

NARRATIVE REPORT

of

J.R. Sandige, County Agricultural Agent, Gila County, Arizona, from Jan, 1st, to July 1st. 1919.

Important Notice. A fire destroyed my office during June and I lost all my papers, records, pictures, maps, data, etc, so this report will not have any pictures, maps, circulars, etc, to make it more full.

Employee's Garden Project

Purpose.- The purpose of this project was to encourage the mining companies of the different sections to have gardens for their employee's and the mining companies in the Globe-Miami District to continue their gardens which they have had the past two years

Method. I talked to the managers of the three large copper companies in the Globe- Miami district and showed them where it would be a profitable project in dollars and cents to continue the gardens and outlined an economical plan for operating them.

"B" I made special trips to the Coppers camps of Jerome and Hayden Arizona and by the aid of moving pictures, pictures, maps, data, circulars, garden bulletins, etc, encouraged them to start the gardening work. I also went over all their ground suitable for gardening work and laid out the gardens for them. I then secured a gardening expert for both of the the companies and ~~###~~ taught them the work of the garden expert under condition such as we have in Arizona.

Results As the result of my work in the Globe-Miami District 100 acres of employees gardens were put in again by the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co, The Miami Copper Co, and the Old Dominion Copper Co. At Hayden 15 acres of gardens were put in for their employees by the Ray Consolidated Copper Co, and at Jerome or Verde 17 acres of gardens were put in by the United Verde Extension Mining Co. In all of these cases the companies furnish the ground, water, (some seed), instructions, guard it for the gardeners and give them all they raise. In several cases they have also provided a canning kitchen where they can can their products and a market where they can market their excess products.

As the results of this work about \$100,000.00 worth of vegetables will be raised in the Globe- Miami district, \$18,000.00 worth in the Hayden district and about \$14,000.00 worth in the Jerome-Verde district. Besides the value of the products raised there is the indirect value of the steady satisfied employees of the copper companies.

In the Globe- Miami district I acted as gardening expert and gave my personal attention to teaching the employee's how to garden. This occupied about nine tenths of my time during the six months that I am reporting for.

Livestock, Range and Rodents .

As this project only occupy three days of my time during the past six months I did not accomplish much. I helped several ranches with their feed problem and helped them secure hay on the starvati~~bn~~ rate. On the rodent controll I cooperated with the Biological Survey man and he distributed poison to the farmers throughout the county under the leadeship of the differ~~nt~~ committeemen of the farm bureau.

Farm Visits

Purpose Of this work was to visit the farms and give the ranchers and farmers an oppourtubity to ask questions as I went over their farms and to make observations so I would be in position to help them on their farm problems.

Results. Only five farm visits were made but o n these I suggested better crops, how to combat insect pests and plant diseases and pit silos so that my visits bought results as I learned later when I visited the same neighborhood.

Farm Loan

This was a continuation of the project started last year and two fram loan associations were organized and most of the land has been appraised by the federal appraiser but to date none ofh the men have secured their loan.

Poultry

Purpose- The purpose of this project was to encourage more city dwellers to have back yard poultry flocks. For it is a paying proposition in the mining districts where the yatds are in most cases unfit for gardening.

Method- The method used was to encourage the buying and raising of day-old-chicks for this was the best method of getting chicks started in this district where there are no hatcheiers or poultry farms. Circulars letters , newspaper articles, etc, were used.

Results- I fould after writing to many hatcheries on the Pacific Coast that none of them could promise chickens more than a week ahead so that caused me to drop the plan of a day-old-chick week like I had last season and placed so many chickens. So I just helped those that called at my office or I met on the gardens to order their chicks. 33 people were assisted in buying 4145 chicks and to date most of them are having good success with them. At diffrent time I have helped people call/ their flock.

Water Conservation

The City of Globe has been short of water and will be short of water next year so they called a meeting of all men who could help them out on the water quest~~on~~ and at the meeting I was put one one of the committees to reconmend a method of con- serving the water of the Pinal Mountians that runs of in the winter.

Results-We reconmended building check dams of soil and brush up in all the small canyons of the mountains and the work is now be- ing done by the city of Globe.