MINNEHAHA WOMEN "SELL" COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

County Commissioners Were Glad To Learn About Women's and Girls' Work

It took the women of Minnehaha county to "put over" a $3,000 appropriation for agricultural extension work in that county next year. Eva Bickel, live wire county club agent, tells how it was done.

That only $2,000 was to be appropriated for the extension work of the next year was announced in a round about way the day before the meeting of the county commissioners. This amount would not provide funds enough to carry on women's work in addition to County Agent work. Then it was that the women decided to make known to the commissioners how they felt about the work.

Five women from different sections of the county, all of them mothers of club members, wives of tax payers and active workers in women's community organizations, were delegated to meet with the county commissioners. Such items as cost of the extension work per $100 were taxes paid (and 25 cents per quarter section), source and distribution of the appropriation, county plan of extension work among the women and girls, were all at their tongues' ends. This information along with the actual knowledge of the work done in their own communities gave the women a formidable array of facts with which to present their arguments for the larger appropriation.

The women stated that they wished the women's work and club work continued because of the savings made possible through the hat demonstrations, stating that several of the ladies had made hats for themselves and daughters ranging in cost from 65 cents to $1.50 a piece. They also said that their sons and daughters were much more interested in the home and farm because of the boys' and girls' clubs to which they belonged.

The dress forms were mentioned as a great convenience in dressmaking. They also mentioned the fact that in many communities club organization brings the boys and girls in close personal contact with local leaders who impart to them their own valuable experience.

LOCAL LEADERS GIVEN GREATER RESPONSIBILITY

New Method of Conducting Work Because of Great Demands From Women and Girls

(By W. F. Kumlien)

Local women, chosen by their respective communities as leaders or demonstrators of home economics projects, will from now on have a very important part in furthering that phase of the extension program in certain South Dakota counties, according to a newly organized plan inaugurated by the Extension Service of State College.

HATS WHILE YOU WAIT AT THIS DEMONSTRATION

Women and Girls Delighted to Prove Skill in Hat-Making

(By Azalea Linfield)

This spring many of the ladies of Kingsbury, Deuel, Hand and Mellette Counties are wearing hats which are of their own creation. In one community in Kingsbury County alone, which has a club membership of 70, more than 30 hats have been made since the demonstration in March, as a result of the demonstration. Mother has a new soft silk motoring hat, sister has a sports model and little brother has a new cotton wash hat.

Hats were made not only for the two year old baby but on up through the years to grandmother as well.

A good afternoon's work, a bias strip of crinoline, a couple of yards of wire and an old silk waist equals one new hat.

At each demonstration five or six ladies came prepared to make hats. The frames were constructed of crinoline. Various kinds of materials were used as coverings. For little tots, silk, gingham, chambray, and organdy were used. In a couple of cases flour sacks were turned into cunning bonnets. For the young girl cotton and silk crepes made the prettiest sports models and for mother and grandmother satins and messaline were used.

As the ladies worked the most enthusiastic spectators were the little girls who bobbed up and down beside their mothers, watching every stitch. The joy expressed in their faces as they tugged at their mothers' sleeves, "Mamma, is that for me?" and the new light in the mother's eye as she surveyed her handiwork, "To think that I could ever really make a hat," was well worth all effort expended.

One woman told me, "This is the first new hat I've had in three years, and to think I made it myself and it only cost $2."

During the millinery demonstration, in many places, the town milliners have been excellent cooperators. At one of the clubs in Deuel County, the milliner not only came to the demonstration herself but brought crinoline, wire, braids.
South Dakota Extension Review

A Milk for Health Campaign was conducted in Aberdeen and Brown county during the week of November 14-19, 1921, in line with the program of work of the Extension Food Specialist. The City of Aberdeen, County of Brown, State College and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperated in staging the affair. The Department of Agriculture cooperates only once in a state in putting on such a campaign for demonstration purposes.

The Aberdeen and Brown County campaign ranks as one of the very best of these demonstrations because of its efficient organization and management, according to Jessie M. Hoover, who represents the department in these campaigns. This is due to the splendid work of the executive committee which was headed by W. Leighty, chairman, and W. C. Boardman, campaign manager.

Two factors are considered necessary to justify a campaign as is here described. The first of these is low milk consumption and the other is assurance of an available supply for increased consumption. Both of these factors were found in Aberdeen and Brown county after a careful study of conditions had been made.

Any county or city in the state may secure the milk campaign scrap book, which gives the story in detail of how the Milk for Health Campaign was conducted in Aberdeen and Brown county, by writing the State Extension Service, State College, and guaranteeing the return of the book when through using it. Any number of interesting stories can be told which will show results of this campaign. A few are as follows: The increased consumption of milk at the Commercial Club is marked men who always used coffee before now, drink milk at lunch. Gave the parents incentive to adopt methods whereby the children can be interested in drinking milk. Family bought a cow who hadn't had a cow for several years, because of pressure brought from children.

W. C. Boardman, County Agent, was at a home when the two girls returned from school. They asked for milk to drink. These girls were non milk drinkers at the time of the campaign.

LOW MILK FOR HEALTH

HOW MILK FOR HEALTH CAMPAIGN WAS PUT ON

Increased Consumption of Milk and Milk Products Traced to Brown County Demonstration

(October 5, 1917)

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Boys’ Stock Judging Demonstration held recently at Eureka. Plans were laid for a meeting of over 325,000 farmers interested in corn variety tests, 14 demonstrations in hill selection of potatoes, 20 farmers interested in corn variety tests, 82 soybean demonstrations, and 62 cooperators in poultry culling work, makes a fine program of definite demonstrations in Codington County.

R. R. Buchanan.—Ten farmers will test their cows each month for a year as a part of the cow testing demonstration work. One hundred cows are represented in this test. The cooperating farmers will take four samples of each cow’s milk at four consecutive milkings and a sample will be made. The cream stations have agreed to make tests of this milk brought in by the farmers. The records will be kept in the County Agent’s office.

A. W. Tompkins—Some of the scenes for a new film on commodity marketing just being prepared for the American Farm Bureau Federation, were laid in this county.

Several hundred feet of film was taken of the farmers’ Cooperative Potato warehouses.

Ray E. Smith.—Twenty-five head of high grade Holstein cows and heifers were shipped into the county as a result of a four day trip to Owatonna, Minn., by a committee consisting of one of the leading dairy farmers and the County Agent. These cattle averaged $75.50 a head for 2 year olds and $52 a head for yearling heifers. Upon the day cattle were delivered to the purchasers a demonstration meeting on the feeding and management of dairy cows was held with Professor Olson of State College as the speaker.

F. E. Lange.—The first 32 places in a Boys’ Stock Judging Demonstration held in connection with the annual meeting of the Ponca Valley Swine Breeders Association, May 25, at Dallas, were captured by members of the Tripp County Cow Litter Club. Ninety youngsters from Gregory and Tripp Counties of South Dakota and Boyd and Keyapaha Counties of Nebraska competed. The outstanding work of the Tripp County boys proves conclusively the value of their pig club work and the instruction received from the County Agent. Gregory County breeders present at the demonstration were impressed by the results and appointed a committee to talk over plans with the Tripp County agent with a view towards securing a club leader of their own for another year.

Chas. J. Gilbert.—The cow testing demonstrations for butterfat production were held. The following circular letter was sent out: “Dear Sirs: On Thursday evening, June 1, I will conduct a demonstration of cow testing for butterfat production at the farm of Perry Clifford. At that time the following subjects will be discussed: A satisfactory method of cow testing; does dairy farming pay; the selection of dairy cows; canning the culls; a cow testing association; the dairy breeds; purebred cows; building a dairy herd; the cooperative bull association; the housing of dairy cattle; raw materials for dairy ‘feed'; marketing the crops from the dairy cow.”

W. F. Broich.—Six hundred eighty-one people attended the 11 animal disease meetings which were addressed by Doctor Weaver. Swine and cattle diseases were discussed and a question box on all animal diseases was opened at each meeting.

The 1922 County Fair for Campbell and McPherson Counties can start as a result of a meeting of over 200 farmers held recently at Eureka. Plans were laid for a bigger and better fair than last year. Twelve of the 15 directors of the Farm Bureau board were in attendance.

L. V. Ausman.—Forty-six demonstrations in certified potato work, 14 demonstrations in hill selection of potatoes, 20 farmers interested in corn variety tests, 82 soybean demonstrations, and 62 cooperators in poultry culling work, makes a fine program of definite demonstrations in Codington County.

Miss Linfield put on the demonstration. Demonstration teams in clothing work were picked at each one of these meetings to represent the community and to compete for county honors at a meeting to be arranged. The county winner will be sent to the state fair.

J. M. Browning.—Four anti-hog cholera clubs with membership of twenty to thirty farmers in each club have been organized. Directors and officers were chosen in each club. Seventy dollars in cash is raised by each club and a supply of serum and virus is kept on hand at all times. If one member’s hogs get sick he can obtain from the directors sufficient serum and virus to inoculate his herd. The money which he pays in for serum and virus is again put into the purchase of serum. In this way a fresh supply is always kept on hand.

J. Carl Lane.—Five demonstrations attended by 22 people were given on the mixing of government black leg vaccine and its proper injection into the calves.

Oscar Mills.—A survey of southern Haakon County was made to determine the possibilities of a grasshopper outbreak this year and indications are that at several points the outbreak will be quite severe. Poison to spray on the grasshopper control work is handled by the County Farm Bureau.

Women of Hand County who are interested in home demonstration work will be pleased to learn that the commissioners recently appropriated $380 as Hand County’s share toward the employment of a District Home Agent to take up work following the completion of the clothing demonstrations now being conducted by Miss Linfield. Representatives of the various women’s groups joined with the County Farm Bureau in requesting this appropriation.

The plan under which the District Agent will work includes the division of her time between four counties, giving one week to each county every month. The agent is to have her own car and will meet the community groups regularly.

The method of conducting the demonstrations will be changed somewhat from the present order so that the majority of women in the county may be reached.

The completion of the plan now hinges on the action of the three other counties in the district with Hand County. These are Faulk, Spink and Beadle. Favorable action is anticipated in all three. It is expected that arrangements can be completed by July 1. If so, the District Agent will spend the months of July and August in organizing the groups and be ready to begin demonstrations October 1.

“During the month of May, I gave lectures at 21 meetings with an attendance of 852, made 45 farm visits, wrote 48 business letters, wrote 3 newspaper articles, and travelled 1,215 miles by rail and 1,042 miles by auto. If any specialist or County Agent has this beat I want to see his picture.”—Gilbert S. Weaver.

(Editor’s note: Will each County Agent and specialist kindly send a photograph of himself taken within the last 2 years?)
FIFTEEN CLOTHING GROUPS
NOW WORKING IN BROWN
Northern County Has 400 Women Enrolled for Year’s Work Along
This Line

(By Edith A. Sloan)

In June, 1918, the present agent was appointed Emergency Home Demonstration Agent in a district including Brown, Davison, Marshall and Roberts counties, to undertake a program of food conservation, emphasizing the use of home produced foods, the canning, drying and storing of vegetables and fruits, and the use of substitute cereals. At the end of the emergency period, the district work was discontinued, and Brown County took over the work, employing the agent on a full time basis.

During the first year in Brown County the agent did not have a car and had to depend on trains, the assistance of the County Agent, and the local people for transportation. The work developed slowly on this account. Late in 1920 the agent was constrained to buy a car which had proved invaluable in furthering the program.

In 1921 the program included food preservation, household accounts, home conveniences and girls’ club work. Work was conducted by this method: When a call came in for assistance in canning vegetables or making a fireless cooker, the demonstration was given to the whole community, rather than the individual.

This year a different tack has been taken. Clothing has been adopted as the major project for the women in the entire county, along with sewing clubs for the girls. Definite groups have been organized to follow this program throughout the year. By a less diversified program, and with definitely organized communities, more work and larger returns are expected to result. Fifteen clothing centers are now organized, in the following communities: Ordway, Westport, Stratford, Wright, Hecla, Randolph, Palmyra township, Franklin township, Bath, Highland township, Houghton, Barnard, Ferney and Lincoln township. Four hundred women are enrolled in these groups. Of these one is a previously organized ladies’ aid, and two others were organized as rural clubs. The others are new organizations. The centers range from six to forty-six miles distance from Aberdeen.

The clothing program begins with the dress from which is followed by a series of demonstrations designed to put the form to the best use. The agent gives a demonstration before each group every other month, and assists a committee to plan the alternate meetings for which the women themselves are responsible. A keen interest is manifested and ready cooperation has been given in carrying out the programs.

In six communities girls’ sewing clubs have been organized. Women in these communities are leaders of these clubs. One center has the women are having a recreation meeting this summer for which plans have been made previously.

PERSONAL MENTION

Ralph Johnston recently undertook an operation for tonsillitis.

A comprehensive weed eradication program is being undertaken in Douglas County.

Patty and Osborne have started the wheels for an irrigation demonstration in Corson County.

The Dexter family is now comfortably settled in Brookings after nearly a year in a fatherless home at Clark.

A. L. Ford is a busy man these days. No sooner does he foil the cutworm than the grasshoppers descend or the army worm re-enlists.

Joe Hamilton is taking a few days’ vacation the latter part of June. Joe says he has been on the job more than 3 years with nary a day off.

Vic Basart and his efficient office assistant, Floyd Perkins, have installed a radio receiving apparatus in the County Agent’s office. This move reflects the spirit of the times. It suggests a new avenue of endeavor.

J. C. Holmes has left us to become specialist in wool marketing with the State Department of Agriculture at Pierre. His office is now located at Pierre but the family will remain in Brookings for a while. We hate to lose Jake from the force; but rejoice in the fact that he will remain in the state where we can meet him often.

WHERE DID THEY ALL COME FROM?

Above is a typical view of the country around Zeona, Perkins County, showing schoolhouse where this community meeting was held. Below is most of the crowd which greeted Dexter, Jones and Eberle and took in the movies. The program lasted more than three hours, and they stayed for it all.

The eradication of barberry will be pushed this summer with greater vigor than ever before. The barberry-free belt is rapidly increasing in size from year to year.

Jessie M. Hoover, Milk Utilization Specialist from Washington, D. C., recently visited Sioux Falls where a milk campaign is a possibility. No definite action was taken.

Bon Homme County recently staged a successful hog tour. It was under the management of County Agent M. O. Monroe, assisted by Dr. Weaver and A. L. Haynes. A great many excellent herds were visited, among them those of Cooley Brothers, Tom Voy and Lee Michel. The farmers making the tour learned what their neighbors were doing, saw where their own hog management was superior or inferior, and every one of them went home a better hog man.

Banker reports that club boys have not experienced as great a loss of spring hogs as have their dads.

A. W. Tompkins spent commencement day in Brookings, not forgetting to pay a pleasant visit to the force at the state office.

CLUB LEADERS WANTED

There isn’t a man but wants to grow
Manly and true at heart;
And every lad would like to know
The secret we impart.
He doesn’t desire to slack or shirk,
Ah, haven’t you heard him plead?
He’ll follow a man at play or work
If only the man will lead.