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Extension Work in South Dakota

South Dakota State University Cooperative Extension

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Foreword

The year nineteen hundred and thirty-five was a very busy one for the Extension Service. The great drought of '34 left its effect on the State's agriculture, and created a reconstruction problem that definitely was a challenge to the Extension Service to assist in solving.

The AAA and the Soil Conservation program took up a large part of the time of the Service. These programs have demonstrated that farmers can work together and have brought to the forefront as leaders many farmers heretofore unknown.

The live-at-home program, stressing home resources and home talent recreation, helped farmers and homemakers to solve partially the problem of maintaining a reasonably healthy and happy standard of living.

The 4-H Club program brought happiness and satisfaction to thousands of boys and girls.

We herewith present a report of our year's activities.

A. M. EBERLE,
Director of Extension Service.
County Agent Work

County Agents Have Busy Year

A great increase in the use of the Agricultural Extension Service by farmers of South Dakota was noted in the county agent work of 1935. More farmers came personally to call in the offices of the state's 63 county agents than in any year since the Extension Service was inaugurated. Callers numbered 532,831, an average of 25 visits per day in each office. This is an increase of 58,963 above 1934. Most of the increase was due to the AAA but many farmers came to secure information along other lines as well. Meetings conducted and telephone calls made also showed increases.

Training meetings for local leaders were encouraged and supervisors and agents gave considerable of their time in conducting county training schools for committeemen on AAA programs. The number of training meetings totaled 1,443, an average of 23 per county. Attendance averaged 20 leaders at each meeting. Agents were encouraged to use the discussion method of conducting meetings as much as possible. Interest displayed indicates that this method is acceptable.

Fifty-one of the 63 county agent offices are now on a regular county agent basis and extension boards have been appointed by the county commissioners. Appropriations in all regular county extension counties which had budgeted in August 1934, again set aside funds to carry on the work in 1935. The total of counties making appropriations for Extension work in 1935 was 38. Balances in county supervision funds, from previous appropriations, however, made it possible to carry on the work in other counties also.

The 1935 legislature enacted a new extension law which provided for voluntary cooperation on the part of the county commissioners. The new statute provided the commissioners should have the power to vote to establish the work, which would be administered by a county extension board of five members, three of whom must be farmers. To acquaint county leaders with the provisions of the new law, members of the state extension staff met with the county agents, directors of wheat, corn-hog or sugar beet associations, 4-H club leaders, home extension, farm or-
ganization, and other leaders before the commissioners met to vote upon establishing extension work in their county. Many of these leaders attended the board meetings when the necessary funds were requested.

As the salaries of agents are taken care of through federal and state Extension funds, county funds are used only for local expenses. These items include the agent's travel expense, stenographic help, office supplies, telephone, postage, office equipment and the expense of the home agent in counties having this service.

In some counties, the leaders asked for the entire amount of the budget. In others, the corn-hog, wheat or sugar beet associations agreed to take care of part of the agent travel expense and stenographic help while engaged in the work of the AAA.

The splendid cooperation shown by county commissioners has been most encouraging and indicates the rapid progress which Extension work has made in the last two years.

Selection and Appointment of Agents

Regular and emergency agents were maintained in all of the 63 offices established in 1934 to cover the 69 counties of the state. At the beginning of the year, 16 of these counties were on a regular basis and 47 on an emergency basis. By the close of the year, 51 of the 63 were on a regular basis with the others classed as emergency counties.

During the year, 18 new men were appointed; 12 as county agents and 6 as assistants. Resignations were accepted from 14 during the year and of these, two joined the Forestry Shelterbelt Service; insurance companies and farm service took five men; Re-Settlement Administration, one; Smith-Hughes work, one; and one went to another state as an Extension specialist. There were 18 transfers during the year which meant a personnel turn-over of 25 per cent. The average age of agents on the job at the close of the year was 36.

Factors Affecting County Extension Work in 1935

Continuation of the AAA programs, emergency activities occasioned by the drought of 1934, the new extension law, and training of a large force of relatively inexperienced county agents, were the principal factors affecting the conduct of county extension work in 1935.

The AAA programs, especially those on corn-hog and wheat, required considerable time of all county agents. Educational meetings to acquaint signers with the provisions of the contracts, community organizations and elections, training of farm supervisors on compliance work, conducting the referendum and signing of contracts were among the major activities which kept the agents busy.

Many emergency activities occasioned by the drought of 1934 were carried on or continued in 1935. They included completion of the cattle and sheep buying programs, a survey on seed supplies and seed needs, cooperation with the AAA seed stocks committee, and assisting in handling of drought feed under the direction of drought committees. With depleted livestock, feed reserves and seed supplies the program resolved itself into one of restocking, rebuilding, replenishing and rehabilitation.

It was necessary to acquaint all counties with the new extension law passed by the 1935 legislature and meet with the commissioners in July when budgets for the next calendar year were prepared.

Of the present force of 63 county agents, only nine were on the job prior to the advent of the AAA. In addition, seven others had some extension experience as county agents. The constant attention of supervisors was demanded to direct the work of these new men. Since the AAA
began, some of the regular specialists have been used in county agent supervision. Increasing demands for specialist activities made the addition of two new supervisors necessary.

**Methods and Accomplishments**

The general public has a better appreciation of the work of county agents from the speedy and efficient manner with which they have performed their extensive and varied activities. The need for having a central agency in each county in which all agricultural activities may be centered has been forcefully brought to the attention of the people.

In conducting AAA programs, stress has been laid on the fact that these are the farmer's programs and the agent is simply to assist the selected committeeman in conducting educational and organization work. Members of corn-hog and wheat committees were invited to take part in the conferences between agents and supervisors.

A weekly news service was furnished to all newspapers in the state as well as a service to daily newspapers. Very fine cooperation has been received from South Dakota newspapers in publishing stories which deal with all phases of extension work. More requests for bulletins came into the county and state offices than in any former year. A monthly news letter, dispatched to all extension board members, AAA committeemen, 4-H club leaders and officers of home extension clubs, carried information on all extension activities besides AAA information.

Timely assistance was given in some counties in securing necessary veterinarians during anthrax and other disease outbreaks.

Although the AAA and other emergency activities required a major portion of agent's time in each county, assistance was given in organizing and conducting 4-H club and home extension work. In non-home agent counties, agents assisted in organizing the home extension clubs and arranging and conducting training schools put on by state specialists for the demonstrators of various clubs.

Through demonstrations and activities such as variety test plots,
meat-cutting and curing, grasshopper control, sire exchange days, rural program service and radio talks, many contacts were made resulting in a better understanding of extension work, its methods and objectives.

Analyzing Situations and Problems

Through the various emergency activities which the agents carried on, it was possible to determine very accurately the agricultural situation in each county. Some of the major problems demanding attention were clearly indicated.

This information was valuable for the relief and Farm Credit administrations, for use in supplying feed and seed. The grasshopper survey which was conducted in the fall of 1934, indicated where possible outbreaks might occur in 1935. Farm account books distributed by the extension service and summarized by the farm management specialist were valuable sources of information. In late August a questionnaire was answered by corn-hog committees and suggestions derived from it proved useful in formulating future farm adjustment plans.

The information secured from these and other sources gave the agent a clear picture of the conditions in his county. It indicated that many problems were practically uniform in every county of the state and were those of restocking, rebuilding, replenishing, refinancing and rehabilitation.

Economic Adjustment and Long Time Program

The unprecedented drouth of 1934 called attention to the importance of rebuilding programs and long-time planning in agriculture in the state. With cattle herds depleted, it was thought that now was a logical time to begin a campaign of tuberculosis eradication, especially when federal funds were available. A total of 522,000 cattle were tested in the west-river counties prior to December 1. When a complete retest has been made, this entire area will be accredited. This indicates how the committeemen aided in program building.

Appointment of livestock committees to assist in carrying out the T. B. testing, and recommendations made by them, were in the nature of economic adjustment and long-time planning. A research study in regionalized agriculture made by the State college economics department was discussed with allotment committees and agents at a series of district conferences. Assistance was given to the economic research committee by more than 2,000 committeemen over the state who reported on the average carrying capacity of various pastures for different kinds of livestock.

Three publications valuable to a forward-looking program in South Dakota agriculture were printed during the year by the state planning board—"Artesian Well Control," "Water Resources of South Dakota," and "Agricultural Resources of South Dakota." The county planning boards have been asked by their state chairman to invite county agents to their meetings when discussing agricultural problems. This has given the county agents many valuable contacts and has helped to lay a better foundation for long-time planning for agriculture than ever before.
Agricultural Adjustment Administration

Corn-Hog Largest of AAA Programs

The corn-hog program was the largest of all AAA programs in the state in which the extension service gave material assistance in educational and organization work. The extension director was the administrator for AAA programs in the state, assisted by the county agent leader. They administered the program throughout the year with the assistance of four district supervisors, the compliance director, field auditor, extension editor, 63 county and emergency agents and from four to six assistant agents. Two farmer members of the state corn-hog committee worked closely with the extension throughout the entire program and their suggestions were incorporated into the work. The state board of review consisted of two farmer members, the county agent leader, and the state statistician.

A total of 48 circular letters were sent out by the county agent leader during the year to agents and allotment committees upon various phases of the program.

The corn-hog program got under way in South Dakota soon after a conference of extension leaders in Minneapolis December 20 and 21. A series of district meetings were held in Brookings, Aberdeen, Mitchell, Pierre and Rapid City early in January to explain the program to leaders. A series of radio broadcasts were put on at the start of the program.

Following educational and organization meetings, community elections were held and the signing of applications was underway. By the closing date for applications, which was set at June 1, 60,777 farmers signed their desire to cooperate in the program. By the end of the year, 75,298 contracts had been submitted to Washington for payment.

A total of 1,857 were refused, 38 were combined with other contracts, and 1,584 were in process of being sent in for payment. The first contracts were submitted to national headquarters in July and payments started coming into the state in August. By December 14, 1935, the contracts of 54,905 South Dakota farmers had been accepted and $4,098,732.15 had been poured into their pockets in benefit payments. Four-tenths of one per cent of contracts were suspended or rejected.

Community Committees Check Compliance

A series of six district conferences were held in the state the latter part of May and the early part of June to acquaint agents, allotment committees, computists and head stenographers in handling compliance work on measuring corn and contracted acres. All compliance work was completed by the county committees during June.

At the annual extension conference, a training school was held for the agents and a number of allotment committee members on plans for the final check of hog numbers. During the period of December 2 to 14 final compliance check up was made in all counties. Immediately, compliance papers were prepared and made ready for audit in the county and state offices.

The extension service prepared material for use by South Dakota farmers for their participation in the national corn-hog referendum held in this state October 28. Tabulations show that 88.1 per cent of the signers cast favorable votes; non-signers, 69.7 favorable; and the average per cent favorable was 85.9. Votes were cast in the referendum by 63.3 per cent of the producers eligible to vote.

Completion of the Corn-Hog Program

In the 1934 program, the board of review had to consider appeals from decisions of allotment committees on about 80 contracts. The same
was true in 1935. There remains unpaid at the time of this report, about 100 of the 1934 contracts which are largely cases of partial compliance. The percentage of unpaid contracts is less than one per cent.

Looking forward to another year in corn-hog programs, a questionnaire containing 45 questions on all phases of the work, was sent to allotment committees in each county, for their suggestions. Replies received were summarized in the state report. A number of copies were sent to Washington for consideration in developing a new program for the following year.

The state chairman and the county agent leader were invited to Washington to a conference of 35 representatives from 25 states to draft suggested plans for the next year's programs. Suggestions received from the community committee men were considered at this conference.

Wheat, Rye, and Sugar Beet Adjustment Programs

All of these other AAA programs were smaller in their scope than the corn-hog program but it was wheat that pioneered the way for adjustment work in South Dakota.

There were 58 county wheat associations organized in wheat in 1934 as several counties in the southeast section of the state were combined into districts. One thousand six hundred sixty-four community committee men were elected from 554 districts in the wheat program.

Most counties adopted the plan of joint compliance on wheat and corn-hog contracts. Compliance field work was completed in June and immediately following compliance papers were submitted to the state compliance director for audit and transmittal to Washington for payment.

A total of 50,318 applications for contracts were signed for the 1935 program. Approximately the same number indicated their intention of taking part in the three-year program which was to begin in 1936.

Rye Adjustment Program Begun

The first public hearing for the rye program provided for in amendments to the AAA act passed by Congress, was held in Aberdeen, August 29. Material on South Dakota rye acreage, yields and production, was assembled and presented by the director and the county agent leader.

Since the rye program was carried out under the direction of the wheat allotment committees and also the State Grain Board, coordination of activities was possible and it was decided to finish with the wheat work before undertaking any work on the rye program. It was suggested that intensive work be done on the rye program following January, 1936.

Sugar Beet Adjustment in Western South Dakota

The Belle Fourche sugar beet factory district, comprising the counties of Butte, Lawrence, Meade and Pennington, was organized in December, 1934, following a series of educational meetings.

There were 540 sugar beet contracts entered into by growers all of which were approved for payment. Certification of compliance was established on 132,045.57 tons and the total amount of benefit payments received by growers on the 1934 crops was $231,079.75.

Twelve field inspectors and one factory district supervisor were employed to check compliance in 1935. This work consisted of measuring all seeded sugar beet acreage and computing such acreage in accordance to signed contracts. Child labor regulations were checked when such requirements applied.

The first acreage allotment to the Belle Fourche district for 1935 was 11,571 acres but by request, this was increased to 13,500 acres. About 12,000 acres were seeded.
Government Buys Cattle and Sheep

Because of the drought which was general throughout South Dakota in the summer of 1934 and the low prices commanded by cattle and sheep in the regular markets, the federal government carried out an emergency cattle and sheep-buying program to minimize losses to farmers who were forced to unload their stock.

Most of the cattle were bought between the months of June and September. In December, the program was reopened and continued through January, 1935. Shipments of almost 100,000 head were made during some single weeks in July and August. The final report shows 915,039 cattle purchased by the government of which 87,817 head were condemned as unfit for food. Payments on the 74,944 vouchers handled for 49,452 producers totaled $13,124,556. Of this $4,517,204 was benefit payments and $8,607,352 purchase payments.

The emergency sheep buying program was undertaken in September and continued into February. The number of ewes sold was 148,877 of which 70,638 were condemned. Total benefit payments on these ewes were $297,754.

Much favorable comment has been heard concerning the efficient manner in which the emergency buying programs were carried out and the fine cooperation of all connected with the program. It demonstrated how a major emergency of this kind can be handled with a coordinated setup working through a central office.

Definite Future Programs Outlined

County agent work is more firmly established in South Dakota than ever before. Passage of the Jones-Bankhead law during 1935 made it possible to continue on a permanent basis the system of paying the salaries of all field agents, as well as state office workers, from federal and state funds, leaving only the matter of local expenses to the counties.

Effects of the drought of 1934 will be felt for many years and the extension programs of 1936 will be concerned with the re-building of agriculture. Careful attention needs to be given in developing sound programs both on the short and long-time basis. Thorough knowledge of basic facts is essential for sound program planning and stress will be laid upon assembling basic information which can be thoroughly discussed and carefully analyzed by program committees.

Plans for the future, include, among other changes: More district conferences throughout the state at closer intervals and an annual statewide conference of agents; more instructions to agents in program building and leadership training; bringing stenographers together for training in office management and uniform book and record-keeping; promotion of 4-H club activities and a closer coordination of them into the rest of the program for rebuilding of South Dakota agriculture; and lastly, an endeavor to coordinate the activities of all groups working on a uniform county agricultural program.

4-H Club Work

Club Work Reaches 68 Counties

The volume and quality of 4-H club work showed a decided upturn in 1935 over that of the previous year. Extension agents were able to give more time and were better acquainted with 4-H work than the year before. Better crop and financial conditions also made a favorable contribution.
Boys and girls organized 1,111 4-H clubs in 68 counties. The total of 10,601 members completed 6,628 projects with a value of $75,298.83.

The state office maintained close contacts with individual clubs at all times. The extension radio station KFDY conducted a 30-minute program every Saturday. Each program included 4-H news, a short talk on some phase of the work and two music achievement numbers. The response indicates that the program is heard regularly over a wide territory. A number of members and leaders are regular listeners. Suggestions for recreation has filled a 15-minute period of radio time each Monday for the last 4 years. From 10 to 20 requests come into the state office each week for mimeographed suggestions. Members of the state staff plan and conduct these broadcast programs.

The state staff issued 189 new articles to newspapers of the state through the cooperation of the extension editor. South Dakota newspapers generally used these stories regularly. A monthly news letter—4-H Club Doings—was published throughout the year and mailed to local leaders, club presidents and others closely identified with boys and girls club work.

The first step in organizing the work of clubs for the opening year was a series of leader conferences. Three types were held. The leaders met to plan and outline the work; to discuss subject matter with assistance from specialists; and conferences dealing with special activities such as team training, judging practice, preparation of exhibits and summarizing the year’s work.

Organize 1,111 Clubs In 13 Projects

Almost every phase of farm and home life was given attention in the 13 projects outlined by state club leaders. The year found 92 clubs working with the foods-nutrition project; 332 with clothing; home furnishings, 109; corn, 66; potato, 9; garden, 55; handicraft, 246; poultry, 89; dairy, 19; beef, 24; sheep, 44; swine, 21; and colt clubs numbered 5.

Demonstrations of judging practices and judging tours and schools proved to be popular with the boys and girls. Typical was the contest held in Lincoln, Union and Clay counties. Six classes of livestock, beef cattle, fat steers, hogs, draft horses and sheep were judged by two com-
These three happy 4-H members were the winners in the contest for the best scrap book on wildlife conservation. The awards were made at the 4-H conservation camp at Pickerel Lake.

Competing groups. After the competitors had given their reasons, the official judges gave their reasons and placings.

The U. S. experiment farm at Newell was the scene of a 4-H judging school the day previous to the annual farm picnic. The school included boys from scattered parts of western counties, many traveling 150 miles to attend. One hundred and fifty youngsters gathered at State college August 9 to attend a judging school given by college specialists.

Girls Attend 4-H Help Days

Girls 4-H help days were held with the state office representatives in the counties to give assistance in planning demonstrations and developing demonstration teams, preparation of exhibits and record keeping. Better completion of the year’s work was the goal set by the leaders. Most of the help days consisted of advising girls in demonstration work. Leaders also discussed health records and record books. Posture exercises were performed to give information on how to bring their health records up to date.

Boys also participated in help days, the entire month of July being devoted to this purpose. Club agents conducted judging schools in wheat, oats, corn, barley and alfalfa. Identification work also was a feature.

Demonstrations in rural school rooms was an effective way of bringing 4-H methods to boys and girls. District club agents conducted 454 meetings of this kind with a total attendance of 14,834. Many rural teachers appreciating the value of this type of work have started handicraft clubs in their schools.

Conserving Wild Life for the Future

"Don’t treat the trees as you treated me," is a sign appearing on a buffalo head retrieved from the bottom of a Day county lake. It is used as a school room decoration in that county. This serves as a constant reminder to conserve desirable wild animal and plant life.
Within a few weeks after the announcement that special emphasis would be placed on wild-life conservation, 86 local clubs included it in their 1935 program. The items most frequently found in their projects are: Planting of trees and shrubs, building bird houses, protecting nests, flower gardens, and fire prevention practices.

The State Game and Fish department, the Izaak Walton League, More Game Birds in America and the U. S. Biological Survey are cooperating in the work. No other single activity has met with the widespread approval and made the rapid progress this has shown. In August, all wild life clubs assisted with taking the national duck census.

A goodly number of 4-H boys and girls took advantage of the loan funds offered by public-spirited organizations in Codington, Hamlin, Beadle and Brown counties to start poultry flocks. In most cases, a small loan was advanced to the club member in the spring to be used in buying and feeding a limited number of chicks. All local organizations sponsoring the projects report uniformly good success in collecting their loans when they came due in the fall.

The extension service cooperated by furnishing lecturers and demonstrators to assist the boys and girls in achieving the best results. The plan has met with widespread approval and it has many commendable features which recommend its continuation.

College is Host to Club Week

Being a 4-H club member is not all work and no play. One hundred and sixty-five members and 25 leaders representing 35 counties gathered at State college October 21 to 24 to take part in State Club week which is always one of the high lights of the 4-H calendar of the year. Educational trips were awarded to 49 members.

Formerly the date of club week was during the Christmas holidays but the earlier date of this year proved to have many advantages. It enabled delegates to drive in from greater distances and college faculty members were also on hand to give their help and advice. A survey of the enrollment showed that the group averaged two years older than in former years.

South Dakota sent 36 members to the National Club Congress in Chicago. These were the boys and girls who came out ahead in the competition at the State fair. Engaging in national competition with delegates from the 48 states, while the South Dakota entrants brought home no first prizes, they did remarkably well. Six of our girls and one of the boys won red ribbons in the competition and the baking judging team won first place. Another high ranking contestant was the meat identification team which won third place. Club leaders of the state expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the showing made by South Dakota in the national contest.

State Fair 4-H Show Shows Improvement

The State fair attracted 4-H teams and exhibitors from 43 counties. Observers remarked that the quality of exhibits showed considerable improvement over 1934.

Demonstrators and livestock exhibitors numbered 242, supervised by 32 local leaders. Other judging team numbers were: Agricultural, 30, and home economics subjects, 38. Entries were limited to the best of the county and 950 fulfilled this requirement, 236 of which were livestock. Club members realized $5,448.95 from the sale of fat stock at the close of the week.

With emphasis on demonstrations in the local clubs, the interest in demonstration teams was greater than ever before, especially in the field of home economics. There were 279 teams taking part in county
contests and 49 won the right for State fair competition—31 in home economics and 18 in agricultural projects. The Lincoln county demonstration team showing "Do Your Feet Hurt?" won grand championship in home economics and Meade county, showing rope-making, were grand champions in agriculture.

Booth exhibits replaced county club exhibits at the fair. Girls attending the fair occupied booths at hour periods to answer questions and perform simple demonstrations. The quality of the booth exhibits was excellent, particularly in foods and clothing.

Camps and Achievement Days Attendance Large

Large attendance records were rolled up at the 57 county achievement days and 14 4-H camps during 1935. Exhibits shown at achievement days reached 3,284 and attendance 6,900 people. Total camp attendance was 2,275.

Extension specialists assisted the county agents, home agents and local leaders by judging exhibits and selecting teams to represent the county at county achievement days. County health contests were held in connection with 9 achievement days. Instructors at 4-H camps emphasized the subject matter in which the members were interested. Bird hospitality and personality guides occupied the attention of delgates during leisure hours.

Campfire assembly programs, activities such as tours, contests, games, and a camp newspaper added variety and balance to the camp programs. County extension and home agents managed the camp activities for the counties concerned. Club agents, the state club staff, specialists, and high school teachers also assisted.

Coordinated Activities Planned for 1936

Next year will see numerous activities continuing to give a well-rounded 4-H program. A special effort will be made to provide a worth while camp program dealing with the projects in which the members are enrolled. Leaders expect to add new activities dealing with music, conservation, agricultural outlook, reading, courtesy and accident prevention.

Music will be an integral part of the 4-H program. Programs of all gatherings will include music as a feature, especially where community singing is possible.

A study of the agricultural situation will be encouraged to all clubs, especially those made up of older boys and girls.

The suggestions of the federal department of agriculture have been helpful in the planning the 1936 program. They have shown in many ways how to better serve the folks with whom we are working—the young people of rural South Dakota.

Extension Poultry Work

Poultry Values Higher

The poultry industry did not suffer so much during drought years as other farm livestock enterprises. The concentrated feed poultry require could be purchased and transported easily to maintain the flocks. The increase in price from 28 cents per head in 1934 to 41 cents in 1935 explains why the 6,312,000 head of poultry on South Dakota farms January 1, 1935, were worth $2,588,000 or $50,000 more than the value of 8,707,000 head a year before.

Poultry along with the cow proved to be valuable aids in supplying a living to farm families during the drought.

Problems and Solutions in Poultry Raising

The chief problems hampering the growth of poultry in South Dakota are inefficiency in the management of the farm flock, poultry diseases
and parasites. To solve these problems, the extension service set forth the following projects: Flock record or management, grow healthy chicks or sanitation; semi-confinment method of rearing turkey poults; and instructing the juniors in poultry-raising through 4-H clubs.

Four cooperators or four demonstration poultry farms in each county agent county is the ultimate goal in flock record work. Cooperators are selected jointly by the county extension agent and the extension poultryman. The location of the farms in the county is an important factor, an effort being made to scatter them at convenient locations.

Demonstrations of poultry practices are held on these farms. The records may be referred to, showing the value or soundness of the practices demonstrated. Farms of this kind serve as a source of poultry information for the county or community and a source of supply for hatching eggs, baby chicks and male birds for improvement of poultry flocks of the county. The extension service is striving through this project to encourage farmers to keep poultry records as a basis of studying the efficiency of farm flock production.

**Grow Healthy Chicks Project**

To demonstrate the efficiency and results of raising chicks upon clean, disease-free ground, the county agents select a number of cooperative farms under the direction of the extension poultryman. Tours are planned in counties having a number of successful cooperators and the various points of efficiency and commendable practices are pointed out and discussed at each stop. The poultryman plans to stress this project in the future.

Cooperators in the project are urged to raise their chicks upon entirely new and clean ground; use clean and disinfected brooder houses; obtain chicks free from disease; feed all mash and grain in clean hoppers and time the date of hatch for general purposes breeds between April 1 and May 15 and for light breeds, April 15 to May 30.

The same general plan is followed for demonstrating the semi-confinment method of raising turkey poults. The cooperator, after his selec-
tion, agrees to raise the poults upon clean ground enclosed by a poultry fence to prevent ranging upon contaminated ground, to keep records and to feed a balanced ration.

Under this plan, a cooperator in Tripp county raised 1,162 turkeys on an alfalfa field with a 6 per cent loss. A 3 per cent loss was the record for 482 birds in Brown county.

Poultry 4-H clubs were conducted in 21 counties with a total enrollment of 1,031 boys and girls. These members comprise 91 regularly organized clubs. The 4-H poultry exhibit at the State Fair in Huron was considerably larger and of better quality than the previous year. County judging teams from Bon Homme, Brookings, Beadle, Yankton, and Hamlin counties competed in the judging contest.

The extension poultryman believes that one of the more effective ways of building for better poultry flocks in South Dakota is through the careful supervision and instruction of these junior poultry raisers.

**Looking Forward to 1936**

The outlook for the program of work in poultry extension in the future appears more promising than it has in the past. Prices for poultry and eggs throughout 1935 have been good and prospects for the first half of 1936 likewise are good. The 1935 feed crop generally was sufficient. Farm income has improved. Numbers of poultry on farms are below normal and farm families are showing a keen interest in building their flocks to normal in 1936.

Farmers are taking more to heart the hard-learned lesson of the drought years that diversified farming, in which poultry plans a prominent part, is the only safe form of agriculture in a country where rainfall is uncertain.

**Animal Husbandry**

**Drought Leaves Fewer But Better Livestock**

At the outset of 1935, livestock numbers in South Dakota had been materially reduced as a result of drought conditions of the previous years. Cows and heifers in the state were estimated to number 83 per cent of the 10-year average; ewes, 112 per cent; horses and mules, 79 per cent; sows and gilts only 29 per cent of the average.
When liquidating their herds, farmers generally had disposed of the off-type and less productive animals, leaving the breeding stock remaining on their farms and ranches of a higher average type, breed quality and productivity.

The general reduction in livestock numbers throughout the Great Plains brought about an advance in livestock market prices, creating optimism among producers. However, the more forward looking stockmen realized that ruinous prices may be brought about by over-production.

The problems of livestock production in South Dakota may be considered by five different areas. The meat-producing areas in the eastern half of the state are those of more intense livestock production in which meat animals not only are produced but also are fed for the market. In the livestock and cash grain area, livestock is produced and frequently finished. The other three areas find it more profitable to produce livestock but not attempt to fatten them for the market.

The problem of lower cost of production is of vital concern to every farmer. In his livestock production he must give consideration to the use of better sires and females, efficient production of home-grown feeds, profitable combination of feeds, the most effective methods of livestock management and the most economical means of marketing.

On account of the changes in farming conditions in the last few years, it is important to compile a revised state directory of purebred livestock breeders. Every encouragement should be given our purebred breeders, for it is their herds which must serve as the foundation for the right type of sires for future farm use.

Stockmen have expressed a desire for the regular seasonal compliance of the "For Sale" lists showing where different classes of livestock may be purchased.

Four-Fold Program Outlined for the Year

The first phase of the program was livestock improvement. To accomplish this, the use of purebred sires was encouraged, assistance given in organizing livestock men; and organization of a state livestock committee fostered to aid in stabilizing the livestock industry within the state.

To provide adequate feed for the stock of the state, the production and use of drought resistant feed crops, feeders meetings and demonstrations, were among the activities proposed for the year.

Marketing of livestock was fostered through the sponsorship of county sire exchange days, purebred sire sales, revision of the state directory of purebred breeders, the "For Sale" lists of feeder cattle and sheep and a series of meat demonstrations.

The 4-H clubs always have been a big feature of extension animal husbandry work. This year a number comparing favorably with former years were organized. These included baby beef, beef heifer, fat barrow, sow litter, sheep, fat lamb, lamb feeding and colt clubs. The boys and girls also had practice work in livestock judging.

Achievement days, the state and county fairs were the scenes of judging demonstrations put on by representatives of the extension service. The meetings were well attended and much interest was displayed.

Much Material Sent From State Office

The Extension Animal Husbandman issued 32 bulletin or circulars during the year and 119,800 copies were distributed. Three county purebred sire exchange days were held and 103 sires were sold or exchanged. Livestock was judged at 7 achievement days and fairs. The specialist conducted 78 meetings and demonstrations, the attendance at these gath-
erings totaling 5,723 persons. Eight hundred sixty-seven people came to call at the state office and 3,597 persons received information through personal letters. Twenty-seven press articles were written by the animal husbandman during the year and six radio talks given.

Although it was difficult for farm boys and girls to participate in 4-H livestock clubs this year because of the general feed and livestock shortage, 755 youngsters entering 1,306 animals were members of livestock clubs. They made creditable showings. Twenty-nine counties had one or more 4-H livestock clubs.

Two new types of 4-H livestock clubs were set up: The colt club and the lamb-feeding club. Believing that 4-H colt clubs should be organized in interested communities, stockmen of the state asked that they be fostered during the year. As a result, colt clubs were organized in Deuel, Hand and Yankton counties and 35 members participated.

Closely Knit Program Planned for 1936

"Full steam ahead," appears to be the slogan in livestock production next year in view of fewer livestock and higher prices. The more forward looking stockmen realize the ruinous effects of such a policy, unless they can get together with their fellow producers on some basis of "planned production." They have expressed themselves through their State Committe, as favoring an organized program.

The most important livestock problem to be solved in South Dakota right now is to complete the tubercular testing work so that the state may be placed in her rightful place among accredited states and go forward with the others in the development of the livestock industry.

Highlights of the program of the year planned by the extension service include: Fostering a project to place a purebred sire at the head of every herd in South Dakota; encouraging the production of drought resisting feed crops; compiling a "For Sale" list of the feeder and stocker cattle offered by our stockmen; continuing the county sire days; encouraging approved feeding and management practices through the 4-H clubs, and enlarging the demonstration work in judging and meat demonstrate.
Agronomy

Agronomy Work Goes into Many Fields

Educational work with the AAA, emergency duties which arose from the extensive drought of 1934, together with his regular duties, gave the extension agronomist an extremely busy year during 1935.

To cover these phases of his work, he attended 109 meetings, wrote 3,381 letters, prepared 40 circular letters, mailing 2,884 of them, published 9 bulletins or circulars with 10,629 distributed and wrote 22 newspaper articles.

A successful extension agronomy program must be based upon experimental results obtained by the agronomy department through its station work. It is the endeavor of this department to keep abreast of the current experiments and to assist in analyzing results obtained in an effort to secure additional reliable information of value to South Dakota farmers. The specialist maintains close relations with the entire agronomy staff in order to develop a well-rounded practical program of work.

In addition, contact must be maintained with that type of farmer who is a little experiment station in himself. Men of this type are rare but are present. Their experience and observations are a source of information which cannot be neglected.

The program outlined at the beginning of 1935 included: Seed for 1935, crop variety demonstrations, seed treatment, soil conservation, pasture problems, 4-H crop clubs, weed eradication, better crop meetings, seed schools, and educational crop contests.

Crop Variety Demonstrations Helpful

Crop variety demonstrations were the major work undertaken outside of the emergency activities in connection with seed for 1935. Demonstrations were held in wheat, barley, oats, corn and sorghums.

At a time when practically every community in the state was importing seed, an effort was made to place these crop variety demonstrations in all counties of the state. Special attention was given to those com-
munities where past interest showed a long-time crop improvement program would be favorably received.

In addition to demonstrational work in small grains and corn, work also was done with sorghums. Drought and grasshoppers had forced more extensive use of these crops and in many cases farmers had sown unsuited varieties.

Although rust and heat during the time small grains were maturing, made it somewhat difficult to definitely establish positive results, the varieties suited to different sections were more or less clearly indicated.

Demonstrations in wheat showed that farmers planting Ceres in all of east-river counties except Brown and Spink secured the better yields than from any other hard red spring wheat. Plantings of Marquis and Reward were the most successful in the remainder of counties east of the river and in Corson and Dewey. Marquis and Ceres were the most satisfactory in the remainder of the west-river counties.

Richland, Iogold, Gopher and Silvermine varieties of oats gave the most satisfactory results in the eastern counties as far north as the northern line of Codington county and east of the James river. The northern counties across the entire state north of the north Codington line, found Richland, Gopher, Russian Green, and Rainbow best suited for their use. The extension agronomist recommends Richland, Gopher and Cole for the remainder of the state, based upon 1935 experiments.

**Eastern Counties Best for Malting Barleys**

Only the eastern counties are suited to the growing of malting barley, variety demonstrations show. Odessa, Manchuria, Wisconsin 38 and Velvet gave best results in this section. These are all malting type barleys. The remainder of east-river counties were most successful with Odessa and Manchuria varieties. Odessa, Manchuria, White Smyrna and Trebi came out ahead in barley demonstrations for the remainder of the state.

Corn variety demonstrations have been conducted in many parts of the state. The number of demonstrations of all types of corn and grain has fallen off with the drought years. In 1930, 22 counties cooperated, planting 65 plots, while in 1935 only 3 counties took part, planting 7 plots.

The most concise conclusion drawn from these demonstrations shows that a well-selected strain adapted to the community in which it is plant-
ed, will be the high yielding corn. About 15 different strains were planted in plots at Beresford, Dell Rapids, Colton and Renner in 1935. Golden Jewell, Early Reid, Murdock, all yellow dents, and hybrid varieties achieved the most satisfactory results.

Increased interest in sorghums made it desirable to continue variety demonstrations to test adaptability of different strains. In most cases complete harvests for grain and fodder were not made because of the poor season. Field observations made on every plot, showed in most cases that Dakota amber sorgo was superior for fodder production, while Sooner Milo and Altamont were the best for grain.

**Untreated Seed Source of Danger**

The extension service conducted an educational seed treatment plan through the county agents, newspaper publicity and the preparation of handbooks and leaflets.

More field information on the necessity of seed treatment of small grain was desired. Since a number of crop variety demonstrations were established, an addition of this type of work was adopted. Cooperatives sowed side by side, drill widths of treated and untreated grains. It was possible to make some worthwhile comparisons of the value of treating seed grain.

**South Dakota Needs Pastures**

The ultimate goal of the long-time pasture program is to conduct a complete project in cooperation with the livestock specialists in the more needy areas of the state. There will be two phases of such a program—one for the cultivated pasture types in the eastern counties and a range management plan for the West.

Among the grasses under study, crested wheat grass comes the closest to solving our pasture and range problems. Demonstration plots are being grown in Ziebach, Haakon, Hamlin, Beadle, Butte, and Sanborn counties. During the year, the extension agronomist accompanied a number of county agents on a visit to the federal experiment station at Mandan, N. D., where considerable work has been done on crested wheat grass. If, as satisfactory results may be secured in the west central part of this state, this grass will solve many of our pasture and range problems.

**Extension Attacks Creeping Jenny**

Weeds, particularly the perennials such as creeping jenny (field bindweed) and leafy spurge have become well established especially in the more intensely cultivated southeastern counties. Their root systems, extending several feet into the soil, make it possible for these weeds to withstand severe drought years. The extension service has distributed information on the eradication and prevention of further spread of the pests.

Until field projects may be conducted on a wide scale, it will be necessary to make the best use of talks, both radio and public meetings; newspaper articles, and circulars to spread the best current information on practical methods of control.

Turner and Hutchinson counties are badly infested with creeping jenny. The county agent of Hutchinson county has five farmers cooperating. These men are sowing fall rye followed by a crop of millet or sudan following the harvest of the rye. Rye is seeded again the same fall following the harvest of the forage crops. This program is carried out for at least two years. The agronomy department of State College recommends this type of weed control. It is not expected to completely eradicate creeping jenny by this method but experiemnts have shown that it
will be sufficiently retarded to allow the successful growing of corn.

The extension service expects to concentrate upon weed eradication in the future.

Seed for 1935 was Huge Problem

Prior to the planting season of 1935, the extension service conducted a seed survey which showed that 31,830 South Dakota farmers would require 6,220,998 bushels to fill their seed requirement. The matter of financing was nearly as important as locating the seed. The problem of 85.6 per cent of the people dependent upon seed loans seemed insurmountable.

The Seed Stocks committee of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration was the agency appointed to do the job of locating the seed needed to sow almost an entire state and have it on hand for distribution to farmers at reasonable prices. This was done chiefly through the extension organization throughout the state.

Overcoming the mass of difficulties, and cutting through the maze of details was a huge problem. More than half of our farmers were out of seed and more than three-fourths of them required financing. But very few farmers went without seed for 1935.

The scarcity of bonafide complaints in comparison with the large volume of seed moved into South Dakota, is sufficient evidence of the program's success.

Agronomy Work Follows Crop Cycles

Most of the extension work in agronomy is closely tied up with the kind of crop years. Thus, if we have a series of dry years, such as the past five, much work is done without a proportionate amount of results. During good years, better results are forthcoming.

The work in connection with the small grain crop must continue. More work should be done with corn, especially on seed improvement, including hybrid seed corn.

Two sub-projects which are likely to spring into great demand are the work on pastures and meadows, and weed control. The agronomist would like to have the federal department outline an effective program to carry out the "back to grass" movement.

Agricultural Engineering

Farm Builders Planning for the Future

The extension service of South Dakota does not have a full-time agricultural engineering specialist. The department head of the college in that division devotes one-fourth of his time to extension work.
Much of the work this year has been of an emergency nature and the regular projects, necessarily restricted because of financial conditions, were handled as they developed, through letters, miscellaneous talks and radio programs.

Twenty farm building demonstrations were held during the year—16 for poultry houses and 8 for other farm buildings. Demonstrations showing the installations of septic tanks were held upon 3 occasions this year and one demonstration of concrete floors given.

The specialist believes the best service may be given by teaching good practices of improving the farm and farm buildings so that the work may be done correctly the first time without waste of money.

Most valuable of the work of the year has been in the repair of farm buildings. This has been done through farm managers of insurance companies and other commercial organizations which have taken over mortgaged farms.

The specialist addressed this group, numbering about 100, twice during the year. Points emphasized were: Proper bracing at corners and roof; grades of building materials, their strength and durability. Close contacts were maintained with these men throughout the year, furnishing them with plans and printed material. Practices recommended were used on many of their jobs. Eighty-two repair demonstrations were given.

Junior or 4-H projects were carried on as usual in “handicraft work.” Leaders were given training at the annual conference of 4-H members and this year the specialist assisted in the recreational program.

Very little work was done with county agents, chiefly due to lack of finances on the part of land-owners to make improvements, and because so much of the agents’ time was taken up with AAA activities.

The agricultural engineering specialist was called away from his regular duties to assist with educational work in connection with several of the government projects. During the year compliance reporters for AAA contracts were trained and assistance was given to the federal housing program, soil erosion, rural electrification, planning board, shelterbelt, and the county works committee.

During the year, the farm building plan service was improved and enlarged. The available service in farm building plans now equals that of other states. Next year, it is planned that the complete list of farm building plans will be assembled under one cover. When financial conditions of the state improve to the point where building will be resumed on our farms, the extension service will be ready to assist farmers in building and improving to the best advantage.

Dairy Husbandry

Dairy Program Curtained

The extension dairy husbandman acted as district supervisor of 18 southeast counties for the Adjustment Administration during 1935. This stress of outside duties forced him to limit his work in dairy husbandry to the production phases of dairying such as feeding, breeding, testing and managing herds of dairy cattle and the tabulation of dairy records.

That farmers of the state evidenced a goodly amount of interest in the work of the department is shown by the 2,534 requests which were received for the 16 mimeographed circulars issued during the year. The husbandman sent out 187 circular letters and prepared a number of press articles.
Close cooperation and contact continued between the extension and college dairy departments. In carrying out the experimental work, the counsel of these men has been solicited.

Testing Associations Carry On

Dairy herd improvement has been carried on through 19 herds comprising 577 cows enrolled in two associations—the Yankton-Clay and the Minnehaha cow-testing associations. The Black Hills association finished the year in May. Two dairymen, located in areas not served by a testing association, made use of the mail order system of testing.

The husbandman is convinced that the cow testing association provides the means of attacking nearly all dairy husbandry problems and for that reason should be the major project of the future. Because of drought of the last three years, cow testing associations have dwindled from 14 to 2. It is hoped with more normal feed supplies, the number may be increased.

Assistance Given in Securing Purebred Sires

Work on this phase of the dairy program has been limited to helping the state Holstein, Guernsey and Jersey breeders associations in holding their annual meetings and planning programs of work for the current year. These organizations gave much assistance in the conduct of a campaign directed toward the gradual elimination of inferior dairy sires which have become too numerous within the last three years.

None of these state organizations have fallen into disorganization during the stringent times of the drought years. The extension dairyman believes they have sufficient vitality to carry on until better times.

Extension Works for Better Pastures

The husbandman is convinced that pasture planning has been neglected on the average farm in South Dakota. A neglected pasture means either loss through decreased production or increased feed cost. No greater opportunity for decreasing feed and labor costs exists than by planning a pasture rotation which will provide an abundance of feed from early spring to late fall.

Thus far, work on pastures has been confined to Minnehaha county where three meetings were held to discuss pasture experiments, suggest suitable pasture mixtures and methods of improving those already in use.

Good Sires Difficult to Locate

Cooperating with the United States Bureau of Dairy Industry, the department tabulated 7 herds in the state to show the results of a good sire in dairy production. The records of 55 sires were scrutinized through 534 daughter-dam comparisons. The tabulation showed that 25 sires increased the butterfat production of their daughters an average of 100 pounds a year over their dams; 26 sires showed increases of milk production; 30 sires reduced butterfat production and the milk yield was reduced in daughters of 29 sires.

Although now incomplete, the study shows conclusively the value of selecting a good sire to head the dairy herd. A good bull consistently will show increases in his daughters over their dams, while an inferior sire will have an opposite effect.

The most significant fact revealed by the tabulation work is the difficulty in choosing sires which will improve the herd. Although each of the herds tabulated is owned or managed by a practical dairyman who realizes the importance of a good sire backed by records which prove that his daughters should produce more than their dams, only about half the sires in use proved beneficial.
Drought Emphasizes Power of Cream Check

The dairy outlook for South Dakota is more encouraging than it has been for several years. The effects of the drought are still apparent. Farmers are short of funds, cattle and pastures, but they have not forgotten the dark days of depression and drought when the cream check, although small, was all that stood between their families and hunger.

Now with higher prices for butterfat, a promise of more abundant feed, and a more profitable relationship between feed and butterfat prices, there will be a mounting interest in building up and improving the dairy herds.

Under this outlook for the future, it would seem that the dairy program for 1936 in South Dakota should include the sponsorship, organization and maintenance of dairy herd improvement associations; dairy feeding schools; striving to put a good sire at the head of every dairy herd; more safety bull pens; 4-H club work, and pasture improvement.

Farm Management

Production Guide a Need in State

Some service which would guide farmers in their production plans has always been a need in South Dakota. Several years ago, the Extension Service sought to meet this need by issuing the monthly Farm Outlook and Review. This now goes to 4,000 farmers who may have it upon request. The evils of scanty and incomplete farm records were clearly demonstrated when the farm adjustment programs sought figures for base periods.

Goals set in 1935 for the farm management project were: To close the accounts in 27 counties where South Dakota farm record books are used; continue the project in old counties; organize account groups of 25 farmers in five new counties; organize systematic follow-up; summarize accounts at the end of the year; complete half of the records started; and actively urge the use of 60,000 AAA record books.

Drought Clamps Down on Program Completion

The disappointing results gained from all except the last goal of work, are due to the deplorable conditions existing in South Dakota in 1934, the year for which the records were kept. The goal set for AAA record books was 60,000 and 3,000 less than this number were distributed. These books were furnished by the Adjustment Administration. Training schools for county agents and leaders were held at four points in the state during January and the information passed on to the farmers at corn-hog sign-up meetings. The specialist prepared and mailed letters each month to maintain interest in keeping the records.
Aid of WPA workers in the state was enlisted to summarize the 1935 books in the fall. This summarization will serve two great purposes: It will provide farmers with personal help in finishing their record books, thus creating more interest in farm bookkeeping; and it will provide the whole state of South Dakota with considerable farm management information which is sorely needed.

Looking ahead in farm management, the prospect is the brightest it has ever been, due largely to the fact that the AAA program impressed upon farmers as nothing previous has done the need of accurate farm records. In fact, if the federal government ceases to print the book they furnish, the demand for books will be greater than the Extension can afford to assume.

The same sub-projects will receive attention in the future. Time will probably not permit the addition of any new project, with the exception of the county agricultural program planning project.

Rural Organization

Rural Community Organizations Are Worthwhile

Clubs and organizations where farm people can get together in a neighborly way both for entertainment and exchange of ideas, are a worthwhile part of any rural community. The burden of keeping community clubs and other such organization alive rests largely upon the clubs themselves, with the aid of their county extension service.

On July 1, 1935, the rural organization work of the extension was put under the direction of the farm management specialist and the 4-H club leader. There are no significant current changes in the relation of this project to experimental or teaching work in this subject.
The Extension planned a five phase program as the goal for 1935. It included: To furnish monthly program service which would be used by 75 per cent of rural community organizations of the state; to arouse sufficient interest in 25 counties for participation in home talent play tournaments and a later state tournament; the same for a state rural quartet contest; to make a survey among community clubs to learn of their desires for further assistance; and to assist with two recreation projects.

450 Clubs Use Rural Program Service

The mailing list for Rural Program Service includes 450 community organizations in 64 counties. Revival of the home talent play through the play contest showed that South Dakota is "play minded." Thirty-five plays were given at the four district tournaments of the state and the winner and runner-up in each district put on their play at Farm and Home week in Brookings. The actors invariably played to capacity audiences. The quartet contest promises to become one of the most popular features of Farm and Home Week if the interest of the audience is any guide.

Goal number five was to make a survey among officers of all community clubs to learn of their desires in the way of assistance from the Extension Service. The questionnaires show that 5,635 members belong to 156 organizations, an average of 39 persons per club. Roughly speaking, 13,000 people make use of the program service every month. Officers indicated that they wished assistance with readings, stunts, games, songs, poems, talks, playlets, and dialogues in the order named.

Program Service Well Liked

The outlook for the extension project in rural sociology is as good as may be expected considering the times and the fact that people have limited travel and communication in South Dakota this year. Interest seems to be growing. Many club officers in replying to the questionnaire included letters of appreciation for the rural program service publications, stating they loaned them to school and church clubs of their communities.

Emphasis will be laid on the same phases in the future as the past.
There seems to be demand for play presentation. This type of recreation is popular since many communities cannot afford motion pictures. If possible, the extension service will enlarge the stock of plays which will be made available for borrowing by clubs over the state. More emphasis will be placed on quartet contests and rural recreation in future years.

**Animal Disease**

**Controlling Disease is Big Job**

The extension veterinarian has the big job of guarding the health of South Dakota's livestock. The work is largely educational and is accomplished through watching for epidemic outbreaks, taking steps to prevent their spread, cooperating with county agents, assisting regulatory authorities in connection with cattle testing for tuberculosis, and spreading information and warnings through the medium of radio talks, newspaper articles, bulletins distributed and circular letters.

This year the specialist wrote 1,312 letters, distributed 4,700 circular letters, 1,427 copies of bulletins, and talked over KFDY 4 times.

Control of bovine tuberculosis is considered the most important phase of the animal disease project in the state and is placed first on the list of work to be done. From an economic standpoint, tuberculosis causes a greater loss to the livestock industry than any other disease. South Dakota has been lagging behind surrounding states in the campaign for complete accreditation. The recently enacted Jones-Connally bill which provides funds to cover the expense, including payment for condemned animals, is giving a decided impetus to the program.

Experience of 1934 in t-b testing showed that a majority of farmers were interested in the program, but 100 per cent cooperation is difficult to secure. In answer to a petition of West-River cattlemen, all of that area was placed under quarantine in August and testing proceeded. The federal Bureau of Animal Industry furnished the veterinarians, paid the indemnities on reactors and the expenses of the testing.

At the time of this report, the work is practically completed in the western half of the state and has started in four counties east of the river. The Bureau of Animal Industry plans to test all of the cattle in the state by July 1, 1936. One of the surprising features of the campaign is that it has not been necessary to quarantine a single farm because of refusal to submit the cattle to test. The percentage of tuberculosis is running very low in the West-River area, showing that loss from condemnation is not so heavy as many owners anticipated. South Dakota now has 13 accredited counties.

**Anthrax Given Attention**

Anthrax is a disease which occurs more or less every year in this state. Generally, it is spread by the common house flies. Eradication probably is impossible because of the scanty knowledge of the disease, but much can be done by early vaccination. Outbreaks occurred in 10 central counties this year but not so extensively as in 1932.

A disease of horses known as encephalomyelitis became a serious problem in mid-summer. This affliction has appeared at periodic intervals since 1919, when it reached serious proportions. About all that can be done is to advise farmers concerning its characteristics and cooperate with local veterinarians in regard to treatment and vaccination. This disease also is spread by insects, and predicting its future is impossible.

The specialist expects to be relieved of much of his duties with the AAA this coming year and will be able to devote time to a project on sheep parasites and anthrax control. Vaccination in the spring before hot weather will prevent anthrax from doing extensive damage, hence
the program must be one of education to convince farmers of the advantages of early immunization. Work on tuberculosis testing will be continued and the outlook is favorable for its completion before federal funds run out. A completely accredited state free of tuberculosis will be decidedly a progressive step.

**Information Service**

**News and Radio Important in Education**

The proper function of the extension service is to be of greatest service to South Dakota agriculture in an educational capacity. Distribution of information to weekly and daily newspapers, farm magazines, the printing and distribution of bulletins and special publications going directly to readers, as well as the presentation of much informational material by radio, are important methods of accomplishing the purposes for which the service is maintained.

The extension service maintains one of the most extensive news distributing agencies in the state. During the year, 1,111 news articles were dispatched to the daily and weekly press and other publications within the state and to newspapers and farm papers published in near-by states but circulating in South Dakota. Information contained in these articles was obtained from experiments conducted by the resident college staff and the recommendations of extension specialists.

Having county agents located in every county for the first time since the World War, provides an important avenue for the distribution of agricultural information. The extension editor has furnished approximately 150 news stories to the agents for localization to use in their county papers. Agents, both county and home demonstration, have provided their local papers with much valuable news.

Because the programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration were important in 1935, the information service devoted a good deal of attention to this program, for which it served as the official organ in South Dakota. Farmers have been kept accurately informed through the medium of the news.

Every week each weekly newspaper has received from five to seven mimeographed news stories. These always include the popular "Agricultural Briefs" of short, pointed paragraphs, and a "Hint to the Housewife." The other articles are of current importance. Seven of the leading dailies carried the Questions and Answers column this year. All types of questions concerning agricultural problems are answered through these newspapers with the cooperation of the extension service. In coopera-
This is the origination of a familiar voice to KFDY radio listeners. This veteran of the agronomy department has preached soil conservation with all the enthusiasm of an evangelist over this station for ten years.

With the United States Department of Agriculture, a daily Farm Flash service has been furnished to radio stations.

Editing and otherwise preparing material for printing is an important work of the extension editor. The extension service published 27 new circulars, reprints, special circulars and leaflets in 1935. Both the News Letter, which goes to about 5,800 community leaders, and the 4-H Club Doings, for all 4-H club members and leaders, were published 12 times.

KFDY Heard Over State

State College built and is operating the 1,000-watt transmitting station, KFDY, on a frequency of 780 kilocyles. The station has been in operation 13 years. New transmitting apparatus and studio equipment was added four years ago so that now KFDY is heard clearly in most parts of South Dakota and over much of the Northwest. Extension service programs are a principal part of the station’s schedule.

The college teaching and experiment staff, extension specialists, and county agents who visit the college, all contribute to the informative programs. The station is able to broadcast urgent information in regard to such emergency work as seed and feed loans at a time when such information is of most importance to the listeners.

Aside from the adult phases of broadcast, the station has set aside the period from 1:30 to 2 p.m. each Saturday for the use of the 4-H department. The School of Agriculture uses two half-hour periods each month during the school year. Smith-Hughes agriculture and home economics students from high schools of the state broadcast whenever this is possible or convenient.

A typical program starts with the Sioux Falls and Sioux City livestock markets of the current day and the weather forecast; the radio question box on farm topics follows; then the monthly crop report, college news, a musical program, and finally, the Farm Flashes.
KFDY's programs will continue to be broadcast regularly. During the summer of 1935, application was made for additional time, so that the daily program could extend from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. However, it seems that the expense of making surveys and installing equipment to meet federal requirements will indefinitely delay this enlargement. If it does become possible to make this expansion, the radio audience will be greatly increased.

Home Demonstration

Learning to Do by Doing is Principle

The country home extension agent is the leader of the program in the county and serves the farm home alike in times of depression and prosperity. Her means of teaching is the demonstration—"learning to do by doing."

Home extension work is a nation-wide system of education established for the purpose of aiding farm women and girls with the problems of homemaking and rural life. In South Dakota, 18 home demonstration agents bring to farm women and girls practical and scientific information which will help them solve family problems of food, health, clothing, child care and training, management of time and money, improvement of the home and family living, furnishing, grounds, home reading recreation and community life. Other extension departments have specific control over these phases of the work but the demonstration leaders direct the work as a whole.

Rural Community is Unit of Work

The rural community is the unit of organization in home extension work. During 1935, there were 1,032 home extension clubs with an enrollment of 17,407 and 533 girls clubs with an enrollment of 5,455.

Through these community home extension clubs and through conferences, farm women outline and develop programs of work based upon situations and needs of the community. Club officers and executive officers...
totaling 2,064 met with home extension leaders at intervals during the year to discuss progress made and to outline further plans for the development of the program or to make adjustments.

Larger volume and wider scope is noted in the work of the home demonstration program for 1935. In 93,631 farm and town homes, changes were made in homemaking methods as a direct result of the extension program. New practices adopted were reported to number 392,922.

Closely Knit Organization is Feature

A state federation of home extension clubs brings the work of the 67 counties into a relationship of mutual helpfulness and represents the common interests of all home extension clubs of the state in their effort to promote the welfare and betterment of the farm family, home and community.

Rural women conducted many home demonstrations to improve their home methods and practices in gardening, canning, food preparation, nutrition, clothing, home management, home furnishing, child development, parent education, sanitation, yard improvement, pest control, constructive use of family leisure time including home reading, art, music, drama, games and community recreation. These demonstrations were of value not only to the women who carried on the work but they influenced the homemaking of other women in the community.

Evaluating Results Achieved

Through individual conferences, an attempt is made to show what the obtained results mean in community and home life. The effectiveness of the work may be measured by the number of practices adopted, changes in attitude, increased enrollment and interest. Although the state leader furnished report blanks for all activities to be used for checking results, less evident indications are considered. Sometimes sales of certain articles in retail stores are good indicators of the work of the Extension Service.

Through home extension work, a volunteer and responsible leadership has been developed among farm women and girls. These women are leaders and think in broad terms of the farm family and rural community. They are establishing standards for farm homemaking and making progress toward bringing them about. They are becoming informed about national and world conditions; their needs and their relation to agricultural rural life. They are finding new opportunities through service and satisfaction which comes from constructive help to others. They are marching toward the goal of "well-informed, progressive, prosperous, efficient, and happy families."

Clothing

Women Cut Clothing Bills

The position of extension clothing specialist was vacant during the summer months of 1935. In October, a new specialist took over the work and made a number of changes. Previously, the clothing program was limited to non-home agent counties. Now the major projects are being carried by six home-agent districts covering 10 counties.

The clothing specialist brings her work to the people through the medium of clinics in clothing problems and through the distribution of printed matter.

Particular phases of the work were the projects: "Sew a Gift for Christmas," "Decorative Stitches," "Smart Sewing Stunts," "Know Your Sewing Machine," "Your Pattern, Your Fabric and You," and "Cutting Corners in Making a Dress." Home agents assisted in the cleaning and
repairing of 360 sewing machines in Sully, Stanley, Brown, Yankton, Fall River, Minnehaha, and Turner counties during the year.

Record has been kept showing the number of women and girls who adopted recommended practices and their estimated savings. The compilation shows that 15,771 people used extension methods in the different projects, at an estimated saving of $13,292.99. Included were recommended methods in construction, selection, clothing accounts, expenses, children’s garments, care, renovation, and remodeling.

“Cottons for Style and Savings,” will again be the major clothing project for 1936. Ten home-agent counties will take up this work. A closer correlation between the junior and adult clothing work will be a goal of next year. Leader’s conferences for 4-H club leaders will be made more practical and interesting through the addition of more illustrative garments to show standards in construction.

Foods and Nutrition

Food Program Reaches 68 Counties

All farm dwellers must eat—and that perhaps explains why a greater number took advantage of the nutrition project than any other.

The nutrition program reached 68 counties of the 69 counties of the state. A large number of clubs were organized in all of these counties to study nutrition. Membership rolls compared favorably in size with former years. Through the medium of meetings, clubs, demonstrations, letters written and requests for printed matter, the extension nutritionist estimates that the service was directly utilized by approximately 75,000 persons.

Home Products for Our Home People

“South Dakota Products for South Dakota People” continued to hold popular appeal, for it dealt with the latest methods of making bread and plain and fancy rolls from home grown wheat. Large quantity cooking and home entertainment also were a part of the project, designed to teach people to buy and play at home. This was the third year that extension clubs organized to carry this project. The complete program was
carried by 69 clubs with 1,281 members in 3 counties. The program of bread and rolls only was carried in 41 other counties in 464 clubs made up of 7,793 members. Homemakers reporting better practices in bread-making as a result numbered 6,874.

Demonstrations of the right methods in preparing and baking, the food value of cereal products, and their place in the diet were of direct aid to homemakers.

Better meals with what one has to use, was the goal set by the meal-management project. The nutritional phase centered around the "Family Food Guide" leading to a low cost balanced diet. The guide was printed on cards and distributed widely. Nearly 4,000 families reported better balanced meals as a result of the campaign of the 288 clubs in 16 counties with a membership of 4,865. Children in 571 families benefited from feeding recommendations which their parents adopted. Recipes and suggestions were used by 20,768 families.

Entering 66 counties, the preservation project reached a large number of homemakers. It included the newest methods in canning fruit, vegetables and meat; drying fruits and vegetables; and making pickles, kraut and jelly. Thirty-two meetings were attended by 1,420 people. Calls for preservation literature numbered 4,495.

Budgeting a Year in Advance for Savings

The nutrition department printed and distributed a card designed for hanging upon the kitchen wall, giving a plan for a year's balanced low-cost diet. The diet included a large amount of fresh, canned and dried products. Many homemakers availed themselves of the opportunity to plan their yearly food supply and reported substantial savings and better meals.

More than 5,000 school children enjoyed improved hot lunches as a result of the school luncheon program. Suggestions and recipes readily adaptable for this purpose were distributed through county superintendents and rural school teachers. Home extension agents held training schools for leaders, interviewed superintendents and presented the project at teacher's institutes. The project was active in 57 counties and a definite improvement in packed school lunches as well as meals prepared in the school room was reported.
Housing and Feeding Students in Dormitories

Deans and supervisors appointed to manage the dormitories set up by the relief agencies had little training in handling a project of this kind. The nutritionist held 9 training schools for the deans to assist them in the work which affected the health and educational opportunities of 4,621 high school children. The attendance and interest at the training schools were encouraging—193 deans of dormitories enrolling. Problems considered at the schools were: Buying methods and meal-planning for 50 people, menu management, and food guides to low cost balanced diets.

People of the state had an opportunity to study the work of the nutrition department at the State Fair where 24 demonstrations and 9 educational exhibits were set up in the women's building. Twenty counties contributed to the exhibits and demonstrations which showed all phases of the nutrition program.

The 4-H nutrition project included work in meal-planning, food preparation, preservation, table service and etiquette. There were 92 clubs with 910 members, 750 of whom completed the work.

Health and Savings is Work for 1936

The new food and nutrition program, emphasizing health protection and money saving, will be given in 10 counties with 4 home extension agents, and 191 clubs, numbering 3,238 members. The program will emphasize buying, preparation and health qualities of cereal products, vegetables, fruits and sweets. It will be based on suggestions received in answer to a questionnaire distributed among homemakers of the state to learn of their problems.

Club committees will investigate buying problems and present reports of their studies. Preparation will stress time saving, short-cuts, best methods to preserve natural flavor, attractiveness and correct service. The health phase will include a study of foods for health. There is a possibility that the meal management project will continue to 1936, the third year for its consideration. There are 4 home agents with 9 counties as their territory who have not yet had the program. Continuation of the drought conditions in South Dakota makes food preservation a project of paramount importance and this will again be on the calendar. The yearly budget plan for food needs will be offered again.

Many children still are carrying cold lunches to school and many of them do not contain a combination of foods which make up a balanced diet. County superintendents and teacher's institutes will again be contacted in an attempt to interest mothers in feeding their children carefully planned adequate diets.

The Extension Service believes that nutrition is a phase of work which must not be neglected if the health of the people is to be protected. The program will not be curtailed any more than is absolutely necessary.

Home Management

Quarter Million Adopt Recommended Methods

More than a quarter million practices sponsored by the Extension home management specialists have been adopted by South Dakota farm women, a survey of the 1935 year's work shows. Women enrolled in the 959 clubs numbered 16,396 residing in all but one county of the state. The summary shows that 71,581 circulars were distributed with a grand total of 258,809 practices reported adopted.

This does not include practices used as a result of the home account project, furniture repair schools or cooperative projects with relief agencies and schools. Ideas passed on by club members to non-members were 12,643.
Safeguarding the South Dakota Home

The project set "safeguarding our farm homes" for the goal in home management this year. Specific projects in various undertakings dove-tailed into the major project and supplemented one another in achieving the goal.

Home accounts, furniture repair schools, homemade conveniences, entertainment and hospitality, hobbies, conditioning of clothes and farm housing projects all helped to safeguard the South Dakota home.

Women carrying the farm account project used purse-size weekly expenditure books under the "Planned Spending-Wise Buying" idea. Furniture repair was taught in demonstration schools. Four or five days was the usual duration of the exhibition. Women brought in furniture which needed attention and were shown effective and inexpensive ways of making it as good as new.

Learning how to play, to keep happy and well, is fully as important as learning how to work better and easier. To keep the family happy, hobbies were encouraged, home entertainment and beautification practices were used. Believing that the simple things which cannot be overlooked if one is to be healthy are just the ones slighted, the Extension stressed these items. Homemade articles for use in conditioning the family's clothes and sewing centers are approaches to this phase of the major project of safeguarding the family home.

Better Practices for Relief Clients

The Extension invited directors and supervisors of women's relief work to attend home account, health, entertainment, hospitality and enjoyable jobs for leisure hours training schools. They also viewed demonstrations in home made supplies and furniture repair.

Improvement of the dormitory which houses home extension delegates who are guests of the State Fair board, was really a quadruple cooperative project between the Relief Administration, the Extension, the Fair board and commercial companies. The home management specialist started and supervised the project with assistance from the local home extension agent.

Happy Days and Neighborly Nights are Results

The Extension looks back upon the work of 1935 in entertainment and hospitality with particular satisfaction. It was a decided success. It seemed to meet a vital need with its suggestions for making of happy home days and neighborly evenings. There have been many reports of community events built around ideas and suggestions included in this project.

Furniture repair schools have proved to be one of the most popular projects sponsored by the home management department. This Lake county homemaker is watching a demonstration by a home agent in upholstering.
In spite of the fact that reports are not entirely complete, the specialist feels that the results of 1935 are highly gratifying. She attributes the large number of practices adopted to the planning of the year's work to meet special interest and methods used to reach the greatest number of people.

**Visual Education**

**Good Pictures Tell the Story**

The visual education specialist feels that good pictures are the basis for most visual aids. “Good Extension Pictures,” has been the slogan and during the year about 1,000 negatives were made with an average of 7 prints per negative.

The ultimate goal of this department is to be of service to all state extension workers in their publicity and educational work. The extension editor made use of many of the pictures in the news service and many were used in bulletins and circulars of all specialists. A complete photographic laboratory and negative file is maintained for this service. Assistance was given specialists in solving their camera problems.

This department also employs one artist for charts, signs, stencil-cutting and the preparation of charts and graphs for publication. During the year, the chart service has lettered 136 4-H charters, made 466 signs and cut 560 stencils. Sixty lantern slides were made for use by the agricultural engineering department in the rammed-earth building work.

Following the lead of the federal department of agriculture, the specialist expects to make use of film strips as a teaching aid. Other phases of the work will not be forgotten but special emphasis will be placed on this new way of presenting visual education.
Extension Service Staff
November 30, 1935

C. W. Pugsley ---------------------------- President of State College
C. Larsen -------------------------------- Dean of Agriculture
A. M. Eberle ---------------------------- Director of Extension
Ross D. Davies --------------------------- County Agent Leader
Nora M. Hott ----------------------------- State Home Demonstration Leader
H. M. Jones ___________________________ State Boys' and Girls' Club Leader
George Thomson ________________________ Assistant Extension Editor
Earl Bales ____________________________ Visual Education Specialist
C. Shanley -------------------------------- District Extension Supervisor
W. E. Dittmer --------------------------- District Extension Supervisor
L. I. Thompson -------------------------- District Extension Supervisor
Agnes Hansen __________________________ Field Agent in Club Work
Leonora Gitchell ______________________ Assistant in Club Work
*Gabriel Lundy ___________ Head of Agricultural Economics Department
R. A. Cave -------------------------------- Extension Dairyman
S. W. Jones ___________________________ Assistant Farm Management Specialist
G. S. Weaver __________________________ Extension Veterinarian
*R. L. Patty __________ Head of Agricultural Engineering Department
I. B. Johnson __________________________ Extension Animal Husbandman
W. J. Leary ___________________________ Assistant Extension Agronomist
O. J. Weisner __________________________ Extension Poultryman
Anna M. Dempster ______________________ Clothing Specialist
Susan Z. Wilder -------------------------- Extension Nutritionist
Mary A. Covert _________________________ Home Management Specialist
†A. L. Ford ____________________________ Extension Entomologist and Horticulturist
†R. E. Johnston _________________________ Extension Agronomist
†Beulah Rodgers ________________________ Assistant State Club Leader

* Part time Extension.
† On leave of absence.
Field Extension Agents

November 30, 1935

County Extension Agents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Name of Agent</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurora</td>
<td>Lloyd L. Bovee</td>
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<td>Beadle</td>
<td>Joseph L. Hill</td>
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<td>Ziebach</td>
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### Assistant County Agents

**November 30, 1935**

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<th>County</th>
<th>Name of Agent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aurora</td>
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<td>Jerome Olson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Agent at Large</td>
<td>Lloyd Henry</td>
<td>Brookings</td>
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### District Club Agents

**November 30, 1935**

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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
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<td>Southeast</td>
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<td>Southcentral</td>
<td>Earl Harriss</td>
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### Emergency Agricultural Assistants

**November 30, 1935**

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### Home Extension Agents

**November 30, 1935**

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<th>County or District</th>
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<td>Webster</td>
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<td>*Carmen Hensel</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Agent</td>
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<td>Parker</td>
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</table>

* Halftime
Extension Service
South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts
Brookings, South Dakota