

corn is a variety originated in western Kansas. It has proved to be the best variety for the larger part of the corn-growing district. The farmers in Marshall County hesitated to make a change. The corn-club program was sponsored by bankers and elevator companies. These organizations furnished 350 club members with seed corn. It required only two years of club demonstrations to convince the farmers of the county that no other corn compared with Pride of Saline.

The county agent in Graves County, Ky., induced William Rhodes, a club member, to lime a half acre of land and use a sack of 16 per cent superphosphate (acid phosphate) in making a demonstration in the growing of tobacco, with the idea of following this crop with sweet clover or alfalfa. The boy was the first individual in that part of Graves County to use superphosphate and lime in growing tobacco. The result of his demonstration was that he had a yield on his half acre of 825 pounds. On the check half acre adjoining William's there was no treatment and no particular care given to the crop. The yield was approximately half that William obtained on his half acre. He received 15 cents per pound for his entire crop. The average price received for the crop on the check half acre was 4.2 cents. As the result of this demonstration many of the farmers in the community are fertilizing their tobacco, planting less, and taking better care of it.

Equally as good work has been done by club members in livestock. Wherever clubs have been organized great changes have been made in the feeding, breeding, and management of pigs, sheep, cattle, and poultry.

#### Girls' Work in Home Activities

The greater portion of the activities of girls has been within the home rather than with farm crops, and the influence of these activities can not be so easily traced. Their work makes for health and happiness on the farm. Thousands of homes, because of club work, have a full supply of canned vegetables and fruit for winter use. The burdens on the tired shoulders of the mother have been lightened by the partnership of her daughter in the performance of household duties. The daughter has taken over a large portion of the baking and sewing of the household. Club work has led the way in beautification of homes, the installation of modern conveniences, and the feeding of a balanced diet to the family.

Club work has been a potent influence in the improvement of agriculture and home making throughout the United States, and, as the examples given indicate, club members have made a large contribution to improved crop production.

I. W. HILL.

#### BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H Club Members Attend First National Camp

"It has been the most eventful week of my life. It will continue to be an inspiration to me as long as I live.

I go home with a new idea of the service that the Government performs for the people." Thus spoke Ruth Davis, a club delegate from Nebraska, on the last evening of the first national 4-H club camp held in Washington, D. C., June 16 to 23, 1927. The camp was attended by 142 4-H club members, rep-

representing 38 States, 68 State and county club agents, and by representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture. (Fig. 37.)

Delegates to the camp were the outstanding leaders among the 600,000 members of 4-H clubs. Fifty thousand of these clubs are organized in the 48 States under the direction of the cooperative extension service with an adult local leader in charge of each group. They have pledged themselves to demonstrate improved practices



FIG. 37.—Flag raising at the national 4-H club camp on the grounds of the Department of Agriculture

on the farm and in the home through an enterprise such as the growing of an acre of cotton, the feeding of a pig, the canning of the family food supply, or the improvement of the farm home. The clubs meet regularly under the direction of their local leaders. They learn parliamentary procedure. They learn to work together, to play together, and to have a fuller appreciation of the country and the opportunities it offers to make a life while earning a living.

### Object of the Camp

The object of the national 4-H club camp was to bring together the most outstanding of these club members and to give them an opportunity to interchange ideas that they might give the young people in their communities more effective leadership. The program was designed to develop leadership, recreation, and citizenship. A meeting was held each afternoon in the auditorium of the National Museum, at which some instruction was given in such matters as recreation, use of illustrative material, how to make a talk, and the philosophy of play. Most of the assembly period was devoted to discussions by the club members themselves. For convenience six discussion groups were formed, each having an adult State leader as adviser. A chairman and a secretary were selected.

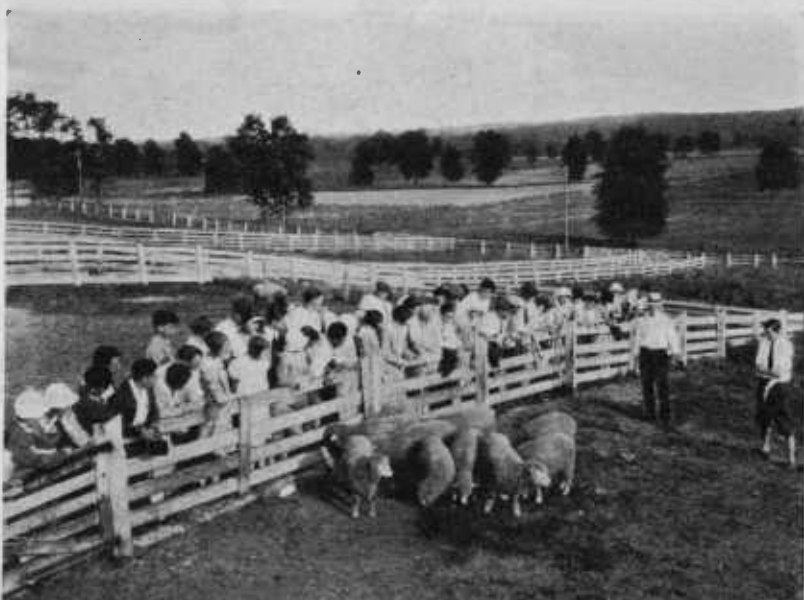


FIG. 38.—Delegates to the national 4-H club camp studying sheep at the experimental farm at Beltsville, Md.

The conference worked rapidly. Little time was allowed for formal papers and speeches. A statement of the objectives of 4-H club work was formulated. A standard pledge was selected and the motto approved. Committees on club standardization, uniforms, songs, pins, emblems, and medals were appointed and requested to report at the 1928 conference. The delegates were intensely interested in the work of the Department of Agriculture. (Fig. 37.) The Secretary of Agriculture, W. M. Jardine, visited the camp and presented each boy and girl with a gavel, the head of which was made from wood taken from the White House when it was remodeled in 1927 and the handle from a hickory log from the grounds of Mount Vernon. The Secretary welcomed the boys and girls to Washington and spoke of the work of the 4-H clubs.

Recreation, tours (figs. 38 and 39), inspirational lectures, citizenship, all found a place during the week of the camp. The meetings of leaders and club members brought about an interchange of ideas



FIG. 39.—Two representatives of the national 4-H club camp placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery

that manifests itself in better club work and more efficient leadership. Their contacts in Washington sent the young people home with a feeling that the Government was their Government, administered by men and women with a sympathetic understanding of the conditions and problems of farm life.

GEORGE E. FARRELL.

**B**ROOMCORN Marketing Under U. S. Standards Has Many Advantages

During the early period of broomcorn marketing in this country Federal inspection for broomcorn was not so essential as it now is. Buyers then could visit near-by producing territory at little or no expense, could personally examine and select the broomcorn they wanted, and pay for their purchase. These simple marketing methods served for the distribution of the crop. Since then, however, production has gradually shifted westward from the eastern sections of New York and adjoining States. First it shifted to Ohio and Illinois and then to the new and cheaper lands in Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas, western Kansas, and eastern New Mexico. In the process, producers and consumers of broomcorn have become widely separated, so that new marketing problems have constantly arisen which former marketing methods do not meet.

Extensive investigations by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics pointed to standardized descriptions for broomcorn and their application through a Federal inspection service as a solution to many of these marketing problems. Accordingly, United States standards for broomcorn were formulated and recently were put into effect. They offer advantages in the distribution of broomcorn not heretofore possible under the use of descriptive terms.