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JOHN AHERN

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A N N U A L N A R R A T I V E

R E P O R T

1 9 4 0

by

JOHN P. AHERN, ASSISTANT COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

FOR THE PERIOD FROM

APRIL 1, 1940 TO OCTOBER 31, 1940

FALLOON, NEVADA

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A N N U A L N A R R A T I V E

R E P O R T

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Statement of Agricultural Extension
activities in Churchill County, Nevada,
with the assistance and efforts of
representatives of the U. S. Depart-
ment of Agriculture, University of
Nevada, and Churchill County Farm
Bureau cooperating.

BY

JOHN P. AHERN, ASSISTANT COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

FOR THE PERIOD FROM

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FALLON, NEVADA

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IV. CHANGES IN COUNTY EXTENSION ORGANIZATION DURING THE YEAR TO IMPROVE REGULAR PROCEDURES OR TO MEET EMERGENCIES.

Very little change was made during the year in the Extension organization. Mr. John P. Ahern was given a Federal appointment as Assistant County Extension Agent and took over the work on April 1, 1940. The chief purpose in this appointment was to promote the 4-H Club program in Churchill County and to help Royal D. Crook, District Extension Agent, with the Extension projects in Churchill County.

V. STATUS OF FARM BUREAU ORGANIZATION

1. Form of Organization - Distinctive features.

Extension work is carried on in Churchill County through the Churchill County Farm Bureau, as incorporated under the laws of the State of Nevada. It is organized with an eligible membership of farmers and livestock men and their families, and others interested in farm problems.

In Churchill County the Farm Bureau is organized into community centers, each functioning as an organization with presiding officers and committees, and into departments covering the entire county, which groups are interested in a particular farm or home enterprise. The County Board is composed of one representative from each center and each department. Problems are presented and discussed at regular monthly meetings in the centers where the Extension agents are given an opportunity to present appropriate suggestions and information. Extension projects are taken up by the County Bureau and followed through in an effort to improve the general welfare of the community. The County Farm Bureau is affiliated with the Nevada State Farm Bureau and that in turn is affiliated with the American Farm Bureau Federation.

2. Function of Members, Officers and Committees in Developing Program of Work.

According to the plan of the organization all members are eligible and expected to take an active part in the functions of the organization. All members are expected to be able to support the policies and projects of the organization.

The meetings are presided over by the officers, who are generally responsible for building up and carrying out the program of work which is required by each community center each year. The work of the centers and departments is correlated by the County officers who are able to make valuable suggestions to local officers.

3. General Policies, including Relationships with other Organizations.

The policies of the Extension Service, working through the Churchill County Farm Bureau, is to give the people of the county the best possible service in agriculture and homemaking. The

County Extension office enjoys a very close cooperation with the office of the Irrigation District, the Experimental Farm, County Commissioners, the local newspapers, schools and churches, as well as other organized groups in the county.

VI. County Program of Work, Project Activities and Results Achieved.

1. Factors Determining Program.

Since the Extension Service is set up primarily to serve the people within each community, the condition of the people as to methods used, success, level of living, etc., to a great extent determines the program followed. It should be the aim of every individual family to raise its standard of living to a high level and help others in the community to raise their standard of living to the same high level. The Extension program therefore must be set up in an endeavor to help all members in the community raise their living standard, both as to financial success and social success.

The program is set up with the idea in mind that any conscientious farmer who is willing to accept and put into use the best information available on production and marketing, should be able to secure a high standard of living. Although the Extension program in Churchill County may not achieve the ideal, it has been planned conscientiously with the ideal rural community as its objective.

2. Methods used in:

(a) Development of projects

Projects are developed as a need arises for study on a particular problem. Through talking with farmers and observing the conditions, the project is gradually outlined and eventually a plan for the project can be worked out. After the proposed plan has been suggested, it is submitted to Farm Bureau and other leaders for their suggestions and approval.

(b) Development of Farm Bureau Departments (county) participating in extension work.

Since the Newlands Irrigation Project is the central part of agriculture in Churchill County and since the farms in the Newlands project are rather closely gathered, most of the problems arising have been carried on rather successfully through the community organizations. Few departments have had to be organized.

(c) Development of demonstrations

In most part, demonstrations are dependent upon the cooperation of a farmer or group of farmers. After a proposal is made, a farmer may try it out, the others in the community are encouraged to observe the demonstration as it progresses. Any effective demonstration will, in time,

become more than a demonstration, but also a recognized and common practice in the community. Along with farmers willing to cooperate in the demonstration there is a need for proper location and conditions, along with adequate publicity on the demonstration.

(d) Development of project leaders

4-H leaders were selected to lead the 4-H Clubs by the members, and were approved by the Extension agent. The leaders were assisted by the agents whenever possible, and the leaders held regular meetings with the agents to outline procedures and learn the methods used in carrying on the program.

4. In Dairying

(b) Cow testing

R. D. Mobley has handled the cow testing in the dairy herd improvement association in a very commendable manner. Due to a lack of sufficient number of cows on test, there is not a full time job for a tester in Churchill County, and the income for a tester on part time is not enough to pay him to keep up with the work. Mr. Mobley has expressed his intention not to continue with the testing work for the coming year.

Since the association began December 1, 1937, 264 cows have been on test through at least one full lactation period.

5. In Poultry

(i) Poultry Management

As there was no project or work outlined for the year, all the work done was in response to individual requests. Two flocks of turkeys, those of Frank Chico and Percy Schaffer, were observed and appeared to have a little trouble with rickets. Cod liver oil was prescribed and apparently was effective.

Two people requested information regarding the battery method of raising chickens, and suggestions were given regarding this method. Mr. B. T. Spencer now has a small battery set-up and is carrying on very successfully, marketing his own poultry in neighboring towns.

6. In Agronomy

(a) Corn

(1) Variety tests

Test plots were planted at J. W. Johnson, R. D. Crook, Leonard Faupel and Louis Freeman farms. In each case the varieties were planted four rows of each variety side by

side in an attempt to get uniform soil conditions. Jim Johnson cut his corn for silage. Therefore the samples had to be taken early. On September 11th samples were taken from Mr. Johnson's corn. Each sample was sacked and left to dry. Samples have been taken from all four of the test plots and various farmers over the valley have consented to having samples taken from their fields, in an attempt to get an idea of the yield over the valley.

Samples have been taken from the following places:

J. W. Johnson	Louis Funk
Louis Freeman	C.O. Shepard
Leonard Faupel	George Shepard
Royal D. Crook	E. T. Morgan
L. F. Troxel	Wm. G. Miller
Lura T. Gamble	P. A. Lohse
R. J. Casey	

The corn from only one of the above places has been shelled and weighed, that place being that of Leonard Faupel. This test, although it was expected to be a very dependable test, proved to be quite undependable. The seven varieties of corn were planted side by side with Minnesota 13 at each side of the plot. According to the test the Minnesota 13 at the south side of the test plot gave a yield of 5,000 lbs. of shelled corn per acre, while that in the north gave a yield of 2,069 lbs. of shelled corn per acre. This undoubtedly was due to the changing soil condition. The eight test plots planted are as follows in order from the south to the north side of the test plot:

Lohse Minnesota 13	5,000 lbs. per acre
S100	4,598 " " "
ML 15	3,333 " " "
Nebr. 238	3,822 " " "
Nebr. 252	3,448 " " "
Iowa 939	2,701 " " "
Lohse Minnesota 13	2,069 " " "
Cress Minnesota 13	2,414 " " "

On the basis of this test it appears that any test taken may not be very reliable, because the soil on the test plot referred to above appeared to be quite uniform, whereas most of the land in the valley seems quite spotted.

The remaining corn samples will be weighed and reported either in Mr. Royal D. Crook's 1940 annual report of the 1941 annual report from Churchill County.

(r) Sugar Beets

(1) Seed Production

Sugar beets, U.S. No. 833, were planted on the Dodge Island Ranch on October 24, 1940. This planting was made in anticipation of making seed in the summer of 1941. Due

of course to late planting, the beets are small. The stand is not good on parts of the field. The beets are now being thinned and the thinnings sold for table greens. There is no apparent blight or leaf hopper damage. A small sample was taken and sent to the Holly Sugar Company for purity and sugar tests.

Two small patches of beets were planted on J. W. Whitehead's ranch early in June. These were U.S. No. 12. One patch was planted on sandy soil. These beets grew to be fairly large and a fair stand survived. On the heavy soil there was a poorer stand. The beets were to some extent shallow rooted. The heavy ground was somewhat alkaline. No sample was taken for test.

Variety U.S. No. 12 was planted on the K. Ito farm in the Smart District. The stand was very good and the beets large and well shaped, with roots well down in the ground. A sample was taken for test.

At the Newlands Field Station seven varieties of beets were planted, these being U. S. No. 12, U.S. 14, U.S. 15, U.S.22, U.S.33, U.S.634 and a European variety, old type. The old type European made a very poor stand, and were small in size and damaged by leaf hoppers and blight. No sample was taken of this variety. U.S.22 and U.S.33 seemed to be the best, as they were larger beets and a more thrifty growth. Little observed difference occurred in the other varieties. On land where turkey feathers, etc., had been, the crop was much larger than on other parts of the plot. Samples were taken of all varieties except the European.

At H. A. Kingsford's ranch U.S. No. 12 was planted. The stand was very spotted and on sandy soil. Beets were small and unthrifty. No sample was taken for test.

On R. L. Thomas' ranch U.S.833 was planted. A fair stand survived on sandy soil. The beets were only fair in size but very smooth and deep rooted. Grass was very bad over the field. A sample was taken for test.

Seed U.S.833 was planted at C. H. Forsberg's farm on rather sandy loam soil. The stand was very good early in summer. Late in summer the stand was very patchy. In some places the entire crop for a considerable distance in the rows was completely gone, due mostly to cut worms. Considerable damage was done by leaf hoppers. Leaves spotted slightly were green but many leaves were dried and yellow. Mangels beside the beets were very badly damaged by leaf hoppers and blight of some kind. A sample was taken for test.

U.S. 13 was planted on Andrew Getto's ranch. A good stand was had on heavy soil. Beets are fair in size and smoothness. A sample was taken for test.

Sugar beets at the C.O. Shepard place were fair in size and smoothness, but tended to be slightly shallow rooted.

Sugar beets planted by E. R. Short and Hans Lammel were not observed.

The following is a tabulation of the purity and sugar tests taken:

District	Grower and Plots	Seed : Variety	Average Beets		
			Purity	Wt. Beet Oz.	% Sugar
Smart	Newlands Stn.-14	US 12	86.4	48	17.3
	" "	US 15	88.9	32	17.6
	" "	US 33	85.8	54	17.8
	" "	US 634	87.8	37	17.9
	" "	US 14	86.2	45	17.8
	" "	US 22	86.8	56	15.6
Sheckler	R. L. Thomas	US 833	77.6	24	19.4
	N. M. Holt	US 12	87.3	43	18.2
Old River	Andrew Getto	US 12	87.3	35	18.5
Union	C. H. Forsberg	US 833	84.2	44	17.5
Island	Dodge Bros.	US 833	*--	8	13.7
Smart	K.Ito (E.House)	US 12	82.0	32	16.8

*Not enough sample for purity.

9. In Club Work

(a) Agricultural

The Old River 4-H Club organized Thursday, April 11, at the Extension Office, to begin the 1940 4-H Club year for boys in Churchill County. All the Clubs were organized in April except the Island Club which was organized earlier in the year. Leaders were scarce and hard to find, but eventually all clubs had leaders, who did a very good job in most cases. Some difficulty was encountered in the leaders finding time to meet with the boys and to take personal interest in each boy's project.

All the 4-H meetings were carried on by about the same procedure, opening by the president calling the meeting to order, roll call, reading of the minutes, committee reports, unfinished business, new business, project lesson, special features and adjournment. The special features usually consisted of reports on projects by boys, club singing or yells, etc. In some clubs the appointing of certain boys to make reports at the next meeting worked out quite well.

The problem of attendance at the meetings arose and in some clubs was attempted to be cleared by a vote of the members to fine any boy who was absent unless a satisfactory excuse for the absence could be given. In most cases this lost its effect by not being enforced by the members.

Churchill County held a Field Day for all 4-H Club members on July 19, 1940 at Oats Park in Fallon. This occasion was quite well attended and was of considerable value in working up 4-H Club thought. The parents of the members were invited to attend the occasion and all who came brought picnic lunches to be eaten on the lawn at the park. The county elimination contest for the Dairy Production Demonstration was held between two teams composed of Louis Erquiaga and Ralph Bell from Soda Lake District demonstrating the Feeding and Care of Dairy Calves, and Welburn Hall and John Sorensen demonstrating the Milking Machine as a Modern Method of Milking Cows. L. C. Schank and Royal D. Crook acted as judges for the contest and named John Sorensen and Welburn Hall as the county winners, to represent Churchill County at the State contest at Lake Tahoe in connection with the 4-H Club Camp. Club singing and yells and a short talk by Thomas E. Buckman, Acting Director of Nevada Extension Service, were other features on the program for the day.

Churchill County was well represented at the 4-H Club Camp, there being 43 boys attending the camp. There was not a great deal of work done on the contests except the Dairy Demonstration Contest. John Sorensen and Welburn Hall received second place in the State contest with a close run on Martha and Frances Burke from Lyon County. Churchill County again won the American Legion Flag at the State 4-H Camp. The delegation from Churchill County was the largest ever attending camp from this county and there was considerable trouble in making a way for so many to attend. There being little way to eliminate a limited number of members in the county, arrangements were made so all who wished could go. The increased interest in camp was probably due to a combination of circumstances such as camp coming more or less between the main part of the first and second crop of hay, increased interest in club work as a whole and to the boys staging drives through the summer to raise money within their clubs to send the members to camp.

The State Fair was very much a success as far as 4-H boys were concerned. With increased prizes and better livestock, considerably more interest was shown in the fair. There were not as many cattle shown by 4-H members as previously, but there were many more hogs and sheep and the livestock was of better quality. At the beginning of the club year, much emphasis was placed on securing good stock and on self-ownership. Some boys bought livestock by signing a note with the seller until after the project had paid itself out. At present all such plans have been paid off.

One small boy, Charles Melendy, buying two Hampshire ewes with lambs from E. T. Morgan on such a plan, only lacked \$1.50 of completely paying for the ewes, feed and all expenses in five months, and he still has the ewes to continue his project work.

The Junior Livestock Auction Sale in connection with the State Fair was a very important part of the fair. The animals sold, owners and buyers were as follows:

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Animal Sold</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Price</u>	
Fred Dressler, Jr.	1 Hereford steer	Safeway Stores	\$43.00	Cwt.
Fred Dressler, Jr.	1 Hereford steer	Safeway Stores	12.50	"
Grace White	1 Hereford heifer	George Reed	15.00	"
Grace White	1 Hereford heifer	I. H. Kent Co.	12.00	"
Ernest Lattin	3 Hampshire hogs	I. H. Kent Co.	10.00	"
George Shepard	Five duroc hogs	I. H. Kent Co.	9.00	"
Louis Freeman	1 Duroc hog	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Orrin Freeman	1 Duroc hog	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Leslie Freeman	1 Duroc hog	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Seldon Gross	1 Duroc hog	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Marvin Murray	2 Duroc hogs	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Wayne Lattin	1 Hampshire lamb	Safeway Stores	16.00	"
Charles Melendy	2 Hampshire lambs	Fallon Meat Co.	12.00	"
Robert Barkley	1 Hampshire lamb	Safeway Stores	10.00	"
Henry Souza	1 ram lamb	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"
Nick Holt	2 Hampshire lambs	Fallon Meat Co.	10.00	"
Donald Gross	1 Hampshire lamb	I. H. Kent Co.	8.00	"

Besides the livestock listed above, some F.F.A. livestock was sold at the auction. The auctioneering was done by Col. R. M. Elston from Carson City, Nevada. A large crowd witnessed the sale and much interest in the fat stock show was aroused.

The 4-H Achievement Day was held at the first day, August 31, 1940, in connection with the fair. The preliminary plans were laid for the day at a series of Leaders Council meetings prior to the fair. Mark Lattin was in charge of the Horse Show and L. C. Schank in charge of games and foot races. A large crowd attended the celebration which was held in the morning, due to the rodeo ground being in use in the afternoon. The day was very similar to other achievement days, with several added attractions such as a tug-of-war, foot races and children's contests. The calf riding and leading was omitted. A set of conchas was given by Harold Bellinger to the rider of the Grand Champion horse and a headstall was given by the Fallon Shoe Shop to the Grand Champion rider. The American Legion Flag was presented by the American Legion of Fallon to the Churchill County 4-H delegation during the Achievement Day celebration.

The 4-H Leaders Council held two meetings per month throughout most of the summer. This helped considerably in carrying on the club program.

The year's projects were completed during the month of September. There was a total of 82 boys and girls carrying 93 agricultural projects when the August 1st report was sent in. Five of the 82 members turned in no record books, five of the members who were carrying two or more projects did not turn in records on one of their projects. This left 10 incomplete projects out of the 93 which were begun.

During September and October considerable work was done on reorganizing the clubs on a year-around basis. Five clubs have been organized during the month of October, 1940, on a county-wide project basis. The clubs are a dairy club, beef club, sheep club, poultry club and rabbit club combined, and a hog club. The clubs are functioning very well, with much interest shown. At each meeting a demonstration is given by two members on some phase of the project work. These demonstrations, when done well, will be taken to the various Farm Bureau centers. Two boys, Eddie Venturacci and Weseley Melendy, have an appointment to give a demonstration on Judging Beef Cattle at the Old River Farm Bureau.

A program of work has been worked up in each club and includes a somewhat flexible program for the complete year's work, including demonstrations to be given, community activities, contests to be entered, tours, camps, trips, parties, etc. So far no adult leaders have been chosen but the members are considering some of their choices for the jobs.

Several very good long time projects have been started and should turn out to be good demonstrations. Among these are two capon projects, four sheep breeding projects, two purebred dairy projects and one purebred beef project. Several boys also are trying a hog breeding program. It is planned at present to get in some purebred sheep, Guernsey dairy cattle and Shorthorn cattle to add to the projects by some of the 4-H boys.

(1) Beef Cattle

There were very few beef cattle projects in Churchill County in 1940. Francis Farley put a Shorthorn heifer on feed early in March and kept her on a full feed until the first part of August, when he quit feeding her for fattening because his father felt the calf was too leggy to be shown at the fair. The boy decided to hold her over and fatten her during the winter. There were a total of four beef projects, two of which were beef vealers, sold near the end of the summer, one a Hereford cow also sold, and the Shorthorn heifer referred to above.

There is a different outlook on the 4-H beef project for the coming year, however. Already there are five Hereford calves on feed to be shown and sold at the Nevada State Fair in 1941.

(2) Sheep

As a whole in Churchill County the sheep projects turned out to be very successful. There were twelve sheep projects in 1940, all of which were completed. All showed a good profit except one who had some bad luck and lost two head of ewes. Sheep projects have proven to be very good projects for 4-H boys, as there is a smaller investment in individual animals and the sheep can be easily handled by small boys. It gives the principle of feeding livestock the same as though the boys were fattening steers.

The following is the project story of one boy:

"My Sheep"

"Since I bought two ewes from Mr. Morgan on April 20, 1940, I have learned lots about sheep I did not know before. These sheep have been very healthy and caused no trouble since I got them. I find they are very easy to feed and take care of, the way my leader taught me to do.

"I did not make any money on them this year but I paid for my two ewes, and still have them. Next year I will make some money on them. Mr. Morgan sold me the two ewes with their lambs for \$20.00 but I only paid \$5.00 when I got them. I paid the rest after I sold my two lambs for \$21.00. I also sold the wool for \$3.38 and won \$2.00 at the fair on my sheep.

"I like my sheep very much and am going to save my ewe lambs from now on. I sold my ewe lamb this year to pay off my note so I would not owe any money!" --Charles Melendy, Age 12

Statistics on Project

Total investment, including feed	\$27.49
Receipts	26.38
Value of two ewes on hand	14.00
Hours labor, 23 at 30¢	6.90
Total labor income	12.89
Interest on investment	52.3% per year
" " "	5.99
Sold lambs at 4½ mo., weighing 87½ lbs. each	
Gain per day per lamb - .6 lb. from day born until marketed.	
\$2.00 of the above receipts were in fair premiums.	

(3) Dairy

Churchill County had 32 dairy projects in 1940. Most of these were calves, but several of the boys had mature animals. One boy, Louis Erquiaga, has three head of purebred Holsteins in his 4-H project at the present time. Although they are all young animals, he is getting a splendid start in the purebred dairy business. Two of the dairy projects started were not completed.

(4) Swine

Four of the 22 hog projects started were not completed. All the hog projects completed turned out very satisfactorily, and each boy made good money on his project. Most of the boys' projects were fattening projects. However, three boys carried on a breeding program and intend to continue with it. A story of one project was written by the owner, George Shepard, as follows:

"My Project"

"The question arose, 'What was I going to have for a 4-H project'. I didn't do much about it for a few days. One morning while riding by the neighbor's place I saw a good looking little pig run across the road. I decided right then that my project would be to fatten out some hogs to sell at the State Fair. That evening I went back and made a deal for six of this litter of weaner pigs.

"The following evening I went and got the six and took them home and fed them all they would eat. I fed them this way for about a week and then put them on a self-feeder and from then on they never were out of feed. I had very good success with these hogs except for one that ran a splinter into his hip, which caused me to sell him to the butcher for a second class hog. The other five I took to the Nevada State Fair and received \$18.00 in premiums and sold them at the Junior Livestock Auction to the I. H. Kent Company for 9¢ per pound, which was 2¢ above the market price.

"According to my record I did make a fair profit and I only hope I can do as well next year."

-- George Shepard

Age 16

Statistics on Project

Total investment, including feed	\$ 60.70
Total receipts	109.37
Hours labor, 40 at 30¢	12.00
Total Labor income	48.67
Interest on investment	36.67
% interest - 143% per year for 5 months	
Gain per day per hog	1 1/6 lbs.
Total gain on 6 hogs for 130 days	910 "
\$18.00 of the above receipts were in fair premiums.	

(5) Poultry

The poultry projects in Churchill County have never been developed to much extent. There are no laying flocks in the projects. Most of those who had poultry had baby chicks to start with last spring. Two boys have very good capon projects. One boy, Ray Nygren, purchased 200 New Hampshire-Cornish cross cockrels which were caponized and are doing fine.

There were 9 poultry projects in 1940, two of which were turkey projects. One small girl carried 100 poults as a project.

(6) Rabbits

The 4-H rabbit projects have not been very successful from a financial point of view. The four rabbit projects in 1940 were small, and in all cases except one seemed not to attract the members' attention as they should have.

(9) Potatoes

Several boys had a small patch of potatoes. In each case the potatoes were taken good care of, but the project year ended too soon to show the results.

(10) Market Garden

The market garden projects have not been very satisfactory except in the case of one boy, Billy Davis, who raises a very fine garden each year. His present plans, however, are to cut down the size of his garden and sow part of it into an irrigated pasture.

(13) Corn

Several boys carried very fine corn projects, but no results can be given as the records ended too soon. The income indicated in the project record books were merely estimates of the yield on the fields.

Donald and Robert Ellis each had an acre of corn for their projects. They did a very good job of caring for it, and had a very nice appearing field of corn.

10. In Community Activities

(d) Fairs and exhibits

The Nevada State Fair was held at Fallon August 31, September 1 and 2. The Extension department cooperated in every way possible to make the fair a success. The Churchill County booth, which won first place in the booth exhibits, was put up with the main purpose in mind to show the correlation between the irrigation and use of water with the success in agriculture, and to show the various enterprises in Churchill County as a unit, rather than separate businesses run without any interest in each other. It showed a direct connection between agriculture and mining, between range livestock raising and irrigated farming and farm livestock.

There was a predominance of Churchill County livestock at the fair. The 4-H clubs made a very good exhibit.

12. In Control of Rodents and other Pests

(e) Grasshoppers

During the latter part of May and the first part of June, it appeared that the grasshoppers were going to do considerable

damage in the Island district. The grasshoppers were quite thick in a few spots over the valley. Most of them were seen after the hay was high enough so that spreading poison would be difficult, so that farmers had an inclination to wait until first crop hay was cut before spreading poison. By the time the hay was cut the grasshoppers were apparently about gone, at least they were not in sufficient number to necessitate spreading poison. Very little poison was spread.

Joe Achurra spread 1000 lbs. on some pasture land with good results early in June. Frank Gough used 100 lbs. on a small garden patch in Lone Tree district. S. Earl Allen in Wildes district went over a small acreage of alfalfa with 100 lbs. on June 6 and Noel Pirtle spread 300 lbs. in Old River district. The largest amount put out by anyone was put out on June 15 by O. W. Copenhaver in Island district, when he spread 1500 lbs. in low second crop alfalfa. Favorable reports were heard from all.

The grasshopper infestation was very slight, with very little damage done. It is expected that there will not be sufficient grasshoppers next year to need much attention. The lack of hoppers in 1940 was probably due to heavy poisoning in 1939.

15. In Publication

(a) Agricultural news writing

News stories have been written regarding most of the projects worked at. A total of 25 news articles have been written and published since beginning work on April 1st. Twenty-one of these were connection with 4-H Club work.

18. In Forestry

(a & b) Wood lots and windbreaks:

One day was spent with J. Whitney Floyd, Extension Forester, in looking over the wood lot and windbreak needs in this valley. It was decided that probably there was little need for windbreaks, as the wind does not reach a very high velocity and the average over the year is only between two and three miles per hour. In some places there is a need during the spring months, where sandy soil prevails and it is difficult to keep young alfalfa in the ground, due to blowing out. In these places some trouble has been caused by rabbits barking any plantings made.

Woodlots are needed, but due to the high prices of water on land with water right, it would probably not be economical to grow woodlots except where a waste piece of land was available and waste water could be applied. Mr. Floyd suggested that under our conditions, probably the native cottonwood tree which already grows over a good part of the valley, would yield the most wood on a given acreage and over a length of time, than any other tree which might be planted.

19. Character and Scope of Office and Field Service.

Office and field work has been largely in connection with 4-H Clubs. Considerable time was spent in getting the club members lined up with projects, and visiting the projects. A good deal of time was spent in training demonstration teams and a little time was spent with livestock judging.

During parts of the year some time was spent in assisting Mr. Royal D. Crook with some of his projects. During May and June a good deal of time was spent with helping mix and spread grasshopper bait. In September and October considerable time was spent in obtaining corn samples for variety and corn yield tests and in gathering sugar beet samples for sugar and purity tests.

The office work was largely working out plans and studying the various problems involved in the projects being carried on.

20. Analysis and Interpretation of Tabular Summary (statistical report)

The Statistical Summary will be a combined statistical report of all the work carried on by Royal D. Crook, District Extension Agent, Miss Lena Hauke, Home Demonstration Agent, and John P. Ahern, Assistant County Extension Agent. The statistics of John P. Ahern, written up in this narrative report, will be recorded under the heading of the 4-H Club Agent in the Combined Statistical Report.

VII. Outlook and Recommendations.

There is still a definite need for improved practices in farming in Churchill County. This should be emphasized more by greater use of demonstrations with adults and 4-H Club members. The 4-H Program in 1940 was very satisfactory. However, there is room for much improvement, and new clubs are being organized with a definite purpose in mind. The purposes are to demonstrate the value of high quality livestock, feeding of balanced rations, and feeding sufficient feed to get maximum growth, besides giving the members an opportunity for recreation, education and cooperative interests.

There is a definite need for rotation practices in cropping land and conditions show clearly that there is a need for a satisfactory row crop to be rotated with the cereal grains and alfalfa and pasture. Corn has been used quite successfully in this capacity.

VIII. Summary of Activities and Accomplishments.

4-H Club work was carried on with good success in 1940, with considerably more interest in the work than in 1939. The quality of the livestock used and the work done was very good.

A very successful program of grasshopper control was carried on, but since the program for 1939 was so successful, little need was presented for the project. This small need was well taken care of and it is expected that there will be little need for much of a program in 1941.

Considerable effect has been seen on the campaign for rotation of crops, and the use of corn for a substitute for small grains. Peas were tried in several places as a crop for green pea production, without much success.

Squirrels were controlled quite well in cooperation with a program of poisoning sponsored by the Bureau of Biological Survey.

The Farm Bureau functioned as usual without much change in methods or program.



Four-H Camp for This Year Bigger and Better, Said

Much Interest Shown in Various
New Features Offered
by Instructors

—by John Ahern—

(Assistant Agent in Charge of 4-H)

Considerable increase in interest was shown this year over other years in the annual 4-H Club Camp at the State 4-H camp grounds at Lake Tahoe. Churchill county was represented by 81 members besides local leaders, Mrs. Theo Sherman, Miss Coral Sorensen, Mrs. Homes Stevens, Miss Frances Baumann, Mrs. J. P. Ahern and Mark Lattin. This delegation made up the largest county delegation attending the camp. The total number at the camp was 366 members from the various counties of Nevada.

The 4-H roundup was bigger and better than ever before with much enthusiasm in the various contests and an improved camp site to add to the success of the occasion. Considerable work was done by the members in Nature study under the supervision of Miss Laura Mills of Fallon and many members brought back mounted specimens of the native plant life around the lake.

Dr. E. W. Lowrance of the University of Nevada conducted classes in insect study and many 4-H boys went home with a fine collection of the insects gathered and mounted and a wider knowledge of the various types of insects, their habits of eating, habitat and importance. Those taking part in the class expressed a great deal of interest and many will no doubt continue their study and collections in entomology.

Mrs. Florence B. Bovett gave considerable help to members in dramatics and in the short while camp was going prepared a fine program composed of short plays and skits put on by the members of her class. These were presented at the final assembly of the camp on Friday evening.

Probably the most attended class of the camp was that in handicraft conducted by students from the College of the Pacific. In these classes 4-H members tried their skill at hand tooling leather, copper work, making belts, wrist bands, watch chains and various other articles.

Classes in swimming were also important parts of the camp program in which 4-H members were taught the fundamentals of good swimming and Junior and Senior Red Cross life saving tests were given.

Each year improvements will be made in the grounds and more classes will be added to make the camp more educational and interesting.

CHURCHILL 4-H'ERS DEMONSTRATE MODERN MILKING METHODS



Two Churchill county boys, Welburn Hall and John Sorensen, are showing "The Modern Way of Milking" with which they won honors as runner up in the state contest at the annual Nevada 4-H club camp at Lake Tahoe.

Local 4-H Teams Are Awarded Medals

Awards of special gold medals have been approved for the county winning 4-H team in the national 4-H dairy production demonstration contest, according to word received at the county extension agent's office. Members of the team are Welburn Hall and John Sorensen of Fallon.

The subject of their demonstration was The Modern Method of Milking (milking machine), and they were coached by Charles Miller, leader, and John P. Ahern, assistant county extension agent.

Silver medals are approved for the second place team, Louis Erquiaga and Ralph Bell of Fallon. Their subject was feeding and care of the dairy calf. The awards are made by the Kraft Cheese Company.

The purpose of the contest, conducted cooperatively by the extension services, is to provide valuable training and experience for dairy clubsters and focus attention of dairymen on producing methods which insure a profit and yield a better, purer product for the consumer.

Eighty 4-H Club Boys to Take Part in "Ownership Plan"

"Scrub Stuff is No Good for Us," Say Young Stockmen of Churchill

Enlightened by the new "4-H Ownership Plan," enthusiastic and ambitious 4-H club boys and girls are combing the state in search of desirable sheep, cattle and hogs which are suitable for their improved type of farming operations.

"Scrub stock is not good enough for us," they say. "We want high quality livestock and we'll get it if we have to grow it."

Among the type of livestock which are being used in the enlarged program of 4-H club projects are purebred dairy cattle, purebred pigs and beef cattle, high quality Shorthorn and Herford calves for baby beef and mutton sheep. These young farmers contemplating exhibiting these livestock at the state fair and the Nevada junior livestock show invite competition in each and every class. They will exhibit livestock and farm produce produced by their own labor and management. Fat cattle, hogs and sheep will be sold at the 4-H and F.F.A. auction to be held at the Nevada state fair September.

Charles F. Melendy, age 11, re-purchased two head of high Hampshire ewes with lambs to be used as his 4-H. Charles expects to lamb to be sold on besides his ewes and ewe

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George Shepard, age 16, will fatten a pen of six hogs to be shown at state fair and sold on the 4-H and F.F.A. auction. George says "I'm going to see if we can make any money on hogs with pork at its present price."

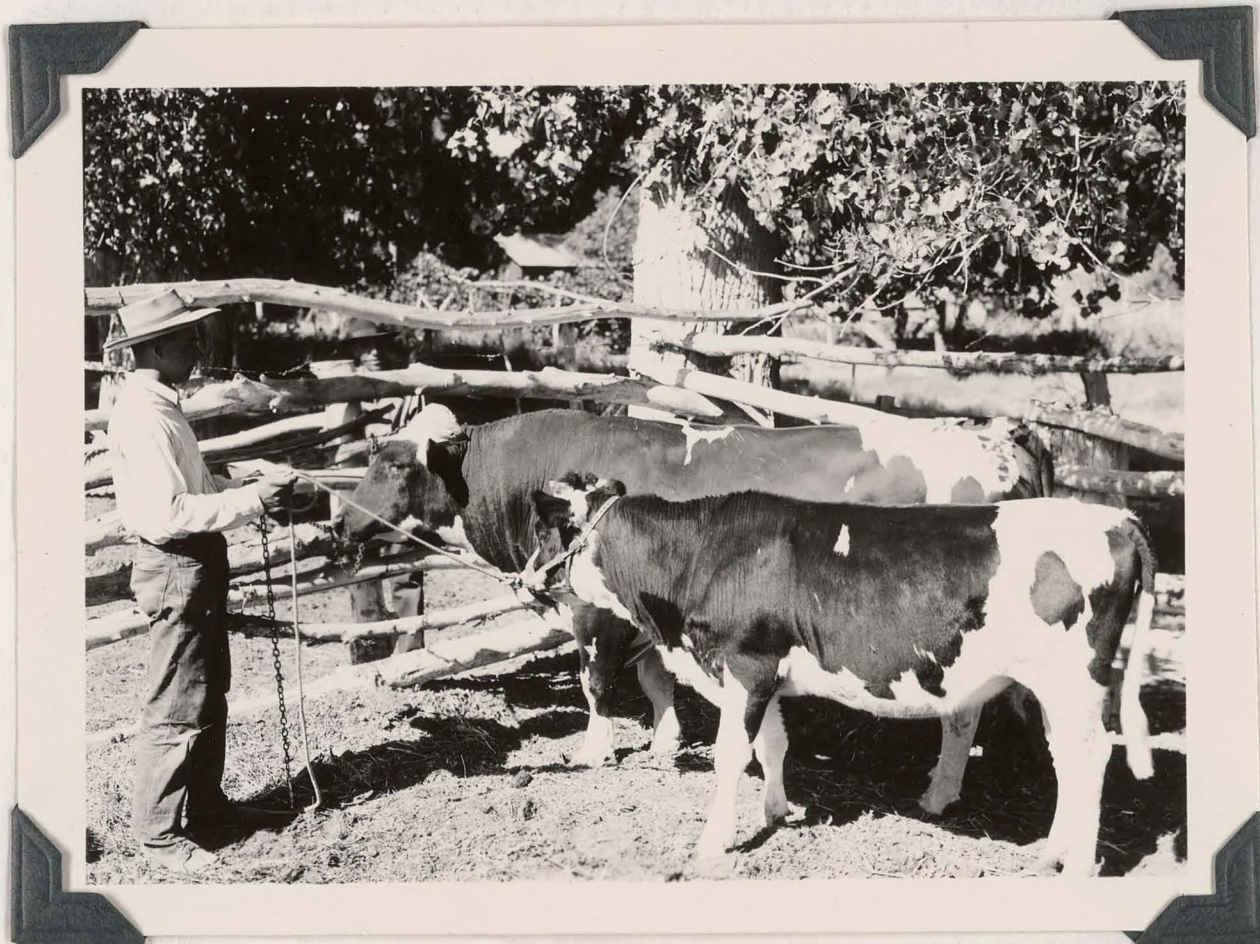
Louis Erquiaga will purchase a purebred Holstein bull which he expects to head the dairy heard. Francis Farley, 14 years of age, has a Shorthorn steer on a full feed of grain, linseed oil meal, dried beet pulp and high quality alfalfa hay and milk. Francis will show this calf as a baby beef at the fair next and says "He'll be for sale at the auction next fall."

These are examples of projects such as will be carried on by some 75 or 80 4-H boys in the county during the present year, according to John Ahern, assistant extension agent in charge of 4-H work.

These boys are ambitious and desire to learn farming and home making from a practical point of view. Watch them go this year. Perhaps some of the older of us can learn a thing or two from them, he said.



Wayne Lattin and his prize 4-H Fat Hampshire lamb pose for the cameraman after the lamb sold for 16¢ per pound at the Junior Fat Livestock auction at the Nevada State Fair, September 2, 1940.



Ygnacio Laca with his two purebred Holsteins which were grown by him for his 4-H Club project.

Objectives of 4-H Club Are Stressed at Sheckler F. B.

Maloney Praises Churchill as Farm Center; Accents Diversification

By MRS. FRANK LIMA

Raising the standard of living for the entire country by educating the young folks is one of the most important objectives of 4-H club work, according to John Ahern, assistant to Royal D. Crook and supervisor of 4-H club work in Churchill county.

Ahern, speaking before the Sheckler Farm Bureau last Thursday evening, cited the club motto, "Make the Best Better," as a foundation for creating desirable ideals and standards to bring out a higher level on something constructive. He believed it was necessary to have the practice as well as the theory in reaching this level and stated the selection of a worthwhile project; well-kept, accurate records added its influence toward the boy's or girl's desire to go on with and develop the capacity to absorb more training.

Cooperation is the main thing, it was said. To this end the 4-H worker should own his or her project. There is more satisfaction in knowing that the building up of this project is permanent instead of just for the club work period.

Ahern stressed the lack in this county of a 4-H dairy demonstration team. It is hoped that this year such a team can be organized for possible participation in the national dairy show.

Paul Mahoney, extension agent from Humboldt county, conducting a state-wide 4-H activity campaign, spoke on the subject of diversification in livestock raising as a means of cash profit. Thus emphasizing the point of getting better prices for hay through feeding livestock then marketing it or selling dairy products than waiting for buyers to pay what it is worth. The most important thing, he said, was not to be satisfied with just reaching the average in quality but to strive for a higher goal so as to be assured of highest market values obtainable.

Maloney reiterated his statement that Churchill county has everything to make it a successful farm area. "I am not a stranger here," he said. "Visiting here at intervals over a period of 15 to 20 years, I still see a great future for the farmers with such an abundance of water, good soil and excellent working conditions."

Speaking on 4-H club work, he quoted the late President Theodore Roosevelt who said, "The development of men and women begins with the education of the youngsters."

"The fundamental value of 4-H club work teaches the boys and girls, creates an intense interest in agriculture and homemaking and does much to keep them on the farm," it was said.

The Farm Bureau meeting included the report on the county Farm Bureau activities by R. D. Mobley in which the regional meeting scheduled for May was announced. Other announcements were made by R. D. Crook on the NYA camp at Lake Tahoe, the apron contest sponsored by the home and community department and local 4-H organization by Miss Lena Hauke. Tom Inglis, chairman, presided at the meeting, opening with community singing. Harold Kispert was program chairman and Mrs. W. H. Alcorn had charge of refreshments.

Churchill 4-H Clubs Launch Program for Doing Winter Work

Units Being Organized
Along New Lines; Three
Meetings This Week

Churchill county 4-H clubs, all the boys, are reorganizing to carry on for the winter, according to John Ahern, assistant extension agent in charge of the boys' clubs.

Another change taking place is that instead of organizations by communities, the units will be made up of members all following the same type of projects.

Heretofore the 4-H clubs have been inactive during the winter.

So far, said Ahern, boys following beef, dairy and sheep projects have met with good attendance and high interest. Another meeting of the beef club will be held Thursday evening of this week in the basement of the postoffice building which has been fitted up as a permanent meeting place for 4-H'ers. The dairy club will meet Friday evening and the sheep club Saturday evening.

It is expected that hog, garden and crop clubs will be formed soon.

"We have found that this type of organization will give better chances for putting over project lessons than the community type of clubs," said Ahern. "It will also make possible closer cooperation for purchasing feed and selling, and for dairy-herd improvement projects."

It is planned, the leader added, to bring in some more purebred animals. Several of the boys already have procured registered dairy cattle and other animals.

Winter Work for Girls, Too

Winter activities will be made available also to girls of the county in clubs organized along lines similar to that for the boys, said Miss Lena Hauke, extension agent handling women's and girls' programs.

But winter activities by community 4-H club girls are already under way. Mrs. Edith St. Cyr, leader in the Island district for several years, is now organizing a club in that district.