"LET'S NOT HOLLER UNTIL WE ARE HURT", SAYS CHAPMAN

"Nothing can stop the spread of the corn borer to the entire corn growing section of the United States, but we are going to continue to secure good yields of corn, at no large extra cost for corn borer control measures", said Dr. R. N. Chapman, chief of the Department of Zoology and Entomology at the University of Minnesota, in his conference with our staff members on February 10. "Many Americans have made us the laughing stock of European scientists because of the sweeping prophecies of calamity that have won publicity and popular belief in connection with the spread of the borer in the United States. To Europeans who have lived with the corn borer for generations our panic and fear of the borer, before we have actually suffered economic loss, seems most unscientific and almost childish".

Dr. Chapman, who recently returned from a year spent in Europe working at first hand on the borer, brought us the most valuable and illuminating data that we have yet received with reference to this pest.

The corn borer is found universally in Spain, France, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Jugo Slavia, Roumania, and most of central Europe. Of ten million acres of corn there grown, Chapman reports he saw but a few hundred acres that were badly enough infested to cause an observable economic loss and these areas were in regions where corn stalk refuse was allowed to accumulate from year to year, thus affording an ideal breeding ground for the borers. Damage varies greatly from year to year, and from one country to another. In western Europe where fields are small and methods of cultivation much more exacting than in the Danube Valley losses were trifling. Dry seasons are unfavorable to the borer. Average yields of corn have steadily increased in the chief European corn regions in the years since the war, thus indicating that the borer has not been a serious limiting factor in their corn production.

Chapman believes that there is a correlation between the extent of borer infection and the soil type on which the corn is growing, as suggested by Dr. Transeau of Ohio State. This ecological relation shows that swamp forest soil types are best adapted to borer development, and it may be that we will have to give up corn on soils of this type, and grow some kind of substitute crops. Fortunately, only a small portion of the prairie Corn Belt soils are of this type. In general it is Chapman's opinion that the American farming community that makes reasonably complete disposal of the corn stalks, such as ensiling or shredding, will not have its corn crop seriously injured by the corn borer. Within a few miles of the very worst infection in Canada there are livestock farming communities where the corn is nearly all put in the silo, and these people hardly know the corn borer is present.

The Federal Department has recently declared its plan for the coming season. The United States Department of Agriculture will continue its scouting work to determine the rate of spread and the enforcement of quarantine regulations, but the continuation of the drastic clean up campaign of last year will not be maintained by the Federal Government. Much effort has been given to biotic methods of control
(parasites and predators) but such methods naturally are slow of advancement and are not regarded by European students as contributing more than a very small percentage of boron destruction.

We wish it had been possible for the entire college staff to have heard the very stimulating address by Dr. Chapman.

FARMERS' WEEK SHORT COURSES SHOW INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT

The special short courses, sponsored by the various departments during our annual Farmers' and Homemakers' Week, are showing a substantial growth in attendance. These special group meetings make possible the wider spread of many of our extension projects, and also allow our resident staff workers to obtain first-hand contact with the farmers who are facing the problems that our research workers are attempting to answer.

In the Department of Dairy Husbandry there were three short courses of four days duration. The enrollment follows:

- 32 in the Creamery Operators and Managers Course.
- 29 in the American Cheese Making Course.
- 12 in the Ice Cream Course.

The Boys' and Girls' Club Department cooperated with J. H. Kolb and the workers in Rural Sociology in a series of morning conferences throughout the week. The average attendance was 30.

Other special interest meetings have reported an average attendance as indicated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soil Fertility Program</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Economics Program</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop Cropping Program</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Livestock Marketing School</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry Program</td>
<td>125</td>
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SURVEY SHOWS INCREASED MILK CONSUMPTION BY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Educational work in schools, both urban and rural, has resulted in marked increases in the use of milk by the children, according to surveys conducted by Miss Gladys Stillman, milk specialist, (Home Economics). Not only do the surveys indicate that children who were not drinking milk before are now taking it regularly, but those who drank milk occasionally increased their daily consumption to a considerable degree.

In the case of 1,500 rural school children in Washington County the milk campaign resulted in a 13 per cent increase in numbers drinking milk, and an increase of 16 per cent in the amount per child. In Pierce County the per cent drinking milk increased from 53.6 per cent to 70 per cent, and the average amount per child from 1.3 cups daily to 1.6 cups daily, as a result of a milk campaign.

Milk consumption in Milwaukee County is higher than for some of the rural counties, yet even here the milk campaign brought about significant increases in milk consumption. The survey before the campaign showed 71.8 per cent of the children drinking an average of 1.78 cups of milk daily. Four months later, after the campaign had closed, another survey was made and the results showed 79 per cent of the children drinking an average of 2.08 cups milk daily.

PIERCE COUNTY FARMERS BUY CARLOAD ALFALFA SEED

County Agent E. G. Seyforth of Pierce County, has arranged with a cooperative alfalfa seed growers association in South Dakota for the purchase of 18,000 pounds of registered Grimm alfalfa seed, and 8,000 pounds of South Dakota No. 12 alfalfa.
seed. This aggregates a carload and will be shipped to the county in March. Distribution to the farmers will be made through the local dealers. Making this large direct purchase permits of a considerable saving to farmers, as well as arousing much local publicity with reference to the alfalfa growing project.

SPECIAL COURSES WIN POPULAR SUPPORT

Recently there were held on the campus two special courses that were put on at the request of industrial organizations that desired to have their employees receive intensive training in respect to certain aspects of their work. The first of these was a Tree Trimming Short Course, February 7 to 10, sponsored by the Horticultural Department, with the cooperation of the Wisconsin Railway Commission and the members of the Wisconsin Utilities Association. Sixty men were in attendance, representing eleven companies and three municipalities. Emphasis was placed on proper pruning methods of roadside trees and the care and treatment of wounds of trees.

The other special course, The Rural Electrification Short Course, held February 14-15-16, had a registration of 70. This course was put on by the staff of the Agricultural Engineering Department, with the aid of several outside speakers, and had as its purpose the instruction of the rural service men of electric utility companies in the adaptation of electrical power and equipment to rural requirements. There was no attempt to "sell" rural electrification, but rather a serious consideration of the peculiar conditions surrounding farm utilization of electric power, so as to enable the rural electric service men in attendance to better understand and answer the practical questions they are daily facing in their work of extending the service of electricity to the farms of the state.

SWISS CHEESE MAKERS TAKE COLLEGE COURSE

The ninth annual two weeks school for makers of Swiss cheese, held February 6 to 17, was attended by 12 cheesemakers. Robert Hardell of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, U.S.D.A., together with Gottlieb Marty of the Wisconsin Department of Markets, and Jacob Lehnherr of the State Dairy and Food Commission, assisted J.L. Sammis and the other staff members of our Dairy Department with the instructional work. This practical course in the manufacture of better quality Swiss cheese has the active cooperation of the Southern Wisconsin Cheese Makers' and Da irymen's Association. Reports tell us the instruction given previous years has exerted much beneficial influence in connection with the quality campaign now underway in the Swiss cheese factories of the state.