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Locating the battlefield

By Glenn M. Busset
 State 4-H Leader

Strategies are really plans of work, based on information about our situations. Sometimes we are so involved with the trees that we are unable to see that we are in the midst of a forest. Barbara Tuchman has described such a situation in her gripping **The Guns of August**. The French generals

were so intent on their fixed plan of attack that they refused to believe their own intelligence reports about the numbers and movement of German troops. The battlefield had changed, but they were unable to recognize it.

We were watching a late-late something or other recently, and in the fleeting interval between commercials, we thought about our work, more in a philosophical aspect rather than just workaday concern. 4-H work is a tremendously thrilling career, offering educational opportunities in context with some of the finest people in the world. It is pure pleasure just being associated with a program that involves education in such a delightful setting. Sometimes, though, we have the impression that we are in a dilemma, caught inextricably between the expectations of 21st century progress and the traditions of a nostalgic once-upon-a-time program.

The perplexity of our predicament is that when we look at the past and the present of 4-H, we are forced to see a program that is rurally-oriented, declining in numbers, and appealing to family situations that are stable, balanced, and accidental. We are not particularly prescient when we get this view. Anyone else could see the same thing, just by looking at what is happening.

So far, so good, but when we take the action considerably more burdened with risk and look ahead into the unknown, into what 4-H will be in the future, we came into contention with some of the fine, dedicated people who have spent a lifetime in 4-H club work. We may believe that everything is impossible until it has been tried, and that trying many things through the years has given the Kansas 4-H program the fine reputation it now enjoys. There is another viewpoint, however, that sees planning ahead as consisting of nothing more than a bunch of dreamers happily bounding over invisible rainbows. If it's new it must not be any good because if it is good, then why hasn't it been thought of before? Bringing ideas for change to this portion of the clientele has all the satisfactory feeling of pushing on a wet rope. Change is not what they expect from us. What is expected is simply more of the same fine program that had made 4-H an international symbol of success.

On the other side of the coin is our own professional desire to modernize and update the traditional 4-H program to keep it in step with the times. Obviously this updating is needed if 4-H is to grow, to be viable, to remain a factor in informal education. Also, we are obliged to listen to several people who are in the position to remind us that we are obliged to listen to them. What we seem to hear is that the 4-H department is charged with the responsibility of presenting a

(Continued on page 6)

About the cover

Gardening, now called horticulture, is one of the most versatile of 4-H projects. Gardening is suited to boys and girls, country and city dwellers, beginners and those in their last year of 4-H work. Perhaps best of all, it's an activity to enjoy now and for all the rest of your life.

The gardening enterprise can range in size from pots on the window sill to, well, let's say a three-acre garden. The gardener on the cover, Rex Harbison, has a three-acre garden, and that's only part of his horticultural efforts. A story about Rex appears on page 8.

Labette County Memorial Fund

By Susan Johnson, Reporter

As a living memorial honoring 4-H members, leaders, friends, and alumni the Labette County 4-H Memorial Fund came into being in 1965.

The fund allows people the opportunity to share and express their cherished memories and thoughtful sympathy for a deceased 4-H member, leader, friend, or alumni by establishing a lasting memorial in honor of him.

A memorial plaque and book are in the county extension office. The names of those honored are placed on the plaque, and their pictures and biographies are included in the book. The donors' names are recorded in the back of the book which is open to the public.

All funds received for the memorial are invested in the Labette County State Bank in the Labette County 4-H Memorial Trust Fund. Income from the invested memorial funds is used



Bob Hunter, Thrifty Thrivers' last year's treasurer and this year's president, presents a check to Maurice Wyckoff, vice-president of the Labette County State Bank and chairman of the Memorial Administrative Board. He was the Labette County agent who helped start the Thrifty Thrivers 4-H Club in 1937.

for 4-H scholarships to send deserving 4-H'ers to educational 4-H conferences, study tours, and camps.

The Thrifty Thrivers 4-H Club has a bake sale each year from which the money is given to the Labette County 4-H Memorial Fund.

This past year, H. E. Redden, an active Thrifty Thrivers' parent and leader, passed away. The club used the bake sale's proceeds to add Mr. Redden's name to the plaque of the Memorial Fund.



Carolyn Highfill, a former 4-H member, speaks about fabrics as 4-H'ers, mothers, and grandmothers listen. Mrs. Highfill conducted a sewing clinic for the sewing group of Pawnee Pioneers 4-H Club, Johnson County, at Maytag Fabric Center at Cherokee Shopping Center. The photo was taken by Susan Kelso and Alvan Smith is reporter.



Gigi Roberts is enjoying her brother Jeff's rabbit project. In two years in this project Jeff has learned that rabbits raised for meat provide a convenient source of high-quality protein with about the same food value as beef. Rabbit meat is low in fat and calories. Jeff is a member of Meadowlark 4-H Club, Gove County.

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My beef breeding project

By Alan Duffie
1972 National Winner, Beef Project

So far, my 20 registered Hereford heifers and cows have been a lot of fun and are beginning to pay good returns. Too often we start a project expecting to make money the first year, but heifer projects seldom can show a profit until they are about 3 years old and start producing calves. I bought my first heifers in 1966 and have purchased some each year since, with money made on steer projects. Now my first cows are producing some heifers good enough to keep and are showing more profit. Also, I'm always watching for a good female that I can afford to buy to improve my herd.

Alan Duffie is at the halter of his heifer that was champion Hereford heifer at Mid-America Fair at Topeka in both 4-H and open class divisions. Later she was reserve champion Hereford heifer in the junior division at the American Royal. At left is Dr. Bill Able of Kansas State University who was the judge at Topeka, and center is LuAnne Conaway, Kansas Hereford Princess.



I like to purchase my breeding stock from honest, reputable breeders who keep good records. With records they can show me the dam and sire of the animal I'm buying, the exact birth date, weaning weight of the calf, and its grade in their herds. All of this information must be turned into the American Hereford Association's Total Performance Records Program and is required to enter heifers in most major shows. I always check to see that females have been bangs vaccinated and carry tattoo numbers in their ears. Heifers that I raise are bangs vaccinated by a veterinarian, but I do most of my other vaccinations. Good breeders have registration papers transferred as quickly as possible and I try to notify them when I receive the papers. I take the best care that I can of the animals and write the breeder occasionally to let him know how the heifers are doing. I want him to feel that his cattle are having every chance to reach their full potential and that I am a good repeat customer for him.

I like to halter-break all heifers, whether raised or purchased, as soon as they are weaned. They don't necessarily have to lead, unless they are to be shown, but later in case one needs doctoring or help in calving those

few days spent in halter-breaking really seem worthwhile.

I tattoo calves when they are quite young and still on their mothers and give them their first blackleg shots. Occasionally, the blackleg vaccine may have been kept too long and lost some of its strength so I give them a second shot at weaning time just to be on the safe side. Also, at this time they receive a shot of vitamin A and a worm capsule. I keep weaned calves on a medicated pre-conditioner feed for about a month — this seems to get them off to a better start when they are switched to home grown feeds.

This is no year to talk about clean, dry feedlots, but I was more fortunate than some for most of my cows were in the pastures. They had plenty of trees and natural protection and stayed fairly dry. However, I feed heifers until they are yearlings so I had a few around a barn which is open on the south. The feedlot was muddy, but I made sure their feed troughs were kept clean. A scoop and broom were used to keep feed bunks free of ice, snow, mud, and dirt. Covered hay racks kept the prairie or brome hay dry and clean. I feed grain, at regular times, twice a day to these younger animals. I like to buy or raise my own grain and do my own grinding and mixing, so I know for sure what I am feeding. Also, we mix our own mineral which is much cheaper than commercial. True, I'm doing it the hard way, but I enjoy seeing my cattle do their best as economically as possible. I check regularly to see that they have plenty of clean water, either with automatic waterers or by chopping ice in the ponds if they are frozen over. I am finding that if a heifer is properly vaccinated, fed good feeds at regular times, provided with clean water, and has a dry place to lie down, she seldom causes much trouble.

All cattle need to be treated for two external parasites — lice and flies. To control lice, we use a dusting powder in cold weather and a spray mixture when it is warm enough. In the summer we control flies by spraying and feeding a medicated mineral mix. Cattle will not gain or do well if they spend most of their time rubbing lice or fighting flies.

(Continued on page 9)

Locating the battlefield

(Continued from page 3)

4-H program that is solid, sound, and substantial, and at the same time that is up-to-date and streamlined through the seventies. Locating the battlefield is more and more difficult these days.

Meanwhile, back at the commercial ranch, we had thought our way through another brief portion of a lowest-common-denominator drama, through a commentary by our vice-president, who somehow manages to make humorlessness funny, and still had no solution to our dilemma. On this note, we went out to jog, an ideal opportunity for thinking. While on the last quarter mile, we resolved the problem by remembering an article we had read, and somehow managed to find again. The article below thoroughly oxygenates (one of our Faculty Senate friends is a chemical engineer, where they say "oxygenate" for something that really needs to be aired) our feelings about the problem of maintaining a simul-

taneously progressive and traditional program:

(This clipping appeared in a Boston newspaper published three quarters of a century ago.) "A man about 46 years of age, giving the name of Joshua Copper-smith, has been arrested in New York for attempting to extort funds from ignorant and superstitious people by exhibiting a device which he says will convey the human voice any distance over metallic wires so that he will be heard by the listener at the other end. He calls the instrument a 'telephone' which is obviously intended to imitate the word 'telegraph' and win the confidence of those who know the success of the latter instrument without understanding the principles on which it is based. Well-informed people know that it is impossible to transmit the human voice over wires as may be done with dots and dashes and signals of the Morse Code, and that, were it possible to do so, the thing would be of no practical value. The authorities who apprehended this criminal are to be congratulated, and it is hoped that his punishment will be prompt and

fitting, that it may serve as an example to other conscience-less schemers who enrich themselves at the expense of their fellow creatures." * * *

Which seems to prove just about anything that you want it to prove. We understand that a few years back an unemployed seaman named Christopher Columbus was given a very hard time by people in his own precinct. Last summer we worked with an excellent committee charged with the responsibility of suggesting methods of strengthening the community 4-H clubs in Kansas. The committee made three major recommendations: one regarding the 4-H representatives; one improving the capability of the county 4-H council; the third updating the definition of a 4-H club. As we consider these changes in the year ahead, the committee may find that their suggestions on changes and improvements could put them in the same category with Mssrs. Copper-smith and Columbus.

Wonder what ever happened to Joshua?



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Club visits churches

By Mrs. William Cope
Community Leader

The Harmony Hustlers 4-H Club, Shawnee County, observed 4-H Sunday last year by making a pilgrimage to various Catholic churches in the city of Topeka.

The first church visited was St. Joseph's Catholic Church at 3rd and Van Buren. Father Lutz pointed out to the members the intricate brick work on the outside of the church which is topped by twin spires with clocks, a landmark on the skyline of Topeka since the church was erected in 1900. The inside of the church is beautiful with ornate carvings, statues, gold leaf decorations, stained glass windows, and paintings on the ceilings. This church has been designated a historical point of interest.

Next the members went to the Sacred Heart Church at 333 Freeman. This church is the newest Catholic Church in Topeka, built in 1966, and is in complete contrast to St. Joseph's. The use of brick and warm wood tones provide a natural simple beauty. The design of the brick inside the building gives the impression of a huge tapestry. It has brought considerable recognition to the masons who performed the work. A unique skylight is above the altar. Father Wietharn welcomed the group.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church at 1008 Atchison was the third stop. This church was built in 1946 and had water several feet high during the 1951 flood. Father Raymond Gaitin told of the origin of the Lady of Guadalupe Church in Mexico as he showed the beautiful tiled mosaic covering the entire background of the altar area.

The last church visited was Assumption Catholic Church at 8th and Jackson. Organist John Dale showed the beautiful stained glass windows which originally came from Germany and are now considered almost irreplaceable. He told that the white marble used around the walls originally came from the Federal Building which was being torn down at the time the church was being built in 1923. Mr. Dale played a short organ concert and Bob Venable, a member of the boys' choir, sang a solo, providing an inspiring conclusion to a memorable afternoon.



—Syracuse Journal photo
In the front row are three members of Wide Awake 4-H Club who were first place winners in the Hamilton County cherry pie baking contest. They are Fred Baker, Margaret Golladay, and Mary Shorter. From left in the back row are other winners: Peggy Shorter, Karin Lampe, Roy Baker, RannDee Butts, Sue Wagner, and Cindy Smith.

Cherry pies and Mrs. Baker

Mrs. Cecil Baker gave lessons in pie baking to members of Wide-Awake 4-H Club before the Hamilton County cherry pie baking contest. Her students then won six of nine prizes in the contest!

Mrs. Baker made about 25 cherry pies for her family in the past year. She has had children in 4-H for 24 years, and has been

foods leader for Wide Awake 4-H Club for 8 years.

"When a person compliments her or asks about her students she almost always says something like, 'Well, I had good students — that helps.' I think she is one person who helps make the Wide Awake 4-H Club a success," reporter Barbara Rundell writes.

4-H Calendar

Junior Leaders and Clean-up Weekend . . .	
Rock Springs Ranch	April 7-8
Kansas 4-H International Day . . .	
Rock Springs Ranch	April 8
Regional 4-H Day . . . Effingham,	
Yates Center	April 14
National 4-H Conference . . .	
Washington, D. C.	April 15-20
Better Livestock Day	April 19
4-H Round-up and Judging . . . Hays	April 27, 28
Invitational 4-H Dog Show . . . Reno County	April 28
National Land Judging Contest . . .	
Oklahoma City	May 2, 3

If you will have an event in your county or area which you wish to list in the 4-H calendar, send the name of the event, date, and place to Kansas 4-H Journal, Umberger Hall, KSU, Manhattan, Kansas 66506.

4-H gardener

By Ronald Tittel
Miami County Extension 4-H Agent

How would you like to keep the weeds and bugs out of a three acre garden? In Miami County Progressive 4-H Club member Rex Harbison does. Rex says he can't keep all the weeds and insects out but he sees that proper cultural practices are initiated in order that maximum production is achieved during the growing season.

Rex believes that gardening is an excellent 4-H project. It provides a source of income as well as an outlet for energy. There is no better place to learn the importance of hard work in achieving a productive reward.

Rex's garden is also an excellent laboratory for experimenting with plants. For example, Rex experimented with buckets of barnyard manure buried in the soil. These buckets were filled with water and allowed to stand. Bacterial decomposition decomposed the organic components in the manure and the result was a liquid fertilizer. When the plants were watered these buckets overflowed and the fertilizer was dispensed.

Rex's garden includes:

Sweet corn, popcorn, red potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans, yard long climbing pole beans, carrots, turnips, mustard, radishes, kohlrabi, celery, tomatoes, okra, red and green cabbage, lettuce, peppers, beets, onions, brussel sprouts, cauliflower, Jerusalem artichokes, chives, cucumbers, watermelons, cantaloupe, vegetable spaghetti, pumpkins, rhubarb, asparagus, squash, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, spinach, concord grapes, salisfy, strawberries, dill, peanuts, and Luffa sponge vine.

Rex says he takes care of 700 peach trees and a large apple orchard, but this is not actually part of his 4-H project.

Successful gardens such as Rex Harbison's are the result of careful long-range planning, watchful care, good manage-



The grapes are there under the leaves, Rex Harbison shows a visitor. The Osawatomie High School senior was a district winner in the garden project last year. This year he is leader for 11 younger 4-H members in the horticulture project.

ment, a keep interest in environment preservation, and in Rex's case, a diversified knowledge in plant culture.

Rex's family utilizes the entire garden. Nearly all the food is processed in their home, even sauerkraut. Mrs. Harbison says, "We don't sell very much prod-

duce out of Rex's garden; we have too many friends and relatives." Last year she canned more than one thousand quarts.

Rex's final comment about his entire garden project is that two things remain uncontrollable, the insects and people who don't remember to shut corral gates!

Organic gardening

By Dr. Chuck Marr
Extension Horticulturist

Organic gardening has received much notoriety in recent years and the news it is making is controversial. The theory of organic gardening is relatively simple — to grow plants without using chemical fertilizers or pesticides.

Even though the emphasis on organic gardening has occurred in the last several years, it is not a new concept. In fact, the con-

cept is as old as agriculture itself. Up until only a few decades ago most gardeners and farmers were basically organic producers because these were the only materials they had to work with.

Organic gardeners take special interest in their gardens and are, generally, outstanding plant growers. There is something magically rewarding about any type of gardening. Organic gardeners are particularly rewarded as they take on the ravages of nature without chemicals and battle pests with some ingenious "natural" controls. In our "push-button" society organic garden-

ers become the skilled hand craftsmen spurning automated machines for the hand labor of care and love.

One of the basic concepts of organic gardening is improving the garden soil with additions of organic matter. Manure, compost, grass clippings, leaves, straw, sawdust, sewage sludge, and many other organic sources can be used. These materials benefit soils in many ways. They make soil easier to till, loosen tight soils, improve water holding capacity, and provide other benefits in addition to providing nutrients required by plants. Organic materials break down to release the same nutrient elements that chemical fertilizers provide. Although there is much that is still unknown about the complexities of the soil environment, there is no evidence at this point that organic materials provide any "special nutrients" required by plants. Recent scientific experiments comparing organic fertilizer sources with chemical sources have found no differences in the nutrients, vitamins, etc., found in plants grown in these sources. However, because of the other benefits that organic materials provide, garden plants grow better in soils supplied with organic matter. In my opinion, most Kansas gardens could benefit from application of organic matter. However, for large scale farming operations there isn't enough organic matter available to go around.

Another important practice that organic gardeners advocate in the use of mulches on their garden crops. Mulch is a layer of material spread over the soil surface to reduce water loss, lessen fruit rotting and diseases, prevent soil compaction, reduce weed growth, and modify soil temperatures. Straw, sawdust, leaves, grass clippings, manure, compost, paper, or black plastic are some of the mulch layers that can be used. A dark mulch will absorb the sun's heat and warm the soil early in the spring. A light colored mulch, such as bright wheat straw, will reflect the sun's heat, so use these mulches later in the year when the soil temperatures are warm. A good mulch layer will make natural rainfall go further since the mulch reduces water evaporation from the soil. A good mulch layer will also save many hours with a hoe removing gar-

den weeds since it smothers small weeds on the soil surface. Many commercial vegetable producers in Kansas utilize black plastic mulches in their large fields but quantities of organic mulches are limited for large scale agricultural production.

Organic gardening is not only a method of gardening but a philosophy. As stated in the magazine "Organic Gardening and Farming"—"Many of us want to stop using one yardstick—will it sell and be profitable?" And add, "Will it be good for us in the long run?" Agricultural producers now feed 47 other people with the food crops they produce. To revert to organic production methods means that fewer people would be fed. Because of the scarcity of organic materials and because few people want to starve or double their grocery bill, the organic concept has to be considered from a hobby gardening standpoint rather than a modification in agricultural production as we know it today.

Pests are controlled by organic gardeners in a number of ways including companion plantings, predator insects, plant juice extracts, hand removal, and many others. Some of these methods work well. Applying mineral oil to silks of sweet corn, for example, appears to control corn earworms. Other organic controls are more questionable however; for example, simply because you release predator insects in your garden, can you be sure that they will remain there to feed on the considerable insects in the garden? Agricultural scientists are currently exploring many new approaches to biological controls and some have been effective. Again, the question of size enters in. It is one thing to control diseases and insects in a small garden plot with few, diverse, isolated plants, but much different to control these same pests in a large field of one crop species.

In justifying their philosophy organic gardeners often make some questionable claims, in my opinion. Often they state "organically grown garden produce tastes better than produce in the grocery stores." Is this because the food is organically grown or because it is picked "garden fresh" rather than shipped halfway across the country and left in the grocer's racks for several days? Another claim that is made is that chemicals used as

fertilizers and pesticides are affecting people's health. The meticulous and exhaustive testing that is required for any chemical to be labeled as safe to use on foodstuffs indicates that these chemicals are not intended as human "poisons." Of course, chemicals are dangerous if not used properly; but many advances of modern technology such as automobiles, airplanes, electricity, or atomic power are also potential hazards if not used or handled properly.

In summary, organic gardening can be a rewarding and challenging hobby. So, if you are interested in improving your garden soil, maintaining some of the best cultural practices you can follow, and becoming personally involved in controlling garden pests, then consider organic gardening as a hobby or for your 4-H horticultural project.

Information on applying organic matter and using mulches can be found in the "Kansas Garden Guide," available at your local county Extension office. More information on organic pest controls can be obtained from the Extension horticulture department at Kansas State University and from several popular gardening magazines.

My beef breeding project

(Continued from page 5)

Recordkeeping takes time but is very essential to a breeding herd. Breeding dates, dams, sires, and calving dates must be recorded. Calves must be weighed at weaning time and graded according to the breeders' grading code. All of this information is then sent to the American Hereford Association's TPR program. By the end of the second year it is possible to cull out most non-profitable cows. It isn't easy to look at a cow and know for sure that she will make me money — but these records, by the third calf, can easily show me which of my cows are the best mothers, best producers, most efficient, and most profitable ones.

I think that, since I start with good heifers from reputable breeders, follow good feeding procedures, use necessary health protection practices, and keep complete accurate records, I'll have an outstanding herd of Herefords in a few more years.

IDEAS * & News

Officers of the **Wabaunsee County 4-H Council** are president, **Linda Lietz**; vice-president, **Linda Hoobler**; secretary, **Robert Hatfield**; and reporter, **Billy Flach**.

Mr. and Mrs. Enos Groves coached four square dance teams for **Bluestem 4-H Club** this year. One group received a top blue at **Butler County 4-H Day**.

Two minute impromptu talks are part of the regular program for **Meadowlark 4-H Club, Gove County**. Names and topics are drawn a minute beforehand. Members look forward to this with anticipation and apprehension, writes reporter **Gail Roberts**.

Paintings by 26 Kansas artists were hung in February at **Rock Springs Ranch**. The pictures, first selected at eight district exhibits last fall, were then shown in January at **Kansas State University** in the 20th annual exhibition of the **Kansas Rural-Urban Art program**.

The artists gave permission for their work to be exhibited for a year. When you go to **Rock Springs Ranch** look for the pictures in **Williams Hall** and **Heritage Hall**.

The **U.S. Center 4-H Club of Smith County** is taking people-to-people as a club project. Guest speaker at the February meeting was **Norbert Strassner**, an exchange student from West Germany, who is a junior at **Smith Center High School**. He told about the schools, industry, and culture of Germany, writes reporter **Wanda George**.

Fourteen Kansas 4-H members recently received scholarships with a total value of \$3,600 as part of **Kansas 4-H Foundation recognition and awards program**.

Scholarships and recipients are: **Cities Service — Marjorie Rice**, Emporia; **Janell Koester**, Ness City; **William Ashmore**, Syracuse; and **John Duerksen**, Wichita;

Kansas 4-H Foundation — Mary Jane Coles, Liberal; and **Deborah Wiles**, Dodge City; **Kansas Electric Cooperatives Scholarship — Carolyn Meyer**, Ellinwood; **Ship Winter Memorial — Charlotte Buckman**, Geneseo;

N. T. Veatch Scholarships — Keith Pike, Medicine Lodge; **Lynn Cress**, Council Grove; **David Mills**, Enterprise; and **Geralynn Martin**, Richfield; **F. W. Woolworth — Carolyn Wilson**, Asherville; and **Gary Walters**, Paola.

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4-H:



A good youth organization?

By Crystal Wiley and Lori Hagenbuch
Reno Bobwhite 4-H Club Members
Leavenworth County

Is 4-H a good youth organization? How does one find out? How does one get citizens to say what they really feel? We tried door to door interviews.

To find out what people thought of 4-H, we asked them questions. A typical interview started by our introducing ourselves. We then proceeded to tell them we were 4-H ambassadors taking a survey of people's views of 4-H. Since this project did have something to do with our psychology class, the first home we visited we stated, "We are Lawrence High School psychology students." The lady of the house absolutely refused to speak to us probably because she felt nervous about the word 'psychology.' After that incident, we changed our tactic just a bit by calling ourselves 4-H ambassadors. We may or may not be ambassadors; it just depends on how one looks at the question.

We visited 14 urban homes and 9 rural ones covering a variety of neighborhoods.

Our first question was, "Do you think 4-H is a good youth organization?" Nearly all of the reactions were yes. Some people we talked to were very enthusiastic about 4-H while others were sort of shy and unfamiliar with the program.

The next question was, "How many children does the family have and are they active in 4-H?" This question was in direct correlation to the first one. The adults who said "Yes, we think that 4-H is just great!" turned out to have one or more children involved in 4-H. The people who were sort of reluctant to answer the first question, but still said yes, turned out to have children too young to be in 4-H or their children did not belong. In many rural homes we visited, the parents were active leaders in the club. However, in

the urban area where children were in 4-H, the adults were not. These city dweller parents did not take an active part in their child's project work.

Another question we asked was if anyone had ever asked the family to join 4-H and, if not, were they interested in finding out more. The families who were active in 4-H must have thought they knew everything about the program; they weren't interested in finding out more. Other families, however, were interested and we gave them our so called 'information packet' which told about club activities and individual projects in 4-H. In a few places, the children were pre-school age and the parents were not too enthusiastic.

When asked how members got started, the general response was that friends had invited the kids to join. Many parents had been former members and thus were eager to start their kids in 4-H. A few families had been active in 4-H in former cities where they had lived, but when they moved, no one had asked them to re-join. In the rural area, many neighbors had been long time members and 4-H was sort of a tradition.

Several people who had once belonged to 4-H had dropped out. "Why?" was our question to them. The responses came as follows: "We're too busy with school, church, and other organizations; the club we belonged to was too large and our children had no chance to participate; I guess we are just too lazy to be in 4-H; we don't always have good transportation; I have no friends that belong to the club; we just don't have enough time."

Many comments we heard came from prominent 4-H leaders. One person felt that 4-H should not be open to 7 year old kids. Because they are too young,

the kids probably have trouble filling out the records unless their parents do a major part of the work. Parental guidance at times like that can damage the child's learning ability if applied too heavily. Also, when these children become older, they have a good chance of becoming bored and uninterested in 4-H because they have already gone through the projects which interested them.

Another leader felt that without older teenagers to serve as club officers and junior leaders, the younger members have no one to set an example for them. Thus, the quality of the organization could go down hill.

Concerning the activities of 4-H, three opinions were that the annual county fair, livestock and home economics exhibits were absolute farces. One person stated, "4-H'ers are competing against adults rather than other 4-H'ers; our fair is just too political."

In making these interviews, the two of us noticed a few constant occurrences. In order to find the houses of families with children, we sought out homes with swing sets, basketball goals, and bicycles sitting about the yard. Usually this tactic proved successful. In many homes, we were greeted by the father. He politely referred us to his wife. The father usually commented, "Let me get my wife; she knows more about it." Thus, this might lead to the conclusion that the family life revolved more around the mother than the father. At each door, we were judged by a different type of person. One woman in particular mentioned that the only reason she let us in her home was because we looked like healthy good looking girls.

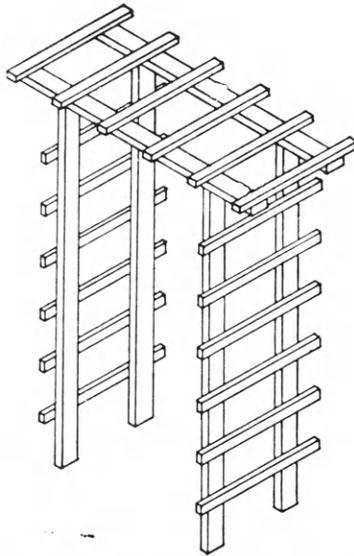
In conclusion, we have arrived at some different answers to the questions we posed. Is 4-H a good youth organization? Yes, the citizens of this urban and rural community believe so. Just as all other organizations are not perfect, neither is 4-H. However, it holds high acclaim in the minds of both youth and adults.

We believe that the only way for our organization to stay modern is to go out and talk with people to get their ideas. We became involved in this project so that we could find out more about 4-H. After all, 4-H is people.

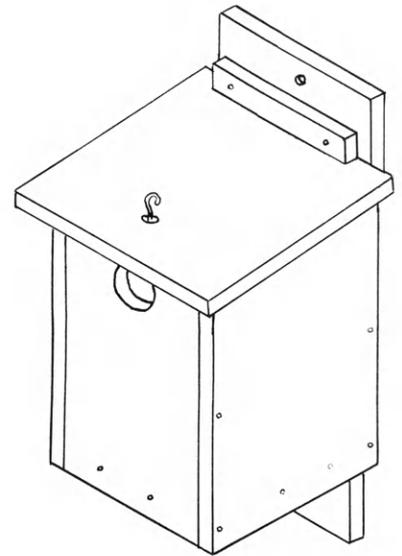
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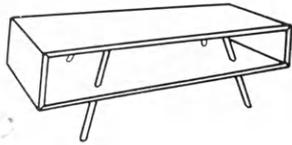
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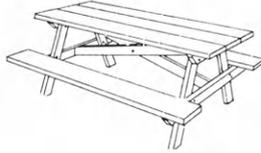
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Manhattan
Ramey Brothers

Coffee Magazine Table



Picnic Table



Tilting Foot Stool

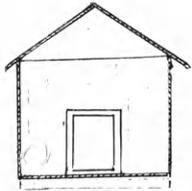


Serving Cart

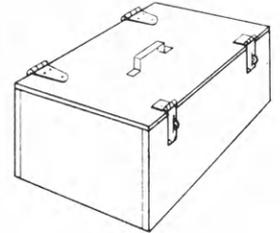


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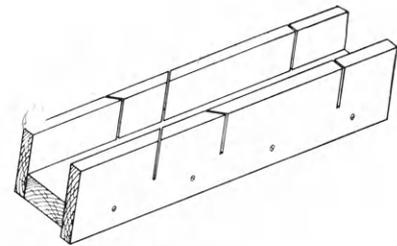
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Cart with Removable Trays	Flower Box	Saddle & Bridle Rack	Wheelbarrow
Chick Feeder	Drawing Board and T-Square	Coat Caddy	Portable Sandbox
Bicycle Rack	End Table	Tool Cabinet	Outdoor Serving Wagon
Insect Display Box	Swiggle Stick	Nativity Creche	Storage Dividers
Dairy Barn Desk	4-H Key Holder	String Art	Sewing Cabinet
Wren House	Auto Repair Cart	Extension Cord Reel	Hot Pad Holder
		Tool Holder	Mitten or Hose Dryer



Dog House



Small Show Box



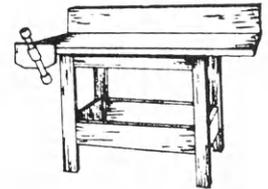
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Extension Dining Table



Martin House



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Notes



By Dr. Margery Neely
Extension Specialist,
4-H Child and Youth Education

The 1973 Kansas 4-H Invitational Conference will be June 4-9 in Manhattan. Those delegates invited by their counties to serve as spokesmen for 4-H will spend the week hammering out recommendations for 4-H programming and receiving training to serve as Ambassadors of public relations during the coming year.

Many 4-H Ambassadors were involved in 4-H in new and wonderful ways this past year. There are no assigned duties.

Don Olson of Riley County wrote from college in Concordia that he has a part-time job working with pre-delinquent children.

Don said, "In relation with this, I am taking a course in sociology, normally offered only to probate judges, law enforcement officials, and social workers. I am, in effect, a junior social worker. I am going to meet twice a week with the group of about 12 children, working closely with the various law enforcement officials in the development and establishment of this program.

"I am going to have them form a 4-H club, and as such, we will have meetings, project meetings, and counseling sessions together.

"I have a selected group of projects they can take to start; as they grow, they will choose others to fit their needs and desires. I have been doing work with 'problem' children since last fall and the projected date for forming this club is March 1, 1973."

Don certainly exemplifies the 1972 Invitational theme, "We Care."

The 1973 Invitational Pre-planning Committee is looking forward to meeting another group of outstanding 4-H'ers like those of 1972.



The horse looks relaxed and so does Rodney Barthel, Manhattan, as he gives a horse-shoeing demonstration at the first annual conference for leaders of the horse project. Also on the program were "Your Horse's Health" by Stan O'Neil, a Salina veterinarian; a report by the Morris County horse judging team; judging taught by Walter Smith, Kansas State University; a session of films; idea swapping; and talks by breed association representatives.

One hundred thirty persons attended the two-day conference at Rock Springs Ranch. Almost 4,000 boys and girls are enrolled in the horse project in Kansas.

National 4-H Conference

Editor's note: What's it like to go to National 4-H Conference? Vernon Waldren, president of Kansas State University Collegiate 4-H Club, was a delegate last year; he shares his impressions with Kansas 4-H Journal readers.

A week of learning, doing, and fun. Hard work but times of laughter and excitement. All this and much more fill the week of a National Conference delegate.

During April delegates from all 50 states, U.S. possessions, and Canada meet in Washington, D.C., to discuss 4-H. This week consists of meetings, speeches, tours, discussions, and unforgettable experiences for the attending delegates. The only thing certain when the delegates arrive is that you are there to discuss 4-H.

The delegates are divided into advisory groups to make suggestions on how the 4-H program can be improved. You spend much of your time meeting, talking, and formulating ideas. The purpose of the conference is to provide counsel in 4-H program development. The concrete ideas

are then distributed for the betterment of 4-H.

Although the advisory groups are the main purpose of the conference, many other activities confront the delegates. Delegates are also assigned to operational committees which plan the operations of the week. The skeleton of the conference is set for the delegates, but we ran the week. The delegates make or break the conference.

The tours and the night life are also a very large part of the learning. By seeing Washington, by talking to people with different life styles, by just messing around you can gain a very deep understanding of people, 4-H, and America. The learning didn't stop with the last meeting in the evening.

All too soon the week ends and it's time to say good-bye; good-bye to people you probably won't ever see again, but whom you've learned to love and respect. The week is ended, but it is the beginning of much more. The work continues at home for the delegates including the Kansas delegates. They will work to improve Kansas 4-H through the Kansas 4-H Invitational Conference. In what manner the work continues is unimportant; but what is important is that the work improve the 4-H program in Kansas, the United States, and the world.

Five to go to national conference

Five Kansas 4-H'ers will be delegates to National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C., April 22-28.

Receiving the trip in recognition of accomplishments in leadership, service, and quality of projects as 4-H'ers are Lynn Carpenter, Stockton; Susan Johnson, Parsons; Claudia Washington, Fairview; William Slater, Mahaska; and William Bradley Jr., Lawrence.

Dr. Glenn M. Busset, state 4-H leader, Kansas State University, announces the honors. The trips are made possible by the Kansas Bankers Association as a part of the Kansas 4-H Foundation awards program.

Headquarters for the annual event is the National 4-H Center. The program emphasizes citizenship and leadership possibilities and responsibilities and features discussions with government leaders and tours of government and historical centers.

Lynn, a KSU freshman, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Carpenter. She is a member of the Rooks County Mt. Pleasant 4-H Club. Lynn plans a career in the medical field.

Home environment, the new name for the home improvement project, has been Lynn's major project. She has worked in almost every room of two houses, was a member of the county home environment judging team at the Kansas State Fair, and gave demonstrations at the Fair and regional 4-H Day. Lynn was state award winner in the project.

Lynn was the first girl in the Stockton High School vocational agricultural class and is proud of her welding skills.

In summarizing what 4-H club

experiences have meant to her, Lynn mentions both the tangible (skills, profits from projects to use for college) and the intangible (confidence, decision making ability, enthusiasm).

Susan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kelley Johnson. She is a freshman at Labette Community Junior College and a member of the Labette County Thrifty Thrivers 4-H Club. Susan hopes to be an elementary school teacher.

Both home economics and livestock projects, along with leadership, health, recreation, and photography are important in Susan's 4-H story. She was a state award winner in meat utilization and received state recognition in recreation and home environment.

The quality of her work is indicated by trips earned to the Kansas 4-H Congress, Home Environment Trip to Kansas City, American Royal 4-H Conference, and Kansas 4-H Youth Round-up.

"4-H is a family affair," Susan emphasizes as she reviews the important place this program has played in her life and the life of her family.

Claudia is a senior at Hiawatha High School. She lives with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Bell, and is a member of the Brown County Fairview Willing Workers 4-H Club. Claudia plans to be a registered nurse and has applied for admittance in a nursing school.

President of her 4-H club this year, Claudia has served as secretary, treasurer, and reporter. She has participated in Kansas 4-H Youth Round-up.

Claudia has been a member of the county council and the coun-

ty Junior Leadership Club, taken part in judging schools and contests, and style revues.

An honor student, Claudia has been active in high school organizations, serving as president of her junior class and the Girls Athletic Association.

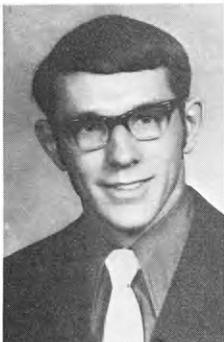
William Slater, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Slater, is a KSU freshman planning a career in agricultural education or business before becoming the fourth generation to operate the family farm. He is a member of the Washington County Mahaska Merry Makers 4-H Club.

William has served as safety and recreation chairman for his club. He has been club president and an active junior leader. Examples of his service are assistant project leader in tractor and field crops for the club and county project leader for the tractor project during the past year.

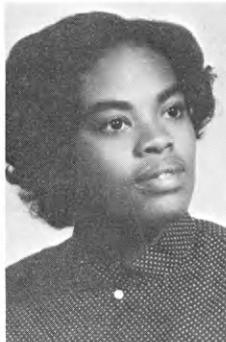
William Bradley Jr. is a Lawrence High School senior. His parents are Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Bradley and William is a member of the Douglas County Meadowlarks 4-H Club.

With plans to be a veterinarian, William has completed four years in the 4-H veterinary science project and was a 1971 national award winner in the project. He participated in the 1971 National 4-H Citizenship Short Course in Washington, D.C.

"I have found a special interest in projects concerned with producing meat to eat — from the producer through marketing. Personal development and citizenship projects have been valuable. I look forward to being a member of a collegiate 4-H club and then being a 4-H leader."



William Slater
Washington County



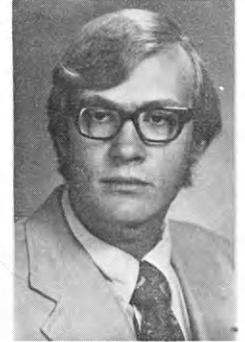
Claudia Washington
Brown County



Lynn Carpenter
Rooks County



Susan Johnson
Labette County



William Bradley Jr.
Douglas County

WE SALUTE ELECTRIC WINNERS



The Investor-owned Electric Companies of Kansas proudly salute the Electric Project winners listed here. These worthy 4-H'ers received Westinghouse Medals for their fine work. If you are not enrolled, join the many 4-H'ers in this project to learn more about electricity and the proper care and use of electrical equipment. Contact your club leader for more information.

State Winner: David Cade, Dickinson County, received a trip to National 4-H Congress in Chicago as Kansas winner of the electric project. Donor of the trip and of a \$700 scholarship is Westinghouse Electric Corporation. David was named as a national winner in the electric project.

Top County-Wide Electric Program — Barton County.

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Miami Richard Massoth Gary Walters	Osborne Richard Streit George Streit Robert Hollerich Joe McChesney	Rice Larry Brownlee David Cesar Jim January	Shawnee Bill Riley Brian Garrett	Washington Rellen Goebel Gary Sinn
Mitchell Mike Jordan* Brian Dillner		Riley Jim Cox* Rick Vilander Roy Duer Alvin King	Sheridan Ron Rietcheck Gerald Rietcheck	Wichita James Bergh* Brad Glanville Kelly Bishop
Montgomery Mark Bohr Michael Mitchell Bill Carrinder Dean Bolejack			Sherman Larry Winter*	Wilson Brad Stephens Danny Apollo Steve Miller
			Smith Steve Kirchhoff Kelly Ayres Kim Stewart	Wyandotte Patrick Shaw Donald Stierly

*Received an educational trip to the Kansas 4-H Congress.



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