't you? What makes you want to do things for other people which will make them happy? Why does it make you feel good inside when you have made someone smile or helped them when they needed it? What makes you unselfish? Why do you like to surprise folks with something nice which they didn't expect? There are a lot of names for it, but at Christmas time we call it Santa Claus. He whispers in your ear, prompting you to do something to make folks happy. He's very real, but he lives inside our minds, where he can't be seen. Only our acts show that he is with us."

Little Anna snuggled down contentedly, perfectly relaxed. "You 'splain things so nice, daddy. I want Santa Claus to whisper in my ears, too."

-----R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 22, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A probable increased demand for agricultural products, resulting from the general improvement in domestic conditions and the stimulus of war is the outlook for 1940, according to W. C. Waite, economist, and S. B. Cleland, extension farm management specialist, University Farm, St. Paul. Cleland has just returned from an agricultural outlook conference at Washington, D. C.

Improved industrial activity due to the war should lead to more employment, expanded payrolls, and an increase in the purchasing power of domestic consumers, resulting particularly in improved demand for dairy products and meats which are of great importance to Minnesota agriculture.

Outlook reports for important Minnesota agricultural commodities are as follows:

HOGS -- Stronger export and domestic demand, but the increased supplies will be large enough to offset most, if not all, of the favorable effects on price.

DAIRY -- Increased numbers of cows and heifers and ample feed supplies will result in milk production this winter about equal to that of last year. Improved business conditions will strengthen demand.

BEEF CATTLE -- Increased numbers of cattle are probable, with steer slaughter about equal to 1939, but total slaughter lower due to holding back breeding stock. Domestic demand for beef and hides is expected to be stronger than in 1939.

SHEEP -- Sheep numbers will remain steady, with more

(More)

lambs on feed. Improved demand is likely for meat and wool.

CHICKENS -- Increased egg production expected in 1940, but increased domestic demand should maintain a fairly good level of egg prices. Large supplies of poultry will be marketed this winter.

TURKEYS -- There is a 22 per cent larger crop in 1939 with the main increases in north central and western states. Price prospects depend on the ability of improved business conditions to absorb large offerings.

WHEAT -- World supplies are the largest on record. Export demand will be small unless other parts of the world are shut off from European markets by war. Serious shortage of fall rains in winter wheat areas may affect supply.

FLAX -- World supplies are about the same as a year ago, but Argentina is now growing a large crop under favorable conditions. European demand may be curtailed because of the war. U. S. demand is expected to exceed domestic production. Curtailed imports of tung oil from China are increasing the demand for linseed oil in the U. S.

POTATOES -- Small acreage increases are expected in the late potato states, with larger increases in early and intermediate states. AAA has tended to stabilize potato acreage.

FEED CROPS -- Present corn and grain supplies per animal unit are about average if sealed corn is deducted. Acreage prospects for 1940 indicate continuance of this situation. Hay production is expected to increase. With increases of flaxseed and soybeans, supplies of high protein feeds will probably be much above average.

--*-- A1305-MB (NL)

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 22, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesota radio listeners will turn back the pages of time a quarter of a century Friday, when the leaders of agricultural extension and farm bureau work in Hennepin county review their 25 years of activity. The program will be a feature of the University Farm Hour over WLB at 12:30.

Appearing before the "mike" will be K. A. Kirkpatrick, county agent in Hennepin county since 1914, M. R. Lane, president of the county farm bureau, and vice president of the Market Garden association; Mrs. George Butterfield, women's home community chairman; Ross Thorfinnson, ~~xixx~~ vice president of 4-H clubs; Fred Roy, secretary Twin City Milk Producers association; Phil Hamilton, secretary of the county farm bureau federation who will describe the work of the hospitalization committee; and Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service at University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1306-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 24, 1939

Release

THURS. NOV. 30

Production losses of 40 per cent and a badly interrupted schedule of management practices are only two of the losses that come to farmers whose dairy herds become infected with Bang's disease (contagious abortion), says Dr. C. P. Fitch, University Farm veterinary chief.

He advises that the only hope for "cleaning-up" infected herds lies in a thorough and carefully planned program of culling diseased animals. There is no "sure-fire" cure that can be recommended.

In recommending the agglutination or blood test to dairymen, Fitch described it as a highly perfected method of discovering animals that have Bang's germs in their bodies. The fall season, before stock is finally quartered in close proximity to each other for the winter month, is an ideal time to have them blood-tested for Bang's disease, and to cull out any reactors that would otherwise spread infection through the herd, he said.

Farmers may now sign an agreement with the State Livestock Sanitary Board and Federal Bureau of Animal Industry under which they will receive free herd tests by approved veterinarians. The agreement, known as the Bang's Disease-Free Accredited Herd Plan, is offered in all areas of the state and provides federal-state indemnity payments for reacting animals that are culled from the herd.

The upper limit of these indemnity payments if $15 for each grade animal and $30 for each purebred. This amount is in addition to the carcass value of the animal when ~~xx~~ slaughtered.

In one county, Red Lake, a "county area test" plan is already in operation and will shortly be completed. Four others, Pennington, Hubbard, Beltrami and Itasca will follow soon. Others will be granted the "area test" when men and finances permit. Farmers desiring to sign an accrediting agreement should contact their local veterinarian or county agent, Fitch advises.

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A1307 - EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 24, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A birthday cake to serve 400 people will feature the silver anniversary banquet of the Hennepin county, agricultural extension service at Brooklyn Center community church, Monday night (November 27). The event, sponsored by both the county Farm Bureau and extension groups, will pay tribute to K. A. Kirkpatrick who has been their county extension agent since 1914.

A technicolor movie of 4-H and Farm Bureau outings last summer will be a feature of the evening program. Other numbers will be a feature film, "The River", pictures of wild game and scenery in Minnesota, and musical selections by the Little German Band from the School of Agriculture, University Farm, St. Paul.

Greetings will be extended by 70 organizations with which the Farm Bureau and the Extension Service works, including outstanding cooperatives founded by Kirkpatrick and his co-workers.

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A1308 - MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 24, 1939

Release

TUESDAY, NOV. 28

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture, University Farm, speaks today, at the annual clinic of the Nebraska Pasturage-Forage-Livestock Program being held at Omaha, Nebraska.

For several years drouth has been so severe in many parts of Nebraska that farmers have faced difficult soil and animal husbandry problems. As he left for Omaha, Dean Coffey characterized this clinic as a "positive indication of determination, on the part of both agriculture and business groups of Nebraska, to protect the soil of the state and to maintain its outstanding animal husbandry until the severity of drouth conditions are past."

The meeting is sponsored jointly by the Nebraska College of Agriculture, Extension Service, Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Nebraska Crop Growers' association and the Nebraska Livestock Breeders' association.

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A1309-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 24, 1939

Release

SUNDAY, NOV. 26

First to Kansas City and then to Chicago will go the University of Minnesota College of Agriculture Crops Judging team, to compete in inter-collegiate contests.

The boys will judge tomorrow (Monday) in a 10-team contest held under the auspices of the Kansas City Board of Trade. Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2, they compete against 14 teams at the International Grain and Hay Show in Chicago.

Their coach, H. K. Wilson, agronomy division, University Farm, St. Paul, says they will judge all grains and corn, as well as potatoes and forage crops. Samples are compared on their merits for seed and commercial purposes. Freedom from weeds and foreign materials play an important role in the value of crops, so the class of 11 students, from which this team was chosen, must be experts at spying the tiny weed seeds and knowing which ones would be injurious to a farmer's land.

This is the first year of inter-collegiate competitions for all members of the team.

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A1310-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 29, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Twenty-seven creamerymen from four states have registered for the Eight-Weeks Creamery short course at University Farm, St. Paul, January 3 to February 28. Only 40 applicants will be enrolled this year, and W. B. Combs of the dairy staff, who is in charge of the course, urges all creamerymen interested to apply at once.

The course includes lectures and laboratory practice work in such subjects as creamery buttermaking, dairy chemistry, dairy bacteriology, creamery accounting and dairy mechanics. A series of lectures will also be offered on selection and management of dairy cattle, poultry husbandry and business correspondence.

Those creamerymen whose applications have been accepted for the course are as follows: Edward J. Cirkl, New Prague, Minnesota; Edwin Notch, Monticello; George Wanzek, Freeborn; Glen Uran, Santiago; Herman Simonson, McIntosh; Elmer R. Finch, Kimball; Clarence P. Jessen, Askov; Arthur H. Uecker, Meriden; Stanley Davis, St. Peter; and Harold Wobig, Pine Island, Minnesota.

William M. Pechacek, Owatonna, Minnesota; Norris Tukua, New Richland; Leonard E. Larson, Starbuck; Frank Clendenin, Long Prairie; Donald V. Neiemela, Middle River; Alden Walton Wass, Hallock; Emil J. Viskocil, Forada; Glen W. Newcomb, Rush City; Olaf Langseth, Hayfield; Roger Broberg, Detroit Lakes; and Chester L. Traaseth, Shevlin, Minnesota.

Harold Goble, Dakota, Minnesota; Sterling Weiker, Cando, North Dakota; Harold J. Woolridge, Ida Grove, Iowa; LeRoy Beckmark, Frederic, Wisconsin; Alvin Berg, Bottineau, North Dakota; and Lloyd Jelleberg, Bottineau, North Dakota.

At least one year of dairy products experience and the completion of a four-year high school course is required of those attending the eight weeks' intensive training. A Dairy School Certificate is awarded those who successfully complete the work and satisfactorily perform the duties of a position of responsibility for one year following the short course. Detailed information may be secured by writing W. B. Combs, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

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A1311-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 29, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Collegiate judging teams in livestock and meats will leave University Farm, St. Paul, Thursday (November 30) for Chicago to take part in judging competition as a part of the International Livestock Show. Also entered in a judging event, but not a part of the Show, is the University Farm poultry team.

Members of the general livestock team which will judge on Saturday are: Aage O. Buhl, Tyler, Minnesota; Cecil Fausch, Morristown; Russell P. Henry, Owatonna; Fay J. Meade, Marshall; Richard Radway, Roosevelt; and Joseph Raine, Marshall. Coach A. L. Harvey of the animal husbandry division, University Farm, will choose 5 judges and one alternate. They will compete in 3 classes each of beef, sheep, horses and hogs against 29 teams entered from the United States and Canada.

Meade and Fausch are also members of the meats judging team, along with Robert Hjetland, Duluth; and Glenn Long, Clearbrook. They will judge beef, pork and lamb. Coach P. A. Anderson of the animal husbandry staff, University Farm, says a new silver trophy will be up for the first time this year. The International Livestock and Meat Board will offer other trophy awards for both high team and individual placings.

The poultry team, under the supervision of T. A. Canfield, poultry instructor, will compete with teams from 12 states in the annual Midwest Intercollegiate Poultry Judging contest in Chicago. The team is composed of Oleen Sonstegard, Georgeville; Orville Swenson, Glenwood; Elmer Grathwohl, Fairmont; Parke Dahlgren, Bird Island. They will judge five classes of exhibition poultry, 5 classes of hens for past production, and compete in grading 50 eggs into U. S. grades by candling, and grading both live and dressed poultry into U. S. grades. Friday the team will make an inspection tour of marketing and storage facilities in Chicago, and will hear talks by the managers of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade.

Three collegiate judging teams from the University Farm, St. Paul, will compete for honors at the International Livestock Show which begins in Chicago Saturday. The teams will judge general livestock, meats and poultry.

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ALH:LB

News Bureau
University Farm , St. Paul
November 29, 1939

Release

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

A special grant of $9,000 each year for the next 5 years will come to the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station from the Frasch Foundation, New York, for research work on sulphur deficiency in the soils, plants, and animals of the state, announces Dr. C. H. Bailey, vice-director of the station.

The money will be used to continue and enlarge a project already started here several years ago, says Bailey. The University division of soils, under Dr. F. J. Alway, conducted research work concerning the soils near the source of the Mississippi River. It was found that a large area, centering around Beltrami county, was lacking in sulphur and that plants grown there had certain peculiar qualities as a result. It is known that sulphur is needed by both plants and animals to maintain the delicate chemical balance of cell and body structure.

Sulphur is normally washed from the air into the soil by rain. As much as 400 pounds per year are deposited in this way in the Twin City area, but only 5 pounds per acre come from the air around Bemidji. Gypsum, a sulphur compound, was experimentally applied on trial plots in the Bemidji area and gave favorable results. "More investigation of the causes and results of sulphur deficiency is needed, however, before any solution to the problem can be reached," says Bailey. "The new funds will give us a chance for more intensive research work."

The problem will be divided into two parts. One, handled by the division of soils, will be a study of sulphur deficiency in the soil; the other, to be undertaken by the division of agricultural biochemistry under Dr. R. A. Gortner, will be a study of how plants use sulphur and how animals react to feed that is lacking in this element.

The Frasch Foundation was established under terms of the will of the late Elizabeth Blee Frasch, widow of the man who discovered a super-heated-hot-water method of mining sulphur from the earth.

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A1313-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 29, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

W. C. Coffey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture, pays tribute Sunday to a noted scientist and friend, Professor L. J. Cole, chairman of the department of animal genetics, Wisconsin College of Agriculture at Madison.

Dean Coffey gives the principal address at an evening dinner of the American Society of Animal Production. He credits Professor Cole with being responsible for the development of fundamental approaches to the question of genetics and animal breeding.

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A1314-EA

Release

IMMEDIATE

The Minnesota Agricultural Experiment station, University Farm, St. Paul, will be represented by eight staff members on the thirty-second annual program of the American Society of Animan Production in Chicago, December 1 to 3.

Dean W. C. Coffey, director of the station, will be one of the speakers at the Saddle and Sirloin Club dinner, which climaxes the event. Others taking part in the general sessions include A. L. Harvey, E. F. Ferrin, R. E. Comstock, and W. W. Green of the animal husbandry staff; W. E. Peterson and J. C. Shaw, dairy division; and R. J. Christgau, Northwest School and Experiment station, Crookston.

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A1315-LB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 7, 1939

Release

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

H. P. Rusk, director of the University of Illinois Experiment Station, and Asher Hobson, head of the agricultural economics department, University of Wisconsin, will be featured speakers during Farm and Home Week, January 15-19, at University Farm, announces A. E. Engebretson, general chairman.

Both men will speak at a general evening assembly. Hobson, who was the American delegate to the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome for seven years, will discuss some probable effects of the European war on the American farmer. At a meeting of Minnesota livestock breeders, Dean Rusk will describe results of cattle feeding experiments at the Illinois station.

Livestock breeders at Farm and Home Week will have an opportunity to attend many of the individual breed association annual meetings, including the Minnesota Horse Breeders, Spotted Poland China and Berkshire Swine breeders, and the various cattle associations--Beef and Dual Purpose Cattle Producers, Shorthorn, Hereford, Aberdeen-Angus, Milking Shorthorn, Red Polled, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey and Jersey. Climaxing the individual meetings will be the annual meeting of the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association on Friday.

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A1316-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 7, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

A "tire tube" method for treating fence posts that is cheap, practical and efficient is recommended by Parker O. Anderson, extension forester, University Farm, St. Paul. Zinc chloride is applied to green posts through inner tubes tightly stretched around the large ends of the posts. The preservative is measured and poured into the tubes while the posts lie at an inclined angle. From eight to 24 hours are required for the chloride to seep into the wood and replace the sap.

By this method, fast-growing trees may be converted into posts that will last about as long as cedar. The cost will vary with the variety of wood and its size and condition, but will average approximately 6 cents for each post.

An illustrated publication that explains the tire tube method of treatment may be obtained free by writing the Forest Products Laboratory, College of Agriculture, Madison, Wisconsin.

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A1317-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 7, 1939

Release

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12.

Whis is more valuable, the bee or the honey, is one of the questions answered by M. C. Tanquary, professor of apiculture, University Farm, St. Paul, in his new Extension Bulletin 204, "Beekeeping in Minnesota", issued by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

According to Tanquary, bees are worth from ten to twenty times as much as the honey they produce mainly because of their work in pollination. In the bulletin he shows the relationship between beekeeping and other phases of agriculture and points out that Minnesota, with an annual yield of several million pounds of honey, is rapidly coming to the front in this industry. Complete directions are given for the beginner in the beekeeping business, the work for the various seasons is outlined, and means of meeting emergencies that arise in management, and avoiding the hazards that might bring failure are suggested.

A free copy of Extension Bulletin 204 may be obtained from a county agricultural agent, high school agriculture instructor, or by writing the Bulletin Office, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1318-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 11, 1939

Release not before
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

A little red oil can--as famous on the "Ag" campus of the University as the little brown jug is in Minnesota's football annals--will celebrate its twentieth birthday at the annual Christmas assembly of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, University Farm, Wednesday evening (Dec.13).

It was in 1919 that joking students, who noticed Dean E. M. Freeman's Model T frequently ran out of gas, presented the oil can to the Dean. At the Christmas assembly that year, he gave it to a student for "outstanding service to the school". It is now the most coveted award on the farm campus, and each year is given to some student or faculty member.

The Christmas assembly program Wednesday will include numbers by the University Symphony quartet, composed of David Zeff, St. Paul, and Sidney Fagatt, Minneapolis, violins; Ingwelde Pfitzner, Minneapolis, viola; and Milton Johnson, St. Paul, cello. The University Farm chorus under the direction of J. Clark Rhodes and a solo by Phyllis Toepke, New Salem, North Dakota, are also on the program.

The Students' Council of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics is in charge of the assembly. General chairman for the event is Rosemond Lofgren, Littlefork; program chairman--Margaret Willson, Minneapolis; gifts--Virginia Johnston, Minneapolis; decorations--Lemuel Blakemore, St. Paul, and publicity--Ardis Anderson, Long Prairie.

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A1319-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 11, 1939

Release

THURSDAY, DEC. 14

At the request of farmers in the vicinity of Byron in Olmsted County, information relating to the establishment and operation of a Soil Conservation district was presented, at a meeting held there, December 5, by Olmsted County Agent Ray Aune and Extension Soil Conservationist M. A. Thorfinnson, University Farm, St. Paul.

Following discussions of soil erosion problems in the area and a showing of the Department of Agriculture moving picture "The River", a committee of 7 farmers was elected to meet later and perfect plans for an organization to cooperate with federal and state agencies in controlling soil losses. H. Caulfield of Douglas was elected chairman of the committee.

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A1320-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 11, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Danger of fire from the Christmas tree can be reduced by fireproofing the tree and the cotton used around the tree, says W. L. Sandstrom of the division of agricultural biochemistry, University Farm, St. Paul. Treating the tree will not change its appearance.

Fireproofing replaces the moisture in the tree with a fire-resistant chemical which the tree drinks through its stem and carries to every branch. Ammonium sulfate is an excellent, inexpensive, fire-resisting material, recommended by the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering. It costs about 5 cents a pound and is sold by seed, fertilizer, and hardware stores.

Dissolve a pound of ammonium sulfate in 1½ pints of water, for every 4 pounds of tree. Pour the solution into a tall, narrow container. Put the tree into the solution immediately after it is cut. If the tree is purchased, try to get one freshly cut. Cut the end of the stem obliquely or in a V shape to keep the cut surface off the bottom of the supporting container.

Set the solution with the tree in it where the temperature is between 55° and 65°F., out of direct sunlight. Leave it for about 4 days. The degree of fire resistance depends on the amount of the solution taken up by the tree. The tree may be left in the solution while it is on display.

The cotton, often used around the base of a Christmas tree also is easily fireproofed, says Sandstrom. Make a solution of 7 ounces of borax, 3 ounces of boric acid, and 1½ ounces of soap powder in 2 quarts of hot water. Spread the cotton where it can stand wetting, and sprinkle it thoroughly while the solution is still warm. Dry it without handling, to keep it fluffy. If you use absorbent cotton, omit the soap powder.

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A1321-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 14, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesotans living in sections where pine trees are abundant may have festive holiday fires in their fireplaces if they treat the pine cones with chemicals to give off colored flames, says Paul P. Merritt, biochemist at University Farm, St. Paul.

Colors coming from the different chemicals are--red from strontium chloride, green from barium chloride, bluish green from copper sulphate, orange from calcium chloride; lavendar from potassium chloride, and yellow from sodium chloride (common salt). When sodium and calcium are used, their colors will obscure those from other compounds.

A satisfactory method of treating the cones is to dissolve the chemicals in water. Using a wooden tub, let the cones soak for a few minutes in a solution of one pound of chemical to one gallon of water. Drain and dry them. If the cones are placed in a bag, they may be dipped without getting the hands in the solution.

Commercial forms of many chemicals may be obtained from most local druggists and some from fertilizer dealers.

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A1322-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 14, 1939

Release

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Beginning in January, a series of flax and malting barley improvement schools will be held in 28 counties of the state, announces Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, University Farm, St. Paul. The barley schools, offered for the fourth consecutive year, supply information concerning varieties and growing and harvesting practices that will increase yield and quality.

W. W. Brookins, extension agronomist, says he will use colored pictures to illustrate the discussion, with emphasis on the production of commercially desirable crops. Farmers will submit pint samples of barley for analysis and at the meetings everyone will have opportunity to see and discuss the particular problems of barley growing in their region. When the samples are returned to the owners, a statement of variety, purity of variety, threshing damage, disease, weed content, germination and suggestions for the correction of specific faults will be included.

Three speakers scheduled for the schools are W. B. Combs, extension marketing specialist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Henry O. Putnam, secretary of the Northwest Crop Improvement association; and E. J. Mitchel, secretary of the Flax Development committee, Minneapolis.

Dates set for the county schools are: Swift county, January 8; Traverse, Jan. 9; Yellow Medicine, Jan. 10; Lyon, Jan. 11; Renville, Jan. 12; Redwood, Jan. 22; Brown, Jan. 23 and 24; Nobles, Jan. 25; Martin, Jan. 26; Dodge, Jan. 29; Fillmore, Jan. 30; Freeborn, Jan. 31; Dakota, Feb. 6; Goodhue, Feb. 7; Wabasha, Feb. 8; Winona, Feb. 9; Wright, Feb. 12; McLeod, Feb. 13; Sibley, Feb. 14; Scott, Feb. 15; E. Otter-tail, Feb. 20; E. Polk, Feb. 21; W. Polk, Feb. 22; Pennington, Feb. 23; and Olmsted, Feb. 27.

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A1323-39

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 20, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Summing up reports from various agencies concerned with farm production and price outlook for flax in 1940, S. B. Cleland, University farm management specialist, foresees a further expansion of acreage in Minnesota but even with this, a moderately favorable price for next year.

Average U. S. yields per acre in both 1938 and 1939 were higher than for several preceding years, and this fact, together with continued encouragement for flax production under the 1940 AAA program will probably boost the 1940 U. S. acreage even higher than the two million acres harvested this year, says Cleland. Production in excess of domestic consumption is not expected, however, and imports will still be needed.

Minnesota flax growers this past year raised an estimated one million acres, or approximately half of the entire nation's flax crop.

Flaxseed crushings in the U. S. during the first quarter of the 1939-40 season were well above the average of recent years, the Agricultural Market Service states in its Quarterly Flax Market Review. Production of linseed oil increased proportionately and the consumption of oil also increased. Factory consumption increased about 10 per cent over the corresponding period last year, while other domestic disappearance gained more than 20 per cent during this period. The increased disappearance of linseed oil apparently reflected the steady increase of residential construction during the past 6 or 9 months, the review states.

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A1324-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 20, 1939

Release Tuesday

DECEMBER 26, 1939

Forty-five scientists and research workers of the University of Minnesota Department of Agriculture will attend meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Columbus, Ohio, December 28-30.

From the division of plant pathology, the following members will present papers at a meeting of the American Phytopathological Society: E. C. Stakman, J. J. Christensen, E. W. Hanson, Helen Hart, M. F. Kernkamp, M. B. Moore, L. A. Schaal, I. W. Tervet, and F. S. Thatcher. Other plant pathology staff members planning to attend the Christmas meetings are Edward Andrews, N. E. Borlaug, Dorothy Blaisdell, Louise Dosdall, T. H. King, W. Q. Loegering, R. C. Lorenz, W. J. Martin, J. T. Presley, E. G. Sharvelle, J. R. Vaugn, I. A. Watson, and T. R. Wright. Dr. Stakman will be in charge of a symposium on disease resistance and both Dr. Stakman and Dr. Christensen are members of the Society's council. Helen Hart is associate editor of the official journal.

University Farm entomologists going to Columbus include W. A. Riley, chief of the division of entomology, A. A. Granovsky, C. E. Mickel, H. M. Haydak, H. S. Shepard, Donald Denning, Herbert Milliron, Harold Peters, Harry Pratt, John Medler, Donald Murray, Earl Pritchard, Herbert Parten, and T. L. Aamodt. Dr. Riley, Granovsky, Haydak, and Milliron will present scientific papers. Dr. Mickel is secretary-treasurer of the Entomological Society of America.

Eight members will present nine papers from the horticulture division will append the meeting of the American Society for horticultural science. Those who will give papers at Columbus are W. H. Alderman, chief of the division of horticulture at University Farm, and chairman of the Society's committee on revision of constitution and by-laws, W. J. Brierley, L. E. Longley, T. M. Currence, R. E. Larson, W. L. Bartholdi, and Z. M. Fineman.

Dr. H. K. Wilson, division of agronomy and plant genetics will represent the Minnesota Academy of Science and give its report at the state academies' meeting. Dr. Wilson has been secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota group for the last six years.

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A1325-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 20, 1939

Release
IMMEDIATE

Jack W. Steeves, freshman in the College of Agriculture at University Farm, St. Paul, has been recommended for a Sears-Roebuck freshman agricultural scholarship for 1939-40. This is one of 18 fifty-dollar scholarships to be passed on by the Board of Regents. Steeves is from Malmo, Minnesota.

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A1326-MB

Release
IMMEDIATE

Robert Kehr, junior in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics at University Farm, St. Paul, and member of the school's Plant Industry Club, has been elected secretary of the national student section of the American Society of Agronomy. Twenty universitites sent representatives to this meeting held in Chicago at the time of the International Livestock Show. Others from University Farm who attended were Harry Tangen, Menahga, George Thorbeck, Gonvick, and Melvin Pearson and George Page, Minneapolis. Page was second place winner in a country-wide essay contest sponsored by the American Society of Agronomy.

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A1327-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 22, 1939

CORRECTION

To The Editor:

In the releases sent you from this office dated Wednesday, December 20, was one concerning University Farm scientists who will attend meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Will you please delete the fourth paragraph and insert the following information:

"Nine members from the horticulture division will present 10 papers at the meetings of the American Society for Horticulture Science. They are W. H. Alderman, chief of the division of horticulture, University Farm and chairman of the society committee on revision of the constitution and by-laws; W. J. Brierley; L. E. Longley; T. M. Currence; F. A. Krantz; J. D. Winter; R. E. Larson; W. L. Bartholdi; and Z. M. Fineman."

THANK YOU

A1325-LB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 22, 1939

Release

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

With 173 water-impounding dams already completed, and 30 more to be completed before June 30, the Soil Conservation Service is "greatly reducing" fire hazards in northern Minnesota's vast "big bog" country.

This was the announcement made by Col. L. E. Fiero, manager of the 1,500,000-acre Beltrami and Pine Island submarginal land projects south of Baudette.

Of the 173 dams, four are located on streams while 169 are located on drainage ditches. By blocking drainage ditches and restoring former water levels and flowages in the vast area, fire danger is greatly reduced, Fiero said.

Practically all of the large wilderness area was drained, and nearly every quarter-section was settled in the second decade of the century, Fiero stated. Since the area is "definitely submarginal" for agriculture, settlers were soon in distress, and counties gradually approached bankruptcy. By 1933 an acute "resettlement" problem had developed, the project head claimed.

Most of the settlers in the area have been bought out and many of them have been helped to "relocate" on land better suited to agriculture in Roseau County and Lake of the Woods County along the Rainy River, the Colonel said. The project areas are being developed for forestry and wildlife--uses to which the land is "naturally fitted", Fiero stated.

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A1328-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 22, 1939

Release

TUESDAY, DEC. 26

Thatcher wheat, credited with saving at least 18 million dollars for western Canada farmers in 1938, is tops now as a spring wheat variety all over North America, says H. K. Hayes, chief of the division of agronomy at University Farm, St. Paul.

Thatcher wheat was developed at the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment station a few years ago and has proved superior in yielding, milling and rust-resisting ability.

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A1329-MB

Release

TUESDAY, DEC. 26

Mr. John O. Erickson of Virginia, Minnesota, who received his B. S. degree in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics in June, 1939, with a major in agricultural biochemistry, has been awarded a research assistantship in biochemistry at Duke University to begin January 1, 1940, announces R. A. Gortner, chief of the biochemistry division at University Farm, St. Paul.

The assistantship will be financed by a research grant from the Rockefeller Foundation granted to Professor Hans Neurath of Duke University for a fundamental study on the physical chemistry of protein behavior. Dr. Neurath was a research associate in agricultural biochemistry at the University of Minnesota in 1935-6.

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A1330-LB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 27, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Minnesota homemakers who find their food budget too small to cover the cost of an adequate supply of fresh whole milk should consider the nutritive value of dried skim milk, believes Inez Hobart, home demonstration nutrition specialist with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service at University Farm, St. Paul.

One pound of skim milk powder is equivalent to four and three quarters pounds of fresh skim milk. The dried skim milk contains all the solids of whole milk but the butterfat so if used as a whole milk subetitute, 5 to 6 ounces of butter should be added to the diet for each pound of skim milk powder used, says Miss Hobart.

To use skim milk powder, allow one cup of powdered milk to one quart of cold water. Stir in the water gradually. In baking, mix and sift the powder in with the dry ingredients, substitute water for the milk.

Miss Hobart warns that dried skim milk is semi-perishable and should be kept in sealed glass jars in a cool place. Those interested in its use may obtain a copy of Extension Bulletin #177 - "Using Dry Skim Milk" by writing the Bulletin Office, University Farm, St. Paul.

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A1331-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 27, 1939

Release

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

Subnormal rainfall, with few rains having enough intensity to cause run-off, provided few tests of soil conservation practices in southeastern Minnesota during 1939, according to a survey just completed by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

The survey covered farms included in cooperative agreements with the Soil Conservation Service. Each farm is set up as a complete soil and moisture conservation demonstration, the farmer cooperating with University Farm departments and the federal Service in the "demonstration" program.

Rainfall in the Spring Valley area, located in Fillmore county, was six inches below normal for the period between January 1 and September 1, according to the survey. Similar reports were made at Faribault and Winona, where demonstration "projects" are located.

Legume hay seedings--which play a dominant part in soil conservation programs--were reported generally satisfactory on conservation demonstration farms throughout southeastern Minnesota.

A close relation between proper seedbed preparation and success with seedings was reported. Where good quality seed was used and recommended soil treatment and seedbed preparation practices followed, about three-fourths of the legume seedings were successful this year in the Spring Valley project.

The same project reported that seedings made on the surface and on loose seedbeds generally failed. Where seedings failed, soil conservation programs were retarded, since the effectiveness of strip-cropping and of improved crop rotations in the control of erosion depend on good stands of clover and alfalfa, conservation officials stated.

Failure of new seedings means that old seedings must be kept another year, thus disrupting planned crop rotations, Service men pointed out.

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A1332-EA

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 27, 1939

Release

IMMEDIATE

Forty creamerymen from six states will be in college classrooms and laboratories at University Farm, St. Paul, next Tuesday morning (Tuesday, Jan. 3). Coming from as far east as New York and from Wyoming on the west, they will attend the annual Eight Weeks Creamery Operators' short course offered by the dairy division of the University of Minnesota. With completion of the course work February 28, and a year's experience in a position of responsibility following the "school", they will be awarded Dairy School certificates.

W. B. Combs of the dairy division is in charge of the short course. He says lecturers scheduled for the eight weeks will be members of the University faculty and other prominent men in the dairy industry including W. A. Gordon, editor of Dairy Record, St. Paul; John Brandt, president, Land O'Lakes, Inc.; and R. A. Trovatten, Minnesota dairy and food commissioner.

Classroom discussion and laboratory practice work in creamery buttermaking, dairy chemistry, dairy bacteriology, creamery accounting and dairy mechanics as well as a series of lectures on selection and management of dairy cattle, poultry husbandry, and business correspondence make up the instruction.

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A1333-MB

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 27, 1939

Release

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

Leadership and its problems will be discussed in three special conference sections during the annual Farm and Home Week at University Farm, St. Paul, January 15-19.

A four-day conference on community leadership will consider characteristics of an efficient leader, his problems, and the help he may expect from members of the community. Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, will be a speaker.

Wednesday and Thursday during the Week a special session for Minnesota's rural youth groups will be featured. Topics for discussion will include working with other people, Europe in 1939, a practical insurance program for young people, and a review and preview of rural youth education programs. The program lists such well-known speakers as C. Gilbert Wrenn, professor of educational psychology, Malcolm S. MacLean, director of General College--both of the University of Minnesota--and J. S. Jones, secretary of the Minnesota Farm Bureau.

To help local 4-H adult and junior leaders with their club problems, sessions will be held each day beginning Tuesday. What's ahead in the 4-H program, how results can best be demonstrated and achievements recognized, and how interest may be stimulated are subjects scheduled for this conference.

In all three sections special emphasis will be placed on the use of music. A. D. Zanzig, nationally known song leader, New York City, will direct music programs at the community, rural youth, and 4-H conferences and will lead singing for the entire short course group at assembly meetings.

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A1334-MB (nl)

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 28, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, January 3, 1940

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Inventories

Before we can find out how much we lost (or made) during old 1939, it is necessary to appraise the business as it stands at the end of last year and the beginning of this. It must be a nightmare to inventory a dime store where hundreds of thousands of individual articles have to be counted and listed. On the farm it is much more simple.

We just start out and write down all of the things that belong to us.

1 cow - Rosie	-	$ 60.00
1 calf - Peanuts	-	8.00
10 shotes @ $5.00	-	50.00
1 horse - Bismarck	-	40.00
1 tractor	-	200.00
1000 bu. corn	-	300.00
Household furniture	-	150.00

- and so on down the line. It adds up to more than one would think, even at conservative prices. Of course it is necessary to guess at some of the values. We might not be willing to sell old Bismarck for $100, but it is best to put down what other people think he is worth because sentimental values seldom bring cash returns.

Perhaps it might be well to make a separate list of the things we value, but which have no interest to a banker. Such an inventory might run into fabulous figures such as the government uses. Here we can put down the other $60 we want to charge for old Bismarck. It might go like this -

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1 horse - Bismarck	-	$ 60.00
1 dog - Chunie	-	50.00
1 cat - Tom	-	15.00
1 comfortable chair	-	25.00
1000 birds (free concert)	-	100.00
1 good place to live	-	1,000.00
500 good neighbors	-	10,000.00
Health	-	50,000.00
1 wife, 4 children	-	1,000,000.00

That sort of an inventory adds up to an astonishing amount. Of course I don't know how much a million is. It's just one of those things we talk about, but I'm positive it's a lot more than $10.00.

When we come right down to brass tacks, it's the second sort of an inventory which means the most. Of what use are any or all possessions if we can't enjoy them? They are the things which give us the incentive to work, to save, to try and get ahead a little, to play the game according to the rules, to be a good neighbor.

Sometimes, like most other people, I get a bit down in the mouth and think things are all going down hill on an icy road, but study of my "intangible inventory" always brightens the picture. Certainly an amount of property equal to the government debt would be no inducement to part with mother or any of the kids. Money wouldn't do me much good if I lived in Russia, Germany, Poland or Finland. To me, health, friends, neighbors, the privilege of living in the U.S.A., the ability to enjoy hard work and God's great outdoors is more important than the accumulation of property. Of course, I'll do my best to make the regular inventory grow each year, but I hope to keep clearly in mind that the best things in life cannot be purchased with gold.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent

Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 28, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, January 10, 1940

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Pills or Preventives

This is an age of miracles. We plug in the radio and hear a man talking in Berlin. We mix a little dust with our seed and prevent smut in oats. We empty a bottle of bacteria on alfalfa seed and prevent the depletion of nitrogen in the soil. We give a cow almost dead with milk fever a small hypodermic injection and she gets up and walks away - perfectly well. We scratch a boy's arm and immunize him from deadly smallpox. The list of wonders would fill a book.

We get so accustomed to these modern miracles that they are taken for granted and we are apt to think that pills, potions or pull can correct all ills. The radio tells us that our fortunes in business and love will be definitely assured if we just cover up that bad breath or read a certain book. Pills are guaranteed to eliminate all bad effects from overeating, oversmoking or overdrinking. Pills will dispose of that "tired feeling", and make us the life of the party. Pills will restore business activity, keep us out of war, make alert, industrious honest citizens out of shiftless, lazy incompetents.

We laugh at the old patent medicine show which sold snake oil to cure diphtheria, rheumatism, carbuncles or stomach-ache. At the same time, we pay out fortunes for the modern versions of "snake oil relief" for every possible ill, mental, physical or economic, which may be discovered. As Harry Owen puts it, "It's easier to take a pill than precaution."

Fertilizer gives wonderful results when it furnishes an element lacking in the soil, but it won't take the place of good tillage and intelligent management. Cod-liver oil performs miracles in certain cases, but it won't take the place of good feed and good housing. Pedigrees showing the remarkable ancestors of a certain an-

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imal don't do much good unless the animal inherits the ability to make economical use of feed and possesses the ability to transmit desired characters to its offspring.

We're all looking for the easy way to do things, as of course we should, but so far no pills have been invented which will replace old-fashioned energy, initiative, skill and hard work. It looks as though we will have another year in which it will be necessary to study, sweat and stand on our own feet. It may be the age of miracles, but so far no pills have been invented which will take the place of weather, work and wisdom in managing a farm. The individual who looks ahead, plans as carefully as he knows how, and then gets things done on time, will probably come out on top this year, as usual.

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 28, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, January 17, 1940

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

Modern Slavery

When Grandpa was a boy, a man's property might include a number of human beings which were bought or raised like so much livestock. These slaves did the manual labor in farm and city, but they were expensive to maintain. They needed overseers, food, lodging and medical care if they were to work efficiently, so all of the income they produced was not clear profit by any means.

Slaves shelled the corn by hand and ground it by pounding. They carried water and shoveled coal, made candles and lighted them, they washed the clothes, waved fans to keep their masters cool and turned the crank on fanning mills, grindstones or churns.

Lincoln abolished that kind of slavery, but now we have devised a better kind which the government is helping to make available for farm as well as city people. The modern slave will do things Grandpa never heard of. It is housed in a wire, fed by unseen hands at very small expense and doctored by a mechanic. Best of all, it is always ready, day or night, at the touch of a finger to perform work which would require the best efforts of from one to 100 men. It compares with human labor about as a big Diesel motor compares with a tread mill.

Those of us who have used electricity for many years, take it as a matter of course and seldom think of all it means when we flip a switch, but families who are having the pleasure of using "juice" for the first time get a big thrill from it. Lights everywhere before the old lantern could be found, water pumped to the tank or into the kitchen with no effort whatever. Feed ground, furnace stoked, wheels turned everywhere by this silent, efficient slave which never tires.

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Mother can't see how she ever got along without that electric washing machine, ice box, range and automatic water system. Pa wonders how he ever managed to pump and carry all that water. Brother thinks it's fun now to clean grain or grind feed when there is no noisy engine to start and no tiresome crank to turn. Sister can curl her hair safely without overheating the iron in the lamp chimney.

Along every road, tall poles and heavy wires are becoming common. House after house has wire connections, indicating that the universal servant is at the disposal of another farm family. Undoubtedly, this is one of the greatest forward steps ever made toward improving home life on the farm, and giving rural people the advantages of city residents.

Wouldn't Grandpa be astonished if he could come back for a time and see what had happened? Can't you just imagine how he would run around from switch to switch, curious to see what it would do when he turned this one? Wouldn't it be fun to watch him?

--R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 28, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, January 24, 1940

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

A Winter's Hike

Sitting in a warm room, looking out at the snowdrifts and hearing the wind howl around the corners, one is apt to complain of the terrible winter weather here in the north country. We look at the Florida and California pictures of smiling bathing beauties under the bright sun and sometimes wish we could drop all the troubles piled on our shoulders and go where we could smile with them.

The best remedy for such thoughts is to get out into it and enjoy the fun. Men of course will wear earlappers, heavy overcoats and arctics. Women will go bare-headed, in silk stockings and pumps. Being a mere man, I can't understand such things, but the girls do it, and smile, too.

One bright winter morning I found myself at LaCrosse with a meeting to attend at Hokah in Houston County. The train didn't leave until almost noon, so as it was only 10 below, and Hokah about 11 miles away, I started out down the road on foot. That turned out to be one of the most pleasant trips I have ever made.

It was windy on the long bridge across the frozen Mississippi but the unusual silence and the grand picture were too interesting to make me notice it very much. Across the river in the valley, the wind only whistled a little in the tree tops, while the clean new snow lay deep over everything. In some places I was the first one down the road and it was fun to leave such big clumpy tracks for rabbits or dogs to puzzle over.

In the timber, the winter birds were busy policing the trees, with hairy woodpeckers digging out borers, downies hunting for eggs or cocoons while nut hatches skipped around, up and down each trunk in desperate haste to get everything cleaned up before spring. In the top of a tall oak, a blue jay told his cousin over in the

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next valley or possibly in the next to next valley, just what he thought of the situation. From the uncomplimentary remarks, they might have been feuding.

Aside from the jay, about the only noise was the clap, clap, clap of hydraulic rams, pumping spring water up to some house and stock tank on the hill. The one nearest at hand would be very plain. Another, way up the valley would be faint, and sometimes it was possible to hear a third, far off in the distance. Several of them did such a good job of advertising their spring that I had to stop and try the clear water bubbling out of the sand and hurrying away under the snow.

Occasionally cattle or horses were seen browsing in the thick woods, and it was easy to imagine that I was an Indian in search of meat, stalking a nice fat deer. How many of them fell to my bow and arrow, I'll never know, because they only looked up out of curiosity, gave a snort of contempt and went on feeding.

The grip got a bit awkward at times, the fur coat was warmer than necessary and my feet felt even heavier than usual by the time I reached Hokah, but never once had Florida or California been thought of. I was too busy enjoying the winter wonders of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 28, 1939

OBSERVE RELEASE DATE
Wednesday, January 31, 1940

BOB HODGSON'S FARM TALKS

By R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station
Waseca, Minnesota

A Pinch of Salt

I'm a good corn popper. In fact, I claim a certain degree of eminence among the amateur poppers after long years of study and practice. Even my kids will admit that the corn is popped correctly when Pop pops it. (They have to admit it or do the job themselves.) Nevertheless, "Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall."

One evening when the family decided that everything was propitious for popcorn, I filled a big dishpan with the fluffy white flakes. As the smell of popping corn and melting butter were wafted from the kitchen to the living room, one after another of the kids yielded, until they were all draped around the stove, each telling me just what to do next so as to hurry the matter along.

Bud was pawing the floor, Peg was helping him, Shorty was stealing surreptitious bites while I stirred the butter and Dode was explaining how her home economics teacher maintained that butter should be stirred from right to left instead of from left to right. All intimated that my pan of corn looked good, smelled good - the butter was spread and stirred in, and all were ready to grab.

Seizing Mother's big kitchen salt shaker, I made some elaborate passes over the pan with appropriate incantations indicating that the technique of adding the last pinch of salt was the final test of expert popcorn poppers, when alas, the top came off the container and the "last pinch" became a cup full. Thus was my reputation ruined.

Another time it so happened that I wrote a short article for a paper on some little inconsequential item, and behold they sent me a check for $15.00. Again I

(more)

boasted to the family, pointing out how others valued the words of wisdom which they were inclined to discount like a faded shirt at a rummage sale.

In order to impress them even more, I took one of my pet ideas of great importance and dressed it all up in the best language of which I was capable before sending it in to the same paper. Surely this would bring a great reward and the children would be awed by the remarkable ability of their erudite father.

We waited anxiously for the reply, but it came in a big envelope enclosing the manuscript, and a note from the editor that he, "Didn't like the idea". If he hadn't liked the way it was written, it wouldn't have been so bad, but he, "Didn't like the idea", and it was one of my brightest and best. - Another handful of salt in the popcorn!

Oh well, I popped another pan of corn and perhaps I'll attempt another article some time. There isn't much use to try and impress the kids anyway. They know it's still the same old Pop whether the salt comes in pinches or pails.

—R. E. Hodgson, Superintendent
Southeast Experiment Station, Waseca

News Bureau
University Farm
St. Paul, Minnesota
December 29, 1939

Release

Sunday papers
January 1, 1939

Two experts in dairy manufacturing will come to University Farm as members of the staff for the eight week's Creamery Operators' Short Course to be offered between January 4 and February 28, announces W. B. Combs member of the dairy division and chairman of the short course.

C. W. Fryhoffer, federal butter grader stationed at the Land O'Lakes Creameries in Minneapolis, will give instruction on the judging of butter. Herman Peskin, superintendent of manufacturing, De Soto Creamery and Produce company, Minneapolis, will be a special lecturer in butter making and will direct laboratory work in this same subject. Other experts will be invited to lecture during the progress of the course.

The Creamery Operators' Short Course has been held for over 40 years, and through it more than 4,000 creamerymen have received training. Forty-five men will be admitted to this year's course. Offered this year will be lecture and laboratory instruction in buttermaking, testing of milk products, creamery arithmetic and accounting, creamery mechanics, dairy bacteriology, dairy cattle feeding, and work on poultry and egg grading.

Persons interested in registering for the course may obtain complete information from Prof. W. B. Combs, Dairy Division, University Farm, St. Paul.

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