

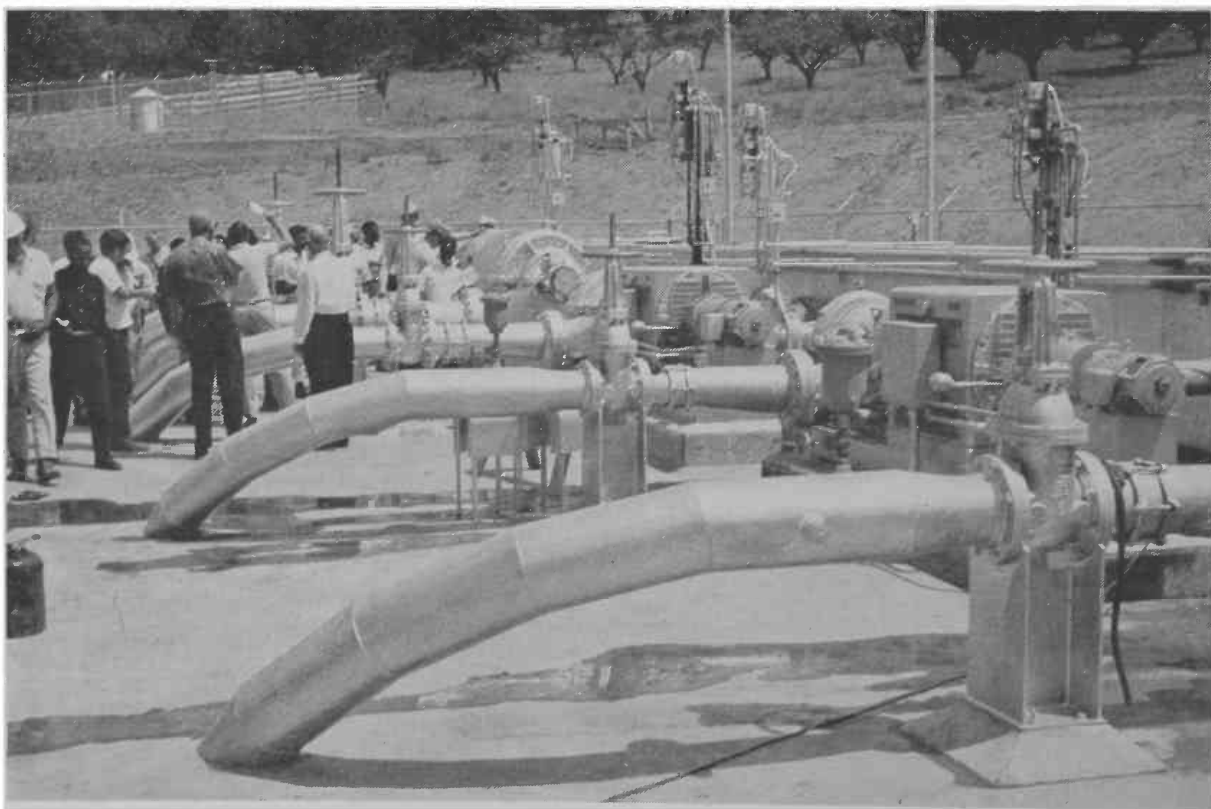
Busload of Agriculturists Enjoy

CLASSROOM ON WHEELS

By M. R. Selke and LeMoyne Hogan



COMMERCIAL STRAWBERRY field in California. The group takes notes as Dr. Hogan explains.



MORE NOTE-TAKING at The Dalles, Oregon, where a huge pumping station furnishes Columbia River water for irrigating orchards and fields.



AT THE FEDERAL animal disease laboratory at Ames, Iowa, the Arizonans had to don white coats and rubber boots before entering the laboratories.

The College of Agriculture completed a successful 30 day Agricultural Travel-Study Course this past summer. Twenty-six students took the six unit course which was offered for the first time. Two instructors, the co-authors of this report, accompanied the students.

Purpose of the travel course was to study experimental and applied food production and processing methods in various major livestock and crop regions of the United States. Dr. D. S. Metcalfe, Director of Resident Instruction for The University of Arizona College of Agriculture, stressed that the tour was designed "to provide an opportunity to observe first hand the influence and interdependence of markets, economics, agro-chemical industry, food processing, manufacturing, waste disposal, urban development, and scientific research on agricultural production."

They Worked, Too

Students enrolled in the course were required to take detailed notes and photographs, make scientific observations and make a thorough written report of what they learned on the trip. They also collected numerous hand outs and brochures which described many of the operations visited.

The students left Tucson June 1 aboard a chartered bus and spent the night in Yuma after having visited the Bruce Church Ranch. Most of the second day was spent in the Imperial Valley of California, where they toured several beef cattle feedlots and saw sugar beets being processed at the Holly Sugar Corporation plant lo-

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CREAMY WHITE Charolais cattle in pasture gazed at the visitors from the cactus country. This photo was taken at the Litton Charolais Ranch at Chillicothe, Mo.

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cated there. Another of the very interesting stops in California was at Monrovia Nursery Company at Azusa, one of the world's largest producers of container grown plants.

As the tour worked its way up the west coast, it went through some of the major fruit producing areas in the United States. Among the orchards visited were those growing peaches, pears, plums and cherries. The group also saw dates, rice, potatoes, mint, hops and grass seed being grown.

From Lumber to Fish

The class also toured the Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company's mill in Springfield, Oregon, before reaching Portland, most northwestern point of the trip. The Dalles Dam and adjacent irrigation project along the Columbia River also provided one of the most spectacular sights of the trip. Moving on through Oregon and into Idaho, Wyoming and South Dakota, stops included the Pendleton Woolen Mills, a co-operative dairy, several ranches and a fish hatchery. Through this area, vast differences in rainfall, soil types and topography were observed.

Not all of the time on the trip was spent working because some time was taken to do some sightseeing in a few of the most scenic spots in the United

Dr. Hogan is a member of the Horticulture Department, Dr. Selke a member of the Animal Science Department. As co-chaperons on this trip, both men believe that similar trips in future summers would be worthwhile. Photos in this article were taken by a farm-loving professional photographer, Roy L. Caples.

States. The group spent one Sunday afternoon in Yellowstone National Park, in spite of a snowstorm, and also went through the Black Hills and Badlands of South Dakota.

In Minnesota several swine, poultry and dairy farms were visited. Among the stops in the Midwest which the students thought most worthwhile were those at the Minneapolis Grain Exchange and the National Animal Disease Laboratory at Ames, Iowa. They also visited the American Hereford Association offices, the stockyards and the Wilson and Company meat packing plant in Kansas City.

Many Breeds of Cattle

Among the ranches which created much interest among the students were those of some of the lesser known breeds of beef cattle. These included Beckton Stock Farm's Red Angus at Sheridan, Wyoming; the Litton Charolais Ranch at Chillicothe, Missouri, and the Lasater Ranch's Beefmasters at Matheson, Colorado.

As the trip progressed, the group visited the campuses of six agricultural colleges along the route. This gave the students an excellent opportunity to see the facilities and research at these schools.

On June 30 the group arrived back in Tucson after covering 6600 miles and having been in 14 states.

The hosts at all of the stops were extremely willing to take time from their busy schedules to explain their work and to answer questions, which were generally numerous. The gracious reception which the group received wherever they went will certainly have a lasting effect on them for many years.

Agric. Journalism

Article Reprinted

For Use in India

An article "Agricultural Journalism Offers Opportunities," by John Burnham, editor of PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE, was published last February in THE QUILL, the monthly magazine published by Sigma Delta Chi, national professional society of journalists.

In July we received a letter from R. Lyle Webster, for many years head of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's office of information in Washington, and now the Ford Foundation's consultant on communications and agricultural information at New Delhi, India. Dr. Webster has replicated the agricultural journalism article in THE QUILL, making it available to "all persons in India interested in agricultural journalism."

A month later comes a letter from T. F. Buehrer, long a staff member in the College of Agriculture, University of Arizona, and now chief of party of the University of Tennessee's AID program. Writing from Bangalore, India, he refers to the reprint which has come to him from the Ford Foundation at New Delhi, thus giving him happy opportunity to report to old friends here in Tucson.

He writes: "My own activities here in India prove more challenging every day. It is truly a thrill to have a part in the development of a brand new agricultural university patterned after the land-grant institutions of the United States.

"At the present stage, the vice chancellor (or the president in our American institutions) is engaged in securing the appointment of his key officials — the deans, directors, comptroller, registrar, administrative officer, etc. It is rather interesting that nearly all of those who have thus far been appointed have received their advanced degrees . . . from American land-grant institutions."

Bangalore, he writes, has an elevation and climate delightfully comparable to Tucson. A frustrated author, Dr. Buehrer now writes frequent articles for agricultural and educational publications in India.