

Cooperative Extension Centennial Celebration
Your Trusted Partner...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

As Cooperative Extension marks 100 years of working for Wisconsin, the following is an excerpt from Cooperative Extension in Grant County – The First Forty Years by Wilfred Pierick, written in 1963.

Livestock Board

That the promotion of better livestock was of prime importance to the livestock interests of Grant county was shown by the fact that Grant county had a County Shorthorn Breeders Association, Angus Breeders Association, Guernsey Breeders Association, Jersey Breeders Association, Holstein Breeders Association, Poland China Breeders Association, Duroc Jersey Breeders Association, Chester White Breeders Association, Percheron Horse Breeders Association, three Poultry Associations and a County Beekeepers Association, by 1919.

On April 26, 1919, officers and other representatives of the various breed associations of the county, together with representatives of the unorganized breeds of livestock, met at the courthouse in Lancaster and organized the Grant County Livestock Board. This Board planned to aid in promoting the interests of the various breeds of livestock in the county.

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRANT COUNTY LIVESTOCK BOARD

President--F. A. Morehouse, Lancaster

Vice-president--Jay Morse, Mt. Hope

Secy.-Treas.--George W. Davies, Lancaster

The following officers of each organized County Breed Association and one representative of each unorganized breed constituted the Grant County Livestock Board in 1919:

PERCHERON--May Brothers, Bagley, representatives

SHORTHORN--President--William McCormick, Lancaster

Secretary--L. D. Eastman, Lancaster

ANGUS--President--Art McKeivitt, Bloomington

Secretary--Walter J. Steinhoff, Platteville

HEREFORD--L. M. Scott, Bagley, representative

GUERNSEY--President--Charles Wilkins, Platteville

Secretary--F. J. Glanville, Lancaster

HOLSTEIN--President--Jay Morse, Mt. Hope

Secretary--Frank Horton, Fennimore

JERSEY--President--Ralph Ketterer, Werley

Secretary--Theodore Wehrle, Fennimore

POLAND CHINA--President--L. D. Eastman, Lancaster

Secretary--Rollo Rech, Lancaster

DUROC JERSEY--President--Art McKeivitt, Bloomington

Secretary--W.C. Edge, Fennimore

CHESTER WHITE--Harry Rice, Boscobel, representative

OXFORD--George Knapp, Lancaster, representative

POULTRY--President--Ralph Irwin, Lancaster

Secretary--Roy Wolford, Lancaster

Sale of Livestock

The county agent (G. Davies, from 2/1919 to 9/1920) spent whatever time was necessary in arranging for the sale and purchase of purebred livestock by farmers in the county and also in assisting buyers from outside the county in the purchase of purebred or high grade cattle within the county.

On one occasion, a farmer near Boscobel wished to dispose of all his grade Holstein cows and heifers and purchase additional purebreds to complete his herd. A farmer at Cassville with a purebred herd wished to sell his entire herd because of the sale of the farm. A farmer near Lancaster who had become interested in better dairying wished to purchase a herd of grade Holstein cattle to replace the animals of "uncertain dairy tendencies" which he had been using for years. The information as related became known to the county agent who made arrangements whereby the farmer near Boscobel sold his entire herd to the farmer near Lancaster and also bought the purebred herd from the farmer at Cassville.

Davies cited the above as a typical example of the many opportunities that were given to farmers of the county by the county agent's office in the sale and purchase of livestock.