

4-H IN ARIZONA 50 YEARS OLD

Ray Weick

A "teen-ager" beloved by 7,000 other Arizona teenagers, is 50 years old today. Nor has it been slowed by maturity, for today it is more active than ever.

That symbolic "teen-ager," of course, is the Arizona 4-H program.

The record reveals that 4-H Club work as we know it today, had its beginning in Arizona in 1913. In that year, volunteer leader George T. Peabody organized a Boys' Cotton Club in Chandler.

Creation of the Agricultural Extension Service by the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 resulted in the 12 cotton, corn and grain sorghum clubs organized that spring by Prof. Stanley F. Morse of the Experiment Station, having an official affiliation with The University of Arizona.

Canning clubs and pig and poultry clubs were organized in 1915 when Leland Park as state club agent became the first university employee to devote full time to boys and girls clubs.

Stress on Economics

In the early years, great emphasis was placed on the economics of the various projects. Floyd Medlock brought national attention to Arizona in 1917 with his record yield of 310 pounds of lint cotton from one-half acre, which netted him \$137.58.

World War I brought the creation of liberty clubs, which were encouraged to produce all the food they could. About this time cow testing was added as a new project, and funds from an emergency food bill were used to hire four new district club leaders in an effort to increase food production through these liberty clubs.

Special teams of girls from the canning

Mr. Weick is Extension Specialist in 4-H Club work. Considerable effort was made by him to obtain the early day pictures which accompany his article.

Floyd Medlock, referred to above, is the only survivor of early day 4-H work in Arizona who could be located at the time of this writing. He is retired now, after a successful life as farmer, worldwide cotton broker and land developer. He recalls with great zest his experiences 45 years ago with 4-H work, particularly the Boys' Cotton Club south of Tempe.

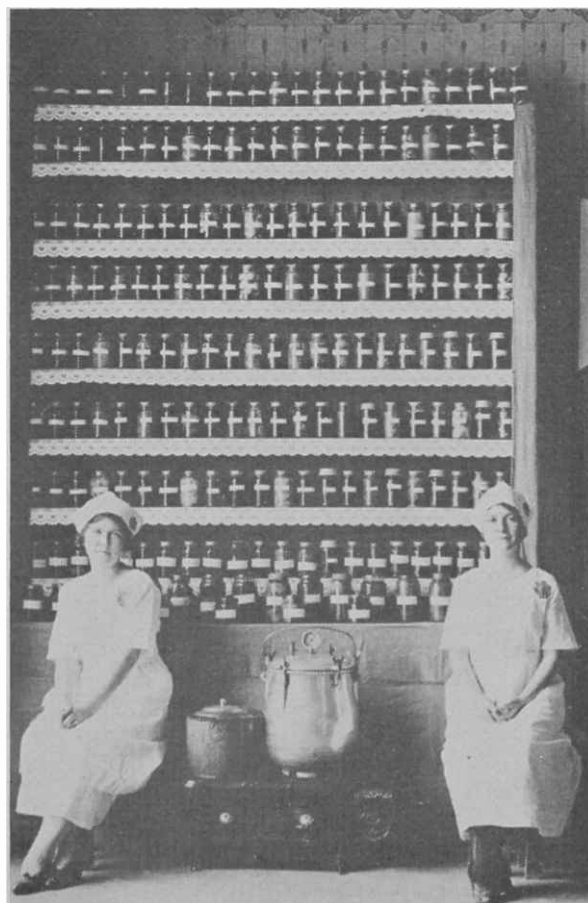
clubs were used to teach food preservation through demonstrations.

Over 2000 Enrolled

Sixty-three volunteer leaders were active in the program by this time and the enrollment had passed the 2,000 mark. An influenza epidemic in 1918 forced cancellation of the Farm Boys Encampment at the State Fair but the state champions were brought to The University of Arizona campus, as had been the policy since the beginning.

On July 1, 1920, State Club Leader

HOME CANNING OF home-produced foods was a "Win the War" effort of the youth clubs back in World War I days. Below are shown Opal Webb and Janie Taylor of the Pima Boys' and Girls' Liberty Club. They are posed, in this 1918 photo, with the results of their home canning project.



AT MESA, BACK in 1916, the Boys' Pig Club had a brood sow project. Here two members are studying the feeding of a sow with her litter. That sow's well-rounded contours would not be acceptable today, with our emphasis on "meat-type" swine, but in 1916 there was a war on, and animal fats were precious.

Parke and Assistant State Club Leader Agnes Hunt resigned and Assistant Director A. B. Ballantyne became responsible for Boys and Girls Club Work. At this time, club work was combined with adult work in agriculture and home economics. Prior to that time it had been a distinct and separate line of work.

During the early 20's, club work followed the Farm Bureau plan, with the Farm Bureau locals providing leadership.

An outstanding example of successful work under this arrangement was conducted in Pima in Graham County, west of Safford, under the leadership of Mrs. Ethel Kelley. A club of 118 members, under a group of 14 leaders, succeeded in completing every single project. Caroline Eyring of this club was named National 4-H Leadership winner.

State Gets National Recognition

Arizona was recognized nationally in 1926 for showing the greatest increase in per cent of member completions. Baking was added as a new project that year.

The Southern Pacific Railroad sponsored Arizona's first delegation to National 4-H camp at Washington, D. C., in 1928. Members making the trip were Vida Lee Benton of Yuma, Beatrice Mickelson of Thatcher, Carl Harris of Roosevelt and Iler Mortenson of Duncan. (Vida Lee Benton, now Hightower, was among the first of Arizona's 4-H alumni to be honored.)

Howard R. Baker, now Assistant Director of Extension, was named Club

(Continued on Next Page)



FOOD WILL WIN the war and write the peace, young people were taught in that 1916-18 period. At Ray, Ariz., a series of lessons in food conservation were presented. Here, in a demonstration in front of a Ray store, an eager girl is pointing out to a passing man that baked products can be made without the use of lard, which was then high-priced and in short supply.

ior leadership had been started the year before, so quite a number in attendance at this conference were members enrolled in this new project.

At mid-century 4-H was maturing. Enrollments had passed the 3,500 mark. Over 350 voluntary leaders were serving. The active interest of civic groups, commercial concerns and others was at an all-time high. By 1953 the transition from in-school clubs to out-of-school clubs had been almost completed, but not before a loss in membership of nearly 1,000 was experienced.

In that year, State Leader Kenneth McKee resigned. The work was continued until 1954 by Assistant State Leader Ellen Kightlinger. Graham P. Wright was appointed State 4-H Leader in 1954 and Miss Sarah Harman was appointed Assistant State Leader in 1957. Both of these still serve in these positions as well as Ray Weick, who was appointed as 4-H Specialist in 1961.

Change of Emphasis

The past decade has seen 4-H work concentrate on the development of community club work to replace the project groups which had evolved in the move away from the school-centered programs. County council groups have developed comprehensive calendars of 4-H activities to accommodate the popular demands for competition. As late as 1960, Mohave

(Continued on Next Page)

A DEMONSTRATION IN lettuce thinning occupies this group, below, photographed in 1916. These are members of the Chandler Garden Club. Note how all these World War I period club activities stressed production and conservation of food.

celled in 1942 because of war-time travel restrictions. Fat calves sold at the Tucson Livestock Show at prices ranging from 16 to 32 cents per pound.

Emil Rovey resigned; Kenneth McKee filled this vacancy. Only Maricopa County was able to keep on an assistant agent to work with 4-H; leaders were hard to find and the war manpower shortage badly upset 4-H Club work.

Following the war, county fairs were revitalized, with 4-H work having a part in them. County councils were being formed. Yuma County conducted its own 4-H Camp and things were moving again. However, in 1946, polio was prevalent enough to warrant waiting another year before renewing the State 4-H Roundup activities. A move was started to remove 4-H work from the school systems and make it a community program. Work with Indian children on reservations was initiated.

First Leaders' Conference in '49

The first state-wide leaders' conference was conducted in 1949. A project in jun-

(Continued from Previous Page)

Specialist in 1929. It was that year that the term, "4-H Club Work," first made its appearance in the records. Also that year the state champion dairy judging team from Maricopa County participated in the National Dairy Show in St. Louis.

And a 25c Dinner

The 30's brought the depression and the curtailment of such activities as 4-H Club Week and county fairs. Dress Revue was an added activity. The first moving pictures of 4-H Club work were made, and state-wide radio broadcasts on 4-H were made monthly. Music appreciation was added as a new project. Members attending the 1934 Boys and Girls Club Week paid 15 cents for breakfast and 25 cents each for lunch and dinner. Three years later, the name for this event was changed to State 4-H Roundup.

The term "United Club" was used in reference to larger clubs containing a variety of projects. Some of the unique programs of this era were "Foods for Hot Weather Clubs" and "Hot Lunch Club."

The pin and certificate awards that 4-H members earn in today's programs, had their beginning in 1938.

Emil Rovey became Boys' and Girls' Club Specialist in July, 1939. The following year enrollments passed the 3,000 mark for the first time and the 4-H department at the State Fair was revived.

Effect of World War II

With World War II, 4-H activities included emphasis on production, conservation and on scrap iron drives. 4-H War Bond sales totaled over \$300,000. Most clubs continued to be active through the school systems. Roundup was can-



(Continued from Previous Page)

County established an Extension program and 4-H Club work, and was soon involved in a full scale program.

Most counties today are conducting their own camping programs, either alone or with another county. Last year, more than one out of seven 4-H members participated in camping.

More "firsts" were written into the record by Arizona 4-H members in 1962. This was the first time that as many as three Arizona 4-H members had ever

been selected as national winners in one year. They are Patti and Colleen Smith, sisters, of Safford, and Tony Mellor of Elgin. Patti and Colleen's selection marked the first occasion that two members of the same family had ever been honored as national winners in the same year. In addition, Tony Mellor was selected the first representative from the state to participate in National 4-H Club week "Report To The Nation" activities.

Project work is assuming a new role, with the increased emphasis on science. Recently revised projects give the members greater opportunities to deal with science and management, and allow members to set many of their own goals.

Stands the Test of Time

Throughout the 50-year history of 4-H Club work in Arizona, the changes in emphasis have been varied and numerous. Throughout the trial of time, emergencies, two world wars, epidemics and a variety of other distractions, one single principle of 4-H Club has stood the test. This principle is that whatever the endeavor, it must make a beneficial contribution to the experiences of the boy or girl. Today's 4-H program suggests that a balance of experiences in project work, personal development opportunities and leadership will result in "skilled citizens" being our prime end product.

The growing present enrollment of approximately 7,000 members, under the leadership of 1,200 leaders, suggests that many more exciting pages are yet to be written in the history of Arizona 4-H Club work.



"EVEN THE BOYS can help to can the Kaiser," says Melvyn Lyall of Creighton (sic), Ariz. In this 1917 photo he demonstrates masculine canning techniques.

380 Fertilizer Samples Checked

Some 380 samples of fertilizer materials were collected and given laboratory examination by the State Chemist in 1962, the annual report of that office indicates. Floyd Roberts, State Chemist, operates his department under jurisdiction of The UA College of Agriculture, with laboratories at the branch experiment station at Mesa.

Six per cent of the 380 samples were found deficient in one or more components beyond the tolerances set by law, the report notes.

With commercial fertilizers, penalties are assessed against the registrant when deficiencies exceed established tolerance. This penalty is "three times the value of the deficiency, and is paid to the consumer whose material is found deficient," the State Chemist explains.

Thirteen per cent of the samples were

from materials that had not been registered by the time of sampling.

"Generally," explains the State Chemist, "applications for registration are submitted when the matter is brought to the attention of the violator. However, the only excuse for most of these violations is carelessness in determining that each product is registered before making sales," he says.

"Misbranding, resulting from failure to apply labels or entirely complete labels, was found in connection with lots represented by 11 per cent of the samples," says the chemist's report.

Much of this was found in connection with bulk deliveries where labeling in the form of a written or printed statement did not accompany delivery as required, the report indicated.

State law requires that commercial fertilizers, as well as agricultural minerals, must be registered before being offered for sale in the state.



Cochise County

KAWT, Douglas—Check local listings.
KHIL, Willcox — Mon. thru Fri.,
7:45 a.m.

Coconino County

KCLS, Flagstaff — Tues. and Thurs.,
8:20 a.m.
KGLS, Flagstaff (Home Agent) —
Thurs., 9:45 a.m.
KPGE, Page — Fri., 2:30 p.m.

Graham County

KATO, Safford — Sat., 9:30 a.m.

Maricopa County

KTAR, Phoenix — Mon. thru Sat.,
5:30 a.m.
KUPD, Phoenix — Mon. thru Sat.,
5:30 a.m. and 12:25 p.m.
KPHO, Phoenix — Mon. (cotton re-
port) 12:40 p.m.; Thurs. (dairy and
livestock report) 12:40 p.m.

Navajo County

KDJI, Holbrook — Tues., 12:45 p.m.

Pinal County

KPIN, Casa Grande — Mon. thru Sat.,
6:55 a.m.; Mon. and Fri., 9:30 a.m.;
Tues., Thurs. and Sat., 12:20 p.m.;
Fri., 5:00 p.m.; Sat., 7:00 a.m.

Santa Cruz County

KNOG, Nogales — Mon., 6:30 a.m.

Yavapai County

KYCO, Prescott — Mon., Wed. and
Fri., 5:55 p.m.
KNOT, Prescott — Mon., Wed. and
Fri., 5:35 a.m.

Yuma County

KVOY, Yuma — Mon. thru Fri., 5:45
a.m.
KYUM, Yuma — Mon. thru Fri., 6:25
a.m.



July

29-31—State 4-H Roundup, U of A
Campus

August

1-2 —State 4-H Roundup, U of A
Campus
14-16—Annual Arizona FFA Leadership
Conference, U of A Campus

September

16-20—State 4-H Advisory Committee
Meeting, U of A Campus