

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

The following pages contain the annual report of the Winnebago County Agricultural Committee on the Agricultural Extension Work carried on in the county the past year. Data and statistics cover the period from November 1, 1939 to October 31, 1940.

The agricultural committee for Winnebago County the past year was as follows:

- Frank Bartlett, Chairman
- Miss Eva C. Monson, Secretary
- J. F. Shea
- Van E. Jackson
- Franklin Neuschafer
- R. B. Pallett, Representing the College of Agriculture

It was the responsibility of this committee cooperating with the Wisconsin College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture to plan and direct the county agricultural agent's program for the year.

The county agent's program of work for 1940 as arranged by the county agricultural committee was as follows:

Dairy Improvement -- Organize and set into motion, a cooperative Dairy Herd Improvement Testing Association.

- Soils --
1. Continue lime project sponsored by the agricultural committee.
  2. 12 educational meetings on soils and fertilizers
  3. Conduct 8 grain fertilizer plots
  4. Conduct 8 alfalfa fertilizer plots
  5. 2 hybrid corn test plots
  6. Continue soil testing project.

Four-H Club -- 600 members  
45 clubs  
75% Achievement

- Poultry Improvement --
1. Hold Poultry Disease Clinic
  2. Conduct Three poultry schools
  3. Secure 12 demonstration poultry flocks.

Farm Buildings -- Hold series of educational meetings

Crop Improvement -- Hold two barley schools

Economic Planning -- Get up a County Planning Committee

Weeds -- Work a program to control creeping jenny  
Cooperate with all Federal agencies.

I would like each of you to give thought to this program of work as I report to you the actual work carried out during the year. You will note that practically all phases of the proposed program have been touched upon and carried out by the county agent.

One other thought in regard to the program of work as carried out and a word as to the philosophy in which it was accomplished.

The total number of farmers in Winnebago County approximate 2700. On these farms there is a great variance of interests. Some are interested in swine, some in soils and so forth. Secondly, it is humanly impossible for one man to attempt to visit each farm. The next best effort is to carry on a program of work that entails as many of these interests as possible. In that way everyone regardless of their individual interests will find something on the county agent's program of work that they are interested in and by participating may gain from the county extension program. Upon these theories, the county agent's program functioned. As a result, the year's work shows that most of the agricultural interests in Winnebago County have been touched upon in one way or another and that anyone regardless of their interest could have found some part of the work to their liking.

It gives me pleasure, as the Agricultural Extension Agent of Winnebago County, to report to this honorable body the actual accomplishments of the county agricultural committee and the county agricultural agent in carrying out the agricultural extension program the last year.

In presenting this progress report, may I just briefly call your attention to several important points which must be considered when reviewing a program of work such as that of this committee.

1. The actual territory over which this work extends.
2. The large number of individuals, families, groups and organizations that the work extends to.
3. The far-reaching and boundless extent of such a program.
4. This is an educational program. Its results are not always concrete and its influence will extend on indefinitely into the future years.
5. From necessity, individual and group organization help is necessary in promoting such a program of work.
6. The county agent's program is an educational program. It is not his job to dictate to farmers and tell them how they should farm or what they shall or shall not do. It is the responsibility of the county agent to make available to the farm people of his county, the newest and best information available on current farm problems. When the county agent has accomplished this his job is done. Farmers then must decide if such information is of value to them in their farm business.

The county agent, in the past year, has made every attempt possible to get the latest and best information to the farmers in Winnebago County. This has been accomplished in the following ways.

1. Office Calls
2. Farm visits
3. Circular letters
4. News releases
5. Educational meetings
6. Demonstrational meetings
7. Result meetings
8. Through established organizations

In reporting the accomplishments and activities of the past year's agricultural extension program, may we pay a sincere tribute of appreciation -- a tribute to the countless number of Winnebago County farm folks and rural and urban organizations that have given unselfishly of their time and efforts that this year's program might be one of outstanding successes and accomplishments. Their efforts many times go unacclaimed and unnoticed. May we here and now say "thank you" and trust that their reward will be the thought that they are building for a finer rural Winnebago County and a better place in which to live and raise their families.

The remainder of this report deals with some of the highlights of the year's work in various projects. This report, as is necessary, covers only some of the major projects of the office and does not go into detail on the wide variety of work.