

ECONOMICS IN THE HOME NEW DEPARTMENT

The agricultural department of the United States is broadening its scope of work, and is adding a new feature in North Carolina, that of Home Economics.

Mr. C. R. Hudson, chief of the demonstration work in this state, has issued the following condensed report of the activities of the department in this state.

The Farmers Co-operative Demonstration work carried on by our A. & M. College and our state department of agriculture co-operating with the U. S. department of agriculture is now in operation in 69 counties of the state, with a county agent in charge of the work in each county. During the present year these men had engaged 1,000 demonstrators and directly supervised, 5,859 farmers. These farmers were growing for their own benefit and as demonstrations in their respective communities the following crops, where the best known methods in agriculture were applied: 1,000 acres of corn, 3,068 acres of cotton, and 25,187 acres of other crops, for a total of 63,255 acres. This is an average of over 1,000 acres per county in demonstration territory.

During the present year these agents have made 38,607 personal visits to individual farmers. They have talked to 101,884 farmers in meetings attended. They have probably advised and helped as many more of which we

have no record. Each demonstration plot influences from five to one hundred farmers. Farmers often drive from eight to ten miles to study these plots. Aside from this, there were enrolled about 10,000 other farmers, some of whom were visited, and all of whom received agricultural bulletins, pamphlets, etc. In this work there is not much stress put upon the method of giving instructions or advice by correspondence, still several thousand letters have been written in reply to requests for information on the part of farmers. By all of these methods combined, there have probably been reached 500,000 farmers, most of them in a practical way.

"Aside from this the growing of the ordinary summer crops, another valuable feature of the work has been the growing and planting of 50,737 acres of winter growing crops. A conservative estimate of these are worth at least \$10 per acre, or a total value of over \$500,000. These crops consist of 32,510 acres of clover, 4,240 acres of grasses, and 12,987 acres of other crops consisting of rye, vetch, rape, small grain, etc.

"During the season county agents have started definite systems of rotation of crops with 1,081 farmers. These will furnish valuable object lessons in their respective communities, and will furnish much valuable information to demonstration agents to be distributed through their counties.

"These agents have been instrumental in introducing into the state the following livestock: Nine stallions, 145 mules, 116 bulls, 177 cows, 353 hogs, 350 sheep, or a total of 1,180 animals of improved blood to be used for breeding purposes. They have vaccinated 3,781 for cholera. Ninety per cent of the injections seemed to produce immunity when used in time. They are now co-operating with an expert from the U. S. department of agriculture with our state veterinarian in an effort to control and to eventually eradicate this swine plague. They have induced the building of 28 silos and have started several creameries with collecting routes in connection. Much of this work was done in co-operation with our state dairy department. It would make a long story to attempt to state all of the work being done by these progressive men. Some things accomplished are the laying out of drainage systems, and the putting in of 68,000 feet of tiling, the terracing of a number of farms, the pruning and spraying of 396 orchards, the removal of over 20,000 stumps, the starting of several hundred pastures, the stopping of one outbreak of Blackleg, the getting of one soil survey, etc.

"Boys' corn club work has been carried on in 97 counties with an enrollment of over 4,500 boys, which is 100 per cent greater than that of last year. Girls' canning clubs have been extended from 11 to 32 counties, and from an enrollment of 120 girls last year to over 1,500 this year. They not only can tomatoes, but in one way or another are saving every kind of edible fruit and vegetable on the farm. During the year poultry clubs in co-operation with the animal husbandry division have started in five counties with a membership of over 300. Many new and modern poultry houses have been built, and much good livestock has been purchased by the members of the clubs. This work is to be greatly enlarged during the ensuing year. Arrangements are now being made to start pig clubs and bee clubs, each in ten counties to begin with. The animal husbandry division will furnish expert advice and help to organize, but county agents will largely be held responsible for the success of the work in their respective counties. Much stimulus to livestock growing is expected to result from these efforts.

"A new department of the work now to be added is that of Home Economics. This is for the benefit of farm women. It is to deal with canning, preserving, curing, house-keeping, home-making, sanitary measures, food values, cooking, clothing, health problems, marketing, labor saving devices, women's clubs, etc. It is stated there is much to be done in the house as on the farm around the house. It is of equal, or perhaps greater importance. Every county that can possibly do so, should procure this work at as early a date as possible."

NOT SEEMLY FOR PARIS TO LAUGH

Paris, Nov. 20.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—"As long as the enemy treads French soil, it is not seemly for Paris to laugh," says Prefect of Police Laurent in reply to the renewed appeals of dramatic artists for the reopening of theaters and music halls.

"No new permits shall be issued and no permits previously accorded shall be renewed so long as the Germans occupy any part of France," he declares; consequently a few moving picture shows, one solitary concert hall and one orchestral concert constitute the amusement of Paris.

The poor artists, who are known rather for their generosity than for their thrift, are reduced to the necessity of applying for the government allowance to the unemployed, and here these free-hearted, easy-livers, are met with a humiliating rebuff.

"Your dress is too elegant," or "You pay too high a rental," or "Your furniture is too rich to justify an application for government aid," are the replies they get in many cases.

The average season's receipts of Paris amusements is 30,000,000 francs

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