

The big project during the past year has been the Building project. In the early spring, a finance drive was organized with a goal of \$65,000. It was hoped that \$25,000 would come from the farmers, homemakers, and 4-H families and \$40,000 from allied industries. Contributions and pledges totaling slightly over \$30,000 have been received to date. This has come from farmers, homemakers and 4-H families, with the \$58,000 from the New London County Government and 8 acres of land from the State of Connecticut. We have reached about 80 per cent of our goal. We still need about \$35,000 to complete the building which will cost \$115,700 plus architect fees and development fees for a total of about \$125,000.00. It is hoped that this additional money will come from the special gifts committee.

A building committee consisting of representatives from agriculture, homemaking, 4-H, Soil Conservation Service and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee were appointed. An architect was hired and plans for a new building were made. Bids were received from a number of contractors and all of them were over the amount allotted by the Executive Committee. The plans were then revised and new bids were accepted and a contractor was accepted.

Construction on the new building was started in September and continued until mid November when operations were suspended because of weather.

IV. Cooperation With Other Agencies

The office facilities in the Post Office Building are shared with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Many people believe that we are one and the same, but the fact is that both of these agencies are strictly Federal agencies.

We work together closely. W. Stanley Hale is secretary of the County Committee of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation service and, as such, serves as liason between the Extension Service and the A.S.C. program.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service is operated through the Soil Conservation District with a Board of Supervisors. Russell E. Hibbard meets with this board and serves to coordinate the educational program of the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service.

The Farmers Home Administration serves a number of farmers in the county through its loan program. Both of the county agents assist in the establishment of loans and the supervision of loans after they have been made.

The Connecticut State Department of Agriculture affects all farmers through their regulatory program. The county agents assist in the educational phases of all these programs by keeping farmers informed. One of the foremost has been the announcement that New London County is classified as brucellosis free. Three counties in Connecticut have been so classified. The state of New Hampshire is the first state in the United States classified as brucellosis free and the three eastern counties of Connecticut are the second areas so classified. Russell Hibbard has done a lot of work in getting farmers to cooperate on this program. Changes in Poultry Sanitation laws have been presented to poultrymen for their consideration. We also cooperate with the Connecticut Market Bulletin on prices of eggs. Egg prices are published three times a week, and on the day of the change the state office calls our office and gives us the change in egg prices. These changes in price may have a time differential of up to 24 hours between the time when prices are posted and when the market bulletin is received by mail. Because of this time lag, people appreciate being able to call our office and we do receive about fifty calls per week.