

DISCUSSION TOPICS

EXTENSION AGENTS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 1, 1946

FORWARD IN EXTENSION BY EFFECTIVE PROGRAM BUILDING

It is the assumption in selecting discussion topics for this subject that there is a very definite need today for replanning and revaluing the essentials of Extension Work. Following this assumption, these topics are selected for discussion.

Decide whether you agree or disagree with the following topics. We hope you will list at least one reason for each decision. WRITE in the blanks A (agree) or D (disagree).

GROUP I

- ___ 1. Community social relationships, family adjustments and cultural values of life are not within the field of Extension Service.
- ___ 2. If a farmer is badly in need of both a dwelling house and a barn and can afford only one at present, Extension workers should advise building the barn first. (Availability of labor and materials assumed).
- ___ 3. The health program may be left safely and entirely to the public schools and department of health.
- ___ 4. Farm and home management problems are too technical for county Extension workers to handle without the aid of a specialist.
- ___ 5. County Extension workers should assist in developing all desirable rural organization programs and rural leadership training programs.
- ___ 6. Due to constant demands and "firing line" experiences the need for professional reading and study is not great for any or all Extension workers.

GROUP II

- ___ 7. Many family economic and social problems are traceable to a lack of good health on the part of some or all of the members of the household.
- ___ 8. Public health clinics are practical in urban centers but will not be used by rural people.
- ___ 9. School children should be examined annually at public expense by a physician.
- ___ 10. If people ate the right kinds of nutritious foods, there would be little need of an organized health program.

(O V E R)

___11. Since Extension agents are not medically trained, they can aid the health program most by following the leadership of other agencies such as the State Department of Health, the Tuberculosis Association, etc.

GROUP III

___12. West Virginia farm youth, except those who have good prospects of inheriting an economic farm unit, should not be encouraged to stay on the farm.

___13. Since prices are high and materials scarce, families should postpone building or remodeling their house and service buildings until prices are lower and materials are plentiful.

___14. Those farmers directly served by the proposed farm to market roads should pay some part of the cost beyond what is levied on the general taxpayer.

___15. Written and/or verbal reports should be made at regular intervals to county boards of education so that they may be kept in touch with the program.

___16. The 4-H Club Leaders Monthly Report should be made by the leader, not some member of the club, and submitted regularly to headquarters each month. (Note - The most faithful club leader in promoting this project in the state is Mrs. Grace G. Payne, Mannington, W. Va.)

___17. It is better to set aside one period at the close of the month to prepare reports rather than check and record data on field trips and other activities at regular intervals throughout the month.

___18. Reports are intended to help the supervisors and officials determine the amount of work done by agents under their supervision.

GROUP V

___19. The National 4-H Club boys' song is "Plowing."

___20. Seven points which should be thoroughly understood by agents in teaching leaders how to obtain the cooperation of parents in 4-H Club work are outlined in the "Guide for Leaders."

___21. Rural Life Sunday (4-H Club Sunday) occurs the sixth Sunday after Easter and should be conducted only on the day designated.

___22. Four-H Registration Cards may be forwarded to headquarters anytime during the year after club has been organized.

___23. The 4-H Record Book should be kept by the club secretary.

___24. Any boy or girl eligible to join the 4-H Club may be invited to attend a regular 4-H encampment.

GROUP VI

___25. If our Extension programs succeed, it is because they are based on a real need of the people and wish of the people.

___26. Extension work is the highest form of education.

___27. The handling of funds of county, regional and state organizations by Extension agents is to be encouraged.

___28. The parent-teacher association is one of the most cooperative organizations in stimulating worthwhile community activities sponsored wholly or jointly by the Extension Service.

GROUP VII

___29. The home demonstration agent can make her greatest contribution through educational programs in community organizations composed of family memberships.

___30. Planning does not necessarily take into consideration the farm and home as a unit.

___31. Community meetings and county planning committee meetings provide the organization required for planning the program.

___32. There should be a recognition of the fact that program building is a continuing year-round educational process.

GROUP VIII

___33. Surveys show that lack of conveniences and lack of social experiences are two major reasons why youth are leaving the farm.

___34. It is not the policy of officials to include outstanding 4-H Club members and older youth on the planning committee.

___35. The community seems to be the ideal unit for organizing youth.

GROUP IX

___36. The development of responsible volunteer leadership is a major objective of Extension.

___37. It is the duty of the Extension Service to find and train leadership in all our communities to continue with the harmonious development of the many agencies, Federal, State and Local, necessary to develop an adequate Extension Program.

Use other side.

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