

James Clouse

ADULT

EVENING

CLASSES

IN VOCATIONAL

AGRICULTURE

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

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ADULT EVENING CLASSES
IN
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Adult Education implies something
more subtle than the dispensing of
facts . . . it implies the awakening
of latencies in human personality.

Wilkinson

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FOREWORD

Rural America has always been a stable source of spiritual, mental, moral, and physical energy to the entire nation. The teacher of vocational agriculture, through well-organized efforts, can aid in the perpetuation of a wholesome and capable rural people. Adult evening classes in vocational agriculture represent one phase of the field of organized instruction for which the teacher of vocational agriculture is responsible. It is believed that individuals who are being trained in such classes will be better able to assist in the further development of a sound national, state, and community economy and social order.

The purpose of this bulletin is to help teachers in organizing and teaching adult evening classes in vocational agriculture. It deals almost exclusively with procedures, although the author recognizes that the selection of content is also a major problem with teachers of evening classes. It is believed, however, that because of the varying interests and needs of farmers in different communities the selection of teaching problems must be adjusted to each community and to each group taught. Procedures for doing this are outlined in the bulletin. For the most part, the lack of space prohibits including sample materials indicating content types.

A considerable part of the bulletin is the result of mutual development by graduate students at Purdue University and the author over a period of several summers in a graduate course dealing with adult evening classes in vocational agriculture. The students enrolled in this course were experienced teachers of vocational agriculture, many of whom had taught evening classes. It is the belief of the author of the bulletin that, because of his special opportunity to teach these groups of experienced men in this course, the content has been more carefully evaluated and kept more practical than might otherwise have been true. In fact, many of the suggestions that are found in the bulletin have been used successfully with evening classes in Indiana.

No claim is made, however, that the bulletin represents a complete or final treatment of the problems involved in organizing and teaching adult evening classes in vocational agriculture.

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