

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

Vol. I, No. 7.

May 7, 1923.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, HAS BEEN CHOSEN FOR STATION DAY. All departments of the College of Agriculture have been asked to present interesting phases of their work in table exhibits in the Stock Pavilion and to be on hand to talk with the people who attend.

New plots featuring work in soils and crops have been started this spring and the department of Plant Pathology will have plots on the relation between corn root-rot and wheat scab. The Soils department will have four lime-rock grinding machines in operation.

June 22 is also the closing day for the Boys' and Girls' One-week Course at the College, and Station Day will be a banner day for the young folks.

A special program will be provided for the women. Besides the regular exhibits they will be offered new features in landscape gardening and a trip through the College Greenhouses and the Forest Products Laboratory. Picnic lunch will be eaten on the wooded shore of Lake Mendota. The Daughters of Demeter will assist in the program and meet women visitors.

LAST YEAR 14,135 WISCONSIN BOYS AND GIRLS were enrolled as members of 802 Boys' and Girls' Clubs. Of this number 9,317 were engaged in 15 different projects. They sent to T. L. Bewick business records of their work which showed that the value of their products for 1922 was \$368,214.43. This sum was \$124,960.93 in excess of expenses.

Of the profits reported, \$38,750 was made on dairy calves; \$26,466 on potatoes; \$15,746 on seed corn; about \$10,000 on pig club work; and the rest on minor projects. Since many of the boys and girls made no report, the above figures necessarily cover the scope of this work only in part.

Statistics, however, are not a satisfactory measure of the results of boys' and girls' club work, the mission of which is the making of a more worth while rural life through the medium of better citizenship. It has been said that "as goes the rural home so goes the nation," and it can be safely maintained that in the boys' and girls' work the idealistic value far exceeds the practical. Much of the success of the work of these young folks is achieved by grounding it in educational projects where they learn things by actually doing them under the best supervision available.

OF THE 946 MEN ENTERING THE UNIVERSITY AS FRESHMEN in 1923, 93 or 9.8% were sons of farmers. In 1920 the number of farm boys in the freshman class was 148, which was 15% of the 987 men in that class.

The financial depression which has hit agriculture seems to be very distinctly reflected in this decline. It may be noted that the sons of merchants and business men make up by far the largest group in 1922, their number comprising over one-third the total. On the whole, the University records show that the relative numbers of sons from the various occupational groups have been fairly constant (with the above exception), the largest relative increase coming from the homes of railway men.

THE OLD FRIENDS OF PROF. W. A. HENRY will be glad to know that his health is better this spring than it has been for several years. Prof. Morrison has just returned from a short visit with him at his seaside home near Sarasota, Florida.

THE WORK OF THE SEED INSPECTION laboratory in the Agronomy Building has exceeded in amount that done up to the same date in any year since 1915. Over 4,100 samples have already been run, most of them requiring both purity and germination tests. Apparently it will be the biggest year in the history of the seed inspection laboratory. The number of clover samples is running unusually high this season, being nearly 2/3 of the total. The amount of buckhorn in the clover is alarming and, according to A. L. Stone, it seriously menaces the clover seed industry in Wisconsin.

A MOST SUCCESSFUL COUNTY SHORT COURSE FOR WOMEN was held last week at Wausau by Miss Vangel Russell, Home Demonstration Agent for Marathon County. Forty country girls spent the entire week in gaining an insight into home development that will mean much to the country life of that portion of the state.

RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES OF PROF. H. F. WILSON in bee culture came to him recently in his being selected as president of the American Honey Producers League.

WISCONSIN STRAINS OF YELLOWS-RESISTANT CABBAGE SEED are now being grown in large quantities for use in all infected areas of the U. S. The first of these was distributed from the department of Plant Pathology in 1915. Resistant strains of three distinct varieties are now in use and three others of the earlier types are in process of development. Through a cooperative arrangement between the Office of Cotton and Truck Diseases, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Kraut Packers' Association with the Department of Plant Pathology, specially selected stock seed produced under supervision in the Racine district is each year being placed for contract growing in the cabbage seed growing district of Puget Sound in Washington.

Two pounds of Wisconsin All Seasons stock seed so placed in 1920 brought back 3,400 pounds of seed in 1921. This amount, sufficient to plant 10,000 to 15,000 acres of cabbage, was distributed practically at cost from Kansas to the Atlantic Seaboard in 1922. It gave uniformly high yields on yellows-sick soil, where ordinary varieties suffered severe losses.

(Items for this House Organ should be sent to H. L. Russell)