A class of Holstein heifer calves are being lined up for judging at the Black and White Show, sponsored by the Wood County Holstein Breeders' Association at the Rudy Weinfurter Farm in the Town of Sherry. Other breeds shown were sponsored by the Brown Swiss and Guernsey breeders in the county.
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

The Wood County Holstein Breeders' Association was reorganized in 1949 and now has a present membership of approximately 35 members. About 65 animals were exhibited at the Black and White Show sponsored by the group at the Rudy Weinfurter farm in the Town of Sherry. A Holstein Classification Demonstration and Judging School was also held by this organization in cooperation with the 4-H clubs at the August Heeg farm in the Town of Richfield. The Sales Committee of this association is made up of three men who accompany and assist those interested in purchasing Holstein cattle in the county. One of the biggest sales in '49 was the 29 head of Holstein springers, averaging $275 a head, to a Texas cattle buyer.

Publicity assistance was given to the county Brown Swiss breeders for their Brown Swiss Canton Show which was held at the Frank Lang farm in the Town of Milladore, and also the Guernsey breeders for their Parrish Show which was held at Lake Wazeecha.

A considerable amount of time was spent during the days of Central Wisconsin State Fair at Marshfield assisting in conducting the Cattle Judging, Best Fitted and Showmanship Contests in the 4-H and open classes. Also assisted in the Fat Stock Show and in conducting the Horse Pulling Contest.

Cooperation and assistance was given the Central Wisconsin Breeders' Association (Cooperative) throughout the year. This organization is doing an excellent job in artificial breeding and herd testing. Their directors are: Fred Hoefner, John Lang, Lyle Matson and Ed Zettler of Marshfield, Rudy Weinfurter and Elmer Whitney of Sherry, and Matt Grasl of Auburndale.

About 5550 dairy cows were bred artificially in 1948 by the three full-time technicians of this cooperative and 100 farmers belonged.
Farmers and 4-H members are being given instructions on judging and classifying Holstein animals at the August Heeg farm in the Town of Richfield. This was an activity sponsored by the Wood County Holstein breeders' Association in cooperation with the 4-H Extension Department.
to the Herd Improvement Division. This method of breeding artificially should have a marked improvement on dairy cattle in this county, as most of the bulls used in these studs are outstanding individuals and show increased butterfat production of the offspring over the dams from 10 to 25 per cent. In a statement made by one specialist from the College of Agriculture, cows in dairy herd improvement work averaged about 346 pounds of butterfat while dairy cattle from artificial breeding in these same herds averaged about 361 pounds of butterfat proving artificial breeding is accomplishing the job it set out to do, which is to produce better dairy cattle.

During the year much information was given out by our office on artificial breeding and many members were signed up. All telephone calls from patrons in this area requesting service were taken through our office. In addition, a number of farm calls were made to give further information on dairy herd improvement work.

The feeding of dairy cattle was discussed at many community meetings and much literature was sent out in answer to requests sent to our office on feeding practices.

About 1250 persons attended the Farmers' Institutes held at Marshfield, Nekoosa, Arpin and Pittsville. Information on artificial breeding, dairy herd improvement work, hog management, etc., was presented by the specialists from the College of Agriculture. Discussions on small grain varieties and grass seed mixtures were also given. Cooperation in holding these institutes was given by the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce, officials from Pittsville, Arpin and Nekoosa and county veteran trainers and agricultural instructors.

Disease Control - At present the following townships of Hanson, Port Edwards, Cameron, Richfield, Rock, Lincoln, Cary, Rudolph, Dexter, Seneca and Wood have been admitted under the new Bang's program.
James Lacey, Professor of Animal Husbandry at the College of Agriculture, is shown discussing meat production at the Farmers Institute held in Marshfield. A combined number of 1250 attended the institutes held at Marshfield, Pittsville, Nekoosa and Arpin to get the latest information on improved farm practices.
Being under the Bang's program entitles these townships to free calfhood vaccination and herd testing for Bang's disease. To date, however, no veterinarian has been assigned to the Towns of Wood and Dexter.

Bulletins and individual aid was given to farmers requesting control of other animal diseases.

**Beef**—Again this year, beef raising seems to be on the increase. About 15 calves were shown by 4-H members at the Central Wisconsin State Fair in Marshfield and 20 beef animals were exhibited by 4-H members at the Adams Livestock Show. In one class at the Adams Show, seven out of eight places were taken by Wood County exhibitors. The Extension Office assisted in planning and carrying out this show.

**Sheep**—The county agent cooperated with the College of Agriculture in conducting their sale of purebred rams and breeding ewes at Abbotsford in October, 1949. A number of these animals were purchased by
A flock of sheep on many farms would increase the farm income besides making it more diversified.

Swine—Together with Virgil Martinson and Arnold Bluemke, agricultural instructors at the Auburndale High School and Marshfield Senior High School, respectively, the county agent carried on the Special Swine Project in this county. This committee selected the boys to receive gilts and rated members for the management awards. A purebred Chester White boar was also selected for use in the project. Assistance was given the boys in the breeding and management of their gilts and also in registering the litters. Arrangements were made by the County agent for a banquet for boys receiving gilts, their 4-H leaders, and their parents at which time further information on the project was given. James Lacey, Professor of Animal Husbandry, at the College of Agriculture, was present to discuss hog management practices.

Poultry—Two poultry meetings were held in the county at which time J. B. Hayes, Farm Poultry Specialist from the College of Agriculture, discussed the latest poultry management practices. These meetings were held in Auburndale and Wisconsin Rapids with the cooperation of high school agricultural instructors and veteran trainers.

A number of farm calls were made throughout the year in assisting poultry raisers with their feeding practices, management of flocks, and disease control problems.

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Soil Testing—The Extension Office cooperated with the Production Marketing Administration in carrying on a soil testing program for interested Wood County farmers. Assistance was given in the