

# 4-H Projects Varied

There are 598 boys and girls in Cass Co. enrolled in 4-H club work. These 4-H'ers enrolled in 1265 projects. The breakdown by projects is as follows: Corn—9, Grain Sor-

ghum—6, Sp. Small Gr.—1, Winter Wheat—5, Other Crops—3, Garden—22, Soil Cons.—19, Forestry—23, Bird—10, Wildlife Cons.—25, Poultry—26, Dairy—37, Beef—94, Sheep—17, Swine—53, Light Horse—37, Rabbit—1, Entomology—6, Tractor—31, Electrification—20, Woodworking—17, Rope—6, Yard Beaut.—10, Foods—325, Health—4, Safety—59, Baby Sitting—21, Money Management—1, Clothing—203, Home Living—134, Jr. Leadership—45, Photography—2.

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### 4-H'ers Participate In Farm-City Week

George Pool and Mary Kay Hendrix represented Cass Co. in the Farm - City Week Exchange. The exchange was sponsored by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, George, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pool of Elmwood and Mary Kay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hendrix of Plattsmouth spent a weekend in Omaha homes.

They, with their parents, were entertained at a get acquainted party, sponsored by the Omaha Chamber. After the weekend visit in Omaha they returned to their homes with their host families, where the host families were entertained at the farm homes.

The purpose of the exchange is to create a better understanding between city and rural people. This is a worthy project which should be practiced every week of the year by everyone who has an opportunity.

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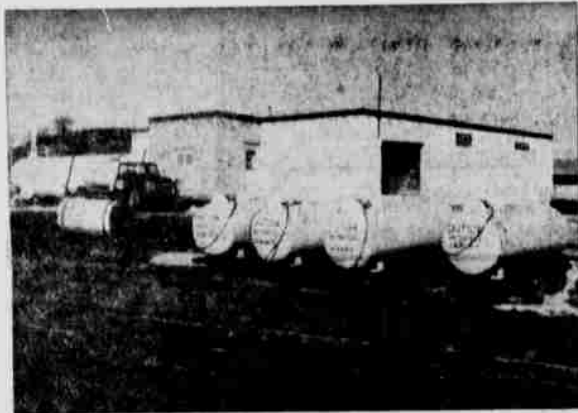


TOP STATE STOCKMAN—Harry Knabe, right, of Nehawka was honored April 20 as an Outstanding State Stockman by the University of Nebraska Block and Bridle Club. With John Knabe, he looks over some of the reasons the Knabes are known in the Hampshire world. The gilt was the top seller at the Nebraska State Sale, bringing \$350. She farrowed 10 pigs and saved 10, although only nine are shown in the picture. —(College of Agriculture Photo).

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IN PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

## Forests Have Great Potential in State

By Daniel E. Lutz, Assistant Extension Editor, University of Nebraska

"People in Nebraska love trees, but think of them as individuals. They find it difficult to grasp the concept of trees growing in forests or groves. They appreciate trees in windbreaks—and to lean their eyes up against to break the monotony of the flat plains."

In fact, emphasizes Harry Gaylor, "the overriding function

of forests in Nebraska must be in relation to watersheds in preservation of soil and water resources through reduction of erosion."

Gaylor, who is forest supervisor of Nebraska National Forests, U. S. Forest Service, and headquarters in Lincoln, outlined some of his views and suggestions, regarding the rejuvenation and explanation of timber resources in Nebraska.

While forest areas do provide

the best cover possible to slow runoff waters and prevent floods, other benefits can be gained through a sound management and utilization of existing woodlands and a vigorous re-forestation program, Gaylor emphasized.

If Nebraskans would adopt the "multiple use" concept regarding groves of trees and develop their full potential within the dictates of climatic and soil conditions which exist here, many more dollars ultimately would be added to the state's coffers, the official declared.

Nebraska is receiving only a fraction of the dividends which could be realized from its million acres of forest stands. Gaylor defined forested area as land capable of producing wood products which is principally covered with trees. Ninety per cent of the forested area in the state is made up of similar irregular acreages of volunteer trees growing on the banks of creeks and water courses and in lowlands. Much of this timber "has no management at all," Gaylor pointed out.

Too many of the timber concentrations are made up of "junk" species and "weed trees" such as willows, he explained. Nebraska farmers and landowners need to treat trees as a crop and convert existing stands to species that make a product or products now in demand by the consumer, he advised. "Awareness must be developed that trees, in order to thrive and pay off economically, must be weeded, tended and fertilized like any other crop. Grading, handling and storing practices must be improved to maintain the quality of products derived from Nebraska trees, which are as good as those grown anywhere," Gaylor stated.

He listed these possibilities of increasing the value of Nebraska forests to the state: —Develop various species for production of plywood, particle board, wood chips for bedding and mulching.

—Use oak lumber for heading for barrels, paneling and flooring, short pieces can be used in this manner.

—"Black walnuts could be a gold mine." There is a market for as many walnut meats as are available. Kansas harvested a \$3 million crop the past year. A cracking plant is needed in Nebraska. The eastern tier of counties along the Missouri River has the right conditions for fast-growing, good yielding, high quality walnuts and walnut tree lumber.

—"There is no reason why the state can't grow its own Christmas trees, although good land must be used for this type of tree production. Trees grown for other purposes listed can be grown on steep, rough land undesirable for most row crops."

—"There is a steady demand for posts for agricultural purposes, but few have taken the initiative to set up an operation for obtaining post trees from existing stands. Hundreds of thousands of posts are available now by thin-

## 4-H Tractor Projects Popular in Cass County

A total of 31 Cass County boys enrolled in 4-H tractor projects in 1961. Thirty-one boys completed their project satisfactorily. This is an achievement to have a 100% completion. The 3 clubs under the direction of LeLand Meisinger and Lyle Sparks of Plattsmouth and Donald Fredenburg of Elmwood also added additional prestige to the County program.

The lowly but prolific cottonwood can produce pulp, which is in demand. In Canada, mills "do a beautiful job" in turning out plywood from properly cured cottonwood lumber. Its lumber is valuable for many interior uses.

The return from trees might not be considered spectacular when only one purpose is considered, Gaylor analyzed. However when all benefits are considered, their value becomes almost incalculable.

"Over the long pull, I believe forestry will return \$30 per acre. This is only the economic return from sale of products, and doesn't include other benefits such as improved recreation, wildlife habitat and watershed protection.

David Kraeger, Co. champion Tractor driver at the Co. Fair placed 2nd in the State Contest. Bob Engekemier won the Club Congress trip for Tractor Achievement and Cass Co. 4-H tractor club members again were asked to drive the new tractors, which had recently been tested by the Testing Laboratory, in the parade held during State Tractor & Safety day.

David is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Kraeger of Plattsmouth

Robert Frost, poet: "The world is full of willing people; some willing to work, the rest willing to let them."

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