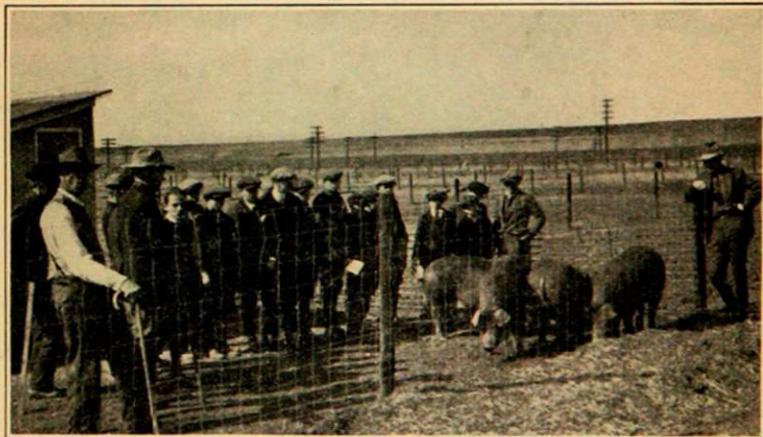


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## BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB WORK WHAT IT IS

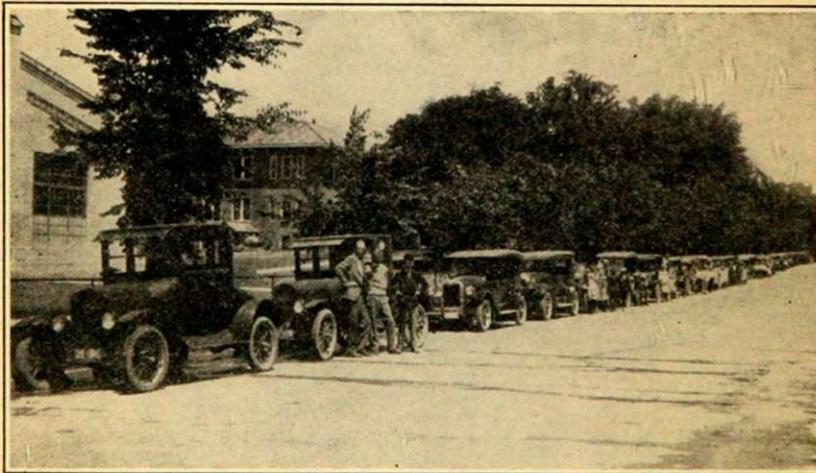


4-H Club Members Learning to Judge

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
FORT COLLINS  
EXTENSION SERVICE

C. A. LORY, ACTING DIRECTOR

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS  
COLORADO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE COOPERATING  
DISTRIBUTED IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF MAY 8 AND JUNE 30, 1914



A group of Weld County club members and their leaders visiting the Colorado Agricultural College. Tours are a great help in giving club members a better conception of their work.

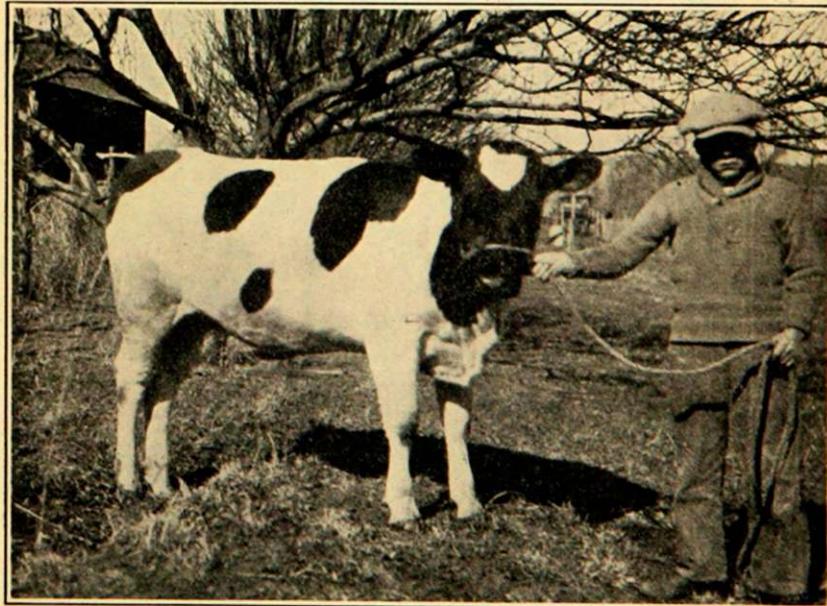
## BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB WORK WHAT IT IS

WALTER R. FREEMAN

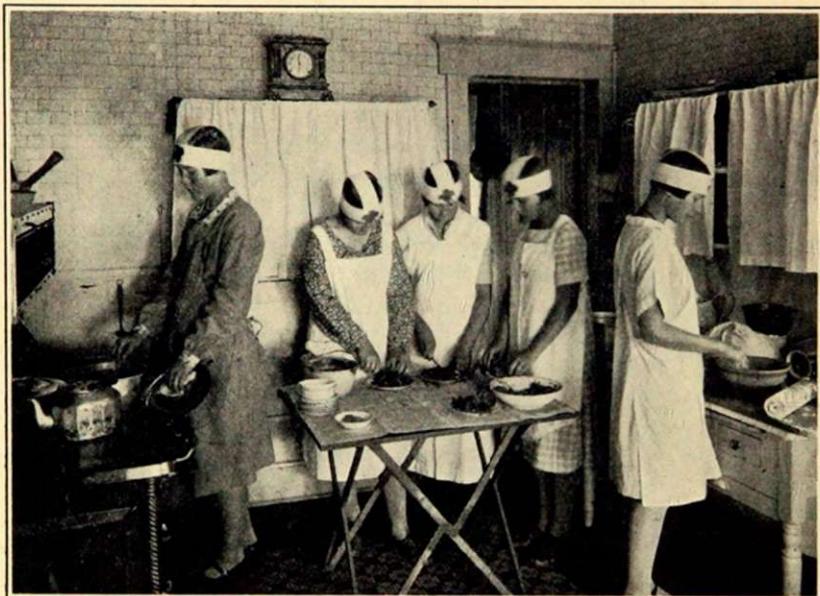
**Club Work—What It Is.**—Boys' and Girls' club work is a part of the extension work carried on by the extension service of the Colorado Agricultural College and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating with the different counties in Colorado.

Thru club work, boys and girls from 10 to 18 years of age are taught better agricultural and home economics practices and the finer and more significant things of rural home life.

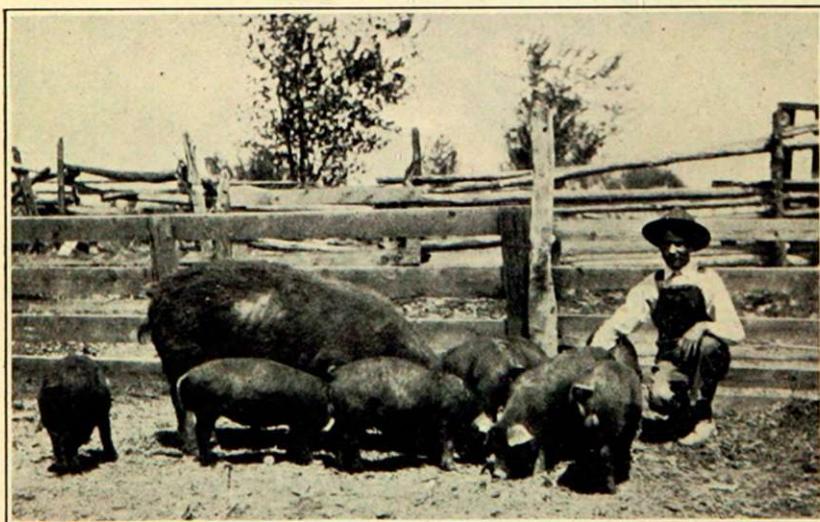
Each club member carries on a piece of work which shows some better practice for the farm or home. The piece of work is large enough to hold the interest of the club member and make it financially worth while. Records are kept and the results demonstrated to the community. The club member's work is designed to fit some community need and the results are worth while, both to the community at large and to the club member.



Dairy calf club member from La Veta, Colorado. Thru the 4-H club work, members are taught better methods of feeding and care of their livestock. This calf stood third in its class in open competition at the 1929 National Western Stock Show.



Foods club members learning to prepare a well-balanced meal. They learn by doing.



Pig club members from Montrose County. Club members learn how to judge good livestock.

Club members are organized into groups of from 5 to 20 children. They elect their own club officers—president, vice president and secretary—and at their meetings plan and carry out any work of interest to the whole club group. Reports on members' projects are made at the meetings, and demonstrations of different phases of the work are given.

At the first of the club year, the club plans a definite program so that each member knows what will be expected of him during the year.

Club work is not compulsory for anyone. Boys or girls may join the clubs of their own free will and with the consent of their parents. The projects that they carry on are theirs and any profit made as a result of their efforts belongs to them.

Club members are encouraged to exhibit the results of their work at community, county and state fairs. They learn to judge the quality of the products they produce.

Club work demonstrates the better practices in agriculture and home economics.

It promotes industry and thrift.

It applies business methods to farming.

It develops self-reliance, ambition and aggressiveness.

It fosters individual ownership; it makes farm life attractive.

Thru contests it brings out the best effort and thought.



Members of a poultry demonstration team from Logan County. Thru the demonstrations, club members help pass on to others what they have learned.



A Boulder County Sewing club meeting with their leader. Some of these girls are in first-year work and some in the second year of the sewing club. As a result of the training in the 4-H sewing club, girls learn not only to become good seamstresses and designers but are taught the value of clothes as each must keep strict account of money spent on her wardrobe.

It stands for the four-fold development of the Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

Its slogan is: "Make the Best Better."

**What 4-H Club Work Does.**—Dr. C. B. Smith, chief, cooperative extension service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, describes as follows what club members do:

"4-H club boys and girls are demonstrators—they learn and teach better methods on the farm, in the home and in the community.

"4-H club boys and girls work, earn money and acquire property.

"4-H club boys and girls do the needful, the wholesome, the helpful thing. They become leaders.

"4-H club boys and girls play the game fairly.

"4-H club boys and girls meet together, work together, play together, cooperate, achieve.

"4-H club boys and girls build up their bodies and their health thru right living; they train their hands to be useful, their minds to think clearly, their hearts are kind.

"4-H club boys and girls have high ideals and standards. They serve.

"4-H club boys and girls are doers."

**Local Club Leader.**—The most essential part of a 4-H Club is the local leader, for on him, to a large extent, depends the success or failure of the club.

The local leader should:

1. Be a recognized and respected resident of the community.
2. Be interested in young people and able to work with them.
3. Be able to assume as well as to place responsibility and to develop the latent leadership of the club member.
4. Be able to demonstrate effectively the practices advocated.

It is thru local leaders that the county agent and the state extension workers can reach the club members. The local leader need not be an expert in the line of work of which he is leader, but he should have a good knowledge of the work and be able to impart this knowledge. Each leader should feel free to develop his own initiative.



A former corn-club member who is much interested in the growing of certified seed and who obtained a great deal of his interest as well as his training along this line while a member of a corn club, growing Minnesota No. 13 corn.



A group of Colorado Forestry club members with their leader in the field judging the age rings in a tree that has just been cut. 4-H club members learn the value of our forests and how to preserve them, and how to get the most from them.

**The Club Member.**—Any boy or girl between 10 and 18 years of age inclusive is eligible to become a club member. The goal of club work is to reach eventually every boy or girl, of club age, in the rural districts, whether they are in school or out. In order that the club members may receive the greatest benefit from their club work, they must "stick" and carry their work thru to completion.

In planning and organizing a club, thought should be given by the leader and the people of the community to the membership, and selection of only those boys and girls interested in the subject who will carry on to completion the club work considered. In this way the results of the work will have a more lasting and beneficial effect on the boys and girls and the community and county.

Where there are not enough club members to form a club, individual boys and girls may take up club projects and carry them on as individual demonstrators or club members. They can become the members of a club at a later time. In this way the benefits of 4-H club work may be had by all.

**The Standard Club.**—1. A standard club shall have a membership of at least 5 working on the same project.

2. A local club leader shall have charge during the club year.

3. A local club organization with necessary officers shall be formed.

4. A club program of work shall be developed, covering the period of demonstration activities.

5. The club shall hold at least 6 regular meetings during the year.

6. The members of the club shall hold an exhibit annually.

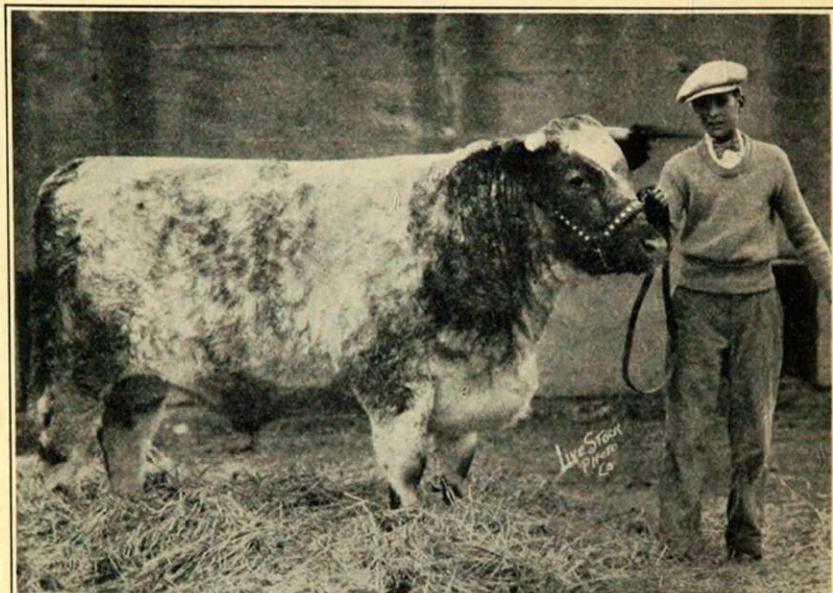
7. A demonstration team, representing the club, shall give at least one public demonstration in the community in which the club is organized.

8. The members of the club shall judge products related to their project, at club meetings, either individually or by teams.

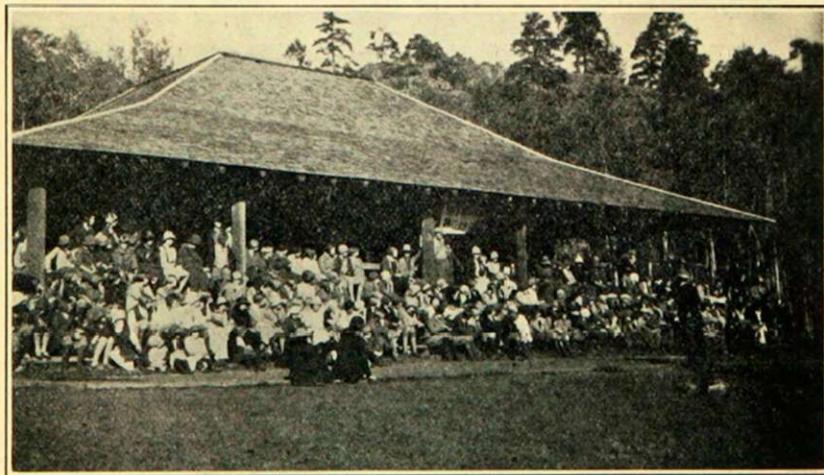
9. At least 60 percent of the members must complete the project and make a final report.

10. The club shall hold an annual achievement-day program.

When a club has met with the first 4 requirements, a charter may be issued to it. When it has met all 10 requirements, it may be awarded the seal of achievement.



Richard Hoff and his grand champion baby beef. Club members learn to select good livestock, how properly to feed and care for them and how to show and market the animals.

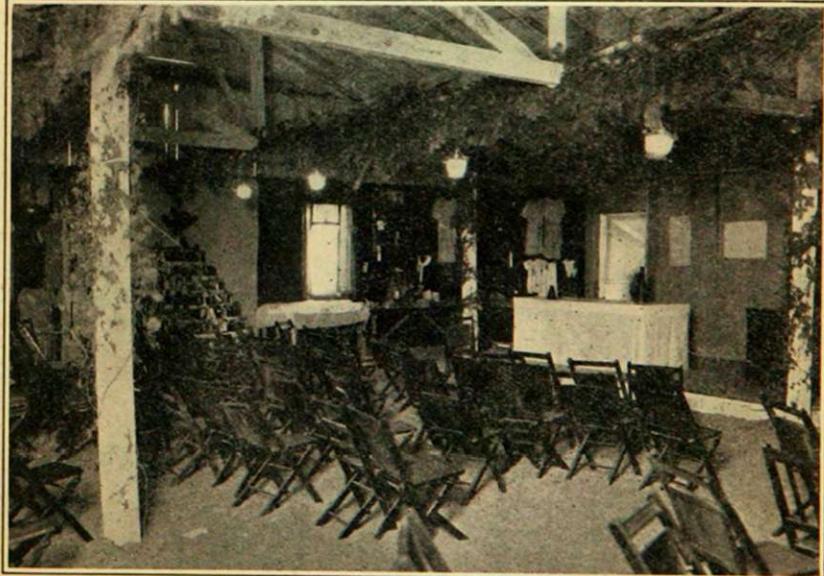


San Luis Valley club members attending a summer camp. 4-H Club Camps are one of the interesting features of the work. Here they meet together, play together, are taught things of interest to them in their work and learn the value of cooperation.

**The Club Problem.**—There are 11 million rural boys and girls in the United States. Of this number approximately 6 million are between 10 and 18 years of age and live on farms. Last year (1928) there were estimated to be 650,000 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H club work.

In Colorado, it is estimated that there are 150,000 rural boys and girls of club age. Club work in 1928 had enrolled 4,945, of which 4,001 completed their work.

Since club work is having a marked effect on the nation's agricultural and rural home life, every effort should be made to carry the benefits to more boys and girls. They should be encouraged to enroll in club work for more than one year. In this way, the club motto "To Make The Best Better," may be carried out.



Corner of the club exhibit at Camp Tobin, Colorado State Fair. Club members exhibit their work at local, county, state and national fairs. They demonstrate their work to others and thus help build up their community, county, state and nation into a more prosperous and better place to live.

**The 4-H Club Pledge**

I pledge—

My "head" to clearer thinking,  
My "heart" to greater loyalty,  
My "hands" to larger service and,  
My "health" to better living,  
For my club, my community and my country.