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AGRICULTURAL ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS
IN SASKATCHEWAN

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Thesis submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School
of the University of Maryland in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the
degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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Since 1818 the boundary between Canada and the United States has been unfortified. For 130 years these two nations have lived in peace as friendly neighbors. It is the author's opinion that this unusual amity in a world of warring nations may be in no little part due to the absence of intellectual barriers between the two peoples. Ideas and technical experts have been exchanged almost as though no diplomatic boundary separated the two countries.

This spirit of cooperation was particularly apparent to the author when she made a trip to Saskatchewan, Canada, in 1947 to gather materials for this study. Manuscripts, bulletins, and articles from private files were graciously made available to her. She was allowed to depart with loans of theses and other published and unpublished works. Most of all, busy men and women in government, coöperative, and education agencies gave freely of their time and energies to describing their programs and answering tedious questions.

It would be impracticable to mention all of these kind people individually. However, for especial services to her and because they represent the types of agencies which were consulted, the author wishes to acknowledge three men by name. These are E. Z. Brockelbank, director of the Agricultural Representative Service in the provincial Department of Agriculture; John G. Rayner, director of the

Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan; and Joe L. Buckley, assistant superintendent of the country organization department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. Purpose and Scope of Study.

The purpose of this dissertation is to describe and evaluate present agricultural adult education programs in Saskatchewan.

Programs chosen for study fall within limits set by definitions of the terms agricultural and adult education; and by factors affecting staff, purpose, and function of agencies sponsoring such programs, as described below.

The term agricultural is used in this dissertation to describe activities carried on with and for farmers and farm women. Farmers are understood to be those whose income derives primarily from any combination of livestock, livestock products, or crops. This limitation excludes most of those persons who are mainly dependent on other land resources, such as those engaged in lumbering, fishing, trapping, and mining. The latter activities will affect this study only as they are the main interest of a few individuals in programs mainly addressed to farmers, or as they may represent a farmer's secondary or incidental interests.

When research is narrowed to those education activities involving the adult farm population, theoretically there still remains a wide field for investigation. A farmer may study how to summer fallow, but he may also inquire into the

structure and function of the United Nations. A farm woman may belong to a study club in Weyburn where she may one month hear a talk on home gardening; and the next, on the plight of British children.

In the dictionary, agriculture is described as the

Art or science of cultivating the ground, including harvesting of crops and rearing and management of live stock; tillage; husbandry; farming; in a broader sense, the science and art of the production of plants and animals useful to man, including to a variable extent the preparation of these products for man's use. In this broad use it includes farming, horticulture, and forestry, together with such subjects as butter and cheese making, sugar making, etc.¹

This definition would call for a description of agriculture in terms of production and processing of farm products. Inferentially, agricultural education ought to include teaching a farmer such skills as how to conserve and prepare soil for cultivation, breed and care for livestock, prepare milk and other livestock products for market. This interpretation may be deceptively simple. Helping a farmer to grow better crops may be as complex as helping him to create a home situation which will make farming an acceptable vocation for him. Yet to suggest such a possibility in the limitation of the study anticipates factors which ought to appear in an evaluation.

At this point, therefore, it seems advisable to discover what leaders in Saskatchewan call agricultural education.

¹W. T. Harris, editor in chief. Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, pp. 45, 46.

The provincial Minister of Co-operation and Co-operative Development (formerly provincial Minister of Agriculture) says that there are two types of agricultural adult education: that addressed to production and that having to do with marketing and processing.² The secretary of The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan, educational organization of the coöperative movement, makes the same distinction.³ Both men describe the activities of the provincial Department of Agriculture and the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan as education for production, and those of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as education for marketing. As leaders in Saskatchewan seem to have similar ideas on the subject of agricultural adult education, their suggestions as gathered by interview are used as a basis for making a list of agricultural adult education institutions and organizations. Some of these agencies and certain activities of others of these agencies have been eliminated from the final study, however, on the basis of other factors described below.

Adult education has no such common connotation as education of children. An investigator who would undertake to describe the latter in Saskatchewan could limit his investigation to the activities of the public and private schools and possibly to those of the University of Saskatchewan, knowing that the limitation of his study would be amply

²Interview with author, February 3, 1947.

³Interview with author, February 5, 1947.

justified by usage. Adult education may be described in terms of agencies but not necessarily in terms of educational institutions. It ordinarily has a highly personal flavor and as such acquires a value meaning. One man may label an education in summer fallowing as vocational and insist that only non-vocational activities such as community forums are adult education. Another may draw a distinction between propaganda and education, or between workers education and adult education.⁴ To escape the obvious pitfalls of value definitions, adult education as used in this study will cover organized programs of activities calculated to change the behavior of adults.

This definition calls for further clarification, particularly of the term adult. The director of the Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan, says: "Adult education embraces information on any subject provided for persons who can be classed as adult in economic status."⁵ Professor Rayner is saying that an individual is adult when he achieves independent economic status. There are, however, other ways of expressing adulthood. The province in effect confers political adulthood at a specified age by decreeing that "Every British subject male or female may vote for

⁴For a review of current definitions of adult education, see the writer's statement in Encyclopedia of Modern Education edited by Harry N. Rivlin and Herbert Schueler, pp. 19-21.

⁵John G. Rayner. The University of Saskatchewan and Adult Education, p. 1

Legislative Assembly if of the full age of 18 years...."⁶

It is ordinarily assumed that a man or a woman is an adult when he or she takes on the responsibility of marriage.

The term adult education is further complicated by its usage in Saskatchewan. None of the leaders interviewed refer to the College of Agriculture at the University as an agricultural adult education institution. Yet some of the students are or may become farmers, many of them are eighteen years of age and over, and in this day of veterans education a number of them are married and economically independent. The School of Agriculture, on the other hand, is usually pointed out as an agricultural adult education institution. Yet its students are prospective as well as operating farmers, may be as young as seventeen years of age, and may be unmarried and economically dependent.

To establish a common-sense basis for isolating agricultural adult education programs it is necessary to weight and integrate factors so far described. After all, the College of Agriculture is only incidentally concerned with the education of farmers, being primarily a training institution for agricultural technicians; and it is known as the last rung in the youth education ladder which begins with the elementary school. The School of Agriculture is designed for farmers or prospective farmers and is not integrated with the formal youth education program. On the basis of

⁶Quoted in The Canadian Almanac and Legal and Court Directory for the Year 1946, edited by Horace C. Corner, p. 69.

such reasoning it seems feasible to eliminate from this study the College of Agriculture but to retain the School of Agriculture. On much the same basis there can be developed a general definition. For the purposes of this study, those behavior-changing organizations and institutions will be considered as agricultural adult education agencies if they are:

1. Known ordinarily by Saskatchewan leaders as agricultural adult education agencies;
2. Designed primarily for farmers and farm women, or for prospective farmers and farm women;
3. Used particularly by persons eighteen years of age and over;
4. Patronized largely by those who are economically independent or striving to become so in the immediate future;
5. Not usually integrated with formal programs of youth education.

Agricultural adult education agencies as defined above may be those which are heavily financed and employ paid professional staff members whose fulltime job is education, or they may be associations of laymen who direct their own education on an amateur and parttime basis. This study is limited to agencies employing fulltime educational employees. The other agencies will be mentioned only as their programs impinge upon the activities of institutions using professional workers.

The number of agencies meeting the above tests will be

further limited in respect to primary purpose as indicated by type of control. Saskatchewan agencies serving farmers fall roughly into three categories: government (including public educational), coöperative, and private. Any or all of these agencies may promote programs of education carried on by professional staff members. Their purposes in promoting such programs, however, presumably vary with the ends for which they are established and the means by which they are controlled.

Suppose that a publicly supported college, a coöperative machinery company, and a private farm machinery company are each promoting field days for farmers. These events are addressed to teaching more efficient use of particular kinds of farm machinery. In such an agricultural adult education project, the role of the college would appear to be clear. As it is supported and indirectly controlled by the persons whom it is educating, its primary interest presumably lies with the welfare of those farmer-learners.

The same thing ought to be true of the coöperative machinery company. Actually, of course, members of the company may be more interested in persuading farmers to buy through the coöperative than they are in assisting them to use machinery more efficiently. But as controlling votes in a coöperative are distributed on the basis of shareholders rather than on number of shares, and as all excess monies are distributed as price adjustments to patrons, the coöperative may be said to be addressing itself in one way or

another to the welfare of the farmer-learner also.

The interests of those who run the private machinery company, however, are not so clear. It would be possible to have the company headed by a philanthropic president who wished to improve the lot of the farmer. It is more likely, however, that the company would be interested primarily in selling more machinery, and that the farmer's welfare would be incidental to that primary purpose. This statement should not serve to attach a derogatory evaluation to the private company's education program. The program might be educationally very commendable; and that of the coöperative company, educationally very poor. Nevertheless, it may be assumed that the main purpose of the private company is to promote that aura of goodwill in which more farm machines of a particular make can be sold. In order to avoid a basis for limitation which would involve ethical decisions, only those agencies are included in the study which sponsor programs addressed without question to the welfare of the farmer-learner. These are either government (including public educational) or coöperative agencies.

Government and coöperative agricultural adult education agencies exhibit many different patterns in respect to the place of education in their total programs. They may be grouped in this regard according to the following categories:

1. Agencies such as the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan which has as its only function promoting agricultural education with its whole staff

working directly with farmers or farm families.

2. Agencies such as the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool which has as its primary function the marketing of wheat, but which employs a special staff working in a separate department of the Wheat Pool, that devotes full time to organization and education.

3. Agencies such as a Dominion experiment station which is devoted to an activity other than agricultural adult education, but which may occasionally engage in such an enterprise.

4. Agencies such as the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development which has a very limited staff and is of very recent origin so that its work is not widely recognized as a significant part of agricultural adult education.

The programs of the first two types of agencies are given major emphasis in Chapters III and IV. Agencies falling in the third and fourth categories will be designated as peripheral organizations. In order that the picture of agricultural adult education may be rounded out, their programs will be briefly sketched in Chapter III.

2. Summary of Dissertation.

It is obvious that a knowledge of the land and the people who farm it is basic to an understanding of an agricultural adult education program. Therefore, in the first part of Chapter II will be found a summary of information available to the people of Saskatchewan on those factors of land and its management which directly affect their economic

life. This summary includes a statement of production and marketing practices as expressed in terms of human needs.

The second section of Chapter II contains a survey of certain aspects of farm and rural people. People are described in terms of their education, ages, and ethnic backgrounds. Reference is made, also, to population growth and population losses in Saskatchewan. This section continues with a brief sketch of how the people live. It closes with references to some effects of population characteristics on the agricultural economy, and with some questions which agricultural adult education workers need to answer.

Chapter III is devoted to agricultural adult education for production. Section one is a description of the Agricultural Representative Service in the provincial Department of Agriculture. This service is comparable to the county agent system in the United States. In section two is found a survey of three agricultural adult education groups operating under the College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. These are the Extension Department, the Department of Women's Work, and the School of Agriculture.

Section three of Chapter III gives information about four peripheral agricultural adult education agencies. These are the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development, the Saskatchewan Film Board allied with the National Film Board, the experimental farm services, and the organization operating under the Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act.

Agricultural adult education for marketing as described in Chapter IV is confined to a study of the purposes and practices of the country organization department of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

Chapter V provides an evaluation of agricultural adult education for production and marketing in this province. Two sets of standards are used to assess the practices of the agricultural adult education agencies. These are the intrinsic and the extrinsic standards. Recommendations are made for improving agricultural adult education in Saskatchewan.

CHAPTER II

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE:

BASIC FACTORS IN AGRICULTURAL ADULT EDUCATION

1. The Land.

"If you want to understand Saskatchewan, you've got to understand wheat" is a common comment on the agricultural economy of Saskatchewan. Agricultural production accounts for close to 85 per cent of the annual income.¹ In 1944 wheat contributed about \$268,780,000, approximately 53.4 per cent of the cash income from the sale of farm products, or 45.1 per cent of the income of Saskatchewan. The close relationship of wheat to agriculture and thus to the economy of Saskatchewan is indicated by figures in Table I. Despite the depression and drought, in 1937 farm products other than field crops produced 127 per cent as much income as they did in 1928. Yet total farm income in 1937 stood at only 26 per cent of the 1928 level, primarily because the sale of wheat produced only 14 per cent of the 1928 income. In the recovery of 1944 income from farm products other than field crops rose to 455 per cent of the 1928 income; but gross cash income from sale of farm products stood at only 158 per cent of the 1928 level, primarily because wheat produced income of only 122 per cent of its 1928 total. It is one author's

¹The Bureau of Publications, Saskatchewan Heart of Canada's West, p. 3.

TABLE 1²

Estimated Gross Cash Income from the Sale of Farm Products
(Thousand Dollars)

Source of Income	1928(Year) Amount	1937(Year)		1944(Year)	
		Amount	Per Cent of 1928 Amount	Amount	Per Cent of 1928 Amount
Wheat	256,380	34,825	14	268,780	105
Total Prin. Field Crops(Incl. Wheat)	285,720	40,053	14	349,575	122
Total All Other Farm Products	33,780	42,799	127	153,727	455
Total All Farm Products	319,500	82,852	26	503,302	158

opinion that "The income of the province of Saskatchewan depends fundamentally on the volume, price, and to a lesser degree, the grade of its export staple, wheat...."³

Although Saskatchewan's destiny was to lie with wheat, its early development turned upon the fortunes of successive frontiers. The first thin trickle of white men and half breeds in the second half of the nineteenth century tended first to gather around fur trading posts such as Prince Albert and Battleford. The rivers on which these first settlements were builded were not sufficiently navigable for transport of agricultural products so that an export or crop

²Adapted from table prepared by Dominion Bureau of Statistics, cited in Fortieth Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan, p. 167.

³G. E. Britnell. The Wheat Economy, p. xv.

economy could develop; "....pre-railway agriculture was not for outside markets except indirectly through the export of furs."⁴

The spirit of manifest destiny, enforced by persistent federal aid to agriculture, hastened the process of converting the fur frontier into one of ranching and farming in the period 1870-1900. As early as 1856 a government official had identified the western boundary of Canada as the Pacific Ocean, and a Toronto newspaper had developed a Canadian version of the doctrine of natural, God-given boundaries.⁵

"The United States Government are resolved to do all they can short of war, to get possession of the western territory," admitted John A. Macdonald in 1870; "and we must take immediate and vigorous steps to counteract them." In answer to such alarms, the federal government in 1870 acquired title to Rupert's land, the Hudson Bay Company territory which included the present province of Saskatchewan. From that time until 1930 the Dominion government held the western lands in trust for two conflicting purposes: financing railroads and luring settlers.⁶

The transformation from the undefended fur trading frontier to the more densely populated and defensible agricultural community brought no inrush of settlers up to 1900.⁷

⁴C. A. Dawson and Eva R. Younge. Pioneering in the Prairie Provinces, p. 11.

⁵W. A. Mackintosh. Prairie Settlement, p. 28.

⁶Vernon C. Fowke. Canadian Agricultural Policy, pp. 162-163.

⁷Arthur S. Morton. History of Prairie Settlement, Chapter V.

Competition from the United States and Australia was severe, and the homestead policy was "stranded on an uncertainty." How could railroads to serve hypothetical settlers, be financed in the west by the sale of lands, when the hypothetical settlers would move west only for the bait of free homesteads?⁸

During the 1870's and 1880's immigration to the western lands showed alternate periods of growth and collapse. What proof was there that the Canadian West could perform its agricultural-commercial function?"⁹ In the settlements around Moose Jaw, for instance, life was still "cramped and anticipatory." Chopping, skidding, hauling, and house raising occupied the energies of hard pressed settlers who had little time or equipment for producing products for market. The Prairie Queen plow pulled by a yoke of oxen was breaking the soil for forage crops. It was no use to grow wheat when there was no market for it nor any railroad near enough to haul it. Settlement on the prairie was unstable. Settlers would go out to the land for a summer of vegetable gardening or feed growing; but many would be back for visits in the trading towns of Moose Jaw or Regina in the winter. The settler's farm was still only a local food supply. His cash must come from labor on Dominion or United States railroad and telegraph projects, or from occasional sales of beef or hay.

⁸Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., pp. 164-165.

⁹Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., pp. 220-221.

On the other hand, ranching in southern Saskatchewan was from the first a means of livelihood and a cash income. Cattle which were raised in isolated prairie farms could be driven long distances to market.¹⁰ But apart from the ranchers, the early settlers in Western Canada were reluctant to exchange the obvious advantages of the park country for the bleakness and apparent sterility of the treeless short-grass plains.¹¹ In 1901 Saskatchewan had only 91,279 persons in the whole of its vast area of 161,000,000 acres.¹²

In the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century, the federal government which had forged an agricultural policy of western expansion was still puzzled by whether the Canadian West could produce adequate quantities of some one agricultural staple.¹³ Then came the Gigault committee report of 1884 which was to give emphasis to development of the experimental farms. Although the idea of experimental agriculture and agricultural education were not new in Canada, the government had heretofore done little to promote systematic study and experimentation in farming concerns. Buttressed by favorable reports from agriculturists whose opinions were solicited through questionnaires, the committee threw its weight behind one recommendation: "That the Government take

¹⁰G. A. Dawson and Eva R. Younge. Op. cit., pp. 16-20.

¹¹G. E. Britnell. Op. cit., p. 35.

¹²G. E. Britnell. Op. cit., p. 14.

¹³Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., p. 221.

into earnest and favorable consideration the advisability of establishing a Bureau of Agriculture, and an Experimental Farm in connection therewith....in connection with and under the supervision of the present Department of Agriculture."¹⁴

Although no immediate action was taken, in 1886 a system of experimental farms was set up by legislation, following on careful study of American experiment stations and agricultural colleges. Prior to the establishment of the farms there had been no clear identification of the west with wheat. It had been thought that stations should promote experimentation primarily with trees and shrubs for the treeless plains. There was no particular prominence given to that cereal which was to become the basis of prairie economy.¹⁵

However, William Saunders, who became first director of the experimental farm system, approached as his first significant enterprise the development of early ripening wheat for the frost-ridden prairies. Through an original cross of the famous Red Fife with Hard Red Calcutta, Dr. A. P. Saunders, son of the director and Dominion Cerealists, finally produced in the prairie stations the even more famous Marquis Wheat. But, says Dr. Fowke, "Had Marquis wheat not been discovered at all, the pattern of western settlement would have been only slightly affected....." For more important than developing a grain was the contribution of the Dominion farms to

¹⁴Quoted in Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., p. 227.

¹⁵Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., pp. 203-231.

the main problem of prairie agriculture: conservation of moisture and control of weeds in a drought-ridden area.¹⁶ For effective cultivation of rich but semi-arid prairie soils, the value of the concept of summer fallowing cannot be overemphasized. In present-day guides to good agricultural practice and conservation in Saskatchewan it is common to find such statements as these: "The management of the fallow is the most important factor in successful crop production."¹⁷ "The success of the wheat farmer on the western plains is to a large extent dependent upon the care and timeliness with which he accomplishes the summerfallow operations."¹⁸ That fallowing the land was insurance against crop failure was pointed out as early as 1884 by a Manitoba immigration agent.¹⁹ By 1900 it had become clear that through the effective use of summerfallow wheat might become the western staple. When Marquis wheat should be developed and widely available in 1911, it would be only a minor addition to an established pattern for western agriculture.²⁰

Although there is some disagreement as to the importance of various factors in giving impetus to the wheat economy in

¹⁶Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., pp. 233-237.

¹⁷Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan, p. 23.

¹⁸J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J. S. Clayton. Soil Survey, p. 207.

¹⁹Arthur S. Morton. Op. cit., p. 69.

²⁰Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., p. 238.

the Canadian West, there is no doubt but that these factors converged happily about the turn of the century and in the decade 1901-1911. Experimental farms continued to test Red Fife, Ladoga, Hard Red Calcutta, and later Marquis wheat. In response to immigration policies and more particularly to the news that dry farming was possible, settlers rushed into the prairie provinces looking for land. Their efforts were encouraged by particularly favorable moisture conditions in 1901-1911. By 1900 the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway was sprawled across the southern prairies. Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert were linked through a branch line and other lines were being built. Gradually individual farms would be brought within that ten or fifteen mile hauling distance of a railroad which appears essential to profitable shipment of grain. Farmers organizations were already making their weight felt in government policy. The wheat economy was underway.²¹

"In 1901 the population of the Province numbered approximately 91,000....., and at that time only some 600,000 acres were under cultivation. By 1931, the population was about ten times as great (921,000), and the amount of land under cultivation had reached 30,000,000 acres, or roughly fifty times the acreage cultivated at the turn of the century."²²

²¹Arthur S. Morton. Op. cit., Chapter VI. G. E. Britnell. Op. cit., Chapter II. Vernon C. Fowke. Op. cit., Chapter IX. W. A. Mackintosh. Op. cit., Chapter III.

²²J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J. S. Clayton. Op. cit., p. 212.

In 1932 about 15,543,000 acres or over half the area under cultivation was in wheat.²³

Yet the cash crop and other field crops of the prairies have not been an unmixed blessing as can be inferred from Table II. In 1941 when agriculture in Saskatchewan had begun

TABLE II²⁴

Relationship of Abandoned to Occupied Improved Land,
Saskatchewan, 1941

Census Division	Improved Land		Per Cent Abandoned Lands Are of Occupied Lands
	In Acres Occupied	Abandoned	
1	1,787,684	158,818	9
2	2,198,969	132,664	6
3	2,776,375	32,581	1
4	1,716,421	61,283	4
5	1,695,087	10,892	1
6	3,014,140	20,831	1
7	2,711,832	95,380	4
8	3,235,518	38,183	1
9	1,422,417	6,464	0.5
10	1,508,956	9,575	1
11	2,483,757	40,624	2
12	2,235,444	24,493	1
13	2,539,828	47,876	2
14	1,450,913	6,886	0.4
15	2,308,896	11,041	0.4
16	1,444,075	10,952	1
17	1,016,446	6,387	1
18	30,562	267	1
<hr/>			
Total	35,577,320	715,197	2

to recover from the effects of the drought and depression years of the 1930's, there was still mute evidence in

²³J. Mitchell, H. G. Moss, and J. S. Clayton. Op. cit., p. 258.

²⁴Adapted from Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan 1941, Table 50, p. 75, and Table 29, pp. 24-27.

abandoned farms that not every settler had found a permanent home and security on the land. Taking into consideration only improved land and not the total area in farms, 715,197 acres were listed as abandoned. This constituted two per cent of the improved land which was occupied and under cultivation. Table II shows that in Census Division 1 abandoned lands constituted nine per cent of occupied and improved lands; whereas in Census Division 12, they were one per cent. The figures on discarded acres point to a series of cultural and utilization problems which were not wholly solved when the principle of summer fallowing was discovered in the last decades of the nineteenth century.

When drought and soil drifting laid waste previously prosperous areas in 1917 to 1921, farmers of Saskatchewan had their first warnings that perhaps the plow might have broken ground unsuited to cultivation.²⁵ At the end of this period in 1920, a Better Farming Conference at Swift Current saw the passage of a resolution asking for a commission to enquire into farming conditions.²⁶ From that beginning has stemmed exhaustive research into the nature of the Saskatchewan soil. This basic data has been supplemented by a more complete agricultural survey of the economic aspects of land resources.²⁷

²⁵J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J. S. Clayton. Op. cit., p. 212.

²⁶Ibid., p. 111.

²⁷C. C. Spence and E. C. Hope. An Economic Classification of Land, p. 3.

From these two types of surveys has emerged a conception of agricultural production in which basic elements of wheat growing and summer fallowing are prominent, but in which there is also knowledge about the variability of soil productivity and the importance of intelligent land use practices.

The province of Saskatchewan lying between 49° and 60° north latitude and $101^{\circ} 30'$ and 110° west longitude covers some 161,000,000 acres or 251,700 square miles. Included in the soil survey are 106,000 square miles of southern Saskatchewan, the inhabited portion, lying between 49° and $53^{\circ} 12'$ of north latitude; but mapping is done on only 96,000 square miles or 61,500,000 acres, the 10,000 square miles unmapped being comprised of lakes, forest reserves, and Indian reservations.²⁸ Unless otherwise designated, it will be this inhabited portion of the province to which reference is made when Saskatchewan's resources are mentioned.

Within this great plains region is a geographic area with elevations ranging from 4,000 feet above sea level to those below 1,000; with climate varying from semi-arid to semi-humid. Average annual precipitations range from 11.16 inches at Nashlyn to 17.90 inches at Indian Head. Soils vary from the brown earth of the short-grass prairies to the black-grey matter of the forest region. These variations in elements of soil and climate stretch roughly in diagonal bands across the inhabited portion from southeast to northwest.²⁹

²⁸J. Mitchell, H.C. Moss, and J.E. Clayton. Op.cit., p.8.

²⁹Ibid., Figure 1, p. 9 and Figure 2, p. 12. Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan, map of precipitation, p. 5.

With such wide variations in soil and climate, a continuing prosperous agriculture depends on accurate knowledge of the factors both climatic and economic which make for high productivity, and proper management of those factors. Obviously the air masses which affect evaporation of the all-important moisture are to a degree beyond the control of agriculturists, as also are sunlight and heat.³⁰ However, even wind velocities which cause soil drifting may be affected by cultural practices which decrease frictional drag.³¹

Agriculture depends on such modifiable and unmodifiable factors as climate, soil, topography, drainage, and transportation and marketing facilities, and the balancing of these factors against one another in predicting suitability of an area for growing a particular crop. To state numerically the moisture efficiency of various soils, a soil zone climatic index is derived from average annual precipitation, temperature, and theoretical evaporation.³² The low indexes in the short-grass prairies are influenced by low average annual precipitation, but also by long frost-free periods and warm, dry Chinook winds. At the other end of the scale are the indexes for the forest region where temperatures are lower, precipitation higher, frost-free periods shorter, and warm winds less prevalent. Generally speaking, areas with high indexes will

³⁰Ibid., p. 3. Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan, pp. 3-4.

³¹Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan, p. 4.

³²See table in J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J. Clayton. Op. cit., p. 20.

sustain a greater growth of plants than those with low indexes. However, a climatic index is insufficient for predicting the efficiency of zones for the growing of a particular staple such as wheat. Summer fallowing can modify the productivity of soils with low moisture efficiencies, and extension of wheat into moister areas must depend partially on developing of earlier maturing, high quality plants. Furthermore the character or type of soil plays a significant role in its productivity.

To describe soil productivity in more detail, Saskatchewan soils have been subjected to classification. Broad regions described as grasslands and forests have been broken into subdivisions known as zones, and these in turn into soil groups. Soils within these classes have been described in terms of soil associations, soil members, textural classes, and soil phases. Soil associations which comprise groups of related soil profiles provide the basis for ratings of Saskatchewan soil types.³³ Groupings are based on suitability for grain production, especially of wheat, with the numerical rating obtained by indexing conditions of soil and topography favorable to plant growth and absence of conditions such as stones and erosive tendencies unfavorable to plant growth. These factors of climate and soil must be integrated to produce an answer concerning efficiency for wheat growing. The meteorological station at Regina shows a

³³See table in J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J.S. Clayton. Op. cit., pp. 196-197.

climatic index of 44 about midway in moisture efficiency. This index is sufficiently high, however, so that coupled with other factors, it may lead to the conclusion that "The well-drained Regina soils represent the best wheat lands in the Province." The area which lies around Regina and Moose Jaw and extends southeast almost to Weyburn has well drained soil highly resistant to drought. This characteristic coupled with smooth topography and the absence of stones make the area very suitable for large-scale machine farming which is highly productive. Wind and water erosion, soil drifting, and weeds constitute the most serious drawbacks to complete land utilization for wheat farming.

Although less than half the area of Saskatchewan is included in the soil survey, the information so obtained can be projected into a picture of approximate total land resources as given in Table III. Of the 88.5 million acres lying out-

TABLE III³⁴

Land Resources of Saskatchewan				
Total Area (incl. about 9,000,000 acres water) 161,000,000 acres				
Region	Zone	Area (in millions of acres)		
		Total	Arable	Non-Arable
Grassland	Brown Soil	20.0	6.0	14.0
	Dark Brown Soil	18.5	12.0	6.5
	Black Soil (including slightly to moderately degraded black)	19.0	12.5	6.5
	Totals	57.5	30.5	27.0
Forest	Grey (podzol) (to margin of pre-Cambrian)	31.0	3.0	28.0
	Grand totals	88.5	33.5	55.0
	Pre-Cambrian area (rock out-crops, muskegs, lakes, and small areas of podzol soils)	72.5		

³⁴Ibid... Adapted from Table 20, p. 213.

side of the unproductive pre-Cambrian shield, probably only 33.5 million acres or 38 per cent can be profitably used for crop production. For 1944 total acreage under cultivation including total under crop, new breaking, summer fallow, and pasture is tentatively estimated as 36,403,400 acres. Without the pasture land the acreage stands at 35,640,000.³⁵

The similarity in amount between total arable area and total area under cultivation leads to one of two conclusions: either that arable soils are being used to their maximum, or that through faulty land utilization many farmers are cultivating submarginal lands. The amount of land under cultivation has been steadily rising to the 1944 level through the war years, as is evidenced by Table IV. Nevertheless, a

TABLE IV³⁶

Estimate of Acreage under Cultivation
(Not including pastures)

Year	Total under Cultivation	Total under Crop	Total under New Breaking	Total under Summer Fallow
1940	30,989,200	21,976,500	229,600	8,783,100
1941	33,737,050	19,768,400	167,800	13,800,850
1942	34,354,300	22,399,800	210,500	11,744,000
1943	34,851,000	22,680,400	191,600	11,979,000
1944	35,640,000	23,730,400	309,600	11,600,000

total of 33,549,000 acres of improved farm land is reported for as early as 1931.³⁷

³⁵Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Fortieth Annual Report, p. 165.

³⁶Adapted from annual reports of the Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan, for the years 1941-1945.

³⁷G. E. Britnell. Op. cit., p. 36.

That improper land utilization constitutes an acute factor in agricultural production in Saskatchewan has been and is being recognized by technical agriculturists. Drought and a crash in wheat prices drove farmers from poor farms after 1920. The same factors operated again in 1930 and 1931 to send families to the northern Crown lands for which there had been as yet no adequate soil survey.³⁸ When the provincial government took over the Crown lands in 1930, various solutions to the problem of the new settler were tried and found wanting. A most revealing comment on the plight of the re-settled farmers in the woodlands was made in the Report of the Commissioner of Northern Settlers' Re-establishment:

One of the greatest obstacles that had to be overcome in the development of the north was the insistence on approaching the northern settlement problem from a purely prairie agricultural philosophy. The sole objective appeared to be to make the whole north over in the likeness of the prairies by clearing off every particle of bush, by draining every slough or muskeg, with the object of entering into competition with the prairies in production of cereal crops for which it is in no respect suited.³⁹

This is but one specialized instance in the forest region of land misuse which has frequently taken place in the grass-land regions also. Recognition of this acute problem was made by the Dominion government when it instituted in 1935 its Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act, and made land utilization one important facet of the program. In connection with

³⁸G. E. Britnell, Op. cit., p. 38.

³⁹quoted in G. E. Britnell, Op. cit., p. 213.

this program in the three prairie provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, the statement was made in 1943 that "estimates of reasonable reliability place the proportion of submarginal land at about one-quarter of the settled area."⁴⁰ Table V which shows area and per cent of crop failure suggests in another way land misuse coupled with inade-

TABLE V⁴¹

Area (in Acres) and Per Cent of Crop Failure,
Saskatchewan, 1940

Census Division	Area in Field Crops	Area of Crop Failure	Per Cent of Crop Failure
1	953,273	31,572	3.3
2	1,320,586	100,737	7.6
3	1,689,986	62,294	3.7
4	994,413	130,772	13.1
5	1,029,699	68,675	6.7
6	1,883,422	231,192	12.3
7	1,608,992	81,889	5.1
8	2,338,531	16,485	.7
9	869,301	38,649	4.4
10	937,058	32,768	3.5
11	1,544,939	78,827	5.1
12	1,463,896	9,887	.7
13	1,620,349	12,995	.8
14	1,009,461	19,275	1.9
15	1,541,683	14,546	1.0
16	962,688	9,754	1.0
17	713,647	6,480	.9
18	22,223	219	1.0
Total	22,504,197	947,016	4.2

quate cultural practices. Even though census districts are

⁴⁰ Dominion Department of Agriculture. P. F. R. A. A Record of Achievement, p. 34.

⁴¹ Adapted from Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan, 1941, Table 34, pp. 38-41, and Table 38, p. 47.

not laid out according to soil zones and thus would obscure the acuteness of crop failures in some areas, they still reveal proportionately wide differences in crop failures.

Whereas crop failures as a whole stood at 4.2 per cent of the cultivated area, Census District 4 shows 13.1 per cent crop failure. It is significant that this census district includes some of the Chaplin and Hatton associations listed in the surveys as being very poor soil. It must be remembered also that Table V reflects relatively favorable conditions of agriculture which had begun to recover from the severe drought of the 1930's.

It was pointed out in Table III that Saskatchewan has some 55 millions of acres of non-arable land. The 27 millions of acres of non-arable grasslands may be used for grazing, even though much of the native pasture will support only a sparse population. According to the 1941 census occupied farm lands include 783,901 acres of improved pasture land, and 19,815,940 million acres of prairie or natural pasture making a total of 20,599,841 acres being used for livestock production.⁴² The present deputy minister of agriculture is of the opinion that it is necessary to sell the idea that Saskatchewan is not tied to a wheat economy. As evidence that the province is making some progress in this direction he quotes figures in Table VI on chief sources of farm income.

Figures in Table VI which show the results of

⁴² Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan, 1941, pp. 4-5.

TABLE VI⁴³

Chief Sources of Farm Income in Saskatchewan

Period	Years	Average Farm Income	Source of Income (in Per Cent)		
			Wheat	Coarse Grains	Livestock
1	1931, 32, 33	\$ 72,000,000	70	8	20
2	1943, 44, 45	\$429,000,000	45	17	31

diversification tend to obscure details of agricultural production and to ignore swift changes which may take place in agriculture as is indicated for figures for 1946.⁴⁴ Farm income from wheat for Period 2 is affected by the fact that in 1943 there was the smallest acreage in wheat since 1930. The average number of bushels for the 1943-45 period was actually greater than Period 1. In 1946 acreage in wheat was 98 per cent of the average acreage in Period 1 and bushels of wheat are 42,660,000 more than the average for Period 1. Figures for 1930-1946 would show there has been little appreciable change in acreage in wheat and figures for 1946 show a greater acreage in wheat than in any year since 1940. Saskatchewan farmers, therefore, are not growing less wheat, but perhaps because of more efficient farming methods are able to produce other products in addition to wheat.

As for coarse grains, acreage in 1946 in oats and barley

⁴³Speech of M. Hartnett. Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 7, 1947.

⁴⁴Figures to follow on production are taken from or computed from material in Economic Advisory and Planning Board of the Province of Saskatchewan. Data Covering Diversification of Agriculture in Saskatchewan, 1930-1946.

is still somewhat higher than the average of Period 1, but shows a downward trend from 1945 to 1946. The high points for rye production were in 1930 and 1942. Acreage in rye for 1946 is about 1/3 of that in 1942, and bushels about 1/4. Since 1943 production of flax seed has dropped sharply. Thus the situation in regard to coarse grains might be said to be extremely fluid and presently unpredictable. Production of potatoes in 1946 is still lower than the average of Period 1, and yet Saskatchewan does not raise enough potatoes for its own people.

Production of alfalfa, however, is in 1946 about 9 times the average for 1931-1933, probably because there has been some increase in livestock production. In 1946 there were 39,934 more milk cows on Saskatchewan farms than the average for 1931-1933; but there were 23,600 less than in 1945. The average of "Other Cattle" (presumably beef cattle) in 1931-33 was less than 2/3 the 1946 numbers. But there were fewer on farms in 1946 than in 1945. The number of sheep and lambs, however, showed a continuous rise to 1946. Hog production has fallen off sharply. From a high of 1,754,600 hogs in 1943, the number has decreased to 75,700 in 1946, or less than the average number on farms in 1931-1933. This decrease is the more significant as agriculturists and a few farmers are interested in having Saskatchewan secure the British bacon hog market.⁴⁵ The president of the Swine Breeders'

⁴⁵Reports at Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6 and 7, and Saskatchewan Swine Breeders' Association. Annual Report for Year Ending December 31, 1946.

Association is disconcerted by the continuing decrease including a 25 per cent drop from 1945 to 1946. Other products which are above the 1931-33 level but show a downward trend from the war years are poultry, eggs, milk and creamery butter.

From figures on livestock and grains for the period 1930-1946, it appears that diversification may be partially a product of that effort which many farmers put forth to supply extra foodstuffs for their troops. It must await figures for the next five or ten years to say whether farmers are convinced of the necessity for diversification or whether they are dropping back into a pattern of wheat growing.

Other land resources of Saskatchewan deserve brief mention even though they are not an integral part of a study of agricultural adult education. Approximately twenty-eight millions of acres of Saskatchewan land are in forests located just south of the pre-Cambrian shield. From some of these wooded lands come products of fur farming, trapping, and fishing; though as is revealed by Table VII, none of these activities account for any considerable portion of Saskatchewan's income. Mining, quarrying, and oil and salt wells provide small amounts of cash income, but none of these have yet assumed the importance of agriculture in the Saskatchewan economy.

TABLE VII⁴⁶

Values of Production in Saskatchewan

Source of Production	Value	Percentage of Total Production
Agriculture	\$249,573,000	74.9
Forestry	5,748,457	1.7
Fisheries	1,154,544	0.3
Trapping	1,985,649	0.6
Mining	23,507,079	7.1
Electric Power	5,189,906	1.6
Construction	6,765,644	2.0
Custom and Repair	6,739,000	2.0
Manufactures	32,782,192	9.8
Total	\$333,445,471	100.0

When the initial problem of land utilization has been solved by determining from the soil survey what crops a particular piece of land will support there are three general areas related to the land and its use which will affect agricultural efficiency. These are (1) cultural practices including water development; (2) farm management; and (3) marketing.⁴⁷

Although soil may be excellent and put to the right uses, it is easily exhausted unless handled properly. Soil drifting, in particular, is a menace to Saskatchewan and must be controlled by proper tillage practices. Water erosion and soil productivity must be watched. Selecting the proper kind of machinery also is important to correct utilization of the

⁴⁶Adapted from Tables 5 and 6, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Canada Year Book 1946, pp. 198, 199.

⁴⁷Unless otherwise indicated, a summary of these three phases will be taken from topics found in Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan.

soil. To avoid rust and other plant disease, and to assure early maturing crops for a severe climate, cereals must be studied and reassessed each year. The Saskatchewan Cereal Variety Committee issues yearly, well in advance of the growing season, a list of varieties of grain crops with areas for which they are recommended.⁴⁸

The same care as used in selecting grain must be applied to selecting garden vegetables and fruits, and these must be protected by shelter belts grown to order in the treeless prairies. Weed control and control of insect pests of plants and livestock must be watched. The sawfly and the warble fly are particular pests in Saskatchewan.⁴⁹

With livestock and poultry production there are problems of breeding, care, and feeding; and in the case of marketable animals, producing those which the market will support and marketing when the price will be best.

Provision of water in the semi-arid prairies is still one of the chief agricultural problems in Saskatchewan. In recognition of this fact, the Dominion government gives assistance to farmers or to communities in water development projects. From 1935 to March 31, 1945, the government assisted in developing 11,201 dugouts, 2,757 stockwatering dams, and 654 irrigation projects.⁵⁰ But the problem of water development

⁴⁸See printed circular, The Saskatchewan Cereal Variety Committee. Varieties of Grain Crops for Saskatchewan 1947.

⁴⁹Agricultural Representatives Conference, Feb. 6 and 7.

⁵⁰Dominion Department of Agriculture. Report on Activities under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act for the Year ending March 31, 1945, p. 16.

has not yet been solved and needs continuous work.

In farm management several different factors are of importance. First, the farmer must judge efficient size of farm in relation to its value producing capacity. Second, he must calculate efficient rates of production of crops and livestock, including balancing increasing yields against increasing costs of production. Third, he must so combine his farm enterprises as to make full use of farm facilities. This involves efficient use of labor, waste land, and by-products; crop rotation; insurance against price collapse and crop failure; balancing enterprises so that income will be uniformly distributed throughout the year; and selection of types of farming to be done. Fourth, the farmer must make effective use of labor, power, and machinery. Fifth, he must achieve effective farm and financial management in relation to prices.

Certain aspects of marketing have been described in the first part of this Chapter and will be discussed in Chapter IV. These relate to provision of adequate transportation, and reducing handling charges of produce so that farmers may secure an increasing percentage of the profit from their products.

The price which the farmers receive and which is a major factor in agricultural stability is known as one of the two or three crucial issues in the Saskatchewan agricultural economy.⁵¹ When price is considered, furthermore, attention

⁵¹Interview with Hadley Van Vliet February 17, 1947.

must turn from the local farm and the provincial marketing association to the national scene and the international front. The following comment is made regarding Canada's exporting economy:

A population in excess of 100 million people would be required to make full use of farm produce and timber resources that are now placed on the market each year. Actually, Canada has only about 12 million inhabitants at the present time.⁵²

Security and stability of the farmer's economy therefore depends on the price which his government can secure for him in the foreign market and duration of international agreements over a long enough time that the farmer can adequately plan his production. In this connection, the Canadian government has signed a bilateral wheat agreement with the United Kingdom covering the four years 1946-1950; with a guaranteed price for two years and a negotiated price for the other two years. Some organizations, however, are still hoping for an international agreement which will bring world order in food marketing.⁵³ The extent to which Saskatchewan farmers diversify their economy depends partially on the development of such agreements for other products both on a domestic and on an international scale.

The extreme dependence on wheat and the variability of factors of land utilization, farm management, cultural

⁵²From a speech by the Honorable J. A. MacInnon, Dominion Minister of Trade and Commerce quoted in The Economic Annalist. Volume XVI, Number 3, August, 1946, p. 53.

⁵³Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, pp. 78-79.

practices, and marketing practices in Saskatchewan can be expressed in human terms by reference to the amount of money farm people have to spend under varying circumstances. In an estimate of the years 1919-1938 there has been the greatest change in aggregate and per capita income payments in Saskatchewan of any of the Canadian provinces. Per capita income in Saskatchewan, for instance, shows a 37.47 decrease in 1929-1938 over 1919-1928. Over the years 1938-45 fluctuations in net national income paid to agriculture have been far greater in Saskatchewan than in Canada as a whole. Agricultural income in Canada will change as much as 138.01 per cent from one year to the next; but from 1938 to 1939 agricultural income in Saskatchewan changed 424.24 per cent.

Sharp changes in income affect relief rolls decisively. In 1942 only 5,489 people in Saskatchewan were supported by direct relief; but in 1938, 324,249 persons or approximately thirty-five per cent of the population was in that category. This pattern of variability in income from year to year is repeated among districts in the province. In 1945 in crop reporting district four, per farm net income was \$722; in district two, \$4,155. The average farm family in the latter district has more than five times as much to spend as the family in the former area.⁵⁴

In a study of progress of farmers in representative

⁵⁴Summarized from Economic Advisory and Planning Board of the Province of Saskatchewan. Income Distribution and Income Adequacy in Saskatchewan.

areas of Saskatchewan, it was found that the following factors were significantly related to progress: (1) climate and soil, (2) economic conditions of farmers at the time they began farming, (3) resources of farmers, (4) care with which farmers acquired land and made improvements on the farm, (5) size of farm business, (6) adjustment of farm business to soil and climate, and (7) personal qualities of the farmer.⁵⁵

Land in fifty-six municipal divisions comprising the whole of the drought area in South Central Saskatchewan has been classified according to suitability for wheat growing, Class I being submarginal; Class II, marginal; Classes III, IV, and V, suitable. Data are available on relationship of these land classes to various economic factors. Percentage of private ownership and owner-operated farms, and wheat yields increases in direct proportion as one proceeds from Class I to Class V.

Approximately 56 per cent of the sets of buildings on farms in Land Class V were of medium to large size and in good state of repair, whereas nine per cent or less were similarly described for farms in Land Classes I and II. These classes are also related to mortgage foreclosures, appraised values, debts, and tax indebtedness. The importance of soil types is strikingly illustrated by the

⁵⁵Stewart H. Lane. An Analysis of Factors Influencing the Progress of Farmers in Representative Farm Areas of Saskatchewan, p. 105.

difference which one bushel of wheat in average yields will make to a farm family. Assuming on the average farm in this area there are 180 acres of wheat and that the average price is eighty cents a bushel, an additional bushel per acre will yield an additional gross return of \$144. This is approximately enough to pay the interest on a mortgage of \$2,400. It may make the difference between a farm unit in Class II and a higher class.⁵⁶

A sampling study has been made of changes in farm income and indebtedness in three periods: (1) 1929 to 1931, (2) 1932 to 1934, and (3) 1938 to 1940. These periods represent the last of the good years, the depths of the agricultural depression, and partial recovery. Among findings is one to the effect that farmers on heavy and medium soils strengthened their financial position between periods two and three more than those on inferior soils. Adjustments to the sharp fluctuations in agricultural fortunes in Saskatchewan are made by increase in efficiency and lower levels of living expenditures which persist into the recovery period. Small farms are at a greater disadvantage to large farms in 1938-40 than they were in 1929-31, which may suggest a trend in Saskatchewan farming.⁵⁷

Land classifications bear a direct relationship to

⁵⁶C. G. Spence and E. C. Hope. An Economic Classification of Land.

⁵⁷E. C. Hope, H. Van Vliet, and C. G. Spence. Changes in Farm Income and Indebtedness in Saskatchewan.

taxes. Tax systems in turn bear a similarly direct relationship to the essential social services which may be provided for the rural community. As late as 1935, no research of a comprehensive nature had been done in the area of rural taxation in Canada. At that writing it appeared that tax burdens were considerably lower in Canadian farm communities than in United States farm areas. These estimates of taxes as percentage of net returns, however, took little account of the quality of service which communities received for their taxes.⁵⁸

Since 1935 certain adjustments have been made in assessed valuation of land as based on the soil survey. Provincial education grants-in-aid since 1939 have been projected on a sliding scale depending on the assessment of the school district. The work in assessment has been transferred to a provincial group of assessors hired by the provincial government and trained in short courses at the University of Saskatchewan. The new basis for land assessment requires a study of land classification.⁵⁹

In summary there is presented Table VIII which illustrates probable incomes in 1935 from farms on several types of soils.

⁵⁸W. A. Mackintosh assisted by A. B. Clark, G. A. Elliott, and W. W. Swanson. Economic Problems of the Prairie Provinces, pp. 228-229.

⁵⁹Ernest C. Hope. An Economic Classification of Land in Seven Municipalities in South Central Saskatchewan 1936, pp. 218-220.

TABLE VIII⁶⁰

Probable Net Income of Half Section and Section Farms On
Several Types of Soils

Grouping	Soil Type	Half Section (Dollars)	Section (Dollars)	Probable Average Yields of Wheat (Bu. per acre)
Excellent soils	Regina heavy clay	\$516	\$1588	16.0
	Melfort silty clay	432	1491	22.5
	Indian Head clay	307	1280	19.0
Fair to good soils	Oxbow loam	262	547	16.0
	Haverhill clay loam	42	703	12.5
	Fox Valley silty clay loam	4	859	12.0
	Weyburn loam	49	597	11.5
	Oxbow and Yorkton light loams	-10	523
Poor soils	Hatton fine sandy loam	-236	267	8.5
	Echo clay loam and loam	-332	-307	10.5

Cultivating 640 acres of Echo soils around Frenchman River, Kerrobert, and in the Central Butte District, a farmer might hope only for a discouraging deficit of \$307 for a year's work. Spotty crop growth due to a poor stand on eroded or burned out soil is reflected by the probably average yield of 10.5 bushels of wheat per acre. With power farming, a farmer can hope to secure from the rich dark brown Regina soils an income of \$1588 per section which is partially reflected in an average wheat yield of sixteen bushels per acre. Although progress has been made both by chance and by following the dictates of technical research

⁶⁰J. Mitchell, H. C. Moss, and J. S. Clayton. Op. cit., p. 199.

such as the soil survey, proper land utilization still remains as a factor in agricultural production and thus in agricultural adult education for production.

2. The People.

A primary fact about the population of Saskatchewan is that at present it is decreasing in accord with trends in agricultural areas in Canada and the United States. The population was at a high point in 1936 when some 931,547 persons were recorded in the prairie census. According to estimates, the number has dropped to 845,000 in 1945 as shown in Table IX.

TABLE IX⁶¹

Total Population of Saskatchewan, 1901-1971

Year	Total Population
1901	91,279
1906	257,763
1911	492,432
1916	647,835
1921	757,510
1926	820,738
1931	921,785
1936	931,547
1941	895,992
1945	845,000
1951	1,007,000
1961	1,092,000
1971	1,136,000

The population estimated for 1951 is based on calculations of natural increase and not of immigration.

⁶¹From "The Future Population of Canada", Bulletin F-4, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, 1946. Cited in Economic Advisory and Planning Board of the Province of Saskatchewan. Income Distribution and Income Adequacy in Saskatchewan, p. 3.

When natural increase is taken into account, loss of population is even greater than would be expected from population figures. Table X shows that though the three prairie provinces suffered an average decrease of 82,621 persons in

TABLE X⁶²

Migration in the Prairie Provinces, 1931-41

Province	Population 1931 census	Natural increase 1931-41	Expected population 1941	Population 1941 census	Migration 1931-41	
					No.	Per Cent
Manitoba	700,139	78,083	778,222	729,744	48,478	6.2
Saskatche- wan	921,785	131,752	1,053,537	895,992	157,545	15.0
Alberta	731,605	106,405	838,010	796,169	41,841	5.0
Total	2,353,529	316,240	2,669,769	2,421,905	247,864	9.3

the period 1931-1941, Saskatchewan lost 157,545 persons or 74,924 persons more than the average of the prairie provinces. Manitoba and Alberta lost 6.2 and 5.0 per cent, respectively, of their population, but Saskatchewan's migration rate was 15.0 per cent. The loss by migration for the whole of Canada in the same period was less than one per cent.

It is evident that in the drought and depression years of the 1930's, many citizens of Saskatchewan migrated into the more prosperous and stable industrial communities of eastern Canada. Although returns from the 1946 census of the prairie provinces are not yet available, it is generally believed that Saskatchewan is continuing to lose population.

⁶²Adapted from table on Migration in Canada, in Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Canada Year Book 1945, p. 121.

From 1901 - 1931, the period of heavy migration, the area most heavily affected was urban. In 1901, 15.6 per cent of the persons in Saskatchewan were urban while in 1931 the percentage had risen to 31.6 per cent; rural population was in the latter year 68.4 per cent of the total. For the critical years of falling population, 1931-1941, the rural groups decreased 1.3 per cent, and in 1941 stood at 67.1 per cent.⁶³

With a declining population, people moving from the rural areas, and nearly one-half of the province sparsely inhabited, density of population is affected. In 1931 density per square mile had risen to 3.87, but in 1941 had dropped to 3.77. There are sharp differences in density from census division to census division, which suggests variation in problems of providing essential services. The density of division eighteen, the sparsely inhabited northern portion of Saskatchewan, is 0.10; that of division four, the ranching area, 2.94; while division six which contains Regina, the capital, is 16.03.⁶⁴

The people of Saskatchewan are relatively a young group. In 1941 the estimated median age of the rural population was 23.5 years. That there are substantial numbers of persons in the upper age brackets is attested to by the fact that

⁶³Computed from Table 12, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Population by Local Subdivisions, Vol. II of the Eighth Census of Canada, p. 177.

⁶⁴Ibid., p. 7.

the estimated average age is 28.0.⁶⁵

In the prairie census of 1936, 217,259 of the 217,315 persons gainfully occupied in agriculture answered the question relating to age, which material is summarized in Table XI. Although the largest number of persons in any category

TABLE XI⁶⁶

Age of Population Gainfully Occupied in Agriculture,
14 years of Age and Over, 1936

Ages (years)	Total		Farmers & Stock raisers		Farm Laborers		All Others	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
14-17	15,395	7.1	76	.1	15,319	17.1	0	.0
18-19	14,017	6.5	325	.3	13,687	15.3	5	.6
20-24	32,781	15.1	4,963	3.9	27,758	30.9	60	6.7
25-34	45,625	20.9	25,129	19.8	20,277	22.6	219	24.3
35-44	36,809	16.9	30,037	23.7	6,571	7.3	201	22.3
45-54	39,248	18.1	35,407	27.9	3,655	4.1	186	20.6
55-64	23,647	10.9	21,744	17.2	1,762	2.0	141	15.6
65-69	5,859	2.7	5,379	4.2	435	.5	45	5.0
70 yrs. & over	3,878	1.8	3,687	2.9	147	.2	44	4.9
Total	217,259	100.0	126,747	100.0	89,611	100.0	901	100.0

fall in that of the 25-34 age group, it will be seen that the farm laborer group has pulled down the age level.

⁶⁵Ibid. Computed from Table 21, pp. 234-235.

⁶⁶Adapted from Table 3, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Occupations, Unemployment Earnings and Employment, Households and Families, Vol. II of the Census of the Prairie Provinces 1936, pp. 472-473.

Independent farmers and stock raisers who are those to which Saskatchewan leaders are ordinarily referring when they speak of farmers, are concentrated in the age groups of 35-44 and 45-54. About 52.2 per cent of the farmers and stock-raisers are forty-five years of age or older. Note that the group of farmers and stockraisers under twenty-five is only 4.3 per cent of the total. On the other hand, 85.9 per cent of the farm laborers are under thirty-five years of age. Many are unpaid family workers, but 40,611 or 45.3 per cent are wage earners.

Table XII which is based on data from the decennial census and which has been set up in different categories from Table XI shows the shift upward in age in the farm operator group. Those persons forty years of age or over were 46.7

TABLE XII⁶⁷

Farm Operators Classified By Age Group,
1921-1941, Saskatchewan

Age Group	1921		1931		1941	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Under 20 years			411	.3	447	.4
20-24 years	5,172	4.5	5,033	4.2	4,816	4.0
25-29 "	15,382	13.5	11,074	9.2	10,964	9.1
30-34 "	19,206	16.8	12,742	10.6	12,903	10.7
35-39 "	21,127	18.5	16,274	13.6	13,216	10.9
40-49 "	28,747	25.2	36,674	30.7	26,597	22.0
50-59 "	15,253	13.4	24,177	20.2	30,739	25.3
60-69 "			10,234	8.5	17,086	14.1
70 yrs. and over	9,266	8.1	3,216	2.7	4,196	3.5
Total	114,153	100.0	119,835	100.0	121,054	100.0

⁶⁷Adapted from Table 3 in Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan, 1941, p. 6.

per cent of the total in 1921; 62.1 per cent, in 1931; and 64.9 per cent, in 1941. These percentages may be affected by the depression years of the thirties when the less well established younger people were forced to move away.

Of those employed in agriculture and reporting schooling in the 1936 census (latest figures available in usable form), 166,625 persons or 78.6 per cent have gone no farther than the eighth grade. Schooling is indicated in Table XIII.

TABLE XIII⁶⁸

Schooling of Population Gainfully Occupied in Agriculture,
14 years of age and over in Saskatchewan, 1936

Years at School	Total		Farmers and Stock Raisers		Farm Laborers		All Others	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Less than 5	34,073	16.0	25,999	21.0	7,952	8.9	122	13.9
5 - 8	132,552	62.6	71,856	58.2	60,226	67.7	470	53.4
9 - 12	43,867	20.1	23,606	19.1	20,025	22.5	236	26.8
13 and over	2,868	1.3	2,051	1.7	765	.9	52	5.9
Total	213,360	100.0	123,512	100.0	88,968	100.0	880	100.0

There is a small difference between independent farmers and stock raisers and farm laborers. About 79.2 per cent of the former and 76.6 per cent of the latter have finished eighth grade. The schooling of the latter group may be influenced by the fact that the group is younger, and some correction can be made by a rough combination of figures in Tables XI

⁶⁸ Adapted from Table 13, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Occupations, Unemployment, Earnings and Employment, Households and Families, Vol. II of the Census of the Prairie Provinces 1936, p. 534.

and XIII. When those 29,006 farm laborers who are nineteen years or under and who might still be assumed not to have completed formal schooling are subtracted from the 68,178 who have not gone beyond eighth grade, there are left 39,172 farm laborers, twenty or over who are almost sure not to proceed farther in school. This is a minimum estimate and yet presents a sizable problem for adult education. The 97,855 farmers and stockraisers who have had eighth grade or less in schooling and who may be expected to read technical agricultural bulletins may also challenge the ingenuity and skill of adult educators. A somewhat more stringent problem may be presented by the 9,565 men ten years of age and over in the rural population, who cannot read and write at all.⁶⁹

The matter of racial origins and nationality groupings is or may be relatively complex. According to the 1941 census, of the 121,106 farm operators reporting birthplace, 67,342 were born in countries other than Canada. The distribution of these operators according to birthplace is as follows:⁷⁰

<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
Canada	53,764	44.4
Other British countries	15,643	12.9
United States	16,093	13.3
Other foreign countries	35,606	29.4
	<u>121,106</u>	<u>100.0</u>

If it can be assumed that culturally and linguistically the first three categories of operators are somewhat similar,

⁶⁹Ibid. Table 6, p. 655.

⁷⁰Adapted from Table 72, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan, 1941, p. 143.

there is left 29.4 per cent of the farm operators who might present problems of assimilation. Many of these, of course, have been in Canada for some years and on their present farms for reasonable lengths of time. Data concerning years on present farm are given in Table XIV. Only 15.5 per cent of

TABLE XIV⁷¹

Years in Residence of Farm Operators, Saskatchewan, 1941

Years on Present Farm	Total (Numbers)	Birthplace (in per cent)			
		Canada	Other British Countries	United States	Other Foreign Countries
0 - 4	27,764	33.3	10.6	16.8	15.5
5 - 9	19,193	18.3	11.1	15.3	14.4
10 - 14	19,906	14.0	14.4	17.4	20.6
15 - 19	10,705	7.0	10.5	10.3	10.2
20 - 24	11,569	7.3	13.8	11.3	10.3
25 yrs. and over	29,104	16.8	37.8	27.1	27.5
Not given	2,865	3.3	1.8	1.8	1.5
Total	121,106	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

those coming from foreign countries other than British countries or the United States have been on their farms for less than five years, and 27.5 per cent report that they have been in residence on the same farm for twenty-five years or more. Of the immigrant farm operators reporting birthplace, approximately 75.3 per cent have lived in Canada for twenty-five years or more.⁷²

Of the 121,062 farm operators reporting racial origins

⁷¹Computed from Table 72, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Census of Agriculture Saskatchewan, 1941, p. 143.

⁷²Ibid., p. 141, computed from Table 70.

in the 1941 census, 41.2 per cent of them are from the British Isles races and 57.5 per cent from European races. Of the latter group, the greatest numbers are in order, German, Ukrainian, Norwegian, and French.

There are differences between these groups in the types of farms they own and in how they manage them. Operators of English origin, for example, have farms which are typically 479 acres, and they pay out \$89 a season in wages per farm. The Scottish group (British Isles races) are even more prosperous, having farms of 508 acres and paying out \$111 in wages. Operators from other European areas are not typically so prosperous, though German, Icelandic, and Norwegian operators have larger farms and pay out more wages than many of the other groups. The Germans have farms of 452 acres, and pay out \$65 in wages; while farms of Norwegian operators average 465 acres and workers on them receive \$70 per year. Certain of the other groups, however, are not so fortunate. Ukrainian operators have farms averaging 290 acres, and pay out \$35 in wages. There are only thirty Asiatic (Chinese and Japanese) farm operators and their farms average only 180 acres a piece, but operators pay out \$338 per farm in wages. Both of these figures reflect the fact that twenty out of thirty Asiatics operate vegetable, fruit, and nursery farms, probably truck gardens adjacent to cities.⁷³

⁷³Unless otherwise indicated material above and that below on racial origins has been computed from ibid., Tables 76, 77, and 79. Pp. 146, 147, and 149.

The relative prosperity of various racial groups as reflected in size of farm and wages paid out can be further clarified by figures on percentages in each group of subsistence and combinations of subsistence farms. Subsistence farms are those on which the value of products used by the farm household amounts to fifty per cent or more of the gross farm revenue. Combinations of subsistence farms are those on which the value of products used and the revenue from another main type (such as poultry) are required to make fifty per cent or more of gross farm revenue. The following are estimates of such farms for racial groups previously discussed:

<u>Racial origin of farm operators</u>	<u>Percentage of subsistence and combination of subsistence farms.</u>
English	14.8
Scottish	13.3
German	16.9
Icelandic	24.8 ⁷⁴
Norwegian	13.6
Ukrainian	32.9

The high incidence of subsistence farms among the Ukrainian group undoubtedly could be partially explained by many economic factors such as relatively more recent immigration, less capital when beginning farming ventures, poorer land because of both of the other factors. However, only 1.6 per cent of the 7,757 Ukrainian farm operators listing themselves as immigrants have been in Canada less than ten

⁷⁴ This figure may be affected by the small number of operators (459) in the Icelandic group.

years. Other Slavic groups appear to have made better adjustments. Only 17.4 per cent of the operators of Russian origin live on subsistence farms; their average farms are 376 acres, and they pay out \$48 per year in wages. Although no conclusive statements can be made here, it would be useful to learn what cultural factors related to nationality backgrounds are at work in these groups. Did they immigrate as individuals or as members of well-knit culture groups? For how long do their inherited patterns of culture last in a new environment and what are the positive and negative affects of those patterns? If some of their social ties are of value in assisting them to adjust to new environments, how can new ties to take the place of the old be created after the first flush of immigration has worn off? Is a high level of living necessary to a development of satisfaction with farm life, or are factors in culture patterns operating to assist them to adjustment despite economic difficulties?

That questions such as the foregoing are pertinent to a discussion of successful living on Saskatchewan farms is suggested by findings of studies of the prairie provinces and of Saskatchewan. The author of a study of general living conditions among pioneer families in northern Saskatchewan says that nationality and birthplace are factors affecting the interrelationship among level of living, cost of living, and social adjustment. She points out that Anglo-Saxons and Northern Europeans have the highest and Middle Europeans

the lowest level and cost of living, but that these groups are not correspondingly satisfied or dissatisfied with their way of life. She concludes that despite their low level of living, American-born Middle Europeans are among the most well-adjusted settlers.⁷⁵ Questions for adult educators to ponder over would be such as these: Are agricultural adult education services to improve level of living working as effectively among Middle European as among Anglo-Saxon and Northern European groups? How can level of living be raised among such groups without losing that element of adjustment? How can Anglo-Saxons and Northern Europeans be assisted in maintaining their levels of living while working toward a better integration with their way of life?

In a series of studies of the three prairie provinces appears one of selected ethnic groups including the Russian Doukhobors, the German Mennonites, the Mormons, the German Catholics, and the French Canadians. Some of these groups are very strong in Saskatchewan. Their settlement has been characterized by community migration based on families and by strong religious ties interrelated with nationality factors. Mr. Dawson points out in his conclusions the strengths and weaknesses of this type of settlement. He says that first of all it makes for greater residential stability because it puts a premium on unity of productive effort. Less fortunate neighbors are enabled to survive the hardships of early

⁷⁵Helen M. Turnbull. A Level of Living Study of Families in the Pioneer Areas of Northern Saskatchewan, p. 134.

years because they can lean on the community for support. These communities will, because of high cooperative endeavor, ordinarily exhibit high productive efficiency, though consumption practices may not vary accordingly but be conditioned by standards of living set by the culture level of the community. Certain of these groups show a high ability in weathering effects of depression, with consequent increase in stability.

The second major conclusion concerning these groups is that they have developed social organization very rapidly. Schools, churches, and other community institutions have been built under pressure from the group and with very little outside subsidy. Community organization gave to settlers, says Mr. Dawson, "a sense of security and permanency." It also emphasized their tendency to stay apart from other culture groups.

These groups have proved so resistant to assimilation that governmental departments attempting to establish institutions of the dominant language and culture groups have found their task difficult and costly. A similar strain was imposed on other administrators who sought to unite the members of these bloc communities with their neighbors in bringing about improvements in communication, marketing, banking, and many other matters which extend far beyond any colony.

All of these communities, says Mr. Dawson, have had their barriers broken down by forces at work in the total society. In other words, they are gradually being assimilated,

and "Assimilation may be facilitated by extending types of social organization to these ethnic communities if administrators learn how to work with the inevitable tide...."⁷⁶

At least eleven years have elapsed since Professor Dawson wrote these words, and in the meantime the process of assimilation has continued. It probably is no longer so important to work with the tide. But investigating the cohesive and resistant elements in these culture patterns to discover how they could be duplicated in the developing Canadian culture is more important than ever as the older cultures are breaking down.

As is indicated in Table XV, the rural people of Saskatchewan are of many religions and their nationality groups are reflected in those religions. Though not large, the sects appear prominently in the list. Mennonites probably of German origin, and Mormons undoubtedly from the United States are in the list. The Roman Catholic group reflects those of French origin, though there are many more Catholics than French in the province. Persons of Ukrainian origin probably account for the Greek Orthodox.

⁷⁶ C. A. Dawson. Group Settlement; Ethnic Communities in Western Canada, pp. 377-380.

TABLE XV⁷⁷Rural Population by Principal Religious Denominations
Saskatchewan, 1941

Religion	Number	Per Cent
Adventist	3,032	.5
Anglican	63,308	10.5
Baptist	11,807	2.0
Brethren and United Brethren	789	.1
Confucian and Buddhist	136	.1
Christian	1,395	.2
Church of Christ, Disciples	1,457	.2
Christian Science	416	.1
Evangelical Church	2,980	.5
Greek Orthodox	29,910	5.0
International Bible Students Assn.	1,802	.3
Jewish	609	.1
Lutheran	83,921	14.0
Mennonite	28,242	4.7
Mormon	929	.2
Pentecostal	5,320	.9
Presbyterian	31,390	5.2
Protestant	418	.1
Roman Catholic	182,180	30.1
Salvation Army	558	.1
United Church of Canada	134,304	22.4
Other	15,434	2.6
Not Stated	509	.1
Total	600,846	100.0

How an average rural Saskatchewan family lives may be estimated from various statistics about and accounts of the province; though this must be taken as an average, with the realization that there will be wide variations from district to district.⁷⁸

⁷⁷Adapted from Table 37, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Population by Local Subdivisions, Vol. II of the Eighth Census of Canada, pp. 544-545.

⁷⁸Unless otherwise indicated, the story of typical Saskatchewan communities is synthesized from interviews with University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Agriculture Representative Service employees, and other persons such as housewives, and by accounts cited in other chapters.

The most imposing structure in the little rural village is the red wheat elevator built so as to stand three or four stories high. Other buildings in the village will be one story frame structures. One of these buildings may be devoted to the local consumers coöperative built, as the current saying goes, on a lump of coal, a gallon of fuel oil, a bushel of wheat, and a ball of binder twine: cornerstones of a farmer's economy. As times have got better, the store will have put in a line of groceries including perhaps some flour milled from the farmer's own wheat, at the central coöperative flour mill. The store may carry a small stock of work clothes including work shoes from the Saskatchewan government factory.

The village may have a church, usually either Protestant or Catholic depending on the dominant nationality group in the community. It may be Greek Orthodox to accommodate the Ukrainians in the district. A community center built coöperatively may be found in the village, but more than likely the rural school will be used for community events. There will likely be no commercial movie.

Once every several weeks a Saskatchewan Wheat Pool operator or a man employed by the Saskatchewan Film Board will be around on his regular circuit to show sixteen millimeter films to the youngsters in the school during the day and to the adults in the evening. This movie fare will be reasonably varied, and may include a travelog, such as "Song of the Ski", something in agriculture as "The Cow and Its

Relatives", perhaps a health film as "Action of the Human Heart", and others. If the center or school does not have electricity, as it very well may not, the film operator may use batteries from farmers' cars or tractors to run his machine.

The film showing may be held as an event by itself, or in conjunction with a Wheat Pool, agricultural society, horticultural society, or other community meeting. If there is a talk after the film showing by an agricultural representative or a Wheat Pool field man, the speaker may be hard put to hold the attention of those older adults in the front rows who have come to hear the talk and the teenagers in the back seats who are waiting impatiently for the meeting to be over and the dance to begin. Some additional distraction may be created by small children who had to be brought along because their parents could not leave them alone. If the music after the talk is poor and the dance a "wash-out", the technical agriculturists who came for the educational part of the program may have to take a hand. One will "grab the fiddle" and the other act as floor manager. The affair may close with coffee and doughnuts.

If the commercial movie as a source of entertainment is infrequent, the legitimate theatre is unknown except again as the local community creates its own stage. High school young people or those who are somewhat older may have a club affiliated with the Saskatchewan Drama League. Once every several months this group may put on a play borrowed from the

Extension Department of the University or written by one of the club members. This type of entertainment may be supplemented in the more prosperous communities in the winter by curling on the cooperative rink.

In the spring, summer, or fall months this program may be varied by picnics at a community picnic ground built by the local rural community, by attendance at a local or regional fair, or by field day at the local experimental station or some farmer's grounds.

When roads are clear, farm families may come into town by automobile, though the prosperity of the family will partly determine whether they can own a car.⁷⁹ In winter when roads are blocked, social events in the local community may be cancelled, or families may drive to the village in big wooden-covered wagons drawn by Clydesdale or Percheron horses. A small stove will probably be carried in the wagon to guard against the below-zero temperatures. Some of the more prosperous farmers may move into town for the winter to avoid being shut off entirely from community social life for several weeks at a time. Many, however, must resign themselves to a severely restricted life in the winter months.

The extent of social life at home will depend again on several factors including the family's notion of what constitutes the good life. The most usual form of home enter-

⁷⁹In 1944-45, there were only 78,153 licenses issued for cars in all of Saskatchewan; while there are between 130,000 and 140,000 farm operators representing individual farm units.

tainment is probably the radio. At least, that is reported as the typical pioneer family's extravagance, and the pioneer family is apt to be economically less better off than those in other parts of the province.⁸⁰ Probably because of distances radio listening is not a community group activity, but a family activity. The farm family probably does not have access to a public library and reading matter will vary with the character of the family.⁸¹ The typical pioneer family possesses no books, and procures neither books for entertainment nor technical agricultural periodicals from any other source.⁸² In more prosperous areas, farmers are better off. The family will probably take some farm paper such as The Western Producer.

The mother in the farm family may have been married as young as nineteen years or less, and she was in all probability married by age twenty-five. Her younger children may be attending a local rural school or she may be helping them with their schoolwork at home. Her older children may from time to time receive high school lessons by correspondence from the provincial Department of Education, and receive tutoring in them at the rural school. One or more of her sons or daughters will probably go off to a city in

⁸⁰Helen M. Turnbull. Op. cit., p. 49.

⁸¹There were only 22 public libraries in the province in 1944. See Department of Education of the Province of Saskatchewan. Annual Report. 1944-45, p. 76.

⁸²Helen M. Turnbull. Op. cit., p. 49.

Saskatchewan or in another province. When she and her husband retire, they may go into town to live.

The farm home may have such improvements as ice box, electricity, and running water, but these will be reserved to the more prosperous or ingenious farmers.⁸³ The farm family may and probably does have a telephone, though in 1943 there were only 48,280 rural residence telephones in Saskatchewan.⁸⁴ In the home there may be among other photographs a picture of the king and queen taken in celebration of their last visit to Canada.

The level of living of the farm family will vary considerably from district to district, and be in some areas relatively poor. Bleakness and isolation may be the lot of the farmer and his household. The extent to which the conveniences of life are present may affect adjustment to farm life, for it has been suggested that "a high level of living, a high cost of living, and a high degree of social adjustment are related." However, factors affecting these basic factors "do not influence them all in the same direction...."⁸⁵ Thus nationality, birthplace, education, and age of family may correlate either positively or negatively with basic

⁸³For a discussion and statistics somewhat outdated on farm living, see G. E. Britnell. *Op. cit.*, Chapter VII; and A Submission by the Government of Saskatchewan to the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations, Chapter IX.

⁸⁴Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Canada Year Book, 1945, p. 722.

⁸⁵Helen M. Turnbull. *Op. cit.*, p. 134.

factors, or may bear a relationship to one and not the other.

Materials on the variability of the farm population on the one hand, and farm management studies which explain income levels in terms of cultivated acreage and estimates of the living arrangement of farm people on the other hand, tend to suggest the riddle of the hen and the egg. Assuming for the moment that level of living is related to satisfaction with farming as a way of life, is a satisfactory level of living achieved because of a farm run in a particular way, or is the efficiently run farm the product of a complex set of drives and aspirations of the farm family which are related to deep-rooted cultural patterns? The answer to such a question though not presently available is extremely important to the agricultural adult educationist. Assuming that any educator with a modicum of vision has as his ultimate purpose helping farm families to secure a happier and more successful living for themselves and their children, how does he achieve his goal? Does he help to raise the farm level of living by preaching diversification and better utilization of land, or by helping to construct community halls and develop rural electrification? Should he deal with facts and figures or should he work on emotions and prejudices? Is there one agricultural adult education program or are there as many programs as there are nationality, age, and education groups?

That inquiries such as the above may be pertinent is testified by facts heretofore presented on the people. These inquiries are reinforced by such statements as the

following based on a study of progress among a sampling of families in various Saskatchewan soil zones:

The results of an analysis of the relationship of nationality to progress for zones and soil types indicated....that the nationalities which showed the most favorable progress....showed favorable progress regardless of the area in which they had settled.⁸⁶

A consideration of adjustment and maladjustment factors poses problems of far-reaching consequence to agricultural adult education leaders. When the issue is resolved concerning what attack to make on improving agricultural life, there is still the question of what Saskatchewan farmers can do about certain aspects of living standards. Saskatchewan has lost an estimated 157,545 persons in the period 1931-1941, and an additional number between 1941 and 1945. With each reduction in population the burden of providing essential services through provincial taxation or voluntary means becomes greater for those who are left. Yet the movement of population out of the prairie provinces may have been caused by an excess of population which the provinces could not support.⁸⁷ The people of Saskatchewan are further handicapped by their agricultural status. They must import most finished products to which are added excessive transportation costs not borne by persons in the eastern

⁸⁶ Stewart H. Lane. Op. cit., p. 85. Farmers showing favorable rates of progress are largely of British and Scandinavian origins.

⁸⁷ W. Burton Hurd. Contemporary Demographic Movements Underlying Canadian Agricultural Development, pp. 37-39.

provinces.⁸⁸

The problems of agricultural adult education as based on the land and the people are as technical as the findings of modern agricultural research, as varied and complex as the people who inhabit the province, and as wide in scope as the economics and interests of Canada and of the foreign nations to which the destiny of Saskatchewan is linked.

⁸⁸Province of Saskatchewan. A Submission by the Government of Saskatchewan to the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations, Part VII.

CHAPTER III

ADULT EDUCATION FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

1. The Agricultural Representative Service.

How can Saskatchewan organize to meet the problems of soil conservation and improved agricultural production? How can farm communities be made better places in which to live? The following answers to such questions are given to farmers of the province by the reorganized Agricultural Representative Service:

First, we must intelligently plan the organization of groups devoted to agricultural progress.

Second, we must utilize the vast reservoir of agricultural information available as a result of scientific research.

Third, we must co-operate with our neighbours. Only by working together can we pool our ideas and successfully apply the scientific data at our disposal.

This arm of the provincial Department of Agriculture consists of some thirty-six agricultural representatives who with their director and assistant director have become key professional workers in the newly constituted Saskatchewan Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program.¹

Although this service as presently envisioned has developed since November, 1944, the nucleus of it appeared as far back as 1914. Thirty-two years of development makes it

¹The Bureau of Publications. Your Agricultural Representative Service, pp. 2-3.

an old agency in a province which is celebrating its forty-second birthday. In the Eleventh Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for 1916 there appears brief mention of consideration given to the proposal to establish a "district representative service." In response to this proposal four men holding the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from the Manitoba Agricultural College were employed in the spring of 1915. In addition to their diplomas these men were possessed of certain practical qualifications having "lived the greater part of their lives on farms in Western Canada," and knowing well the conditions of western agriculture. That this new service should have been instituted at this particular time was an indication that Saskatchewan's destiny had already been foreseen.

The serious loss resulting from the crop failure in south-western Saskatchewan in 1914 which could have been largely averted by right tillage methods, emphasized the need for permanently located representatives of the department in that large and important section of the province.²

These four men in districts which distances must have made forbidding were expected to perform manifold tasks. Not only were they to demonstrate better methods of production, but they were to encourage diversification of production, promote young people's societies, and assist in improving rural life. Apparently wheat had already begun to unhinge the economy of Saskatchewan, for they were to look

²Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan, Eleventh Annual Report, p. 12.

to securing stable markets and profitable prices for that product, and to assist in establishing coöperative associations and creameries.³ The range of duties of the new agricultural representatives showed that there were already present certain fixed notions about how to improve agriculture in Saskatchewan: (1) security was to be achieved by diversification; (2) stability was a goal to be sought; (3) profitable prices were the business of the district representative; and (4) the way to get good returns was through coöperative associations. One other important item was suggested in this first report. The district representatives were to assist in promoting agricultural societies. The link with the University was therefore already forged; for the societies were a responsibility of the director of agricultural extension at the University of Saskatchewan.

Arrangements for the service were disrupted by the first world war. Through the years, the number of representatives increased, but the service lacked vitality. During the depression the function of the agricultural representatives was weighted by the administrative burden of dispensing relief. There were sixteen representatives at the outbreak of the second world war.⁴

Following the coming into power of the coöperative commonwealth government, steps were taken to expand and im-

³Ibid., p. 13.

⁴Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan, p. 163.

prove the service. On March 30, 1945, the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan enacted The Agricultural Representatives Act, 1945, which provided the framework for the re-organization. Instead of being a small and unimportant part of the deputy minister's organization, the agricultural representatives were provided with a director and subsequently an assistant director who could devote full time to building up and supervising the service. Although the spirit of the act would indicate that the province was to bear the main burden of expense, the Rural Municipal Act was amended at the same time to permit use of municipal funds for agricultural representative work.⁵

The basic framework of the organization was changed from that of twenty-one representative districts, 1944, containing an average of about 6,500 farms to that of thirty-six districts containing approximately 3,500 to 4,000 farms. The number of farms per district varies with the type of farming. At the present time, for instance, district four, which is a ranching area, contains only 1800 farms.⁶ Each district corresponds to an Agricultural Conservation and Improvement District as defined in the agricultural representatives act, being composed of such rural municipalities and

⁵Ibid., p. 163. See also Bill No. 89 of 1945 of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. An Act Respecting Agricultural Representatives.

⁶Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan, Thirty-Ninth Annual Report, p. 191, and interviews with M. E. Hartnett and E. E. Brockelbank, February 3, 1947.

local improvement districts as the Lieutenant Governor in Council may designate. As of January, 1947, one agricultural representative had been appointed for each of the thirty-six districts.⁷

The increase in two years from twenty-one to thirty-six representatives and the increased appropriations, as well as other provisions for the service, are manifestations of a fundamental change which Department of Agriculture leaders appear to be trying to bring about. This change does not seem to be concerned primarily with purposes, but rather with professionalization of staff members and with vitalizing work among the farmers.

Professionalizing the staff is compounded of a variety of elements many of them having to do with giving agricultural representatives a feeling of status. The present deputy minister who is credited with having initiated the reorganization points out that all the agricultural representatives appointed under the new act must be graduates of colleges of agriculture. The recently appointed director indicates that though the reorganization has taken place since the last change in the provincial government, there is no thought of replacing past appointees in the service with other candidates. New men are to be employed only as additional places become available in an expanded program. The agricultural

⁷ Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Agricultural Representative Service (mimeographed sheet), January 8, 1947.

representatives must be made to feel secure in their jobs, and have rights and privileges accorded permanent civil servants. These statements are reinforced by such comments from leaders as "Agricultural representatives are on high priority," meaning that they will receive favorable consideration in appropriations of the Legislature.⁸

It might be inferred from such statements that an effort was being made to remove the service from the vagaries of political fortune. The appointment of a director and assistant director appears to be another step in the same direction. Individual agricultural representatives thus become responsible to their own head rather than directly to the Minister of Agriculture whose other duties are legion. The planning responsibilities of the new directors are partly shared by those of four newly appointed supervisors, experienced men, who are responsible for direct control of agricultural representatives within each of their areas. These men have been relieved of responsibility for particular districts in order that they may give their full time to coordinating work within their several areas.

Efforts are made to free the representatives from feeling they are bound by fixed jobs. In his opening remarks to the agricultural representatives at a conference, February 6, the director insisted that "nobody expects agricultural representatives to be yes-men." If they did not agree with the

⁸M. E. Hartnett at Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6, 1947.

policy of the service, he urged, they ought to say so in earthy language that could be readily understood.

An examination of the background of the present director, who was for many years professor of agricultural extension, reveals some attempt to link the service with professional educational institutions. Prior to completing plans for the reorganization, the deputy minister and the director studied extension education at the summer school of the Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Men from educational and technical institutions are invited to address the agricultural representatives not only on questions of technical agriculture but on matters relating to their interpretation of the agricultural representative service. In a conference of December, 1946, a Dominion Department of Agriculture man was invited to speak on "The Position of the Dominion Department of Agriculture Services in the Co-operative Extension Program." At the same conference the Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, presented his views on how the agricultural representative might operate as an agricultural leader in his district.⁹ Men are required to attend regular training conferences, and are urged to read such professional materials as the Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan. Their old form of reporting has been replaced by new standardized monthly report forms which they are urged to send in

⁹ Report of Proceedings of the Agricultural Representatives Conference, December 12-20, 1946.

regularly because "We want to measure the results of the agricultural representative service."¹⁰ The importance of the newly organized service is impressed on them by such statements as that the service is "unique in Canada and possibly on the Continent."¹¹ By improvement in personnel and training policies and by constant stimulation of leaders, an attempt is being made to make agricultural representatives feel that they are an important professional group in agricultural education in Saskatchewan.

The determination to make the service a functioning and useful part of agriculture in Saskatchewan underlies the whole structure of the new organization. The key to making the service function has been described as being the individual farmer.

The importance of using the farmer himself as an extension medium cannot be over emphasized. A farmer by taking part in a project whether it be to provide a demonstration on his farm, livestock for junior club judging, or organizing or addressing a meeting not only becomes more receptive to new ideas but also broadens his own horizon, increases his stature and self respect.¹²

In order to stimulate the individual farmer to work on his own problems, the agricultural representative has been provided with a superstructure of local and provincial

¹⁰Speech of M. E. Hartnett, Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 7, 1947.

¹¹Speech of E. E. Brockelbank, Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6, 1947.

¹²Agricultural Representative Service. A Suggested Agricultural Program for Saskatchewan, p. 3.

organizations. The basic unit is the agricultural committee set up in each municipality or local improvement district within the agricultural representative district. The six members of the committee, who will be municipal councilors or other leading citizens of the municipality, are expected to "assume leadership in studying local farm problems and conditions."¹³

The extent to which committee members are effective in expressing the needs and interests of their community and channeling community effort in the direction of meeting those needs will depend partly on how well they are known by each ratepayer.¹⁴ Although the agricultural representative is urged to know as many of his 3,500 to 4,000 farmer constituents as possible, he is assisted in his arduous task by local committee members who if properly active can often do the job more effectively for him.

Table XVI shows the number of committees already organized and the number which might be organized as indicated by the number of rural municipalities and local improvement

¹³The Bureau of Publications. Your Agricultural Representative Service, p. 4.

¹⁴In the last part of 1946, agricultural representatives and supervisors were asked to prepare for oral presentation a statement of highlights of the past year's work, and in anticipation of this assignment, to hand a written statement to their director. Each statement is one to five or six pages long. As there will be much occasion to refer to these in succeeding chapters and as many are untitled, references to them will be called uniformly Highlights and will be preceded by the name of the man reporting. From dates on some of the statements, it can be assumed that they were all prepared in December, 1946. The present reference is A. Blackstock. Highlights.

TABLE XVI¹⁵

Organization of Agricultural Conservation
and Improvement Districts, November 30, 1946

Agricultural Representa- tive District	Number of Committees Appointed (Numbers in parenthesis indicate Local Im- provement Districts)	Number of Board Members Appointed	Number of Rural Mu- nicipali- ties	Number of Local Im- provement Districts (Inhabited)
1	7	1	13	
2	11	11	11	
3	8	3	8	5
4	18 (10 LID's)	8	8	11
5	10	10	10	
6	8	4	10	
7	11	11	12	
8	11	9	15	
9	11	11	11	
10	9 (2 LID's)	7	7	2
11	10 (1 LID)	9	9	1
12	10	10	10	
13	7	5	9	
14	9	9	9	
15	9	9	9	
16	11	11	11	
17	13 (1 LID)	12	12	1
18	3	0	6	2
19	5	0	6	2
20	10	10	10	
21	9	9	9	
22	9	9	10	
23	11	10	11	
24	11	11	11	
25	3 (2 LID's)	-	1	7
26	3	-	5	1
27	6	6	6	
28	8	8	8	
29	7	7	7	
30	10	-	11	
31	3 (1 LID)	-	2	5
32	5 (4 LID's 1 com. 2 rep. 2 LID's)	2	2	4
33	9 (5 LID's)	4	4	5 (inc. 465)
34	8 (1 LID)	-	10	3
35	5 (1 LID)	-	9	1
36	-	-	-	12
	298 (28 LID's)	216	302	62

¹⁵Given to author by assistant director, Agricultural Representative Service, who says that as of January 1, 1947, there are 22 more committees organized than are included in this Table.

districts. The agricultural representative in district twenty-four, for instance, will have assisting him some eleven committees, one for each rural municipality. Sixty-six farmer members and one professional worker are therefore doing educational work with 3,500 to 4,000 farmers.

Since putting the Saskatchewan Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program into operation, there has been ample time to learn something about the organizing and operation of these committees. The business of selecting the committee belongs to the rural municipality or the local improvement district officers. Most of these, as reported by the agricultural representatives, have been most coöperative. A few rural municipalities have refused to set up committees, however. This may be because rural municipalities are under obligation to pay per diem and expenses of committee members.

One agricultural representative reports that certain councillors appointed themselves as sole members of the committees because of the expense of having outside members. He believes that an agricultural committee composed of half council members and half outside men does the best job: the link with the municipality is assured, and at the same time there are enough outsiders on the committee to ensure that the committee shall not be entirely given over to official business but will function as a separate agricultural improvement group.

Another representative persuaded councillors to put off their appointments to committees until he had a chance to

discuss with them the duties of the committee and the general aims of the program. This resulted in limiting the number of councillors on the committee. Another extension worker reports an extremely conscientious attitude, however:

I would particularly like to remark on the performance, in the four L.I.D.'s. There are a total of twenty members on the committees, we have had only one absentee out of the twenty and this man was away trapping and could not possibly have been present. And please note that these men are not paid.

Apparently some zealous workers can and have been active in seeing that proper selections of committee members are made.¹⁶

One agricultural representative who has worked for years in his particular district is especially frank in telling how he had to dispell his own illusions. He found that (1) councils he had imagined would be hardest with which to deal were the easiest; (2) councils did not fall into line until they understood the meaning of the committee; (3) the committees appointed by indifferent councils proved more active than did those appointed by the enthusiastic councils; (4) members appointed by the indifferent councils thanked the agricultural representative for their appointments; (5) one farmer had not seen the light concerning agricultural representative work until presented at a committee meeting, even though he had known the agricultural representative for a long time; (6) requests for information by committees are

¹⁶ W. H. Boucher, R. H. Cooper, J. E. Frizzell, J. H. Maduke, Thomas Rowles. Highlights.

more than anticipated.

Another extension worker after experimenting with committees has several practical suggestions to make. He thinks it essential that young active farmers be appointed to committees. Also, members of the committee must understand the functions of the committee and how they can best serve the municipality. Experience in working together on problems will increase efficiency of members. The agricultural representative must have enthusiasm for his job, and must be ready with accurate information on all sorts of agricultural policies. The Municipal Council must have confidence in the committee.¹⁷

Most agricultural representatives report no particular problems in getting committees underway in their jobs. One man, however, says that his committees are still in the process of "looking for a real book of rules" which doesn't exist; and another reports difficulty in finding problems which interest the committee. Certain techniques are reported for stimulating thinking about worthwhile problems which committees might undertake. In one district, agricultural bulletins are distributed to committee members in the hope that among descriptions of approved agricultural practices there will be some which bear on problems in their district. In another district, the agricultural representative asks each committee at the first meeting what is the

¹⁷W. H. Boucher and A. J. Rugg. Highlights.

most pressing problem in the municipality, and from the ensuing discussion assists the committee to select a project.¹⁸

Projects chosen by these committees are varied, but usually they vary within prescribed limits of immediate, practical problems related to vocational agriculture. Weed control, including the exerting of pressure on municipalities to purchase seed-cleaning machines and to buy hormone sprays and spraying equipment, is of some interest. One committee took over two farms infested with leafy spurge. Other committees are considering or acting upon such projects as securing a municipal seed-cleaning plant, making a root-rot investigation, and draining and developing low, poorly drained land infested with lady's thumb. Some committees have undertaken livestock improvement by surveying livestock or assisting in establishing Pure Bred Sire Areas and T. B. Restricted Areas, or implementing the Municipal Boar Policy. Community pastures are being considered and veterinarian districts are being formed by these committees. One group is interested in Bang's control; another, in building dug-outs and dams or developing other water projects.¹⁹

Two different committees carried on projects involving selling of hay from airports situated in the municipality. In one case the committee took over the airdrome which

¹⁸E. Clarke, A. A. Kirk, and E. W. McKenzie. Highlights.

¹⁹Stanley Clark, T. A. Johnson, A. A. Kirk, R. N. McIver, W. R. Merryweather, A. J. Rugg, and J. E. Smith. Highlights.

looked at the beginning of the season as though it would produce nothing, and made it pay by carefully laying out plots from which farmers could buy up the grass.

The 18 lots sold yielded us \$290.00 and out of this we paid for the mowing of the weeds on the unseeded area....we paid a combine man to come in and combine certain parts of the unsold five plots (100 acres), estimated at 70 acres more or less. From this 70 acres, we salvaged 1,880 lbs. of grass seed, which we sent to the Government Seed Plant at Moose Jaw for cleaning and from which we received back 875 pounds of #3 seed.

The control of the airport has been granted to the municipality for the season 1947 in order that further projects may be carried out.²⁰

Another committee in district twenty-one handled about 300 acres of brome, crested wheat, and alfalfa on the Dafoe Airport. The land was given out in strips of about fifteen tons per farmer, and farmers were charged fifty cents a ton. Farmers appreciated receiving the hay. Another experiment going forward is with the planting of grass seed on a dried-out, old lake bottom. Two strips are being prepared, one to be sown in the fall and the other in the spring. When results of these tests are known, the committee will go forward with making a hay field of the area.²¹

Other projects relating to crops have to do with fertilizers, improvement of seed, securing grain storage bins, and petitioning for a closed season on weasels in order to

²⁰W. G. Palmer. Highlights.

²¹R. Duck and L. M. Stalwick. Highlights.

carry out rat control. One agricultural committee began a campaign to combat wireworms by passing out pamphlets on the "Life History and Control of Wireworms" to all farmers in their area, and planning for a general meeting with a speaker from the Dominion Entomological Laboratory. The bulletins were expected to give farmers background information so that they could listen more intelligently to the speaker and ask him pertinent questions.²²

Field days have been sponsored by several committees. These relate primarily to machinery. Encouraging or sponsoring junior clubs, farm boys camps, and short courses, and recruiting for the Kenossee school are among their other activities. Courses sponsored include bee keeping, tillage machinery, and harvesting machinery. One series of committees in district thirty-five have outlined some general agriculture field days at which they hope to have speakers deal with such subjects as soil, fertilizer, and weed control, and apparently for the ladies, landscaping the farmstead, choosing color schemes in the home, and handicrafts.²³

A very few committees are reported as working on projects which might be termed non-vocational. Some in district nine, for instance, are considering tree plantations for community picnic or sports grounds. A committee in district

²²A. A. Kirk, E. N. McIver, W. R. Merryweather, and C. R. McIney. Highlights.

²³Stanley Clark, T. A. Johnson, J. H. Maduke, A. J. Rugg, J. E. Smith, and B. J. Strilchuk. Highlights.

twenty-four is interested in a fruit growing venture which will provide enough fruit for each member's use. The group is going to hold an organization meeting and to provide for a speaker and an illustrated lecture.²⁴

Very little attention is apparently being given by any of the committees to the character of their people. However, one representative makes the following report:

One municipality has a particularly difficult problem in a class of people known locally as "Metis" or half-breeds, which are a menace to the whole district. They depend entirely on family allowance and relief for existence. The Council asked the Committee to discuss this problem and offer suggestions. As a result, a brief on the subject was prepared, which the Council forwarded to the Provincial Government and an investigation has been made. The problem has not been solved but a start has been made.²⁵

At one end of a hypothetical educational scale is the local farmer, and at the other end the technical agriculture services of which he might avail himself. In order that the one may make use of the other, another level in the super-structure has been built. This is the district board which "will make use of the practical results of investigation projects completed by the College of Agriculture, experimental farms and other research institutions." These boards, of which there is one to an agricultural representative district, are made up of one member appointed by each rural municipality within the district, a number of representatives

²⁴A. A. Kirk and W. R. Merryweather. Highlights.

²⁵T. A. Johnson. Highlights.

equal to half the number named by the municipality and to be appointed by the provincial advisory council, and the district agricultural representative. Besides making technical agricultural information available to local committees, the district boards are charged with advising the Minister of Agriculture and his department, planning a comprehensive farm program for the district, and making useful recommendations to the local agricultural committees.²⁶

As the precise nature of the district board's work is still in question, Thomas Rowles, agricultural representative of district thirty-three, was asked to report at the agricultural representatives conference, February 7, 1947, on the first board meeting held in his district. He summarized procedures, indicated weak and strong elements, and stressed the importance of laying the proper groundwork. Before the district board meeting, he called on each member of the board, discussing with him the kinds of problems which logically might be of interest to an entire district. Out of these discussions came a list of concrete problems which might be reasonably tackled and solved by the board and of which each board member was informed.

As district thirty-three is a mixed farming area, with black soils and degraded black soils, questions for discussion included a consideration of the dry lake problem and of community pastures. Mr. Rowles praised the board members for appearing with facts in hand, including maps of area affected and information about feasibility of such projects

²⁶The Bureau of Publications. Your Agricultural Representative Service, p. 5.

as community pastures. Despite careful planning, the problems selected were not uniformly significant to all members of the board, because in an area as large as district thirty-three farm problems are sharply varied. Only six out of the nine members were interested in dry lakes. Mr. Rowles feels that it may be almost impossible to secure a single problem which will have significance for all members. He scored himself for having neglected one board member in preliminary visits, because that was the only man who did not appear for the meeting; and he suggested that an invitation to the initial meeting would carry more prestige-value if issued by the Minister of Agriculture or the deputy, rather than by the agricultural representative.

Mr. Rowles continuously stressed the psychological elements in the situation. He described in some detail the personalities of board members, and the sense or feel of the meeting. Members were not quite sure whether they were doing the right thing, he believed. They were somewhat deflated by being told by a visiting agricultural expert that their earnest resolution on community pastures would do little good in councils of state because authorities were already in accord with the sense of the resolution. Mr. Rowles drew the moral that board members had to be made to feel important and to be activated to teamwork. He closed with the happy thought that the board had met for only one day which was entirely satisfactory; a two-day meeting would only have encouraged members to use one day to set up agenda for the second day. Coffee and cakes at board meeting intermission

were a satisfying touch.²⁷

As a final step in assuring coördination of agricultural services available to Saskatchewan farmers, there is a provincial advisory council which is not directly connected with either the local committees or the district boards. Beyond serving as a coördinating agency, it is charged with advising the Agricultural Representative Service on development of specific farm programs, appointing members of district boards, and acting as an advisory body to the provincial Department of Agriculture. It consists of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Dean of the College of Agriculture, the director of the Agricultural Representative Service, the directors of the Extension Department and of the Department of Women's Work, University of Saskatchewan, and one member each appointed by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Canada, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture and the Saskatchewan Livestock Board. In actual practice a committee of the council consisting of the superintendent of the Experimental Farm at Swift Current (representing the Dominion), the director of the Extension Department (representing the University), and the director of the agricultural representatives

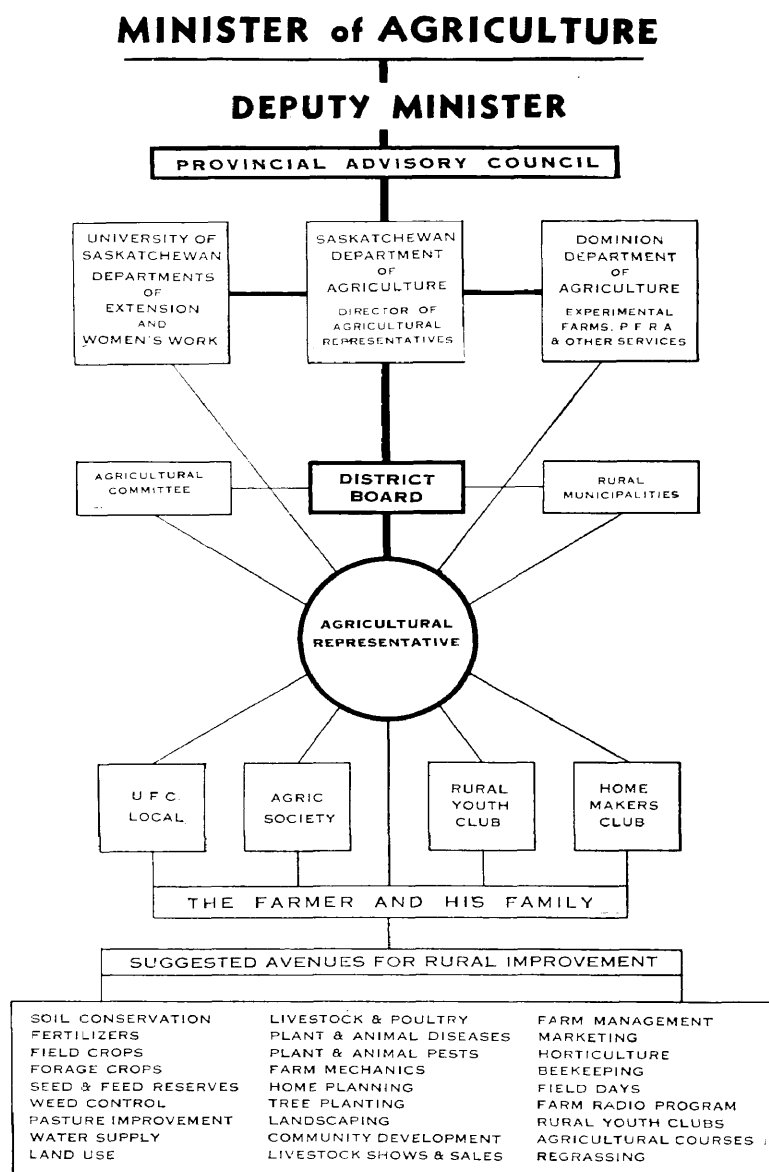
²⁷ T. Rowles. "Report on a District Board Meeting," Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 7, 1947.

coördinate the work of other agencies in relation to the Agricultural Representative Service.²⁸ Figure 1 shows in graphic form how the Agricultural Representative Service envisions the Saskatchewan Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program.

²⁸The Bureau of Publications. Your Agricultural Representative Service, p. 8; and interview with M. E. Hartnett, February 3, 1947.

Figure 1²⁹

SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PROGRAM



-- 13 --

²⁹The Bureau of Publications. Your Agricultural Representative Service, p. 13.

Despite the fact that the Agricultural Representative Service gives the sense of "becoming" rather than of "being", it has many accomplishments to its credit. Historically a basis has been laid for activities of agricultural representatives and men are available from the pre-1944 program to assist in developing the present one. The report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1946 shows the continuing effects of the war. Agricultural representative activities are organized under the following headings:

- (1) Investigations on behalf of the armed services
- (2) Farm labour
- (3) Establishment of veterans
- (4) R. M. Councils and agricultural conservation
and improvement committees
- (5) Field crop improvement
- (6) Livestock improvement
- (7) General³⁰

Agricultural education is carried on through these activities not by cut and dried lectures or demonstrations, but by using whatever technique is necessary to fit the situation in hand. Agricultural representatives assist in organizing agricultural improvement and farm labor committees, veterinary districts, and junior clubs. They supplement their work in organization by assisting committees or clubs to choose projects and implement them. They give demonstrations or arrange for demonstrations at fairs, field days, or general meetings on such matters as sheepshearing, proper use of farm machinery, beekeeping, and horticulture. They

³⁰ Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. "Third Annual Report of the Director of the Agricultural Representative Service," pp. 120 and 123.

teach veterans newly come to farms and established farmers through individual counsel on equipment, buildings, and farm practices. Many farmers visit the office of the agricultural representative to get bulletins and receive help. Direct assistance is given by the agricultural representative to the farmer in securing seed, sprayers, and herbicides, and in organizing pure-bred cattle sales. Some agricultural representatives, after conference with Dominion and University authorities, seeded fertilizer on legumes grown on grey bush soil, and arranged for seeding of legumes in order that plots might be available for demonstration to farmers. Occasionally agricultural representatives give talks before municipal councils explaining particular agricultural policies, or before farm groups on a variety of topics.³¹

A summary of activities for the period from May 1 to December 31, 1946, a period not as influenced as the entire fiscal year 1946 by war activities, will be found in Appendix A. The broad character of the agricultural representative's activities can be ascertained from a study of it. He interviews farmers at home and in his office, in person or by telephone; distributes pamphlets and bulletins as well as press publicity; gives radio talks or assists in preparing talks; shows films; attends agricultural committee meetings; veterinary boards, and instructional meetings; judges or assists at fairs; promotes and assists at demonstrations and

³¹Ibid., pp. 119-123.

field days; organizes and assists in junior activities; gives talks; and attends a miscellany of other types of meetings. Activities not covered by the list so specified can be assumed to be included in the breakdown of days in office (2,237) and days in the field (4,481 or sixty-seven per cent of the time); or by the item called "Days worked with adults."

Activities should be judged in terms of stated objectives of the Agricultural Representative Service. The goals of the service can be inferred from frequent enjoinders to agricultural representatives. In one of the bulletins recommended to them, is this statement:

Any program in Agricultural development must take into consideration:

1. The needs of the farmer and the particular district in which he resides.
2. The co-operation of the farmer in the handling of his own problems.
3. Projects which will be of actual financial benefit to the farmer.
4. Long time planning with a view to providing a more stable Agriculture by:
 - (a) Making the farm a more profitable place to live.
 - (b) Stabilizing the farm income by means of diversification where possible.
 - (c) Making the farm home a more pleasant place to live by improvement of surroundings.
 - (d) Stimulating community betterment.
 - (e) Encouraging co-operation with a view to reducing production and marketing costs.³²

The Honorable I. C. Nollet, provincial Minister of Agriculture, suggests that the agricultural representative should look on the whole province as one farm. Within that

³²Agricultural Representative Service. A Suggested Agricultural Program for Saskatchewan, p. 1.

framework he should encourage people to discuss the economic position of agriculture, and should give some study to sociological problems. If the province is one farm, then one way to achieve stabilization is to work for greater diversification. The agricultural representative must "lick the problem of the dry years," and must assist in securing greater volume of production. Coöperative farming, too, must come in for its share of attention in solving the economic problems of agriculture.³²

The theme of stabilization is carried on by the deputy minister. Farm production, he says, should be thought of in terms of marketing. If it is so viewed, stabilization can be achieved by two means: (1) the best use of land, and (2) maintaining living standards of people. Under the second means he puts priority on encouraging people to remain on farms and on diversifying to meet the demands of world markets. Saskatchewan is not and should not be tied to a wheat economy. He continues with an enjoiner that to carry out this program the Agricultural Representative Service should not spread itself too thin but should devote its energies to a few major problems such as (1) building a feed reserve (necessary for livestock growing in a diversified economy); (2) persuading to better land use with resultant improvement in cultural practices and in diverting non-arable lands to pasture; (3) working with junior groups to the extent of

³²I. C. Nollet. Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6, 1947.

twenty to thirty per cent of the time; and (4) using a mass approach through radio, press, and large meetings.³³

One of the supervisors indicates that his favorite definition of agricultural extension is that given by the director: "To carry useful information to rural people." The object of this activity is "improving farm living" or "raising the standard of living" on the farm.

This requires (1) a suitable farm efficiently operated, (2) an adequate farm home with attractive surroundings and sufficient farm buildings to meet the needs of the farm, (3) some thought for posterity, which means succeeding generations can continue to farm on this land.³⁴

A summary of purposes, objectives, and procedures of the Agricultural Representative Service can be derived from the foregoing statements. The service is devoted to raising the standard of living of the Saskatchewan farm family through making agriculture a more profitable occupation and through improving the conditions of daily living. These latter two objectives are to be achieved by (1) encouraging farmers to take a more active part in solving their own problems, (2) emphasizing land utilization and diversification of agriculture, (3) encouraging young people in club work which will promote better agricultural practices, (4) utilizing such other methods of mass media as will promote the general purposes of the program, and (5)

³³M. E. Hartnett. Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 7, 1947.

³⁴A. Blackstock. Highlights.

stimulating home and community betterment.

With this summary in mind, it is useful to look at one activity of the agricultural representative, the field day, as outlined in Table XVII. Some of these field days were

TABLE XVII³⁵

Field Days and Demonstrations Participated in by
Agricultural Representatives,
May 1 to December 31, 1946

Field Days Relating to Crop Growing			Field Days Not Relating to Crop Growing		
Kind	Number	Attendance	Kind	Number	Attendance
Farm machinery	104	12,336	Horticulture and Bees	9	355
Weed	16	850	Poultry	27	898
Insect	2	70	Sheep	15	405
Barley	5	107	Miscellaneous	8	1,045
Total	127	13,363		59	2,703

sponsored by agricultural committees, and thus farmers were encouraged to take a part in solving their own problems. Land utilization is served by some of these field days, but they do not emphasize diversification. The largest attendance was at farm machinery field days and these were probably attended by those interested in growing wheat. None of these field days appear to be related to home and community betterment, (unless those in the miscellaneous category are such). An occasional comment as the following, however, indicates that events other than main demonstrations are scheduled:

³⁵Adapted from table in Appendix A.

The film "Kitchen Comes True" has proven valuable and interesting to farm women and can be shown at these field days along with a discussion and distribution of the Department of Reconstruction bulletins "Modernizing Farm Homes", and "A Guide to Farm Home Planning and Modernization." By attracting the farm women to these field days more farmers turn out.³⁶

Another way of ascertaining the meaning of the Agricultural Representative Service is to study those activities which representatives consider the most important phases of their work. Highlights previously discussed provide such a medium. Of the thirty-five reports submitted, seventeen were written either by new agents who could do no more than recount their training experiences, or by men who took the opportunity to summarize the year's work. Highlights as noted by the remaining eighteen representatives are summarized in Table XVIII. The first two items have been couched in general terms. Setting up and working with agricultural committees has been described in another section, and strictly speaking junior club work is not adult education. This table does not indicate distribution of the representative's time, but an evaluation of items to which he devoted his time.

³⁶ B. R. Merryweather. Highlights.

TABLE XVIII³⁷

Highlights of Work of Eighteen
Agricultural Representatives, 1946

Kind of Activity	Number of Representatives Listing
1. Setting up and working with agricultural committees	14
2. Junior Club work	12
3. Livestock projects	
a. Bacon litter competition	1
b. Feed and fodder survey	1
c. Implementing Municipal Boar Policy	2
d. Livestock improvement through breeding, treating for disease	3
e. Developing community pastures	3
f. Developing feed and fodder reserves	1
g. Implementing Veterinary Service Act	3
h. Implementing Dominion Ram and Bull Policy	1
i. Prince Albert Fat Cattle Sale and Show	1
j. Activity of swine breeders	1
k. Placing gilts and boars	1
l. Increasing pure bred sire and TB free areas	1
m. Field days relating to livestock	2
4. Cultivation projects	
a. Field days including combine field days	3
b. Winter wheat survey	1
c. Weed control	1
d. Fertilizer trials	1
e. Soil tests	1
f. Treating leafy spurge	1
g. Establishing demonstration plots	1
h. Developing skill in handling grey bush soils	1
5. Other land utilization projects	
a. Sowing submarginal lands to grass	1
b. Allocating lands for veterans	1
c. Water projects	1
6. Horticulture	
a. Encouraging farmers to be growers of certified potato seed	1
b. Farm yard and garden competition	1
c. Obtaining exhibitors for Provincial Fruit Show	2
d. Field days horticulture and beekeeping	1
7. Miscellaneous	
a. Making individual contacts with farmers	1
b. Getting farm corner in newspaper	1
c. Sending out agricultural representative letter	1
d. Establishing agricultural libraries	1
e. Securing office and stenographer	2
f. Farm variety shows	1
g. Showing films and slides	1
h. Becoming sec-treas of honey producers association	1
i. Home improvement	1

³⁷ Adapted from Highlights of 1946.

These eighteen agricultural representatives tend to highlight events consistent with certain objectives of their service. Fourteen of the eighteen men stress the agricultural committee which encourages the farmer to help in solving his own problems; and twelve of eighteen, junior club work which promotes better cultural practices among young farmers-to-be. The challenge to assist the farmer in diversifying his economy is met by livestock and horticulture projects.

Mass media are relatively unimportant in the thinking of these agricultural representatives. Only one man was interested in showing films and slides and another in using the local newspaper. There are plans underway, however, for assisting the agricultural representatives through a radio program, and until this comes into being there may be continued lack of interest in the item.

The matter of stimulating home and community betterment is not prominent in the thinking of agricultural representatives. One man mentions home improvement, and another, a farm yard and garden competition.

From the objectives of the service, it is inferred that the agricultural representative must be skilled in scientific agriculture and must know how to work with farm people. The philosophy of leaders of the service is that in working with farm people, nationality and language differences should be minimized. Though some agricultural representatives may have Ukrainian names, they are not selected because they are

Ukrainians nor have they necessarily been placed in Ukrainian districts.³⁸ Correspondingly few agricultural representatives relate group differences in highlights of their work. One man in district twenty-one, however, points out that there appear to be different ways of working with German as contrasted with Ukrainian groups. With the latter, one must find the natural leader and work through him. Another man suggests that perhaps he has insufficient information about farm families and their interests.³⁹

In view of the broad objectives of the Agricultural Representative Service and the sociological problems which representatives have raised, it seems pertinent to study the background and training of the representatives. The director states that men appointed at present and in the future will probably be graduates of the College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. In the University calendar is this statement:

The Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture will be conferred on students who have met all the requirements governing the General Course or one of the Specialized Courses and have obtained a sufficiently high standing as judged by an award of merit points.

The general course requires in fields not strictly agriculture such subjects as English, economics, the natural

³⁸Interview with E. E. Brockelbank, February 5, 1947, on philosophy of M. E. Hartnett who is credited with originating plans for the reorganized Agricultural Representative Service.

³⁹D. Bluchaniak and L. M. Stalwick. Highlights.

sciences, physical training; and in the fourth year students may elect political science, mathematics, economics, philosophy and history, or history of agriculture. All other courses are in technical agriculture, and electives in the fourth year in that area outnumber the non-vocational courses. If the student takes specialized courses, his specialization ordinarily comes in the fourth year in such fields as animal husbandry, field husbandry, farm mechanics, farm management, dairying, poultry, horticulture, soils, soils and farm management, economics, and biology. Those who desire to specialize in agricultural chemistry must do so in both the third and fourth years. The calendar states that the College of Agriculture aims at fitting graduates "not only for farming, but for leadership and good citizenship." However, political science is an elective, and there are included no such courses as rural sociology, general or educational psychology, history and development of farm organizations, teaching vocational agriculture, or rural leadership.⁴⁰

Coming to the Agricultural Representative Service with training primarily in technical agriculture and with farming experience, representatives are given assistance intermittently through training conferences. Table XIX lists topics discussed at two recent conferences.

⁴⁰ University of Saskatchewan. Calendar of the University of Saskatchewan Session 1946-47, pp. 119-143.

TABLE XIX⁴¹

Topics Discussed at Two Agricultural Representative Conferences

Topics of Conference Dec. 12-20, 1946	Topics of Conference Feb. 6-7, 1947
<p>Introduction, Minister of Agriculture</p> <p>The Role of the District Board in the Co-operative Agri. Ext. Program</p> <p>The Position of Dom. Dept. of Agri. Services in the Co-op. Ext. Program</p> <p>Extension Philosophies, Objectives and Methods</p> <p>A 1947 Program for Junior Clubs in Saskatchewan</p> <p>Plans for Farm Boys' and Girls' Camps</p> <p>Sask's Crown Lands and Policies for the Administration of them</p> <p>Acquisition of Privately Owned Lands in Community Pastures</p> <p>A Soils Man's Ideas of a Land Use Program</p> <p>Grass and Land Use Problems</p> <p>Problems in Land Use in Chaplin R. #.</p> <p>Prelim. Results of the Work with Selective Herbicides in 1945 and 1946 at the Research Laboratory of Plant Ecology, Univ. of Saskatchewan</p> <p>The Role of the Agri. Representative as the Agri. Leader in his District.</p> <p>Extent of Assistance in subject matter--Specialists who may be available to Agri. Representatives in 1947 from the University</p> <p>Agricultural Production for Canada</p>	<p>Introduction, Minister of Agriculture</p> <p>Field Day arrangements</p> <p>Warble Fly Campaign</p> <p>A Land Use Program</p> <p>Disposition of Private Lands in Community Pasture</p> <p>Plans for a Feed and Fodder Conservation Program</p> <p>Forage Crops Extension Program</p> <p>Progress Report on the Radio and Information Division of the Agri. Rep. Branch</p> <p>Farm Safety and Accident Reporting</p> <p>Objectives and Plans for an Egg Prod. and Improvement Program</p> <p>Field Pest Situation and Plans for Control</p> <p>Objectives and Plans for a Swine Prod. and Improvement Program</p> <p>Swine Equipment Additions to Field Day Program</p> <p>Report on a District Board Meeting</p> <p>The Place of the Agricultural Representative Service in Stabilizing Agricultural Production</p>

⁴¹From Report of Proceedings of the Agricultural Representatives Conference, December 12-20, 1946, and Proposed Agenda for Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6 and 7, 1947.

Professional training as University training is heavily weighted in the direction of vocational agriculture. The objective of home and community betterment receives little attention in either program, and there are very few topics addressed to how to work with farm people.

Technical men from other branches of the Department of Agriculture or from other departments of the government may be asked to help or may ask for help through the Agricultural Representative Service. One service, however, is specifically planned to aid the agricultural representative. This is a series of radio programs which were to have begun on March 1, 1947. The supervisor of the Radio and Information Division, Department of Agriculture, says that these proposed farm radio programs are composed of three parts. The first is simplified and "jazzed up" technical agricultural information, "straight production information." The supervisor's contention is that most agricultural information has been so technical as to be incoherent to any except persons with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree. The second is an up-to-date news service on materials of interest to farmers, as progress on coöperation, rural electrification. The third part consists of announcements of activities and achievements of farm organizations. The supervisor feels that the program will become important only as the representatives support it by sending in news items and requests of listeners, so that as an extension method it is "integrated into a complete agricultural extension

program."⁴²

2. Agricultural Adult Education Services of the University of Saskatchewan.

In the College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, are three departments which work directly with farmers or farm women: the Extension Department, the Women's Extension Department (sometimes called the Department of Women's Work), and the School of Agriculture. Members of the first two departments may themselves give talks to and lead discussions in farm groups; but members of the faculty of the Extension Department tend to become administrative officers assisting groups in organization and providing them with proper facilities for their programs. In addition, the two extension departments are agencies for channeling technical services available in other departments of the College of Agriculture or in other colleges. For instance, if a farm leader should wish to secure a judge of livestock from poultry husbandry or a speaker on land economics from farm management, he would probably contact the Extension Department which would secure help from the proper department and make arrangements for payment of the faculty member's expenses. The School of Agriculture provides vocational training for young farmers or farmers-to-be who are in residence at the

⁴²Interview with W. M. Harding, February 3, 1947, and speech by W. M. Harding at Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 7, 1947. For a statement on Radio as a Medium for Agricultural Extension, see Appendix B.

University for the one or two years of their training.

The philosophy underlying these three agricultural adult education services is that help should be given when requested. None of the departments does promotion work, though each has printed or mimeographed circulars stating what services are available to farm organizations or individuals from farm families.⁴³

Certain activities now being carried by the Extension Department were begun under the provincial Department of Agriculture where they were incorporated in the duties of the superintendent of fairs and institutes. In the 1910 report of the Department of Agriculture appears a statement of Dr. F. Hedley Auld to the effect that his official connection with the Department of Agriculture as superintendent of fairs and institutes had terminated on February 28, 1910, when he was appointed director of Agricultural Extension for the University of Saskatchewan.⁴⁴ At the same time the agricultural societies sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and the chief medium through which fairs and institutes were promoted were transferred to the care of the University. "The Director of Extension has therefore, since the opening of the College of Agriculture, acted as the

⁴³Interviews with John G. Rayner, February 17, 1947, and Bertha G. Oxner February 19, 1947.

⁴⁴Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Sixth Annual Report, p. 171.

agent of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, under the general administration of the Deputy Minister, in supervising the affairs of the agricultural societies."⁴⁵

On May 1, 1928, another act was passed by the Legislature creating the horticultural societies. These also are supervised by the Extension Department.⁴⁶ Apart from these two sets of societies which operate as media close at hand through which the purposes of extension can be carried out, "extension work is carried on through....Homemakers' Clubs, organized farmers' associations, Boys' and Girls' Agricultural Clubs, Girls' Homecraft Clubs, Study Clubs, and any other groups that call upon the College for assistance."⁴⁷ In Table XX will be found a list of rural organizations with which the Extension Department cooperated in 1940.

The aims of the Extension Department as stated in the University Calendar are to

assist in making available to the members of farm communities in Saskatchewan all usable information, from all reliable sources, about farm questions, homemaking and rural life; to encourage the practical application and use of such information, and to promote the development of a sound rural economy and a wholesome and attractive rural civilization.

In carrying out these purposes the Department participates in such activities as are listed below:

⁴⁵Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Fortieth Annual Report, p. 12.

⁴⁶Interview with John G. Rayner February 17, 1947.

⁴⁷University of Saskatchewan. Calendar of the University of Saskatchewan Session 1946-47, p. 141.

TABLE XX⁴⁸

Rural Organizations Worked Through and With by
Extension Department, 1940

Type of Organization	Number with which Worked
Agricultural Societies	75
Wheat Pool local Committees	142
Line Elevator Company Locals	49
Horticultural Societies	22
Boards of Trade	21
Agricultural Improvement Associations	18
Rural Municipalities	17
Rotary Clubs	4
Kiwanis Club	1
Kinsmen Club	1
High School Club	1
United Farmers of Canada Locals	3
Young Canadian Club	1
Liberal Club	1
Community clubs	2
Catholic Lay Association	1
Co-operative Associations	2
School Boards	3
Dominion Experimental Farms	5
Northern Areas Branch	7
Study Groups	2
Saskatchewan Holstein Club	1
Saskatchewan Shorthorn Clubs	2
Retail Merchants' Association	1
Homemakers' Clubs	5
Dairy Herd Improvement Association	3
Total	390

Agricultural

Supervises activities of agricultural and horticultural societies

Provides judges and speakers for exhibitions, seed fairs, poultry shows, field days, crop competi-

⁴⁸ Adapted from typewritten statement given to author by John G. Rayner, February 18, 1947.

tions, short courses, rallies, and other types of educational effort

Organizes and services listening discussion groups for National Farm Radio Forum

Conducts

Short courses including those financed by and held at the University, and Dominion-Provincial youth training courses

Provincial Seed Fair

Provincial Fruit Show

University Farm Week

Provides educational assistance by mail through bulletins, correspondence

Assists in special projects such as orchard project

Assists in organizing and keeping active young people's groups such as agricultural club activities, farm boys and girls camps

Educational services other than agricultural (These are sometimes referred to as the Adult Educational Services of the Department of Extension)

Organizes and services listening discussion groups of Citizens' Forum (radio)

Conducts correspondence study for adult study groups

Offers special courses for extra-farm groups, and on a variety of topics

Loans films⁴⁹

Special activities listed above may change from year to year. Short courses will vary in content and in attendance. Descriptions of these activities which are to follow should be regarded as illustrative.

The agricultural societies which began in 1884 had as their original purpose sponsorship of fairs and exhibitions; and this has remained their chief emphasis though they occasionally undertake other activities. To their being out-of-step with present agricultural developments is attributed their curtailed work and effectiveness. In 1929, for instance, the societies were reported as numbering 162 and as having over 30,000 members.⁵⁰ In 1944 these societies numbered forty-seven and their members, 3,666. However, in this last year there had begun to be evident more activity among the societies.⁵¹ It was reported in 1945-46 that "partly because of stimulation by the Agricultural Representatives, but largely because of the transfer of energy from war to peaceful endeavor, there is evidence of new life in the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies."⁵²

⁴⁹University of Saskatchewan. Calendar of the University of Saskatchewan. Session 1946-47, pp. 141, 142, and interviews with extension staff.

⁵⁰John G. Rayner. "Education in Agriculture for Adults as Offered by the University of Saskatchewan," p. 276.

⁵¹Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Fortieth Annual Report, pp. 12-16.

⁵²University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 95.

Exhibitions held by agricultural societies involve such activities as entries of agricultural and domestic products for which prizes are given and horse races with money paid in purses. During 1944 seven agricultural societies conducted fat stock shows. The number reached by these fairs and exhibitions, of course, far exceed the number of active members, and the latter may be no indication of the popularity and effectiveness of the agricultural society. There would be a natural drop, for instance, in number of societies sponsoring fairs and exhibits, merely because as transportation is improved farm families prefer to go to some urban center rather than to their own community grounds.

The Saskatoon exhibition board reported that 1944 may have been financially the best year in its history, and that response exceeded expectations. A few other groups reported much the same situation. The addition of special events shows a trend toward varying interests and increasing educational value of these affairs. One society provided free tuberculosis x-ray service to the public on the fair grounds and experimented with a special farm machinery demonstration conducted by the University staff.⁵³

As many of these affairs are annual, money and property have been accumulated in building exhibition grounds and providing for prizes. In addition, the societies receive grants from the provincial Department of Agriculture, as

⁵³Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Fortieth Annual Report, pp. 13-16.

indicated in Table XXI. The list of meritorious activities

TABLE XXI⁵⁴

Grants to Agricultural Societies by the
Provincial Department of Agriculture, 1946

Regular Grants

Activity	Grant Available (Maximum)
Exhibition	\$250.00
Junior Swine Club Fair	30.00
Junior Baby Beef Club Fair	36.00
Junior Dairy Calf Club Fair	36.00
Junior Poultry Club Fair	25.00
Junior Seed Club Standing Crop Competition	10.00
Junior Seed Club Seed Fair	10.00

Grants for Meritorious Activities

Spring or Fall Fair	25.00
Seed and Poultry Show	25.00
Poultry Show	15.00
Seed Fair	10.00
Standing Field and Garden Competition	10.00
Educational Field Day	10.00
Sending Teams to Farm Boys' and Girls' Camps	8.00
Community Rally	8.00
Trip to Experimental Farm, the University of Saskatchewan, etc.	8.00
Agriculture Lecture	5.00
Youth Training Course	15.00

for which grants were available in 1945-46 may indicate what activities the government would like the societies to undertake. A society which sponsors a youth training course receives \$15.00 presumably towards defraying expenses for building, light and heat. It may also be reimbursed for

⁵⁴ Adapted from Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan. Grants for 1946, p. 1. An amount from \$5.00 up, depending on the program of the society, is the grant for meritorious activities. The schedule of grants for such activities as given above are for the government year ending April 30, 1946. Essentially the same amounts are to be available in the year beginning May 1, 1946.

holding a field and garden competition or an educational field day. Other activities recommended for sponsorship by agricultural societies are radio listening groups, annual rallies, and assisting young men to attend the School of Agriculture.⁵⁵

Table XXII shows the shift in emphasis from 1923 to

TABLE XXII⁵⁶

Shift in Emphasis of Activities of Agricultural Societies
1923 - 1942

Activity	Number Held (As reported by the Extension Department		Per Cent Sponsored by Agricultural Societies	
	1923	1942	1923	1942
Agricultural exhibitions	147	38	96	93
Farm boys and girls camps	4	18	98 teams	4 teams
Plowing matches	16	0	94	0
Crop contests	61	5	97	80
Seed and poultry shows	71	5	90	80
Farmers meetings	108	72	73	24
Boys and girls clubs	0	250	0	17
Farm equipment demonstrations	0	41	0	34
Youth training courses	0	42	0	9
Farm radio forum groups	0	106	0	2

1942 of agricultural societies.

The horticultural societies operate on much the same principles as the agricultural societies, except that members exhibit flowers, fruits, and vegetables rather than seeds and livestock. In 1944 eleven exhibitions were held by chartered horticultural societies. In that same year there

⁵⁵ Ibid., p. 2.

⁵⁶ Adapted from table in University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1943-44, p. 55.

were 1,448 active members: more than in the preceding war years but less than the early years of the 1930's.⁵⁷

Working in the field of horticulture in a province dedicated to wheat and mechanized farming is a difficult task. Farmers, it is said, do not like truck gardens which must be cultivated by hand. Because of the reluctance of the wheat farmer to truck garden, some of the active horticulture societies are located in cities and larger towns. The province does not grow enough potatoes for its own use. To attempt to remedy this last situation, there was recently formed the Certified Seed Potato Growers' Association of which the Extension horticulturist is the secretary.⁵⁸

During the 1946-47 season, some ninety-six adult study-listening groups scattered over Saskatchewan have been participating in the farm radio forum, under the general supervision of the Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan. The forum, begun about 1941-42, is sponsored nationally by the Canadian Association for Adult Education, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture; and in each province it has local sponsors. In Saskatchewan these latter are the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture, the provincial Department of Agriculture, and the Extension Department of the University.

⁵⁷Department of Agriculture of the Province of Saskatchewan. Fortieth Annual Report, pp. 32-33.

⁵⁸Interview with D. R. Robinson February 17, 1947, and University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 102.

The provincial headquarters of the organization is in the Extension Department where the extension horticulturist gives a portion of his time to organization and broadcasting work.⁵⁹ The forum combines the following features:

Radio broadcast once a week on a CBC national network. The broadcast is usually in the form of a discussion by three or more people.

Provincial newscast by each Provincial Farm Forum Secretary on a provincial network during the last five minutes of the weekly broadcast. This is a news summary of Forum opinions and activities in each province based on the Forum Findings of the preceding week.

Printed study materials on the topic of the broadcast, prepared in advance by the National Farm Radio Forum office and distributed to the Forums in each province by the Provincial Farm Forum offices. The main study material is a weekly bulletin called "Farm Forum Guide".

Group discussion by the Forums on the subject of the broadcast, immediately following the broadcast.

Action by the Forums. This includes:

1. Reporting the Forum Findings (conclusions of the groups) each week.
2. Sponsoring action projects of value to their own local communities.
3. Organizing new Forums.⁶⁰

A typical local forum of farm people gathered in a home, a school, or a community center will organize a forum group with a chairman and a secretary. The latter then registers the group with the provincial secretary at the University. The local secretary receives each week for distribution the questions for discussion on the next broadcast and other

⁵⁹ Interview with D. R. Robinson February 17 and 18, 1947, and National Farm Radio Forum. Farm Forum Handbook.

⁶⁰ National Farm Radio Forum. Op. cit., p. 3.

available or pertinent material perhaps from the University's regular farm materials. The group will probably meet regularly from November through March on Monday evenings. They listen to the broadcast from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m., then meet as a group or groups for discussion of the questions mailed out by the forum office on the subject of the broadcast. At the conclusion of this discussion, they agree on answers which will go to the provincial secretary as the sense of their meeting. These answers will be used by the secretary along with material from other forum groups for the five-minute news summary the next week. Mailing charges and a portion of the salary of the provincial secretary who in the case of Saskatchewan is a regular member of the Extension staff, are supplied from small fees and from grants by the national sponsors. It is estimated that the provincial secretary's office operates on about \$2,000 per year, with approximately \$400 coming from the forums and the rest from the sponsors.⁶¹ The financial statement as of April 3, 1946, and for a season's operation is given in Appendix C.

Each forum program must be geared to a Dominion-wide audience. But local adaptations can be made in the discussion group and through the materials which are sent out from the provincial office. The provincial group, furthermore, is drawn to the national forum by reason of the fact that

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National Farm Radio Forum. Cp. cit.; and interview with D. R. Robinson February 17 and 18, 1947.

men from their province may appear as experts on the forum. R. Stutt of the country organization department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited, participated in the broadcast discussion on December 2, 1946, on the subject "Do Scientific Advances Reach the Farmer?" Two other men on the same broadcast were also from Saskatchewan.⁶² Topics are broadly enough phrased so that with local adaptations they can readily be made to fit a variety of situations, as can be seen from Table XXIII.

TABLE XXIII⁶³

Topics of the 1946-47 Season of the National Farm Radio Forum Entitled "The Farmer and the Future"

Date	Topic	Date	Topic
	Series I		Series III(Continued)
Oct.28	Are Farm Living Standards High?	Jan.20	Commodity Agreements and Cartels
Nov. 4	What about Farm Taxes?	27	What the Forums Say
11	What about Farm Home Improvements?		Series IV
18	What the Forums Say	Feb. 3	What Makes Prices?
	Series II	10	Are Farm Prices Comparable to Industrial Prices?
Nov.25	Is Research Meeting Farm Needs?	17	The Future Farm Price Program
Dec. 2	Do Scientific Advances Reach the Farmer?	24	What the Forums Say
9	What about Chemurgy?		Series V
16	What the Forums Say	Mar. 3	Have Farmers a Stake in High Wages?
	Series III - 1947	10	Would Social Security Solve the Farm Labor Problem?
Jan. 6	Agriculture is a Risky Business	17	Who Will Farm in the Future?
13	What Should the World Federation Do?	24	What the Forums Say

⁶² Farm Forum Guide. Vol. 4, Number 5, December 2, 1946, p. 1.

⁶³ National Farm Radio Forum. The Farmer and the Future (Printed leaflet).

Approximately 50 per cent of the forums in the last two seasons have sent in reports each week. The forums currently reach about 500 farm families, or less than one per cent of the rural population. Those listening, however, do get a deal of concrete information about agricultural production not only through the broadcast but through a variety of supplementary material, mostly on agricultural production. Bulletins sent out with the guide include those on diseases of horses, soil drifting, fertilizers, diet and health, prairie weeds, safety, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. Agricultural adult education in a broader sense, however, is the chief outcome of the forum. "Farmers on the prairies are frequently surprised to learn that their neighbors in Ontario or the Maritimes hold similar views" to theirs and have similar problems to solve. Sending news and views from all parts of the Dominion back into remote areas tends to overcome feelings of remoteness and isolation. Out of these meetings, also, have come a variety of action projects. These included sponsoring farm machinery field days, cooperating to build community halls, obtaining travelling libraries, and sponsoring a sawfly control program.⁶⁴

Because agricultural adult education agencies in Saskatchewan are trying to bridge the gap between the farmer

⁶⁴ Report of National Farm Radio Forum Saskatchewan Region, Season 1945-46, and interviews with D. R. Robinson, February 17 and 18, 1947.

and the technical agricultural groups, a summary of opinions on the topic "Do Scientific Advances Reach the Farmer" is of particular interest. Forty-nine of the Saskatchewan forums representing a total attendance of 560 persons, turned in their reports which are summarized in Table XXIV.

TABLE XXIV⁶⁵

Summary of Opinions of Saskatchewan Farm People on
Questions Relating to the Topic
"Do Scientific Advances Reach the Farmer"

Question and Answer	Percentage of Forums Giving Answer
Question 1: How has scientific information helped you on your farm?	
By providing improved varieties of grain	83
Improvement of livestock, including poultry	33
Information on the use of fertilizers	25
Livestock disease control	22
Improved feeding of livestock	18
Cereal disease control	18
Insect control	18
Improved machinery	14
Proper summer fallow and other cultural methods	
By providing machinery demonstrations	
Information on weed control	
Providing new varieties of vegetables	
Question 2: How did you get this information?	
Pamphlets or bulletins	56
Farm newspapers and farm magazines	46
Farm broadcasts	42
Experimental farms	31
Extension Department, University	29
Agricultural Representatives	16
Other farmers	16
Rural farm courses	
Field days	

⁶⁵ Adapted from D. R. Robinson. Saskatchewan Farm Radio Forum Summary, December 2, 1946, typewritten statement given to author. Where no percentages are given, it is assumed that the answer was given by so few forums as not to warrant computing percentages.

TABLE XXIV (Cont.)

Summary of Opinions of Saskatchewan Farm People on
Questions Relating to the Topic
"Do Scientific Advances Reach the Farmer"

Question and Answer	Percentage of Forums Giving Answer
Question 3: How could Departments of Agriculture and Agricultural colleges improve their methods of bringing information to the farmers?	
More field days, demonstrations and meetings	53
More agricultural films	51
Bulletins and pamphlets in plain everyday language, better illustrated and more attractive	33
More Agricultural Representatives and greater use made of this service	29
More boys and girls clubs	18
More farm radio programs	18
More publicity regarding available services, meetings, demonstrations, bulletins, in newspapers and on the radio	16
Prepare and distribute a catalog of bulletins with notes explaining the different topics dealt with	
Bulletins mailed to all farm taxpayers	
More illustration stations	
A periodical published by Department of Agriculture and Extension workers	
Farm broadcast on the air between 12 and one o'clock in all time zones	
Farmers themselves should take more interest	6
More pamphlets and bulletins	
Pamphlets and bulletins more readily available	
Enlarge the program of agricultural short courses and the youth training program	
An illustration station in every municipality. Farmers will try something they see.	

Although the sampling on which Table XXIV is based is small, it probably represents highly selected people who make more than ordinary use of technical information and thus would be more than ordinarily inclined to report services of technical agencies favorably. In view of efforts

to diversify the economy of Saskatchewan, it is significant that the largest percentage of forums reported members as being assisted by scientific information on improved varieties of grain. Help on improved cultural methods and summer fallow which are essential to a continuing prosperous economy even with present emphasis on grain growing are mentioned by so few as not to be indicated by percentages.

In Table XXIV answers one and two under question two should be viewed along with suggestion number three under question three. These selected farm groups are getting their information primarily from pamphlets, bulletins, farm newspapers, and farm magazines; yet they would appreciate having their reading matter couched in "plain everyday language", and "better illustrated and more attractive." One forum, however, proposed a scholarly piece of paper work which should bring joy to desk workers: "We suggest that a catalogue of bulletins with proper notes explaining the subject treated on, be distributed to all farmers and that this catalogue be kept up to date by supplements and periodic revision."⁶⁶

Aside from its interest as an adult education method, the farm forum offers in these weekly reports a fruitful source of information on thinking of farm people. Table XXIV is merely a summary. Opinions as they come from the group are phrased in the language of the people writing them

⁶⁶ Ibid., p. 4.

and are replete with local color. Beyond the uses, however, to which this information is put for improving forums and stimulating interest of forum members, it appears to be an unexploited source of information.

The Extension Department cooperates in offering both at the University and around the province a series of short courses which are variously financed and sponsored. These courses will change in character in accordance with the demand for them and the facilities for handling them.

Because of overcrowded conditions at the University, the Extension Department offers only two courses under its sole sponsorship in the season 1946-47. These are a gasoline and diesel engine course of four weeks in January, and a blacksmithing and welding course of two weeks in February. Students will be in residence unless they live at nearby points. Cost of courses is met by the University and through fees. Students may be of any age or any educational background.⁶⁷

Since the depression there has been in operation some form of joint endeavor between the Dominion and the province in providing non-credit training for young people between the ages of sixteen and thirty. These courses vary in length from three days to six weeks, are jointly financed by the Dominion Department of Labour and the provincial Department of Education, are staffed and supervised by the

⁶⁷ Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan.
Short Courses in Agricultural Engineering.

Extension Department or the Department of Women's Extension, and must be sponsored by some local farm organization. The sponsoring organization is responsible for collecting fees, providing some building facilities, and publicizing the course.⁶⁸

The most elaborate and colorful of these courses has been a coeducational course of six weeks duration held in the winter at the Kenossee Chalet, a resort owned by the provincial government. Young people attending must pay their own transportation and five dollars per week for food and lodging. The Extension supervisor testifies that excellent board is furnished by expending no more money than that available from this fee. Budgeting the money is a part of the training of young women in home management. The instruction of the latter covers home management, clothing, handicrafts, and home nursing. Lectures and demonstration for the men, given by farmers who are graduates in agriculture from the University, include material on farm motors, farm mechanics, field crops, and livestock.

The Extension supervisor maintains that courses at the Kenossee school have as their primary purpose stimulating new and broader interests. To satisfy the feeling of the young people that they should get practical help in agriculture

⁶⁸ Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program 1946-47, Saskatchewan. Financial Assistance Available to Rural Young People Wishing to Attend the School of Agriculture; Loren C. Paul, form letter regarding short courses in agriculture supervised by the University during 1946-47; and interview with Loren C. Paul February 18, 1947.

for production, technical agricultural material is included; but instructors try to impart other materials and to leave with young people some avocational interests which will carry over after they leave the school. Joint activities of young men and women serve these broader purposes. They include participation in a student council, dramatics, social recreation, singing, games and physical education under the direction of personnel from the Saskatchewan Recreation movement; study groups on family relationships; classes on citizenship and cooperatives; and a variety of lectures and demonstrations on such subjects as poultry dressing, farmstead planning, development of labor-saving devices for the home.⁶⁹

Other Dominion-Provincial youth training courses include a two-week general agricultural course covering farm mechanics, farm motors, field crops, poultry, horticulture, citizenship, and livestock; and three-day courses covering any one of the subjects offered in the two-week course. These courses like that of six weeks must be sponsored by a local organization and will be offered only when farm organizations take the initiative in asking for them. In order to emphasize the fact that the agricultural representative is the person who channels all agricultural effort in his community, farm organizations are urged to secure initial

⁶⁹ Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program, Saskatchewan. Co-Educational Youth Training School; and interview with Loren C. Paul February 18, 1947.

information through their agricultural representative and to make the request regarding sponsorship through him. This allows the agricultural representative to assist in organizing and publicizing the course.⁷⁰ Table XXV summarizes material on Dominion-Provincial youth training for 1945-46.

TABLE XXV⁷¹

Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program, 1945-46

Length of Course	Number of Courses	Attendance
Five Months (School of Agriculture)	1	16*
Six Weeks course at University in general agriculture	1	12*
One month local course in general agriculture	2	64
Two weeks local course in general agriculture	41	1,250
Three days course on farm mechanics and other topics	10	179

*These figures indicate the number assisted by the student aid program rather than the total number in classes.

The Dominion-Provincial youth training program allows for special aid to students as well as for money for instructors and materials. The figures for the five months and six weeks courses in Table XXV indicate the extent of this aid. That so few students are directly aided is attributed to the present buoyant economic condition and to the fact that

⁷⁰ Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program, 1946-47, Saskatchewan. Two Week Agricultural Short Course and untitled circular on rural courses and courses at the University of Saskatchewan; and interview with Loren C. Paul February 18, 1947.

⁷¹ Adapted from University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, pp. 98 and 107.

veterans may receive aid under other regulations.

Veterans may utilize any of these short courses given by the Extension Department, or may attend special courses at Prince Albert. Of these latter, one in general agriculture runs for six weeks in the fall, spring or winter, and the other in farm machinery lasts for four weeks. These are both financed by the Canadian Vocational Training Program and are under the supervision of the University. These two courses are augmented by a five months course which constitutes the first year of the two year course given in the School of Agriculture at the University.

The six weeks course emphasizes farm motors and machinery, but includes some work on crop production, livestock, poultry, and other phases of agriculture. The four weeks course includes the construction, operation, adjustment, and general repair of gasoline and diesel engines and of machinery. There are tractors and engines available for the study of ignition, starting and lighting systems, valve timing, fuels, carburetion and lubrication as well as a full line of farm machinery with which to work. Courses are taught by trained and experienced agriculturists who are also farmers, and are designed for men who will be on farms. Presumably because of this last purpose students must be recommended by the Veterans Land Act authorities who have charge of assisting veterans to secure proper farming

land.⁷²

In all of these short courses it will be seen that emphasis is on technical agriculture and particularly farm machinery. Extension authorities are attempting to introduce through supplementary lectures and discussions materials on horticulture, farm home improvement, and citizenship. An attempt is made to meet the need for diversification by courses on livestock and poultry.

From time to time the University Extension Department gives institutes for special groups composed not of farmers but of professional people who work with farmers. The officials and field staff of the Veterans' Land Act come in for a one week refresher course on soils and land evaluation.⁷³

From time to time the Extension Department sponsors or assists in sponsoring special exhibits, fairs, or short courses, or other kinds of education projects. One of these is an orchard project which may be sponsored by an agricultural society. It requires the enrollment of a minimum of six farmers who agree to undertake small farm orchards under the guidance of University officials (in this case the Extension horticulturist). The purpose of the project is to

⁷²Loren C. Paul, form letter regarding short courses in agriculture supervised by the University of Saskatchewan, during 1946-47; Canadian Vocational Training, untitled circular describing 1947 courses for ex-servicemen who plan to farm; and interview with Loren C. Paul February 18, 1947.

⁷³Interviews with John M. Varey and John Charnetaki, February 22, 1947.

encourage the greater use of fruits in the diet of the farm family and will demonstrate to the community the possibilities in home fruit growing. Ground must be summer fallowed before being planted to orchard, orchards must be properly protected and tended, and annually the society sponsoring the orchards must hold at one of the orchards a horticultural field day for which the Extension Department will provide a speaker and demonstration. The society may be reimbursed by grant from the provincial government for this project which is classified as a meritorious activity under regulations governing agricultural societies. During the past season there have been in operation some twelve such projects representing about 140 farms. Fruits required in the "must" list for the orchard are selected varieties of crabapples, plums, plum-cherry hybrids and cherries, red raspberries, and gooseberries; currants and strawberries may be added if desired.⁷⁴

In line with this interest in horticulture, the Extension Department and the Horticultural Societies' Association jointly sponsor a fruit show in Saskatoon. The Extension horticulturist is the secretary of the fruit show committee. In the 1945 fair the largest number of entries were crabapples, followed by plums. Other fruits best adapted to Saskatchewan were also shown; but some exhibitors had

⁷⁴Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan. Outline of Orchard Project; and interview with D. R. Robinson February 18, 1947.

entered fruits not recommended for general planting, such as grapes, Nanking cherries, sour cherries, pears, apricots and cutternuts. It is hoped that this fair is having an educational value, for "from casual comments made by those in attendance it is apparent that many of our people are not fully aware of the advances which have been made during the past twenty-five years in the development of hardy fruits for the prairies."⁷⁵

The big annual event at the University and that with which the Extension Department assists is University Farm Week, held usually in the winter. This program lasting for five days gives opportunity for educational and official programs sponsored on succeeding days by the Saskatchewan Branch Canadian Seed Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association, and the Saskatchewan Agricultural Societies' Association. A special program is offered for farm women and is arranged by the Department of Women's Work. In order to take advantage of all special programs going on during this week, other organizations also hold their meetings at the same time. Two of these are the Saskatchewan Certified Seed Potato Growers' Association and the Saskatchewan Agricultural College Grads' Association.

During the 1947 meetings the seed growers listened to such illuminating addresses as "The Effects of 2-4-D Upon the Wheat Plant". The agricultural societies spent a

⁷⁵D. R. Robinson. Report of Second Saskatchewan Provincial Fruit Show, p. 1.

considerable time learning how to promote junior club groups and what were opportunities in education for rural young people. During this week there is held the Provincial Seed Fair for which a member of the Extension staff is in charge of exhibits. An attendance at the fair of 700 was reported for 1945-46; but some doubt has been expressed as to the value of the Provincial Seed Fair as presently organized. In 1931, for instance, 231 exhibitors entered 544 exhibits and \$2,368 in prizes were paid out. In 1946 only 95 exhibitors participated with 178 exhibits, and \$725 were given in prize money.⁷⁶

The Extension Department is charged with publishing all bulletins addressed to the farmer on Saskatchewan production problems. These may be secured by farmers writing for them. Table XXVI lists bulletins available in 1947. It will be seen that main emphasis is on agricultural production. A few other mimeographed bulletins are available in the several departments of the College of Agriculture.

Much agricultural adult education is also done by members of the Extension staff and of the College of Agriculture, who answer voluminous correspondence from farmers.

⁷⁶ College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. Programme of University Farm Week January 6-10, 1947; and University of Saskatchewan Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 96.

TABLE XXVI⁷⁷

Bulletins for Distribution from the Extension Department,
University of Saskatchewan, 1947

Subject	Subject
<u>Agricultural Engineering</u>	Wheat as a Feed for Pigs and Other Live Stock
Farm Work Shop	Some Common Diseases of Horses and Cattle in Saskatchewan
Grain Binder Adjustments	Parasites of Live Stock
The Automobile and Farm Lighting Plant Storage Battery	Problems of Ergot in Feed and Seed
Gasoline Engine Ignition	Types and Breeds of Farm Live Stock
The Tractor Sweep	A portable Feed Rack for Cattle
Maintenance and Operation of the Plow and One-way Disc	<u>Field Crops</u>
Engine Fuels	Wheat Varieties and Their Production
Engine Lubrication	Oat Varieties and Their Production
The Header and Header Barge for Grain Harvesting	The Growing of Flax
Water and Disposal Systems for Homes in Rural Saskatchewan	Flax Diseases
Seed Cleaning on the Farm	Rye Production in Saskatchewan
Maintenance and Overhaul of the Farm Tractor	Root-Rot Diseases of Cereals
<u>Live Stock</u>	Sweet Clover in Saskatchewan
The Herd Boar	Alfalfa Seed Production on the Grey Wooded Soils of Northern Saskatchewan
Swine Production in Saskatchewan	Crested Wheat Grass Helps in the Control of Perennial Weeds
Movable Summer Pens for Pigs	Varieties of Grain Crops for Saskatchewan
Piggeries	<u>Dairying</u>
Care and Management of Horses on the Farm	Butter Making on the Farm
Breeding and Feeding Beef Cattle	Cheese Making on the Farm
Care and Management of Sheep on the Farm	Variations in Butterfat Content of Milk and Cream
Dressing and Curing Pork on the Farm	Testing Milk and Cream for Butterfat
The Mineral Needs of Farm Animals	
The Care and Feeding of Dairy Cattle	

⁷⁷Adapted from printed circular. Extension Department. University of Saskatchewan. Bulletins.

TABLE XXVI (Cont.)

Bulletins for Distribution from the Extension Department,
University of Saskatchewan, 1947

Subject	Subject
<u>Poultry</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
Care and Management of Baby Chicks	Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan
Home-Made Brooders	Rainfall Records in Saskatchewan
Flock Improvement and Pedigree Poultry Breeding	Fertilizers in Saskatchewan
Raising Turkeys	Stock Judging for Boys
Avian Tuberculosis	Grain Judging for Boys
Judging for Egg Production	The Effects of Hail Injury on Wheat and Other Crops
Feeding of Poultry	Report of Director of Extension on Agricultural Societies
Fattening Poultry for Market	Report of Director of Extension on Horticultural Societies
How to Kill and Pluck Poultry	Regulations Governing Boys' and Girls' Baby Beef, Dairy Calf, Swine, Poultry and Seed Clubs
Poultry Housing	
<u>Farm Management</u>	
Share Rental Terms for Saskatchewan Farms	
<u>Horticulture</u>	
Horticulture in Saskatchewan	
Vegetable Gardening in Saskatchewan	
The Preparation and Judging of Horticultural Exhibits	
Fruit Gardening in Saskatchewan	

Although the director of the Extension Department draws no distinction in his definition of adult education between vocational and non-vocational courses for farmers, certain aids of the Extension Department are often listed as Adult Educational Services or as Educational Services Other than Agricultural. Because of distinctions made in describing these services, they will be mentioned only briefly. One is sets of correspondence lectures ordinarily bought by voluntarily organized study groups. In 1945-46 there were a

total of 460 such groups with an enrollment of about 2,300. Although these groups are not included in agricultural adult education, they do enroll many rural people. In view of this fact, it is significant that of courses available those which are most popular are not those listed as agriculture, but such topics as "Democracy Begins at Home," "Child Psychology," "Opportunities in World Organization," "Credit Unions," "International Affairs," and "Helping Children Grow Up."⁷⁸

Other activities carried on by the Extension Department which are outside the scope of this thesis are work with the drama leagues(not commonly known as agricultural adult education) and the citizens radio forums; and junior clubs enrolling young people between the ages of twelve and twenty-one years.

The Department of Women's Work embraces several different kinds of projects similar in organization but different in content from those carried out in the Extension Department. In place of agricultural societies there are homemakers clubs; in place of junior clubs, homecraft clubs; and in the matter of Dominion-Provincial youth training there are courses separate from or coördinated with those for young men.

Although this department began because of demands from

⁷⁸ Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan. An Outline of Courses for Study Groups; and University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 100.

rural women, the present director would not class all of its activities as agricultural adult education. She would point out that homemakers clubs may be organized by urban as well as rural women, and that many projects are in the fields of homemaking or citizenship rather than in agriculture. In the description to follow those activities will be stressed which the director would label agricultural adult education.⁷⁹

In the fall of 1910 Lillian K. Beynon, "Lillian Laurie" of the woman's page, Manitoba Free Press, travelled to meetings of agricultural societies along the Canadian Pacific Railway line east of Regina. Out of her contacts with women who attended these meetings came a series of clubs which in January, 1911, formed the nucleus of the first annual convention of the homemakers clubs of Saskatchewan. The burden of Miss Beynon's address before the convention set the stage for the clubs. She pointed out that not long since men laughed at the "book farmer"; now they were learning that the technical agriculturist could tell them a good deal about their business. In the same way, said she, it had been discovered that "housekeeping is also a profession, and....that woman is not a natural born housekeeper." Women were much too scarce in the farming areas, she pointed out, "to wear them out over the wash tub and the churn when an engine can

⁷⁹ An extensive interview with Bertha G. Oxner, February 19, 1947, is the basis for the description of the Department of Women's Work. This information is supplemented by other source materials as noted in succeeding footnotes.

be purchased at a very reasonable price...." Women's clubs in which women could study their profession were her proposal. Topics in which they might be interested, she suggested were care of children, gardening, ventilation, drainage, food, architecture, business methods in the home, house plants, model kitchens: in fact anything that might make living easier and more enjoyable on the prairies.⁸⁰

The convention program included meetings on a variety of topics such as cooking, growing of strawberries, and social life in the country; and out of the first meeting came a constitution of the homemakers clubs which linked them to the University. A homemakers club might be organized at any public meeting for women "called either by or under instructions of the Director of Agricultural Extension, College of Agriculture, Saskatoon."⁸¹

The number of clubs increased steadily thereafter until it became necessary to hire a woman assistant at the University to work with the homemakers. From this beginning there developed both an elaborate organization of clubs and the present separate department of women's work with its staff of seven full time professional home economists whose duties include many activities besides those of working with the clubs.

⁸⁰ College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. Report of the First Annual Convention of the Homemakers' Clubs of Saskatchewan, pp. 22-28.

⁸¹ Ibid., p. 8.

A homemakers club is organized and functions much as an agricultural society. A group of women (rural or urban) must undertake on their own initiative to form such an organization, by making their intention known to the director of the Department of Women's Work and receiving preliminary instructions on how to proceed. When the club is organized it may receive such aids from the Department as assistance with programs, lectures and demonstrations by the home economists on the staff, and printed material sent out periodically from the central office. Clubs are organized in districts and districts come together to form a provincial organization. At each annual convention of the homemakers clubs, the director of women's work reports to the convention on the progress of the clubs during the year.

As an aid in program planning there are elected at the annual convention provincial conveners who head the following standing committees: agriculture and Canadian industries, arts and literature, education, home economics, international relations, legislation, and public health. The director of women's work or some of her committees work with these conveners to prepare program suggestions for the coming year. Suggestions are sent to the clubs which repeat the provincial organization by having conveners of the same standing committees. It is not obligatory that clubs follow suggestions, but they may do so by having each of their local conveners responsible for programs falling within the

general framework of the provincial program notes.⁸²

The interests of these women's clubs are broader than those of the men's societies. The women pride themselves on their affiliations with such organizations as the Associated Countrywomen of the World, the League of Nations Society in Canada (presumably this affiliation will be changed in light of international developments), the Canadian Association for Adult Education, and others. Their standing committees represent a wide variety of local, national, and international interests. In fact the constitution of the homemakers club says, "Any programme designed to improve conditions in the home or in the community is a legitimate field for club endeavor."⁸³

Although clubs are dedicated to being non-political and non-sectarian, the women are practical enough to want to follow up their studies with action to the extent of petitioning their local or provincial governments in support of particular projects. At the 1946 convention the Director of Women's Work said to the conveners,

The various provincial government departments realize that they need your influence in promoting improved programmes in Agriculture, Health, Recreation, Legislation, and Education. To exercise this influence wisely, it is essential that you study progressive action in various countries.⁸⁴

⁸²Department of Women's Work, University of Saskatchewan. Hand-Book Homemakers' Clubs.

⁸³Ibid., p. 9.

⁸⁴Saskatchewan Homemakers' Clubs. Director's Report--Annual Provincial Convention, June 11, 1946, p. 4.

Those projects related specifically to agricultural adult education for production include sponsoring of rural young people's clubs; sponsoring and arranging flower and vegetable shows which may have as an outcome the developing of flourishing horticultural and agricultural societies; training girls for competitions at fairs; and financing girls wishing to attend various farm girl activities.

In activities undertaken by the women for themselves in their own clubs, the breadth of their interests is indicated by the provincial convener's suggestions for 1946-47 for committees on agriculture. They include suggestions on how to study and where to get reference material on the following topics which might be of interest to local clubs:

1. The Dominion Experimental Farms, which in 1946 celebrated their sixtieth anniversary.
2. District agricultural representatives and agricultural conservation improvement boards and committees. Homemakers are urged to cooperate with men's groups in arranging community meetings and in serving on district boards and agricultural committees.
3. Soil surveys.
4. The international aspects of agriculture. Under this heading are listed for study the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Federation of Agriculture.
5. Special agricultural projects. The development of new varieties of plants.

6. Junior agricultural clubs.

7. Cooperation with agricultural or horticultural societies.⁸⁵

During the year ending April 30, 1945, the homemakers clubs undertook to have talks or papers read on a host of topics related to poultry, dairying, livestock, crop production and soil conservation, and particularly horticulture. International aspects of agriculture came in for some study with three different clubs investigating agricultural activities in Russia and particularly collective farming. These activities were quite apart from other considerations given to agriculture in demonstrations, discussions, and debates. Subjects of agricultural talks sponsored by homemakers clubs in 1945 will be found in Appendix D. As of May 1, 1946, there were 365 active homemakers clubs with an estimated total membership of 6,205 and nineteen members at large.⁸⁶

Dominion-Provincial youth training courses supervised by the Department of Women's Work are on much the same basis as those under the Extension Department. The Department in addition will arrange in the coeducational schools that portion of the program relating to young women.

Projects under Dominion-Provincial youth training include a short course participated in partly by young married

⁸⁵Saskatchewan Homemakers' Clubs. Suggestions for Conveners of Agriculture and Canadian Industries 1946-47.

⁸⁶University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 111.

women, which runs for two or three weeks in a community. This is non-residence and many times will meet afternoons and evenings to accommodate schedules to hours when women will be free. Regulations regarding this course are the same as for short courses for young men already described.

These schools for women give instruction in sewing techniques, handicrafts, foods, and family relationships handled by staff members of the Department or persons especially hired for the occasion. Instructors are supplemented by public health personnel who teach home nursing and personal hygiene, and by local agricultural specialists who handle technical agriculture. During 1945-46 there were ten of these courses for women, with a total registration of 209.⁸⁷

Homecraft clubs supervised by the Department of Women's Work are for young people ages thirteen to twenty-four years, and in some cases thirteen to eighteen years, and so would fall outside the scope of this dissertation. The director of women's work hopes that eventually the schools will take over supervision of those in the teen ages and that her department will be free to work with out-of-school young people.

Like the Extension Department, the Department of Women's Work works through a variety of organizations in that staff members are available for talks and demonstrations on such occasions as Experimental Farm days, field days, meetings of

⁸⁷Ibid., p. 111.

societies of all kinds, conventions, and farm women's week at the University. The six staff members presently employed are home economists, to succeeding ones of whom are given the following fields to supervise: (1) food, (2) clothing and needlework, (3) handicrafts, (4) clothing, handicrafts, weaving, (5) girls work, home decoration, furniture renovation, and (6) girls work, clothing. The director herself is particularly interested in housing and home management. She hopes to emphasize one aspect of this work by bringing on her staff a woman especially trained in rural housing who will confine her activities to that field. In the summer, the Department employs three or four extra people for field work. The director looks forward to the time when she may also employ a specialist in child training and psychology, and a series of district home economists working in the field much as the agricultural representatives.

The School of Agriculture is designed to fit young men for a better life on the farm. It enrolls young people at least seventeen years of age, physically strong and of good moral character, who have had eight years of education or better and who have had at least one season's experience from seedtime to harvest on a farm. The student body varies in background from season to season. During 1946-47 of the 230 students, about 65 per cent are veterans and about 50 per cent, married; the average age is approximately twenty-three years. The present director is of the opinion that the majority of seventeen year olds are not mature enough to

know their vocational aspirations, and that students with only eighth grade education are at a distinct disadvantage. He favors the more mature young man who already has a farm or has made up his mind that he wants to farm, and who has had tenth grade or better in education.

The complete course of the School of Agriculture covers two years of five months each, which if successfully completed leads to a diploma in agriculture. The course is so designed that a student may take only one year, however. Although the School is established for present or prospective farmers and follow-up records show that 85 per cent of the graduates are farming, a small number of the students do continue on to the College of Agriculture in order to become technical agriculturists.⁸⁸

As in other programs of agricultural adult education for production there is much in the two years directly related to livestock and their care, crop production, soil conservation, and farm management. But a consistent attempt is also made to face the facts of rural community life and to give such instruction as will lead to general improvement in community living. Community life in rural Saskatchewan, says the director of the School, is not well developed. Young men in his school are well aware of the bleak lives they may have to live back on the farm. Yet they as a

⁸⁸University of Saskatchewan. Calendar of the University of Saskatchewan Session 1946-47, pp. 136-138, and interview with William B. Baker, February 19, 1947.

highly selected group educationally speaking can be so developed as to improve community living and thus their prospects of happiness. At present, for instance, membership of the agricultural conservation and improvement committees are being drawn very heavily from School of Agriculture graduates. School officials therefore feel it desirable to introduce such materials as public speaking and parliamentary procedure; studies of the family, school, church and local government; instruction in building of home libraries; and study of community organization and leadership. Student assemblies given over to discussion of a variety of present-day problems afford another avenue for introducing students to a variety of subjects. The older age group and the fact that 50 per cent of the men are married probably accounts for the very keen interest in family problems. The past year, says the director, he had intended to have three lectures devoted to family relationships, and found himself allotting three weeks.⁸⁹

Student activities afford another means of stimulating interest in and practice for rural leadership in community and agricultural affairs. Students are enrolled in livestock, field crops, and farm mechanics clubs, and support a glee club and debates. Clubs are used as a teaching device. A recent agricultural livestock club purchased steers and

⁸⁹ School of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. Practical Training for Farm Operation; interview with William B. Baker February 19, 1947; and observations of author on visit to school.

and hogs on which they practiced with feeding schedules and general care. In the spring they sold their animals and received good returns. Another time the same club purchased hogs from the University and entered them in the dressed meat show. The livestock club of 1946 developed a special show called The Little Royal. In 1947 students in the school expanded this to include exhibits and competitions not only in livestock but in field crops, poultry, farm mechanics, and literary work. This event is held in the livestock pavillion of the University, and in the evening is ended with a dance in a nearby ballroom.⁹⁰

The afternoon hours of the School of Agriculture are almost entirely devoted to these club activities. One of the more interesting committees is that on curriculum which discusses changes in the school program. During the Christmas holidays second year students are encouraged to make surveys of their home communities. During the 1946 season seventy-five of these surveys were completed, showing rural organizations, school districts, types of populations, churches. The survey device serves as a new introduction to a community in which the student may have lived all his life, and often interests him in organizations in which he might like to participate. He may find shortcomings which he might remedy through taking leadership in his community. In Appendix E will be found material on background of students.

⁹⁰ Ibid., and Saskatchewan Vocational Agriculturists' Association. The Little Royal.

3. Peripheral Agencies.

Four agencies in Saskatchewan might be termed peripheral agricultural adult education institutions. The first of these is the provincial Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development; the second, the Saskatchewan Film Board allied with the Dominion or National Film Board; the third, the experimental farm services; and the fourth, the organization functioning under the Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act.

The Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development employs one extension specialist whose primary responsibility is to assist groups in organizing agricultural production coöperatives of all kinds. His help extends to the pre-organizing, organizing, and post-organizing stages for grazing, machinery, sheep production, pure bred sire, honey production, and farming coöperatives, as well as others which come within the scope of agricultural production.⁹¹

The extension specialist prepares special bulletins on coöperatives, answers correspondence concerning them, visits interested groups, and helps draw up by-laws consistent with legislation on coöperatives.

Particular emphasis is being put on coöperative farming in which either machinery or all resources are pooled. Certain aspects of Saskatchewan agriculture make such enter-

⁹¹Unless otherwise indicated, material on the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development is taken from an interview with Harold E. Chapman February 24, 1947.

prises effective and necessary for efficient farming. Farmers pooling capital for machinery can acquire that equipment which will enable them to operate large scale power farms on a competitive basis, to reduce overcapitalization in machinery, and to raise farm acreage to the level advocated by farm management studies for profitable production. The Laurel Farm Co-operative Association has enabled the original shareholders to help establish their sons in farming, and to replan their homes and buildings in a central location. Grouping of buildings allows them to have meetings every Monday after breakfast so as to plan the week's work. The association owns the buildings for which electricity is provided. A community garden, a machine shop, and an orchard are benefits accruing to the whole community. The division of labor reduces hours of labor so that, for instance, the man on the tractor does not have to milk cows when he finishes his day's work.⁹² Assisting such an enterprise as the Laurel coöperative is one of the jobs of the extension specialist.

For groups studying production cooperatives, there have been prepared bulletins of four to eight pages in length, which discuss a topic, provide questions on it, and list additional reading. Included in the bulletins may be aids on group study as in Study Bulletin Number 2. The following

⁹²H. E. Chapman and S. L. Hedland. Progress of Co-operative Farming in Saskatchewan.

bulletins are those which have already been prepared:

1. Introduction
2. History of Farming in Saskatchewan
3. Principles of Co-Operation As Applied to Co-Operative Farming
4. Co-Operative Community Pastures and Co-Operatives for the use of Machinery
5. Co-Operative Pooling of Land, Labour and Other Resources
6. Co-Operatives for Dairy and Poultry Production
Re-establishing the Veteran
7. Co-Operative Living in Palestine
8. Russia's Collective Farms
9. Co-Operative Group Farms of the F.S.A.
10. Communal and Collective Farming Enterprises
11. Organization of a Co-Operative for the Use of Machinery
12. Organization of a Complete Co-Operative Farm⁹³

The Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development carries on other activities not specifically agricultural production education but closely related to rural adult education. These include publishing bulletins regarding coöperative action for women, guides to forming community canning centers, and others on topics such as coöperative frozen food locker plants.⁹⁴ Much emphasis is being placed on coöperative community centers for which a special committee has been formed to channel information and to draft an education program for assisting communities in organizing and utilizing centers properly. The Departments of Education and Public Health are also represented on this committee.⁹⁵

⁹³Taken from title pages of study bulletins issued by the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development.

⁹⁴See bibliography for bulletins described.

⁹⁵Saskatchewan Community Centre Planning Committee. Progress Report to November 5, 1946, p. 1.

Through a joint arrangement between the province of Saskatchewan and the Dominion, a visual aids program serving both children and adults is operated by a director who serves as the executive for both the National Film Board and the Saskatchewan Film Board. For the province it is the Department of Education which is the interested agency and provides part of the finances.⁹⁶

The program is designed to put the sixteen millimeter film on a professional basis in a rural province which has a dearth of commercial entertainment, though there is no attempt to compete with commercial movie houses.

Being partially under the sponsorship of the Department of Education, visual aids are used as teaching devices both in youth and adult groups. For this purpose there are nine field representatives paid by the Dominion, twenty-two teachers employed by larger school units, and ten Wheat Pool district representatives travelling both to school and community centers within prescribed circuits. In line with the educational purposes of the program, it is essential, says the director, to employ teachers. The additional skills needed to run machines can be given in a short training course, but film operators must know how to develop discussion growing out of the film before they come on the program. Not all of the operators are teacher trained, but as

⁹⁶Unless otherwise indicated the description of the film boards will be taken from an interview with E. F. Holliday February 24, 1947.

unqualified operators leave, those newly hired must qualify as public school teachers.

Only a selected number of the films could be called agricultural, and only a part of the groups are adult. For those film board evenings which might be called agricultural adult education, the following pattern is used as for all adult meetings:

1. Meeting opens with a sing song.
2. Showing of Canadian Screen Magazine, a newsreel.
3. Feature film related to the subject of the evening's meeting.
4. Controlled discussion led by the teacher-operator.
5. Second showing of the feature film to clarify points in the discussion.

If there is any time left over, the operator will have other films he can show.

Agricultural films which might be showed to adult audiences are those on soil conservation, horticulture, field crops, general agriculture including some for rehabilitation of veterans, livestock, dairying, poultry, and insects.⁹⁷ Many of these films available through the National Film Board are produced by the board's technical staff and so will have a maximum of educational value.⁹⁸

To ensure a continuous use and distribution of films,

⁹⁷ National Film Board and Saskatchewan Film Board. Agricultural Films.

⁹⁸ See monthly activities reports of the National Film Board.

community film libraries are being established throughout Saskatchewan, in cooperation with major local organizations. Some twelve such libraries have already been set up.

There is some question as to whether any Dominion agency engages in education. It is pointed out that in Canada education is the business of the provincial governments and that investigational work is the responsibility of the Dominion. It might be said, therefore, that the Dominion Department of Agriculture services local agricultural adult education agencies.

To carry out investigational work the Dominion maintains the following institutions in Saskatchewan:

1. Experimental Farm, Indian Head;
 2. Experimental Stations, Swift Current, Scott,
and Melfort;
 3. Soils Research Laboratory, Swift Current;
 4. Forage Crops Laboratory, University of
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon;
 5. Soil Survey Laboratory;
 6. Forest Nursery Stations, Indian Head, Sutherland;
 7. Plant Pathological Laboratory, University of
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon;
 8. Entomological laboratories;
 9. Forty-two sub-stations and illustrations stations.⁹⁹
- Despite the fact that some will say the Dominion is

⁹⁹Letter to author from E. S. Archibald December 4, 1946.

confined to investigational work, others will admit that demonstration is one of the most effective forms of education and in this field the illustration or sub-station is the link between the farmer and the experimental farm or station. Dominion officials arrange by contract with farmers to use their farms for demonstrations. These sub-stations are ordinarily grouped around a main station. The Dominion pays the farmer on a per acre basis and in response the farmer agrees to operate under the guidance of the research men at the nearby station. Besides acting informally as a source of information to individual farm visitors, the demonstration farmer will allow his farm to be used one or more times a year for educational field days.

These field days as well as special events at the main stations are usually or preferably held in cooperation with agricultural representatives promotion activities, or meetings of local agricultural societies or some other organization as the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. It might be said, therefore, that Dominion educational efforts are incidental to its main programs and may be operated through another regular agricultural adult education agency. It is probable that as the agricultural representative program is expanded, all such efforts will be channelled through that service, and the Dominion research workers will be relieved of extension duties he has heretofore had. Proposals have been made whereby the agricultural representative may be briefed in latest research and he rather than the Dominion man will

carry it to local farm groups.¹⁰⁰

Many other services such as publication of bulletins and regulatory actions are the responsibility of the Dominion but these again would probably be channelled through provincial agencies.

Under the Dominion Department of Veterans Affairs is a unit called Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act. In Saskatchewan this unit employs about forty permanent workers and twenty to twenty-five seasonal workers who assess land to be purchased by veterans through loans from the Dominion. There are many different arrangements for purchase of land. Veterans may plan to do full farming or they may purchase small holdings which they utilize in conjunction with jobs in urban centers. Although the main job of the field staff is appraisal and that of the office staff, administration, employees give incidental education aids to the veteran. A copy of Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan will be sent him, and he will be told to seek further information from the University and the Agricultural Representative Service. In addition field men may drop around to see the veteran when he is established and assist him with farm problems.¹⁰¹

¹⁰⁰ Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction. Agriculture, pp. 50, 51; interview with L. B. Thomson February 25, 1947; and speech of L. B. Thomson, Report of Proceedings of the Agricultural Representative Conference December 12-20, 1946.

¹⁰¹ Interviews with John W. Varey and John Charnetski February 22, 1947. For a statement of aids to veterans see Dominion Department of Veterans Affairs. Back to Civil Life.

In employment of the field staff emphasis is put on vocational agricultural training and experience. The settlement supervisor is required to have at least high school graduation and preferably a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree; to possess a knowledge of soils, field husbandry and animal husbandry secured through practical farming experience; ability to appraise land; and other personal qualifications such as ability to meet the public, good physical condition, tact, and good judgment.¹⁰²

The cause of agricultural adult education for production in Saskatchewan is well served. The Agricultural Representative Service and three divisions of the College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, devote full time of staff members to problems of land utilization, diversification, and farm management. Some attention is given to home and community betterment particularly through the Department of Women's Work, the School of Agriculture, and the short courses of the Extension Department.

The work of the major institutions in the area of agricultural production is supplemented by that of two Dominion agencies, the experimental farms services and the organization administering the Veterans' Land Act; by a provincial agency, the Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development; and by a Dominion-Provincial agency, the Saskatchewan Film Board allied with the National Film

¹⁰²The Public Service of Canada. Settlement Supervisor, Veterans Land Act, Grade 1 and 2.

Board. These six agencies are busily engaged in helping the farmers of Saskatchewan to farm as well as a knowledge of scientific agriculture indicates they ought to farm.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURAL ADULT EDUCATION FOR MARKETING

As wheat overshadows the economy of Saskatchewan, so does the Wheat Pool loom over the other marketing organizations of the province. Of the two or three brick red elevators in the average country town, one is almost certain to be a Pool elevator, and often the Pool is the only company represented. By sheer volume of business and size of plant, it has made its weight felt from its beginning. In the wheat economy, it has consistently gathered strength until it now controls a sizable proportion of the grain marketings. In its initial year, 1924, the Saskatchewan Pool handled 41.0 per cent of deliveries of wheat for the province.¹ In 1945-46, the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators reported their primary handlings of wheat and coarse grains in country elevators as being 50.52 per cent of all receipts for grain in Saskatchewan. This figure represents about 71,329,000 bushels of wheat and 52,561,000 bushels of coarse grains (oats, barley, flax, rye): 123,890,000 bushels or approximately 29.62 per cent of the total grain marketings for western Canada.²

¹Harald S. Patton. Grain Growers' Cooperation in Western Canada, p. 340.

²Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 8.

Nor does this represent all the activity of the Pool. The parent organization formed in 1924 for pooling farmers' wheat on a contract basis was the Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, since changed to the Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. This organization has been responsible along with other farmers groups for bringing in- to being or amalgamating with subsidiary organizations known as the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited (the country elevator system), the Saskatchewan Pool Terminals Limited, Saskatchewan Co-operative Livestock Producers Limited, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Construction Company Limited (construction and repair department of Pool Elevators) and the Modern Press Limited (publishers of The Western Producer).³ This combination of organizations is known as the Wheat Pool.

In November, 1944, Wheat Pool delegates voted to undertake a program of industrial development.⁴ Wheat Pool buildings now under construction at Saskatoon will provide space for a flour mill, feed plant, elevator annex, and a vegetable oil plant. The last is to be used in extracting oil from flax and other seeds.⁵ To utilize second and third patent flour from the new mill and low grade wheat, a starch

³Ibid., and Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited, Submission of Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited and its Subsidiaries to Commission on Taxation of Co-operatives 1945.

⁴Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. Twenty One Years of Progress, p. 9.

⁵Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. The Wheat Pool Enters Industry.

and glucose plant is being planned and manufacturing glycol for anti-freeze is being investigated.⁶ It is expected that products from the new plants will be marketed through the consumer coöperative stores with which the Pool has no official connection but for which it is partially responsible. Thus the Wheat Pool has been built into a gigantic grain handling organization with secondary outlets in livestock marketing and industrial uses of grain. In 1945-46 the Pool had assets of \$50,981,143.22, a working capital of \$19,423,579.39, and a membership of 129,412.⁷

It is said that the pool elevator is "the farmers' Statue of Liberty."⁸ It represents the agriculturists' use of cooperation as "a means for profitably uniting forces for the avoidance of unnecessary expense, for the obtainment of better value for produce, and for the withstanding of oppression."⁹

The history of the fight against oppression begins in the latter part of the nineteenth century and involves farmers in the three prairie provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. Prior to 1906 when the first farmers market-

⁶Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. Twenty One Years of Progress, p. 9.

⁷Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, pp. 2, 32, and 44.

⁸Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. Twenty One Years of Progress, p. 1.

⁹Statement of H. W. Wolff, veteran cooperator, quoted in Harald S. Patton. Op. cit., p. 351.

ing organization was launched, the underlying factor in the wheat marketing situation of western Canada was "that the area and the volume of grain production had increased much more rapidly than the physical facilities for shipping and handling it." To bring a railway to the west the Dominion Government had offered monopoly privileges to the Canadian Pacific Railway; to relieve the seasonal strain on limited rolling stock, the latter in turn had made monopoly concessions to elevator companies. The unorganized farmer had to sell his grain to the local elevator man on the buyer's terms.¹⁰ In answer to private grain handling organizations farmers in 1906 organized the Grain Growers' Grain Company Limited at Sintaluta, Saskatchewan. With capital from farmers in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, the Company purchased a seat on the grain exchange and opened for business September 5, 1906.¹¹

In the period from the first launching of a farmers' organization until 1926, the grain farmers cooperative movement has gone through four stages. In the first, 1906 to 1911, the Grain Growers' Grain Company operated in opposition to private groups, as a trading agency on the Grain Exchange. The Company had to forego patronage dividends, mark of the true cooperative, but did secure as much as possible of the middleman's profits for shareholders and

¹⁰ Ibid., pp. 15-18.

¹¹ Ibid., pp. 45-49.

patrons. At the same time the Company acted as the voice of the farmer in securing favorable action in government circles.¹²

Out of persistent agitation, in the years 1911-1923 the grain growers with government help secured and developed their own elevator system. In 1911 the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company was organized. This was followed in 1912 by the leasing of the Manitoba elevator system to the grain growers, and in 1914 by the formation of the Alberta Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company. These groups were cooperative in the sense of allowing one vote per shareholder regardless of shares held, and of limiting shares purchasable by one person. In addition, only agriculturists could buy them. But as an alternative to patronage dividends, the Saskatchewan Co-operative increased returns to farmers selling grain by the wagonload, and thus spread the benefits of coöperative grain handling.

In the third stage, 1923-1925, wheat pools were organized in the three prairie provinces. These operated under arrangements made with both the farmer-owned and the regular line elevator companies. Mr. Patton says of the pools:

They were born during the post-war agricultural depression, and represented an attempt, on the one hand, to reproduce as completely as possible, on a voluntary basis, the collective selling system identified with the operations of the

¹²Ibid., Chapters XVIII and XIX, for discussion of the four phases to be reviewed and coöperative principles at work.

Canadian Wheat Board; and on the other hand, to adapt to the marketing of grain in Western Canada the California plan of non-profit contract pooling....¹³

Shares in the elevator companies are held not by individuals but by the pools as representatives of the agriculturists. However, when surpluses are available, the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited declares refunds of excess charges payable only to members and ordinarily on the basis of volume of business per member.

Since the absorption by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited of the elevator company, the other subsidiaries have been organized on the basis of sixteen shares of stock of each company being allocated to the directors of the Pool, so that the latter may also serve as directors of the subsidiaries.¹⁴ Thus the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool with its roots in the grievances of a few grain farmers prior to the turn of the century has grown into one of the foremost marketing organizations in the world.

The Pool proper had its being in the desire of farmers to share in greater degree in profits from their grain, on the one hand by participating in patronage dividends and on the other hand by eliminating control of private grain speculators. That the first purpose has been partially met

¹³Ibid., pp. 363-364.

¹⁴Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Submission of Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited and its Subsidiaries to Commission on Taxation of Co-operatives, pp. 9-15.

is testified by a poster on 1947 meetings of the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited, advertising the distribution of \$6,630,000 in patronage refunds and interest payment checks.¹⁵ One member of the Pool country organization department says of this activity:

....631 General Meetings were held during 8 days (February 27 to March 8) at which patronage refund and interest cheques were distributed to 25,702 members who attended these meetings. This attendance represents about 32% of the total number of growers to whom cheques were issued. Considering the condition of the roads and the transportation problem, this fine attendance reflects the interest and strength of the organization.¹⁶

The marketing and price problem has been recognized as having both domestic and international implications; and as being intimately tied up with stability and security.¹⁷ If the farmer is to chart his production and expansion activities intelligently, he must not only receive an adequate price in the current year, but also be assured of a reasonable price in the immediate future. One coöperator says that the purposes of a coöperative plant as expressed in terms of the farmer's economic need cannot be satisfactorily served except as government and the coöperative movement work together.¹⁸

¹⁵Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited, poster.

¹⁶Letter to author from Joe L. Buckley, dated March 17, 1947.

¹⁷Extensive interviews with Joe L. Buckley, February 11, 14, and 15, 1947, have been used as a basis for the description to follow of Wheat Pool activities. These interviews have been supplemented by other materials as noted in succeeding footnotes.

¹⁸Interview with Leslie J. Bright, February 5, 1947.

The Wheat Pool is very much interested, for instance, in the marketing of wheat through an international agreement. An explanation of the draft drawn up by the governments of Great Britain, Canada, United States, Australia, and Argentina in 1942 appears in one of the Pool handbooks. The same handbook calls attention to the efforts of the Wheat Pool in bringing about the establishment in 1943 of the Dominion Wheat Board as the sole buyer of wheat.¹⁹

The story of the creation of the Wheat Pool out of the demands of farmers, and the development of its widespread activities has been told to furnish a background for understanding the comprehensive philosophy of the Pool's educational program and the latter's substantial investments in educational projects. As is said in a publication of organizations of the three prairie provinces, to describe the Pools as "colossal grain handling organizations" is the same as to describe the Christian Church as "an organization which builds cathedrals."²⁰ Ostensibly the primary purpose of the Saskatchewan Pool is marketing grain; but actually that marketing is a means to the end of "building of a better agricultural economy, bringing to the farm home comfort, happiness and security."²¹ As the farmer who markets grain

¹⁹Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. The Wheat Pool and Its Accomplishments, pp. 8, 17, and 18.

²⁰The Canadian Wheat Pools. The Wheat Pools and Western Community Life, p. 2.

²¹Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited. "The Problem of Agriculture and the Relation of the Pool Elevator Agent to It," p. 7.

is also a consumer of goods and services, his consumer interests are almost as important to the Wheat Pool as his marketing functions. As he is also a producer, the Pool is indirectly and occasionally directly concerned with the quality of production. When the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool is labelled as an agency promoting education for marketing, the broadest interpretation must be given to its education philosophy. Although the field man who is the educational agent of the Wheat Pool is charged first with seeing that the Wheat Pool organization works, he is expected also to assist any and all coöperatives, and on the side he will carry out other tasks for the general education of farmers and farm families.²²

Education for marketing as interpreted by the Wheat Pool is based on the idea that the educated marketer of produce is the avowed coöperator and the happy and secure farmer. This sentiment has been expressed in connection with the function of the Wheat Pool committee. First the committee man's attention is called to the fact that his primary duty is to organize farmers to deliver to Pool elevators, to educate them to membership, and to maintain loyalty of farmers to their own elevator system. Then there follows this statement:

All the other functions of the committee derive from that foundation. The building up of

²²Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited.
What Does a Field Man Do?

community co-operative associations; support of co-operative development in other fields, and community activities, are all related to the bringing of more grain to Pool Elevators, because the more active a grower is in the broad co-operative field, and the more he knows about its principles and ideals, the more certainty there is of his continued intelligent support of his own Elevator System.²³

Although the field man or district representative is the paid educational worker of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, members of the country organization department would say that the heart of the educational movement is the Wheat Pool committee which is elected primarily for organization and educational purposes, and has no other official function in the Pool.

As presently organized the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool maintains its link with its shareholders through a system of sixteen districts divided into subdistricts from each of which there is selected a delegate.

The delegates are the representatives of the Shareholders in all matters as provided in the Articles of Association.....
.....
The responsibility for formulating the policies of the Association rests with the delegate.²⁴

The delegate in turn is responsible for organizing, preferably at every shipping point, a Wheat Pool committee to be elected also by shareholders. The committee is the local

²³Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited. "The Personnel and Function of the Country Organization Department," p. 6.

²⁴Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Hand Book No. 1, pp. 26, 27.

link in the Wheat Pool organization, and performs an organizing and educating function.²⁵ The suggested activities for a Wheat Pool committee appear in Figure 2. As officially stated the activities of the committee relate to keeping the board of directors informed of the local situation and keeping the local membership informed of the principles and progress of the Pool; assisting in any educational enterprise which will further the coöperative movement; educating and organizing local membership for delivery of all produce to the Pool; and helping the operator adjust and correct business misunderstandings; making recommendations to promote the interests of the Pool; and calling meetings of growers at request of the Board of Directors, for nominating candidates for delegate.²⁶

In 1945-1946 there were 1,173 committees, 1,083 of which were reorganized.²⁷ On each of these committees were five to eleven persons, representing a total lay educational group of 5,865 to 12,903 workers. By working primarily with these committees rather than with individual farmers, the paid field man has an extension educational staff of sizable proportions. The strength of the committees can be ascer-

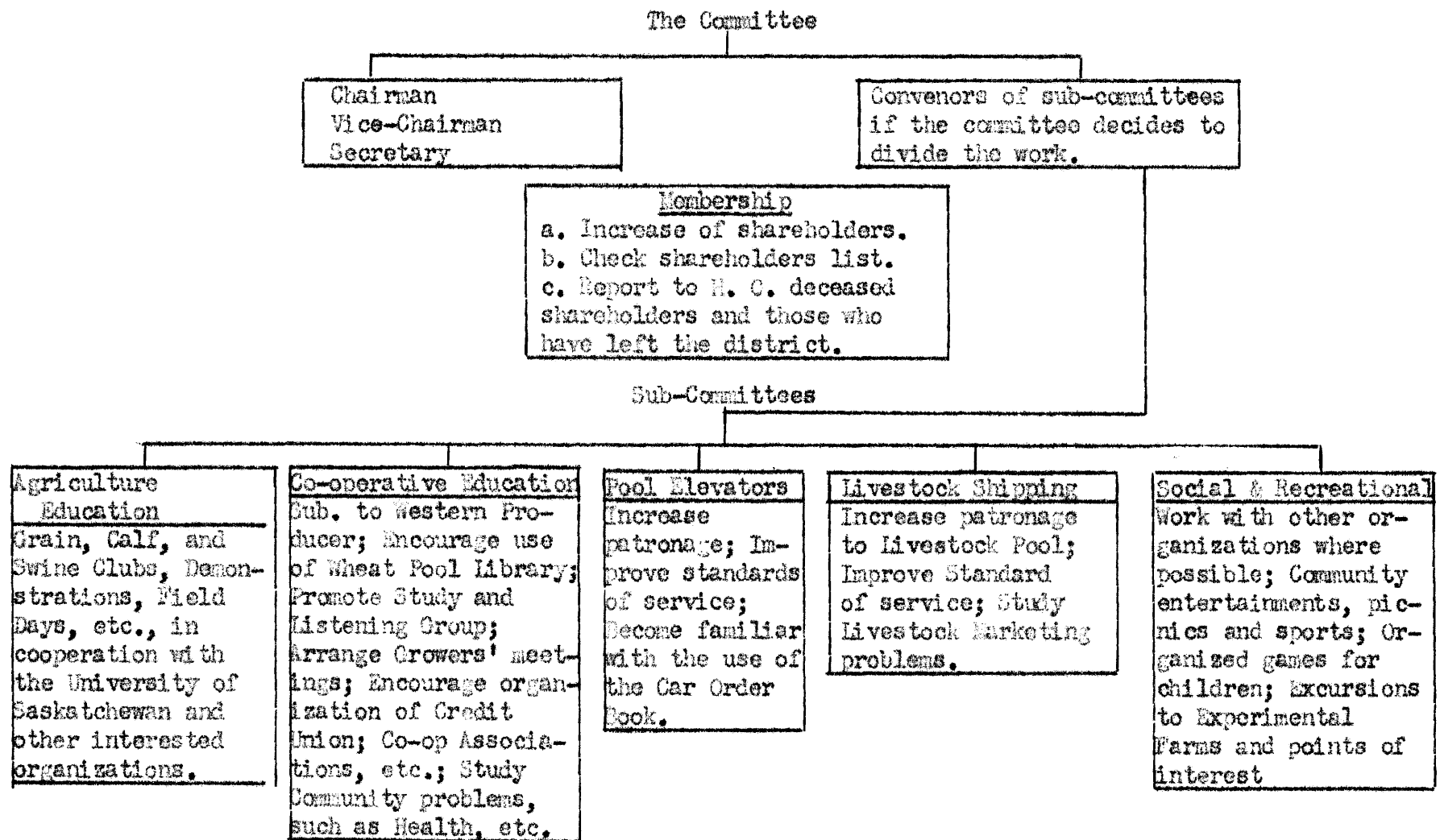
²⁵Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited. "The Personnel and Function of the Country Organization Department", p. 4.

²⁶Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Hand Book No. 1, pp. 28-29.

²⁷Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 61.

Figure 2.²⁸

Suggested Organization and Activities of Wheat Pool Committees



²⁸ Adapted from a mimeographed sheet prepared by The Country Organization Department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited.

tained by referring to Table XX in Chapter III. Out of the 390 organizations with which the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan cooperated in 1940, 142 or about 36.4 per cent were Wheat Pool local committees. When the suggestion was made at the Agricultural Representatives Conference that requests for field days be routed through the agricultural representative to the University, the Extension director showed some hesitancy in agreeing.²⁹ He pointed out that a number of Wheat Pool committees had already made requests for assistance from the University in sponsoring events. There is no doubt but that many are impressed with the vitality of the committee. A guess might be ventured that the establishment of the local agricultural committees in the Saskatchewan Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program has been inspired by the successes of the Wheat Pool committees.

Committees work in a variety of ways. One representative calls attention to a committee's sponsoring a one-day coöperative school for young people. Each member of the committee pledged himself to interest a young farmer in coöperative work.³⁰ Another tells of a committee meeting being given over to complaints about the livestock pool.³¹ At

²⁹John G. Rayner's report at the Agricultural Representatives Conference, February 6, 1947.

³⁰Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, December, 1945, p. 3.

³¹Ibid., February, 1946, p. 4.

Shaunavon, Saskatchewan, young and old committee men are contrasted with one another. The younger men had visited five to ten growers apiece, and had signed up some with the Pool; while the older ones "were caught flat-footed." "The older men," says the field agent, "will pull up their socks, I'm sure, as they were left out in the cold at this meeting."³²

The matter of keeping these committees alive and vital is of utmost importance to the Pool. One way of doing this is to see that older men are replaced by younger ones, particularly as they come up from the ranks or back from the service. The members are elected, of course, and the paid staff can only urge changes. But as one man says, the "replacement of deadwood goes on" continuously. One field man recounts the activities of a new committee with all young lads, only two of whom had been on a committee before, and says that he must meet with them several times because "they are eager for knowledge."³³ Another field man gives a paragraph of a report to the story of a young man who had driven into town in a lumber wagon to attend a committee meeting. He was elected secretary of the committee, an important job, and accepted without hesitation.³⁴

Young people are constantly fed into the Wheat Pool

³²Ibid., June, 1946, p. 5.

³³Ibid., June, 1946, p. 2.

³⁴Ibid., December, 1945, pp. 3,4.

movement through attendance at coöperative schools from which they can graduate into adult activities. A University of Saskatchewan instructor attending one of these schools commented that in her opinion "The Wheat Pool is the only Saskatchewan organization capable of bringing out the young people to public meetings."³⁵

When a community is coöperative minded and wishes to branch into various activities but lacks leadership, the Wheat Pool committee may be blamed by the field man. The idea is apparently deeply ingrained in Wheat Pool philosophy that committee people have a responsibility for active leadership in all community situations.³⁶

The delegates who meet with and help out committees also have an educational responsibility. This note appears in one report:

Delegate Schmidt held a meeting at his home on Monday evening to organize a Farm Forum Group. Six attended and after listening to the round-up it was decided to organize a group and meet again for the next broadcast on January 7th.³⁷

Wheat Pool committees are encouraged to hold regular meetings, and according to Pool by-laws must do so at least four times a year.³⁸ For these meetings, the professional

³⁵Ibid., January, 1947, p. 5.

³⁶Ibid., January, 1946, p. 4.

³⁷Ibid., December, 1945, p. 2.

³⁸Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Hand Book No. 1, p. 28.

staff of the Country Organization Department prepares material which may be used as a basis for discussion. Materials are incorporated in bulletins or monthly programs. On the first page is a suggested agenda one of which is given below in Table XXVII. The monthly program contains in addition to

TABLE XXVII³⁹

Suggested Agendum for Monthly Meetings of Wheat Pool Committees

Number of Item	Suggested Items
1.	Minutes of last meeting
2.	Business arising out of minutes and unfinished business
3.	Communications and correspondence
4.	Deliveries to Pool Elevators, and station analysis
5.	<u>The Western Producer</u> ⁴⁰ circulation
6.	Pool policies
7.	Co-operative education and studies of the co-operative movement
8.	Relations with other co-operative associations and junior organizations
9.	New business and local activities

the suggested agenda, a discussion of some pertinent topic which may be the item on coöperative education of the committee meeting. Some subjects of these monthly programs are the following:⁴¹

More Grain Through Pool Elevators

³⁹Adapted from agendum in Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited, "A Message to Wheat Pool Committees", inside cover. This agendum is repeated in other monthly programs.

⁴⁰Weekly newspaper of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

⁴¹From title pages of monthly programs of the Wheat Pool committees, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool.

Wheat and Security
 Control and Ownership
 You and Your Neighbors
 Use of the Car Order Book
 The Voice of Organized Agriculture
 Livestock Marketing and the Producer
 Your Committees Tell Us a Story
 A Message to Wheat Pool Committees
 State Medicine
 The Need of a Co-operative Union in Canada
 The Personnel and Function of the Country
 Organization Department
 Debt Adjustment
 Co-operative Farming
 Co-operative Life Insurance

Many of the topics pertain to the regular marketing and business functions of the Pool; but some are devoted to interesting Pool committee men in the general welfare of farm groups. The bulletin on state medicine puts a very strong case for intervention of government in building a health program.

During the war years, committees were active in victory loan campaigns and Red Cross work. Therefore, in February, 1944, an attempt was made to bring thinking around to more permanent action programs. In "A Message to Wheat Pool Committees" these specific projects were suggested: (1) organizing farm, citizen, and labor radio-listening forums; (2) interesting neighbors in a national health program; (3) educating youth in coöperative schools; (4) sponsoring Dominion-Provincial youth training programs; (5) sponsoring farm machinery field days; (6) sponsoring junior clubs; (7) organizing for coöperative marketing of livestock; (8) building a united coöperative front through assisting with other coöperative organizations; and (9) creating an atmosphere of

coöperation in the post-war world.⁴²

Committees must report their activities annually to the subdistrict meeting. In a recent letter from the head office to the committees, the following suggestions are given concerning what other committees might want to know about activities:

1. Report all Wheat Pool and other Co-operative meetings held during the year.
2. Have you been able to increase the attendance?
3. Do you use the Committee Programme and other material sent from Head Office? Is the information passed on to the shareholders?
4. What has your committee and Pool Elevator agent done to increase deliveries to the Pool Elevators? Have you worked on the "Call to Action" programme?
5. What has your committee done to assist in the Rehabilitation of Veterans?
6. Have you planned ways and means of organizing co-operative shipping of livestock?
7. Tell the story of your work with other co-operative and community services in the district.
8. The future lies with Youth -- Are you developing Junior Clubs, Co-operative Schools, Farm Radio Forums, Women's Organizations, and other agencies in which the whole community may participate?
9. Have you introduced any new or special feature in your committee meetings during the year?
10. What are your suggestions for further Co-operative development?⁴³

It can be seen from the way in which questions are put, that committee members are not to be honored but to act. There is a belligerent tone in some of the queries. This spirit which represents an internal discipline in the Pool

⁴²Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited. "A Message to Wheat Pool Committees," pp. 2-4.

⁴³From a form letter addressed to The Secretary, Wheat Pool Committee, by the Country Organization Department.

cooperative movement is a partial explanation of the strength of the movement. The way in which field men coerce lax committee men, committee men score elevator agents, and the head office flails individuals in the whole organization, gives the impression of a democratically disciplined group at work. To read of field men and to hear of head office men, all imbued with missionary spirit, is to be transported in a certain spirit to seventeenth-century New England where the elders were wholly bent on casting out sin. When a man is elected by the Wheat Pool either to a voluntary or a paid job, he takes on a responsibility not only for himself but for his neighbors, and if he fails, he is rejected by the movement. The following comment by a field man concerning a local meeting of Pool farmers illustrates the ruthless quality underlying the building of the movement:

We never got by their local grievances which were many, and petty ones at that..... Looks like the only lesson they will learn, or the way they will learn, is if both Elevator and Co-op. were closed up.⁴⁴

God and the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool are hard taskmasters.

This exacting missionary spirit, however, sustains the professional staff in their job. As explained earlier, the Pool divides the Province into sixteen districts, and for each of these there is a paid district representative or field man whose primary job is to work with the committees; and in addition there are two men who operate on a provincial

⁴⁴Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, May, 1946, p. 3.

basis, the one a Ukrainian language man and the other a French-speaking Catholic. These men operate under the guidance of a superintendent and an assistant superintendent heading the country organization department with headquarters in the Wheat Pool building at Regina.⁴⁵ The district representatives are key men in keeping the Wheat Pool and the coöperative movement forging ahead. They are the handy men of the coöperative movement, and must be prepared to take a committeeman's wife to the hospital, repair an engine for the elevator agent, jump into a pen to show a farmer how to stamp livestock, or talk on coöperation before a normal school group.

Because of the broad philosophy of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and because of a special agreement district representatives must spread their efforts to cover both the entire coöperative movement and a variety of worthwhile community projects. Sometime in the 1930's, an agreement was drawn up between the Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited and certain other coöperative organizations to the effect that the latter would make money contributions to the Pool in recognition of work which had been done and was being done to further coöperative education. The same pamphlet which describes the agreement notes that because of the attack on coöperation, the Pool representatives may have

⁴⁵The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Co-operative Fact Book, Wheat Pool-4.

to concentrate on their own needs.⁴⁶ However, reports of field men show that through 1946 at least they are still assisting in organizing all types of coöperative associations.

Another factor in the widespread interests of the field man is the very cordial relationships of the Pool with the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan. The assistant superintendent of the country organization department points out that the Pool delegates want to have the University tied to the life of the people to whom it belongs. This attitude on the part of Pool delegates influences professional staff to cooperate in urging committees to undertake sponsorship of many University events and to do personal promotion work for those events. When the head of the newly formed Adult Education Division of the provincial Department of Education presented his proposed program to district representatives, members present replied that in order to support his program they would need to be satisfied on a number of points, among them:

That the programme of the Branch would not tend to undermine the activities of the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan, with which we had such profitable relations in the past.⁴⁷

The regard of the Wheat Pool for the University has been expressed in concrete terms by grants of money. During

⁴⁶Co-ordination of Work of Pool and Subsidiary Companies, pp. 3, 4.

⁴⁷Ibid., p. 4.

the early part of the depression, the Wheat Pool gave \$7,000 "without strings" to the Extension Department, so that the University might help people whose "souls were weary" to use their time more profitably. At present the Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited makes a regular yearly grant of \$7,500 to the Department to be used in junior club work.⁴⁸ At the University farm week, the organization provides a banquet for one of the farm groups.⁴⁹ Thus the agreement with the coöperative associations and the ties with the University as expressed in financial terms provide a broad working basis for field men.

Although work of district representatives will vary with the areas in which they work, the account of chief activities of one representative will show the scope of the job:

1. Aids in conducting a week's coöperative school.
2. With sound equipment and educational pictures, travels to meetings in towns not covered by National Film Board circuit.
3. Works with agricultural representatives in organizing junior clubs.
4. Works with Wheat Pool committees, meeting with each at least once a year. In this particular district there are

⁴⁸University of Saskatchewan. Annual Report of the President Academic Year 1945-46, p. 134, and interview with John G. Rayner February 17, 1947.

⁴⁹College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. Programme of University Farm Week January 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 1947.

ninety-seven elevators and ninety-three shipping points with ninety-five committees, two of which are not at shipping points.

5. Coördinates work of Pool on variety test plots at direction of University authorities.⁵⁰

Like the agricultural representative, the Pool wheat man spends a good portion of his time working with farm organizations, particularly coöperative associations, where he may talk to members, show motion pictures, or assist in the discussion of problems before the group. Table XXVIII presents a summary of such meetings attended by the field staff of the country organization department for the year ending November 30, 1946.

⁵⁰ Interview with Howard Tyler, district six, February 11, 1947.

TABLE XXVIII⁵¹

Meetings Attended by Country Organization Staff
for Year Ending November 30, 1946

Type of Meeting	Number of Meetings	Attendance
General Meetings		
Wheat Pool	372	
Livestock Pool	2	
Poultry Pool	2	
Consumers Cooperative	133	
Dairy Pool	1	
Junior Grain Clubs	9	
General	588	
Total	1,107	67,187
Motion Pictures	285	
Committee, Club, and School Meetings		
Wheat Pool	662	
Livestock Pool	8	
Poultry Pool	6	
Consumers Cooperative	70	
Dairy Pool	1	
Junior Grain Clubs	1	
School	20	
Total	768	1,263

With a regard again to the fact that each representative has somewhat different duties, a yearly schedule for the typical representative can be charted in some detail.⁵²

The year opens with a staff meeting at Regina or Saskatoon in January. This meeting is given over to reports and discussion of the latest information from heads of

⁵¹Adapted from Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, November, 1946.

⁵²The following yearly schedule has been adapted from Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers Limited. What Does a Field Man Do?

coöperative organizations, and plans on how to use such information. Table XXIX lists subjects discussed at such a meeting in January, 1946. The remainder of the winter is

TABLE XXIX⁵³

Subjects Discussed at Staff Meeting
of Country Organization Department
January 3, 4, and 5, 1946

Subjects

1. Pool policies.
 2. Saskatchewan Co-operative Creamery Association, Ltd.
 3. Agriculture Representative Service.
 4. Department of Co-operation.
 5. Organization Work.
 - (a) Democratic Control.
 - (b) Wheat Pool Committees.
 - (c) Agents Study Groups?⁵⁴
 6. Routine.
-

given over to periodical meetings with directors and traveling superintendents, a district delegates meeting, and country meetings. Some special jobs may have to be undertaken.

"When meetings 'go off' as farmers go on the land," the representatives help boys and girls lay out variety test plots.⁵⁵ While visiting these young experimenters, the

⁵³Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of The Country Organization Department, January, 1946, p. 1.

⁵⁴Agents are those who run the country elevators and with whom district representatives must work closely.

⁵⁵As the variety tests are carried out by young people who are ordinarily under the age of farmers included in this study, they will not be discussed further. A very good account of them with results obtained can be found in Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited, Junior Co-operative Variety Tests 1944. These junior grain testers are credited with coming within four percent of the accuracy of workers on the experimental farms. The variety test projects are considered to be a training ground for future farmer-coöperators.

representative takes opportunity to visit Pool agents and delegates to spread the gospel of organization and education. Topics he may discuss with these men are the coöperative schools, choosing and financing young people who are to go to the regional schools, credit unions, mutual benefit associations, school coöperative programs, junior clubs or home-craft clubs, livestock pool shipping and other programs for education or action.

Immediately after seeding there is a district delegates meeting to be attended. Early in June the field man accompanies the director to committee conventions, assisting committee secretaries with registration and financial details. "He also has a 'spot' on the program." Attendance at these conventions is followed by putting on country picture shows and going to meetings of all kinds. Then come regional one- or two-day schools in the district, and in the mid-summer the big coöperative school at the University. With young people attending this school, the representative lays the foundation for future work in his district by organizing school coöperatives and credit unions and calling attention to the Mutual Benefit Association or the Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited. Because of the need for trained farm leaders, work at the school is considered a very important part of the representative's program.

During the summer months the field man helps with coöperative rallies and picnics and with Class A and B fairs usually sponsored by the agricultural societies. At the

fairs he sets up exhibit and rest tents, and prepares to talk with the people. After the fairs and before the final inspections of variety test plots the harvest is on and the representative must give his attention to Pool elevator deliveries. Marketing of grain, livestock, poultry, eggs, cream, forage crop seed and honey is not purely a seasonal matter; so that this must often be attended to at other times of the year also.

With the coming of fall there is the annual meeting of the Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited. In addition the field man must assist in organizing farm forum and study groups; find sponsors for the two-week Dominion-Provincial youth training schools; help with junior club fairs and picture shows; and attend the annual meeting of the Wheat Pool at Regina and local annual meetings out in the country. Special Christmas programs round out his year.

In addition to this regular routine, the field man fills in his time with special projects or emergency organization activities. For instance, when farmers put on special drives for redress of economic grievances, the Wheat Pool men are charged with coördinating activities such as circulating petitions, holding mass meetings, sending delegations to Ottawa. They will secure lists of cream shippers for the Dairy Pool; urge merchants to ship eggs to the Poultry Pool; act in an advisory capacity at organization meetings of various coöperative ventures; help in drives for rural libraries, the Red Cross, Aid to Russia, Medical League, the

Anti-Tuberculosis League. In more strictly academic fields, they judge at coöperative essay contests, distribute coöperative literature, promote the use of the Pool library, report special events to the newspapers, organize coöperatives in schools. Then they must welcome new settlers, straighten out misunderstandings on Pool business, assist the Department of Agriculture or the University in special farm surveys, and "trouble shoot".

One of the most delicate and arduous tasks of the field man is to be a kind of watchdog for the Wheat Pool in particular and the coöperative movement in general. One man notes that a particular point has 90 per cent Pool membership but secures only 42 per cent of the grain; he will question this balance.⁵⁶ Each representative reports to headquarters on how committees are functioning, strengths and weaknesses of local coöperative associations, and efficiency of other members of the paid staff. In one case a representative recorded what he thought must be a successful whispering campaign against the Livestock Pool.⁵⁷ A kind of informal census on agricultural prospects of a particular community may be carried on by a representative.⁵⁸ One man says of a credit union in his territory, "They have

⁵⁶ Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, March, 1946, p. 2.

⁵⁷ Ibid., February, 1946, p. 4.

⁵⁸ Ibid., March, 1946, p. 4.

been pretty slow on education work, and nine chaps own all but \$350.00 of the \$6,000.00 of assets."⁵⁹ Over zealousness must be watched, also. After attending a very poor Pool meeting which it took him seven hours to reach in a sixty mile train journey, one disgruntled representative says:

This community has a Co-op. farm, Credit Union, Co-op. Community rink and is planning a \$20,000.00 Co-op store. Is this the reason we can't get a decent Pool meeting here?⁶⁰

Thus by watching and diagnosing community difficulties, the field man attempts to educate for effective action through coöperatives by reporting inefficient workers and by working to iron out difficulties and to secure active voluntary Pool workers.

Organization activities in the field of coöperatives take the field man into many different avenues of education. On one occasion he may merely discuss a proposed project such as a federated warehouse with a group. On others he may actively assist in organizing a coöperative hall or a community rink, by outlining procedures for developing coöperative ventures and returning a second or third time to help with the project in the process of developing. At the same meetings he may also get in some words on a baby beef club, and Pool marketing versus the income tax.⁶¹

⁵⁹ Ibid., May, 1946, p. 3.

⁶⁰ Ibid., March, 1946, p. 2.

⁶¹ Ibid., December, 1945, p. 3; February, 1946, pp. 1, 6; March, 1946, p. 2.

One field man occupied the key position of chairman at a meeting of Pool committeemen and directors of seven consumers coöperatives to discuss provision of petroleum products.⁶²

One job in the last two or three years which has been of the utmost importance to the field man is assisting returning veterans to get settled on farms and integrated into their communities. The Saskatchewan Council of the Canadian Legion has gone on record as expressing appreciation to the Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited for their very generous financial and personal assistance to veterans under the Veterans' Land Act.⁶³ One field man has spent some time with the veterans at the Matador Co-operative Farm, helping them with "hitch and plow troubles".⁶⁴ A local Legion officer in the summer of 1946 asked to interview the representative of district eight, in order that he might talk over with him the Veterans' Land Act, Poppy Day, and rehabilitation in general. This was taken by the country organization department to be a fine opportunity to be of service to all veterans.⁶⁵

The field man works at his job so continuously that he is apt to seek out individuals to convert to the faith. One

⁶²Ibid., January, 1946, p. 4.

⁶³Ibid., August, 1946, p. 5.

⁶⁴Ibid., June, 1946, p. 7.

⁶⁵Ibid., August, 1946, p. 4.

representative reports: "Spent evening with Mr. Jones. Tried to give him the picture re wholesale in this corner of the province."⁶⁶ Still another man tells of keeping up the morale of a former active worker:

Spent some time with ex-delegate Laxdal to keep him up to date on things as near as possible. Believe he is doing more for the movement now than when he was delegate. He has time on his hands and meets a lot of people and likes to talk Pool.⁶⁷

The variety of racial origins in Saskatchewan, as described in Chapter II, is reported by the assistant superintendent of the country organization department to be "no problem" to the coöperative movement, because the Wheat Pool creates a common meeting ground.

To accommodate themselves to the nationality groups, however, the Pool field men occasionally use special techniques, and the country organization department employs two special language representatives. A sequence in kodochrome has been prepared on the round-up for coöperative shipping of cattle at Lorie where special work is done with Indians from the File Hills Reserve.⁶⁸ A field man reports from Abernethy:

Mr. Joe Ironquill one of the Chiefs of the File Hills Reserve gave us a very good talk. In fact, I should say it was without doubt, the

⁶⁶ Ibid., January, 1946, p. 4.

⁶⁷ Ibid., December, 1945, p. 3.

⁶⁸ Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 30.

outstanding address of the meeting.⁶⁹

A Ukrainian field man is commissioned to work with nationality groups rather than with Pool organizations. He travels to meetings of the Ukrainian Self Reliance League which is a unifying organization for the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, Union of Ukrainian Community Centres, Ukrainian Institute, Canadian Ukrainian Women's Association, and Canadian Ukrainian Youth Association. At a recent meeting in Edmonton, the field man was called upon to convince the president of the league that the coöperative movement in Saskatchewan is not synonymous with the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Government. The work of such special language men as Mr. Stratyckuk of the Wheat Pool has apparently met with particular favor in Ukrainian groups. The league meeting at Edmonton passed a resolution endorsing the coöperative movement in general and asking the Alberta Wheat Pool "to follow Saskatchewan and Manitoba and engage the services of a Ukrainian Field Man."⁷⁰

Romulus Beaulac, the French speaking field man, works with such groups as the French Adult Education Society of

⁶⁹ Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, June, 1945, p. 4.

⁷⁰ Ibid., December, 1945, p. 4. Though soliciting government support, the Wheat Pool like other coöperative organizations is theoretically non-political, and field men must keep the organization from being identified with particular political parties. See statement in Co-ordination of Work of Pool and Subsidiary Companies, p. 4.

Saskatchewan. He is charged with attending meetings and speaking in the native tongue on various topics relating to the work of the Wheat Pool.⁷¹ Apparently in support of Mr. Beaulac's work, the Pool in 1945 purchased six looms which were turned over to Reverend Father Beaudoux of Prudhomme, to be used for instruction purposes. "Father Beaudoux," says the Wheat Pool letter discussing the purchase, "carries a very useful programme of handicraft work through the French Adult Education Society in Saskatchewan." This assistance to the French Society is in accord with the philosophy that what improves the community also improves the Wheat Pool. In true coöperative fashion the stipulation is made that similar classes using the new purchase can be set up anywhere in the province with no restriction as to race, nationality, or creed.⁷² Mr. Beaulac reports in July, 1946, that "Mgr. Beaudoux is contemplating the re-opening of the weaving schools as the Provincial Government will pay the teacher."⁷³ Thus a special project stimulated by Wheat Pool men becomes a permanent part of the educational activity of the province.

The coöperative schools which have been mentioned in connection with work of the Wheat Pool committees and the

⁷¹Ibid., November, 1946, p. 6.

⁷²R. L. Stutt. RE: Wheat Pool Looms, Memo to all District Representatives, April 5, 1945.

⁷³Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, July, 1946, p. 2.

field men are an activity which involve both teen-age young people and young adults and so fall partly within the scope of this thesis. There are two types of schools: the one-day coöperative school held at a small local point, and one-week regional school held in 1946 at Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Swift Current.⁷⁴ Table XXX summarizes

TABLE XXX⁷⁵

Report on One-day Co-operative Schools
Held in October, November, and December, 1946

Pool Districts in which Schools Held	Number of Schools	Number of Students	Number of Adults
8	10	437	1,750
13	3	220	250
14	2	100	(Cold)
15	9	350	1,000
Total	24	1,107	3,000

attendance at the one-day schools held in 1946.

One of the chief events of these one-day schools is to choose the young people to be sent to the regional schools which are more selective in membership and longer in

⁷⁴Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 31. In a typewritten statement given to the author by Joe L. Buckley, there is mention of a central school also. It may be that one or more of the regional schools are now taking the place of this school which has been held at the University of Saskatchewan.

⁷⁵Adapted from Report by J. D. Stratyckuk in Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, January, 1947, p. 5.

duration.⁷⁶ Table XXXI presents statistics concerning the regional schools.

TABLE XXXI⁷⁷

Report on Regional Co-operative Summer Schools,
July 2-6 and 8-13, 1946

Sex of Students	Number of Students Enrolled at Prince Albert	Regina	Saskatoon	Swift Current	Total Enrollment	Average Enrollment
Boys ⁷⁸	54	50	83	71	258	64.5
Girls	40	12	25	12	89	22.3
Total	94	62	108	83	347	86.8

The course of study planned for Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina in 1946 included lectures on Agriculture in Saskatchewan, Canadian Citizenship, Assembling and Marketing of Field Products, New Horizons, Saskatchewan's Co-operatives, Co-operation for Service not for Profit, Co-operative Farming, Co-operative Dairy and Poultry Marketing, Women in Co-operation. Panel discussions of the enrollees were developed around the topics Why Co-operative? Youth Looks Ahead, and an Open Forum.⁷⁹

⁷⁶Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 31.

⁷⁷Adapted from The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Report on 1946 Co-operative Summer School, p. 1; and Olaf Nylund, H. A. Wagner, and M. C. Lambie. Report of the Third Annual Co-operative School at Swift Current, p. 1.

⁷⁸The term "boys and girls" is a misnomer. Although some students were as young as fourteen, about half were eighteen or over, in these schools, and some were reported as forty-one.

⁷⁹The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. The Co-operative Summer School.

The school at Swift Current included talks on Soil Drifting Control, Co-operative Farming, Horse Co-operative Marketing, Call to Action, Co-operative Banking, Why Co-operatives, Co-operative Insurance, Principles and Practices of the Co-operative Movement, Co-operative Distribution of Consumers' Needs. The program was filled out with trips to the Soils Laboratory at the Experimental Farm, the horse packing plant, and Pool elevators; with poultry and farm machinery demonstrations; and with a few other events.⁸⁰

The report of the three schools at Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert makes mention of students' reaction to the schools. Students are in accord with recommendations of other groups that they need a residential school.⁸¹ On this score the people at Swift Current claim for their school that young people become better acquainted than at other coöperative schools because they live in quarters adjacent to the school.⁸²

In the way of recreation, the students at the other schools ask for more tours to points of interest and organized recreation. Their suggestions for improvement of teaching and the curriculum are many. They emphasize more use of films, a longer school (possibly two weeks),

⁸⁰Third Annual Co-operative School. Programme.

⁸¹The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Report on 1945 Co-operative Summer School, p. 1.

⁸²Olof Nylund, R. A. Wagner and E. C. Lambie. Report of the Third Annual Co-operative School at Swift Current, p.1.

acquaintance with more coöperative leaders, more panel discussions, printing or mimeographing lectures. As to the lectures themselves, students would prefer that they be more specific and emphasize present and future possibilities rather than past achievements. They would like to have included subjects which would be of value to them in their communities as (1) how to start a study group, (2) how to conduct a meeting, (3) running coöperative associations, (4) organizing credit unions.⁸³

The three schools at Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert were in 1946 jointly sponsored by the following groups: The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited, Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan, provincial Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development, Saskatchewan Women's Co-operative Guild, and the Division of Adult Education (provincial Department of Education).⁸⁴

The school at Swift Current had as sponsor in addition to some of the above, the provincial Department of Agriculture and the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Experimental Farms Service.⁸⁵

⁸³The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Report on 1946 Co-operative Summer School, p. 2.

⁸⁴The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. The Co-operative Summer School.

⁸⁵Third Annual Co-operative School. Programme.

As four out of the seven local committee members were Wheat Pool employees and Wheat Pool committees were prominent in sponsoring students, the schools were in effect Wheat Pool schools.

The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan which has been mentioned as one of the sponsors of the coöperative schools is an educational coördinating group for the coöperatives, and the Saskatchewan branch of The Co-operative Union of Canada. The organization was formed in 1941 but to date has remained small and with a net revenue in 1945 of only \$10,704.81.⁸⁶ The Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited, (the wholesale organization for the consumers coöperatives), with a \$6,650,432 business in 1945 has no educational staff but contributes to The Co-operative Union which is expected to carry on its educational work.⁸⁷ The Wheat Pool and the Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited have together provided the bulk of the revenue for The Co-operative Union, with the Pool contributing much the greater amount. Recently a new educational secretary has been appointed for the Co-operative Union, and there is some speculation as to whether under his guidance there may not

⁸⁶The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Fifth Directors' Report 1946, p. 5. Facts about the Union may be found in the Co-operative Fact Book published by the organization.

⁸⁷For business standing see Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited, Annual Report, 1946, p. 2. Relation to The Co-operative Union discussed in interview with H. L. Fowler, February 21, 1947.

be more coördinated and intensified efforts in the field of coöperative adult education.⁸⁸ As in the case of the Agricultural Representative Service which is undergoing reorganization, the fate of The Co-operative Union is still in the future. If the powerful Wheat Pool wishes to swing its weight to The Co-operative Union and the Saskatchewan Federation Co-operatives Limited will support it in accordance with sales potentialities, the Saskatchewan coöperative schools may become a more effective instrument for youth and adult education.⁸⁹

There are three other educational activities of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool which deserve special mention. One is the visual education service developed partly as an aid to the field men of the country organization department. Through a coöperative arrangement with the National Film Board, projectors, generators, and film materials are available to the department. In addition the Wheat Pool purchases equipment and employs men to develop visual aids.⁹⁰ In the fiscal year 1946 Kodochrome slides were prepared on the Manitoba vegetable oil mill, the tour of visiting American coöperators, north land fisheries, the Swift Current horse marketing coöperative, junior clubs,

⁸⁸ Interview with Leslie J. Bright, February 5, 1947.

⁸⁹ For sentiment regarding improving the schools, see The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Report on 1946 Co-operative Summer School, p. 2.

⁹⁰ Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 30.

coöperative marketing of livestock, and the coöperative schools. The previous year a film strip on the financial statement was prepared. In past years others have been made on organizing coöperative implement and life insurance companies, building a state hospital, and on the story of how a bad community became good. The film strip has been used in various activities. Some years ago the Wheat Pool had made advances to the publishers of The Western Producer, farm newspaper, which the latter could not meet. When the Wheat Pool took over the paper, subscriptions had dropped to 30,000. The Pool prepared for use throughout the province a film on The Western Producer plant. Within a year the subscription list had been built up to 80,000. In the beginning of the depression about 1933 the Pool made a film called "This Generation", using employees of the company and farmer-members. This was followed by another film titled "By Their Own Strength" which told how farmers in early agrarian movements became prosperous through their own efforts.

Farmers searched storage closets and barns for Christy stiffs and democrats. Before each showing the story of how the film was made was told as an object lesson in coöperation. A third picture was "New Horizons" which Mr. Buckley says made farmers think too much and "jolted them back on their heels." It is the story of rich prairie land misused under the lash of economic necessity. Subsequently farmers migrate to the north country where they find there things

not available in the prairies: material for buildings, fuel, and water. The story continues with misuse of the new area, burning the bush and destroying the top soil.

In April, 1946, the Northern Branch of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, organization of the technical agriculturists, invited a Wheat Pool member to outline and demonstrate slide and strip film visual aids. He also included work with panels set up so that the observer might look at a particular picture as long as he liked. This latter material was used at Class A and B fairs to illustrate the production and coöperative marketing of grain. The panels begin with seeding operations stressing junior test plot work, scientific methods of harvesting, effects of wind, water erosion, and other blights on crops, and closes with marketing through the Pool.⁹¹ Scientific agriculture is linked with coöperative marketing.

A second service project in education is the Wheat Pool library from which books may be borrowed by members of the Pool or employees of the organization. Books are sent out free of charge and a return postage sticker is included in the package so that there is no charge to the borrower. A printed catalogue is issued periodically and mimeographed lists of recent purchases are also available. In the latest printed catalogue will be found titles on the following

⁹¹Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Report of the Country Organization Department, April, 1946, pp.5-6; and Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 30.

subjects:⁹²

Agriculture	Natural science
Biography (including memoirs)	Philosophy
Collectivism (including Co-operation, labor, socialism)	Religion
Economics	Sociology (including political science, education, organization)
Geography and travel	Trade and Commerce (including grain trade, industry, transportation, tariffs)
History	War and peace
Junior books (for boys and girls)	Miscellaneous (books and pamphlets)
Literature	
Fiction	

During the year 1945-46, some 9,234 books were mailed out from the library to a total of 1,883 persons 1,713 of whom were Wheat Pool members and 170 were Pool elevator agents. The Pool spent \$533.05 on postage for the year.⁹³

A third educational venture of the Wheat Pool is inauguration of elevator agents study groups. Although they are business representatives of the Pool, agents are expected to further the coöperative movement through their contacts with farmers bringing grain to the elevators. The role of the agent is described as follows:

Likewise the Pool Elevator agent is something more than an efficient grain man. He is actually, in many cases, the personification of Co-operation in his community.⁹⁴

⁹²Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Catalogue of Books in the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Library, p. 2.

⁹³Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 60.

⁹⁴Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited. "Relationship of Pool Elevator Agents to General Co-operative Organization", p. 7.

In reports to headquarters the educational field men lay much stress on active and inactive agents. To assure a higher degree of educational effectiveness, agents are urged to set up study groups for themselves, and are provided with a printed outline of studies. The following are topics in the series:⁹⁵

The Problem of Agriculture and the Relation of the
Pool Elevator Agent to It
The Rochdale Pioneers
The Rochdale Philosophy
The Relationship of Pool Elevators to Growers
How Do the Terminal Elevators Relate to the
Agricultural Problem?
Relationship of Pool Elevator Agents to General
Co-operative Organization
Review of Studies 1 to 5 Inclusive

Each study outline ordinarily carries a discussion of the subject under review, followed in some instances by references, and always by a set of questions on the lesson. Occasionally answers are provided with the questions. The Pool's annual report mentions the study groups in the section devoted to work of the country organization department.⁹⁶

The role of the alert Pool elevator agent in spreading coöperation can best be illustrated by a story of the work of a former agent who is now a district representative. John Pavelick was a Pool agent in Neath Park, a Ukrainian

⁹⁵ Copies from title pages of Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Limited. An Outline of Studies for Employees of Saskatchewan Pool Elevators.

⁹⁶ Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Twenty-Second Annual Report, p. 31.

settlement. A number of years ago the villagers built a small hall which as the district developed, proved to be inadequate. The original members of the hall association, however, did not wish to expand their plant and they wished to continue control by a Ukrainian group.

Other residents in the village began to subscribe money for another hall. Then the community developed into a hot-bed of warring factions. The agent tried to retain a neutral position in the difficulties in order that when feasible he might get the old association to dissolve and to work for a complete reorganization of a community hall group.

"By a little maneuvering" Mr. Pavelick got the old and the new groups to hold a meeting the same night. He then secured the right of the Wheat Pool district representative to speak at both meetings. The representative persuaded the new group to send a delegation to the old group. When the two delegations met, a committee was appointed with instructions to come to some mutual understanding.

The final result was that the old hall was wrecked and a new one built by joint effort of the two community groups. Mr. Pavelick says in closing:

The change that came over that community after we had a truly Co-operative Hall was remarkable, the fears that were held disappeared and we really had some nice social gatherings.⁹⁷

For their eighteen field men, the Wheat Pool sets up no

⁹⁷From a memorandum on Meath Park Community Hall written for the author by John Pavelick, February, 1947.

such educational requirements as does the Agricultural Representative Service for its employees. District representatives have a variety of education and experience backgrounds, and their qualifications are described in terms which have peculiar meaning for Wheat Pool employers. At least three of the men have taught school. Of these three, two have bought grain and of the same two, one has been a manager of a coöperative store. The third was hired presumably because he had a flair for developing coöperative projects in school. Of the remaining fifteen men, seven or more have been delegates or committee men for the Pool, several have been grain buyers, two or more have been managers of coöperative stores, and at least one has been a coöperative creamery employee. A very few have Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degrees; one is a graduate of Oxford.

Qualifications of field men are of secondary importance and serve only to assure the Pool employers that their field men have had adequate experience in farm movements. Informal comments on field men tend to point up unique ways in which they work with farm groups and their capacity for getting action on farm problems. The assistant superintendent of the country organization department, for instance, tells of one field man whom he was glad to see leave the organization when the opportunity presented itself to get rid of him. This chap wrote glowing reports, but showed very little accomplishment in the field. Members of the board of directors of the Wheat Pool, said the assistant superintendent,

were not impressed with language which they felt was an overstatement of what normally could be accomplished in farm communities.

Since the 1930's the Wheat Pool field men have been engaged in agricultural adult education in which education for coöperatives of all types has played a part. Coincident with their work, there has been considerable growth in the cooperative movement in Saskatchewan. Table XXXII presents data concerning cooperatives from 1937-38 to 1944-45, with a breakdown by types of associations for the latest year. Over the period covered in the table there have been about a two-fold increase in memberships and a ten-fold increase in total business. In the year 1944-45 less than half of the memberships are in businesses concerned with marketing and warehousing of grain and seed; but that category accounts for approximately 74.2 per cent of the total business. The list of coöperatives shows a range of producer and consumer, retail and wholesale, and commodity and service associations. One report says:

Considering the eight-year period, 1937-38 was, of course, the low point for business activity in Saskatchewan generally, resulting from an almost complete crop failure in all parts of the province. Since that time, Saskatchewan coöperatives have experienced a steady growth.⁹⁸

It might be argued that as over the period under review the Wheat Pool has been the only coöperative organization

⁹⁸ Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development of the Province of Saskatchewan. First Annual Report, p. 76.

TABLE XXXII⁹⁹

Co-operative Organizations in Saskatchewan
(As reported for the calendar year 1944
or for fiscal year nearest to that date)

Type of Organization	Number of Orgs.	Places of Business	Member Assns.	Member- ship	Total Business
Grain and Seed					
Marketing and	2	1,133	17	129,412	147,020,930
Warehousing	18	25		2,813	938,517
Livestock					
Assembling, Ship- ping and	4	61	44	1,375	21,048,527
Marketing					
Dairy					
Assembling, Processing & Marketing	3	15		12,408	4,095,180
Poultry					
Assembling and Marketing	1	15		18,394	1,068,180
Hatchery	1	2		28	73,374
Honey Marketing	1	1		300	102,472
Wholesaling and Manufacturing	1	5	461(1)		6,864,647
Co-operative Assns.:					
Purchasing Assns. 483	483	490		76,714	16,785,885(2)
Community Service Assns. 138	138	138		9,501	67,959(2)
Miscellaneous Service Assns. 56	56	56		20,901	1,260,839(2)
Co-operative					
Credit Services:					
Credit Unions 163	163	163		20,988	62,375(2)
Co-operative Credit Society 1	1	1	164		6,273
Credit Union Federation 1	1	1	157		3,157
Funeral Benefit Services 1	1	1		6,852	5,351
Superannuation Society 1	1	1	5		1,237
Co-operative Fidelity and Guarantee Co. 1	1	1	138		3,686

⁹⁹Ibid. Adapted from Table XIV, pp. 77, 79.

TABLE XXXII (Cont.)

Co-operative Organizations in Saskatchewan
(As reported for the calendar year 1944
or for fiscal year nearest to that date)

Type of Organization	Number of Orgs.	Places of Business	Member Assns.	Member- ship	Total Business
TOTAL 1944-45	876	2,109	986	299,686	199,408,589 ⁽³⁾
TOTAL 1943-44	839	2,270	1,023	286,333	182,451,851
TOTAL 1942-43	802	2,213	905	250,846	105,352,785
TOTAL 1941-42	768	2,081	829	243,250	64,443,528
TOTAL 1940-41	697	2,022		209,020	77,197,572
TOTAL 1939-40	532	1,787		187,808	71,901,405
TOTAL 1938-39	475	2,259		184,372	50,201,683
TOTAL 1937-38	438	2,027		198,988	19,359,015

- (1) Decrease in membership accounted for by amalgamation of two co-operative federations.
- (2) Refers to business for the twelve months ended December 31st, 1944.
- (3) Includes a duplication of livestock and forage crop seed sales amounting to \$2,261,111.

maintaining a large paid educational staff, it may have been responsible for a considerable portion of the growth in the coöperative movement.

CHAPTER V

EVALUATION OF AGRICULTURAL ADULT EDUCATION FOR PRODUCTION AND MARKETING

There are two types of standards by which the worth of a program of agricultural adult education may be judged. The first of these can be called an intrinsic standard by which practices of the various agencies are examined in light of their stated purposes. The second can be called an extrinsic standard by which the purposes and practices of the agencies are evaluated in relation to the land and the people.

The first practice of agricultural adult education in Saskatchewan is the practice of enthusiasm. The observer newly arrived in Regina or Saskatoon is impressed with the energy of workers in the movement. He senses a feeling of great plans afoot. Provincial officials as well as professional persons are busily overhauling and reorganizing the Agricultural Representative Service. Dominion, provincial, and University men are earnestly working together to create a meaningful coöperative extension program. The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool district representatives appear to be redoubling their efforts. Most coöperatives seem to be moving towards a more integrated program of education through The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan. Furthermore, this activity is constantly vitalized by the deep personal

interest which every professional worker has in his job. If agricultural adult education in Saskatchewan fails in the tasks it has set for itself, it will not be for want of enthusiasm and effort.

The Agricultural Representative Service is dedicated to making agriculture a more profitable occupation and to improving conditions of farm life. To this end the Service puts emphasis on improving and changing the quality and character of agricultural produce. Energies of agricultural representatives and local committee members are usually spent on land utilization and diversification activities.

Improving conditions of farm life through stimulating home and community betterment is largely a paper practice, however. Agricultural representatives do develop special programs for women at field days. A local agricultural committee occasionally sponsors community picnic grounds. Some agricultural representatives promote youth training schools. But the sum total of these activities do not appear to equal in volume or in importance those projects related to agricultural production. The agricultural representative is a technical agriculturist. He is also a government employee. By background he tends to emphasize the immediate, practical crop or livestock problem of the farmer. By employment he must stress those production programs in which the several government departments are interested. In-service training conferences planned for him tend to reinforce his natural inclinations. Despite broadly stated purposes, the

Agricultural Representative Service is in practice largely an agricultural production agency.

To carry through the agency's purposes, the Agricultural Representative Service believes it necessary to involve individual farmers. To this end there has been developed the local agricultural improvement and conservation committee as a basic unit in the coöperative agricultural extension program. Theoretically this committee is responsible for selecting and solving local farm problems. The combined plans of all local committees ought to constitute an agricultural adult education program. But two other groups are also charged with program planning. The agricultural representatives are committed to stressing government policies. The provincial advisory council, having no connection either with the farmer or the agricultural representative except through his director, is charged with advising on a provincial program. Theoretically, three groups are setting policy in the coöperative extension program.

It will be remembered that one local committee was criticized by its members for looking for a book of rules which did not exist. Actually the committee members were right. They did need a set of rules devised by the provincial advisory council and the agricultural representatives. They needed a list of specific activities which they were responsible for seeing through. They needed instructions on how to see them through. They needed further advice on those areas of agricultural planning in which they

were free to make local adaptations. They needed this kind of carefully detailed and pre-planned instruction, not to make them more dependant on government and provincial associations, but to give them a framework within which they could exercise their own initiative and judgment. They needed that framework as a psychological prop. They needed to feel that they were a part of an enterprising and carefully organized provincial program.

The first purpose of the two extension departments of the University of Saskatchewan is to make available, and to encourage practical application of information on farm questions, homemaking, and rural life. Their second purpose is to promote the development of a sound rural economy and a wholesome and attractive rural civilization.

To carry out these purposes the two departments together have no more than about twelve full-time professional people. The services of these members are augmented by those of part-time workers hired for special schools or special jobs, and by occasional assistance from men in the College of Agriculture. With this limited staff the departments have had to resort to a minimum of professional teaching and a maximum of voluntary effort in carrying out their purposes.

In view of the foregoing circumstances, the two departments have made effective efforts to provide a wealth of services and to utilize a variety of techniques. Working through local organizations the two departments have distributed written instructions, and have promoted study

groups, schools, field days, junior societies. At some point, any or all of these activities may be said to be implementing their purposes. Because of the limitations in staff, however, efforts are scattered. One staff worker looks after forty-seven agricultural societies and directs the department. Another man supervises ninety-six radio forums and watches over some twenty-one horticultural societies. The six instructors and the director of the Department of Women's Work are responsible for activities in 365 homemakers clubs, 89 homecraft clubs, as well as activities in special schools and other organizations.

With overcrowding of staff there has been little time to evaluate the worth of activities. Some of the purposes of the extension staffs are touched on very lightly, because the departments must cover so much ground. Intensive educational effort is expected of universities even in their extension departments. Yet the effect of the University's work can hardly be intense when a farmer's only contact with the university is a speech at a field day or a few lectures during University farm week.

Reports of the extension divisions have contained questions about the advisability of some of their activities. It has been suggested that the teen-age groups might be cared for by the schools rather than by the Department of Women's Work. The worth of the Provincial Seed Fair and the activities of the agricultural societies have also been questioned. Through establishment of the new coöperative

extension program and the fine coöperative spirit of the director of the Extension Department, the program of the latter is in danger at some points of becoming a mere service agency for another government agency. The University of Saskatchewan is a provincial institution. As such it has an obligation to be a service agency not to another government department but to all the people of Saskatchewan. The staff of the Extension Department must carefully evaluate their efforts to see wherein they are most effectively meeting those purposes peculiarly their own, and to determine in what areas they are most profitably meeting the needs of all their people. At this writing, the Extension Department appears to be meeting the broadest statement of its purposes in junior club work and in the short courses for young people. The instructional phases of the latter activity, furthermore, are those which can be most effectively supplied by an institution wholly devoted to education. It may be that so-called non-agricultural activities such as correspondence study groups and the radio listening forums could be more effectively exploited if more staff time were allotted to building them up and if other agencies helped promote them.

The School of Agriculture is designed to fit young people for a better life on the farm. It attempts to meet its purpose through courses in technical agriculture and in such special courses as rural leadership. Superficially, at least, the School appears to be meeting its purposes

adequately.

The workers in the country organization department of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool are the watchdogs of the coöperative movement. They are dedicated to improving the agricultural economy and bringing happiness to the farm home, through promoting coöperative action in economic and social affairs. Practices of the department appear to be in complete harmony with purposes. As a matter of fact, there appears to be the highest correlation between practices and purposes in the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool of any of the agricultural adult education agencies. This should not be construed to mean that the educational program is necessarily the best in Saskatchewan.

The unifying effect of the Wheat Pool program appears to stem from three sources. First, one simple and effective technique, a coöperative society, is proposed as a solution to problems concerning the more abundant life. Second, there is deep emotionalism underlying the movement. To develop a coöperative society people are not moved like puppets but are motivated to coöperate to solve their problems. An emotional base unifies and strengthens an educational movement. Third, instructions to professional and voluntary workers are detailed and specific. If either group wishes to protest the framework of their endeavors, they at least have tangible statements with which to disagree. When workers accept the philosophy of the movement they are expected to operate effectively within it.

When agricultural adult education programs are assessed in terms of their attention to basic factors of the land and the people, it is obvious where the emphasis lies. The Agricultural Representative Service and the University of Saskatchewan can supply the latest information on bacon hogs and hard spring wheat. The Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development and the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool can guide a farm group through the intricacies of laws governing coöperative associations.

When a Saskatchewan government or education leader talks on agricultural adult education he typically says a good deal about purposes, organization, and operation of education agencies; and he emphasizes the importance of scientific agriculture. He is apt to pull from his desk a copy of the latest statement on the coöperative extension program, Soil Survey Report No. 12, or Guide to Farm Practice in Saskatchewan.

This same education leader will say very little about the characteristics of his people unless specifically questioned about them. If he is an experienced education worker, he may make many common sense observations about his people such as how committee action is affected by particular personalities. His information in this regard is not usually on a par with his scientific information, however. He does not quote sociological studies as he does soil studies. He is not as professionally at ease in the language of educational method as he is in the language of the technical

agriculturist. To him, his communities are mixed farming and wheat-growing areas, not Icelandic and United Church groups. The people themselves are the forgotten men of agricultural adult education in Saskatchewan.

The failure to study the people as well as the soil has produced peculiar inconsistencies in adult education programs. The director of the School of Agriculture, whose personal philosophy is broader than that of most administrators, is caught in the webs of this inconsistency. He believes that those admitted to the School of Agriculture should be at least tenth-grade graduates. He bases this belief on the fact that the more schooling a young man has the better marks he receives in the School of Agriculture. Yet the farm population is typically composed of eighth-grade graduates. Perhaps they are the ones who ordinarily remain in farming. On the basis of population the only justification for raising educational entrance qualifications in the School of Agriculture is the present necessity of severely limiting its membership.

The workers in the country organization department of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool say that nationalities are no problem to the coöperative movement. The department, nevertheless, hires a Ukrainian and a French language representative. Nationalities may be no problem because the Wheat Pool has already made a basic adjustment to nationality patterns. The Agricultural Representative Service makes no such adjustment at all. Yet representatives report

nationality differences and difficulties.

The schooling of the farm population is typically eighth grade, yet according to reports, agricultural bulletins are couched in language which only a technical agriculturist can understand.

At present the Agricultural Representative Service is being enthusiastically reorganized as a real extension or agricultural adult education service. When qualifications for staff members were developed, however, the educational aspects of their work were generally ignored. Agricultural representatives are bachelors of science in agriculture, not in agricultural education.

Of all educational personnel interviewed by the author, those who appeared most concerned about the people were very logically men in the University of Saskatchewan. The director of the School of Agriculture is making a concerted effort to supply well-rounded training for farm leaders. The director of the short courses for the Extension Department is concerned about the relative merits of vocational and non-vocational training for a farm population. The professor and head of the department of farm management questions the efficacy of the thirty-minute lecture at agricultural meetings. The farmer, says he, does not have one problem but fifty. Agricultural adult education must be reorganized to conform to the realities of agricultural life.

It is good that the most doubts have been expressed at the University; for it is there that beginnings have to be

made in making knowledge of the people an integral part of agricultural adult education. The first need in this area is for the same kind of exact information which is available on soils. Saskatchewan needs a cultural classification of its farming communities. The University of Saskatchewan needs a staff of psychologists and rural sociologists who will study the cleavages, tensions, and prejudices of the farm population. The work of these men should be supplemented by a policy of hiring personnel trained in agricultural education for key field jobs in all agencies. Barring this expedient, there should be on call at the University of Saskatchewan men who are trained in agricultural adult education. These men should be available to assist all agencies in developing such programs as may take cognizance of data of the psychologists and sociologists.

The foregoing recommendations are a way of saying that leaders in Saskatchewan need to rethink a fundamental question. Does a farmer manage his farm in a particular way because he has access to certain types of agricultural information, or does he do so because he is a certain kind of person ?

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Supervisor, North Eastern Area. A. Blackstock.

District One. R. H. Cooper.

District Two. L. W. Ogilvie.

District Three. W. L. Oddie.

District Four. Hugh Robinson.

District Five. J. E. Smith.

District Six. E. N. Peiver.

District Seven. A. M. Crowlie.

District Eight. Thomas Orr.

District Nine. W. R. Merryweather.

District Ten. F. A. Snell.

District Eleven. T. A. Shirkie.

District Twelve. W. E. Boucher.

District Thirteen. E. W. McKenzie.

District Fourteen. A. E. Ogilvie.

District Fifteen. E. G. Palmer.

District Sixteen. W. H. Whitney.

District Seventeen. John W. Kunkel.

District Eighteen. Stanley Clark.

District Nineteen. D. Hluchanisk.

District Twenty. John K. Frizzell.

District Twenty-one. L. M. Stalwick.

District Twenty-three. O. R. Mooney.

District Twenty-four. A. A. Kirk.

District Twenty-five. B. J. Strilchuk.

District Twenty-six. E. Clarke.

District Twenty-seven. T. A. Johnson.

District Twenty-eight. B. M. Blacklock.

District Twenty-nine. J. H. Maduke.

District Thirty. A. J. Rugg.

District Thirty-one. J. B. Durrant.

District Thirty-two. R. Duck.

District Thirty-three. Thomas Rowles.

District Thirty-four. J. F. Allan.

District Thirty-five. J. I. Clark.

District Thirty-six. C. B. Young.

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8. Letters to Author.

Archibald, E. S., Director, Experimental Farms Service, Department of Agriculture, Dominion of Canada. Ottawa, December 4, 1946.

Buckley, Joe L., Assistant Superintendent, Country Organization Department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited. Regina, March 17, 1947.

9. Interviews with Author.

Baker, William B., Director, School of Agriculture, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 19, 1947.

Bright, Leslie J., Secretary, The Co-operative Union of Saskatchewan, February 5, 1947.

Brockelbank, K. E., Director, Agricultural Representative Service, Department of Agriculture, Province of Saskatchewan, February 3 and 5, 1947.

Buckley, Joe L., Assistant Superintendent, Country Organization Department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited, February 11, 14, and 15, 1947.

Chapman, Harold E., Extension Specialist, Department of Co-operation and Co-operative Development, Province of Saskatchewan, February 24, 1947.

Charnetski, John, District Agriculturist, Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act, Department of Veterans Affairs, Dominion of Canada, February 22, 1947.

Fowler, H. L., Secretary, Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Limited, February 21, 1947.

Harding, W. M., Supervisor, Radio and Information Division, Department of Agriculture, Province of Saskatchewan, February 3, 1947.

Hartnett, M. E., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Province of Saskatchewan, February 3, 1947.

Holliday, E. F., Director, Saskatchewan Film Board, and executive for the National Film Board in Saskatchewan, February 24, 1947.

McIntosh, L. F., Minister of Co-operation and Co-operative Development, Province of Saskatchewan, February 3, 1947.

Oxner, Bertha G., Director, Department of Women's Work, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 19, 1947.

Paul, Loren C., Assistant Professor, Extension Department, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 18, 1947.

Rayner, John G., Professor and Director, Extension Department, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 17, 1947.

Robinson, D. R., Assistant in Agricultural Extension (Extension horticulturist), Extension Department, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 17 and 18, 1947.

Thomson, L. B., Superintendent, Experimental Farm, Swift Current (Under the Department of Agriculture, Dominion of Canada), February 25, 1947.

Tyler, Howard, District Representative, District Six, Country Organization Department, Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited, February 11, 1947.

Van Vliet, Hadley, Professor of Farm Management, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, February 17, 1947.

Varey, John M., District Superintendent, Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act, Department of Veterans Affairs, Dominion of Canada, February 22, 1947.

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Brockelbank, E. E., February 6, 1947.

Harding, W. M., February 7, 1947.

Hartnett, M. E., February 6 and 7, 1947.

Nollet, I. C., February 6, 1947.

Rayner, John G., February 6, 1947.

Rowles, T., February 7, 1947.

Observations by author of conduct of School of Agriculture, College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, on visit February 19 and 20, 1947.

APPENDIX A¹

Summary of Activities, Agricultural Representatives May 1 to December 31, 1946

Activity	Total This Year
1. Miles travelled in district	361,090
2. Mileage outside district	50,835
3. Days in office	2,237
4. Days in field	4,481
5. Days annual leave	347
6. Days sick leave	11
7. Days worked with adults	3,655
8. Days worked with Junior Clubs and older youth	1,130½
9. Number of interviews (Farmers outside of office (Others	12,413 5,406
10. Number of farmers interviewed for the first time	6,392
11. Number of farmers visited: (for the first time (visited previously	5,408 5,086
12. Number of calls relating to your work (Office (Telephone	5,347 7,705
13. Number of letters received going out	13,991 12,957
14. Number of circular letters: (a) prepared (b) Going out (c) No questionnaires completed (i) Central office (ii) Statistics Branch (iii) Dom. Bureau Statistics (iv) Dom. Dept. Labour	392 7,572 36 244 816 97
15. Number of pamphlets and bulletins distributed	17,966
16. Press publicity (News items (Articles released and published	386 218
17. Number of radio talks (Broadcast by self (Prepared for others	10 18
18. Audio Visual (a) Number meetings at which Aids films shown (b) Number films shown (c) Number meetings at which slides shown	140 271 37

¹Adapted from Director of Agricultural Representative Service . Monthly Report of Agricultural Representative Service, December, 1946.

**Summary of Activities, Agricultural Representatives
May 1 to December 31, 1946**

Activity		Total This Year
<u>Adult Activities</u>		
19. (a) District Board	(Number	
Meetings	(Total Attendance	
(b) Agricultural Committee	(Number	466
Meetings	(Total Attendance	2,991
(c) Other Organizational	(Number	238
Meetings	(Total Attendance	4,114
(d) Veterinary Board	(Number	23
Meetings	(Total Attendance	165
(e) Instructional Meetings	(Number	136
	(Total Attendance	6,258
(f) Organizational and	(Number	94
Instructional	(Total Attendance	3,302
Meetings		
(g) Number Fairs and	(Acted as judge	82
Shows Where Ag.	(Otherwise assisted	97
Rep.:		
(h) Demonstrations &		
Field Days:		
Horticulture & Bees	(Number	9
	(Total Attendance	355
Farm Machinery, inc.	(Number	104
Combine harvester	(Total Attendance	12,336
Poultry	(Number	27
	(Total Attendance	898
Sheep	(Number	15
	(Total Attendance	405
Weed	(Number	16
	(Total Attendance	850
Insect	(Number	2
	(Total Attendance	70
Miscellaneous	(Number	8
	(Total Attendance	1,045
Barley Production	(Number	5
	(Total Attendance	107
<u>Junior Activities</u>		
20. (a) Organizational	(Number	129
Meetings	(Total Attendance	2,271
(b) Instructional	(Number	216
Meetings	(Total Attendance	4,780
(c) Organizational and	(Number	96
Instructional	(Total Attendance	2,270
Meetings		

Summary of Activities, Agricultural Representatives
May 1 to December 31, 1945

Activity		Total This Year
<u>Junior Activities (Cont.)</u>		
(d) Fairs and Shows	(Number	164
	(Total Attendance	36,537
(e) 1. Attendance Farm	("A" Fairs	303
Boys and Girls	("B" Fairs	405
camps at:	(Elsewhere	38
2. Number boys and	(Regional Competition	378
girls sent to:	(Provincial	
	Competition	42
(f) Demonstrations and		
Field Days:		
Poultry	(Number	2
	(Total Attendance	199
Interclub weed	(Number	8
identification and	(Total Attendance	262
competition		
Livestock demonstra-	(Number	101
tions and judging	(Total Attendance	6,259
practice		
Interclub Field Day	(Number	7
	(Total Attendance	1,625
Grain Club	(Number	2
	(Total Attendance	46
21. Number of above activities	(Adult	518
at which Ag. Rep. gave	(Junior	418
talks or lectures		
22. Other meetings and gather-		
ings not arranged through		
Ag. Rep. but which Ag.		
Rep. attended		173
23. Number of above activities		
(19 & 20) in which	(Adult	101
University Departments	(Junior	124
participated		

APPENDIX B²

Radio as a Medium for Agricultural Extension

Premises

1. It is the basic function of agricultural extension to provide complete factual information regarding all current farm problems.
2. It is an essential function of a government department of agriculture to engage in such a program of agricultural extension.
3. Agricultural information must be related to the basic requirements of the total farm family -- men, women, children and young people.
4. Many aspects of agriculture in any particular area have a direct relationship to the broad problems facing agriculture throughout the world.
5. There is need for a better understanding of the role which professional agriculturists and the agencies which they represent can play in solving basic farm problems.
6. There is a real necessity for utilizing radio facilities as one of the methods of agricultural extension.
7. Success of an agricultural information radio program

²Written by W. M. Harding, February, 1947.

will depend upon the degree to which a broad-based listening audience is developed.

8. In essence such a program must be controlled by the people; in function the content of the program must be determined by the needs and expressed interests of the listening audience.
9. Radio as an extension method must be integrated into a complete agricultural extension program comprised of press releases, bulletins, meetings, agricultural schools, agricultural representative's field work and so forth.
10. It is proper for a government to complete arrangements with one or more private radio stations, to what might appear to be the discrimination of others, providing such arrangement is based upon (a) priority of offer of services, (b) quality of services available and (c) assured continuity of radio services. In this connection it is suggested that the decision of government should be based upon the readiness, scope and quality of services which are available for the purpose of disseminating information.

APPENDIX C³

Financial Statement of the Saskatchewan Branch of the National Farm Radio Forum, April 3, 1946

Receipts

Balance carried forward from 1944-45	\$ 410.32
Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture	1000.00
Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture	750.00
Farm Forum Monthly Collection	<u>431.32</u>
	\$2591.64

Expenditures

Secretary's salary	1200.00
Farm Forum Guides (6000 copies per month)	375.00
Report pads	30.00
Extension Bulletins	100.00
Mimeographing	21.00
Postage on weekly packages	104.00
Postage (General)	46.00
Envelopes	30.00
Expenses attending Conference (estimate)	<u>175.00</u>
	\$2081.00
Balance on Hand	\$ 510.64

³Report of National Farm Radio Forum Saskatchewan
Region, Season 1945-46, p. 4.

APPENDIX D⁴

Subjects of Agricultural Talks Sponsored by Homemakers' Clubs, 1945

Subject	Number of such talks	Subject	Number of such talks
Poultry		Horticulture (Cont.)	
Artificial brooding chicks	2	Sugar beets	1
Poultry and their care	6	Garden project	1
Proper finishing of poultry	2	Horticulture	1
Turkey raising	2	Garden sites	1
Baby chicks	1	Care of raspberry and strawberry plants	1
Making the most of your flock	1	Flower culture	2
Different breeds of chicks	1	Transplanting without setback	1
Poultry and eggs	1	Potato diseases	1
		Planting of bulbs	1
International Aspects of Agriculture		Varieties and culture of lilies	1
Agri. activities in Britain	1	Trees	1
Agri. operations, ac- tivities, or col- lective farming in Russia	3	Fruit growing on local experimental farms	1
Culture of bulbs in Holland	1	Peace garden	1
Poland's land reform	1	Fruit trees on prairies	1
		Origin and value of turnips	1
Horticulture		Growing rhubarb	1
Gardening, problems and hints	9	Indoor gardens	1
Origin of garden vegetables: duration of cultivation	1	A day in a greenhouse	1
House plants and their care	3	Dairying	
Raising of celery	1	Milk and pasteurization	13
		Maestitis in cows	1
		Livestock and their care	
		Warble flies	2
		Undulant fever	1
		Tick fever a menace	1

⁴Summarized from annual reports of homemakers clubs,
under the supervision of the Department of Women's Work,
University of Saskatchewan, for the year 1945.

**Subjects of Agricultural Talks Sponsored by
Homemakers' Clubs, 1945 (Cont.)**

Subject	Number of such talks	Subject	Number of such talks
Crop Production and		General (Cont.)	
Soil Conservation		Scientific develop-	
Prevent your land		ment in agriculture	1
from drifting	1	Who owns our farms	1
Soil conservation	2	The value of birds	1
P.F.R.A. plans for		Agri. farm home	
the prairie	1	improvements	1
Land erosion	1	The future of agri.	
Wheat and rescue wheat	2	in Saskatchewan	1
Cereals and their uses	1	Reports from girls who	
The sawfly	1	attend farm girls'	
Relation of soil to		and co-op schools	2
what we eat	1	Veterans' Land Act	1
Insects	1	Food for morale	1
Weeds	1	Farm chenurgy	1
		Export food show	1
General			
Agri., Hort., and		Beekeeping and Honey	4
gardening hints	1		
Paper from <u>Western</u>			
<u>Producer</u>	1		
Agriculture	56		
Agriculture and			
industry	1		
"The Farm"	1		
Rural electrification	1		

APPENDIX E⁵

Revised Summary of Averages Attained By First Year School of Agriculture Students on Basis of Previous Education and Age

Grade	Age	1936-43		1936-46		Average	
		No.	% total	No.	% total	1936-43	1936-46
8	14-16	13	14.1	13	12.0	55.9	55.9
	17	6	6.5	8	7.4	55.6	52.2
	18	9	9.8	10	9.2	53.9	54.5
	19	16	17.4	16	14.8	60.0	60.0
	20	13	14.1	14	13.0	62.4	62.2
	21	16	17.4	17	15.7	63.8	64.2
	22-29	19	20.7	30	27.9	66.1	68.2
14-29		92	100.0	108	100.0	58.8	59.6
9	13-16	8	9.9	10	8.1	49.8	50.4
	17	14	17.3	31	25.3	57.0	57.8
	18	23	28.4	31	25.3	57.5	57.0
	19	8	9.9	12	9.7	67.2	64.5
	20	13	16.0	13	10.6	60.4	60.4
	21-26	15	18.5	26	21.1	67.1	66.9
13-26		81	100.0	123	100.0	59.8	59.5
10	15-16	10	5.7	13	5.1	63.3	62.4
	17	31	17.8	45	17.8	64.4	63.9
	18	32	18.5	48	19.0	63.3	62.9
	19	28	16.1	35	13.8	62.7	61.8
	20	19	10.9	27	10.7	65.9	65.0
	21	21	12.1	25	9.9	67.6	67.6
	22	14	8.0	21	8.3	70.2	70.0
	23-31	19	10.9	39	15.4	67.2	69.9
15-31		174	100.0	253	100.0	67.8	65.4

⁵Prepared by W. B. Baker.

Revised Summary of Averages Attained By First Year School
of Agriculture Students on Basis of
Previous Education and Age (Cont.)

Grade	Age	1936-43		1936-46		Average	
		No.	% total	No.	% total	1936-43	1936-46
11	17	1	.9	2	1.3	67.2	68.9
	18	13	12.3	22	13.3	71.9	70.2
	19	25	23.5	32	20.2	70.3	69.4
	20	19	17.9	27	17.1	69.4	69.9
	21	19	17.9	25	15.8	69.4	69.9
	22	9	8.6	16	10.1	72.4	73.2
	23-42	20	18.9	34	21.6	76.6	70.4
17-42		106	100.0	158	100.0	71.7	70.3
12	17	4	3.0	6	3.0	76.1	76.3
	18	30	22.7	43	21.4	76.0	75.4
	19	34	25.7	49	24.4	74.6	74.1
	20	24	18.2	37	18.4	74.5	74.1
	21	10	7.6	13	6.5	74.9	73.9
	22	10	7.6	14	6.9	73.0	72.4
	23 & over	20	15.2	39	19.4	77.8	77.1
17-30		132	100.0	201	100.0	75.3	74.7
8-12	13-42	585		843		66.7	65.9
8	14-29	92	15.7	108	12.8		
9	13-26	81	13.8	123	14.6		
10	15-31	174	29.8	253	30.0		
11	17-42	106	18.1	158	18.7		
12	17-30	132	22.6	201	23.9		
8-12	13-42	585	100.0	843	100.0		