

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

LYON COUNTY

Thomas E. Buckman

1921

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Nevada College of Agriculture
Lyon County Farm Bureau
Cooperating.

County Agent Work
Extension Service

State of Nevada

Cooperative Extension Work
in
Agriculture and Home Economics

Yerington, Nevada.

State of Nevada County of Lyon

Thomas Buckman County Agricultural
Agent.

Narrative report of county
agent activities outlined
according to Classification
Key for indexing County Agent
reports 1921.
Northern and Western States.

From: April 1, 1921.

To: December 1, 1921.

1. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

e. Irrigation

2. Consolidation of ditches.

The more economical distribution of irrigation water is one of the chief problems confronting farmers in Mason and Smith Valleys. These two valleys are traversed from end to end by the East Walker, West Walker, and Main Walker Rivers which are used as the main distributing canals. Smaller distributing canals diverting the water from the river where needed. In many places canals parallel each other for miles meaning a duplication of maintenance costs, loss of water by seepage, evaporation etc. and an unsatisfactory distribution of water when water is scarce and most needed. Consolidation has been talked for years but no action was ever taken until this spring when six out of seven ditch companies in Mason Valley declared themselves favoring consolidation, an engineer was employed to make an estimate of the probable cost of the consolidation. A committee representing the interested ditch companies met at the diversion point on the river, went over the proposed right of way and the county agent drew up a written agreement for ratification by the different ditch companies, but this agreement was not ratified due to the expense involved and unfavorable financial conditions action being deferred until next year, when it is hoped financial conditions will be improved.

The same problem confronts a number of farmers in Smith Valley and was undertaken there with somewhat better results. Here again financial conditions prevented the consolidation of six ditches. However as the result of the proposed consolidation the Burbank and West Walker River companies will consolidate any way as they can do so with little expense by using the one ditch where they parallel each other.

This combined with rotating use of water will mean a big saving in time, labor, maintainence, evaporation and seepage of water.

1. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

e. Irrigation.

For several years farmers on that part of the Newlands Reclamation project known as the Fernley bench have felt that they had a grievance which ought to be impartially reviewed. Chief of these were a shortage of water for the late crops, a high annual charge for operation and maintenance, a lack of cooperation on the part of the project management. The water users of Fernley bench requested the Secretary of Interior that an investigation be made, which request resulted in Dr. Samuel Fortier and Fred L. Bixby of the U.S.D.A. being detailed to make the investigation. The county agent assisted them in their investigations arranging for meetings with committees representing the water users and in making farm visits to fifty Fernley farms.

The examination of conditions at Fernley was made from August 5 to 12th inclusive and convinced the investigators that most of the grievance of the farmers were justified and recommendations were made to the Secretary of the Interior which resulted in the following changes which will be incalculable benefit to the Fernley farmers:

- A. Until storage of flood waters at Spanish Springs or some other suitable site is provided the minimum water allowed per acre will include the use flood water prior to May 10th.
- B. The minimum charge remains the same.
- C. Assessment of charges - minimum raised from 3 to 4.5 acre feet.

1. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

h. Roads.

1. Good Roads Day-South End Center.

The Good Roads Day of the South End Center on May 21, 1921 was an excellent demonstration of what community action and cooperative effort will accomplish. The goal set was the improvement of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of highway in very bad condition and used by everyone in the community. A day was named, project leaders appointed, the work to be done laid out, and on Saturday May 21, Good Roads Day took precedence over every thing else. Practically every farmer in the community and many others took part. This stretch of road was put in good shape for the first time in several years accomplished in one days time work that would if done by the county have cost at least \$ 500.00.

County Commissioner Bertrand cooperated with the community center furnishing two county trucks, two wagons, grader, and other implements. Some 70 head of horses were employed on the project, 158 yards of gravel or approximately 288 tons were put on the road, both men and women joined in the effort to put the road in good shape, the women of the community serving lunch at noon in the Perry School to the 54 people who made Good Road's Day successful.

1. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

h. Roads

2. Reno-Hazen hard surfaced highway.

The Fernley community center has been working for years past for the construction of 12 miles of State Highway through the Fernley Valley. During August Fernley representatives called a meeting at Fernley on August 21st. to discuss means of furthering the construction of the proposed Reno-Hazen hard surfaced highway. Both Reno and Fallon C. of C. sent representatives to the meeting which resulted in the adoption of a resolution favoring the construction of the proposed highway as soon as the Phipps-Dowell Bill became a law. Similar resolutions were endorsed by the farm bureau centers in Mason and Smith Valleys, and forwarded to the state highway commission. The county agent also brought the matter before the Yerington Commercial Club, which organization also endorsed the road. At the suggestion of the county agent Charles Knight, Managing Director of the Reno C. of C. appointed a working committee of one county commissioner from Washoe, Lyon and Churchill Counties to keep boosting for the proposed road.

Now that the Phipps-Dowell Bill is a law and federal funds are available the Fernley center is again taking action sending three men on November 21st to Carson City to interview the State Highway Commission regarding immediate action. Another joint meeting of Reno and Fallon C. of C. and the Fernley Community Center will be held at Fernley in December when it is anticipated definite action will be taken favoring immediate construction of the road.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

b. Dairy Cattle.

1.3 Securing purebred stock.

1.31 Fernley Holstein Bull Association purchased another bull.

The Fernley Holstein Bull Association met on April 10th at Fernley action being taken at this meeting authorizing C.W. Stock to purchase another bull at the Toyon Sale at Los Altos, California. State Dairy Specialist V.E. Scott, committeeman Stock and the county agent prior to the meeting interviewed 17 farmers in the east end of the Fernley district securing names of those willing to take enough new shares to warrant purchasing another bull. The animal was purchased by Mr. Stock April 20th and was sired by Sir Pieterje Ormsby Mercedes 43rd. whose dam Aggie Wayne Peep has a record as a six year old of 27,762 lbs of milk and 1250 lbs of butter fat in 365 days. The bulls dam has a record of 21.8 lbs. butter and 552.7 lbs. of milk in a seven day test.

1.32 Three registered Holstein Bulls were purchased by Lyon County dairymen and fifteen registered Holstein cows were brought into the county during the year. These importations increases the number of registered Holsteins in the county 100% or better. Milking Shorthorns are the favored dairy cow in this county.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

6. Dairy Improvement Association

At the call of the dairy committee of the Wellington Center farmers interested in dairying met at Wellington on May 13, 1921 and formed the Smith Valley Dairymen's Association. The purpose of the association is to increase the quantity and improve the quality of dairy products, to encourage the use of pure bred sires and in general to promote in all possible ways the interests of the dairymen of Smith Valley.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

i. Poultry.

2. Achievement Story.

Club Member - Glenn Lisle - Age 13 - Fernley, Nevada.

Glenn Lisle is just finishing her second year in the poultry Club work. This season Glenn borrowed \$ 25.00 of the Meredith Publishing Company and purchased 150 baby chicks. In addition to the baby chicks she had 20 hens left over from last season which were valued at \$ 20.00. The cost of feed for the entire flock was \$ 42.00 other expenses were \$ 3.50. The entire cost for the seasons demonstration was \$ 90.50. Friers were sold which amounted to \$ 21.00 and \$ 23.50 worth of friers were used at home. One fowl was sold for breeding purposes at \$ 2.50. Ninety-five dozen eggs were gathered, which netted \$ 36.25. Seventy-one hens and pullets were on hand on October 1st. valued at \$ 106.00. The total income for the seasons work being \$ 189.75, leaving a profit of \$ 99.25. As a result of Glenn demonstrating her ability to make poultry raising profitable business. Mr. Lisle has decided to build a large poultry house and allow Glenn to work into the poultry business on a large scale.

Glenn was one of the Achievement Winners in Lyon County and was awarded a trip to Reno as a result of her work in the poultry club.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

1. Poultry.

3. Culling Demonstration.

M.D. Collins, State Poultry Specialist and the county agent culled a flock of 133 hens at the Geo. Friedhoff ranch in the Mason Valley the object of the demonstration being to show the methods used in culling out the low producing hens in order to increase the flock production and to obtain information as to the results obtained by such demonstration. Mr. Friedhoff was well satisfied with the results obtained by discarding 9 of his 133 hens and although records kept for 7 days before and after culling showed a decrease in egg production from 528 to 504 he received just as many eggs with 124 hens as he would have received with 133. The nine culls did not produce a single egg during a seven day period and Mr. Friedhoff was of the opinion that his flock might have been culled closer than it was.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

j. Sheep.

1. Breeding

1.1 Four club members were enrolled in a sheep club, ^{in Lyon Co} the objective being the production of better sheep by the use of pure bred rams. One registered Hampshire buck and one registered Shroshire buck were purchased for this purpose.

2. Achievement Story.

Club Member- Frank Parker- Age 15- Wellington, Nevada.

Frank Parker has been a Club Member in the Sheep Club for four years. ^{He} Frank started with a "bummer" lamb and has accumulated each year until at the present time he has fifteen breeding ewes and one excellent buck. Frank expects to develop a herd of sheep from the band which he has started. He has worked during the summer and purchased four more ewes and enough hay to feed them through the winter.

Mr. Parker has promised Frank forty acres of land as soon as he is through High School and able to take care of both the land and the flock. Frank is State winner in the Farm flock Club and was awarded a trip to Reno as a prize for his achievement in the Sheep Club work. At Reno, Frank competed with the other Club members in the Livestock Judging Contest, and was awarded Grand Champion ribbon as first place in stock judging in the state.

4. Registered Holstein Calf Club-Fernley.

V.E. Scott, State Specialist and the county agent formed a Holstein Calf Club at Fernley. Orvis Stock purchased two registered Holstein heifers and Neil Austin purchased a registered calf.

3. ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

k. Swine

1.2 Securing purebred stock.

Seven head of purebred hogs were introduced into the county during the past eight months four Duroc-Jerseys and three Poland-Chinas being imported in a campaign for better livestock.

2. Clubs.

Two registered Poland-China boars were secured by club members and during November the county agent enrolled twenty boys and girls in a registered Poland-China Pig Club in Mason Valley. A number of prospective members in Smith Valley were also secured and it is anticipated that a number of pig club members in the two valleys will aggregate twenty five or more.

The pigs will be purchased in December by M.D. Collins, State Club Leader in California, Mr. Collins making a special trip to California for that purpose. A number of adults are expected to purchase registered hogs at the same time.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

1.

a. Boys and girls.

1. Organization

Club work in Lyon County is under the supervision of M.D. Collins, State Club Leader, the County Agricultural Agent and Miss Leah Barker, District Club Leader who spent 1/3 time in Lyon County, in promotion of sewing, canning, and club organization work. For details of work accomplished in Lyon County see Mr. Collins and Miss Barker's reports.

g. Specialists assistance

2. Dairying-V.E. Scott, State Dairy Specialist has been of material assistance to the county agent in many ways. Mr. Scott was instrumental in the formation of a registered Holstein Calf Club, the addition of another bull to the Fernley Holstein Bull Association, in the formation of the Smith Valley Dairymen's Association and in information given leading to the purchase of 15 head of registered Holsteins.

3. Entomology-C.W. Creel, Specialist in Entomology was called on to demonstrate poisoning cut worms. Mr. Creel pointed out an effective method of poisoning cut worms.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

2. Conferences-general.

The county agent has kept in close touch with the Directors of Extension, County Agent Leader, and State Club Leader, regarding different phases of the work making one trip a month to headquarters in Reno for conferences on different problems that have confronted him.

Several conferences were also held with County Agent Reed of Churchill County regarding the cantaloupe industry being developed in that county. On November 7th a conference was held at Reno at the suggestion of the State Club Leader at which the county agents of Washoe, Lyon and Churchill outlined work to be done cooperatively in the three counties toward developing the cantaloupe industry.

Director Creel and State Club Leader Collins have made several trips to Lyon County for conferences on administrative work and have materially assisted in putting the work on a better working basis.

1.1 Lyon County Farm Bureau consists of five communities. Each community has a chairman, secretary-treasurer, and project leaders the number depending upon the project adopted. Besides community center officers there are the county officers consisting of five directors one from Smith Valley, one from Fernley and three from Mason Valley where the farm bureau office is located.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

4. History.

The present county agent started work in Lyon County on April 1, 1921. The program of work was necessarily limited because active work in 1921 was not begun until April 1st. three months elapsing during which time no county agent was employed and when the new agent was employed he had to familiarize himself with local conditions and needs of the county but, during the past eight months these limiting factors have been eliminated and the county agent looks forward to a year of achievement.

This year a start will be made at the first of the year, the farm bureau is better organized than before, a healthy community spirit has been developed in community centers all which points to a more successful year in 1922.

1.3 Finances for 1921.

The finances of the county farm bureau are supplied by cooperative funds of the federal, state and county government as follows:

State Farm Bureau Appropriation	\$ 1,130.00
Proceeds 5-cent county farm bureau tax	5,650.00
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	575.00
Agricultural Extension Division	<u>1,675.00</u>
Total	9,030.00

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

6. Outlook.

The present county agent started to work on April 1, 1921. The program of work was necessarily limited because active work for 1921 was not started until that time a period of three months elapsing during which time no county agent was employed and when the new county agent started work he had to familiarize himself with local conditions and the needs of the county. These limiting factors have been eliminated during the past eight months and the county agent looks forward to next year as a year of greater achievement.

In Mason and Smith Valleys water will be more abundant due to the storage of flood waters of the West Walker River at Topaz and for the first time hundreds of acres of fertile land will have sufficient water to ensure successful crops. In the Fernley district the reclamation service has made an adjustment of the operation and maintenance charges which will encourage Fernley farmers to use more water and grow more intensive crops.

Financial conditions are somewhat improved over last year most of the hay crop will be moved before next spring, the farm bureau is better organized than it has been at the beginning of any previous year, the county agent is familiar with the people and county, a healthy community spirit has been developed in a majority of the community centers, the program of work will start on Jan. 1st all of which points to a more successful year in 1922.

Programs of work for both the community centers and the county will be worked out in December and be presented for open discussion and adoption at the first community center meeting held in January. These programs will probably include measures relative to:

1. Control of Alfalfa Weevil, Bel Worm, and other diseases of the potatoes.

2. A "Better Sires-Better Livestock" campaign.

3. Consolidation of irrigation ditches Mason and Smith Valleys.
4. Formation of a district marketing association in Mason Valley.
5. Poultry-increased poultry production.
6. Better Seed Wheat Pure strains and new varieties.
7. Production of cantaloupes at least fifty acres Fernley sufficient acreage in Mason and Smith Valleys to supply local demands.
8. Good Roads Day-South End Center Mason Valley.
9. Support of public library started in farm bureau office.
10. Eradication of tuberculosis in dairy stock.

The county agent has set a goal of one livestock club member for every ten farms in the county. This goal has already been exceeded over thirty junior members in livestock clubs having been secured to date,

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

1.5 Meetings.

1.51 An annual meeting is held in December at Yerington, for the purpose of electing the county farm bureau directors. Each community elects three delegates to attend the annual meeting. Only delegates are allotted a vote. This provision serves as a balance of power between communities.

1.52 Community centers meet in December to elect officers for the coming year. Regular monthly meetings are held with the exception of the Grant View where meetings are held every two weeks.

7. Personnel.

The extension workers in Lyon County consist of a County Agricultural Agent on full time, a Club Leader on 1/3 time and a Home Demonstration Agent on part time.

8. Publicity.

The Nevada Farmer and Stockman a monthly farm journal is the official publication of the Nevada State Farm Bureau. No farm bureau news is published by the counties local papers running farm bureau notes as news items.

The Nevada Farmer and Stockman has a monthly survey of county and state extension activities and is mailed to every farmer in the county.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

1.711 Community Analysis.

Lyon County communities are separated by wide expanses of desert, sage brush and mountain ranges only 10.3% of its 1509 sq.miles being classed as agricultural lands. The county is divided into four districts geographically determined because all crops are irrigated and farms are located along small streams.

The farming area is divided as follows: Smith Valley and Mason Valley on the Walker River, Dayton on the Carson River and Fernley under the Truckee-Carson project of the U.S. Reclamation Service. Each community really functions as a farm bureau itself having different problems to meet, and being separated by mountain ranges and desert lands. The Fernley district consists of 63 farms averaging 80 acres in size farmers here depending for their income upon the sale of alfalfa hay baled or in the stack to stockmen. Mason Valley produces potatoes, dairy products, grain and hay while Smith Valley is largely a cattle, sheep, wool and hay producing district.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

1.6 Membership.

Membership in the farm bureau includes every tax payer due to the fact that in Nevada the farm bureau is supported by taxation. However a distinction is made between active and non-active members. Active members are those who have paid the \$ 5.00 annual membership fee levied by their community center, The difference between the \$ 1.50 which goes to support the State and National Farm Bureau Federation and the \$ 5.00 is divided between the county farm bureau and community center.

17 Program of work.

A program of work for the ensuing year is mapped out at the annual county farm bureau meeting, that is so far as the county and state is concerned. Community programs are worked by a conference between project leaders and the county agent.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

3. Work with other organizations.

3.4 Women's Club.

A public library in the farm bureau office was started by cooperation of the farm bureau with the Women's Club of Yerington in November. Approximately 75 volumes of books were secured and placed in a book case in the farm bureau office. Miss Perry who is secretary of the farm bureau was placed in charge of the books and persons desiring the loan of books secure them from her.

3.5. The county farm bureau and community centers united with the Yerington Commercial Club in protesting the curtailment of train service on the Hazen-Mina Branch of the Southern Pacific R.R. Co. which if allowed would have deprived Mason and Smith Valleys of mail and train service four days of the week. Resolutions were adopted by the county farm bureau and community centers and forwarded to the public service commission.

The farm bureau members helped secure names for the petition circulated by the Commercial Club. The protest was effective.

4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

15. Veterinary-Dr. N. E. Neilsen

Dr. N. E. Neilsen, Bureau of Animal Husbandry tested 559 dairy cows in Smith Valley for tuberculosis.

Dr. W. B. Earl of the State Veterinary Control Service tested 86 dairy cows in Fernley for tuberculosis.

8. Marketing-C. A. Norcross.

C. A. Norcross, State Marketing Specialist contributed a definite plan for organization of a county marketing association which later developed into a state wide plan of organization.

10. Poultry-M. D. Collins

M. D. Collins, State Poultry Specialist assisted in culling demonstrations and furnished information to poultrymen regarding egg production, feeding and care of baby chicks etc. making four trips to Lyon County.

11. Rural Engineering-Dr. Fortier, F. L. Bixby, R. A. Hart-Bureau of Roads.

These men checked the plans of George Malone engineer for the 8000 acre drainage district in Mason Valley.

Dr. Fortier and F. L. Bixby made an investigation of water shortage on Fernley branch of Newlands Reclamation Project.

5. ENTOMOLOGY.

1.3. Cut Worms.

Cut worms invaded a 40 acre field of alfalfa in Smith Valley.

C.W.Creel, State Entomologist and county agent gave a demonstration of how to poison the cut worms by using arsenic bran mash. The poison proved effective; but the crop being alfalfa not of sufficient value to warrant the expense involved in destroying the the pests the owner took no further action.

4. Miscellaneous.

Ten farmers and gardeners were given assistance in the control of plant insect pests. The principal pests were plant lice, cut worms and cabbage worms.

6. FARM CROPS.

1. Barley

Demonstrations in Mariout barley in Mason and Smith Valleys showed distinctly that this variety is not adapted to Western Nevada conditions, the yield being less than other varieties, the straw being so short that a large percent of the grain was lost in binding.

3. Corn

(A two acre plot of field corn was grown in Fernley, ^{Lyon Co} proved with out a doubt that corn can be grown successfully in that district.) Seed was planted June 10th. the corn was irrigated three times during the summer. The stacks reached a height of 8 and 9 feet and many stacks had three well filled ears. The three varieties grown were 90 day flint, 110 day dent, and Northwestern, all yielding exceptionally well the yield being estimated at 50 or 60 bu. per acre.)

6. FARM CROPS.

7.3 Wheat.

Nine acres of Turkey Red wheat grown by Maionchi Bros. in Mason valley yielded 25 sacks per acre. Marquis wheat planted in the spring yielded little more than half as much as the Turkey Red. The comparison seems to justify the conclusion that it would be more profitable to plant winter wheat. A check will be kept on the yield of Turkey Red and Marquis the coming year.

1.7 Mason Valley potato growers as a general rule do not cut their seed potatoes but plant whole tubers two or three ounces in size. Potato growers in many other sections use large well formed tubers cutting them $1\frac{1}{2}$ or two ounces in size. Kafoury Bros. on the Shehady ranch 4 miles south of Yerington put in a demonstration plot of $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres to determine the relative value of the two methods. The plot was divided into sections one section planted to cut seed and the other to whole seed to act for a check on the first. The cut seed were dried before planting, the ground was irrigated immediately after planting. The yield secured from the cut seed was about 25% more marketable potatoes than secured from the whole seed.

Farias Bros. of Smith Valley carried out the same demonstration securing approximately the same yield from the cut and whole seed.

F. Poli of Fernley planted several acres of cut seed and was well pleased with the results obtained.

6. FARM CROPS.

c. Forage crops.

1.4 Survey for alfalfa weevil.

Inspection of alfalfa fields in Fernley, Smith, and Mason Valleys failed to reveal any signs of the alfalfa weevil. Six farms located in different parts of each district were inspected.

2.1 Cantaloupes.

A demonstration in the Fernley district in the growing of cantaloupes showed a production of 350 crates of cantaloupes from $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres or approximately 200 crates per acre. These at the 1921 price of \$ 2.00 per crate would have yielded approximately \$ 400.00 compared with \$ 30.00 for all of the hay raised on the similar area. The county agent staged a tour into Churchill County to investigate the cantaloupe industry. Three farmers made the trip and were very favorable impressed. They expressed their intentions of growing cantaloupes next year.

6. FARM CROPS.

1.8 Increased acreage at Fernley of potatoes.

Next year it is estimated that the acreage planted to potatoes in the Fernley District will exceed 300 acres. This increased acreage amounts to a 25% increase in the total acreage credited to Lyon County by the last census and may be directly attributed to the results obtained by five boy club members who each put in $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of certified seed potatoes in 1920. The yield received from this project by the boys varied from 3 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons per plot which amounted to a yield averaging from 9 to 13 tons per acre.

This demonstration attracted the attention of Mason Valley potato growers to the Fernley district and this year 40 acres of potatoes were planted and an excellent yield received.

This 40 acre plot proved conclusively potatoes can be grown successfully at Fernley and attracted other growers resulting in the increased acreage.

6. FARM CROPS.

2. Sugar Beets.

Sugar beets were grown for the first in Lyon County this year some 500 acres being contracted for by the Lahonton Valley Sugar Co. of Fallon, Nevada. This acreage was materially reduced by planting time due to no preparation of ground, lack of water, etc. However individually good success was obtained despite the fact a late cold spring threw seedlings abruptly into hot summer weather before formation of leaf foliage could properly cover the ground conserving moisture and enabling the plants to withstand disease conditions which were abnormally present this year in all crops in the inter-mountain states and California.

This condition can perhaps be avoided in the future by fall plowing and preparation of the seed bed. This will conserve moisture permitting the soil to properly assimilate winter rains and snows, and in putting the ground in shape for planting which must take place in this section in the month of March and not later than May 1st. This method gives the grower a safe margin of time to reseed any portion of his acreage that is foul with weeds or where a poor stand is apparent.

The past season has proved that even under adverse conditions as stated herein certain farms in Mason Valley can produce a beet crop of equal tonnage and sugar content comparable with the best sections of Utah and Idaho.

Beet growing is not a competitive crop with other staple crops now grown in Lyon County and should occupy a privileged place on every farm because it is a cash crop and leaves the land in a high state of cultivation after harvesting free from weeds and well suited for producing other crops.

10. MARKETING.

4.3 Nineteen farmers in Mason and Smith Valleys were saved approximately \$ 500.00 on the purchase of 21,425 potato bags by consulting the county agent as to the best market.

10. MARKETING.

c. Marketing Association.

The need of a marketing association to market farm produce more particularly hay and potatoes has been a question of paramount importance long confronting Lyon County and Nevada farmers. Accordingly definite action was decided upon as the result of a conference between the board of directors of Lyon County Farm Bureau and its marketing committee and county agent with State Marketing Specialist Norcross at Yerington on May 5, 1921, where a plan for farmers cooperative marketing association was evolved. This plan called for minimum membership of 750 Nevada farmers before any attempt at organization was made county being assigned a definite quota, the quota allotted Lyon County being 150. The county agent and project leaders secured the 150 required signatures to the preliminary membership roll in one weeks time, and before the organization meeting was held at Reno on August 26-27th had passed the goal set running the total membership in Lyon County up to 161.

However after a two days session at this meeting of a delegates representing seven counties it was decided that the proposed plan of organization was nothing more or less than a gentlemen's agreement association for marketing farm produce and that if organized on that basis the proposed association was doomed to failure at the out set.

Realizing this fact seven directors were elected and empowered to formulate in detail and employ such legal and expert counsel as was necessary to form an association based on an enforceable membership agreement or contract. The directors were instructed to use the California plan of organization as a model wherein individual membership contracts are basis of membership and where local associations are federated into a state exchange both local and state exchanges taking a hand in marketing.

12. RODENTS.

1. Ground squirrels.

Fourty farmers who called at the farm bureau office were advised where to secure poisoned grain for use in poisoning ground squirrels. The poisoned grain was furnished to farmers at the cost of 7¢ per pound by Dr. Sans. of the U.S. Biological Survey.

13. RURAL ECONOMICS.

c. Labor.

1. Sixty four men who applied for work at the farm bureau office were placed with farmers who needed them.

3. An attempt was made to set a wage scale during the haying season a minimum wage of \$ 2.00 per day was agreed upon by community centers in Mason and Smith Valleys but the scale was not adhered to by everyone which forced the wage up to \$ 2.50. However some good was accomplished, for if a scale had not been agreed upon wages finally paid would have probably been higher.

d. Rural Credit.

An attempt was made to form a National Farm Loan Association with headquarters at Yerington. A temporary organization was formed and 19 application blanks were taken out; but the organization was not completed and the land bank withdrew the fifty thousand dollars set aside for use of the proposed association.

14. SOILS.

Committeeman John McGowan of Mason Valley applied gypsum at the rate of 1000 lbs. per acre to poor spots in an old alfalfa field. The area covered was one acre, the land being heavy clay loam. At this time no noticable results have been obtained but will be checked up next year.

15. VETERINARY SCIENCE.

8. Tuberculosis in dairy cattle.

The control of infectious diseases in Nevada is taken care of by the State Veterinary Control Service a state department and the farm bureau has not taken up any of this work with the exception of the eradication of tuberculosis in dairy cattle, and while not directly responsible for the work done the farm bureau cooperates in every way possible to assist in this important work.

Below is a summary for the work done in the county during the past year.

Smith Valley; -by Dr. N. E. Neilsen of the U. S. Dept. of Animal Husbandry.

559 animals tested

7 reactors or 1.25%

Ranches with reactors 4

Ranches free from reactors 20

Fernley; -by Dr. W. B. Earl of the State Veterinary Control Service.

86 animals tested

1 reactor found or 1.1%

Ranches with reactors 1

Ranches free from reactors 30

These two tests include all the dairy stock in the Fernley and Smith Valleys.

VISUAL EDUCATION.

Films shown at community center meetings.

Grant View	-----4000	feet of film shown	16	people present.
Fernley	-----4000	" " " "	40	" "
South End	-----3000	" " " "	33	" "
Wellington	-----10000	" " " "	<u>186</u>	" "
Total	<u>26000</u>	feet of fil shown	<u>275</u>	people present.

Education films shown, =

Health for hogs

Lambs from Range to Market.

Tumbling Waters.

Gov't Poultry Farm

Milk and Honey (Dairying)

How and Why of Spuds.

Making of Crackers.

These films were shown to draw the people and then talks on extension work were given.

SUMMARY OF WORK ACCOMPLISHED 1921.

1. District Marketing Association of Nevada State Marketing Exchange organized in Fernley and Smith Valley, directors elected and ready to incorporate.
2. Fernley Water Users secured adjustment of maintenance and operation charges from Reclamation Service.
3. Smith Valley and Fernley Valley dairy stock tested for tuberculosis 645 animals tested only 8 reactors found.
4. Protest curtailment of train service by railroad company effective.
5. Ditch consolidation in Mason Valley agreed upon but laid over until financial conditions improve.
6. Fifteen farmers saved approximately \$ 540 by consulting county agent as the best market for potato bags.
7. Nineteen head of registered Holsteins purchased in the county, two registered rams, and seven registered hogs.
8. Good Roads Day-Mason Valley $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of poor highway put in good shape in one days work by community center.
9. Twenty boys and girls enrolled in a registered Poland China Pig Club for next years work. These pigs will be shipped to Mason Valley in December.
10. Smith Valley Dairymen's Association formed to promote dairying in Smith Valley.
11. Reno-Hazen hard surfaced highway a project of the Fernley Community center endorsed by Yerington Commercial Club, Fallon Chamber of Commerce, Reno Chamber of Commerce, and community centers.
12. A public library started in the farm bureau office.
13. Cantaloupes proved a successful crop for Fernley. One and three quarters acres produced 350 crates or approximately 200 crates per acre. These at the 1921 price of \$ 2.00 per crate would have yielded approximately \$ 400.00 in comparison of \$ 30 or \$ 40 for alfalfa hay raised on a similar area.
14. Mariout barley grown in Mason and Smith Valleys showed distinctly that this variety is not adapted to conditions in this county the yield being approximately the same as other barley; but the straw being so short that a large percentage of the grain was lost in binding.