

the three months preceding the contest and exhibit two loaves at the fair.

In the garment making class each girl must herself make a garment, exhibit it, and write an essay on garment making.

The canning and preserving contest is connected very closely with the home garden work, and is planned to encourage boys and girls in the canning of vegetables, fruits, meats and so on which are now used in large quantities in the canned form even in rural districts.

In organizing clubs, particular emphasis is placed on gardening and canning, and a very large number have enrolled in both with the idea of helping to provide food for the nation at this time. Without the canning work a large amount of food would be produced only to be lost by reason of there being no facilities for keeping it.

Each contestant in the noxious weed competition is expected to recognize the weeds classed as noxious in the Noxious Weed Act of Manitoba. In this the schools co-operate closely with the Manitoba Weeds Commission and the Weed Inspectors.

Seeds are supplied free in the flower growing contests to those who engage in at least two other contests. It is recommended that in addition to flowers in bloom, local clubs should offer prizes for the foliage or perennial flowers or flowering shrubs suitable for Manitoba culture, because at the time the boys' and girls' club fairs are held most of the flowering blooms have ceased to bloom.

The enrolment at this date, March 17th, is particularly gratifying, the number enrolled in each contest being as follows:—manual training, 1,146; grain growing, 1,072; pig raising, 1,415; colt raising, 310; calf raising, 619; gardening, 4,810; poultry raising, 4,200; bread baking, 1,930; garment making, 2,371; canning and preserving, 1,570; essay writing, 3,420. In general, two, and sometimes three, contests are taken by the one individual.

Short bulletins are being prepared on each contest and mailed out as soon as they are off the press.

### Saskatchewan

By S. E. Greenway, Director, Extension Department, College of Agriculture

In the province of Saskatchewan there is as yet no co-ordinated effort with the sole object of promoting boys' and girls' club work. This work is being carried on more or less systematically by at least three organizations; the agricultural societies, the rural education associations, and by

in January a very lively discussion was devoted to the work and a resolution passed that it be co-ordinated under the management of the director of agricultural extension. The societies plan this year to offer prizes for classes of horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry in which only juveniles will be allowed to compete. These classes will be judged either at the summer fair or at junior fairs held under the aus-



Some Manitoba Girls have done Wonders in Live Stock Exhibits

many of the municipal councils under the direction of the agricultural secretary or local field representative. The justification for the delay in getting the work under one management is to be found in the fact that everybody is already interested in the work, and up to the present time there has been no overlapping. There has been a natural development which it would seem wise to per-

pices of the societies later in the season. Selections will be made from among the prize winners for the boys' camp at the Regina summer exhibition in future years. The camp will be limited this year to 300 boys, who will be under camp discipline and will receive instruction in topics touching the work of the exhibition. The societies are featuring the work of school fairs this year.

The work thus far has been largely the outgrowth of the plan of providing live stock and field husbandry lectures at 50 to 100 seed fairs each winter, and giving the lecturers opportunities of addressing the pupils at the public and high schools.

### Alberta

By E. S. Hopkins, Department of Agriculture

The work which the Alberta Department of Agriculture is undertaking this year with children can scarcely be classified under the heading, "boys' and girls' clubs." It may more accurately be termed home gardening for school children, because it confines itself chiefly to garden work with boys and girls in rural schools. This system possibly more so than the clubs affords an opportunity for very close supervision without which requisite educational work becomes very ineffective. Moreover, it enlarges the possibilities for uniform and permanent enrolment to the schools of agriculture.

Last year the work was started in about 93 schools; this year, while it is yet impossible to estimate the number accurately, it will probably include about 150 schools. The pupils in these schools will be given vegetable field root and flower seed which they will plant in a plot at home. The boys must take potatoes and may take in addition any four of beets, carrots, parsnips, peas, mangels and turnips; the girls must take flowers and may also take in addition a choice of any four of the above-mentioned vegetables. Five sittings of eggs are distributed to the pupils in each school; all the eggs given to all the schools in each district are from one breed of poultry.

As The Agricultural Gazette

goes into the hands of a large number of men employed in professional agriculture, a frank expression of all the facts may promote our mutual welfare. It must be said that the distribution of the eggs was the most unsatisfactory or at least the most unpleasant feature of last year's work. Pupils who were unsuccessful in securing a good hatch,

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Preparing Their Seed Spuds

mit to go on for a while, at least, until the much-disturbed social structure ceases to be at the beck and call of war, and more men are available to carry it on as it should be carried on.

The 120 agricultural societies in the province have been increasingly alive to the need of special work among the boys and girls. At the last annual convention held at the College of Agriculture

and are endeavoring to interest the trustees and pupils in school gardening, calf and pig raising, and the raising of poultry and vegetables. An effort is being made to keep the competitions from covering too much ground at first. There is a possibility that the solution of the boys' and girls' club idea may best be found in this gradual growth, as it exists in this province.