

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT  
FOR  
GREENLEE COUNTY  
ARIZONA

PERIOD

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### III

#### Status of the Local Farm Bureau.

The former county agent who resigned early in the summer of 1924 gave in his annual report an account of the status of the Farm Bureau. It was dead at that time and no plan has as yet been devised whereby it could be brought again into existence.

The Marketing organizations which were brought forward at that time have also disintegrated due to various reasons some of which are . Changing of crops produced, Continued drouth, Dissention among the leaders, Lack of finance, And the county was without a county agent for several months.

On one hand the bringing in of the National Farm Loan Association and the long time loans at a low interest rate on farms has been a great benefit to many farmers while on the other hand the War Finance has I believe been a detriment for the money was in a large measure put back into cattle which have never come back in price. With everything mortgaged any incoming money is at once taken over by the war finance and goes out of the county.

The above paragraph apparently does not seem connected with the Farm Bureau, but it is added as something concrete to show why the people here are apposed to the Organization which will tend to take a part of their membership fees out of the county, and to give an idea of the finances of the people concerned.

At the present time there is no coordinating organization in the county to work with the extension service agent. The work has been greatly aided by people interested in it's continuation. Mr. Simms, the former president of the Farm Bureau has spent a great deal of his time in helping the county agent get acquainted and started on the work. In a general way the people are in favor of the work, there being the usual few who are apposed to any thing that costs the county money. These few are in the main inactive.

### IV

#### PROGRAM OF WORK.

##### (1) Factors Determining Program.

The county agent having been here but three months and that a major portion of that time having been taken up in working with the County Fair which was held the 18 and 19th of October, there remained but little time to carry out the regular extension work. The fact that this was the Fall of the year and that the work of harvesting of crops took most of the farmers time and interest further restricted the agent.

The lack of finances among the farmers has been a very important factor in determining the program to carry out.

#### IV Continued

Before one can be of value to the farmers of a community one must know them and their problems, specific and general. The county agent has made an effort to do this before developing ~~and~~ program of work or going into any particular phase of activity.

With the above factors in mind the county agent has carried out a very satisfactory program of individual work at the same time learning to know the people, their problems and endeavoring to accumulate as much information as possible in relation to the best practices of farming in this community. The county agent believes that he has been of real service to a large number of people and has laid a good foundation for the work of another year.

#### (2) Project activities and results.

1. The Greenlee County <sup>Fair</sup> is the largest and most satisfactory piece of organized effort that the people of this county now have. The County Agent took an active part in this work this year and will likely be appointed Secretary of the commission for the next year. In particular the work will have to do with the planning and general supervision of the Fair. Arousing interest and reorganizing the premium lists so that they will be a definite help in the Extension work.

#### 2. Soil Improvement.

A three acre orchard was planted to alfalfa as a cover crop at the suggestion of the county agent. Through personal visits and general conversation the idea of planting yellow flowering sweet clover in cotton fields for a winter cover crop was accepted, but due to the lack of water was not carried out.

The county agent helped in locating Colorado grown common alfalfa seed for several farmers but the planting was delayed until next spring due to water shortage.

Straw is being placed on a two acre plot for Spring vegetables. This will be watered heavily this winter and worked into the soil to improve the humus condition of the soil.

Early plowing and heavy winter watering is being advocated by the county agent for cotton fields. The idea of getting the ground full of water before planting cotton in the spring.

#### 3. Crop Production.

Very little has been done in this line other than plans for the coming year. There is a very definite shifting of crops going on in this valley. In stead of wheat, barley and oats there will be raised cotton alfalfa and corn, to a larger extent.

#### 4. Live Stock

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This work has consisted of mainly calls for help in cases that should be cared for by a veterinarian, but since ## there is none located in this county it has been necessary for the county agent to do the best he could along this line.

Farm flocks and the raising of goats on the ranges has been advocated, and results in the form of a car load of sheep to be distributed as farm flocks and the starting of # two bands of goats are expected next Spring.

#### 5. Farm Economics.

#### 6. Marketing.

The county agent sent out a form letter to turkey producers of the valley, but received a poor response in getting the number of turkeys to be sold this year. Help in marketing about 300 turkeys was given. It is believed that in an other year that an effort should be made to contract these birds early in the season.

#### 7. Farm home betterment.

#### 8. Boys and Girls Clubs.

At the present time there are six girls in a poultry club which are completing their work at this time. Plans are now under way for # poultry and Horticulture clubs for boys. The actual work will begin in April.

#### 9. Other projects.

Three better poultry houses have been constructed through suggestion and help by the county agent. Assistance was given in the planning and construction of a dairy house. Work is now being planned for the building of a pit silo.

The county agent took an active part in organizing and carrying out of a father and son banquet and program which was as a community project well worth while.

The county agent has been appointed assistant Scout Master. The Idea is to form a closer contact with the boys in order to better be able to carry out the boys club work program.

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### (3) CHARACTER AND SCOPE OF OFFICE AND FIELD SERVICE

The limited area of this county's farm land make possible more individual service, which is a type of service which is well adapted to the needs of the people at this time. The office is well located in # Duncan Where the farmers make many calls, and at the present time the service rendered by the office to the people through distributing information, poison grain for gophers, and personal help seems to be satisfactory.

OUTLOOK AND RECOMMENDATIONS? INCLUDING SUGGESTIVE PROGRAM OF WORK  
FOR NEXT YEAR.

The greatest obstacle in this community is the lack of finance to carry out any new and improved method of work. Many see the need of silos, better chicken houses and other things but do not have the money to carry it out.

The shortage of water has caused much loss. This is in a measure helped by introducing a mixed system of dry and irrigation farming. A Judication of water rights will help this situation.

The outlook is very good for cotton and poultry. A great deal of the county agents effort will be expended along these lines as well as small fruits and vegetables.

In a general way the Extension work is well appreciated. It is not so much a problem of marketing as it is a problem producing marketable products in quantity to supply the annual market locally which brings in storage problems and proper grading of products.

SUGGESTIVE PLAN OF WORK.

Soils.

The use of yellow flowering sour clover in cotton fields for cover crop.

Better use of barn yard manure.

A crop rotation plan of alfalfa, corn and cotton.

Farm crops

Smut control

Field selection of corn for seed.

Acala seed (pure) for whole valley.

A test of Colorado common and hairy Peruvian alfalfa.

Horticulture.

Spray program for fruit trees.

Increase in production of all vegetables, especially cabbage, tomatoes, potatoes and sweet potatoes.

Use of a spray program for disease and insects on vegetables.

Planting of blackberries and grapes.

300 Walnuts grafted to French Franquette.

Forestry

Planting of seedlings and nuts for walnuts and pecan trees to be budded or grafted, to be used for shade and nuts.

Further introduction of Chinese Elm for shade.

Work to get goats on range in place of cattle and sheep to lessen fire damage and erosion of soil.

Rodents, Predatory animals, and birds.

Community poisoning of black birds and sparrows with poison wheat bait.

Continue and increase community activity in the use of poison barley for gopher control.

Increase the trapping of skunks and the poisoning of coyotes.

Rat control with the use of barium carbonate.

## Animal husbandry

Continue with the necessary work in veterinary  
Secure Stallion and Jack. for community.  
Increase farm flocks .  
Start bands of goats on ranges,  
Feeding of better balanced rations.  
Increase use of Silage.  
Farm animals vaccinated for black leg.  
Vaccination for hog colera.  
Cooperate in getting cattle tested for T.B.  
De horning of calves and cattle.

## Dairy.

Increase production of cream.  
Test milk delivered to office . Too few cows widely scattered  
for testing association.  
Provision for succulent winter feed.  
Construction of dairy houses.

## Poultry.

Flock culling demonstrations  
Balanced ration.  
Construction of brooders and better houses.  
Increase farm flocks reporting.  
Incourage capon production.  
Poultry dressing demonstration for market

## Marketing .

Contracting of turkeys and capons.  
Storage and marketing of sweet potatoes and cabbage.  
Egg storage and marketing.  
Cotton grading at gin .

## Community Activities.

Assistant Scout master.  
Secretary of Fair commission.  
Secretary to Farm loan association.  
Arrange for annual picnic on fair grounds.  
Organization of some type of cooperating organization to  
work with the Extension service and plan and execute a  
community program.  
Arbor day exercises.

## County Fair.

Finish fencing grounds.  
Develope water system.  
Plant trees.  
Build section of bleachers.  
Put track in condition.  
Revise premium list;  
Obtain more special premiums.  
General Plan of Fair to be developed.

## Club Work.

Boys poultry club, Girls Poultry club. Boys horticulture club  
to Develope.

Summary of activities and accomplishments.

1. Made contact with most of the farmers in the county.
2. Helpful in 10 cases of sick or injured stock.
3. Helped with county Fair.
4. Helped and planned with no less than 75 farmers for next years crops, Methods, Spraying, Planting, Preparation of ground, chicken houses, silos, storage cellars, feeding devices, tanning of hides, bee culture, planting trees and home gardens with many other subjects.

The short time and the period of year which the present county agent has been in this county has not allowed the completion of much work ~~of the~~ The work as the report shows has mainly been that of getting the lay of the land, and planning for next years program.