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Industrial Clubs and Contests for Oregon Boys and Girls

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION FOR
CLUB SUPERVISORS AND LEADERS

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

EXTENSION SERVICE

R. D. HETZEL, DIRECTOR

CO-OPERATING WITH

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

J. A. CHURCHILL

1914

The Bulletins of the Oregon Agricultural College are sent free to all residents of
Oregon who request them.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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That the boys and girls in Oregon may become interested in all the industrial activities of their respective localities, the Department of Education urges the teachers, superintendents and parents to give their co-operation in the organization and directing of the Industrial Clubs and Contests.

Such organizations will furnish an opportunity for social meetings, and for entertainments of various kinds, that will be of value to the community.

We believe the plan furnishes an opportunity for strengthening the bonds that unite home and school.

Respectfully submitted,
J. A. CHURCHILL,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.

INTRODUCTION

The organization of junior clubs, as described in this Bulletin, is undertaken with the belief that it will greatly add to the educative effect of the industrial contests, as carried on during the past two years. The plan is to require the boys and girls to give more thought to the **methods** used in producing the highest types of products without destroying the incentive provided by the competitive feature. To insure more attention to methods, the awards will be made on a somewhat different basis. Encouragement will also be given to the manner of procedure by establishing a system of intimate supervision and instruction directed from the offices of the State Superintendent and the Agricultural College. Personal letters and leaflets, containing the best scientific instruction and prepared in simple style, will be sent to all boys and girls interested, at frequent intervals throughout the year. This arrangement is the result of a co-operative agreement between the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Oregon Agricultural College. It embraces the best features of the plans that have been tried by various states, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the work as carried on in this State during the past two years. The success of the work will depend in a large measure upon the assistance given the young people by the officers of the public school organization. We sincerely trust, therefore, that it will meet with the universal approval of superintendents and teachers of the State and that it will immediately enlist their active support.

The Oregon Agricultural College will maintain a State Agent who will make a specialty of this work. The State Superintendent will use the forces at his command to advance the work.

R. D. HETZEL, Director.

Purpose and Procedure

INCLUDING

Suggestions for Club Supervisors and Club Leaders

By F. L. GRIFFIN,
State Agent in Charge Industrial Club Work.

CO-OPERATION AND EFFICIENCY THE MOTIVES IN CLUB WORK.

In the field of education teachers and parents are agreed that it will require a more complete and harmonious co-operation of home and school before either can function fully in the training of boys and girls. Club work offers a satisfactory and permanent means for bringing home and school together.

Parents and school men are appreciating as never before, the fact that a certain amount of organized work, as well as play, is absolutely essential to the complete physical, intellectual, and spiritual development of a child. Furthermore, the world is crying out for efficient men and women in every line of human endeavor; and the public school offers the best medium for cultivating those habits of industry in children that are the basis of adult efficiency.

Practical industrial training by the school, however, will be difficult of realization without the assistance of the home. The Club movement, calling as it does for school study and home practice, provides what is apparently the best method that has yet been devised for properly dividing the responsibility between the home and the town or country school.

SOME THINGS A CLUB CAN DO.

1. Develop a more intensive and profitable system of Agriculture by encouraging the use of scientific and business principles in the rearing of animals, culture of plants, and utilization of plant and animal products.
2. Materialize and render permanent the educational ideals now expressed in the Industrial Fair movement.
3. Offer a medium through which inspiration, information, and vocational direction can be given to the boy and girl in the country.
4. Adapt boys and girls to their environment, and develop within them self-expression and initiative.
5. Create higher ideals of country life by showing that health, wealth, and happiness are the heritage of every country boy and girl.
6. Assist the teacher in the public school to find an easy approach, educationally, to all the interests of country and community life. The

Club activities become the connecting link between home and school, and will assist materially in transforming the school into a real community center.

7. Bring the people, old and young, socially together. The co-operative atmosphere engendered by such meetings awakens in adults higher ideals of life, and develops within boys and girls a realization of their own powers and abilities.

THE CLUB THE UNIT OF ORGANIZATION.

In the Industrial Club and Contest work in Oregon, the school club is made the unit of organization. The boys and girls attending any school, who are within the required age limits, will be encouraged to engage in some kind of agricultural, household, or other phase of industrial work. As the Club work is, primarily, educational rather than economic in its purpose, boys and girls must be allowed to elect those lines of Club work in which they are most interested. For the sake of administration, however, the Club projects undertaken by the students in a given school should be limited in number. Those activities of greatest importance on the farms or in the households of the community are the ones to be emphasized by the school in the Industrial Club work.

CLUB PROJECT STUDY.

The various lines of work in which boys and girls may engage are being outlined and organized into definite projects. Printed information will be sent directly to every Club member to enable him to study and develop his project in a systematic manner. Through the Club organization and the seasonal and timely circulars of information, it is believed that the interest of the members will be sustained throughout the school year, and during the vacation period as well.

THE COUNTY THE UNIT OF SUPERVISION.

The county superintendents of schools will have general supervision of the Club and Contest work in their respective counties. In the event of their being unable to give the Club work the necessary time and attention, they should appoint some capable and interested persons to act as County Club Supervisors. Among the things the County Club Supervisors can do may be mentioned the following:

- (a) Encourage the teacher, or some interested adult in each community to act as leader and advisor of the local Club.
- (b) Have charge of the county school fair, and co-operate with the county agricultural fair authorities in arranging for the juvenile exhibitions and contests at such fairs.
- (c) Assist the Club leaders in every possible manner to promote the best interests of the boys and girls.

(d) Co-operate with business men, farmers, organizations of all kinds, and the public in general, for the purpose of procuring the necessary funds and prizes for the county contest.

(e) Act as custodians of all exhibits and records entered in the county fair contest; have charge of the county exhibits of Club members at the State Fair, and be responsible for the return or disposal of all exhibits placed in their charge by the local Clubs.

(f) Keep the public informed, through the press, regarding the progress of the Club movement in the county.

The Club leader should be either the teacher in the school, or some man or woman in the community, who is interested in the activities of the Club members and who can spare the time necessary to supervise the Club projects. The following are a few of the things a Club leader can do:

(a) Interest boys and girls in some line of industrial work; enroll them as members of a Club; help them perfect their organization; guide the organization in all of its work; visit the Club members in their homes, and in other ways give instruction and offer encouragement to them during the period of the contest.

(b) Have full charge of all local Club contests and fairs; act as custodians of all exhibits and records entered in the local contest, and accompany the Club members, when possible, on their trips to the county, district, or State fairs.

(c) Co-operate with local business men, farmers, and organizations of all kinds in securing funds and prizes for the local contests.

(d) Keep the public informed, through the press, regarding the progress and outcome of the Club work.

STATE SUPERVISION OF CLUB WORK.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, through the State Supervisors of Industrial Clubs, will assist the County School Superintendents and the local Club leaders in every possible way, in organizing and promoting the interests of the Industrial Clubs throughout the State.

The Extension division of the Oregon Agricultural College, through the State Agent for Boys' and Girls' Club Work, co-operating with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, will furnish the necessary instructions and information for carrying on the Club work throughout the State.

A circular of suggestions for Club work, enrollment blanks, Club constitutions, and other material will be placed in the hands of Club leaders to assist them in organizing their Clubs and getting the work started. A series of circulars, covering every phase of the various Club Projects, will be sent to Club leaders and members, at intervals. These circulars will be designed to sustain the interest of the Club members and to enable the supervisors and leaders to utilize the educational possibilities of the movement to the fullest extent.

CLUB PROJECTS.

The Club Projects suggested below will allow the various schools throughout the State to select those lines of work that will be of greatest interest to their students and of greatest importance to the community. Only those projects should be selected in any given school that appeal to at least five students. However, if a pupil in any school desires to undertake some line of work not included among the projects of the local school contest, he may have the opportunity of enrolling for that work with the State Agent.

The following are the Industrial Club Projects for the year 1914:

1. Boys' Corn Growing Contest.
2. Boys' Potato Growing Contest.
3. Girls' Canning Contest.
4. Girls' Cooking and Baking Contest.
5. Boys' and Girls' Poultry Contest.
6. Girls' Sewing Contest.
7. Boys' Pig Feeding Contest.
8. Boys' and Girls' Gardening Contest.
9. Dairy Herd Record and Management Contest.
10. Manual Arts Contest. Construction of useful or model articles of wood or metal.

Other projects may be added to the above, and Club Supervisors are requested to send in desirable topics to the State Agent in charge of Club work.

AGE THE ONLY REQUIREMENT FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP.

Club and Contest work will be limited to boys and girls 10 to 18 years of age, inclusive. In order to overcome the handicap imposed by the difference in ages and training, three classes will be recognized in each club project. Class A will be composed of all boys and girls who will be at least fourteen and not more than nineteen years old on October 1, 1914. Class B will be composed of those who will be between the ages of 10 and 14 on the date mentioned. Members of Class B, however, shall not be barred from competing in Class A. Class C will be composed of those boys and girls who have had five months or more of Manual Training, Domestic Science, or Domestic Art, in any school.

Boys and girls of the ages mentioned, who are not attending school or who are unable to join a Club for any reason, may undertake any of the projects mentioned and be eligible to enter any contest, provided they enroll with the State Agent in Charge of Club Work and compete on the same basis as all other contestants.

The nature and value of the premiums to be offered in the Club work are of great importance. Experience has shown that prizes or special recognition of some sort are very essential for securing best results for Club and Contest work. One of the most discouraging

features of nearly all contests, however, is the disappointment of boys and girls who have done their best and who receive no recognition or commendation for their effort.

A few fundamental principles governing the awarding of prizes to boys and girls for Club and Contest work should be remembered by all who have anything to do with the making up of premium lists.

1. It is better to offer a large number of prizes, though small in value, than to offer only a few, high in value.

2. Premiums should have in themselves, or in their proper use, a continual educational value. This will encourage progressive and permanent Club work.

3. A trip to the county or State Fair, Agricultural College, live stock show, corn show, etc., with all expenses paid, will always mean more to a contestant, educationally, than a cash or merchandise prize.

The Boys' and Girls' Camp and School, which will be made a feature of the Oregon State Fair, will aid very materially in stimulating and sustaining an interest in the Club work and in increasing the educational possibilities of the movement.

It is urged that a juvenile milk-testing, stock, potato, or corn-judging contest be made a feature of every county fair.

In conformity with the principles enumerated, it is suggested that the premium lists in all contests, wherever possible, include the following:

In Local Contests.

(a) Passing credit in agriculture to the extent of 50% to all Eighth Grade students who do satisfactory work in any local Club contest. The teacher concerned, as well as the local Club leader, must certify to the character of the work done.

(b) A trip to the county fair with all expenses paid, for the first prize winners in any local contest.

(c) A trip to the Oregon Agricultural College, all expenses paid, as a special prize in any Club project.

(d) Prizes provided by the local school fair authorities.

In County Contests.

(a) The premiums offered by the county fair authorities.

(b) A trip to the Oregon State Fair with all expenses paid, this trip to include membership in the Boys' State Fair Camp and School.

NOTE.—The State Fair Board is co-operating with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Extension Division of the Oregon Agricultural College in establishing a Boys' Camp and School at the Oregon State Fair.

County Superintendents of Schools in co-operation with the county fair authorities are urged to make provision in their premium lists for sending the boy scoring the highest number of points in each of the two projects of greatest importance in their respective counties, to the State Fair Encampment, traveling expenses paid.

The State Fair Board will provide the meals, tents and cots, each boy being required to bring with him the necessary bedding and toilet articles.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction will appoint capable people to act as supervisors and the boys will be under the immediate supervision of

these people from the time they arrive at the Fair Grounds until they board the train for their homes.

The Extension Division of the Oregon Agricultural College will provide the instructors necessary to conduct the special school or short course, and will arrange the daily schedule of exercises, lectures and trips.

(c) A scholarship in the Short Course of the Oregon Agricultural College, all expenses paid. (In at least one county, plans are being made for awarding this scholarship as a special prize to the winner in certain Club projects). A special prize of this nature should not be given to any boy who has also been awarded the trip to the State Fair.

NOTE.—If the county agricultural fair should not be held prior to the Oregon State Fair, the county school authorities should hold a preliminary county contest for the purpose of selecting and sending the two Club Project winners, together with all of the prize-winning exhibits, to the State Fair at Salem.

All local Club exhibits not winning a place in the county contest should be sent to the Oregon State Fair so that a friendly contest may be held to determine which county has the best general display of Boys' and Girls' Industrial Club work.

It is hoped that special funds will be provided by the county and State Fair authorities so that the people in charge of the various county Club exhibits may be sent to the State Fair to supervise the installation, packing and return of the exhibits. Those in charge of the county Industrial Club exhibits at the State Fair should not be required to pay for the installation, supervision and return of the exhibits out of their personal funds.

In the State Fair Contest.

(a) The premiums offered by the State Fair authorities.

(b) A trip to the **Panama-Pacific International Exposition** at San Francisco, California, during the Summer of 1915, with all expenses paid, to Club project winners.

NOTE.—Funds have been provided by prominent business men and commercial organizations in the State for sending the boy or the girl scoring the greatest number of points in each of the ten Club Projects to the Panama-Pacific Exposition. The competition for these capital prizes is open only to those who are regularly enrolled for an approved Club Project and who do their best to comply with all of the requirements of the contest.

These trips will include all of the expenses incident to a week of sight-seeing and entertainment at the P.-P. I. E. The Club members making this trip will be properly chaperoned and every attention will be given to their welfare.

(c) Special prizes which may be offered by individuals or organizations.

Function of the Local Contest. No contest serves its highest purpose unless it is first local. Hence, the school district is made the geographical unit in the Club movement. From the community, the work is carried to the county or district and from there to the State Fair. The movement thus creates a wave of increasing interest and enthusiasm in the work and all the time the actual workers in the local Clubs remain conspicuous.

Importance of Club Leaders. The Club leader is the keystone of the Club organization. Every Club must have a good leader if it aspires to do effective work. The leader should be a man or woman who understands and likes boys and girls, and who can be with them in all their

meetings, or who can provide some competent substitute. That Club will be successful which has a leader, young in heart, full of enthusiasm, and well acquainted with boys and girls, their natures and ideals.

Club leaders should enlist the cooperation of some recognized adult organization. The Grange, Parent-Teacher Association, or School Improvement Leagues, are suggested. The permanence and growth of Club activities will depend largely upon the continued interest of some individual or organization.

Parents' Co-operation Essential. Upon the assistance the parents give the teacher or Club leader, depends to a great degree the educational value of the Club Project. As the practical features of Club work are to be carried on at home, or away from school, and will extend through the vacation period, the amount of interest and effort expended by the Club members upon their projects will be measured largely by the interest and encouragement the parents put into the work.

The Educational Value of the Home Project. It will require study, labor, and perseverance to carry out successfully any Club Project. While one of the motives of the Club movement is to interest boys and girls in agriculture and home economics, the fact remains that the movement is based upon a fundamental tenet of educational philosophy, **the learning to do through doing the things in which one is most interested.** Culture depends as much upon hand education as upon mind training, but the two should go together. Club work approximates the prevailing educational ideal, **theory, practice, and play shall make up the school day.**

Shooting to Hit. Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the fact that the Industrial Club movement as now organized is a definite effort on the part of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Oregon Agricultural College, and the United States Department of Agriculture, to place elementary industrial education on a sound and permanent basis in our public school system. Club leaders may undertake their duties with the assurance that they will have the hearty co-operation of the agencies mentioned, as well as the support of every other educational institution in the State.

Club Methods Approved. The methods employed in the Industrial Club work in Oregon are based upon those approved by the Department of Agriculture, whose agents, during the past half-dozen years, have organized thousands of Clubs in many different states. Many changes, however, will undoubtedly be necessary before the Project outlines and Club organizations are perfectly adapted to meet the needs of our boys and girls. As the work progresses, Club supervisors and Club leaders are urged to make note of any desirable change, and to inform the State Agent regarding the same.

Organizing the Clubs. Plan a meeting of the boys and girls of a neighborhood some afternoon or evening at the school house. If pos-

sible, have a short program so arranged as to arouse interest in the movement. Explain the aims and objects of the Industrial Club and Contest work, and encourage a discussion of the relative importance of the various Club Projects in that community. When interest is fully aroused, suggest the formation of a permanent organization, and explain its benefits. Help the Club members to elect officers and choose a leader and adopt a constitution. When encouraging the boys and girls to join the organization, place emphasis upon the requirements of the Club work. The mere enrollment of a name without results has no value to the Club movement.

Club Meetings. The Club meeting is a most desirable feature of the Industrial Club movement. Through the Club meeting, the Club leader can furnish instruction, stimulate interest and engender enthusiasm for the work. The various Club projects engaged in by Club members should all receive equally prominent attention. The various Club Project circulars should be discussed and the members should be required to make reports, orally, regarding the progress of their work. The interchange of ideas and experiences will do much to broaden the viewpoints of the boys and girls. The social opportunities afforded by the Club meeting should be fully utilized.

That Notebook. Keep a memorandum book of interesting observations, illustrations and anecdotes with reference to the boys' and girls' Club work as you travel over your districts.