YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT
IN EXTENSION WORK

Average of Four County Agents Added Each Year Since Work was Started in State

According to the 1923 report of Director W. F. Kumlien, "the Extension Service, through its program of demonstrations, now reaches directly about twenty thousand men, ten thousand women and sixty-three hundred boys and girls. In addition to this, contact is made with another thirty thousand people through such avenues as community meetings, correspondence, bulletins and newspaper articles. Last year extension workers made 18,629 farm visits and received 85,099 office-calls relating to extension work. County extension workers wrote 71,568 individual letters, mailed 41,678 circular letters and published 4,305 articles relating to agriculture. Seventy-six exhibits at fairs were made, 685 training schools were held for local leaders, 87 community short courses were held with an attendance of 16,037, and throughout the state as a whole a total of 8,760 extension meetings were held with an attendance of 215,413 people. In the 43 counties with resident agents there are 579 organized communities which carried on some phases of extension work. In the counties which do not have resident extension agents the extension service disseminates its information through community meetings or short courses. From one to five such meetings are usually held in the county during the year. "County agent work under the present cooperative plan between the United States Department of Agriculture and the State College started in South Dakota in 1914. During the 10 years following that time there has been added an average of four county agents each year. This ready response on the part of farmers would seem to indicate that the work is meeting a vital need. It might be added that the splendid work done in the field has been largely through the untiring efforts of county agents with the cooperation of forward-looking farmers. "The present agricultural extension program for the state is centered mainly around three lines of activity, namely, (1) cheaper production costs through more efficient use of animals and crops, better use of man and animal labor and elimination of controllable waste through prevention of animal disease and pests; (2) a more economic marketing and distribution of farm products; and (3) development of a more satisfactory rural life. "It is believed that for the greater part sufficient facts are now available in all of these three realms of production, marketing and community betterment, which, if generally applied by farmers of the state as a whole, would greatly improve the present agricultural situation."

Dayton Community Club House

The Dayton club was organized in 1920 with the following officers: W. C. Scott, president; H. Quin, secretary, and J. Eveson, treasurer. The present officers are Omar Hakkenstad, president; A. L. Stewart, vice-president; H. Quien, secretary; and J. Eveson, treasurer.

NEW CLUB ORGANIZES IN BROOKINGS COUNTY

Farm families in Parnell township, Brookings county, formed a community club on March 3. The following officers were elected: P. J. Quinlair, president; Clarence Jeffries, vice president; C. H. Methike, secretary, and E. W. Howell, treasurer. A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and outline a general plan of procedure. The organization grew out of a series of animal disease meetings conducted in the community by W. P. Beard, agricultural instructor in Brookings high school, with assistance by Dr. G. S. Weaver, extension veterinarian. The club expects to make use of monthly programs issued by the Extension Service. Balanced Agriculture Meetings Are Most Successful Ever Held In State

Balanced Agriculture meetings held in 69 towns in eastern South Dakota during the months of January and February were attended by 40,768 persons. This was the most successful series of meetings ever held by the Extension Service. There was not a single town that was overlooked and the attendance was uniformly good.

The attendance in the northern part of the state averaged 635 per town for all sessions and 661 in the southern part of the state. The largest attendance at a single session in the northern part of the state was at Britton with 630 attending and at Canton in the southern part of the state with an attendance of 435. The largest women's session was at Delmont with 200; 1220 women attended 16 meetings in the northern part of the state while 2550 women attended 26 meetings in the southern part of the state.

The largest meetings in the state were at Canton. Webster, Britton, Menno, Delmont, Clear Lake and Dell Rapids, all of which exceeded 1,000 for the two day sessions.

The general plan of all meetings was a two day session with an evening meeting between in about two-thirds of the towns. There were 69 towns made and sessions held on 130 days. The total attendance in the northern part was 19,041 and 21,727 in the southern part making a grand total of 40,768.

The success of these meetings from the standpoint of attendance and interest was probably due to the following facts:

1. A regular system of advertising the meetings was carried out.

2. There were good agricultural exhibits at all meetings and home economics exhibits at several meetings.

3. There was local talent, especially for music and for presiding officers at all programs.

4. Motion pictures were used at all evening meetings.

5. There was a system of committees who had definite and well understood duties which they performed admirably. Due credit must be given for the splendid spirit of cooperation in which they put these meetings over. There were committees on publicity, arrangements and entertainment, program, women's demonstrations, exhibits and prizes, finance, and an executive chairman.
Who Gets the Review?

The Extension Review does not have general circulation. It is mailed only to extension workers, community club chairman, county officers and persons who are cooperating in the work being done by the Extension Service. It aims to promote closer cooperation and comradeship among workers for the good of every community, every county and the state as a whole. Community club chairmen may find herein occasional supplementary material for their monthly meetings. You who receive the Review have it exclusively in your own communities.

Elsewhere in this issue are reports from a number of community clubs. In nearly every instance the chairman expressed appreciation of the great assistance given by the county agent and for the monthly program helps supplied by the Extension Service. Geo. A. Starning, rural organization specialist, says he hopes other club chairmen will write to him on their activities so that every club may profit by the experiences of others as reported in future numbers of the Review.

A number of farm community clubs are planning to erect buildings as meeting places and centers for community affairs. This is a laudable project but one in which considerable common sense should be displayed lest such an undertaking be too large for the membership to handle. Too great expense should be avoided. If the club house is burdensome it is likely to discourage further community enterprise.

Cooperation in hauling material, in labor on construction as well as in supplying funds will help guarantee future cooperation in use of the building for community development. Your county agent can supply you with government bulletins which discuss responsibilities.

Responsibility

Vic: "Got a bite yet Andy?"
Andy: "Nope. Don't belive my worm's half trying."
The Lake View Farmers’ club in Codington county celebrated its tenth anniversary in January. We reproduce from an historical sketch given by Mrs. Carl Peterson at the meeting:

This rural community club was organized in 1914 under the general leadership of A. W. Palm, county agent. The first officers were Smith Robbins, chairman; Carl Peterson, vice-president; H. E. Leonard, secretary and R. R. Schmelting, treasurer. The by-laws stated the purpose of the organization as follows: “To advance the social, educational, and business interests of the members and vicinity in general.” The club was divided into two sections, each looking after refreshments and social features alternately. Ten annual picnics have been held, and two trips organized, one for young and old always going together to pure seeds, gardens, civic improvements.

Ten annual picnics have been held, and two trips organized, one through the county and the other to the State College at Brookings. “We have become better friends and better neighbors. We have been likened by some to one large family. We have, by the opening of our homes, become more social. By young and old always going together to the club meetings at various homes, we have helped to preserve home life. There is great danger of the home being merely the boarding place—and when the home decays the nation is lost. It is in rural homes that the leaders of the nation are reared, and if we as a club have done our best to preserve the institution of home, we have not been in vain. May we have many more anniversaries of the Lake View Farmers’ club.”

FARMERS HEAD PROJECTS
IN PROVO COMMUNITY CLUB

When B. H. Eltemiller, chairman of the Provo Community club (Fall River county) asked his members last January whether they favored the plan of appointing leaders for the various club projects, they showed approval by volunteering for appointments. Projects include: Swine, dairy cattle, beef cattle, pure stock, garden improvements.

Each leader is responsible for securing all the available information on the subject assigned to him for the common use of the community. The Provo club meets every two weeks on Saturday evenings. A jolly good time is planned for each meeting in addition to the more serious features of the programs. “Moonshine dancing” is tabooed. The programs are arranged so as to provide about an hour of agricultural extension talks, music, and other features: a recess; then the third part of the program devoted to presentation of the reports of the state and national farm bureaus and business session. Chairman Eltemiller puts considerable stress on the value of the recess when everyone may talk informally and become rested before the business session.

Good Night
Susan: “Is that a rooster crowing?”
Clara: “No, that’s the hens saying their ‘Now I lay me’s’.”

DON’T OVERWORK LITERARY FEATURES, SAYS RIVERSIDE

Herman Walter, president of Riverside club in Brown county, points out that over-emphasis of literary features on a farmers’ program is likely to destroy interest. Have a well-balanced program, he says, of both literary and community problem subjects, and the members are eager to attend. Spring something new and vital locally at every meeting. Home talent songs, talks, and debates always draw a good hand. Community improvement must not be overlooked. “Increased attendance,” reports Mr. Walker, “shows that interest is being taken in our community work, but the members deserve the credit, not I.”

SHELBY MEETINGS GOOD
WITHOUT LUNCH FEATURE

The Shelby Community club in Brown county, Mrs. Earl Fouts, chairman, is one of those which gets along without the usual lunch, which is omitted largely because of the limited size of the schoolhouse in which the club meets. However, by arranging unusually attractive meetings interest and attendance are maintained. The roll call answered by recitation of “memory gems” has proved to be an interesting feature of the programs. Debates and one-act plays have been effectively used. This club has an officer called the “distributor”, whose duty it is to hand various members material for developing 10 minute talks and urging them to be present, possibly another title for program committee chairman. Members are most interested when matters are discussed which have a direct bearing on local township affairs.

During the rush seasons of heavy farm work, entertainment features are eliminated. Experience in this club has shown that members will attend meetings if they can discuss worth-while subjects in a business-like manner. The Shelby Community club was organized last year jointly for boys of Walworth and Potter counties and financed by Tom O’Brien, Hoven banker, who was its leader. County Agent L. Lippert of Walworth county and George Hansen of Potter county cooperated on the enterprise. The officers were Rudolph Thune, Hoven, president, and Urban Schmidt, Hoven, secretary. Ten cars of farmers took part in the pig club tour last summer. The show which was held on October 6 on Hoven’s main street, was attended by 450 persons. Eighteen pens contested for $125 in prizes given by Mr. O’Brien, who also gave gold, silver and bronze medals to winners of the swine judging contest. The club is continued during 1924.

EVERYBODY WORKS
IN HERMAN CLUB

“A job for every member” is given by the officers as the chief reason for the success of the Herman Township Community club, the oldest in Lake county. Other factors are, regular meetings, programs outlined in advance, and active committees on which members actually spend some time contributing their own ideas.

When a new family moves into the township its members are made to feel at home and welcome in the meetings. Township picnics add to the good fellowship of the community. The lunch served at monthly meetings is a special feature.

In Lake county, township clubs have a lady president and a man president who cooperate in putting on a balanced program of work. The family is the basis of membership. The officers of Herman Township club are Sam Brown, president; Mrs. N. E. Rounds, lady president; J. E. Boyd, vice-president; Mrs. Guy Foley, lady vice-president; and Guy Foley, secretary-treasurer. The first president of the club was M. A. Bothel, now county president.

Dr. G. S. Weaver, Extension Veterinarian, giving members of the Hoven pig club good pointers.
The Shindler Community hall, owned by several farmers, is located in Shindler, an inland town. Club meetings are held there regularly each month. The club was organized in 1920 with H. Pike, president; E. Chester Stilwell, secretary-treasurer. The present officers are O. E. Evenson, president; Mrs. T. B. Hanna, vice-president, and H. G. Luebecker, secretary-treasurer.

**COMPETITION AT THE FAIR INTERESTED FRANKLYN CLUB**

One project which enlisted the interest of Franklyn Community club members in Brown county last year was preparation for a township exhibit at the Tri-State Fair, according to Fred Wylie, chairman. This club plans to compete again this fall and to try to jump from third into first place.

Franklyn takes care of the county farm bureau membership problem in that township. Mr. Wylie attributes the success of the club to the fact that committees and members cooperate enthusiastically for the common good of the community.

**LIBERTY CLUB LEASES DAM SITE FOR FISH**

Liberty Community club in Corson county has leased a dam site, and will this summer construct a dam 300 feet in length. The water will be stocked with fish.

The club will vote this spring on the advisability of erecting a club house. If it carries, harvest festival and demonstrations will be held in it this fall.

The live young men appointed on the entertainment committee by Henry W. Clark, chairman, keep interest strong at all times. Mr. Clark recommends using children frequently on the programs to help maintain interest of the parents.