MANY SUCCESSFUL TOURS HELD IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Pioneer Effort Along this Line Up in Brown County in Year 1912

To Howard F. Patterson, a decade and more ago the "superintendent" of the South Dakota Better Farming association up in Brown county, goes the credit of organizing and carrying out the first farm tour in South Dakota to the knowledge of the Extension service.

Patterson's Brown County Farm Boys' Hike was more than a seven days' wonder in the state, for a month or two after its successful culmination one of the best known periodicals in the country ran a page and a half story of the affair.

In this hike quite a large number of boys from Brown county farms were taken on a week's hiking trip on which they saw the best farms of the county and better farming methods were demonstrated to them. A cook shack kept up with the boys for the three-meal-a-day stops and many parents and friends visited the nightly camping places. Illustrated lectures were given at night by agricultural leaders of South Dakota and other states and campfire song-fests were held. Representatives of the larger newspapers and the farm journals of the state visited the camp each day and carried a running story of the trip in their newspapers and journals. It was a mighty successful tour and was quite a unique affair in those days.

"Pat," the conductor of the tour, was the forerunner of the county agents of today in South Dakota.

A Spectacular Tour

One of the more spectacular tours in the history of South Dakota extension work was the Lyman county club boys tour on horseback to the State college at Brookings in the spring of 1917. Dick Lewallen was county agent in Lyman

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HOW TO ARRANGE A SUCCESSFUL FIELD TOUR

Clark County Agent Gives a Number of Valuable Pointers

(By V. D. Basart)

The value of field tours in presenting facts and results to farmers in the county, as a sequel or a part in the project, can not be over-emphasized. The tour must have, however, a definite program and plan connecting the considered project with the members of the tour.

To attain the definite program to which I referred, one must consider various points carefully.

First: Plan your tour on a well chosen project, as demanded by apparent interest, early enough that outstanding features will be truly prominent. Quite frequently, special preparations in the field are necessary. Have this taken care of in ample time.

Second: Do not duplicate demonstrations. That is, make each stop reveal a different phase of the tour.

Third: Give your tour publicity. Arouse curiosity by stating the needs of such a tour.

Fourth: At each stop, let that particular farmer or cooperator, explain his particular demonstration. You may help him beforehand, but on the tour ten of his words are worth forty of yours.

Fifth: Have a specialist with you to analyze each demonstration at that stop after the farmer or cooperator has stated his opinion.

Sixth: Route your tour carefully. Avoid excessive mileage and conserve time.

Seventh: Do not crowd your tour. Too many stops in a limited time impedes constructive impressions.

Eighth: Allow sufficient time for lunch and handling of crowd in autos.

Last—but not least—do your talking.

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South Dakota Extension Review

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The Extension Review is one of the best single pieces of work sent out by the Extension Service. It serves as a star to which we can hitch our wagon. The work done by the specialists and county agents is of the state, of worth-while value, is here given a clear written up column that inspires the field workers who are getting a little slow and losing pep. That the staff can keep up good pep is going as it is a good inspiration to all extension workers.—John A. Gunning.

There is an old saying that what goes in one ear may come out the other, but what goes into the eye never comes out because there is no way for it to get out. Good extension teaching focuses people's attention on desirable improvements through their seeing the need, and seeing it so vividly that action results. One of the quickest and most effective methods of getting farmers to “see” things is the holding of a well planned and well executed field tour.

Many tours and field days have been held in South Dakota since county agent work started 10 years ago. H. F. Patterson, of the county's and South Dakota's first agent, soon after beginning his work held a boys' hiking tour, accounts of the success of which were published in every paper in the northwest. Then came the 350 mile horseback tour to the State college made by Dick Lewallen and his Lyman county club boys, the beginning of Andy Palm's annual pilgrimage to the college with his Codington county delegation, and of more recent date, the special trainload of South Dakota live-stock breeders to the International, Leslie Ausman's long caravan of autos with 200 farmers and business men to the National Dairy show, and many others.

Though not so large or spectacular perhaps as some of the others, a most successful tour to the farms of some of South Dakota's best soybean growers, planned with definite objects in view and with details carefully worked out days and weeks in advance, was staged by Vic Basart, Clark county's agent, last year. Mr. Basart's article in this issue, though necessarily short due to lack of space, is full of sound advice to those contemplating tours this year.

Seeing is believing, but on your tours be sure things are so brought to view that they are “seen.”

A. J. D.

Many Successful Tours Held in South Dakota

(Continued from page one)

 county at that time and made the ar-
rangements for the long trip of over 500 miles.

Back in 1914, E. W. Hall, then county agent in Spink county, took a bunch of boys on a week's hike visiting the best farms in the county. Fifty-one boys made the trip. Mr. Hall stated recently that 90 percent of these boys are now farming for themselves.

Andy Palm, Codington county agent, came to Brookings in 1916 with 30 boys for a week's agricultural course. The next year he came with a larger group. The outgrowth of these club tours was the annual boys' and girls' club camp for all adjacent counties with an enrollment often exceeding 400.

"South Dakota, We Love You Best," were the closing words of a refrain that many Chicago people learned to know in December, 1919. A whole trainload of South Dakota livestock breeders were on a tour to the International, county agents heading the delegations from the respective counties.

A Profitable Tour

Nine farmers from Spink county accompanied County Agent Hall and R. L. Patty, extension specialist in engineering, on a tour to Kingsbury county to view some model hoghouses constructed the year previous under Mr. Patty's direction. Mr. Patty's latest plans for hog house construction were a tour to the International, county agents heading the delegations from the respective counties.

Potato Clubs: The largest Potato club in South Dakota was organized in the vicinity of Brookings early in April. Forty-four Club members were enrolled. The organization of this club is different from that of any other club in the state. It is organized in connection with the Rotary Club of Brookings. Each Rotarian buys one bushel of seed for each boy he sponsors. This seed is given to the boy with the understanding that two bushels of table stock be returned to the sponsors next fall. Only certified potatoes are furnished to the boys and they agree to plant it alongside of regular home grown seed to compare the relative yields.—Geo. H. Valentine.

Cow Testing Associations: Two more cow testing associations were organized in April, bringing the number in the state up to four. The new associations are located in Moody, Hamlin and Kingsbury counties, one association covering the territory lying on the boundary between Hamlin and Kingsbury counties. A new plan of organization was tried in both cases and found to be successful. Four days were set aside for soliciting membership and organizing the association, the specialist and county agent working with a local leader each day, usually a different one each day. In three days there were enough signers in Kingsbury and Hamlin counties and on the evening of the third day the association was organized, directors and officers elected and they were ready to go ahead and hire a man.—H. M. Jones.

Hat Making: Since the hat making demonstration held in Lincoln county in March, two clubs have sent in their reports of this club meeting. One reported 21 hats made as a result, with a saving of...
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of $50, the other reported 15 hats made at a saving of $51. The first club reported that mostly old material was used in the construction of the hats.—Zalea Linfield.

Fertility Demonstrations: Completed plans to secure car of rock phosphate into South Dakota. Car shipped and unloaded at Sioux Falls first week in May. Spent sometime in getting out facts and lining up cooperators. —Ralph E. Johnston.

Irrigation: One flood irrigation demonstration project was staked out completely and will be put in right away. It is a new type of irrigation of especial interest to ranchers not having a basin large enough to feed a reservoir for the common type of system. This project will create considerable interest in the west.—Ralph L. Patty.

Marketing Poultry: The marketing problem was discussed at four meetings at which the attendance was 265. These meetings were held in Haakon county where the communities are from 30 to 40 miles from a railroad. The subjects of caponizing, killing, and dressing for market, as well as the fattening, were discussed. Demonstrations on these phases are to be given at the proper time. The people realize that they are too far from a market to ship broilers or live poultry.—Clara M. Sutter.

Pig Clubs: We gave the pig club members a demonstration meeting at Ravinia. At Platte we worked in plans for pig club work with the club leader and some breeders. At Academy we made plans with the head of the school for pig club work. At Pukwana our efforts were rewarded by receiving early enrollments of the clubs. Plans for a future pig club tour were also made.—Paul P. Banker.

Minor Diseases of Hogs: Thirty-seven percent of the pigs that were farrowed in South Dakota last year never even reached weaning time. Probably care and management had more to do with this than any other thing, but the disease problem played its part. Since this immense loss of young pigs means to some farmers the difference between success and failure, it was deemed advisable to hold meetings in several counties concerning the minor ailments of pigs and two of these counties were covered during the month of April—Brown and Hughes. Twelve meetings were held and at these meetings, care and management worms, mange, rickets and necrobacillosis were discussed. At the meetings in Hughes county the lectures were illustrated by moving pictures entitled “Exit Ascaris.”—Dr. G. S. Weaver.

Farm Sanitation: Finally, after great trials and tribulations and an extreme expenditure of energy, the masterpiece of literature that has been in preparation for many months, entitled “Farm Sanitation” by Dr. G. S. Weaver, was placed in the hands of the Agricultural Editor. As the editor gets it edited it will then be forwarded to the printer. So it will be no time at all until this valuable publication will be available for the enlightenment of the public.—Dr. G. S. Weaver. (Continued on page four)

**NEW PLAN FOR POTATO CLUBS**

*(By George Valentine)*

The development of Boys' crops club work in Brookings county has been given a boost by the cooperation of the Brookings Rotary club. Each Rotarian agreed to sponsor at least one Potato club boy by starting him off this year with certified seed potatoes.

The boy plants the seed furnished to him alongside of an equal quantity of home grown common seed. In this way each boy is to demonstrate the superiority of certified seed.

A big “roundup” is also planned at harvest time at which time each business man will invite his adopted club boy to a luncheon and program which will be devoted to the discussion of the results of the demonstration.

A similar plan of cooperation has been introduced in the state on a number of other projects in several towns. The idea is not entirely a new one as some phases of Pennsylvania club work have been conducted according to this plan for two years. They have met with unusual success on these clubs so conducted, according to Allen L. Banker, state club leader of Pennsylvania.

There are surely wonderful possibilities in using this plan and similar plans on all phases of club work. Probably the greatest advantage in this plan is that the interest of influential citizens is aroused which in turn not only stimulates the development of the project but also encourages the boy to realize that he's doing a real piece of work.

The catalog and premium list of the State Fair Club Camp has been sent to all club members. Now is the time to plan to attend the fairs and bring your exhibits.

**CLUB NOTES**

Items of general interest to club folks.

Edited by Paul J. Scarbro

**Boys Started Something**

Two hundred fifty people packed and jammed their way into a Beadle county schoolhouse to see the locking of horns when the Clyde Township Duroc club and the Silver-belt Pig club of Dearborn township argued the question of whether or not alfalfa is the most efficient hog pasture.

After the debate, people stood around in little groups discussing the points brought out in the arguments. The two boys' pig clubs so aroused the communities that more debates are demanded. * * *

The contract for the construction of the Boys' and Girls Club building was let May 30. The building will be completed by September 1. The new building will be dedicated Tuesday evening, September 11, of the State fair week.

County Agent Collins of Faith had a fine program and club rally on Saturday, June 2. A baby-pork club of 60 members has been organized. On this day these members came to Faith to draw their pigs and take them home. A general club program was held in the evening for club members, mothers and dads. Mr. Scarbro assisted with the program. * * *

The following was added to a club achievement story: This is the end of my club work, The end of my story, too, And I think as I review it How much I have learned to do. Robbers may steal my money And likewise your jewels fine; No one on earth can take away Blessings of the 4-H sign. * * *

The South Dakota Duroc Exchange, edited by A. L. Haynes, carries a two column writeup of the Mitchell sow-litter story, too. * * *

The catalog and premium list of the State Fair Club Camp has been sent to all club members. Now is the time to plan to attend the fairs and bring your exhibits.

Boy club members busy peeling spuds at State fair camp. Members of all boys' and girls' clubs are working hard in anticipation of their club camp at the South Dakota fair at Huron next September.
HIGH SPOTS
Item worth more than passing notice as taken from the South Extension Agents' monthly reports.

Laura L. Jones—(Hamlin, Deuel, Codington and Clark districts) A hat making and hat demonstration had been held as a part of the regular program and a public hat exhibit was being held in one of the centers. A lady insisted upon buying one of the exhibit hats for her little girl from mighty near going away mad. The only thing which saved the day was the pattern and an explanation of the making of the coveted hat. I saw the exact reproduction of the hat that the woman bought was more than pleased with her own work and proud of the money she had saved.

E. H. Aicher—(Hand county) One four year crop rotation demonstration was started. A map showing the plotting of the farm, the dimensions of the fields, and the crops used in the rotation has been made. Sweet clover and alfalfa for legumes and flax for seed and the cereals are included in the rotation.

J. M. Browning—(Marshall county) Secured even better. The Holsteins and one purebred bull for a farmer. Arranged for the tubercular testing of 100 head of cattle. Twelve hundred farmers attended the regular community meetings where rotation of crops, sanitation, feeds and feeding and marketing were discussed.

A. M. Eberle—(Perkins county) Secured the manager of the Lodgepole creamery to address a dairy meeting at the Farmers Cooperative creamery. Met with the directors of the Coal Springs Dipping vat association organized last year, and dip was ordered.

George S. Hansen—(Potter county) Assisted a group of farmers to organize a livestock shipping association. Four different meetings were held, a preliminary meeting called by the farmers themselves to which the county agent was invited. A meeting of the organization committee of twelve met and outlined the program and started petitions to determine sentiment. Twenty-five farmers attended the third meeting and organized the association. The harvest meeting of the directors to hire a man to start the business.

L. C. Lippert—(Walworth county) Twenty-seven farmer distributing points established to handle the poison in our gopher campaign continued from last year. Bait mixed by men at county office and a bushel sent to each distributing point with more to follow if needed. Newspaper and Farm Bureau Exchange publicize poison points as well as letters; also local distributors give general telephone ring on receipt of poison.

HOW TO ARRANGE A SUCCESSFUL FIELD TOUR
Continued from page one

Summarize the tour at your last stop. Start at the first stop and continue, emphasizing the good and bad features witnessed and that particular phase of the tour which was presented at each demonstration.

Close your talk with a few well chosen, constructive points covering the actual results of the tour as a whole.

Carry your camera and use it. Pictures talk to others at later occasions. Browse through the year's tour through the channels of local papers, etc.

STATE NEWS
(Continued from page three)

Pruning Demonstrations: During the month of April, eighteen pruning demonstrations were held in five counties with a total attendance of 205 persons. At these field meetings fruit trees of various types were pruned, care being taken to explain each cut. Spraying was also thoroughly discussed at these demonstrations. A very interesting feature of these pruning demonstrations was furnished by the pruning of trees by the farmers themselves, after witnessing the demonstrations. After the demonstrations, the tools were handed to one of the crowd and he was "turned loose" on a tree. This not only furnished some real life to the demonstration but at the same time cinched the sale of the pruning idea for the home orchard owner present. John Schmidt, an Indian, attended one of the pruning demonstration in Mellette county. After the demonstration a number of the farmers undertook to prune a tree. Mr. Schmidt, the Indian, was then induced to take the tools and he turned out to be the best pruner of the 15 farmers present. This Indian had not spoken a word during the demonstration yet he did not make a single mistake on the trees he pruned. Schmidt was the leader of the Indians of that locality. Since the demonstration Schmidt has pruned his trees and will undoubtedly induce other Indians who have fruit to do likewise.


Landscape Gardening: Four carefully planned landscape plans were furnished during the month. These include the Valley Springs consolidated school, the new American Legion park at Parker, the courthouse grounds at Parker and one private residence. These locations were carefully gone over and the planting checked and blue print plans prepared later in the office. In performing this service care was taken that it was done in the nature of a demonstration, not in competition to commercial landscapes.—A. L. Ford.

Wilson Succeeds Sayler

Edwin E. Wilson, a graduate of the University of Minnesota assumed his duties as county agent in Lyman county to succeed Charles Sayler who resigned April 1. Mr. Wilson is a native of South Dakota, the parental home being in Sanborn county. Prior to going into the army during the war, Mr. Wilson attended South Dakota State college for two years. He comes highly recommended. Mr. Sayler's plans for the future were not fully announced, but he expects to finish his work in a specialized course at the University of Washington, Seattle.