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Grant Co., Wis.
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT
1942-1943

DEC 1-1943

To the Members of the Board:

Gentlemen:

These next few pages are devoted to giving you a brief summary of the past year's work of your County Agent's office. The work this year has been almost entirely connected with war activities. Never in history has the necessity for efficient and abundant food production on our farms been as pressing as now. We hope that our help, and that of dozens of volunteer leaders in all parts of the county has been of some aid.

Statistical Review for 1943

Number of farm and home visits	222
Number of personal letters	1680
Number of circular letters	108
Number of telephone calls	2636
Number of office business calls	7312
Total meetings held	196
Attendance at meetings	9087
Number 4H members	732
Days in office	115
Days in field	192
Days vacation	6

ADDITIONAL REPORT TO ANNUAL REPORT CONCERNING 4-H PROGRAM

DEC 1-1943

No. of Local Club Achievement Programs in your county		<u>2</u>
No. members who participated in Fire Prevention (activity or project)		<u>650</u>
No. clubs emphasized singing of 4-H Club songs		<u>27</u>
No. of clubs putting on one-act plays		<u>6</u>
Estimated number of leaders and members who aided in any phase of Salvage collection in 1943	{ Leaders	<u>31</u>
	{ Members	<u>600</u>
Estimated number of 1942 4-H club members in armed forces.	{ Boys	<u>20</u>
	{ Girls	<u>0</u>
Estimated number of all former 4-H members now in armed forces	{ Boys	<u>330</u>
	{ Girls	<u>3</u>
Estimated amount of War bonds and stamps purchased by club members		<u>\$ 14500</u>
No. of 4-H radio programs put on by you or your county club folks		<u>0</u>
Estimated No. of 4-H girls who helped in outdoor farm work in '43		<u>300</u>

Exceptional or unusual stories of what 4-H members or leaders have done to aid the war effort.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

W. C. Vookin
 County Agent

Grant
 County

1943 Is Banner 4H Club Year

Seven hundred and thirty-two 4H boys and girls were members of Grant County clubs this year. Ten new clubs were organized this year. They were: Blue River Beavers, Brick School Happy Helpers, Busy Ridgers, Flat Rock Stars, Glen Haven Get-Together, Homer Hummers, Millville Hillbillies, North Andover Busy Bees, Platte Valley and Spring Valley.

Below is a list of the thirty five 4H clubs of the county with the leaders for each. These volunteer, unpaid leaders are the backbone of all 4H work. To them goes much of the credit for work accomplished.

1. Bagley Badgers
Mrs. Elsie Bailey, Bagley, Wisconsin
Mrs. Evelyn Calkins, Bagley, Wisconsin
Mr. Carson Haville, Bagley, Wisconsin
2. Banner Builders
Maynard Nelson, Platteville, Wisconsin
Phyllis Clifton, Platteville, Wisconsin
3. Bloomington Badgers
Mrs. Clive Brown, Bagley, Wisconsin
Mrs. Elsie Edwards, Bloomington, Wisconsin
4. Blue River Beavers
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Ketchum, Blue River, Wisconsin
Mr. Leigh Williams, Blue River, Wisconsin
5. Boscobel Badgers
R. W. Davis, Boscobel, Wisconsin
6. Busy Badgers
Mrs. John Krohn, Lancaster, Wisconsin
Mr. Ernest Naumann, Lancaster, Wisconsin
7. Busy Bees
Mrs. Frank Barr, Glen Haven, Wisconsin
Mr. John Ryan, Glen Haven, Wisconsin
8. Busy Brownies
Mrs. Fred Eisele, Fennimore, Wisconsin
9. Busy Ridgers
Miss Iva Nelle Ransom, Bridgeport, Wisconsin
10. Dairyland Boosters
Mrs. Leo Fuerstenberg, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Lester Wehrle, Fennimore, Wisconsin
11. Farview Stars
Donald Vesperman, Lancaster, Wisconsin
Mrs. Clarence Macke, Lancaster, Wisconsin

12. Flat Rock Stars
Mr. & Mrs. Chester Okey, Cassville, Wisconsin
13. Franklin Livewires
Mrs. William Butson, Platteville, Wisconsin
Mr. Clinton Kenny, Platteville, Wisconsin
14. Georgetown Boosters
Mrs. Will Peacock, Platteville, Wisconsin
Mrs. J. R. Greene, Cuba City, Wisconsin
15. Get-Together Club
Miss Maxine Thiessa, Glen Haven, Wisconsin
Mr. Gus Kuenster, Glen Haven, Wisconsin
16. Happy Helpers
Mrs. Archie Cooley, Bloomington, Wisconsin
Mr. Ralph Smith, Bloomington, Wisconsin
17. Hickory Hustlers
Marcella Kovars, Boscobel, Wisconsin
18. Homer Hummers
Leonard Swenson, Boscobel, Wisconsin
19. Hurricane Hustlers
Mrs. Charles Wieland, Lancaster, Wisconsin
20. Hustle Bustle
Mrs. J. Rusk Okey, Cassville, Wisconsin
Mr. Chester Hauk, Cassville, Wisconsin
21. Ideal Hilltoppers
Mrs. Raymond Baumgartner, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Herbert Kreul, Fennimore, Wisconsin
22. Merry Mixers
Mrs. Ora Govier, Lancaster, Wisconsin
Mr. Claire Jerrett, Lancaster, Wisconsin
23. Millville Hillbillies
Mrs. Clarence Dailey, Woodman, Wisconsin
24. Mt. Hope Hilltop Helpers
Mr. Keith Weittenhiller, Mt. Hope, Wisconsin
Mrs. Clayton Crubaugh, Mt. Hope, Wisconsin
25. Patch Grove Handy Helpers
Mr. Charles Finn, Bridgeport, Wisconsin
26. Pigeon Valley
Mrs. Leo Zenz, Lancaster, Wisconsin
27. Platte Valley
Mrs. Raymond Rottieger, Platteville, Wisconsin
Mrs. Harold VanNatta, Platteville, Wisconsin
28. Plum Valley Boosters
Mrs. Henry Draves, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Mr. Delbert Wepking, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Mr. Walter Ashmore, Fennimore, Wisconsin
29. St. Andrews
Mrs. Leonard Pluemer, Potosi, Wisconsin
Rev. Edmund Bettinger, Potosi, Wisconsin
30. St. Lawrence O'Toole
Mrs. Thomas Smith, Mt. Hope, Wisconsin
Mr. Thomas Murphy, Mt. Hope, Wisconsin

31. St. Rose Blue Ribbon
Mr. Paul Oehrlein, Cuba City, Wisconsin
Sister Marriann, Cuba City, Wisconsin
32. Smelser Boosters
Mrs. C. O. Manuell, Platteville, Wisconsin
33. Spring Valley
Mrs. Russell Schneider, Bloomington, Wisconsin
Mr. Elmer Chase, Bloomington, Wisconsin
34. Stitzer Go-Getters
Mrs. William Budack, Stitzer, Wisconsin
Mr. Donald Finnegan, Stitzer, Wisconsin
35. Waterloo 4H Scouts
Mrs. Carl Thier, Potosi, Wisconsin

Major 1943 Events

The first important event of the year was the annual leaders' meeting held March 10 at Lancaster. About sixty-five 4H leaders from all parts of the county attended. Agnes Hansen of the State 4H department was with us and gave the leaders much useful information.

Our annual summer Round-up was held Friday, August 13 at the Grantland Theater. Four hundred and fifty 4H folks attended and most of these took part in the several 4H events. The two Style Revue winners and the boy and girl health champions were the only ones to receive State Fair trips. Others received cash prizes. Here are the county winners:

Food Preservation Contest

Maxine Schwer, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Phyllis Clifton, Platteville, Wisconsin

Foods and Nutrition Judging Contest

Lorraine Lenz, Stitzer, Wisconsin
Phyllis Clifton, Platteville, Wisconsin

Clothing Judging Contest

Loretta Lepeska, Fennimore, Wisconsin
Mary Ann Breuer, Glen Haven, Wisconsin

Poultry Judging Contest

Virgil Anderson, Boscobel, Wisconsin
Jack Vesperman, Lancaster, Wisconsin

Dairy Products Judging Contest

Robert Naumann, Lancaster, Wisconsin
Agnes Wehrle, Fennimore, Wisconsin

Crops Judging Contest

John Edge, Platteville, Wisconsin

Glen Egan, Cuba City, Wisconsin

Style Dress Revue

First Year

Barbara Becwar, Glen Haven, Wisconsin

Joan Trumm, Glen Haven, Wisconsin

Second Year

Marjorie Mecum, Bagley, Wisconsin

Lorraine Graham, Fennimore, Wisconsin

Third Year

Joyce Edwards, Bloomington, Wisconsin

Charlene Hulbert, Cuba City, Wisconsin

Fourth Year

Phyllis Clifton, Platteville, Wisconsin

Elva Weigel, Platteville, Wisconsin

Fifth Year

Mary Krohn, Lancaster, Wisconsin

Kathleen Welsh, Fennimore, Wisconsin

Sixth Year

Loretta Lepeska, Fennimore, Wisconsin

LaVon Garner, Cassville, Wisconsin

Girls' Health Contest

Mildred Gilbertson, Fennimore, Wisconsin

Boys' Health Contest

Glen Egan, Cuba City, Wisconsin

Several district meetings on 4H project helps were held during the year. These were on clothing, foods, and garden projects. They were conducted by specialists in each field.

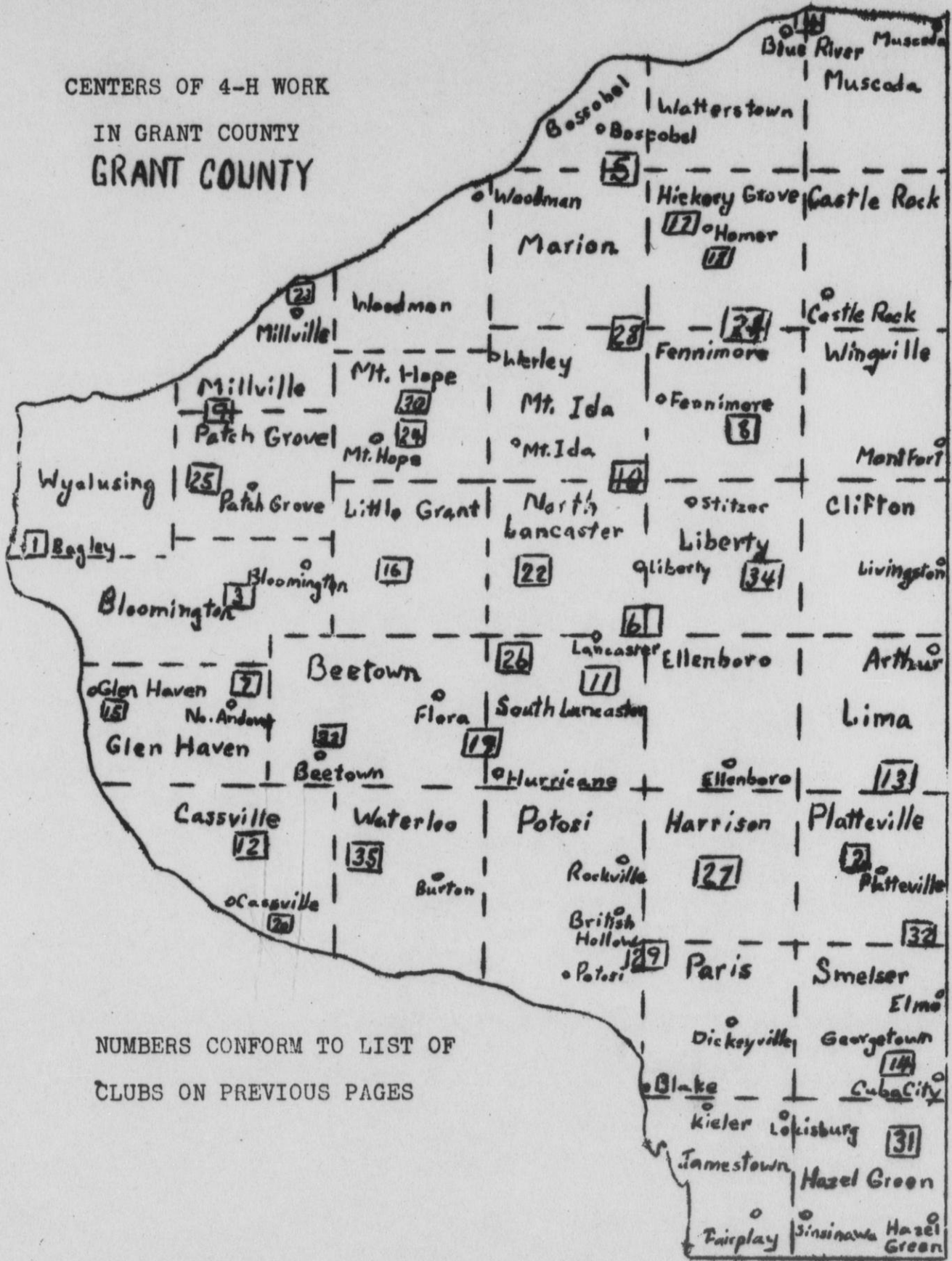
Grant County 4H members produced many thousands of dollars of food in their projects this year. Thirty thousand dollars would be a conservative figure. Besides these we have all of the homemaking projects which cannot be estimated on a cash value basis. Here we have a list of all the projects carried by our 732 members.

Clothing I	130	Food Preservation III	7
Clothing II	48	Food Preservation IV	6
Clothing III	23	Foods and Nutrition I	52
Clothing IV	12	Foods and Nutrition II	18
Clothing V	13	Foods and Nutrition III	13
Clothing VI	4	Foods and Nutrition IV	5
Food Preservation I	42	Foods and Nutrition V	5
Food Preservation II	10	Beef I	37

Beef II	1	Poultry III	3
Dairy I	87	Poultry IV	12
Dairy II	11	Corn I	10
Dairy III	2	Potato	33
Dairy V	10	Handicraft I	35
Victory Garden	94	Handicraft II	5
Home Garden	11	Handicraft III	2
Share Garden	25	Grain	9
Pig I	38	Bees	1
Pig II	32	Home Improvement I	32
Pig III	2	Home Improvement II	5
Pig IV	1	Commando Salvage	8
Sheep I	24	Farm Labor	16
Sheep II	2	Fire Prevention I	1
Sheep III	3	Maintenance & Repair	5
Colt I	1	Forestry I	4
Colt II	1	Home Service	12
Colt III	1	Farm Records	3
Poultry I	57	Home Records	2
Poultry II	2		

Glen Egan of Cuba City and Mildred Gilbertson represented the county at the State health contest where Glen received third. Our Style Revue entrants were Loretta Lepeska of Fennimore and Phyllis Clifton of Platteville. Loretta won first in this contest.

CENTERS OF 4-H WORK
 IN GRANT COUNTY
GRANT COUNTY



NUMBERS CONFORM TO LIST OF
 CLUBS ON PREVIOUS PAGES

COUNTY RAT DRIVE A SUCCESS

Fifteen hundred bags of fresh, ready mixed rat bait were distributed in the countywide rat campaign put on last year. Twenty-nine dealers aided in the distribution. The bait was all sold during two days and used at the same time in all sections of the county. This timing is what makes the rat drive successful as it prevents migration from one farm to another.

Farmers who took part in this rat drive were gratified with the results obtained. I believe this rat eradication work to be one of the best received and most valuable short time projects we carry on.

ARMY WORM OUTBREAK

A very unusual event occurred last June when Grant County suffered an invasion of army worms. Most of the townships had outbreaks but they were serious only in the eastern part of the county.

When the first worm was brought into the office we immediately got busy on a program of prevention and control. Some farmers were advised to use a spray program while others were started on the dusting method. Results of each was checked and we found that a lead arsenate spray or a poison bran bait applied directly on to the hill was the most effective.

We worked with county drug stores in securing all of the lead arsenate available in Wisconsin and neighboring states. The idea of protecting corn fields by plowing a furrow was advised. Information on all of these things was spread all

over the county through every possible channel.

Army worms were a new thing to us and certainly were a dangerous threat. The entire program of identification, control, information, and demonstrations carried on by this office was a real chance to be of service.

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

During the past few years there have been many demands from farm women for help in women's and homemaking activities. Since this is one of the few counties not having a County Home Agent it has been impossible to do much except for occasional visits of College women specialists. Girl 4H members and their leaders, R.E.A. women's groups, farm women's clubs and township Farm Bureau women's organizations have been helped where possible, but this has only increased the demand for a women's worker.

FARM LABOR ACTIVITIES

Early last spring County Agent's offices all over the nation were given the job of doing what they could to help the farm labor shortage in their county. It was evident that Grant County would have a real labor problem although not as severe as in some counties in urban areas.

Since there was no possibility of getting much outside help into the county, we did what we could to distribute and make use of the help already here. Each community or trade area that wanted help were aided in setting up local labor exchanges. Some of them did an outstanding job. Several of the cities and villages were canvassed for available workers

who were placed where most needed.

The County Agent's office has been especially concerned with full-time farm help and with seasonal labor such as corn detasseling. So far this year we have placed eighty-two full time farm workers on farms. Of these thirty-seven were single and forty-five were married. We signed up or helped secure seventy-five people for corn detasseling work. Ninety day and hour workers were secured and placed on farms.

While Grant County farmers struggled through this crop year better than many areas, the outlook for next year is not good. Different and more drastic solutions to the labor problem will have to be found.

VICLAND OATS OUTSTANDING

The development of Vicland oats by the College of Agriculture has been a splendid contribution to our farming business. The coming of Vicland oats was so timed as to do the most good in turning out food for the war effort. In just this one year it has meant thousands of dollars to our farmers in this county alone. Already the Experiment Station is working on oats which will outyield Vicland. Surely Vicland oats and hybrid corn together have changed the farm picture very much these past few years.

BREED ASSOCIATION ACTIVITY

The county Shorthorn breeders who organized two years ago had a very good year. Their county picnic was well attended. Their sale held October 8 at Lancaster was excellent.

Holstein breeders have maintained a county-organization but the proposed sale was called off because of lack of cattle.

Angus breeders again held an outstanding sale at Lancaster in June. Their sales work has meant added money for Grant County Angus cattle.

Guernsey Breeders maintain a top notch sales organization headed by Charles Wilkins as Secretary. Jersey breeders of this Parish also are continuing their organization in spite of travel difficulties.

LIVESTOCK WORK

The county ram truck again made two stops in Grant County this year--one at Lancaster and one at Bloomington. Thirty purebred rams were sold. This ram truck each year is helping improve our sheep business. The dipping and drenching program is still being carried on by private operators.

James Lacey helped in conducting a series of swine meetings in many locations in the county. Mr. Lacey is always a real help to the large groups turning out to hear him.

Our Dairy Herd Improvement Association have had a difficult time hiring testers. At the present time only one association is in operation.

Several dairy production meetings were held during the winter. Poultry work was carried on through hatcheries and 4H clubs.

COUNTY WEED PROGRAM

The wet weather and the labor shortage combined to give us more weeds than in any year for a long time. The noxious weed program, though, was carried out as effectively as most years. Our county weed commissioners are generally doing a creditable job.

The program of field bindweed control was continued with county aid. Private dealers were assisted in getting sodium chlorate. We were informed that this year Grant County is high in the state in the use of chlorate.

CORN BORERS SPREAD

This year for the first time, European corn borers were found in most of the townships in the county. They are not thick enough in any one place to cause much damage. It does appear that in another three to five years, however, we will have extensive damage.

The only effective control of the corn borer is to plow under or dispose of all corn stalks before May 1 in the spring. This plowing of corn ground will undoubtedly be one of the changes brought about by the coming of the borers.

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The soil erosion control work carried on by the Grant County District this past year has made rapid progress. The personnel are to be congratulated on the amount of work they have done, and the way they have gained the trust and confidence of farmers. Soil erosion control is one of agriculture's greatest helps on both a present and long time basis.

The District has 512 applications to date. Sixty-six hundred acres of strips were laid out this year on one hundred and twenty farm plans covering twenty-one thousand acres of farm land. Forty-three thousand trees were distributed by the District. Terracing and drainage work were also done.

FARM RECORD PROJECT

A farm record research project has been carried on in the county by the State Soil Conservation Committee and the University. Charles Mittelstadt was the fieldman. He has managed to be of service to the eighty record keepers as well as gathering the research material. He has also given real and timely assistance on strictly Extension activities of this office.

COOPERATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS

The Agent has tried to cooperate fully with, and also work through all organizations and groups interested in Agriculture. In return we have obtained valuable assistance in promoting our programs. We have tried to aid farmers in making the best use of the Soil Conservation District, Farm Security, Production Credit Association, Federal Land Bank, Rural Electrification Administration and the Agricultural Conservation program. All of these are performing valuable services in their particular field.

Agricultural and Home Economics Instructors have given real help in our programs and we have tried to be of help to them. We have had the assistance of many civic and business groups in cities and villages.

Let me use this opportunity to show special appreciation to the newspapers of the county for their part in spreading vital farm information. Extension work could not do the job without them.

COUNTY AND LOCAL FAIRS

We have a large number of fairs which each year hold

Agricultural displays. These have a definite and important place in our rural life. Grant County assists by making a 4H fair appropriation to be paid to 4H members exhibiting. This office assists in making out premium lists, getting larger participation, securing judges and putting on displays.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

The Agent is a member of and does definite work for the county U.S.D.A. War Board.

We have given assistance to County Civilian Defense and County War Bond Drive activities.

An excellent Farm & Home program was put on at Platteville last January. Charles Wilkins received Master Farmer recognition.

A very important job was the soil testing service conducted by Marjorie Macke, office secretary. Six-hundred and thirty-five soil tests were made for farmers in the county.

Community clubs were assisted in their monthly programs.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. Voskuil

W. C. Voskuil,
Grant County Agricultural Agent