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16th
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL
AGENT
IN
WOOD COUNTY
WISCONSIN

1936

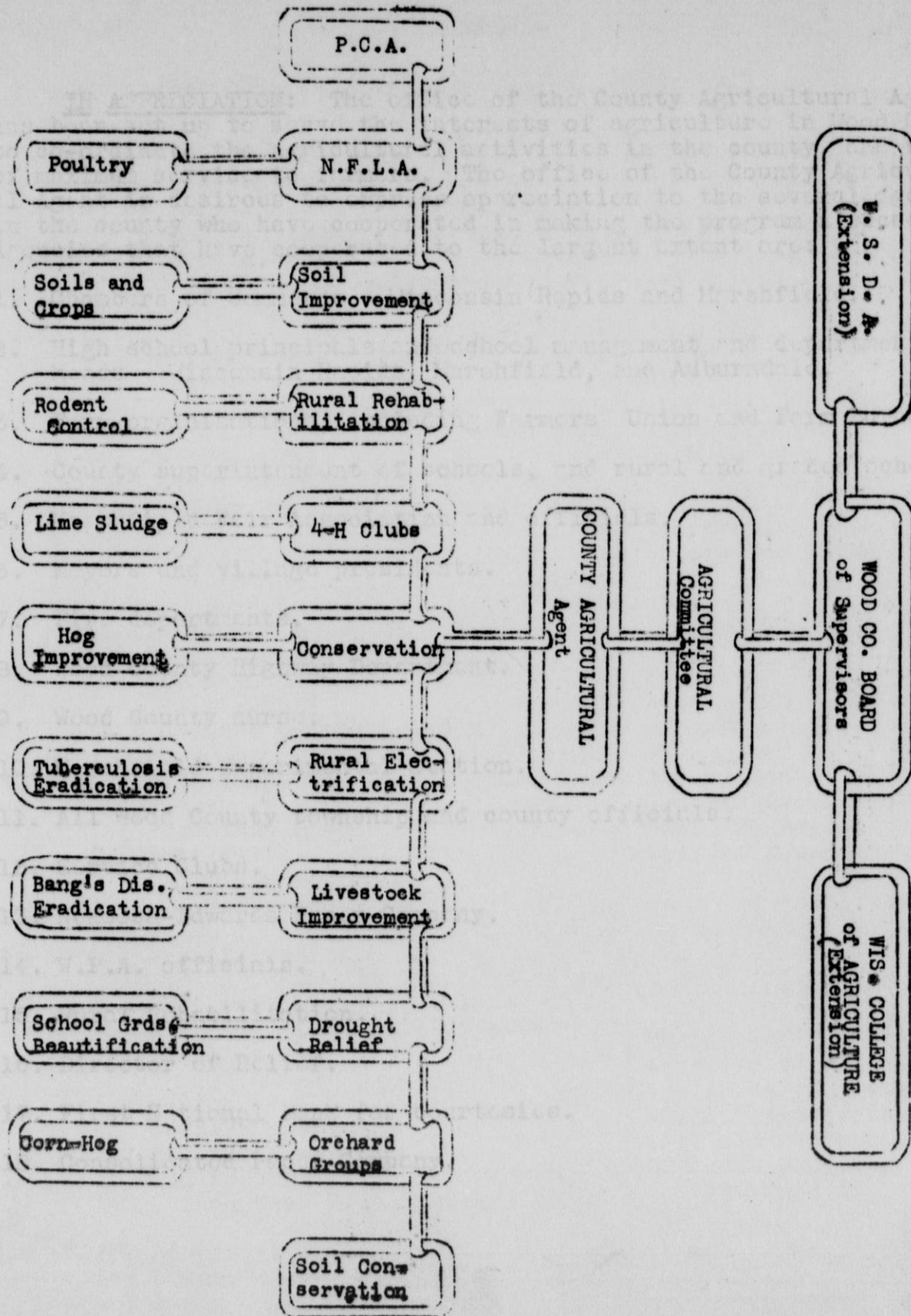
Compiled by H. R. LATHROPE

- PURPOSE OF REPORT -

The purpose of an annual report is to keep people in the county informed. The annual report of the County Agricultural Agent serves the Agricultural Committee, Wisconsin College of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture, as a guide for the programs for future work. The report shows how many people were benefited and how many received services from the office.

EXTENSION WORK: What is it? Extension work in agriculture is a nation-wide cooperative system of rural education which is fostered and maintained by County Boards, State Colleges of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture. The County Agricultural Agent acts as a representative of the county, state, and federal government, in helping rural people in emergencies occasioned by storms, floods, drouths, insects, and animal pests, or in aiding the county, state, or national government in emergencies caused by war. The County Agricultural Agent devotes a large part of his time to aiding individuals with their problems in a wide variety of activities including diseases and insect control, cultural practices, feeding, breeding and housing of livestock and poultry, forestry and reforestration, farm management, cost of production, grading, packing and marketing of agricultural products, the development and improvement of community clubs, 4-H clubs, and in general, to increase the farm income and assist farmers with any other problems.

The County Agricultural Agent prepares an accurate report of activities, programs, and results, so that administrative offices in the county, state, and nation, as well as farmers, rural organizations, businessmen, and farm groups, may know and have a factual representation of the problems and general agricultural and industrial work in the county.



IN APPRECIATION: The office of the County Agricultural Agent has been set up to serve the interests of agriculture in Wood County, to co-ordinate the agricultural activities in the county, and to be of maximum service to farmers. The office of the County Agricultural Agent is desirous to express appreciation to the several agencies in the county who have cooperated in making the program a success. Agencies that have cooperated to the largest extent are:

1. Chambers of Commerce - Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield.
2. High school principals and school management and department heads - Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield, and Auburndale.
3. Farm organizations, including Farmers Union and Farm Bureau.
4. County superintendent of schools, and rural and graded schools.
5. Marshfield Fair Association and officials.
6. Mayors and village presidents.
7. Fire departments.
8. Wood County Highway Department.
9. Wood County nurse.
10. Marshfield Experimental Station.
11. All Wood County township and county officials.
12. Service Clubs.
13. Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Company.
14. W.P.A. officials.
15. Rural Rehabilitation.
16. Director of Relief.
17. First National Bank for courtesies.
18. Consolidated Paper Company.

The demand for the services on all of the above projects would indicate that each and everyone of these projects be continued in 1937.

9. Rural Electrification

- (a) Light
- (b) Power

10. Orchard Improvement

- (a) Pruning
- (b) Spraying

- PROGRAM -

November 1st, 1935 to October 30th, 1936

The office of the County Agricultural Agent in Wood County has devoted its entire time to assisting farmers in getting the benefits of the adjustment program and of making available to all farmers in the county, information on new legislation and of programs effecting Wood County's agriculture. The program has been centered around the following major topics:

1. A.A.A.
 - (a) Soil Conservation
 - (b) Corn-Hog
2. Livestock Improvement
 - (a) Tuberculosis
 - (b) Bang's Disease
 - (c) Poultry
 - (d) Hogs
 - (e) Horses
3. Soil Improvement
 - (a) Tests
 - (b) Fertilizers
 - (c) Limestone
4. School Grounds Beautification
5. Crop Improvement
 - (a) Hays
 - (b) Emergency Crops
 - (c) Crop Pests
 1. Grasshoppers
 2. Cutworms
6. Rural Rehabilitation
7. Drought Relief
 - (a) Drought Relief Applications
 - (b) W.P.A. work
8. Conservation
 - (a) Reforestration
 - (b) Shelterbelts
 - (c) Windbreaks
 - (d) Upland Game Bird Propagation
9. Rural Electrification
 - (a) Light
 - (b) Power
10. Orchard Improvement
 - (a) Pruning
 - (b) Spraying
11. Rodent Control
 - (a) Rats
 - (b) Mice
12. Real Estate Credit
 - (a) Farm Loans
13. Chattel Credit
 - (a) Cooperative Loans
 - (b) Production Credit
14. 4-H Club work
 - (a) Livestock
 - (b) Crops
 - (c) Forestry
 - (d) Handicraft
 - (e) Home Economics
15. Community Projects
 - (a) Cooperative Marketing
 - (b) Herd Improvement
 - (c) Livestock Associations
 - (d) Milk Producers "
 - (e) Farm Organizations

The demand for the services on all of the above projects would indicate that each and everyone of these projects be continued in 1937.

- WOOD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM -

The Soil Conservation Program, as enacted by Congress and directed by farm groups in the United States, was explained to farmers in Wood County by the County Agricultural Agent during the first ten days in April, 1936.

Purposes of the program were to (1) check soil erosion, (2) improve soil fertility, and (3) maintain a farm income. Soil erosion by water is not a big factor in Wood County but soil erosion by wind has become a serious factor.

A shelterbelt program was inaugurated by the Wisconsin Conservation Department, in cooperation with the office of the County Agricultural Agent, with the idea of checking the losses of soil by wind. The use of crops to prevent soil erosion by water is not especially needed in Wood County. Soils in Wood County are largely of an igneous origin and, as such, are not especially well supplied with phosphorus, lime, or potash. All good farmers agree that keeping a part of their land in sod each year helps to maintain fertility, especially if the cover crops are legumes, such as alfalfa, sweet clover, or red clover.

The provisions of the Soil Conservation Program enable farmers in Wood County to make a shift from soil depleting crops to soil conserving crops of at least 15% and receive a payment of \$10.30 per acre on the average; also, the program permits farmers to adapt such soil building practices as will improve soil fertility, such as liming, application of fertilizers, re-seeding to legumes or planting the land to trees under recommended forestry practices. Soil building payment specifications are as follows:-

- \$2.00 per acre for seeding alfalfa
- 1.50 per acre for seeding red clover, or mammoth clover
- 1.00 per acre for seeding alsike clover, sweet clover, and white clover
- 1.50 per acre for legume mixtures which contain 50% or more of any of the legumes such as alsike, sweet clover, and white clover
- 1.50 per acre for soybeans plowed under as a green manure crop
- 2.50 per acre for the application of at least 2 tons of ground limestone or its equivalent, such as 1½ cubic yards of lime sludge; 200 lbs. burnt lime; 2000 lbs. wood ashes; 1600 lbs. hydrated lime; or 2 cubic yards of marl
- 5.00 per acre for planting crop land or pasture with trees using good forestry recommendations and planting about 1200 trees per acre

These provisions of the soil program enable farmers in Wood County to comply to an extent whereby they can secure federal payments under the Soil Conservation Program and the Soil Building Program of at least \$150,000.00. This is an estimate which will depend entirely upon the attitude of farmers and on their ability to make the shift and apply the soil building practices provided for in the program.

Farm income has been reduced from approximately five million dollars annually for the 3000 farmers in Wood County in 1929 to approximately two and one-half million dollars. With the income reduced, many farm taxes are not paid, homes are not cared for, neither is recreation or amusement provided for, medical attention is not provided for members of the farm family, and the farm standard of living is forced downward at a rapid rate.

The payments on the Soil Conservation Program, as well as those on the Corn-Hog Program and Sugar Beet Program will enable many farmers to make necessary repairs on buildings and make home improvements besides building up their soil fertility and checking soil erosion. In many cases the payments on the Soil Conservation Program will adequately take care of all soil building practices and provide cooperating farmers with sufficient money to take care of any expenses made necessary due to the shift from soil depleting to soil conserving acres.

Meetings were held in practically every township in the county during the first ten days of April which were attended by approximately 2300 farmers. At these meetings the Soil Conservation Program was explained and the other soil improving practices discussed, including the early cutting of timothy, soil fertilization, and pasture improvement. Committees were elected by farmers in each township or district where meetings were held and these 64 committeemen were sent out with a supply of work sheets to secure the data from each farmer necessary for the county allotment committee to make the adjustments on the soil depleting acres in the county.

The State Soil Conservation Committee gave the County of Wood a maximum number of acres of soil depleting crops which could be allowed under the program. The County Agricultural Agent was responsible, to a considerable degree, in getting this soil depleting base for the county fixed at the highest possible figure. Adjustments were made by the Wood County Soil Conservation Committee (committee elected by the township or community committeemen). Each farmer was given a notification of his base by the committee and was given at least one week's time to accept or make an appeal. Adjustments were made by the committee in an extremely fair and impartial way with the idea of allotting each farmer a large enough base to give him an opportunity to run his farm on a three or four year rotation.

Approximately 2,400 farmers have made application for measurement under the Soil Conservation Program before November 1st. Maps have been prepared by farm reporters who have been trained to make the maps. Office help has been secured to check, compute, and calculate the maps. Each farmer will be given an application form showing the total soil depleting and soil conserving acres. He will then make application for a grant and unless he makes application no grant will be made to him.

The entire program has been completely voluntary and no farmer has been unduly urged to participate in the program. On the other hand, the office of the County Agricultural Agent has been extremely anxious that the entire information concerning the program be made available to every farmer within the borders of the county.

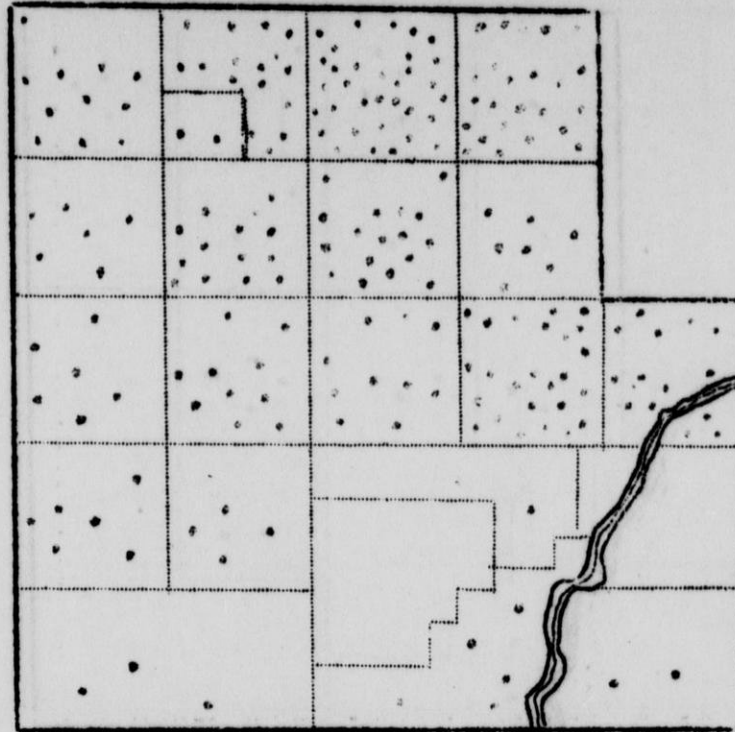
- LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT -

TUBERCULOSIS: Beginning in June of this year, 3319 dairy herds in Wood County were tested for tuberculosis by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Markets, cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture. 52,519 head of cattle were tested with only 14 reactors being found. The extremely small percentage of infection indicates the thoroughness of the test and also the accuracy of the test in eliminating the disease. The county was tested first in 1923 and 1924 and again in 1927 and again in 1930. Herds were allowed to run without a test for a six year period, from 1930 to 1936, with practically no spread of the disease. Dairy herds in the county now are free from the disease and only eleven diseased herds were found in the county on a county-wide test. Accompanying charts show the infection by townships.

BANG'S DISEASE: With the inauguration of the federal testing program for Bang's disease, Wood County farmers well understood the problem of Bang's disease and the necessity for its control. More than 1200 farmers have made application for the test and to date more than 800 herds have been tested. More than 400 herds have been found to be clean and free from the disease. Approximately 11% of the cattle in the county are found to be infected with Bang's disease. Slightly more than 1000 head of cattle have been found to be infected and have been eliminated from the herds. All infected cattle have been slaughtered under federal supervision. Indemnity money, amounting to approximately \$24.80 per head, has been paid on slightly more than 1000 head, making a total of \$24,800 received by farmers in the county for indemnity money. Farmers have also gotten the full salvage value of their cattle from the terminal markets where they were sold. The County Agricultural Agent has conducted a campaign in every school district in the county calling attention to the advantages of the test. More than 200 farm leaders were trained by Dr. V. S. Larson, Department of Agriculture and Markets, cooperating with the County Agricultural Agent's office, and conducted meetings in 120 school districts on the evening of September 24th. Approximately 500 herd owners made application to the United States Department of Agriculture through the County Agricultural Agent's office for the test as a result of these meetings.

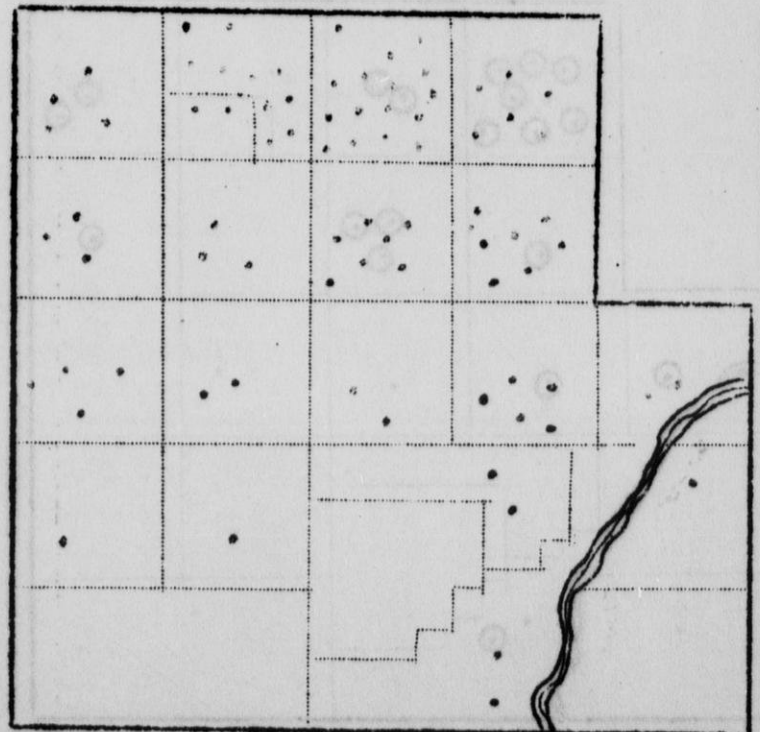
Herds in several townships, especially Richfield and Port Edwards, are practically clean and free from Bang's disease. There is a strong sentiment for an area or township "clean up" in these two townships. Farmers who get their herds clean and free from the disease, and have them certified as such by the State Department of Agriculture and Markets, place themselves in a position as the program progresses, whereby they can enjoy a larger income from their herd and they will also be able to sell clean cattle to farmers in neighboring states. The accompanying charts show the progress of eradication and sign up of this disease by townships. Applications for Bang's disease show only about 10% of the herds having purebred sires. It is clearly evident that low prices, continued drouth, and adverse conditions have shown their effects on the herds of the cattle owners in the county. The butterfat production per cow in Wood County has been decreasing annually for the last three or four years.

TUBERCULOSIS TESTS in WOOD COUNTY



YEARS YEAR 1924-1930

(Each dot represents one or more reactors in one herd tested.)



YEARS 1925-1926-1927

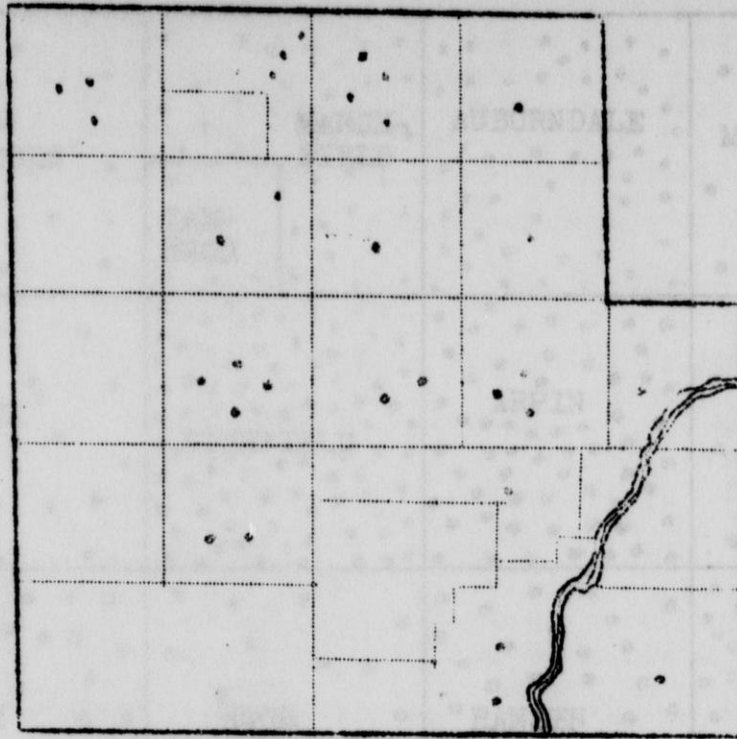
(Each dot represents one or more reactors in one herd tested.)

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TUBERCULOSIS TESTS
in
WOOD COUNTY



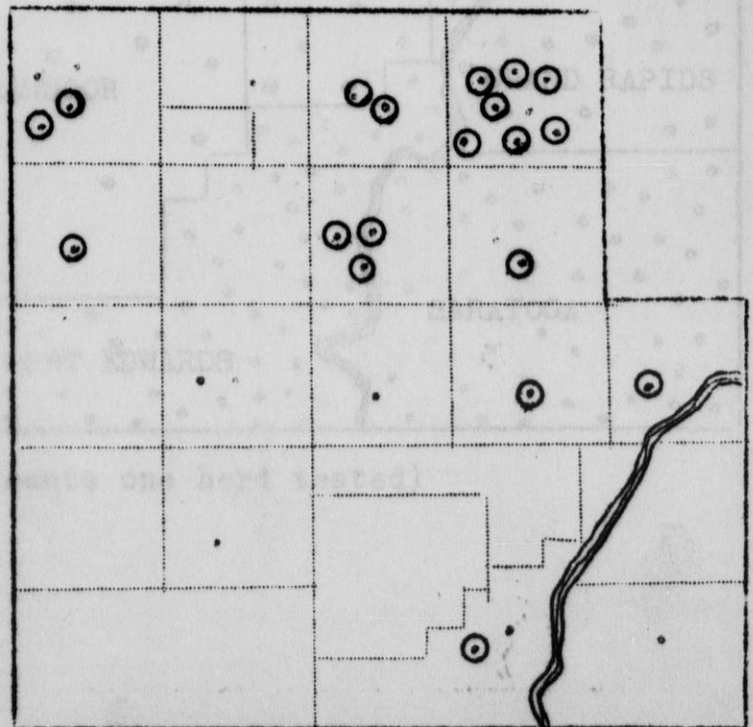
YEARS 1928-1929-1930

(Each dot represents
one or more reactors
in one herd tested.)

YEARS 1931-1935-1936

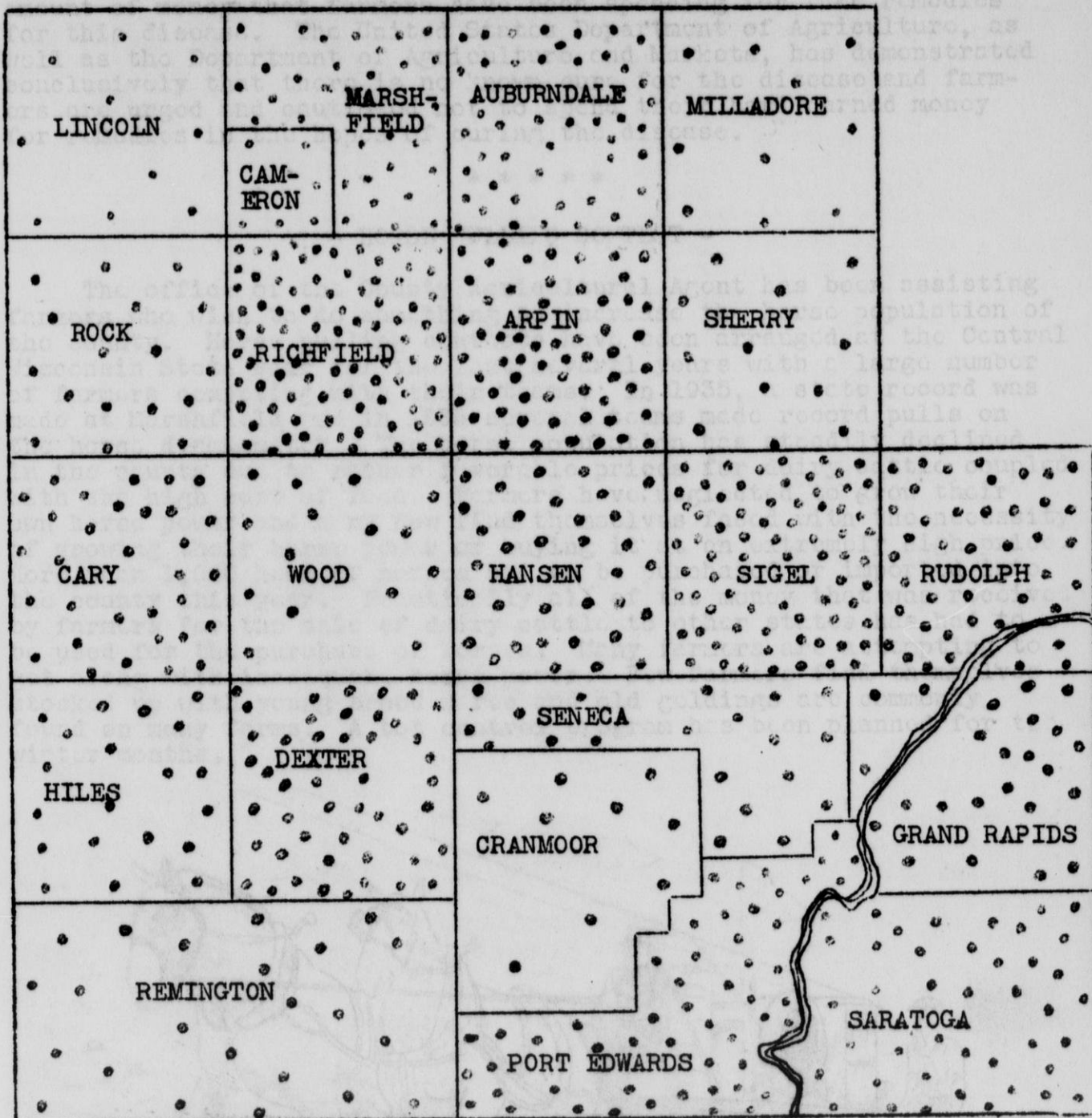
(Each dot represents
one or more reactors
in one herd tested.)

ONLY 19 INFECTED
HERDS WERE FOUND BY
THE LAST TEST IN 1936
(Indicated by ⊙)



BANG'S DISEASE TESTS

in
WOOD COUNTY



(Each dot represents one herd tested)

FAKE REMEDIES: With the county-wide program for testing dairy herds for Bang's disease, there has been a steady decline in the amount of money that farmers have been spending for fake remedies for this disease. The United States Department of Agriculture, as well as the Department of Agriculture and Markets, has demonstrated conclusively that there is no known cure for the disease and farmers are urged and cautioned not to spend their hard earned money for remedies in the hopes of curing the disease.

* * * * *

- HORSE PULLING CONTEST -

The office of the County Agricultural Agent has been assisting farmers who wish to do something to increase the horse population of the county. Horse pulling contests have been arranged at the Central Wisconsin State Fair for the last several years with a large number of farmers competing with their teams. In 1935, a state record was made at Marshfield and in 1936 several teams made record pulls on the horse dynamometer. The horse population has steadily declined in the county due to rather favorable prices for dairy cattle coupled with the high cost of feed. Farmers have neglected to grow their own horse power and many now find themselves faced with the necessity of growing their horse power or buying it at an extremely high price. More than 1,000 head of horses had to be purchased or imported into the county this year. Practically all of the money that was received by farmers for the sale of dairy cattle to other states has had to be used for the purchase of horses. Many farmers are attempting to get along with inadequate horse power. Few farmers find themselves stocked up with young brood mares and old geldings are commonly found on many farms. A bot control program has been planned for the winter months.



- SOILS -

Soils of Wood County are largely of igneous origin and as such are almost uniformly acid and low in phosphate and potash. Soil tests have been made for hundreds of farmers in the county and recommendations have been made to them which enables them to apply fertilizer and limestone to the best advantage. During the past seven years, more than 500,000 tons of lime sludge has been distributed to farmers in Wood County through the cooperation of the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Mills and the Mosinee Paper Mills with the office of the County Agricultural Agent. During this period, more than 50 carloads of limestone (2000 tons) have been purchased by Wood County farmers and all this has been necessary because the soils have been lacking in lime content due to their igneous origin. Due to the fact that no limestone deposits are available in the county, a WPA project has been centered around a lime sludge deposit at the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Co at Nekoosa. WPA help has been used to load the lime sludge onto trucks for distribution into every township in the county. The County Agricultural Agent and the Agricultural Committee has met on several occasions with the truckers in the county and have established rates for trucking lime sludge. Money being paid by farmers for help has been paid direct to truckers and has increased the employment situation in the county and has also reduced the "red tape" or delay for farmers getting their own sludge. WPA help has been provided also for farmers who wish to haul their own sludge.

- SCHOOL GROUND BEAUTIFICATION -

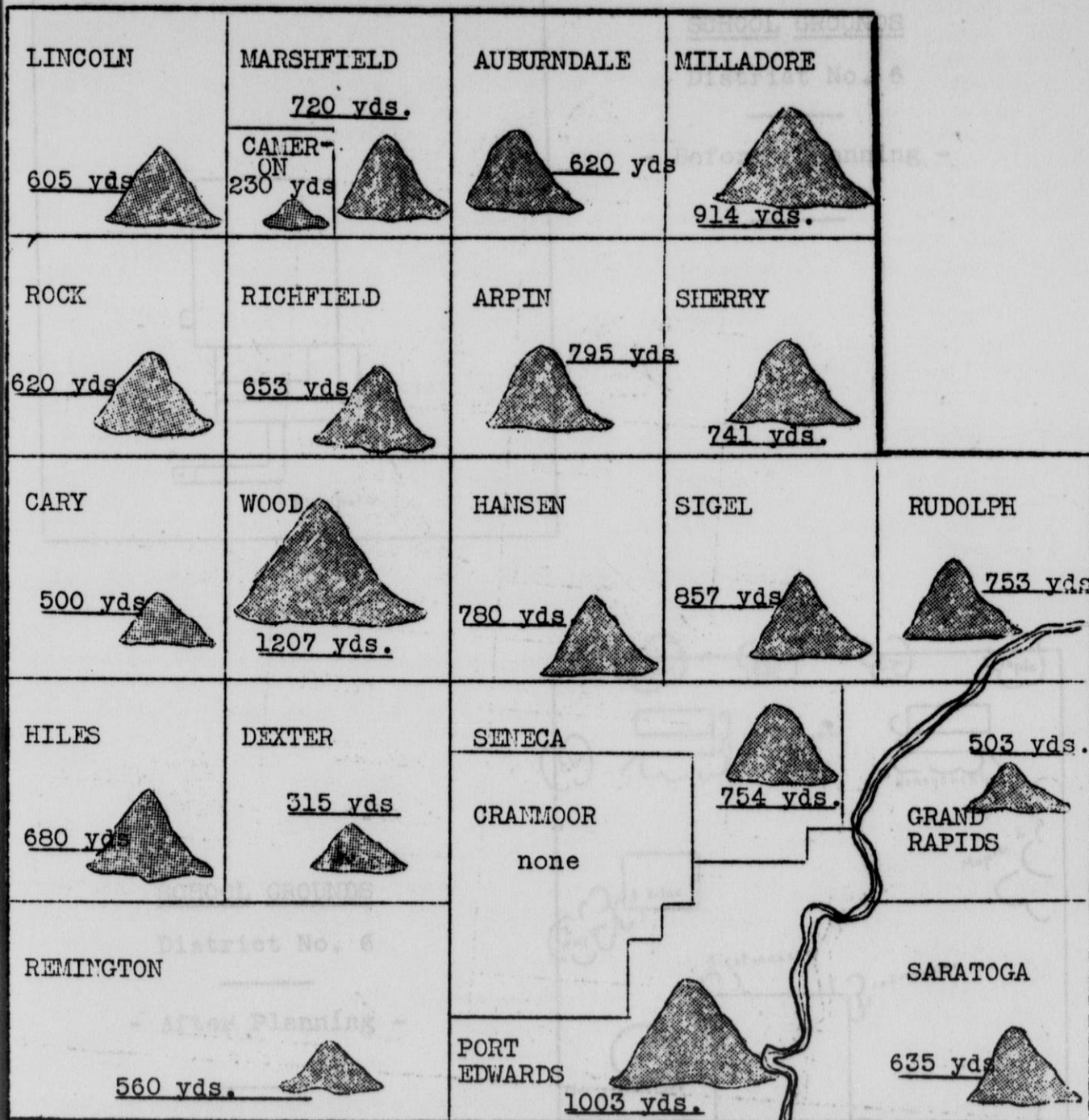
Through the cooperation of the County Superintendent of Schools and the Landscape Division of the Horticultural Department of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, the County Agricultural Agent has interested fifty-nine schools and their school boards in doing something to make the school grounds more pleasing to the eye and more satisfying to the students attending the schools.

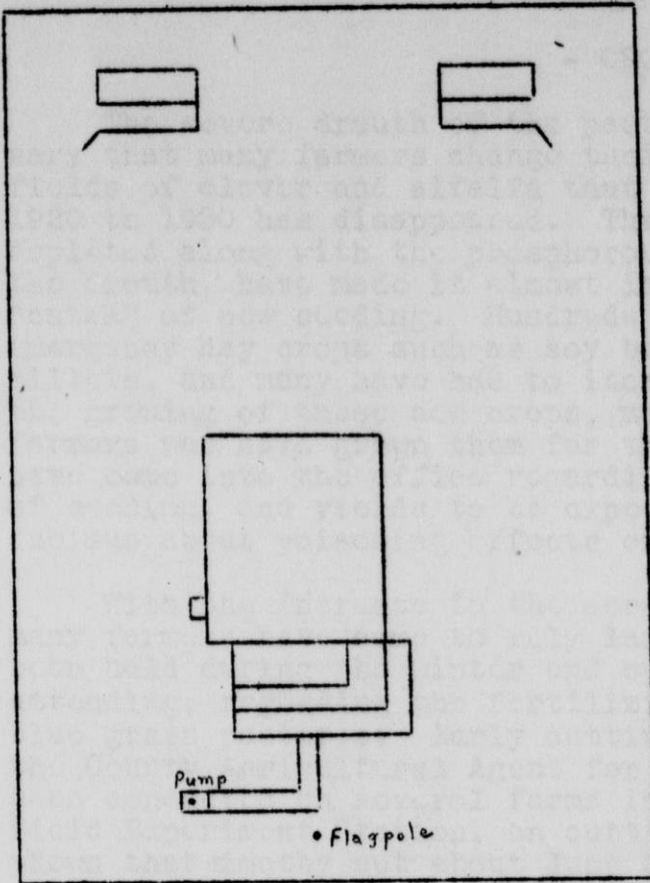
School grounds in the past have been somewhat neglected. Many are without shrubs and adequate play-ground facilities.

Maps and plans of each school district were prepared by Prof. Lawrence Holmes, Landscape Architect, in cooperation with the County Agent's Office, and these plans have been forwarded to the rural schools for completion. A meeting was held with all of the rural school teachers of the county in attendance at which time Prof. Holmes discussed the plans in general for the improvement of the school grounds. A meeting to further the program is planned, also, for next spring which will be attended by the school board members and teachers.

This is the largest number of schools in Wisconsin and in any one county to undertake improvement of school grounds. In the past, the Cranmoor School has taken on this project with very successful results.

LIMESLUDGE DISTRIBUTION
in
WOOD COUNTY





SCHOOL GROUNDS

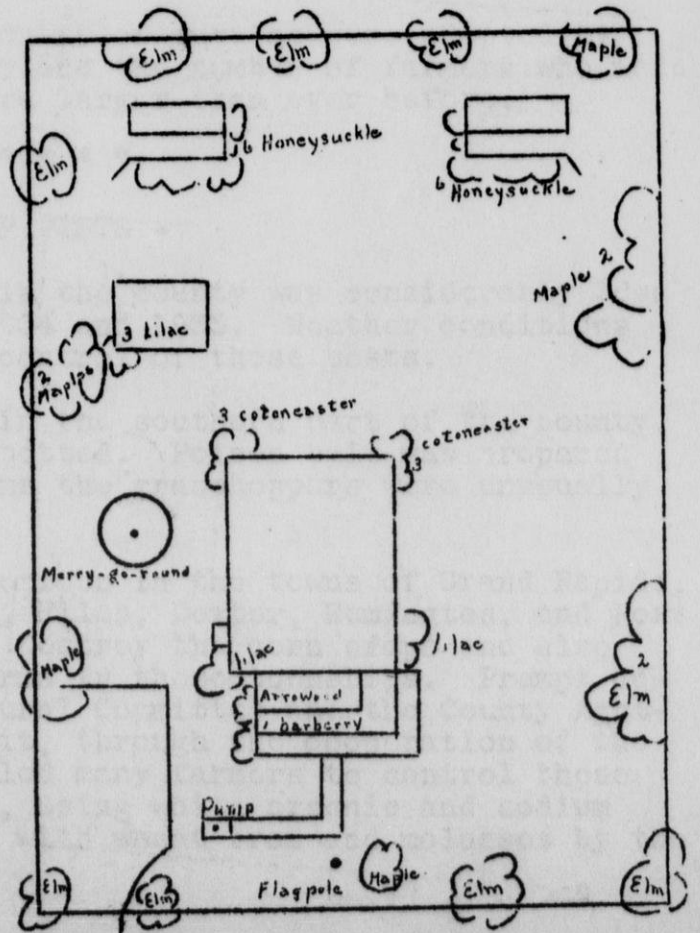
District No. 6

- Before Planning -

SCHOOL GROUNDS

District No. 6

- After Planning -



- CROPS -

The severe drouth of the past several years has made it necessary that many farmers change their type of farming. The numerous fields of clover and alfalfa that were growing in the period of 1920 to 1930 has disappeared. The lime content of the soil has been depleted along with the phosphorous and these factors, coupled with the drouth, have made it almost impossible for farmers to get a "catch" of new seeding. Hundreds of farmers have had to resort to emergency hay crops such as soy beans, canary grass, sudan grass, millets, and many have had to increase their acreages of corn. With the growing of these new crops, many new problems have arisen with farmers who have grown them for the first few times. Many requests have come into the office regarding rates and types of seeding, time of seeding, and yields to be expected. Farmers have always been dubious about poisoning effects of the millets and sudan grass.

With the increase in the acreages of alfalfa and red clover, many farmers have come to rely largely on timothy. Meetings have been held during the winter and spring months, with many hundreds attending, regarding the fertilizing and reviving of timothy and blue grass pastures. Early cutting of timothy has been advised by the County Agricultural Agent for many years. Demonstrations have been conducted on several farms in the county, as well as the Marshfield Experiment Station, on cutting rates of timothy. Results have shown that timothy cut about June 20th yields a crop higher in protein and more palatable than that cut at any other time. Timothy, when properly fertilized and cut early, makes a crop very comparable to red clover.

The recommendations on the dates of cutting were adopted by hundreds of farmers in the county and the number of farmers who made hay before July 1st this year were larger than ever before.

* * * * *

- CROP PESTS -

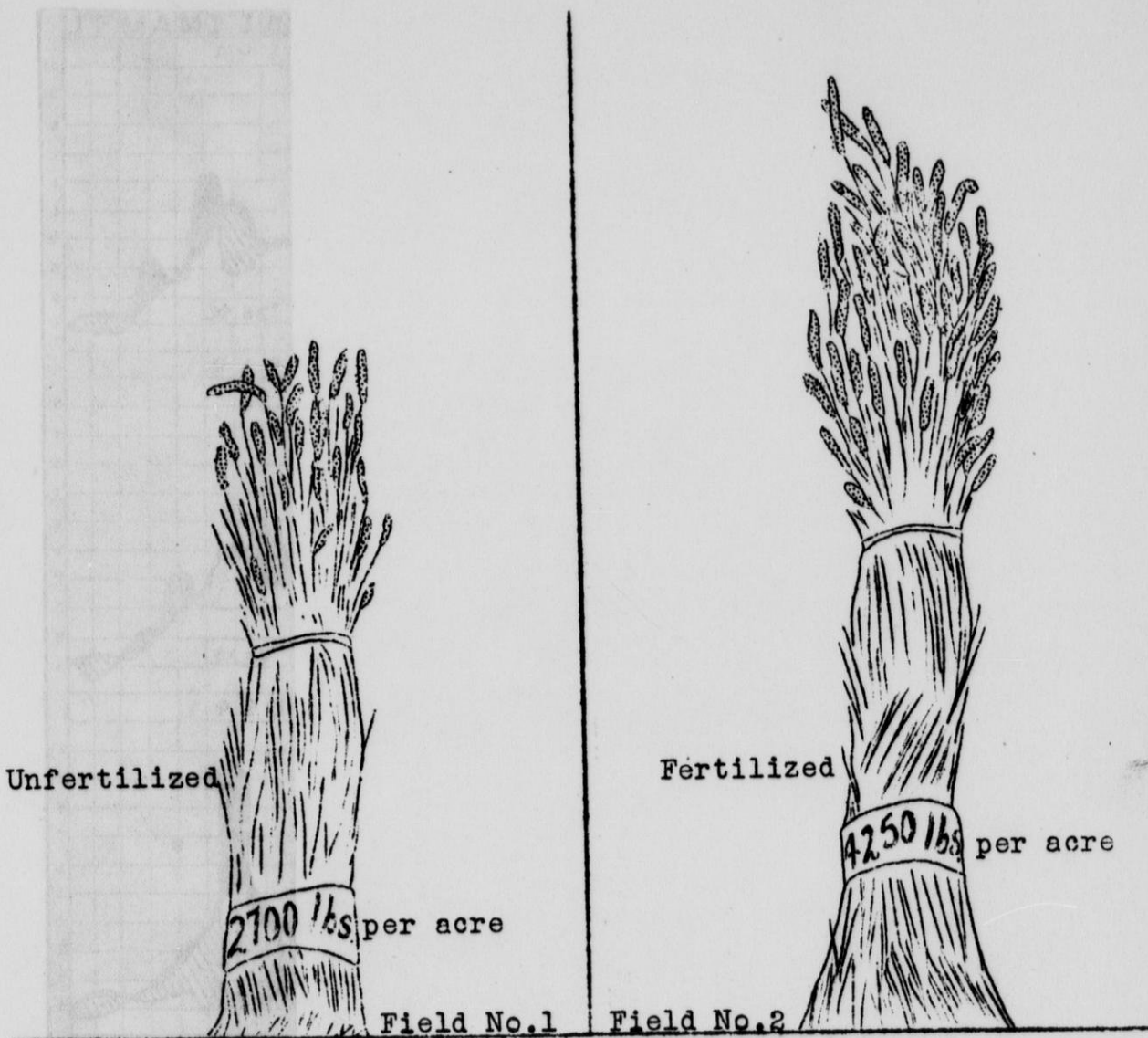
The menace of grasshoppers in the county was considerably less in 1936 as compared to that of 1934 and 1935. Weather conditions are largely responsible for the control of these pests.

Serious outbreaks occurred in the southern part of the county, but the infestation was rather spotted. Poison bait was prepared for several farmers on whose farms the grasshoppers were unusually numerous.

Cutworms were exceedingly serious in the towns of Grand Rapids, Saratoga, Seneca, Sigel, Rudolph, Hiles, Dexter, Remington, and Port Edwards. Cutworms threatened to destroy the corn crops and also melon and truck crops on many farms in these townships. Prompt action on the part of the Agricultural Committee and the County Agricultural Agent in providing a bait, through the cooperation of the State Entomology Department enabled many farmers to control these pests. Poison bait was prepared, using white arsenic and sodium arsenite. This poison was mixed with wheat bran and molasses by the

Heavy Black is
Annual Average Rainfall
For 24 Years

RESULTS OF FERTILIZATION & EARLY CUTTING OF TIMOTHY



Protein content in above samples of timothy run about 10%.
 Samples were cut June 22nd, 1936. Sample cut from field No. 2
 received application of 22% nitrogen and lime. Sample from
 field No. 1 received no treatment. Cost of treatment about
 \$3.25 per acre. Value about \$5.00 on first cutting alone.
 Cuttings on July 15th run about 5% protein.

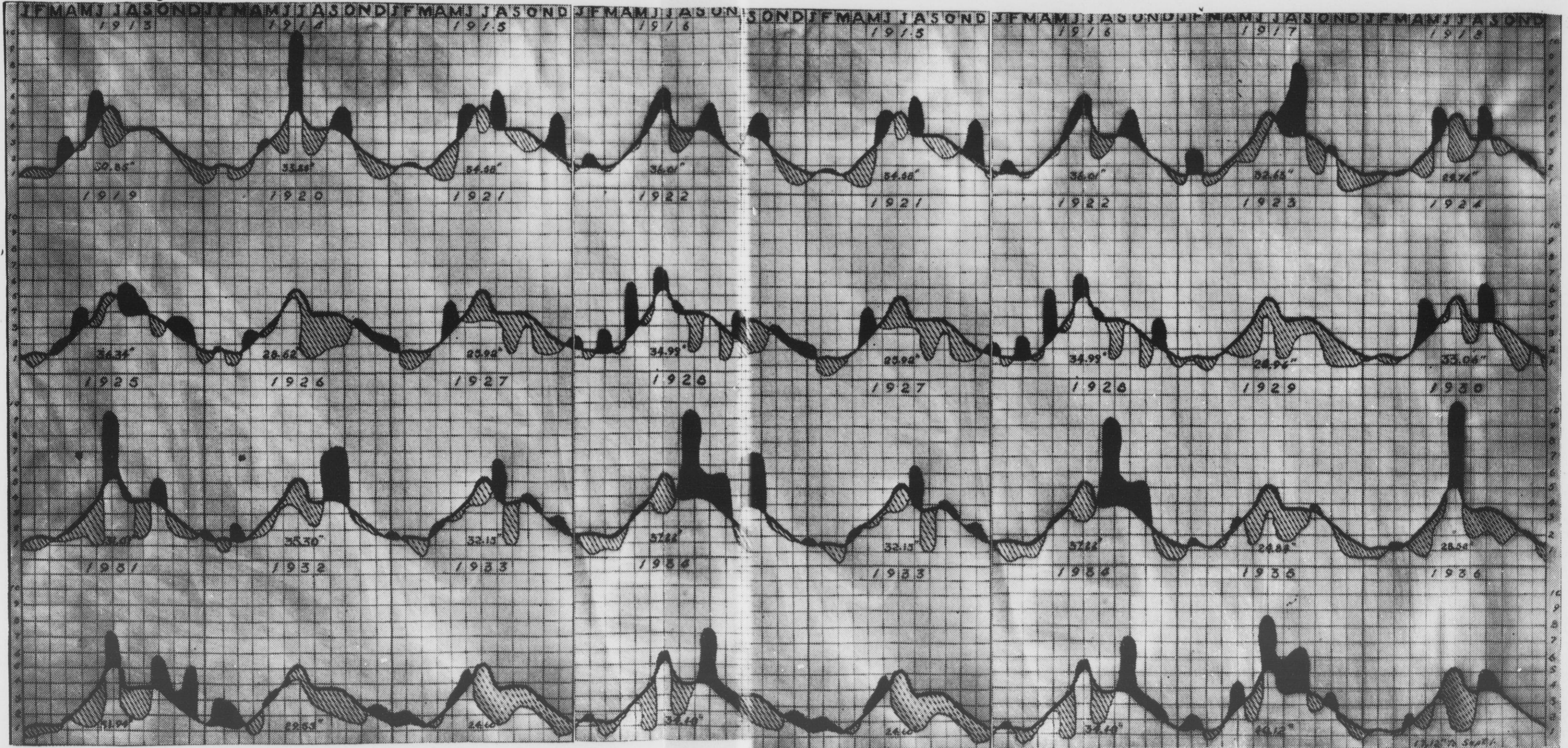
Heavy Black is
Annual Average Rainfall
For 24 Years—31.47 Inches

LEGEND:
Black is above average Annual Rainfall.
Shaded is below average Annual Rainfall.

RAINFALL
at
Marshfield, Wis.
1913 to 1936

RAINFALL
at
Marshfield, Wis.
1913 to 1936

Prepared from Records of the U. S. Weather Bureau
by E. L. Luther, Assistant State Leader, and presented
to H. R. Lathrope, County Agent, Wood County,
with compliments.



McKercher Milling Company and the bait was sold to those on whose farms a heavy infestation occurred. Bait was prepared in a central place in order to save time and to have a uniform mixture. No charge was made for the poison which was furnished free by the State Entomology Department. The only charge made was for the bran, molasses, and labor involved. The price for which it was sold was considerably less than the cost would have been to each farmer had he been required to mix his own. There were no losses of livestock due to poison.

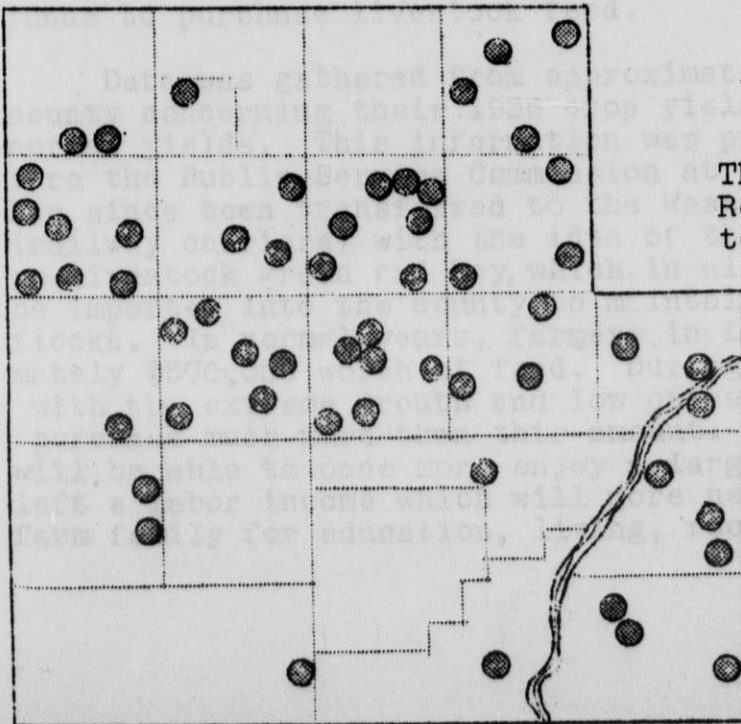
A large number of calls came to the office for control of insects in gardens, lawns, and on shrubbery. Information was supplied to people making these requests and also circular information was put out in the press which enabled hundreds of farmers and property owners to get accurate information on the controlling of these insects.

* * * * *

- RURAL REHABILITATION -

The office of the County Agricultural Agent cooperated with the office of Ralph Monroe, Supervisor of Rural Rehabilitation, in Wood County, in giving help and assistance to farmers who are clients of the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

All services which were made available to farmers in the county were also made available to the Rehabilitation clients. Considerable additional work was done by the County Agricultural Agent to acquaint farmers in the county with the Rehabilitation set up. Information concerning the emergency feed and seed program, which included rye and sweet clover for fall pasture, was broadcast to all Wood County farmers by the County Agricultural Agent's office.



The map shows the Rural Rehabilitation clients by townships in Wood County.

- DROUGHT RELIEF -

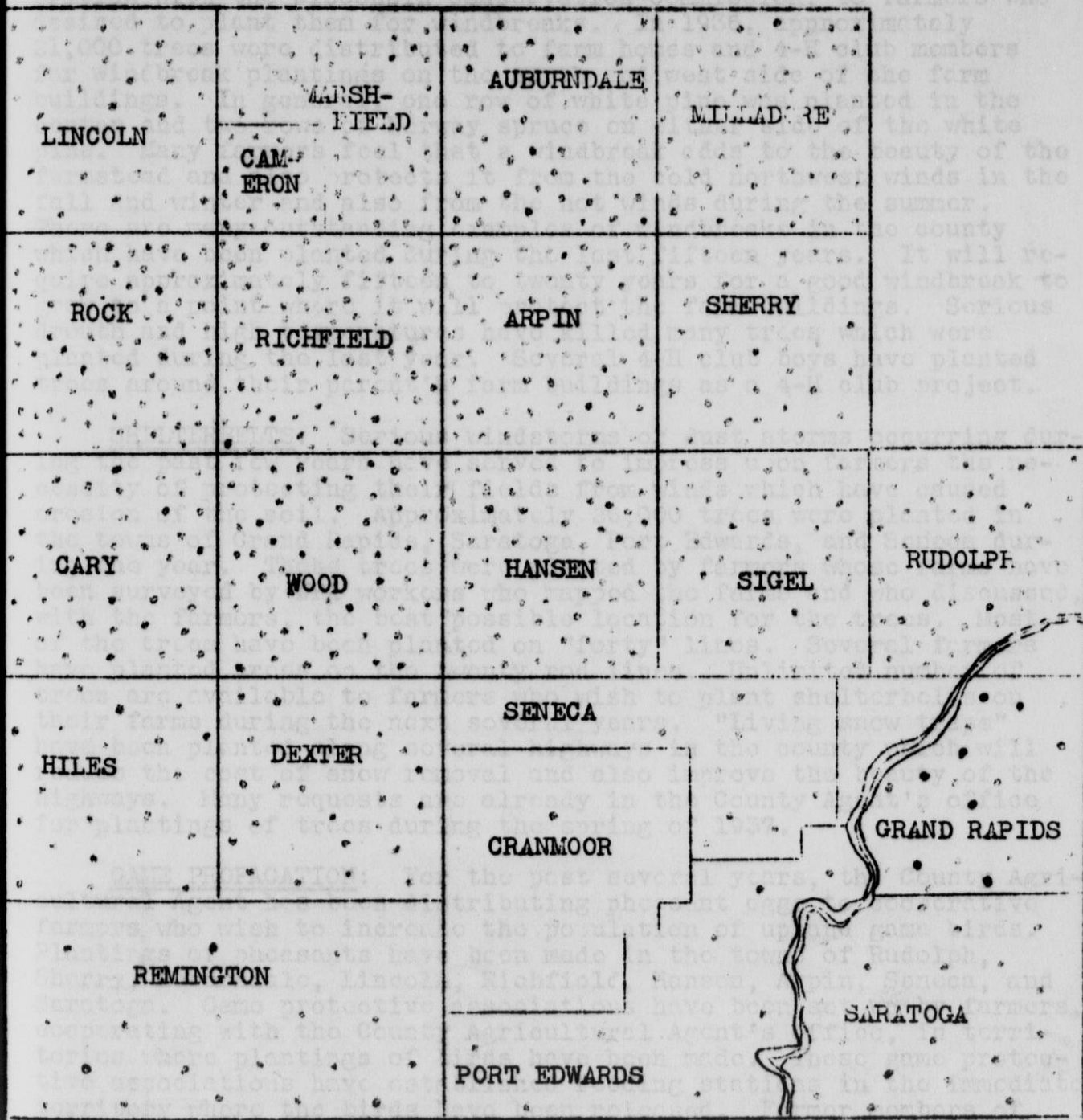
Another drouth occurred in 1936. This year the temperature rose to the highest point and was held there for the longest time in the history of the state. The scarcity of rainfall was greater during June, July, and August than during any similiar period. The severity of the drouth increased the number of requests for services from the office of the County Agricultural Agent. Farmers were faced with the problem of not having sufficient feed to maintain their livestock and with the increased problems due to the drouth, the credit situation became very accute. It was apparent for many days that farmers would be faced with the problem of purchasing most of their feed for the winter months or disbursing their herds at a far greater rate than they did in 1934 under the federal cattle purchase program.

The County Agricultural Agent spent considerable time in bringing information to farmers in the county regarding the Drought Relief Program and the possibilities of securing jobs under WPA in order to buy feed for their livestock. 1239 farmers made application for WPA jobs on the Drought Relief Program. On November 1st, 1936, 1135 men had been certified. Approximately 800 men had been put to work on or before November 1st, 1936. Approximately \$125,000 will have been expended by the WPA set-up for farmers in Wood County who have been working on farm-to-market roads. The office of the County Agricultural Agent supplied application blanks to town chairmen and hundreds of farmers called at the office for them.

A campaign was put on in every school district in Wood County at which time application blanks were made available by 120 local leaders in the county. The matter was thoroughly discussed so every farmer in the county had the opportunity of knowing about the possibilities of their working on WPA jobs in order to get funds to purchase livestock feed.

Data was gathered from approximately 300 farmers in the county concerning their 1936 crop yield as compared to that of normal yields. This information was presented at a hearing before the Public Service Commission at Wausau. This information has since been transferred to the Western Trunk Line Ass'n. (railway carriers) with the idea of their providing reduced rates on livestock grain and hay, which, in all probability, will have to be imported into the county to maintain the livestock herds and flocks. In normal years, farmers in the county imported approximately \$500,000 worth of feed. During the past several years, with the extreme drouth and low prices, farmers have had to purchase much more than this amount. With a normal crop, farmers will be able to once more enjoy a larger income and will have left a labor income which will more nearly meet the needs of the farm family for education, living, recreation, and enjoyment.

WPA DROUGHT RELIEF JOBS
in
WOOD COUNTY



(Each dot represents a farmer who has been certified by the Drought Relief Committee and has been put to work on the WPA program. Almost an equal number of farmers, totaling about six hundred, have made applications but were not certified to, or made their applications after the quota had been filled.)

- CONSERVATION -

WINDBREAKS: During the past several years, trees have been distributed through the County Agricultural Agent's office in cooperation with the Wisconsin Conservation Commission, to farmers who desired to plant them for windbreaks. In 1936, approximately 21,000 trees were distributed to farm homes and 4-H club members for windbreak plantings on the north and west side of the farm buildings. In general, one row of white pine was planted in the center and two rows of Norway spruce on either side of the white pine. Many farmers feel that a windbreak adds to the beauty of the farmstead and also protects it from the cold northwest winds in the fall and winter and also from the hot winds during the summer. There are many outstanding examples of windbreaks in the county which have been planted during the last fifteen years. It will require approximately fifteen to twenty years for a good windbreak to grow to a point where it will protect the farm buildings. Serious drouth and high temperatures have killed many trees which were planted during the last year. Several 4-H club boys have planted trees around their parent's farm buildings as a 4-H club project.

SHELTERBELTS: Serious windstorms or dust storms occurring during the past few years have served to impress upon farmers the necessity of protecting their fields from winds which have caused erosion of the soil. Approximately 26,000 trees were planted in the towns of Grand Rapids, Saratoga, Port Edwards, and Seneca during the year. These trees were planted by farmers whose farms have been surveyed by WPA workers who mapped the farms and who discussed, with the farmers, the best possible location for the trees. Most of the trees have been planted on "forty" lines. Several farmers have planted trees on the twenty rod lines. Unlimited number of trees are available to farmers who wish to plant shelterbelts on their farms during the next several years. "Living snow traps" have been planted along several highways in the county which will reduce the cost of snow removal and also improve the beauty of the highways. Many requests are already in the County Agent's office for plantings of trees during the spring of 1937.

GAME PROPAGATION: For the past several years, the County Agricultural Agent has been distributing pheasant eggs to cooperative farmers who wish to increase the population of upland game birds. Plantings of pheasants have been made in the towns of Rudolph, Sherry, Auburndale, Lincoln, Richfield, Hansen, Arpin, Seneca, and Saratoga. Game protective associations have been set up by farmers, cooperating with the County Agricultural Agent's office, in territories where plantings of birds have been made. These game protective associations have established feeding stations in the immediate territory where the birds have been released. Farmer members of these game protective associations have assumed the responsibility for protecting the birds and for feeding them in cooperation with the Conservation Commission. Feed hoppers have been supplied these organizations and lean-to's have been built so that the hoppers will be protected against the weather and also to give birds an opportunity to escape their predators.

- RURAL ELECTRIFICATION -

The subject of rural electrification is one that has had the attention of the office of the County Agricultural Agent for several years. With the promotion of rural electrification by the REA, many farmers were desirous of getting information about this program. Meetings were held by the County Agricultural Agent which were attended by approximately 1200 farmers at which time information was given them concerning the possibilities of building new lines and electrifying new farms in Wood County.

With the expansion of lines as they were in Wood County, it seemed advisable and it was recommended by the Wood County Rural Electrification Committee that no cooperative set-up be established. Power lines from at least one operating utility have already been built into every township in the county where it has been deemed advisable by the existing companies. With this situation, it seemed advisable not to build any cooperative lines in the more sparsely settled areas in the county without having some of the more thickly populated areas to cooperate with.

New lines have been built in the towns of Seneca and Sigel by the Wisconsin Power and Light Company and also in the towns of Arpin and Richfield by the Wisconsin Power and Light Company and in the towns of Marshfield and Lincoln by the Marshfield Power and Light Company and in Grand Rapids and Saratoga by Nekoosa-Edwards Power and Light Company.

There are approximately 250 farmers who reside along the present lines who have not yet deemed it advisable to "hook on" to the present existing lines. There are approximately 600 of the 3000 farmers in Wood County who are now being served by the power companies.

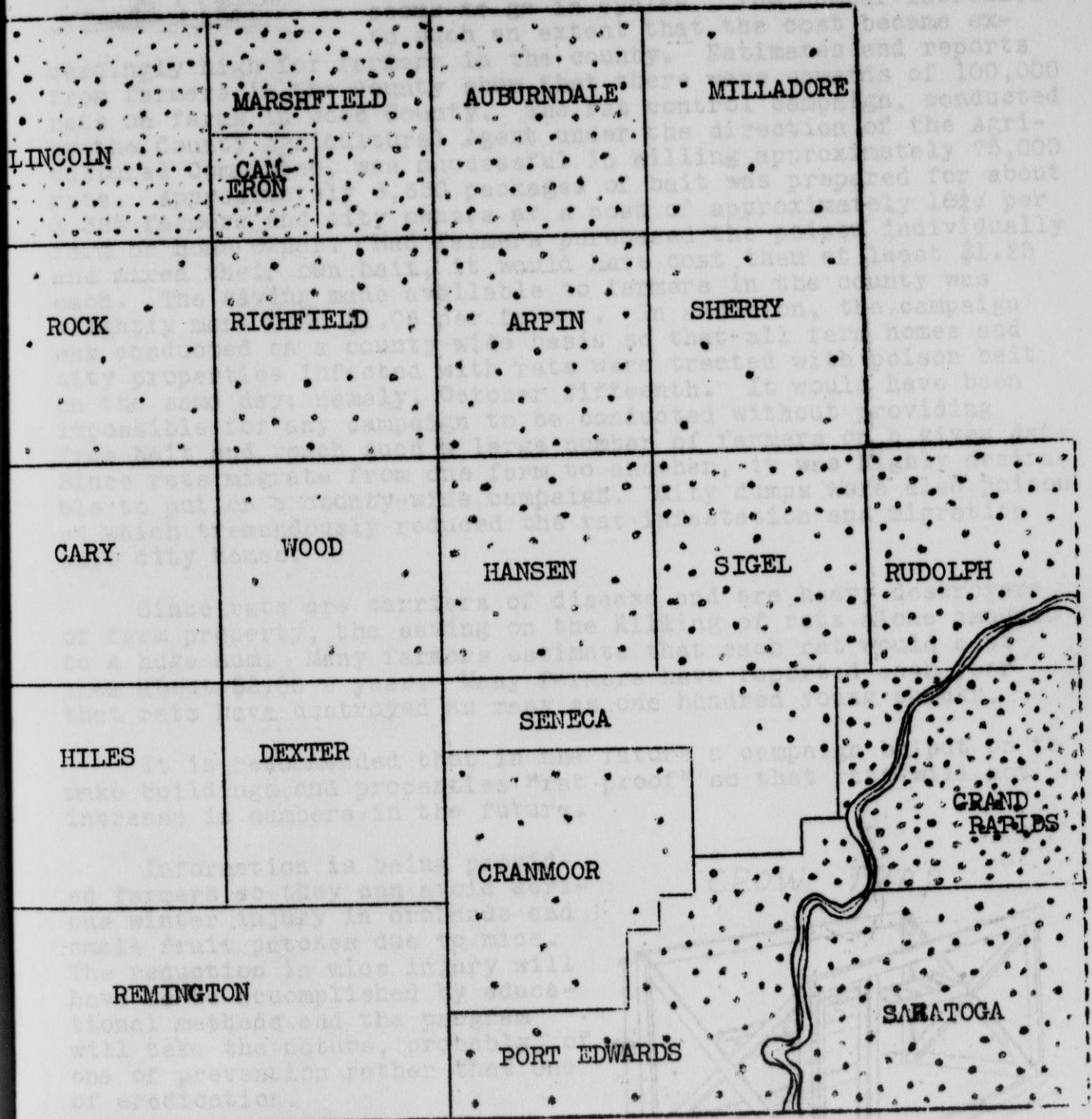
* * * * *

- ORCHARD IMPROVEMENT -

Orchard improvement is a minor project in Wood County, but a tremendous amount of injury was done by rabbits and mice to orchard trees and small fruit patches in the county during the winter of 1935 and 1936. Never before has the population of field mice increased to the extent of last year. Many farmers lost practically their entire orchard. Demonstrations were held by the County Agricultural Agent and orchard specialists to show farmers the correct methods of bridge grafting, pruning, orchard spraying, and fertilization. Plans are being sent out which will give farmers the information on the methods of controlling field mice and protecting trees against their inroads during the winter of 1936 and 1937. Orchards and small fruit patches can provide all of Wood County with plenty of fruit and vegetables at a very low cost provided the orchards and fruit patches are properly handled. Orchards must be planted, however, on well drained soil.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

WOOD COUNTY



(Each dot represents one farm home electrified.)

- RODENT CONTROL -



The common ordinary house rat has been increasing in numbers in Wood County during the past several years. The rat population seems to go in cycles. The number increased to such an extent that the cost became exceedingly high for farmers in the county. Estimates and reports from farmers in the county show that there were upwards of 100,000 rats on farms in Wood County. The rat control campaign, conducted by the County Agricultural Agent under the direction of the Agricultural Committee, was successful in killing approximately 75,000 rats. Approximately 6,650 packages of bait was prepared for about 3,325 farmers and city owners at a cost of approximately 18¢ per farm or home owner. Had farmers purchased the poison individually and mixed their own bait, it would have cost them at least \$1.25 each. The saving made available to farmers in the county was slightly more than \$1.06 per farmer. In addition, the campaign was conducted on a county-wide basis so that all farm homes and city properties infected with rats were treated with poison bait on the same day; namely, October fifteenth. It would have been impossible for any campaign to be conducted without providing free bait and reach such a large number of farmers on a given date. Since rats migrate from one farm to another, it was highly desirable to put on a county-wide campaign. City dumps were also poisoned which tremendously reduced the rat infestation and migration into city homes.

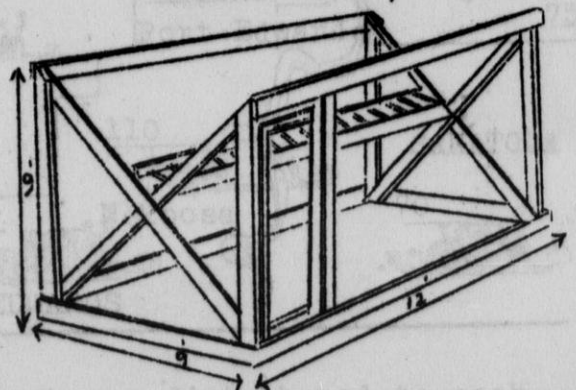
Since rats are carriers of disease and are heavy destroyers of farm property, the saving on the killing of rats alone amounts to a huge sum. Many farmers estimate that each rat would cost them about \$2.00 a year. Many farmers have reported each year that rats have destroyed as many as one hundred young chicks.

It is recommended that in the future a campaign be put on to make buildings and properties "rat proof" so that rats will not increase in numbers in the future.





















Information is being provided farmers so they can avoid serious winter injury in orchards and small fruit patches due to mice. The reduction in mice injury will have to be accomplished by educational methods and the program will take the nature, probably, of one of prevention rather than one of eradication.

Plans have been made and distributed by the County Agricultural Agent for the trapping of crows. Crows annually do considerable damage to farm crops by destroying corn and they prey heavily on the young poultry flocks of the county. Crows destroy thousands of eggs of upland game birds and ducks.

CROW TRAP



RAT CONTROL
in
WOOD COUNTY

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p>LINCOLN</p> <p>140</p>  | <p>585 Marshfield</p> <p>MARSHFIELD</p> <p>CAM- ERON 35</p> <p>75</p>  | <p>AUBURNDALE</p> <p>120</p> <p>Auburndale</p> <p>70</p>  | <p>MILLADORE</p> <p>140</p> <p>Milladore</p> <p>25</p>  | |
| <p>ROCK</p> <p>185</p>  | <p>RICHFIELD</p> <p>190</p>  | <p>ARPIN</p> <p>125</p>  | <p>SHERRY</p> <p>100</p>  | |
| <p>CARY</p> <p>30</p>  | <p>80</p> <p>WOOD</p> <p>65</p> <p>Pittsville</p>  | <p>HANSEN</p> <p>110</p>  | <p>SIGEL</p> <p>150</p>  | <p>RUDOLPH</p> <p>125</p> <p>20</p>  |
| <p>HILES</p> <p>25</p>  | <p>DEXTER</p> <p>25</p>  | <p>SENECA</p> <p>CRANMOOR</p> <p>15</p>  | <p>65</p> <p>10</p> <p>475</p> <p>75</p>  | |
| <p>REMINGTON</p> <p>20</p>  | | <p>110</p> <p>90</p> <p>PORT EDWARDS</p>  | <p>WISCONSIN</p> <p>GRAND RAPIDS</p> <p>70</p>  | |

(The numbers indicate the number of packages distributed to each township.)

APPLICATIONS FOR REAL ESTATE FARM LOANS

- REAL ESTATE CREDIT -

Since the organization of the new Wood County National Farm Loan Association, operating through the seventh Federal Land Bank district headquarters in Saint Paul, 537 farmers have been re-financed on a long term amortization plan. Applications have been filed with the office of the County Agricultural Agent, Secretary and Treasurer of the association, totaling \$2,432,500.

Under the old type of short termed loan, by the private lender, the farmer found it impossible to retire his mortgage in the usual five year period. Farmers were being faced every few years with the problem of refinancing their mortgages very quickly, which caused considerable embarrassment at times. The usual rate of interest on real estate mortgage loans was 6%. With the organization of the New Wood County National Farm Loan Association, farmers were given an opportunity to secure money at a rate of 4% which has since been reduced to 3½% (by act of Congress) on Federal Land Bank loans and 5% on Land Bank Commissioner loans. This saving of interest amounts to approximately 2½% on the average, and on a volume of \$2,000,000 makes a saving to farmer borrowers of approximately \$50,000 in interest annually. The organization of this association, with the help of the County Agricultural Agent's office, has made available to farmers in Wood County a savings of considerably more than \$100,000 in interest alone on the principal of \$2,000,000 during the past two years.

With the inauguration of the long time loan plan, farmers have a greater feeling of security since they are not continually being harassed by private lenders who may feel that they want to recover their principal. Farmers, who have a long time loan, can plan their farming operations with a more definite plan in mind and with a greater degree of accuracy.

In setting up these loans for farmers, borrower's titles have been cleared. In every case, the farmer and his wife have joined in the mortgage on a joint tenancy basis which will simplify the legal procedure should a death occur among the mortgagors.

* * * * *

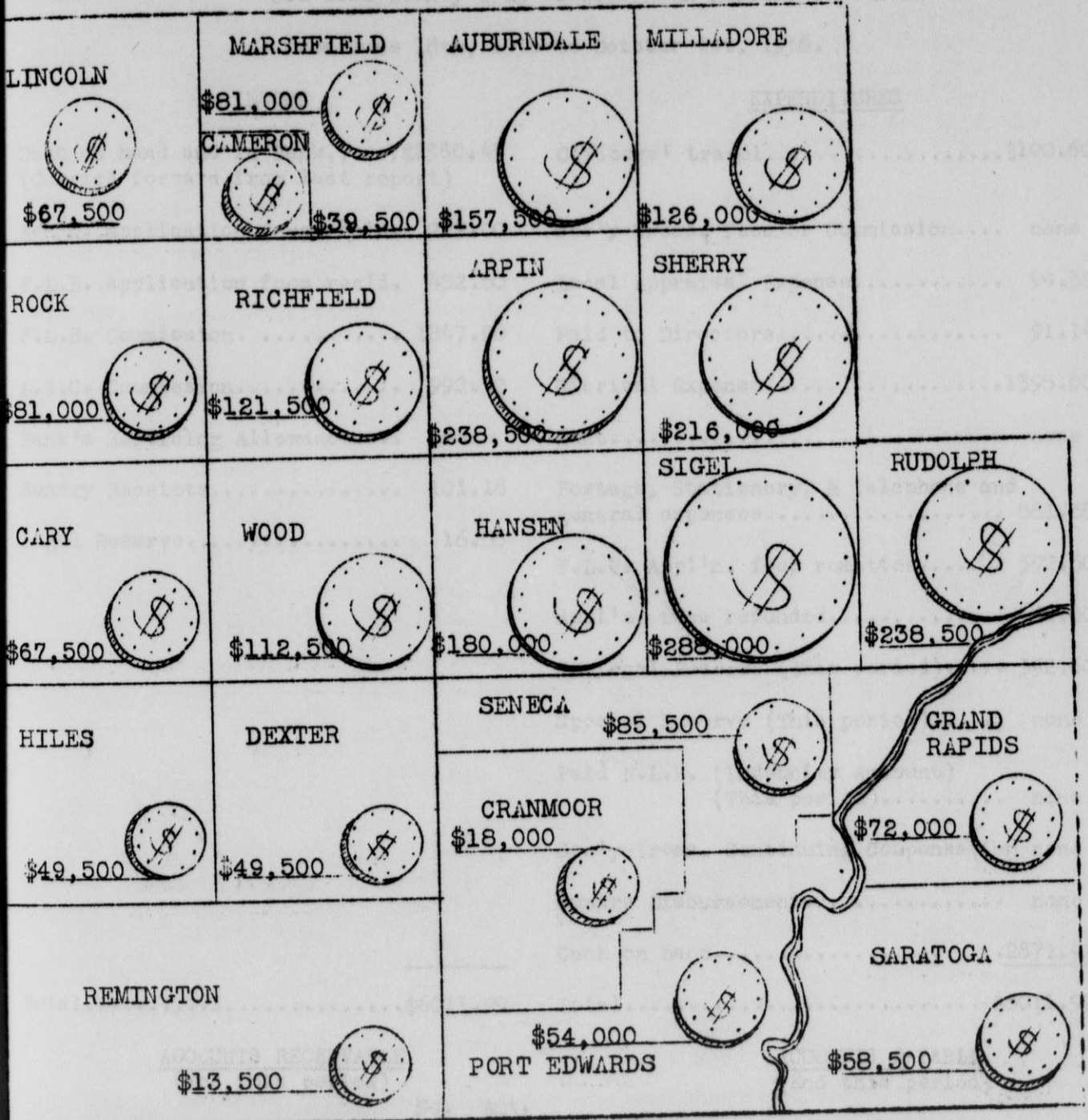
\$13,500

PORT EDWARDS

\$58,500

Each proportionate dollar represents the amount of applications for real estate farm loans to E. R. Lathrop, Sec. & Treas. of the New Wood County National Farm Loan Association of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

APPLICATIONS FOR REAL ESTATE FARM LOANS
in
WOOD COUNTY



(Each proportionate dollar represents the amount of applications for real estate farm loans to H. R. Lathrope, Sec. & Treas. of the New Wood County National Farm Loan Association of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.)

Statement of Business Transacted

in the

New Wood County NFLA of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

from June 18th, 1935 to October 1st, 1936.

INCOME

EXPENDITURES

Cash on hand and in Bank.....\$2380.43
(Carried forward from last report)

Ass'n. application fees rec'd. 222.00

F.L.B. application fees rec'd. 452.50

F.L.B. Commission..... 1847.00

L.B.C. Commission..... 992.32

Bank's Servicing Allowance.... none

Sundry Receipts..... 101.18

Legal Reserve..... 16.56

Total.....\$6011.99

Officers' travel.....\$100.60

Sec'y-Treas. Fees or Commission.... none

Local Appraisal Expense..... 94.35

Paid to Directors..... 91.14

Clerical Expense.....1395.00

Rent..... none

Postage, Stationery, & Telephone and
general expenses..... 581.58

F.L.B. Appl'n. fees remitted..... 392.50

Appl'n. fees refunded..... 92.80

To Legal Reserve (This period)..... 392.60

Special Reserve (This period)..... none

Paid F.L.B. (Indemnity Account)
(This period)..... none

Sec'y-Treas. Continuing Compensation none

Sundry Disbursements..... none

Cash on hand.....2871.42

Total.....\$6011.99

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE
(End this period)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
(End this period)

| | No. | Am't. |
|--------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| Commissions due F.L.B. Loan Closings | 5 | \$87.00 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Commissions due L.B.C. Loan Closings | 5 | 32.50 |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|

Total.....\$119.50

Due Sec'y-Treas. Salary.....\$ none

Due Sec'y-Treas. Commission....\$ none

Total.....\$ none

- CHATTEL CREDIT -

COOPERATIVE CREDIT: Through the Federal Bank for Cooperatives operating in the seventh Land Bank District, the Agricultural Agent has been successful in securing loans totaling \$80,000 for four farmer cooperatives operating in Wood County. These cooperatives have normally been paying 7% interest on debts of \$5600 annually. Under the new set-up with the Bank for Cooperatives the interest rate has been reduced to \$3200 or a sum of \$2400 annually. These loans have been operating for two years and a saving to these cooperatives has amounted to approximately \$5000.

Repayments have been more steady and substantial since the Bank for Cooperatives have taken over these cooperative loans. All four of the cooperatives operating under this set-up have a ten year amortization plan. At the end of this time these organizations will be entirely out of debt and will have built up a substantial reserve in addition.

CHATTEL MORTGAGE CREDIT: Since the organization of the Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association on December 7th, 1933, 599 farmer member borrowers have borrowed approximately \$440,000 or about \$730.00 per farmer on the average. The saving in interest as compared to the average chattel mortgage indebtedness on which 7% has been paid has amounted to a saving of at least \$10,000 since the organization of the association.

REFINANCING: The loans made by the Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association have not been made to create new debts but to refinance to a large extent old debts made at a higher rate of interest. Practically all of the loans originally made by the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation have been taken over and refinanced by this association.

MONTHLY REPAYMENTS: The Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association has adopted a budget plan for each of its borrowers which requires that each borrower reduce his mortgage monthly so that when the loan is due a large part of it or all will be paid up. This plan has encouraged many farmers to get out of debt and also to make substantial savings in their financial set-up. Many farmers have been able to make substantial savings by paying cash for their purchases.

Loans have been made for the purpose of replacing cattle that have been lost by the Bang's Disease test, for the purchase of horses, for other needed equipment and also repairing farm homes and farm buildings.

Borrowers have also borrowed funds from the Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association to pay doctor and hospital bills and provide much needed medical and dental assistance to members of their family.

Through the monthly payment plan 215 of the 599 farmers have been able to make complete repayment on their loans and are now out of debt.

COOPERATIVE CREDIT MEANS SAVING: The Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association, like every other one of the 77 Production Credit Associations of the seventh Land Bank District, has issued stock which has been purchased by the United States Government and also by farmer borrowers. Debentures have been sold to the investing public at low interest rates which has enabled farmers to tap the cheap money markets of the world in order to get long time mortgage loans at a low interest rate. Through this plan the local association has been able to secure unlimited funds to loan to farmers at 5%.

The association's plan of deducting interest monthly and figuring interest on the balance making the actual interest rate as low as 2.8 per cent on some loans. The following is an actual example of a \$660.00 loan which has been repaid by a Wood County farmer during the past 12 months.

| Date | Amount | Repayments | Balance | Interest Deductions |
|----------|----------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7-22-35 | \$660.00 | | \$660.00 | \$30.02 int. for year |
| 8-3-35 | | \$ 19.06 | 640.40 | .88 |
| 8-7-35 | | 50.00 | 590.40 | 2.16 |
| 8-17-35 | | 19.83 | 570.57 | .84 |
| 9-3-35 | | 15.76 | 554.81 | .64 |
| 9-16-35 | | 15.21 | 539.60 | .57 |
| 10-2-35 | | 16.57 | 523.03 | .61 |
| 10-17-35 | | 16.75 | 506.28 | .57 |
| 11-2-35 | | 16.65 | 489.63 | .53 |
| 11-18-35 | | 15.02 | 474.61 | .44 |
| 12-4-35 | | 13.37 | 461.24 | .35 |
| 12-17-35 | | 14.90 | 446.34 | .38 |
| 1-3-36 | | 15.11 | 431.23 | .34 |
| 1-18-36 | | 16.42 | 414.81 | .33 |
| 2-3-36 | | 16.71 | 398.10 | .36 |
| 2-20-36 | | 19.50 | 378.60 | .33 |
| 3-3-36 | | 15.82 | 362.78 | .24 |
| 3-16-36 | | 13.55 | 349.23 | .19 |
| 4-3-36 | | 13.75 | 335.48 | .15 |
| 4-11-36 | | 108.64 | 226.84 | 1.04 |
| 4-17-36 | | 15.34 | 211.50 | .13 |
| 5-4-36 | | 16.27 | 195.23 | .10 |
| 5-18-36 | | 48.84 | 146.39 | .22 |
| 5-18-36 | | 15.28 | 131.11 | .06 |
| 6-2-36 | | 17.60 | 113.51 | .04 |
| 6-4-36 | | 52.79 | 60.72 | .12 |
| 6-18-36 | | 25.17 | 35.55 | .00 |
| 6-19-36 | | 35.55 | --- | .00 |
| | | | Total interest deductions | \$11.62 |
| | | | Total interest due | <u>18.40</u> |

BORROWERS ARE GOOD FARMERS: Through the budget plan and because of good sound management of farmers in the Production Credit

Associations borrowers are among the best farmers in the community. They have been able to borrow money and put it to good use without jeopardizing their farm income.

Many of the Production Credit borrowers have applied lime sludge to their farms and purchased better sires and have been able "to make money" faster than their neighbors, who possibly were not in debt or who were indebted to some other agency not adopting the budget plan. The interest rate being charged by several other finance companies operating in the district runs as high as 12% and some even as high as 18%.

COOPERATION: The Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association enjoys the cooperation of all other good sound lending institutions operating in the county. The local Production Credit Association will have served its purpose in the area when other organizations find themselves able to handle the credit needs of farmers in the area and give them as good or better service than they are getting now on a long time program. Farmers need credit in good times as well as hard times but more especially in hard times and periods of low prices.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION HAS HIGH RATING: The Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association has received a higher rating than many of the associations operating in this district. It has the largest number of high class loans of any association. This association operates with the lowest loan expense per \$100 loaned of any association in the district.

LOANS TO 4-H'RS AND AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS: Heretofore boys and girls who are members of 4-H clubs of agricultural classes have been unable to borrow funds for financing their projects. With the inauguration of the Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association several of these loans were made to worthy members of these organizations, when they were sponsored by a reliable farmer or a competent instructor.

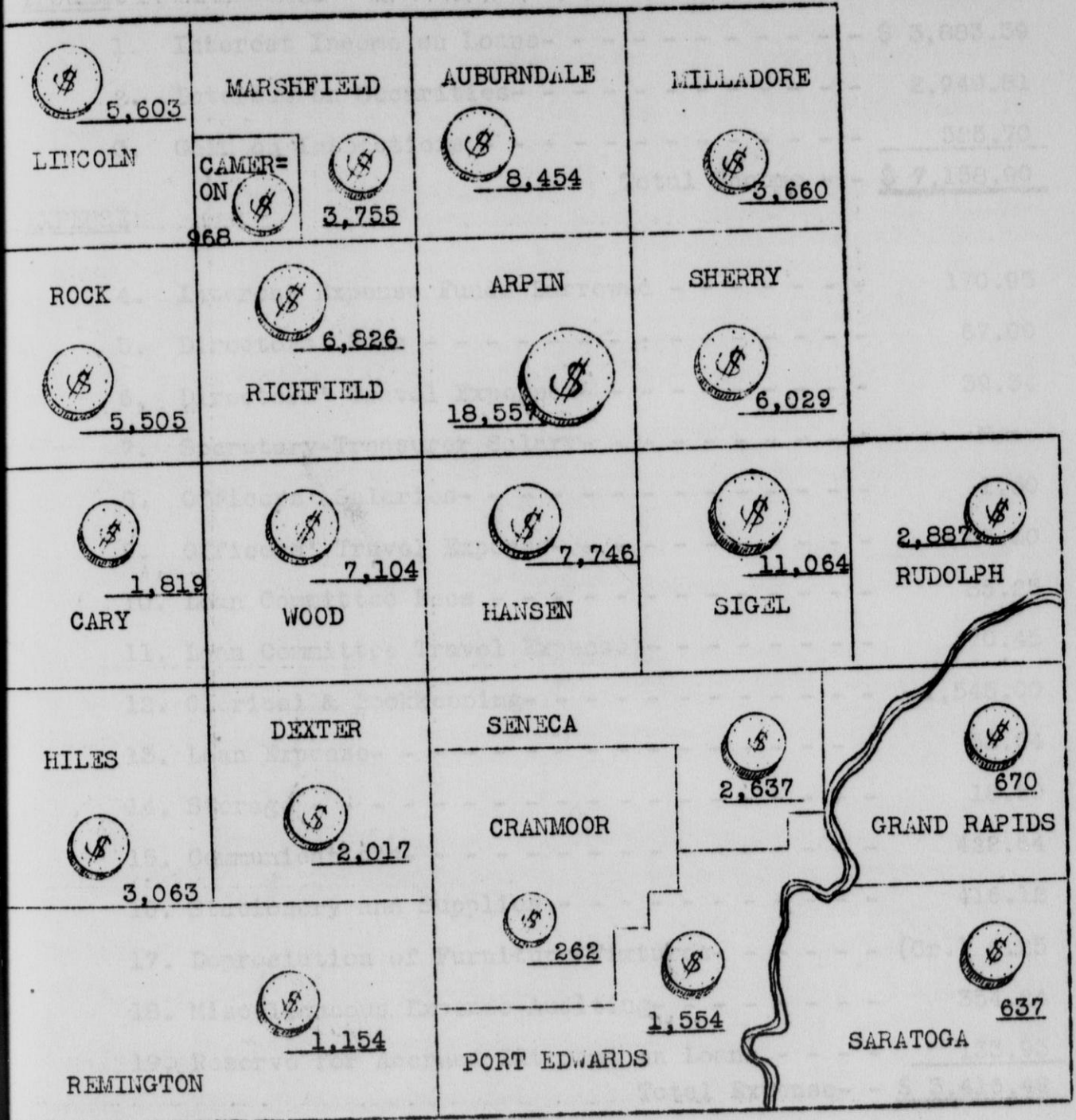
Prices Received by Farmers for Certain Agricultural Products

| | 1932 Av. | 1933 Av. | 1934 Av. | 1935 Av. | Sept. 15 1936 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Wheat, per bu----- | \$0.38 | \$0.74 | \$0.84 | \$0.83 | \$1.04 |
| Corn, per bu----- | .31 | .52 | .81 | .57 | 1.04 |
| Hogs, per 100 lb----- | 3.44 | 3.94 | 4.17 | 8.36 | 9.68 |
| Butter, per lb----- | .20 | .20 | .22 | .26 | .31 |
| Eggs, per doz----- | .14 | .13 | .17 | .23 | .24 |

PRODUCTION CREDIT LOANS

in

WOOD COUNTY



CAMER= ON 968

20. Net Earnings

3,741.41

INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT OF
WISCONSIN RAPIDS PRODUCTION CREDIT ASS'N.

January 1, 1936 to October 31, 1936

INCOME:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Interest Income on Loans- - - - - | \$ 3,883.39 |
| 2. Interest on Securities- - - - - | 2,949.81 |
| 3. Gain on Inspections - - - - - | <u>325.70</u> |
| Total Income - - - - - | <u>\$ 7,158.90</u> |

EXPENSE:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 4. Interest Expense Funds Borrowed - - - - - | 170.93 |
| 5. Directors' Fees - - - - - | 67.00 |
| 6. Directors' Travel Expense - - - - - | 39.34 |
| 7. Secretary-Treasurer Salary- - - - - | None |
| 8. Officers' Salaries- - - - - | 1.50 |
| 9. Officers' Travel Expense- - - - - | 45.30 |
| 10. Loan Committee Fees - - - - - | 85.25 |
| 11. Loan Committee Travel Expense - - - - - | 70.45 |
| 12. Clerical & Bookkeeping- - - - - | 1,545.00 |
| 13. Loan Expense- - - - - | 52.54 |
| 14. Storage - - - - - | 18.50 |
| 15. Communications- - - - - | 422.64 |
| 16. Stationery and Supplies - - - - - | 416.12 |
| 17. Depreciation of Furniture-Fixtures- - - - - | (Cr.) 6.25 |
| 18. Miscellaneous Expense-Auditing- - - - - | 354.24 |
| 19. Reserve for Accrued Interest on Loans - - - - - | <u>133.93</u> |
| Total Expense- - - - - | <u>\$ 3,416.49</u> |
| 20. Net Earnings - - - - - | <u>\$ 3,742.41</u> |

Undivided Profits - - - - -

Total Liabilities - - - - -

STATEMENT OF CONDITION
WISCONSIN RAPIDS PRODUCTION CREDIT ASS'N.

As of October 31, 1936

ASSETS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Loans- - - - - | \$138,176.83 |
| Cash: | |
| a. Operating Fund- - - - - | 1,262.44 |
| b. Loan Fund - - - - - | 2,896.27 |
| Bonds: (Other Than Guaranty Fund Investment) | |
| a. U. S. Government Obligations-Plodged- - - - - | 7,400.00 |
| b. Consolidated Federal Farm Loan Bonds-Plodged- - - | 54,200.00 |
| c. Consolidated Federal Farm Loan Bonds-Unpledged- - | 30,300.00 |
| Accrued Interest Receivable: | |
| a. On Loans- - - - - | 3,741.75 |
| b. On U. S. Government Obligations-Plodged - - - - - | 47.97 |
| c. On Consolidated Federal Farm Loan Bonds - - - - - | 995.24 |
| Accounts Receivable: | |
| a. Production Credit Corporation - - - - - | 20.00 |
| b. Federal Intermediate Credit Bank- - - - - | 9.39 |
| c. Production Credit Association Borrowers - - - - - | 8.56 |
| Furniture and Fixtures (Net) - - - - - | 471.54 |
| Total Assets- - - - - | \$239,529.99 |

LIABILITIES

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Loans Rediscounted-Federal Intermediate Credit Bank- - | \$131,600.29 |
| Notes Payable-Federal Intermediate Credit Bank - - - - | 8,000.00 |
| Other Accounts Payable - - - - - | 76.85 |
| Undisbursed Proceeds of Loans- - - - - | 472.81 |
| Accrued Interest Payable-Federal Intermediate Cr. Bank | 1,243.63 |
| Capital Stock: | |
| a. Class A-Production Credit Corporation - - - - - | 81,000.00 |
| b. Class B | 10,920.00 |
| Reserve for Bad and Doubtful Debts - - - - - | 476.20 |
| Reserve Set Up on Loans for Possible Losses- - - - - | 1,800.00 |
| Reserve Set Up for Accrued Interest on Loan Reserve- - | 197.80 |
| Undivided Profits- - - - - | 3,742.41 |
| Total Liabilities - - | \$239,529.99 |

170,000

160,000

150,000

140,000

130,000

120,000

110,000

100,000

90,000

80,000

70,000

60,000

50,000

40,000


30,000


20,000

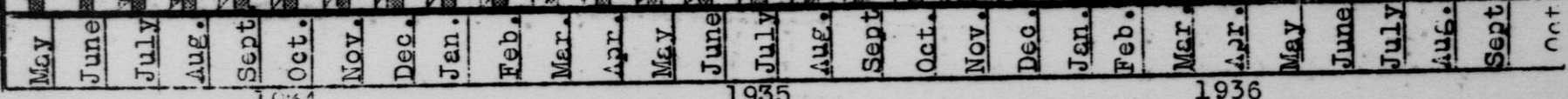
10,000

WISCONSIN RAPIDS PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

Repayments by months 

Loans by months 



EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL, AND EXPENDITURES IN THE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT'S OFFICE - 1936.

Number of persons employed and expenditures made out of budget controlled by the County Agricultural Agent.....103

Budget of Soil Conservation (est.).....\$18,349.49

" " Wisconsin Rapids Production Credit Association..... 7,000.00

" " New Wood County National Farm Loan Association..... 6,011.99

" " Central Wisconsin Rat Control Program 3,066.00

Total.....\$34,427.48

County Agent's Budget..... \$1,400.00

Clerical..... \$1,000.00

Supplies..... 300.00

Transportation (22,000 miles @4¢)..... 880.00

Telephone & Communications (\$48 rental)..... 115.00

Demonstration Material & Equipment..... 100.00

\$2,395.00

Estimated excess of budget borne by the County Agricultural Agent..... \$ 995.00

(This report is printed on paper manufactured in Wood County)

- 4-H CLUB WORK -

4-H club work in Wood County is, and has been, one of the major extension activities of the County Agricultural Extension Office. 4-H club work offers an opportunity for boys and girls to gain up-to-date information concerning improved practices in agriculture and home economics. The County Agricultural Agent appreciates the help given the office through the appointment of Miss Anormallee Martin, Home and Club Agent. The County Agricultural Agent also appreciates the recognition of the size and importance of the project by the members of the County Agricultural Committee and Wood County Board of Supervisors.

Nearly everyone recognizes the problems of youth in the county today. A recent rural youth survey pointed out very clearly the desires and needs of the young people of the county. The 4-H club organization is attempting, in a constructive way, to meet these needs as nearly as possible.

The County Agricultural Agent has put forth every effort to avoid any decline in the effectiveness of extension work as it pertains to 4-H club work due to the rush of activities occasioned by the emergency programs.

Of all the extension projects, 4-H club work is the most fundamental and important. Through the County Agricultural Agents office 4-H club members in the county have taken an active part in the propagation of upland game birds with special work done on the hatching and feeding of these birds.

77 boys and girls took the calf project, 55 poultry, 8 colt, 17 forestry, 14 sheep, 7 swine, 76 handicraft, 54 crops. The County Agricultural Agent cooperated with Miss Martin, Home and Club Agent, in securing enrollments in the 4-H club program and in carrying out the project work to completion. The Office of the County Agricultural Agent assisted in the dramatic program and in making arrangements for the Wood County Club members who attended the State Club Week at Madison. Each club in the county was visited at least once by the County Agricultural Agent and assistance was given by letter and in general meetings on the various problems with which 4-H club members are concerned with their respective projects.

Wood County 4-H club boys were provided with approximately 19,000 trees for windbreak plantings and for their forestry projects and conservation.

The County Agricultural Agent assisted in arranging for the 4-H club leaders' get-together and banquet at Marshfield on April 27th. The County Agricultural Agent assisted in demonstrations and judging contests with particular reference to those in livestock and crops. The 4-H club judging team in livestock was successful in winning the state judging contest at Appleton which was the first judging contest of its type in America. The members of this team were Clarence Hilgart and Donald Baltus with Buddy Dohm as alternate. The crops judging team was composed of Donald Ziegahn and Buddy Dohm. Donald Ziegahn won the state crops judging contest at the State Fair at Milwaukee but was barred from the



WISCONSIN

DAIRYMENS ASSN.

1ST. JR

COW CLASSIFICATION

CONTEST

WON BY

WOOD CO.



regional competition because he was an alternate. (only 19 boys competed in the county contest. Twenty were required). The winnings in livestock and crop judging contests indicate the attitude of boys, as well as girls, in their club work.

The County Agricultural Agent served as superintendent of the 4-H Club Department at the Central Wisconsin State Fair in cooperation with Miss Martin. Approximately 4000 separate projects were exhibited by club members at the fair. The County Agricultural Agent also assisted in the transportation and the making of arrangements for club members to participate in the State Fair at Milwaukee.

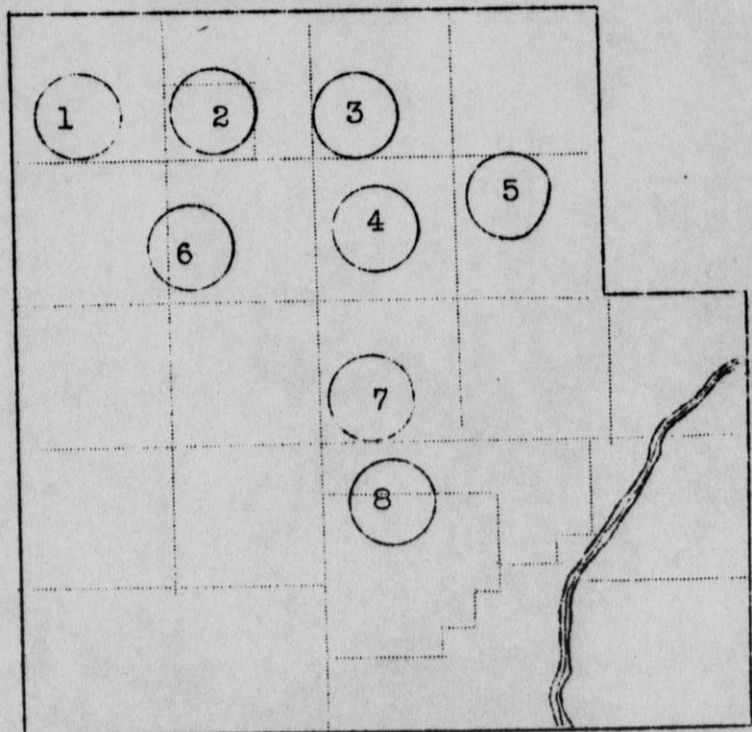
Assistance was given by the County Agricultural Agent to 4-H club leaders at their annual get-to-gether, as well as the entire club membership of the county, on their Achievement Day exercises on November 12th at Marshfield.

The 4-H club organization is a growing organization of rural youth and, as such, the organization has not stood idly by waiting for doles and assistance but have gone ahead on its own hook without waiting for succulence.

GAME PROTECTIVE ASS'NS.
in
WOOD COUNTY

1. Lincoln Group
2. Marshfield Group
3. Auburndale GPA
4. Arpin GPA
5. Sherry GPA
6. Richfield GPA
7. Dairy Belt GPA
8. Altdorf GPA

WOOD COUNTY



- STATISTICAL SUMMARY -

1934-1935-1936

| | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of clubs doing 4-H club work- - - - - | 30 | 14 | 21 |
| Membership in these clubs - - - - - | 500 | 415 | 447 |
| No. of office calls - - - - - | 7,624 | 9,407 | 10,862 |
| " " telephone calls- - - - - | 9,781 | 5,129 | 7,132 |
| " " days in the field- - - - - | 118 | 95 | 122 |
| " " days in the office - - - - - | 187 | 208 | 183 |
| " " news articles prepared for press - - | 264 | 284 | 360 |
| " " personal letters written - - - - - | 21,781 | 18,498 | 22,910 |
| " " circular letters written - - - - - | 55,141 | 28,823 | 45,106 |
| " " bulletins distributed- - - - - | 12,640 | 4,264 | 13,460 |
| " " fairs to which exhibits were made- - | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| " " training meetings for local leaders- | 6 | 6 | 15 |
| total attendance- | 120 | 150 | 560 |
| " " method and result demonstrations - - | 135 | 177 | 180 |
| total attendance- | 9,300 | 8,275 | 11,650 |
| " " days' specialists spent in county - - | 20 | 30 | 53 |

The following specialists have spent time in Wood County in regard to County Agricultural Agent's work:

A. F. Wileden
 Mrs. Luella Mortenson
 Amy Gessner
 I. F. Hall
 J. B. Hayes
 W. McNeel
 Arlie Mucks
 Erwin Davis
 W. W. Clark
 Grace Rowntree
 Ella Gardner
 Fred Musbach
 Geo. Briggs
 E. O. Pollock
 E. J. Delwiche
 Fred Trenk
 Gerald Annin
 Tom Parker
 Blanche Lee
 T. L. Bewick

C. L. Keuhner
 H. J. O'Connell
 Herb Knipfel
 G. C. Oderkirk
 A. L. Stone
 Walter Katerhinery
 J. F. Wojta
 Dr. Geo. Kuchning
 Robert Amundson
 E. D. Holden
 I. W. Rupel
 H. O. Wells
 Dr. Mullen
 Charlotte Clark
 Dr. W. Larson
 F. W. Schultz
 Dr. Winner
 Thompson (Dairy Rec. Service)
 Ernie Chambers
 C. J. Chapman

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK
IN 1937 IN WOOD COUNTY:

No report would be complete without definite recommendations for future work. The planning of the program, however, lies directly with the Agricultural Committee of the County Board. The County Agricultural Agent makes the following suggestions:

1. To continue the Bang's disease clean-up and, if possible, to eradicate Bang's disease from one or more towns, and be ready for a county-wide sign-up should a state law make this possible.
2. To continue the windbreak and shelterbelt program. Living snow traps will reduce snow removal cost. Windbreaks will add to the beauty of the farm home. Shelterbelts will increase the profits on sand soil.
3. Soils and crops improvement. Soils are naturally low in lime, but still there are hundreds of farmers who have not yet applied limestone or limesludge and there are many more men who have not yet applied fertilizers where they could be applied with a profit. Something should be done to reduce the tremendous feed bill of farmers in the county. There will be many requests in 1937 for soil tests and this work should be continued.
4. Livestock improvement. Herds and flocks of the county have decreased in efficiency and earning power due to the severe drouth and low prices. Only approximately 10% of the farmers in the county have purebred herd bulls and few of these are bulls of the type that will increase production in the herd. The horse population should be increased. A bot control program is necessary.
5. Rodent control. Undoubtedly, there will be applications for information on the control of rats as well as mice and gophers and crows during the next year.
6. Rural youth will require, as in the past, considerable attention and there are many older boys and girls who are applying to the Extension Office for information on farm credit in general and other matters concerned with the acquisition of farms. 4-H club work should be continued on a much larger scale than in the past with more people served better.
7. The Agricultural Extension Service, in all probability, will be called upon to cooperate again with the federal and state programs on Agricultural Adjustment.

The County Agricultural Extension Office will place the facilities of the office to the disposal of farmers and farm interests in the county.