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INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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IN DISTRICT CHAMBERS MARCH 10 — — —

Court "Hearing" Set For Public For Iowa Rural Address System

A county-wide public "information hearing" on the need for the Iowa Standard Rural Address System for Hardin County will be held March 10, 7:30 p.m., in the District Courtroom in the Courthouse at Elora.

"The purpose of the informal hearing is to bring together people in Hardin County who will be interested in learning about the Standard Rural Address System," according to Jim Goode, county extension director. "This is a system of numbering every rural address in Hardin County that is not now assigned a street address. It would mark the location of each farmstead, rural non-farm home, and individual homes in housing developments in rural areas."

Rural leaders, farm organization people, town and city businessmen, industry and professional people, city and town officials, fire departments, insurance agents, and any alert citizen will likely be interested in learning about the Standard Rural Address System, according to Goode. Anyone will be welcome to come, hear, and to express his views as to the county's need for a dependable system for locating the residence of any family in rural Hardin County.

FOR EMERGENCIES

The address system was developed by Fire Service Extension of Iowa State University in cooperation with several county firemen's associations in Iowa. The present Hardin County Firemen's Association feels the need for a uniform means of assigning rural addresses so fire departments and other emergency personnel (law officials, emergency squads, ambulance drivers, doctors, etc.) can quickly locate addresses outside their immediate territory.

Several Iowa counties, Hamilton County for one example, presently use this Standard

Rural Address System. With the change over to dial telephones and the elimination of local telephone operators, location of a given rural address in a hurry is even more difficult.

Others who find the address system useful are veterinarians, friends and relatives of rural residents, local representatives of business firms providing delivery and maintenance services to rural farms and homes and local public agency personnel.

The uniform rural address system easily locates two or more rural occupants of the same name in the same area. Fire or law officer alarms are usually transmitted under less than ideal conditions, and under the Standard Address System the location is certain.

SIMPLE

The Standard Rural Address System is simple. Anyone familiar with it should be able to drive directly to a designated location without a map. Location numbers are put up in front of each farm. They show up well at night and are located in the same manner at each farm or rural home.

The system is dependable. It will work across county lines, such as between Hardin and Hamilton, or at county "four-corners" such as Hardin, Franklin, Webster and Hamilton without confusion.

The method of marking farmsteads will also locate county roads easily, without road intersection signs, which are hard to maintain. It easily locates farms on crooked roads, deadend lanes, and homes in fully built-up areas not assigned street numbers.

The meeting is sponsored by the Hardin County Technical Action Panel (USDA Panel (USDA agency personnel serving Hardin County) and the Hardin County Firemen's Association.