Annual Report of
Wood County Agricultural Agent

Donald R. Rowe
November 1, 1948 - December 31, 1948

Irwin J. Corey
January 1, 1949 - October 31, 1949

EXTENSION ORGANIZATION

The job of the extension worker is to carry out the program of work as outlined by the committee on agriculture in cooperation with the College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture. This program is carried on by the use of educational meetings using method and result demonstrations, personal visits, personal letters, circular letters, the press and radio. It is from these demonstrations and through the use of local leaders that information is made available to farm families in the county. It is impossible to visit or contact each farmer in the county so local leaders and demonstrators are used to further extend information after it has been tried and proven in the research laboratories of the University of Wisconsin. One of the duties of the county agent is to see that this research information reaches as many farmers as possible, so they can adopt these practices which will prove beneficial to them and their community.

A considerable amount of the county agent's time is spent consulting with individual farmers, answering questions which farmers ask about specific farm enterprises and farm management, supervising TVA test demonstration farms and giving assistance to organizations established for the improvement of agriculture such as the dairy herd testing and artificial breeding programs.
His work is also to assist in carrying on the general 4-H program in the county.

If the program is going to be a successful one, the cooperation of various agencies in the county must be had. When possible it is advisable to correlate the Extension program with these agencies. Agencies cooperating in Extension work are the press, radio, vocational agricultural departments, veteran trainers, service clubs, county supt. of schools, rural schools, Soil Conservation Service, district forrestors, Farm and Home Administration and the FMA County and Community Committees.

AGRICULTURE PLANNING

The program of work for the county agent is planned by the Wood County Agricultural Committee of the Wood County Board of Supervisors and the District Extension Leader. A group of rural people were called together to make up an advisory committee and give suggestions with the planning of this program. After this consultation some of the phases of work stressed were:

Work with farmers and dairy plant operators in promoting better quality milk through educational meetings on Mastitis and Brung's control and continuing milkhouse and barnyard improvement.

Encourage herd improvement through herd testing and artificial breeding.

Work with dairy breed associations to help improve Wood County cattle.

Encourage and improve feeding and management practices of all farm animals.

Continue soil improvement work and acquaint as many farmers as possible with the results of a good fertilizer and liming program.

Conduct test plots to demonstrate the recent developments in improved small grains and grass seed mixtures.