



A Kansas Community Development NEWSLETTER



Number 8

May 31, 1972



Speakers at the Newton Regional PRIDE meeting on April 6 were: (left to right) Jerry Peterson, Manager, Kansas Beef Industries at Potwin, Circle E Ranch Division; Dick Chamberlain, Manager of Newton Chamber of Commerce; Harold Wiebe, Cashier, First National Bank, Hillsboro; and Judd Durner, Cashier, Burrton State Bank.

MORE THAN 400 PEOPLE ATTEND REGIONAL PRIDE MEETINGS

Four hundred and twenty-five persons from 84 communities attended six regional PRIDE meetings in March and April. Meeting sites were at Smith Center, Wamego, Newton, Chanute, Great Bend and Syracuse. The largest gathering was at Newton where 200 ate dinner and heard accomplishments from four communities. Seventeen local PRIDE representatives gave reports on their community programs.

Three county extension agents, Darold Marlow of Alma, Catherine Scott of Phillipsburg, and Virgil Carlson of Ellsworth gave talks.

A panel discussion was conducted at each regional meeting. Members of the panels in addition to local PRIDE committee officers were: Noble Drake, Director of Retail and Services Division, Kansas Association of Commerce and Industry; Byron Wood, Assistant Director, Kansas Department of

Economic Development; Dr. Donald Erickson, Extension Economist, Community Development, Kansas State University; and Les Frazier, Extension Economist, Community Development, Kansas State University. Kenneth Lunt, Community Development Consultant, Kansas Gas and Electric Company, presided at the meetings at Newton and Chanute. Dr. Oscar Norby, Area Extension Director, led the panel discussion at Smith Center.

More Regional PRIDE meetings will be held across the state in November.

PRIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Ellsworth

(Jack Lacy Jr., Coordinator) Thirty-seven community leaders met to hear results of a community survey, establish priority on projects, and elect officers of a community club presidents council.

Wamego

(Mrs. Leo Tauer, Chairman) A community

survey was completed. A priorities committee suggested 39 community improvement projects. A public meeting was held and ten reports were made by task force chairmen.



Noble Drake, Director of Retail and Services Division, Kansas Association of Commerce and Industry.

WHY INSTITUTE A PROGRAM OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

by Noble Drake

Each of us should ask ourselves the question "Why institute a program of community development such as the PRIDE Program?"

There are many evidences of need for more effective action to solve community problems. A spectacular rate of economic growth has widened, rather than closed, the gap between our "worst" and "best" community areas and individual living standards. A technological explosion is solving problems of outer space and developing more sophisti-

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cated tools of production, but it is not meeting the needs of our under educated, nor the needs of the large urban areas or the smaller rural areas.

Our communities, large and small, must find the men and women who are motivated to a greater public awareness of problems and a search for the solutions to those problems.

Within and without the business community is the know how, background experience and acumen in problem analysis and decision making functions needed to carry on the leadership roles of community development.

Pressures are growing within our society to alleviate community problems. A detailed local overall program of review and action such as that featured in the PRIDE program can be a solid starting point in the development of needed solutions.

To succeed, community development requires broad citizen participation; the community's business and professional leadership and that of other community elements has a key role in this process.

KANSAS PRIDE COMMITTEE

- Chairman - Joe S. Clark, Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway.
- Vice-Chairman - Robert A. Bohannon, Cooperative Extension Service, K.S.U.
- Vice-Chairman - Jack Lacy, Kansas Department of Economic Development.
- Treasurer - Lou Atherton, Kansas City Power and Light.

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