

A HISTORY OF
THE EXTENSION SERVICE
OF
IOWA STATE COLLEGE

A HISTORY OF
THE EXTENSION SERVICE
OF
IOWA STATE COLLEGE

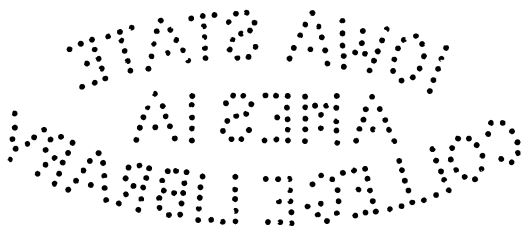
By
BARTON MORGAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
IOWA STATE COLLEGE

IOWA STATE
COLLEGE
LIBRARY



COLLEGIATE PRESS, INC.
AMES, IOWA
1934

COPYRIGHT, 1934, BY
COLLEGIATE PRESS, INC.



Printed in the United States of America

S544.3.I8
I091m
c.5

PREFACE

The importance of agriculture and homemaking in Iowa, together with the interest now shown in adult education generally, would seem to indicate that it is worth while to publish a history of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics of Iowa State College. This is the state's largest and most active agency for the education of the adult farmer and homemaker. In 1930 it had a comprehensive program covering nineteen major fields of work; it maintained a personnel of 222 specialists and field workers; and its income from state and federal appropriations, and farm bureau membership fees totaled over one million dollars. Coöperating with farm groups in 1930, it held an average of 284 meetings each day of the year with a total daily attendance of 6,965.

Since "the very essence of extension service requires that a variety of relationships be established and maintained with both official and private organizations" (69, p. 498), it is necessary to include in this history more than the Extension Service alone. The United States Department of Agriculture, the Iowa State College, certain farm organizations, and extension activities in other states necessarily occupy considerable space.

Much valuable information and many important suggestions for preparing this history were obtained from personal interviews with such men as Herman Knapp, chairman of the College History Committee, and son of the second president of the College; P. G. Holden, the first head of the extension department of the College; R. K. Bliss, director of the Extension Service since 1914; Murl McDonald, assistant director and state leader of county agents; Paul C. Taff, assistant director and state leader of the 4-H club work; and F. C. Ensign, professor of the history of education of the State University of Iowa.

The most fruitful primary sources of information were the annual unpublished reports of the director of the Extension Service; the annual unpublished records and reports of the extension specialists; miscellaneous records and reports of the Extension Service staff; biennial reports of the Iowa State Board of Education; minutes of the meetings of the Iowa State Board of Education; annual reports of the Iowa State Agricultural

Society; Iowa Laws, Statutes, etc.; and the United States Statutes at Large.

The most fruitful secondary sources of information were Buck, Solon Justis, *The Granger Movement*; Kile, Orville Merton, *The Farm Bureau Movement*; Ross, E. D., "The First Iowa State Fair, the Pioneer Period," *The Palimpsest*; Smith, C. B., and Wilson, M. C., *The Agricultural Extension System of the United States*; True, A. C., *A History of Agricultural Extension Work in the United States*; and U. S. Office of Education, *Survey of Land Grant Colleges and Universities*. Vol. II.

The original manuscript from which this history has been taken was prepared as a doctor's dissertation at the University of Iowa. It is one of a series of studies in adult education directed by Dr. C. L. Robbins of the College of Education. To Dr. Robbins the author is deeply indebted.

The author wishes to express his appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered by R. M. Hughes, President of Iowa State College, and by W. H. Lancelot, head of the Department of Vocational Education.

CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	v
 Chapter	
I. Movements Leading Up to the Creation of the Extension Service, 1842-1901	1
1. County Agricultural Societies and Fairs.....	1
2. The Iowa State Agricultural Society and the State Fair	3
3. Iowa State Horticultural Society.....	4
4. Agricultural Chemistry in the University of Iowa..	5
5. Origin and Establishment of Iowa State College....	7
6. Farmers' Institutes	12
7. The Grange.....	16
8. The Farmers' Alliance.....	19
9. The Rise and Decline of Important Farm Organizations	21
II. The Official Creation of the Extension Service and Its Early Development Under Holden, 1901-1912.....	22
1. Holden's Early Extension Activities.....	23
2. The First Extension Act in Iowa.....	24
3. Plan of Organization.....	26
4. Policy as to the Use of Funds.....	26
5. Activities of the Department for the First Year (1906-1907)	27
6. Personnel During Holden's Administration.....	28
7. The Extension Program.....	30
8. Development of the Extension Department Under Holden (1906-1911)	33
III. From Holden to the World War, 1912-1917.....	34
1. Organization of the Extension Service.....	35
2. The County Unit Plan.....	35
3. The Smith-Lever Act.....	40
4. Boys' and Girls' Club Work.....	43
5. Program of Activities.....	48

IV.	The War Emergency Work, 1917-1918.....	50
1.	Activities of the Federal Government in War Food Production	50
2.	Organization for War Food Production in Iowa....	51
3.	Organization of the Extension Department for War Food Production.....	53
4.	The War Food Production Program.....	54
5.	Enrollment in Boys' and Girls' Club Work, July 1, 1917, to June 30, 1918, Inclusive.....	58
6.	Summary of Field Work by Specialists, July 1, 1917, to June 30, 1918, Inclusive.....	58
V.	The Post-War Period, 1919-1930.....	59
1.	Federation of the County Farm Bureaus.....	59
2.	The Capper-Ketcham Act.....	66
3.	Definite County Programs of Work.....	67
4.	The Local Leadership Plan Developed.....	68
VI.	Status of the Extension Service in 1930.....	70
1.	Administrative Organization and Finance.....	70
2.	Relationships With the Farm Bureau in 1930.....	77
3.	Relationships With Other Organizations.....	85
4.	Personnel in 1930.....	86
5.	Objectives of the Extension Service.....	87
6.	Program of Work for 1930.....	87
	Appendix	94
	List of References.....	103

A HISTORY OF
THE EXTENSION SERVICE
OF
IOWA STATE COLLEGE

