

## 1939 ANNUAL REPORT

This report will review for you a part of the work carried on through the County Agents office. The County Agricultural Agent is the active representative of the Agricultural Committee of the County Board. It has been the aim of the County Agricultural Agent to work in close harmony and cooperation to fulfill the wishes of this county. This office is conducted and sponsored by county, state, and federal funds. It wishes to serve in any capacity possible, the farmers of St. Croix County.

### FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The several federal programs, all of which have a definite part in our Agricultural program, were cooperated with in the hope of bringing to the farmers of St. Croix county the best possible services. While the County Agent has not taken any active part in any of these federal programs this past year, he has been interested in them and worked for their success.

#### Soil Conservation

97% of the farmers of St. Croix County participated in the 1939 Agricultural Conservation program. This was the highest percentage of participation in any county in the state this year. As secretary to the County Conservation Committee, the County Agent has had very close contacts with the principles and work policies of this program. Additional material and information has been given out through the office from time to time in the form of individual contacts and especially so in the various educational meetings held in the county from time to time.

Disregarding the payment end of the program for the time being, the high-spot in the Soil Conservation Program was the second-annual Farmer-Business men's Banquet held at New Richmond, January 17th, at the Hotel Beebe. County and community committeemen and their businessmen guests enjoyed a fine banquet, followed by discussion of the broader policies of the program by both farmers and businessmen alike. Keener interest on the part of businessmen was manifest this year than at the previous banquet. Ben Rusy, state supervisor of County Agents, was the principal speaker of the evening. Following his discussion of agricultural problems, he entertained the group with songs and stories which added much to the program.

Because of the fine cooperation between farm reporters, county committee, and clerical help, it was possible for the Association to pay out \$120,280.55 to 1614 farmers, beginning October 18, 1939. This represents the first group of checks to be paid for the 1939 payments. There were 281 parity payments for wheat made, which totaled \$1,736.59. The payments for the 1938 program totaled \$234,523.11.

This office has been interested in promoting sound practices and has introduced these practices to the farmers of the county