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## County Extension Work in South Dakota

A.E. Anderson

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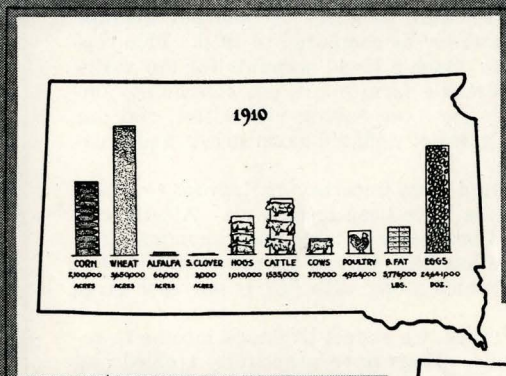
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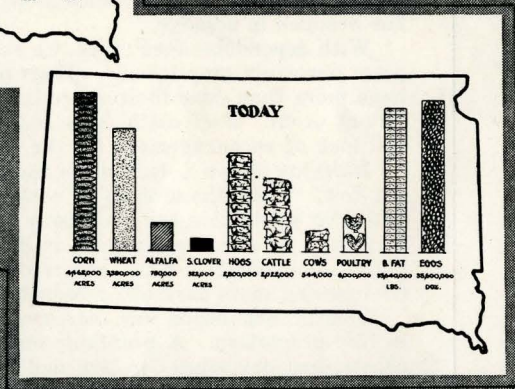
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# County Extension Work in South Dakota.



DIVERSIFICATION  
THROUGH  
EDUCATION



Extension Service  
South Dakota State College  
of  
Agriculture and Mechanic Arts  
Brookings, S. D.

### *Diversification Through Education*

THE two maps on the cover page of this circular show graphically the trend toward more balanced income per average farm, in South Dakota today as compared to 1910. This represents a healthy condition. Such a trend accounts for our maintenance of the more comfortable farm home, our community improvements, our ability to use labor-saving necessities, and our indulgence in luxuries, in spite of deflated farm prices and post-war adjustment problems.

Acreage has been diverted from uncertain cash crops to stable feed crops. Native pastures have been broken up. Alfalfa and sweet clover have required less acreage to provide abundant feed and the balance of acreage has been turned toward corn and feed crop production. Wheat, which along with flax is our cash crop, has dropped in acreage.

With dependable feed crops, we expect livestock income to replace uncertain crop income. Hogs have practically trebled and have more than done their share in marketing feed crops at excellent profit. Beef cattle have increased in spite of depression and lack of encouragement for the cattleman.

Dairying shows a decided increase, particularly in production per cow. While the number of cows indicates a healthy growth, butterfat production has had enormous expansion with favorable markets. Less home dairying is done today, yet our chief increase in production has occurred through better care, better feeding and more carefully selected cows.

Poultry population has increased. Production has increased in like proportion. A profitable change, not indicated on the charts, has developed in live and dressed poultry marketing. With egg production increased one-third and supplemented substantially by live poultry income, the poultry department of the farm business is important.

The sheep population is important in our farm income. Statistics show a slight increase for the state as a whole during this period. The East-River trend indicates a large percentage increase while West-River has decreased. This also is to be expected.

Truly, the cow, the sow and the hen are becoming recognized leaders in the farm business of South Dakota.

### *Diversification Through Education*

# *County Extension Work In South Dakota*

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK in South Dakota is now completing its 15th year, under the Smith-Lever bill passed by Congress in 1914.

Those 15 years have seen many changes and developments in the farming and farm home-making of the state, and for many of these changes and improvements county extension work has been largely responsible. To acquaint readers with what the county service is now doing and planning to do toward making our farms and rural communities better and more profitable places to live, this circular is published.

In addition to presenting a brief summary of activities during 1928, a plan for greater service in the future is reviewed. The past is of interest because of lessons learned and achievements recorded, but the future, with its greater challenges and its growing demand for solutions of new and complicated problems, holds our attention.

It is hoped that this circular may enable the reader to visualize some of the future trends in South Dakota farming. Results of past years will serve as a measuring stick. They also give emphasis to the fact that cooperation, leadership, and careful thought are necessary factors in utilizing the extension service for the greatest benefit to South Dakota agriculture.

## **Growth of the Service in South Dakota**

**First County Agent in 1912.** In March, 1912, the Brown County Better Farming Association was organized at Aberdeen and Mr. H. F. Patterson was hired as county agricultural agent, although at that time the plan was not fully worked out and the work was a pioneer proposition. By July 1, 1914, three county agents were employed in the state, Codington and Spink counties having the other two. From the beginning, this Better Farming Association formed in each county cooperated with the State Agricultural College.

**Smith-Lever Law.** On May 8, 1914, county extension work was given a legal status and federal support by the passage of the Smith-Lever bill. After the passage of this bill, county extension work slowly grew and by July 1, 1917, South Dakota had 13 county extension agents.

**War and Emergency Work.** In 1917, as soon as the United States entered the World War, it was immediately realized that production and conservation of foods and foodstuffs were essential. On April 23 a meeting of representative farmers was held at Washington in response to a call from the Secretary of Agriculture. Those present were mainly officials from the National Grange, the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union, the Gleaners, and the Farmers' National Congress. A program was outlined and endorsed. In August, 1917, a bill passed Congress which made it possible for county extension agents to be employed on an emergency basis.

On July 1, 1918, South Dakota had a total of 59 county extension agents. The results of this service were outstanding, not only in South Dakota, but in all states of the Union. With the signing of the Armistice, the extension service was discontinued in many counties. It had served its purpose during war times and was not believed to be so necessary

after the war. Farm problems changed, however, and needs for extension work became greater than before. Plans were made for a different type of service with trained extension workers. Since that time, county extension work in South Dakota has become more stable every year. Today the work in some form reaches 65 counties of the state. Work of the County Extension Service is now being outlined by representatives of practically every organization within each county. This method of outlining the work means more efficient use of the county service.

### **Facts About County Extension Work**

**What is Cooperative Extension Service?** A cooperative arrangement between county, state and federal governments makes it possible for a county to establish County Extension Service with one or more workers. The object of the service is to assist in promoting better farm profits, more enjoyable farm life, and pleasant social opportunities for all communities, as well as to offer training and educational advantages along agricultural lines for those who are greatly interested and do not have the opportunity of securing such information readily. The County Extension Service is the connecting link between the better farms of a county and the average farm, the State College and Experimental Stations.

**What is a County Extension Agent?** A county agricultural agent gives the majority of his time to the greater problems confronting the average farmer. Marketing of farm products and cheaper production are the fundamental problems. He promotes and supervises 4-H club work of his county, both with boys and girls, encouraging enrollment, assisting in club organization and in the teaching and other work throughout the year.

A county home demonstration agent, whether employed by one county or by a group of counties cooperatively with the state and federal governments, works chiefly with the women of the county and the 4-H club girls. Her work with the women naturally is toward improving and bettering farm homes and making things more convenient and efficient for the farm wife.

A county or district extension club agent may be employed by one county or by a group of counties. His or her time is confined solely to the encouragement and the needs of boys' and girls' 4-H clubs.

**Whom Do County Extension Agents Serve?** County extension agents serve everyone within the county impartially. Membership in farm organizations, religious and political affiliations, do not in any way prevent a county extension agent from assisting anyone who needs or demands his services. The county extension agent is a public officer maintaining a public office. His services are available to all who demand them as taxpayers, citizens or residents.

**How Is County Extension Work Financed?** County extension work is financed cooperatively by the county, state and federal governments. The county boards are authorized to appropriate a limited amount of money for county extension work. When this appropriation is available for the work, the state law provides that the State Legislature may appropriate money, not to exceed 60 cents per dollar of county money, as supplementary to that county extension fund. The federal government also provides a limited amount of money for county extension work. This is prorated evenly among all counties desiring the work.

**What Does County Extension Work Cost?** The cost of extension work

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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to the taxpayer ranges in South Dakota counties from only 13 cents to \$1.19 per quarter-section, depending on the area of taxable farm land. The average is 49 cents.

**Who Directs County Extension Work Locally?** Under revised code of 1919 and amendments of 1925, Section 7952 says: "County Organization: For the purpose of conducting such agricultural extension work, it shall be lawful for 50 or more freeholders residing in at least one-third of the congressional townships of any county to organize an association to be known as the County Farm Bureau, for the purpose of promoting agricultural extension work and encouraging the betterment of agriculture and things pertaining thereto, including home economics. County agricultural extension associations heretofore organized shall hereafter be known as Farm Bureaus of the respective counties where so located." This association has a board of directors of seven members. It is charged with the responsibility of planning the county extension work. It not only represents the extension association but invites suggestions and assistance from any or all interested organizations or people of the county. Several counties have invited representatives of all county organizations to come in and assist in developing an extension program of work.

**How Is the Work Planned Today?** At the present time, the majority of counties having full-time county extension agents are planning a long-time program of work for the extension office. This program is the result of a detailed and comprehensive study of county agricultural problems. Representatives of all existing organizations within the county are called together for the purpose of making such a study. Much time is spent in working out the problems and the remedies necessary to make agriculture more profitable within the county, and to provide better homes and better farm life in general.

**Basic Facts.** Agricultural facts and statistics are first studied by this group in their meeting. After doing this, they go after the farm problems of their county in a business-like way. First, the main source of income on the average farm in that county is determined. They go further and consider six or seven of the major lines of farm business which are producing the greatest farm income. A careful study is made of the trends in agriculture as they affect the peculiarities and characteristics of their particular county. The group then determines the reasons why their income has not been larger in each specific case. Problems are discussed openly and listed.

**Problems and Remedies.** After all problems have been so considered, the question naturally arises as to what can be done by people of the county to remedy difficulties and take advantage of their opportunities. At this point the county extension agent is called in, and perhaps a representative of the State Extension Service. Reviews are made of experimental work and demonstrations out in the county conducted by the County Extension Service, and other sources of information are laid on the table. Results secured from use of such improved practices and the adaptability of practices to the average farm in the county are considered. If the plan looks satisfactory and practical, it is recommended and the conference goes on to the next problem, determining a solution in the same manner.

**The Program of Work.** It is then necessary to do more than talk about suggested remedies. A program is drawn up and handed to the County Extension Agent to guide his work for that year. He will

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probably be asked to demonstrate a certain practice on at least four different farms in each township. He will be asked to spend a certain portion of his time in the organization and work of 4-H clubs for boys and girls. He will be asked to assist organizations such as cow-testing associations. He will be asked to hold a certain number of meetings where a special topic is discussed, and so on down the line item by item, leaving approximately 20 to 25 per cent of his time open for emergency work.

The following table shows the result of a committee meeting composed of representatives of all organizations in working out some of the county problems in the farm business. The other table represents the program of work as outlined for one year, to be followed by the county agricultural agent. At the close of that year he is asked to make a report at a public meeting, composed of this group and others within his county.

**A Typical County Program**

This program, which starts with 1929, was planned by 18 organizations.

Source of Income	Limiting Factor	Remedy
Wheat	Dockage of weed seeds Variety of mixtures Marketing Disease Lack of rotation Lack of storage	Rotation of crops Plant pure clean seed Education Standardization Seed treatment
Beef Cattle	Lack of good stock Feeds Feeding methods  Marketing T. B. Cattle thieves	Better sires—bull campaign Legume campaign Corn and other feeds Baby beef club Education Keeping county clean of T. B. Investigate protective association.
Dairy Cattle and Cream	Same as beef Housing Marketing	Dairy herds—dairy calf clubs Proper housing Investigate cooperative creamery.
Hogs	Type Better boars Feeding Breeding Disease  Marketing	Sow litter clubs   Sanitation—hog lots Rotation of pastures Vaccination Education
Poultry	Roup Cholera Disease T. B. Feeding methods Feeds Marketing Lack of pure breeding Thieves	Housing Keeping young chicks separate Sanitation Boys' and girls' clubs Culling Education Poultry show Investigate tattooing Investigate protective association.
Sheep	Disease Proper selection of type and management Lack of good rams	Pasture rotation Demonstrations on selection Sheep clubs
Corn	Lack of good type   Cultivation Disease	Variety plots Corn clubs Selection seed corn demonstrations in the fall. Proper cultivation Crop rotation Education
Legumes	Pocket gophers Price of seed Methods of planting Not enough alfalfa and sweet clover	Poison bait Campaign

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Other grains	Same as wheat Rodents	Same as wheat Poison bait
Weeds	Too much idle land gone back to weeds Poor management Lack of rotation Lack of knowledge of identification or control measures	Enforce weed laws More community clubs to study and organize to eradicate  Demonstrations on identification, control and eradication
Shelterbelts	Not enough proper varieties Source of supply Methods of management	More shelterbelts More demonstrations on management

From the above, the annual program for 1929 was prepared for the County Extension Service of that county, as follows:

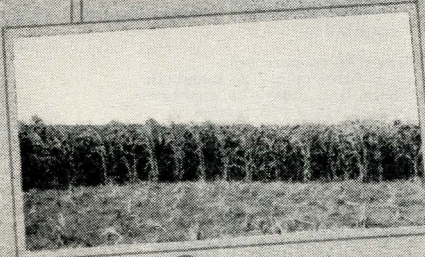
Projects	Goal for Year
<b>I Farm Crops</b>	
1. Alfalfa and sweet clover	Continuation of campaign 100 per cent increase alfalfa acreage 100 per cent increase sweet clover acreage
2. Corn improvement	2 variety test plots 3 4-H corn clubs--30 members Ten-acre corn contest. Secure 25 cooperators.
3. Wheat standardization	Locate sources of pure seed
4. Weed eradication	Secure 25 cooperators 6 demonstrations on identification, control and eradication.
<b>II Animal Husbandry</b>	
1. Hog lot rotation	Secure 10 cooperators.
2. 4-H club work	2 sow litter clubs--20 members. 3 baby beef clubs--30 members. 2 sheep clubs--10 members.
3. Tuberculosis eradication	Assist in first county-wide test. Continue educational campaign.
4. Better sires	Conduct better sire campaign.
<b>III Dairy Husbandry</b>	
1. 4-H calf clubs	10 clubs--125 members. Secure 1 carload club calves.
2. Cow testing associations	Reorganize association. Hold Cow Testing Association tour.
3. Better sires	Assist county breed associations. Maintain 1 purebred bull ring. Organize 1 more purebred bull ring. Hold 4 feeding schools--50 farmers.
4. Feeding	
<b>IV Poultry Husbandry</b>	
1. Grow Healthy Chicks (Disease control)	Secure 25 additional cooperators. Hold Grow Healthy Chicks tour.
2. 4-H poultry clubs	4 clubs--40 members.
3. Better quality stock	Work with county poultry association, encourage show
4. Culling and caponizing	4 demonstrations.
5. Poultry management	1 adult poultry club with 6 demonstrations during year.
<b>V Horticulture</b>	
1. Home beautification	1 demonstration to each of women's clubs Set up exhibit at county fair
2. School ground beautification	2 rural schools to landscape grounds and plant trees
<b>VI Forestry</b>	
1. Shelterbelts	Conduct educational campaign Secure 25 cooperators to plant demonstration plots
<b>VII Rodents</b>	
1. Pocket gophers	6 poison bait demonstrations.
<b>VIII Community Activities</b>	
1. Community clubs	Organize 3 new clubs Maintain 6 clubs Have 200 club members exhibiting. Judging contest in dairying, livestock, crops Demonstration contest in dairying, livestock, crops.
2. County fair	50 members attending 2 during year
3. 4-H club camp	2 judging and 1 demonstration team
4. Leaders' conference	50 exhibits and 25 members at State Fair Club Camp
5. State Fair	
<b>IX Junior Short Course</b>	
	Have 10 members attend.
<b>X Home</b>	
	Increase membership in home extension clubs.



"IMPROVING FIELD CROPS"



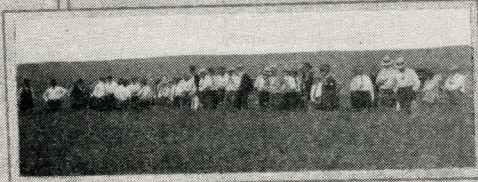
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## Crops and Soils

Maintenance of soil fertility and improvement of field crops are two major pieces of work within the state. Growing of sufficient feed crops and low cost of maintaining and expanding our livestock business have been made paramount in all counties having county extension work. Increased production is not desirable from the standpoint of marketing. Certain maturity with increased yield is desirable as cost of production is lowered and more ground is released for legumes and other feed crops.

**Corn Production.** Twenty-six counties report 449 demonstrations conducted on as many farms, for the purpose of developing improved varieties and standardizing a corn for each county. Twenty-six counties also report that 500 boys and 70 girls carried on the 4-H corn club project. This is encouraged as it means another method of disseminating better seed within a community. In addition, the boy or girl profits by his or her experience and teaching. Twenty-five counties report that 773 farms followed improved corn-growing practices for the first time.

**Weed Control.** Weed control demonstrations were conducted in 10 counties this past year with very favorable results. One of the newer methods with prospects of getting best results is the sodium chlorate treatment used for creeping jenny in particular but also for quack grass and Canadian thistle.

**Legume Acreage.** Every East-River county and some West-River counties believe that increased legume acreage is necessary, both for soil fertility and as a feed stabilizer. The campaign for increased legume acreage was inaugurated two years ago. At the end of the first year, sweet clover acreage in the East-River section had increased 87 per cent and alfalfa acreage 56 per cent. A reasonable percentage of farm acreage devoted to legumes means more efficient hog production as well as more profitable dairying. Further, it maintains a feed supply for dry years. Continued increased acreage is desirable and the coming years will show more and more seeding.

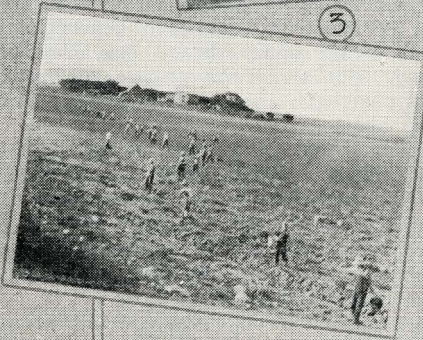
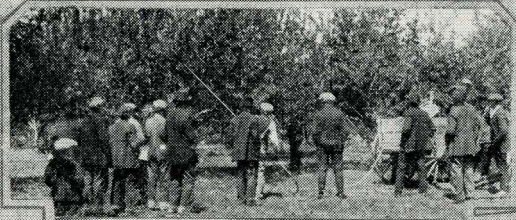
**Cash Crops.** Wheat and flax still hold their place in the majority of South Dakota counties as cash crops. Wheat, while not as dependable, is a crop which is still believed essential in the farming program of many counties. Thirteen counties report 318 demonstrations before groups of interested farmers, in smut and disease control of wheat. Twenty-two counties report 661 improved practices adopted due to advisory and demonstrating measures of the extension Service.

**Corn Contests.** Eleven counties with a total enrollment of 212 carried on ten-acre corn contests for the purpose of standardizing varieties increasing yields and hastening maturity. Nine counties with an enrollment of 152 completed the work. These contests are sponsored by various organizations in the county.

You see on the opposite page:

1. Demonstrating seed treatment for smut.
2. Creeping jenny killed with sodium chlorate.
3. Checking ear-to-row test plots.
4. A farm tour examining alfalfa.
5. Checking results in a county ten-acre corn contest.

"FIGHTING CROP ENEMIES"



### Trees and Gardens

Every county in the state is interested in fruit trees, gardening and windbreaks. Twelve counties carried on definite pieces of work in an organized way on tree fruits. Nine carried on demonstrations over a long period, showing that orchards, shelterbelts, and windbreaks can be grown in certain sections of the state. Thirteen counties record definite practices adopted on 146 farms in their orchards alone. Seventeen counties report shelterbelt or windbreak work started or under way on 176 different farms. Fifteen of these counties report 136 such demonstrations completed this year, indicating a constant run of approximately 150 farms starting and finishing this definite work each year.

**Home Beautification.** During the coming year, home beautification demonstrations will be conducted in an organized manner by the County Extension Service in 49 counties. This project was adopted by the home extension clubs of the state. County agents will put on demonstrations at training schools and will assist with demonstration plans.

**Fruit Tree Demonstrations.** Every spring demonstrations are held for interested groups of people for the purpose of demonstrating the best methods for fruit tree spraying. Spraying controls damage from insects, diseases and worms. It requires a proper mixture. It must be done at the right time. There is a group in every community anxious to learn more about spraying, and they ask for the service.

Orchard growers are also anxious to learn about pruning of trees and budding and grafting. In pruning fruit trees they are not only getting greater production per tree, but eliminating such diseases as blight, oyster shell scale and others.

### Controlling Crop Pests

**Insect Control.** Grasshoppers, army worms, chinch bugs, web worms, and other insects are constantly causing serious damage to South Dakota crops. Some years they are very harmful, but when a heavy infestation strikes a county or section of the state, fast and organized action is demanded. Communities must be organized, funds must be secured, safe mixtures must be made, and sufficient supplies distributed for organized consumption.

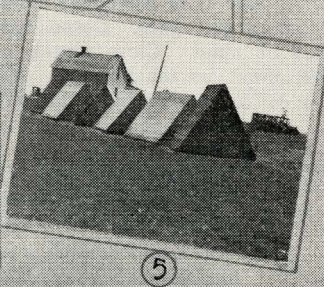
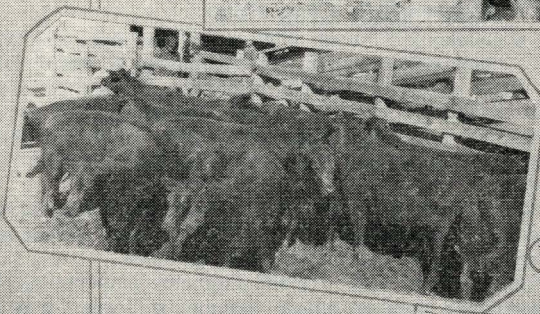
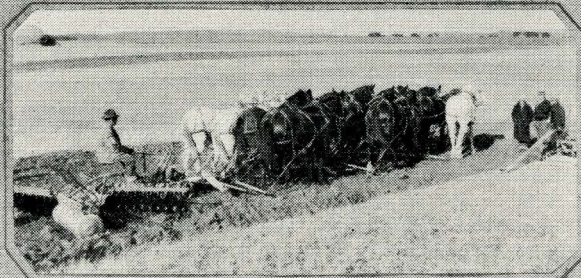
Grasshopper control work is reported by eight counties, involving 2,728 acres. Grasshopper infestations vary. During more severe years, extensive work is carried on in the majority of counties.

**Poisoning Rodents.** Prairie dogs, striped gophers, flickertails, pocket gophers and field mice are causing untold damage in some form in all sections of the state. Losses are heavy, and in some cases, over a short period of time. Close watch and greater preparedness for organized action must be maintained. Rodent control measures were carried on in 20 different counties, covering 280,370 acres.

You see on the opposite page:

1. A group watching a spraying demonstration.
2. Pruning for disease and production.
3. Community cooperates to control army worm infection.
4. Demonstrating toward chinch bug control.
5. Results of one poisoning in a prairie dog town.

"WORKING WITH LIVESTOCK"



### Livestock

More efficient use of livestock and a lower mortality rate mean decreased overhead with cheaper production, in the opinion of every county group where agricultural problems have been discussed.

**Better Team Hitches.** The multiple hitch for handling big teams has become popular in every section of the state. Eighty-eight big-hitch demonstrations were conducted during 1928 with a total attendance of 7,178 in 31 counties. Even more demonstrations have been requested for the coming year. The fact that one man can easily handle a team of three or more horses with two lines and no side draft appeals to every farmer who is reducing labor cost and increasing the work done.

**Preventing Hog Diseases.** Twenty-two counties carried on the Clean-Hog-Lot system of hog-growing on 266 farms. Nine counties report completed records, which in those counties, totaled a saving or increased profit of \$20,759.00. This method of hog growing, according to records for the last few years, indicates the possibility of maturing about two more pigs per litter than under old methods. The Clean-Hog-Lot method is not profitable without changes on the average farm, but a start can be made, and is made, by many hog men. The individual hog house and clean alfalfa pasture are two important factors. These can be provided quite easily on any South Dakota farm. The Clean-Hog-Lot method eliminates infection of the hogs with common diseases.

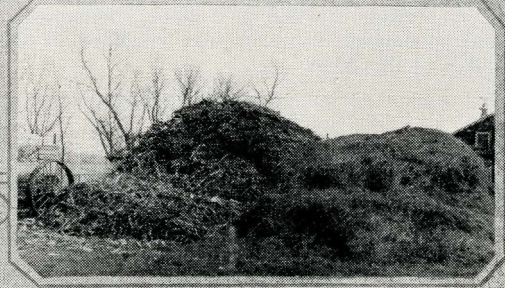
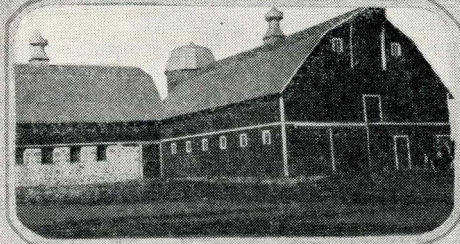
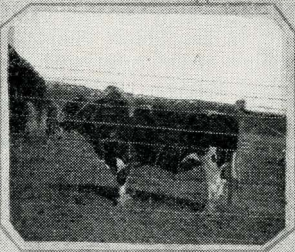
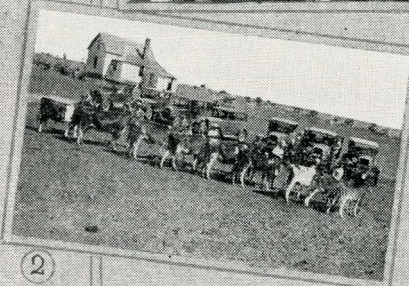
**Beef Cattle.** Nine counties report the feeding-out of beef cattle on 117 farms for the purpose of demonstrating that such can be done in that section of the state profitably. A number of northern and western counties in South Dakota have been known as feeder or stocker counties. With intensified work in the adaptation of corn in this section and special work done in the feed lot, cattlemen are constantly learning successful methods of marketing finished beefs. These ventures prove more profitable on the average than those experienced by the small feeder in eastern states, who ships his feeder cattle from our range.

**Livestock Programs.** Every county having county extension work during the past year, had an extensive livestock program. The general trend in South Dakota is to have a better balance in working capital between machinery and livestock. This trend is sound. It requires considerable work and study for a successful and profitable industry on the average farm. The livestock work deals, in the main, with dairy cattle, beef cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry. The sheep industry has maintained a very consistent and healthy growth in all sections of South Dakota. The average East-River farmer believes that a few head of sheep per quarter section of land is a good investment. Educational work and organized service, however, are required in successful expansion of an industry of this kind.

You see on the opposite page:

1. One of the labor-saving multiple hitches in action.
2. Explaining common hog diseases.
3. Starting a feed lot.
4. Explaining economical feeding methods.
5. Individual hog houses on clean alfalfa pasture.

"INCREASING DAIRY PROFITS"



### Dairying

Dairy farming in South Dakota has increased steadily. Starting with the so-called "coffee cow" South Dakota today lists dairying as the chief source of income in many counties.

**Herd Improvement.** Fifteen cow-testing associations were either organized or re-organized during the past year, representing 280 members. A total of 125 farmers, who are not members of an association, are testing their cows for production under record. At the present time, 4,996 cows are under test.

**4-H Dairy Work.** Fifteen counties report 423 boys in 4-H dairy calf clubs, and 12 counties report 110 girls in similar clubs. Through the work of the 4-H club members cow-testing associations have been organized, better grades of dairy cattle have been secured or developed, better feeding methods have been adopted, and feeding on the basis of milk production has become the rule. Feeding schools, interesting a total of 330 farmers, were held during the year.

**Profitable Dairying.** The following table shows the history of an average herd of cows under the management of an average farmer, during five years of herd improvement work through cow-testing association membership. It is interesting to note that he reduced his herd by three cows and increased his net income per cow from \$48.50 per year to \$115.12.

Testing Year	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Year	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Number cows in herd	11	8	6	7	8
Av. pounds of fat per cow	180	231	264	290	352
Av. value of fat in dollars	\$75.23	\$80.84	\$112.50	\$122.82	\$154.62
Average feed cost per cow	26.73	42.21	44.50	48.01	39.50
Average income over feed cost	48.50	38.63	68.00	74.81	115.12
Total income for herd	533.50	309.04	408.00	523.67	920.96

**Better Practices.** Healthy growth in the dairy business has been a paramount motto of the County Extension Service. The dairy herd prized today, in many cases was started a few years ago by buying a couple of cows of good production. A purebred bull, having a good pedigree on the production side, is secured. The foundation herd soon develops and a profitable dairy herd is the result. Thirty-one counties assisted in the securing of good, purebred dairy sires on 195 farms. Continued improvement of our dairy business and a continued healthy expansion, will result in dairymen providing more improved South Dakota farms.

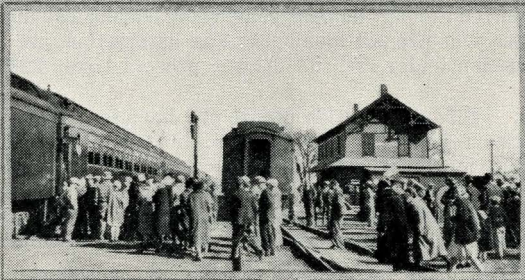
Legume acreage, corn production, cow-testing associations and feeding schools are important needs for a county from the standpoint of County Extension Service. Hand in hand with this, and of equal importance, is the encouragement and development of 4-H club enrollments.

You see on the opposite page:

1. Watching a cow-tester at work.
2. A fine dairy herd developed from two cows.
3. A purebred sire in a South Dakota bull association.
4. Improvements as a result of dairying.
5. A prevalent but unprofitable feed combination.



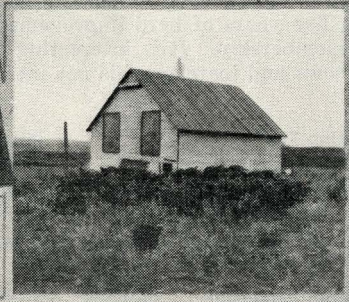
"MAKING FARM FLOCKS PAY"



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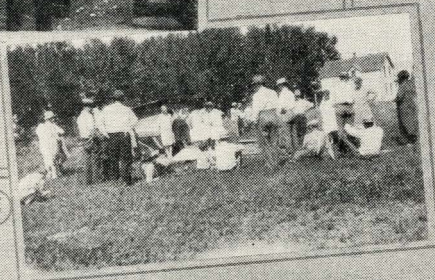
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## Poultry Raising

The poultry business in South Dakota has changed. Fifteen years ago poultry, on the average farm, was a neglected side-line. Today it is a studied part of the farm business and has had no small part in carrying its share of the farm income and expense.

Ideas in regard to the feeding of poultry have changed. Necessity of better housing conditions has become more evident. Disease is one of the biggest problems with which the poultryman has to contend today. It is said by prominent men in a wheat county of the state that losses from disease in the poultry and hog yards of the average farm in that county are greater than the entire loss in wheat by rust and drouth. Consequently, the county extension service has been asked to maintain work with the object of eliminating the common poultry as well as hog diseases.

**Poultry Special.** People of the West-River section had an opportunity to visit a special train on the C. B. & Q. railroad, where lectures were given on poultry, housing, feeding and disease. Exhibits and demonstrations were utilized. The County Extension Service cooperated in every way toward making it profitable for their county people to see these exhibits and hear the lectures. Six stops were made within the state and a total of 4,404 people passed through the train and attended the meetings held in conjunction with the stops.

**Grow Healthy Chicks.** Twenty-two counties conducted demonstrations on 480 farms of the Grow-Healthy-Chicks method of raising baby chicks to maturity and market. Results secured from this method are outstanding.

The records prove that this method of poultry raising is efficient and profitable. The same practices are also used effectively in turkey production.

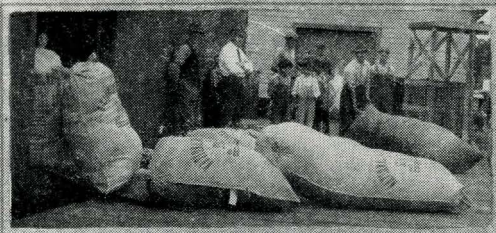
**Culling.** Poultry culling has either been heard of or seen by everyone within the state. Yet during the past year 27 counties report culling on 389 different farms for the first time. On each of these farms a number of neighbors were invited in to see the method of culling, not only for the best layers, but for disease specimens as well. Out of 44,175 laying hens handled, 12,108 were put on the market as unprofitable.

**Tours.** Six tours were held by county extension workers for the purpose of having interested people travel from farm to farm, where Grow-Healthy-Chicks methods of poultry production could be seen in practice. Actual results and conditions were observed. The owner of each flock explained the details of the system and gave his or her opinions in regard to practicability of each practice.

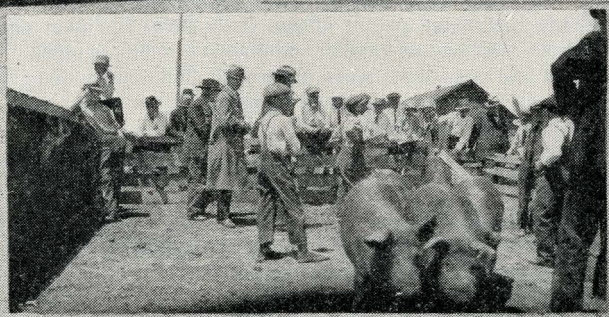
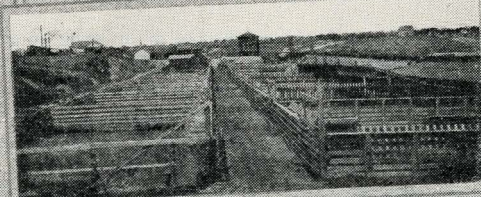
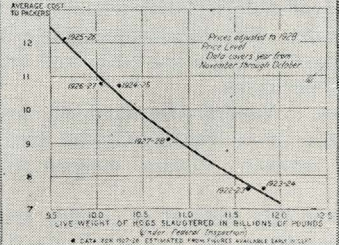
You see on the opposite page:

1. The Poultry Special stops in a West-River community.
2. A good brooder house on clean ground.
3. Turkeys growing on alfalfa.
4. Culling demonstrations have been held throughout the state.
5. The tour stops to learn of poultry methods.

"FARM BUSINESS AND MARKETING"



WEIGHT OF HOGS SLAUGHTERED YEARLY AND HOG PRICES



6

### Marketing and Management

Marketing of farm products represents a paramount issue in the program of every farm organization, and in the program of the Extension Service. Practically every county has asked the Extension Service for aid in its marketing problems. Every county having extension work now has in operation some form of marketing system which is doing its small part toward improving the situation.

**County Marketing Committees.** Because marketing problems require study and careful consideration before any active plans are formulated, committees have been selected in several counties to work with the Extension Service in planning and preparing marketing recommendations. These committees have studied livestock marketing, grain marketing and the marketing of dairy products in particular. They are composed of farmers, particularly interested in the marketing of certain products. Tours are arranged, with the Extension Service, to terminal marketing points. These tours cover all details of present marketing machinery. The committee later studies its problems.

**Work During 1928.** Eleven counties report work with 15 organizations for the past year, not including organizations in existence previous to January 1. It means that in addition to these 15 new organizations, many others already in existence have received service and assistance whenever necessary. All in all, the marketing work has covered wool, certified seed, grain, livestock, dairy products and truck-gardening products.

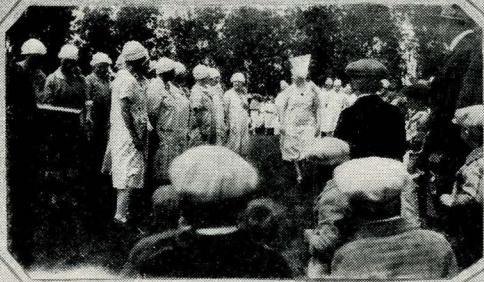
**Wool Marketing.** A typical example of marketing and its influence upon practices within the county is found in experience with marketing of wool. In one county where wool was pooled through the county organization with the assistance of the Extension Service, the price in that county jumped as much as 7 cents within two days. This jump in price came immediately after an announcement of the marketing pool. In spite of this rise the wool again increased in price. On the day of marketing the pooled wool sold for about 3½ cents more than the market over the county on that day. All wool growers benefited by the work of that marketing organization. What is true in this particular case is true in many other cases.

**Information.** The Extension Service is frequently called upon by various individuals and groups for information in regard to certain marketing organizations. The Extension Service cannot recommend or advise a definite method or a particular organization. It can, however, prepare and advance all facts available in regard to the success, operation, etc., of a particular organization. The producer himself must determine, after receiving the facts, whether or not he should consign or market his particular product through that organization.

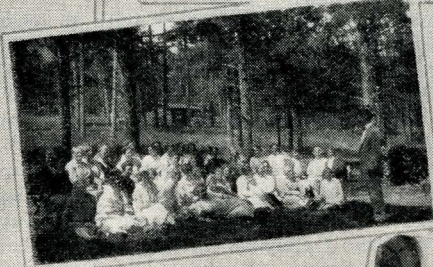
You see on the opposite page:

1. Loading the car for the wool pool.
- 2 and 4. Established marketing houses.
3. Sample of chart service on marketing information.
5. Sorting yards.
6. Studying marketing types.

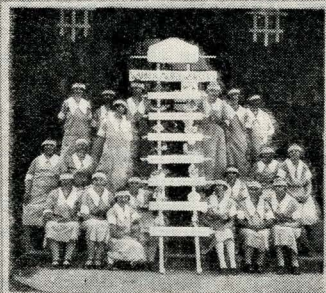
"WORKING WITH FARM WOMEN"



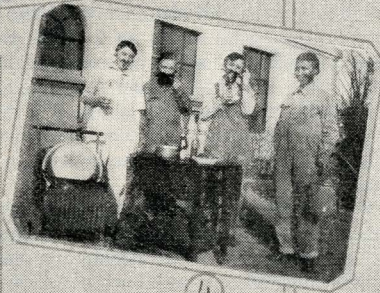
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## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

### Home Extension

**Home Extension Clubs.** A total of 11,653 women in the state are members of 702 home extension clubs in 50 counties. This group of counties with such a large membership is reached by 15 field workers and two state specialists. One home demonstration agent has three counties, under the present arrangement. Five training centers are designated for each county. Home extension clubs of that territory then send in two delegates as demonstrators to this training school on appointed dates. The home extension agent meets with these representatives, or demonstrators, and gives to them the demonstration, which is in turn taken back to their respective clubs, and given before the membership. Because of this highly organized method of handling home extension work, a great number of women are enabled to take part in the club organization and work.

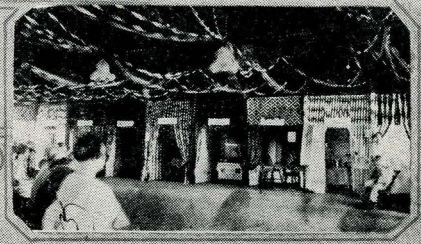
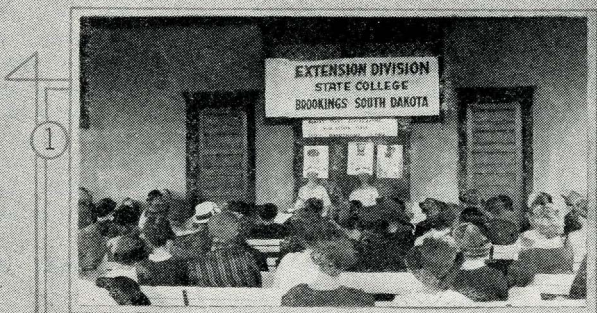
**Membership.** The following table gives the counties interested in home extension work, with the number of clubs and membership, for the year 1928.

County	Clubs	Membership	County	Clubs	Membership
Aurora	20	259	Hutchinson	19	277
Beadle	26	496	Kingsbury	4	65
Bon Homme	15	229	Lake	16	293
Brookings	22	337	Lawrence	5	131
Brown	33	641	Lincoln	16	272
Brule	19	313	Lyman	2	44
Butte	12	240	McCook	19	335
Campbell	5	63	Marshall	20	355
Charles Mix	23	434	Meade, East	10	129
Clark	18	326	Meade, West	5	77
Clay	14	292	Miner	16	255
Codington	25	435	Minnehaha	14	241
Corson	13	169	Pennington	5	86
Davison	11	182	Perkins	14	205
Day	12	203	Potter	8	136
Deuel	19	311	Roberts	10	198
Dewey	8	109	Sanborn	17	239
Douglas	10	148	Spink	32	576
Fall River	10	149	Stanley	7	112
Faulk	18	282	Sully	5	64
Grant	9	142	Turner	19	329
Hamlin	19	306	Union	10	156
Hand	17	266	Walworth	9	100
Hanson	18	283	Yankton	9	154
Hughes	10	146	Ziebach	5	63

You see on the opposite page:

1. Achievement Day stunt.
2. Women in camp hear lecture on health.
3. A lesson at Achievement Day.
4. Play cast—Wheels vs Heels.
5. Group of Women Arriving at Mother's Camp.

"IMPROVING HOME PRACTICES"



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## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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**Programs, 1928 and 1929.** The following demonstrations were selected by the membership of the home extension clubs for their program the past year: New Clothes from Old, New Christmas Gifts, Care of the Sick in the Home, Prevention of Spread of Disease, Grow Healthy Chicks, New Meat Dishes, and Desserts That are Different. Demonstrations included in the program for the coming year are Christmas Gifts, Food Needs for Health, The Health Value of Whole Grains (Quick Breads and Cookies), Growth Foods for Health (Dairy Dishes), Regulating and Coordinating Health Factors (Salads), Food and Waste Carriers for Health (Refreshing Drinks), and Beautification of Home Grounds.

**Girls' Clubs.** Nearly every home extension club aims to foster one 4-H girls' club. It helps select a local leader, encourages enrollment, offers small prizes for trips to the state fair camp or county camp and the Junior Short Course. The women also entertain 4-H clubs at their local meetings and picnics, and help them put over their county achievement programs, demonstrations and exhibits.

**Achievement Day.** During the latter part of the summer the home extension clubs of a county hold a county achievement day. Various individual clubs have exhibits, enter demonstration teams in competition, and hold other events of interest to all in the county.

**State Fair.** Every county has an opportunity to take part in the state fair exhibit. Each district with a home extension agent has a booth and a women's team at the state fair demonstrating one particular piece of work given that year. No two districts give the same exhibit. Consequently, a complete exhibit of the demonstrations for the entire year are represented in the various booths at the state fair.

**Mothers' Camp.** Each year a group of recreational camps is held for women of the home extension clubs. Last year three mothers' camps were held, one in the Black Hills, one at Lake Kampeska and one at Blue Dog Lake. The mothers' camp plan is expected to develop.

You see on the opposite page:

1. Home Extension Club Team giving a demonstration.
2. First Aid demonstration.
3. Milk for Health.
4. Make-Kitchen-Work-Easier Tour.
5. Achievement Day exhibit.



"TRAINING FUTURE FARMERS"



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### 4-H Club Work

It has been said that the boys and girls of today are the citizens and lawmakers of tomorrow and this is certainly true of South Dakota farm boys and girls. The boy and the girl of today will become the leaders of the farm and the business world of tomorrow.

Those who have watched and worked with 4-H club boys and girls have become more convinced than ever of the truth of the above statement. The 4-H club immediately interests a boy or girl in a particular piece of farm business which is his or her own. It places the member in a business relationship with the neighbor boys and girls, who are also 4-H club members. It also places him in a position to know the leading boys and girls, not only of his county, but of the state and of the nation.

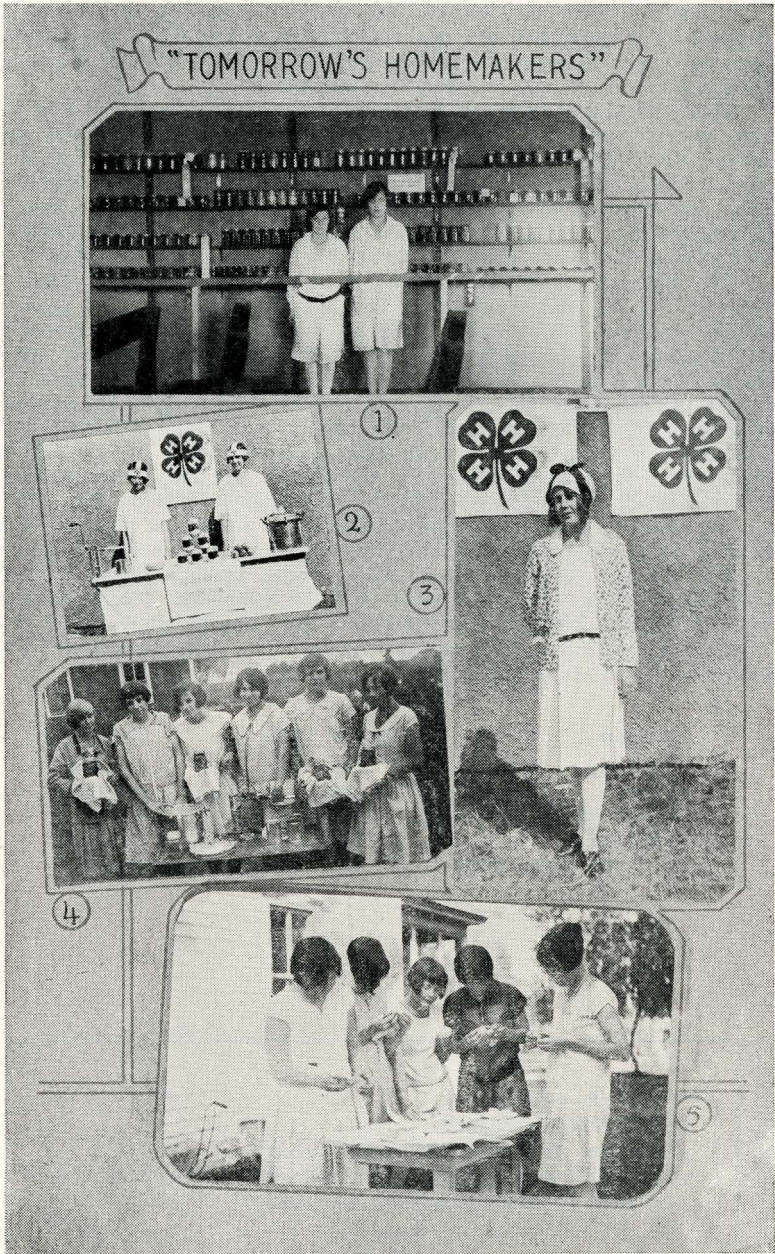
The 4-H club member is learning to do things in which he will be interested for the rest of his life. The best method, improved practices, efficient production of agricultural products—these are all put before him as he progresses, lesson by lesson, with actual experience in his particular enterprise. As he succeeds, and achieves locally, he looks around for larger territory. As he accomplishes and achieves within his county he then becomes a state contender, and finally a national contender at the National 4-H Club Congress and other national events for the 4-H club champions. It is here he becomes acquainted, not only with leaders of counties in his own state, but with future leaders of other states and the Nation. As he comes into maturity and is "on his own" he will see and hear of nationally prominent men whom he knew as former club members.

**Membership.** Sixty-five counties in South Dakota during 1928 had 962 clubs with a total enrollment of 9,122 members. There were 492 girls' 4-H clubs with an enrollment of 4,699. The balance, or 470 clubs, with an enrollment of 4,423 are agriculture clubs. The work done by this large enrollment is shown in the following table.

Project	Number of Clubs	Enrollment
Clothing -----	263	2654
Foods -----	86	959
Room Improvement -----	5	34
Canning -----	138	1052
Total home clubs -----	492	4699

You see on the opposite page:

1. A judging class at work.
2. 4-H boys learning how to fit a calf for show.
3. A 4-H boy with the litter of pigs which weighed a ton in six months.
4. A group of 4-H boys with their dairy calves.
5. A potato club roguing potatoes.



## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Sow Litter -----	90	761
Baby Beef -----	36	241
Sheep -----	32	190
Dairy -----	57	587
Baby Pork -----	22	178
Purebred Gilt -----	2	17
Poultry -----	88	1095
Corn -----	73	669
Potato -----	28	221
Garden -----	40	461
Bee -----	2	3
Total agriculture clubs	470	4423
<b>GRAND TOTAL All Clubs</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>9122</b>

The above table shows that practically every major farm enterprise in South Dakota is taken up in distinct 4-H club work. Many a farm practice has been changed due to the fact that a 4-H club enrollment proved successful. A boy or girl carrying on a definite piece of work on the home farm will not only often change an entire practice on that farm but will influence many or all of the neighbors to adopt a similar practice.

**Supervision.** 4-H club work is under the direct supervision of the County Extension Service. In a few counties not having the County Extension Service voluntary local leaders carry on the work under the state club leader's office. In such cases, the work is of very high quality, but of course limited in its scope. Relatively few boys and girls are members in such counties.

**4-H Club Camps.** Every summer a series of 4-H club camps is held over the entire state. A corps of instructors is on hand, and besides the recreational and social advantages given at such a camp instruction is given with each class having specific hours for instruction in various subjects. The subjects include news-writing, crops, weed identification and control, sewing, canning, cooking, dairy judging, livestock judging, feeding, etc. During 1928, 12 camps were held with a total attendance of 1,684 boys and girls.

You see on the opposite page:

1. 4-H canning club members and a part of their exhibit.
2. Girls demonstrating use of tin cans for home canning.
3. A 4-H club girl wearing a complete outfit designed and made by herself.
4. Learning the art of home canning at a 4-H club meeting.
5. A 4-H club determining quality in clothing materials.

"SOUTH DAKOTA WINS HONORS"



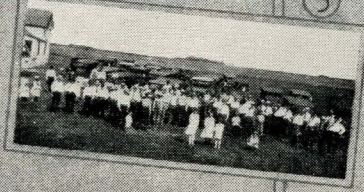
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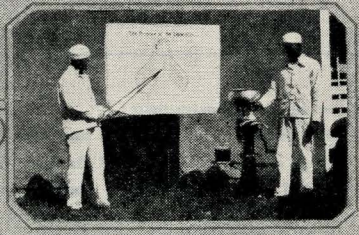
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## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

**Enrollment.** The growth of 4-H club work in South Dakota during recent years has been remarkable. Its development during the coming few years will be more gratifying than ever. To indicate the extent of 4-H club work in South Dakota and to show that County Extension Service materially increases 4-H club interest, the following table is printed.

County	Enrollment	County	Enrollment
Armstrong	0	Jerauld	33
Aurora	61	Jones	0
Beadle	163	Kingsbury	10
Bennett	16	Lake	162
Bon Homme	198	Lawrence	74
Brookings	116	Lincoln	393
Brown	523	Lyman	73
Brule	48	Marshall	501
Buffalo	43	McCook	198
Butte	235	McPherson	30
Campbell	70	East Meade	129
Charles Mix	171	West Meade	71
Clark	339	Mellette	44
Clay	146	Miner	204
Codington	162	Minnehaha	303
Corson	150	Moody	13
Custer	16	Pennington	49
Davison	74	Perkins	317
Day	372	Potter	116
Deuel	42	Roberts	256
Dewey	187	Sanborn	53
Douglas	34	Shannon	229
Edmunds	57	Spink	99
Fall River	154	Stanley	202
Faulk	158	Sully	83
Grant	31	Todd	490
Gregory	106	Tripp	25
Haakon	21	Turner	111
Hamlin	207	Union	199
Hand	0	Walworth	46
Hanson	90	Washabaugh	49
Harding	0	Washington	90
Hughes	146	Yankton	101
Hutchinson	127	Ziebach	94
Hyde	0		
Jackson	12	Total enrollment	9122

You see on the opposite page:

1. Fifty 4-H champions going to Chicago.
2. South Dakota exhibits at the International Livestock and Grain Show.
3. National health champions—1928, Thelma Svarstad of Bath.
4. National champion demonstration team, 1927.
5. A community group combines work with pleasure.

## One Year's County Extension Work

It is impossible, within limited space, to give a detailed account of county extension work as carried on over the state of South Dakota. It is also practically impossible to give a detailed summary of the work of the county extension service in one county. As an effort in that direction, however, the report summary of one county agricultural agent which was published in the daily papers of the state is submitted.

The part played by demonstrations and 4-H club enrollments in increasing the use of certain methods or practices for more profitable farming is indicated.

"What agricultural extension work, cooperating with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, South Dakota Extension Service, \_\_\_\_\_ County Farm Bureau, community clubs, and other organizations and leaders has accomplished for agricultural progress and prosperity in \_\_\_\_\_ County the past year with a definite program of activities including farm crops, animal husbandry, rodent control, economics, community club and 4-H club projects is shown in summary of annual report of County Agricultural Agent, \_\_\_\_\_, from December 1, 1927 to December 1, 1928.

"The value of careful seed selection, testing of corn for germination before planting, rotation of crops with sweet clover, preparing of a good seed bed, thorough cultivation to eliminate weeds, keen interest of a farmer in his business was brought out in crop improvement work this past year in ten acre corn contests. By carrying out the above practices, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ raised 53.0 bushels of dry ear corn to the acre, at a profit of \$17.20 and seventeen other cooperators in 10-acre contest, raised over 40 bushels to the acre at an average profit of \$11.17 an acre.

"By comparing 51 different entries of all principal varieties of corn grown in the county and popular varieties in other parts of the state produced and cared for under like conditions in four demonstration plots in different parts of the county on farms of \_\_\_\_\_ an attempt is made to answer the question, 'What are the best yielding varieties of corn for the county'? Continuing the ten acre and corn variety demonstration plots, which have brought out many valuable things the first year, should have an important part in crop improvement work in the county. The yields varied from 16.4 to 25.8 (high and low), in the different plots. Haney Minnesota 13 was the highest yielding county corn of good quality in \_\_\_\_\_ plot, Rasch White dent in the \_\_\_\_\_ plot and Minnesota 13 in the \_\_\_\_\_ plot. Two corn clubs were carried out in the county as part of crop improvement work.

"When the average flock owner can save 29 per cent more chickens by providing clean chicks, clean brooder house, clean feed, clean ground, than those carrying out none of these points, with chicks raised with hens and 27 per cent more with the brooder house, the Grow Healthy Chicks project proved the best method for the county. 13,753 birds were raised from 20,414 chicks by 54 of 72 cooperators reporting, who were enrolled in the project. The number of chicks raised was in proportion to the number of points carried out. In case of all five points carried out with chicks raised in brooder-houses, 72.7 per cent were raised as compared to 45.5 per cent when no practices were followed, and 73.1 per cent with chicks reared with hens and 49.2 per cent when no practices were followed.

"With carriers of White Diarrhea removed from eighty tested flocks

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK IN SOUTH DAKOTA

in the county and two hatcheries selling only chicks from tested flocks, ----- county poultry raisers have experienced greater profit the past year. 40 members in two 4-H clubs raised 2,468 birds, and took an important part in the Grow Healthy Chicks program.

"By carrying out the spirit and standards of 4-H club work, one of the club boys raised 11 thrifty pigs on clean ground, with balanced rations and good care, that averaged 204 pounds at less than six months. His records show he made a gain of \$545.69 including \$197. in prizes won. ----- also raised a litter of 11 pigs with an average profit of \$36.29, not including prize money won. His litter won him a trip to Chicago, also. His pigs were raised on clean ground, balanced rations and given special attention and care, particularly around farrowing time. What these boys have done, other 4-H boys and girls can do with the interest, determination and enthusiasm of these boys.

"92 other boys and girls were enrolled in sow litter club work in the county, who demonstrated the value of the hog lot sanitation for profitable swine production. Thirty-eight farmers carried out the hog lot sanitation project as a result of sow litter clubs in the community.

"The value of feeding high quality sheep was demonstrated by seven members of ----- sheep club, making \$391 profit from \$280 investment. 6 members of ----- 4-H baby beef club sold their calves for \$750, which were raised at a profit of from \$15 to \$40 a head.

"65 per cent of 178 or 116 4-H agricultural club members in 18 clubs, completed their year's work. 135 meetings were held and 7 clubs had 100 per cent completion of their club members. 3068 units were raised by members reporting, at value of \$19,265.13 with a profit of \$13,415.05. 101 exhibited at the fair and 11 demonstration and judging teams were trained.

"Since ----- County was accredited as a T. B. free area, 10 cents bonus per hundredweight was received on 439 cars of hogs, according to reports and activities of shippers from March 1 to July 1, and 179 from July 1 to December 1. An example as to the premiums received by one community, Mr. -----, manager of ----- Shipping Association, stated that the premium had been received on 51 cars in his community, March 1 to July 1, and 39 cars from July 1 to December 1. Mr. ----- said this meant \$1000 extra to farmers in his community.

"Rodents were poisoned on 24,500 acres of land in ----- County by farmers with 1500 pounds poisoned bait, mixed at a cost of \$156.10 to the county, in comparison to thousands of dollars that were spent every year before on bounties. Farmers reported greater results in exterminating rodents by poison bait than from bounties. 2400 pounds of bait were mixed and distributed, and 20 demonstrations held during the rat campaign in the county this fall.

"First place in parade, health-championship, champion canning team, champion in sheep and swine were won by ----- County club members besides 20 first, 21 second, 8 third, 18 fourth, 14 fifth, 13 sixth, and 8 seventh and 8 eighth prizes won on exhibits at the State Fair, Four state trips and two county trips to National Club Congress and 19 trips to Brookings Short Course were won by ----- county club members this year.

"One hundred leaders took part in rural leaders' conference and adopted a definite program of projects supported by extension work for the coming year.



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

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