

# AMONG OURSELVES

A HOUSE ORGAN FOR THE STAFF OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

EXPERIMENT  
STATION

RESIDENT  
INSTRUCTION

EXTENSION  
SERVICE

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To All Staff Members:

As the work of the College of Agriculture extends and the staff personnel grows, the advisability of some means of keeping all parts of the college in closer touch with each other becomes more and more apparent. In these days of more intense specialization, our individual activities become narrowed and deepened rather than broadened, and for this reason it seems advisable to issue a news summary containing matters of common interest.

The public looks upon the University as a whole, little realizing how large and complex the institution has become. Staff members are not infrequently asked questions in outside meetings concerning some activity at the college which may not have come under their immediate observation. Even the resident staff members often lack information as to the progress of work that is being done on the campus.

The closer all interests of the College can be bound together, the stronger its influence may become. This sheet is started with the avowed purpose of coordinating more closely the work of the College, but its ultimate success will depend in a larger measure upon the cooperation of all staff members in giving us information that is of general interest. It will appear as material accumulates. We are trying the experiment at some cost of time and energy with the hope that you will assist in making it of value "among ourselves."

*H. Russell*

SWISS CHEESE-MAKERS DAIRY SCHOOL. Wisconsin makes over 70% of the Swiss type of cheese made in America. Hundreds of native Swiss makers are engaged in Wisconsin factories. Inability to speak the English language fluently on the part of many of these men has always been a handicap in reaching this group along instructional lines.

A successful two weeks extension school was recently held at this University Dairy School, which was attended by 35 cheese makers, 2 of whom were from Illinois and New York. A petition was presented by those in attendance asking that a similar course be given next year.

THE PURCHASING POWER of the Wisconsin farm dollar is considerably greater than that of the farm dollar of the United States. According to P. E. McNall (Agriculture Economics) the Walworth County Farm Dollar's index was 87 in 1922 and 84 in 1921. The U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics gives the index of purchasing power of the farm dollar for the United States as 69 in 1922 which is two points higher than the figure reported for 1921. In the Walworth County studies dairy products represented 71% of gross farm sales, and live stock plus live stock products nearly 93% of total sales. Professor McNall thinks this percentage is probably 10-20% larger than the general state average.

As an offset to this condition in which the dairy farmer finds himself it would be of value if we had the data at hand on which to compute the purchasing power of the potato farmer's dollar this last year.

SIXTY BOYS, WINNERS OF 20 DISTRICTS which represent 80 Wisconsin High Schools, competed in the 8th annual Wisconsin live stock judging contest at Madison on February 23 and 24. Wisconsin is the only state using the district elimination contest as preliminary for the state contest and at least 2000 boys received inspiration in this work at the various high schools this year.

The three winning teams, Janesville, Marshfield, and Mondovi, were coached by our graduates.

SHORT COURSE FOR VETERINARIANS. By substituting laboratory methods for the old fashioned type of annual convention a highly successful two-day session for veterinarians of the state was made possible at the recent meeting of about 150 members of the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association which was held at the College. So numerous are the requests for more of this work that a similar course is already being planned for next year.

SPLENDID COOPERATION on the part of staff members produced the attractive series of departmental exhibits at the first "Open House" of the College---held simultaneously with the Little International this year.

THOUGH THE 1923 FARMERS' WEEK was one of the most successful in the history of the College, over 1000 farmers and 650 women representing 68 of our 71 counties being registered, and the dairy merchandising plan then formulated has met with wide acceptance--staff members are earnestly requested to submit any suggestions they may have for making this course more useful to the state.