

# VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE  
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

PRINCE GEORGE

COUNTY

1950

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Agent \_\_\_\_\_

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
I. COVER AND TITLE.....	
II. TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	
III. SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1950.....	1
1. ADULT.....	1, 2, 3,
2. 4-H CLUB.....	3, 4
IV. ADULT.....	5
A. Project work.....	5, 6
1. House Furnishing.....	5, 6
2. Housing.....	6, 7
3. Home Management.....	7, 8
4. Yard Improvement.....	8
5. Clothing.....	8, 9
6. Foods.....	9
Food Preservation.....	10
7. Rural Arts.....	10, 11
8. Health.....	11
9. Rural Youth.....	12
B. Other Activities.....	12
1. District & State Federation.....	12
2. Achievement Day.....	12, 13
3. Tours.....	12, 14
4. Federation Goal.....	14,
5. Red Cross.....	14,
6. United Nations Flag.....	15

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONT'D)

	PAGE
V. 4-H CLUB.....	15
A. PROJECT WORK.....	15
1. Meal Planning & Preparation.....	15, 16, 17
2. Food Preservation.....	17
3. Clothing.....	17, 18
5. Room Improvement.....	18
B. OTHER ACTIVITIES.....	19
1. County 4-H Council.....	19, 20
2. Achievement Day.....	20
3. National 4-H Club Week.....	21
4. Jamestown 4-H Camp.....	22
6. District Contests.....	22
7. Serving County Teachers.....	22, 23
8. State Short Course.....	23
VI. OLDER YOUTH.....	23
VII. SCOPE OF WORK.....	23
VIII. ORGANIZATIONS.....	24
1. County Board of Agriculture.....	24
2. County Home Demonstration Committee...	24, 25
3. The 4-H COUNTY COUNCIL.....	25, 26
4. County 4-H Honor Club.....	26
5. County Chapter 4-H All Stars.....	26
6. Other Organizations	
1. U.S.D.A. & Professional Workers...	27
2. County Teachers Association.....	27
3. Home Demonstration Yearbook Committee	28
4. Adult Camp.....	28

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONT'D)

PAGE

IX. LEADERS ACTIVITIES.....	28
1. ADULT.....	28
a. Organizations "Club Officers".....	28, 29
b. Project Leaders.....	30
c. Program Development.....	30
2. 4-H LEADERSHIP.....	31
a. Organizations "Club Officers".....	31
Growth of Home Demonstration Leadership.....	32
Growth of 4-H Club Leadership.....	32
X. WORK ON COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.....	32, 33
1. Red Cross.....	32, 33
2. Health Department.....	33
3. Welfare Department.....	33
XI. Significance of the year's work.....	33, 34, 35

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34  
72

II. Housing, House Furnishings, Home Management, and Yard Improvement, have been the subjects in which the Prince George Home Demonstration members have accomplished the most in 1950. The last week in October '49 the State Specialist and the Agent visited 13 homes and helped plan improvements. The first three months demonstrations were on these subjects. The Agent has given 62 days to the 10 clubs on these four subjects. Much of this time was spent in individual help, because constructing dwellings and remodeling are individual problems. Two members have built new homes and 22 have remodeled dwellings. Four of these have secured water in the home and built bathrooms, while seven others have piped water into the kitchen only. A total of 215 improvements have been made in Housing and House furnishings plus 136 pieces of furnishing bought. In Home Management 319 improvements have been made plus the 38 pieces of equipment bought.

III. Contributions of 1950 Program to Better Family Living.

1. Adult

Prince George County is a completely rural county, situated so that two Cities with plants and factories border its extreme Northwest and Northeast sides. An average of one from each family works in some factory or plant, and uses the family car for transportation to work. Fort Lee, A Federal Reformatory, and a colored Institute for the Feeble Minded, are located in the County. Many County people work in these three places. Therefore, the homes have not received the attention they should to make the county an attractive place in which to live. The members of the County Home Demonstration Committee realizing a great need for a greater pride in homes, planned a more definite program in "Home and Yard Improvement." The Committee has been working on more adequate milk for families, and clothing, so they continued this work along with Rural Arts, Foods and others.

34  
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The Committee has encouraged more leaders to take part. The interest in the work, and attitudes toward different phases of the Program have improved 90% in the past year.

Most outstanding work has been done in Floor Sanding and Finishing. Eight all-day sanding demonstrations were given in February. Nine floors were sanded and finished with 2 coats of floor finish and 2 coats of wax. The total cost was \$64.50. The floor sander's estimated price for these floors, at 10¢ per square foot, (price of new floors) would have been \$215.00, which is a low estimate.

The 107 women who learned to handle the sander, feel that this has meant much to the county. Since February 34 floors have been sanded and 27 others have been re-finished. As a result of the Yard Improvement Demonstration in the regular Home Demonstration meetings, one month reports show that 99 members have made 536 improvements. Of this number 179 were new shrubs, and 67 new trees planted. Improvements of Home Grounds is one of Prince George County long time goals. It will be carried further in December 4th and 5th when the State Assistant Horticulturist will help 18 families plan their yards etc.,

Because of great interest in better furniture 57 members toured the Petersburg Mattress Factory and Stones Colonial Furniture Company, where they were in the ways mattresses and furniture are made.

Food and Clothing tie for second place in the 1950 Program, each having three Demonstrations - "More Milk In The Diet" has been a long time goal for three years.

The demonstration on Using Dried Milk has been received with much enthusiasm and (even tho it was given in October) reports show that 90 members have used it 1076 times. Other members report having prepared 10,991 dishes using milk and 61 members have definitely used more milk for their families. Reports also show 1101 one-

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7.2

-dish meals prepared. Most of these used milk, yes, even in the steak Demonstration milk was used.

Outdoor Meals have been served 118 times

In the Clothing work Stain Removals and Care of Leather Goods were studied. These were both much needed, because Prince George County seems to have more than it's share of mildew and mold. 416 garments have had stain removed from them and 174 leather articles of clothing have been protected from mildew and mold. Each year Clothing Construction consumes many of the Agents days, results of this work will be found in IV. One long time goal is improvement in Personal Appearance at home. Plans have been made for additional work on this in 1951.

"Food for the soul" has been given in the five minute talks each month on Art In Daily Living. Pictures, music, and flowers have been studied.

## 2. 4-H Club

Food Preparation was the winter project for the girls. Through the girls the Agent has been able to reach more mothers in studying the food needs of the families. The agent gave at least 60 days to planning adequate diets and preparing different parts of them. Finally the 4-H Members were taught to plan and serve meals. The 73 girls who completed the project planned 1284 meals and served them to their families. Nine complete club meals were planned and served. Foods were judged to show higher standards. Milk was stressed in the 4-H Clubs and 828 milk dishes were prepared. Other results will be given in V of this report. Clothing, Canning and Room Improvement were taken up during the summer months. Only the older girls who had taken clothing before continued this project. Ten members made 42 new garments and remodeled 14. In 1949 fifty girls made 62 garments and remodeled 9.

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The Clothing Project members had Club Contests and County Contests, then entered the district.

Forty-four girls took Food Preparation during the summer months, demonstrations were given on canning and freezing. Reports show 1211 quarts of vegetables and 293 quarts of fruit canned, 21 quarts frozen.

Room Improvement was selected by 4 older girls who agreed to demonstrate for the 2 senior clubs. These girls and their mothers attended a tri-county meeting held by the State House Furnishing Specialist in Petersburg. The 4 girls made 14 improvements, and the two clubs made a tour of these four homes and were shown completed improvements and additional planned improvements. Result - all senior (older) girls wanted to take up room improvement in 1951.

The County 4-H Council celebrated National 4-H Club Week by having a half hour radio program. All Council members taking part. All clubs made posters and wrote articles for the three papers serving the county to advertise this radio program. They sent announcements to all other organizations in the county, and two clubs had "practice programs" in the schools for those who would not hear the radio program.

The 4-H work has been strengthened noticeably by the council meetings, all goals and work for the county for the past three years has been planned by the council members. It has served as a sort of honor club because the members take a great pride in their membership. Prince George County has not been "County minded" therefore, this growth and strength in attitude means much.

The clubs organized for 1951 have grown so they have had to be divided so that time may be given each one. Thus 6 clubs grew to 9 clubs and a 10th brand new club was organized. The new club is a senior (ages 14-17) club in a community where there has not been a senior club for seven years. It is encouraging to have older girls come back and in 1951 the age range will be higher instead of the usual 10 and 11 majority.

\* IV. Adult

A. Project Work

1. House Furnishing

Objective - "To preserve property as well as make it more liveable and attractive and to stimulate methods "pride in ownership." Methods - demonstrations, individual visits, and literature. Leaders from 8 clubs trained. Results - The 8 floor sanding demonstrations reported in III. page 2. showed the women that they could cut the cost of sanding at least two thirds, if they did their own work. 107 women learned to handle the sanding machines. They have "swaped" labor with their neighbors, and 32 floors have been sanded and finished. The agent has reason to believe more have been sanded but were not reported. In addition 27 other floors have been refinished. Several of the floors have been wide pine boards and their owners have learned the beauty and value of them by doing this work. The demonstrations above saved the 8 members \$150.70 in one club, all the members wanted the demonstration so they said "lets have the demonstration on the parsonage" The parsonage was vacant because they had lost their preacher and could not get another for 2 months. When the Agent arrived with the sanding equipment she found 2 women and 3 men ready to "learn sanding" two 10 x 14 rooms were sanded and finished by 7 p.m. Those present planned to finish the other 4 floors and one of the men said "I didn't know we could have such nice floors by doing them ourselves." In addition to the improved floors the members were advised about color and materials for walls and furnishings. They point with pride to their newly painted or papered walls and say "how do you like the job? I did it myself". 76 walls and woodwork got "a new look" in this way. In addition:

- 71 improvements were made in bedrooms, plus 36 pieces of furniture bought.
- 53 improvements were made in livingrooms, plus 46 pieces of furniture bought.
- 16 improvements were made in halls, diningrooms and porches, plus 32 pieces of furnishings bought.

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Since the February demonstration on selecting furnishings and fabrics, the agent has given 30 days to helping individuals select their materials for refinishing and their furnishings. The furnishings include sofas, chairs, piano, curtains, tables, rugs, lamps, springs, mattresses, chests of drawers etc., All of these required much thought and planning because they are a real investment.

### 2. Housing

Objective - To Make Homes More Convenient and Comfortable, and to arrange them to save time and energy."

Method - As a follow up of the work done by the "Housing Specialist in October 1949, the agent has made individual visits and has given 12 full days to this subject. Two of the members of the Housing Specialist advised have completed projects. One completed 2 bathrooms, the other completely remodeled her kitchen. In order to do this the partition between the kitchen and diningroom had to be moved. A very modern U-Kitchen, with the partition (just mentioned above) the height of the back of the stove, thus making the rooms look much larger and improving the light. The member and her husband did the work even to the interesting shelves on the diningroom side of the partition. Since remodeling the kitchen this member reports that about 57 different families have traveled out to her farm to see what had been done.

On November 10, 1950 the State Housing Specialist and County Home Agent conducted a "Progressive Kitchen Clinic" in the Carse community. Seven homes were visited, the club members went with the specialist to as many homes as possible. Twelve members, and their husbands, talked with the specialist. The attendance ranged from 8 at one home to 1 at the first and last home. Four members traveled to four

homes while 3 others each visited two homes. It was a most interesting "Progressive Clinic" The same shows that the Clinic and members progressed from house to house to observe and discuss the different problems. Results will appear in the 1951 report.

Two club members have been given the book of House Plans furnished by the State Office to study, and one family outside of the club has been helped in the same way. In addition to these plans the U-Kitchen Bulletin has been used and many other construction bulletins furnished by the state. The details of arrangements have been discussed and many suggestions followed. The 22 other bulletin repair jobs have included:

- 4 complete bathrooms and equipment
- 1 complete utility room
- 1 insulated attic
- 7 have water in the kitchen for the first time
- 17 bathrooms have been improved with 24 pieces of furnishings, etc.
- 15 clothes closets have been built, while 21 other storage spaces were improved.

Each year more and more is done on Housing. More members have requested the specialists help, the next time she is in the District and available to the County.

### 3. Home Management

Objection - "To Save Time, Steps and Energy, to make the "home work-shop" more attractive and to give the homemaker a real pride in her profession."

Method - Individual visits of specialist and agent, bulletins and other literature.

Results - The 94 kitchen improvements made in 1950 are results of the Home Management Specialists visits to the county in 1947 and the Housing Specialist in 1949 plus individual suggestions given in home visits, in meetings and letters by the agent. In the County Committee meetings the members have discussed the great need of time and energy saving. The 10 laundry spaces improved have added 17 pieces of equipment, such as tubs, automatic washing machines, water heaters and irons.

34  
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Ten members have bought "Home Freezers" and have been very interested in filling them. They display these with great pride. Eleven kitchen ranges have been purchased and four refrigerators. The new kitchen storage space consists of 16 fine cabinets, some bought, some built. 21 tables and chairs have been bought. These items are all listed because they are large and require a real investment, smaller items have added to the time saving and interest of the homemaker. This is a subject which is near completed. Prince George needs more convenient kitchens, more water in the house and more storage spaces. There are a few of the accomplishments more are planned for 1951.

#### 4. Yard Improvement

Objective - "More Attractive and inviting yards, walks, driveways, borders, etc. Yards that seek to say to travelers "My owner is proud of me, stop and stay a while."

Method - A demonstration in January in all clubs and individual home visits and literature from the State Specialist. The request for specialists visits and plans which was made in February 1950 will be met December 4th and 5th. At that time 18 families will receive suggestions from the Assistant Horticulturist.

Results - Due to the methods stated above reports from 99 members show:

179 New shrubs have been planted  
67 New trees have been planted  
34 Shrubs have been transplanted to make a better arranged yard.  
172 other improvements such as walks, driveways, better grass, fertilizer, spraying, borders and flowers planted according to suggestions.

This is a long time goal, a mere shadow of a start has been made much remains to be done.

#### 5. Clothing

Objective - "More attractive and valuable clothes for less money, accomplished by the "Make-it" plan - and to save clothes from mildew, mold, and stain".

Method - In 1949 all clubs had four construction meetings and one on knowing

34  
72

Textiles. Leaders were trained and helped with these demonstrations. In 1950 these Leaders and the people have continued to give individual help on construction and fabric selection. The 108 people who sewed this year report having made:

298 Dresses costing \$550.72, saving \$695.31  
252 Other garments costing \$237.91, saving \$245.45  
20 Suits costing \$243.84, saving \$251.00  
166 Garments drycleaned, saving \$79.30  
108 Garments remodeled.

The County Home Demonstration Committee realizing a great need for saving clothes from skins, and leather jackets, shoes, pocketbooks, etc., from mold, which is very prevalent in Prince George County because of many swamps etc., planned demonstrations on these subjects. These two demonstrations given in April and June created much interest and the members report having carried information outside of the club many times on mold and stains. Reports show stains have been removed from 416 garments, and 174 leather garments and accessories have been protected from mold and mildew. These have been new and interesting experiences which will be carried on into future years.

#### 6. Foods

##### Preparations

Objectives - "More interesting meals, more adequate milk in the diet of all families, and meals for summer recreation."

Method - Leaders Conferences were held for three demonstrations on Outdoor Meals, the Use of Dried Milk and Cooking Steaks. Leaders from all 10 clubs attended these two conferences which were given by the Assistant Foods Specialist. The Leaders have given the 30 demonstrations to the clubs.

Results show that 118 outdoor meals have been prepared and served, dried milk has been used 1076 times and 61 members definitely have increased the amount of milk used in their meals. In addition to the dried milk, other milk has been used in 12,092 dishes, also 361 cakes have been made and decorated.

34  
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The steak demonstration has been given in November, therefore, no results from members - except statements like "I can't wait to try broiling a steak." or "I never knew milk could do so much for hamburgers."

Food Preservation -

Objective - "A better year round supply of food for the families by freezing and canning.

Method - Individual help and literature.

Results - Ten new Home Freezers have been bought by the members this year. All ten of these individuals have not reported, but seven have frozen 641 quarts of fruit, 1,490 quarts of vegetables, 267 pounds of fish and 739 pounds of meat and poultry.

99 members have canned  
3976 quarts tomatoes,  
4906 quarts of other vegetables  
2025 quarts fruit,  
1255 quarts jams  
12,461 pounds meat,  
999 pounds fish  
16,540 pounds vegetables and  
307 quarts meats

Several families market eggs, vegetables, fish, chickens, and berries. These go to regular customers, and from house to house rather than to a regular cooperative market. A large number of families have fig trees and pecan trees. They also have one or more hogs each. Almost every family has chickens, and a few raise their own beef. The agent supplies information and bulletins on the subject but makes check on the amounts.

7. Rural Arts or Creative Arts

Objective - "Beauty in Daily Living Through Music, Pictures and Literature, as well as the joy derived from creating something pretty."

Method - Rural Arts was carried over from 1949 as the 1950 County Federation Goal. The County has a Goal Chairman and each club elects a Goal Chairman.

34  
72

County Chairman and Agent worked out programs. These programs with detailed information were mimeographed for the members and sent to the clubs. Goal Chairman. Ten minutes of each meeting were given to discussion of such subjects as pictures, literature, flower arrangement etc., Every one selected better pictures for their homes, 90 new songs were learned by members of the 10 clubs, 26 improved reading materials for their children, and 179 books were read. As was mentioned in III. a majority of our members are Bohemians and work long hours, they are interested in creating rather than reading. Because of the need and desire for handicraft the Agent attended a 2 day school for the white and colored Home Agents of Sussex, Isle of Wight, and Prince George Counties, and learned to "Etch Aluminum Trays" Demonstrations were given on this subject in the May Club Meeting. Workshops for nine clubs were held in November and to date 138 trays have been etched. Many of these will be used for Christmas gifts. More will be done in 1951 for gifts on all occasions. This work has attracted many non-members and has interested them in the club. Folk Song singing which was started in 1949 has carried over into 1950 and will continue in 1951. People still talk about the fine time the county had at the 1949 Folk Song Festival and Achievement Day.

#### 8. Health

Objective - "To make the members more conscious of what can be done to achieve better health for their families and the county."

Method - Goals were set up by the County Committee to cooperate with the County Health Department by attending the Chest Clinics, and encouraging others to do so. The members advertised the Clinics for immunizing children, the Cancer Drive, and work in connection with Cripple Children's Clinics. They encouraged having a complete physical examination of members and their families. They encouraged visits to the dentist and oculist, and discussed health insurance for themselves and their families. Reports show 164 attended the Chest Clinic, 127 had physical

34  
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examinations. 48 members had their teeth checked, 68 members of their families having theirs checked. 31 children of members were immunized, and 51 families carry insurance for their children. 120 had their eyes examined.

#### 9. Rural Youth

Objective - "To Provide Entertainment for the Youth of the County."

Method - In 1947 and 1948 Rural Youth was the County Federation Goal, at that time the members realized the real need for recreation in a completely rural county. Leaders were trained during those two years, and parties for youths were encouraged. Small get-togethers in homes to make children feel welcome, and that they have a place to go, have been planned by the members each year since having this Rural Youth Goal.

Results - In 1950 members have entertained youth in their homes 254 times, and have helped with 102 community parties. 33 new games have been bought for the use of the young people. Better understanding and job sharing have been discussed by some groups and 30 members report progress along these lines.

#### B. Other Activities

1. District and State Federation Meetings. All ten clubs were represented at the District Federation Meeting held in Chesterfield County. The 38 women who attended have given splendid reports to their clubs and to neighbors. This has encouraged some women to take a more active part in club work because they received a broader vision at the District Meeting.

Prince George had 8 women to attend the Institute of Rural Affairs and the State Federation Meeting. Four of these women took their husbands, and the other four hope to do so next year. In 1949 only three women attended, so the 8 for 1950 is more than double. Good reports were given in four clubs and to the County Committee by these representatives. Therefore, more may journey to the State Meeting in 1951. Many are realizing for the first time that V.P.I. is their college.

#### 2. Home Demonstration Achievement Day.

34  
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Prince George men and women had such a big time at the 1949 Folk Song Festival they wanted a County Picnic, with contests, races etc., just a good "Old time get-together." They also wanted to attend the 4-H Achievement Day so the County Home Demonstration Committee and the County 4-H Council planned a joint Achievement Day. Since the 4-H Achievement Day is held in August and that is "picnic month" the County Day was held August 25. The Home Demonstration women had not completed their work so that reports could be given. The reports were publicised (in the three papers serving the county) in November. The prize for the club winning the most contests was to have their State Federation dues paid for 1951. All ten clubs tried hard to win this prize.

An exhibit of tufted bedspreads was put up and created much interest. The women were interested in exchange of pattern and many interesting conversations developed around the exhibit.

An exhibit of etched aluminum trays was put up by the Carson Club, which was the only club to go ahead "on their own" after the club demonstration. These were beautiful and encouraged many more women to order their materials and be ready for the work shops.

Special guests for the day were the members of the Board of Supervisors, the County Treasurer, Clerk, Commonwealths Attorney, Sheriff, and all County Officers and Secretaries. Other guests were the County Extension Agents from Chesterfield County and the 4-H Ball Team from that county.

An account of the 4-H participation in this Achievement Day will be given under V. page 20 of this report.

### 3. Home Demonstration Tour

A tour of the Petersburg Mattress Factory and the Stokes Colonial Furniture Company was planned as a result of work done in connection with Home Furnishings. The owners of both of these companies conducted the members through and explained each process. In the Mattress Factory they learned about all materials that

34  
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into mattresses, box springs, cushions, upholstered chairs, and types of slip-covers. They learned about reconditioning mattresses and springs and chairs. In the furniture company the owner explained all types of furniture and what to look for in buying etc.. The 57 women representing 8 clubs felt that much valuable information had been given them and several plan to use this information in the near future.

#### 4. The County Federation Goal

Rural or Creative Arts is reported in the subject matter field and as a County Goal. In 1949 this subject was selected as the County Goal and because of interest was carried over to 1950. An account of the activities connected with this goal has been given in IV, A.7. on pages 10 and 11.

#### 5. Cooperation with Red Cross

In December 1949 the clubs were asked to give Christmas boxes for the boys in Fort Lee hospital, all ten clubs contributed boxes. Members for all clubs have served as Community Charimen in the Red Cross work, and in addition have made individual contributions.

#### 6. The United Nations Flag

The Prince George United Nations Flag was made by the Agent and the Extension Secretary. It was carried to the meetings of the County Home Demonstration Committee, and the County Leaders Conference. After that it was shown in all Home Demonstration and 4-H Clubs, and the preamble of the charter of the United Nations was read to each. The Agent explained the making of the flags in all states programs connected with the making of the flag, and United Nations Day as well as United Nations Week. The Agent was asked to talk to the Woodlawn 7th grade on the flag, in connection with their unit on the United Nations. The same grade had a school program the following week and used the flag. The Carson P.T.A. used the flag and information at its October meeting.

34  
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The President of the Appomattox River Home Demonstration Club used it at a brief ceremony of the Hopewell Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The Agent made two radio talks, one over WBSV in Petersburg and one over WHB in Hopewell, on the making and displaying of the flag. The people have read about programs in other places and are glad to have had information given them through the County Home Demonstration Agent. When the flag is used a great deal in the future the people are ready and know how to make them.

V. 4-H Club

A. Project Work

1. Meal Planning and Preparation

Objective - "Better Planned Meals for 4-H families with emphasis on more Milk"

Method - During the winter months most of the 4-H members have only 45 minutes per month for their meetings. They do not have facilities for cooking during the club meetings. Therefore, the Agent has given demonstrations on measuring ingredients; ways of mixing; ways of cutting or preparing etc; as well as much time in planning adequate diets and effect of adequate diets, also table etiquette and dishwashing. The girls were given instructions each month on some work to be done at home and they had a check sheet to show what they had done. They were required to do all the tasks suggested in the Meal Planning Manual, and were checked closely on these. The Agent made home visits to talk with the 4-H members and mothers about their projects and found that many of the mothers were letting their girls do quite a bit of the planning and serving. On the other hand a number of mothers "didn't have time" to let the girls try things and didn't want them underfoot etc., Some of these changed their attitude before the project was finished. Because the members could not give demonstrations in the clubs during the school months this

this project was carried over into the month of June. Each Club held an all-day meeting, and cooked a meal, which they planned in May. Each meal was complete from "soup to nuts" and was prepared completely by the members. These meals were served properly and etiquette was checked during and following the meal. Five of the eight club meals were in the homes and the parents and friends were guests. Several mothers told the Agent they had picked up good points from the meetings. The other three meals were prepared at school cafeterias. At two of these the school principals were guests. One said, "I'm not a bit surprised to find everything so good because for the past two years you have served such nice meals to the County Teachers Association." Even though the girls finished their food preparation project in June and filled in their reports, the Woodawn girls served the County Teachers Association again the first week in September and got credit for it.

Results - Reports show that the 74 girls who completed the Meal Planning and Preparation Project, planned and served 1284 family dinners, planned their school lunches 503 weeks, set the table 6940 times and washed the dishes about the same number.

Since milk was stressed the girls prepared 828 milk dishes. They made 370 cakes, and made cookies 385 times. Due to much discussion on the value of fruits and vegetables in the diet the girls were interested in the number of these they had prepared. Reports show salads made 561 times and different vegetables cooked 1342 times. In December when the girls made cookies they brought them to the meetings to be used as refreshments. These cookies were judged at the meetings to teach the girls judging standards. In June when the meals were prepared after everything was washed and put away the members sat down and discussed each dish, it's good points and what could have been made better. The agent trained one leader, who can only help in the summer, and she held one of these all-day meetings. She also went to camp with the girls and was a wonderful help.

During July and August when the clubs were taking canning, the members brought stories of successes or failures in meal preparations they were still trying at home, and when the club contests were held in August they wanted to add what they had done in the summer in Meal Planning because they had done so much more than ever before.

## 2. Food Preservation

Objective - "To teach the value of home grown foods and the amount needed for their families during the months they cannot be gathered fresh from the garden - also to teach quicker and better methods of canning and freezing."

Method - In July each club had an all day meeting on canning. In the morning vegetables were canned, and all points on gathering the vegetables, preparing them quickly and canning were practiced. The girls learned to prepare the jars as well as the food for the jars. In the afternoon fruits were canned and points of good fruits discussed. The points used in judging were brought out in each demonstration. This was in preparation for the August meeting in which the contests were held. The girls canned a total of 1211 quarts of vegetables and 293 quarts of fruit.

All club contests were held in August and demonstrations given. The girls feel that this is a very valuable meeting and take great pride in learning to judge. When they are given the standards, then they judge the products of their club, they go home satisfied and can explain to mother why they did or did not win. The agent has had nice echos of this work because a few mothers have asked more questions and said their daughters brought home information they had never heard etc.,

## 3. Clothing

Objective - "To teach the second and third year clothing girls more advanced methods, and to raise the standards of their sewing at the same time to give them

advanced information of selection of patterns, fabrics, and suitable colors."

Methods - Ten of the older 4-H girls who have taken clothing as their project for one or more summers wanted to take it again. Therefore, regular club meetings were held in the summer for these girls, and they had a perfect attendance for all 4 meetings. They selected more difficult patterns and their mothers let them buy much better cloth. Each girl had different problems with their patterns, therefore, all girls learned what they could do if thus confronted.

In the August meeting the two senior clubs decided to hold a second meeting with all ten girls present so they could see all dresses and not just the two winners. So a day was set and the two clubs met in the morning for the Clothing Project, then used the afternoon for a tour of the Room Improvements Projects.

The Clothing winners entered the District contest held in Petersburg, and attended the dinner given in their honor. The winners for the past two years have done this and feel that they have profited much by this experience.

Results: - The 10 clothing members made in July and August 1950:

- 32 new garments for themselves costing \$96.51
- 10 new garments for others costing \$12.75
- 14 garments were remodeled for themselves costing \$3.75

These girls feel "at home" with a pattern and have said the 4-H clothing project work will help all through life.

#### 5. Room Improvement

Objective - "To encourage more interest in attractive rooms, showing the personality of the owner."

Method - The State House Furnishing Specialist offered a day to three or four Counties in which she would meet with the members (and their mothers) who would be interested in making some definite improvement in their rooms. The Agent offered the opportunity of attending this all day meeting to all older 4-H girls and found four who were interested enough to be club demonstrators.

34  
72

On April 22, the 4 senior 4-H girls and 3 mothers attended the Room Improvement Conference (held in Petersburg, for the counties around the city). The State House Furnishing Specialist gave two most interesting demonstrations, on fabrics, the selection and use, arrangement of furniture, selection of colors etc., making or remodeling furniture and furnishings etc. She had a large collection of attractive materials and articles to illustrate each point she brought out. The members, mothers, and Agent felt that this was a most valuable method of teaching and inspiring the girls.

After the April meeting the Agent made individual visits to the four homes and planned with the girls and their mother for their Room Improvement Projects. The Agent made a visit each month to each home. The girls carried this in addition to their other projects.

Fourteen outstanding improvements were made, such as clothes closets built beds remodeled, chairs dressed up, lamps wired, bedspreads and scarfs made and 2 of the rooms were painted.

In August a tour of these four demonstrators homes was made by eleven older girls. They were so interested and inspired they decided to take the Room Improvement Project in 1950 - 51.

#### B. Other Activities

##### 1. The Count 4-H Council

The officers of the 4-H Clubs in the County make up the County 4-H Council. Regular meetings are held three times each year, and call meetings when necessary. The council has strengthened the 4-H work in the count as no other organization has ever done. It was organized three years ago, December 1947, and has grown in strength each year. All Goals, Celebrations for National Weeks and Days, 4-H Camp plans, short course, and Achievement Day

34  
72

plans are made at the County Council meetings, and the clubs cooperate in carrying them out.

This County Council serves as the only organization in the county which draws the girls and boys together as a county unit, and helps them to think and plan in terms of the county as a whole. Since the county seat is not a shopping center and since the county is divided between two shopping centers and many churches it is hard to teach folks young or older to think in terms of County planning. The 4-H Council, in its fourth year, and the Achievement Days held for the past 4 years have been the means of real mental growth for the 4-H members.

## 2. County 4-H Achievement Day

Each year for the past four years the 4-H Achievement Day has been held more successful, and have had larger attendance. August is the month best suited for this day in Prince George County.

The members have tried each year to get more parents to attend their "big day" so this year the County 4-H Council and the County Home Demonstration Committee decided to have a joint Achievement Day. An account of the Home Demonstration Activities for the day have been given in IV. B. page 13. The 4-H members had the largest part on the day's program. In the morning a program was given showing all activities of the 4-H clubs, the camp, short course, and the winners in the girls project work. The boys project winners could not be announced until their crops were in. Awards were given for perfect attendance for one year, then for 3 years. Thirty girls and one boy did not miss a meeting in 1950, 13 girls and 1 boy have not missed for 3 years, and honorable mention was given 7 girls and 1 boy who have not missed a meeting in 4 years. This is a real record.

An exhibit of the articles made by the 38 members who attended the 4-H

handicraft classes at Jamestown Camp, were exhibited. These created much interest on the part of members who were not able to go to camp.

The Chesterfield Agents and boys 4-H Baseball team were guests for dinner, and a good wholesome relationship developed between the two Counties -

Some members welcomed to Prince George County friends they had made while attending 4-H Camp.

A 4-H Baseball Game was the real feature of the afternoon. The girls helped in a big way by forming a cheer leading squad, all dressed in white and wearing a large chevron on their sweaters. The girls had practiced in their clubs for two months on yells and so when they got together in county group for the first time they knew more about what the leaders meant. The game was the first to be played by 4-H teams from two counties, and the Cheer Leaders were very proud of the part they had in the big event.

The Hopewell News sent a photographer out for the day and for a whole week published pictures about "The Big Day" one day a complete page was given to pictures of the county 4-H and Home Demonstration Achievement Day.

This is the best publicity the clubs have had even though their club reporters send news to the three papers serving the county each month.

### 3. National 4-H Club Week

The County 4-H Council planned a 30 minute Radio Program to be given in celebration of National 4-H Club week. All Council members were urged to take part so that all clubs in the County would be represented. The clubs advertised this program by making 62 posters and putting them up in schools, stores, filling stations, the Court House, the bank and post office. The Posters urged people to listen to the program over W H A P in Hopewell, then told something of the 4-H projects by the illustrative materials used on them. Announcements were made in the school Assemblies during National 4-H

week, and the program was given on Saturday afternoon. Thirty-three members took part on the program, fifteen of these had parts to say while the others helped with the singing. The 15 with speaking parts wanted the script to keep in their notebooks.

#### 4. Jamestown 4-H Camp

Prince George County had 36 girls, boys and leaders to attend Camp in 1950. All participated in all activities, serving meals, handicraft, vespers, recreation, music, tribal pow-wows and all programs. Three of the four Lesser Chiefs were from this County. Members, the leaders, and two agents agree that this 1950 Camp was the best ever held.

In 1949 the Prince George members raised some money to help with rebuilding the Camp. In 1950 each Club was asked to help, and the Home Demonstration Committee was asked to help. The Home Demonstration Clubs and the 4-H Clubs have raised \$110.00 to add to the \$390.00 which they gave in 1949. This makes \$500.00 the County members have contributed in the two years. A real accomplishment for this County.

#### 6. District Contests

The District Contests for 4-H girls was a big day in the lives of 5 Prince George members. The contests were held in Petersburg with headquarters at the Petersburg Hotel. The eight different contests were held, with the County winners from 8 counties entering. At the close of the day, dinner was given all county winners by the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce. During the dinner the District winners were announced. Even though the Prince George girls did not win they enjoyed the contest and the dinner, and feel they have a better idea of what they can do in the future club work.

#### 7. Serving the County Teachers.

The Woodlawn Juniors and Seniors 4-H Clubs served luncheon to the County Teachers Association this is the third year they have served the Teachers

Association. Fourteen girls took part in this and feel that it has helped them in many ways.

8. State Short Course

Two boys attended State Short Course for 1950. One was taken into the All Star Chapter. Both boys served on the Achievement Day Program by telling about the Short Course Activities.

VI. Older Youth

The County All Star Chapter is the only older youth group that has ever been organized in the county. It was organized in 1947. It is very inactive because of scattered membership, with age and job differences. In 1949 one meeting was held to fill in forms for recommendations. In 1950 one meeting was held in connection with recommendations. This was a splendid meeting with all but one member present. Perhaps holding one meeting a year will mean something to both the All Stars and the County 4-H work.

VII. Scope of work

	1948	1949	1950
Number Home Demonstration Clubs or Groups	9	10	10
Membership	160	169	184
Number 4-H Clubs	6	6	6
Membership	70	77	77
Number Older Youth Groups	1	1	1
Membership	8	8	8
Number of other families reached 1948, 800 1949, 750 1950, 810	800	750	810
Total number families reached in 1948, 760 1949, 919 1950, 994	760	919	994

The members carry information about demonstrations and project work to people outside of the club and answer the roll call each month with the number of

34  
72

people they have contacted. During 1950 information has been carried 2955 times. Therefore, perhaps 700 or more have been reached with this information, the other 110 of the 810 the agent has contacted with personal visits and in other organizations.

VIII. Brief statement of the functions of the following organizations in 1950:

1. County Board of Agriculture

In Prince George County the women are not represented on this Board.

2. County Home Demonstration Committee.

The Prince George County Home Demonstration Committee is made up of the 10 club presidents and three lay women. The Committee elects officers just as the clubs do. In addition to the regular officers, a County Federation Goal Chairman is elected to plan for and work with the Club Federation Goal Chairman. The Committee serves as an executive body for the Home Demonstration Clubs. It studies the needs of the county; sets up the program of work; selects the State Federation Goal to be stressed during the year by the clubs; makes county objectives; plans ways of financing the program; plans the yearbook for the county; sets standards for the awards; plans special events such as: Home Demonstration Achievement Day, Tours, Exhibits etc., the Committee selects county delegates to the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs and the Institute of Rural Affairs held in Blacksburg, and urges each club to send delegates; urges members to attend the District Meeting each spring; and makes decisions in promoting all Home Demonstration work in the County. Four meetings were held in 1950, two of these were all day, the other two were afternoon meetings. One was a call meeting to make final plans for the 1950 Achievement Day.

34  
72

The Committee sent two delegates to the State Meeting. These women made fine representatives and gave the committee a good report of the State Federation meeting. The Committee members met with the Program Development Chairman in February and helped make "Long Time Goals" for the County. In October when the County Planning meeting was held the Program Development Chairman met with the County Home Demonstration Committee. The Committee made the following Goals for 1950:

1. Each club have 100% attend the Chest Clinic
2. Each club have 100% take a complete physical examination
3. Each club cooperate with the Health Department
4. Each member plant a crepe myrtle.
5. Each member make some definite improvement in yard
6. Each club increase membership 10%

The first five of these were kept, and have been reported under Health and yard improvement. The figures in the table of Scope of Work show little increase. Several members have moved away, a few new ones have been added. The increase is small but steady. The committee offers awards for perfect attendance, outstanding work of project leaders and club reporters, also for the individual who carries the most information to people outside of the club. In addition the committee offers a club award for the most outstanding work during the year.

3. The 4-H Council.

A full account of the council has been given in No. 1, under V, B, pages 19 and 20. It was reported first because the County 4-H Council activities are the most important part of club work other than project work. The one item omitted from V. B. page 19 and 20, was mention of the County 4-H Plaque which is awarded the most outstanding club each year. The name of the club is engraved on the plaque and it is kept for one year.

34  
72

If won three consecutive years by the same club it becomes permanent property of the club. The council serves as judges for this award. Goals are made in the first Council meeting for the year and checked by the entire Council at the first meeting of the following year. December 9, 1950 is the day set for this meeting. The goals follow:

- (1) The club having the highest percent of attendance at 10 meetings - 10 points.
- (2) The club having the highest percent of project work reports turned in - 10 points.
- (3) The club having 100% members to serve on programs during the year - 10 points.
- (4) The club having the highest percent officers attend the Council Meetings - 10 points.
- (5) The club having the highest percent of members to win in the County Contests for 1950 - 10 points.
- (6) The club having the highest percent attendance at the 1950 Achievement Day - 10 points.
- (7) The club having the most and the best news articles published during the year - 10 points.
- (8) The club participating most actively in the National 4-H Club week - 10 points.
- (9) The club having the highest percent attendance at Camp and Short Course - 10 points.
- (10) The club raising the most money for the advancement of 4-H work - 10 pts.

Last year the competition was so great that the winning club was only .4 of a point ahead of the second club and only six points ahead of the third runner up.

4. County 4-H Honor Club

Prince George County does not have such an organization.

5. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars.

An account of this organization has been given in VI under the heading of Rural Youth.

34  
72

5. Other organizations

(1) U.S.D.A. Council and Professional Workers

The Prince George U.S.D.A. Council, and Professional Workers are one and the same organization. The Council has 15 members who represent the following agencies: Extension Service (Agricultural and Home Agents, both white and negro, Farm Home Administrative Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture and Home Economics Instructors (white and negro), Supervisor of Soil Conservation, Clerk of Production and Marketing Administration, the Superintendent of Schools, and a representative of the Health Department. The council coordinates the thinking of all professional agencies so the Agricultural and Home Economics work in the county may be united. The members cooperate with all county programs and projects. The Council membership changes each year, however, because of the interest of the group as a whole the new members fall in line. The Council has been the most active organization of men and women workers in the county, and the members feel that the informal discussions are most worthwhile. Through these discussions, the Council members keep abreast of the time.

(2) County Teachers Association

The Home Agent is a member of the County Teachers Association (by special invitation) and attends meetings of this organization. The agent gave a report on 4-H Club progress to the association. Through the better understanding by the teachers of the extension work, and the agent of school plans, complete cooperation has been achieved. The teachers have encouraged more girls to become 4-H members. They report having kept up with club publicity, and called it to the attention of others.

(3) The County Home Demonstration Year Book Committee

The Agent met with the 1951 Year Book Committee and worked up the 1951 Yearbook with 30 pages. The Committee asked each club to be responsible for an advertisement to help pay for the books. This was done. The Yearbooks were printed and given to the members in the November 1950 meetings. These Yearbooks serve as a program of work for the member; a song book; a directory; a report form and a notebook, because all of these are included.

(4) Adult Camp.

The Agent gave a week leading the recreation at the Citizenship (Adult) Camp in August. Prince George did not have anybody to attend, because of too many other club activities occupying their time during August. Even the ones who promised to come just for a day did not go. Williamsburg is so close most county people can visit it when they wish therefore, it does not serve as a drawing card to Prince George County.

IX. Leaders Activities.

1. Adult.

A. Organization - "Club Officers"

All 10 Home Demonstration Clubs have the following officers:

President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Federation Goal Chairman, and Chairman of the "Cheer-up" committee. The Vice-president acts as Program Development Chairman. The agent held training meetings to teach these officers the duties of their respective offices. Parliamentary procedure has been followed in all clubs, during the meetings. In September 1951 officers were elected to take office in December. This was done in order that the 1951 officers could attend the County Committee Planning meeting in October. All officers have been interested in performing their

duties correctly. Seldom does a club meet without the minutes of the previous meeting etc., The members have learned to be able to substitute when needed.

More interest has been taken by all members in knowing how to carry on the responsibilities of each office. An account of activities of Federation Goal Chairman is in IV. A. 7. pages 10 and 11.

The Program Development Chairman has been added during this club year. As stated in the last paragraph, the vice-president serves as the Program Development Chairman in each club. A meeting was held in February in which the Chairman of all 10 clubs (with the help of the District Agent, the County Agent, and members of the County Home Demonstration Committee) planned "Long Time Goals" Copies of these were mimeographed and the program Development Chairman gave them to each member (and furnished scotch tape to paste them in the back of each yearbook) during the March meetings. The Goals were discussed in June in connection with the planning of the 1951 Program. They were reviewed again in the October planning meeting. Eight of the 1951 demonstrations will be in keeping with the long time goals, which follows:

- I. Better health for families of Prince George County through nutrition, medical care, clinics, immunization and correcting sanitation problems.
- II. Family Life - study of relationships, sharing responsibilities, husband and wife; parents and child; child and child.
- III. Reach all families - 1951 reach 10% more.
- IV. Good management in the home, a study of managing incomes; work methods; mental attitudes toward work; equipment; energy and skill; cooperation.
- V. Attractive appearance of people at home as well as away.
- VI. Attractive and convenient home and homestead; outside, drives, walks, outbuildings, lawn grass, shrubs and trees.
- VII. Good housing by working to attain good construction, convenient arrangements, adequate room, and adequate storage.

34  
72

B. Project Leaders - trained to give demonstrations.

All 10 Home Demonstration clubs have two project leaders each and the two largest clubs have three each making twenty two project leaders in the county. During 1950 club year 3 Leader Conferences have been held with 58 attending. One of these was given on November 30, and results will be given in 1951 program. 38 Leaders attended the other two conferences. These leaders have enjoyed giving the demonstrations more than ever before and the members have been most cooperative. The Demonstrations given by Leaders in 1950 almost doubles the number given in 1949. Thirty-four in 1950 compared to 18 in 1949. In addition Leaders assisted with 20 other demonstrations. During July and August the Leaders assumed all responsibility for the demonstrations, thus allowing the agent more time for 4-H club meetings, camp and special meetings. During November the Leaders gave the demonstrations thus allowing the Agent time for special work shops and clinics. Several new members were added the months the Leaders were in charge. Because of the work of the project leaders several clubs have had joint meetings and have enjoyed the fellowship as well as the "Outdoor Meals." The Leaders and members have given a large number of individual demonstrations and have reported them as "information carried". There is definite growth in the quality of leadership in Prince George County both in organization and in project work.

C. Program Development Chairman

A full account of the work of the Program Development Chairmen has been given in IX. 1, A. page 28 with one exception. These chairmen listened to all the needs, and desires of the members, during each meeting, and whenever they would talk with them, and wrote these needs etc., in their yearbook so that they could use them in September in making the 1951 program.

34  
72

2. 4-H Leadership.

A. Organization - "Club Officers."

The 4-H have: president, vice-president (program chairman), secretary, treasurer, reporter, and 2 song leaders. Some clubs have cheer leaders. The officers are in charge of all meetings and observe strict parliamentary procedure. Since there is only one adult leader (who takes no lead in organization) and only one junior leader (who is a 4-H All Star in school - a boy, who serves as leader of his club), the organization leaders are responsible, and deserve all credit for good work carried on this year. All organization leaders have attended at least two County Council Meetings.

B. 4-H Project Leaders

The Carson 4-H Club has been the only club with a project leader in 1950, and she teaches school. Therefore, she can only help the club during the summer. She attended two summer meetings, and in addition held one with 7 present. She helps with transportation to the meetings. This same project leader attended camp in July and helped with all 4-H Camp activities. During the winter months she encourages all 4-H members in her room at school, and in all rooms to take active part in 4-H work. She is a real inspiration. In November 1950 the Woodlawn Senior club secured the mother of one of its members to serve as project leader. A report of her activities will be given in 1951 report. This is the weakest part of 4-H work and the agent and members never cease trying to secure leaders, but most women simply say they are "too busy."

Growth of Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership	1948	1949	1950
Number of project leaders and local chairmen	28	32	32
Number training meetings held by specialists	4	2	3
" " " " by agent	1	1	0
Attendance at all training meetings	56	50	58
No. Club meetings held by Leaders without Agt. Present	21	18	34
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	12	20	20

Growth of 4-H Project Leadership	1948	1949	1950
Number adult project leaders	2	3	2
No. junior project leaders	0	1	1
No. training meetings held by specialist	0	0	0
" " " " by agent	0	0	0
Attendance at Leaders training meeting	0	0	0
No. 4-H Leaders trained individually	2	2	2
No. club meetings held by leaders with agt. present	2	1	1
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	14	17	2
No. demonstrations given by leaders	0	0	1
" " " " by Adult	0	0	1
" " " " by Junior Program	0	0	2

X. Work in Cooperation With Other Agencies.

(1) Red Cross - The Agent attended one Red Cross meeting and has carried information to all communities when asked to do so by the County Red Cross Supervisor, who is a member of the County Home Demonstration Committee. The clubs gave 12

Christmas baskets to the Red Cross for the boys in the hospital at Fort Lee, Ten members in the county as a whole have given hours to the work of this organization, and all members make contributions. The County Supervisor gave the members good information on what is available in connection with the Safety Goal, and is acting as the 1951 County Federation Goal Chairman.

(2) Health Department - T.B. Association, Cancer Association, Cripple Childrens Association.

The agent cooperates with all of these organizations in carrying timely information to the clubs. Thus some club time is consumed in this way and discussions are a part of the county program.

(3) Welfare Department.

The Agent asked the Welfare Supervisor for a list of her clients living close to 4-H and Home Demonstration Clubs, in order that she might invite them to the clubs. Two daughters of welfare clients are 4-H members. The agent has advised with the supervisor when information about home economics is needed.

XI. Significance Of The Year's Work. In 1950 the members of the clubs have shown much greater interest and enthusiasm because of a better understanding of the purpose and possibilities of the home demonstration program. Definite improvement in attitudes has been accomplished. Members worked for each other as well as for themselves, in such work as "sanding floors" (or housing) and clothing. Leaders have been enthusiastic about giving more demonstrations because their club members have encouraged them more in 1950. The Agent has been able to reach more people, with more different kinds of work because the organization and project leaders have held more meetings. Definite progress on the long-time goals of more milk in the diet has been shown in this report. Also progress in the two long-time goals on attractive and

34  
72

convenient and better housing.

To the casual tourist driving through Prince George, yes, even to large numbers of casual observers who live in the county, perhaps little change may be seen. The Agents visits to 423 different homes have given her a real opportunity to observe definite improvements in equipment, furnishings, abilities and interest.

The 4-H Clubs have strengthened their programs greatly through 100% participation in all activities. In 1949 the girls, women and their families learned to laugh and relax more with music. This has carried through the 1950 programs, and while the world conditions have brought stress and strain to many, this means helping will carry members forward in 1951.

Club and County unity continues to grow, in spite of no central shopping center, and scattered communities and religious interests. Working together in the county Home Demonstration Committee and the 4-H Council, has given the members new security in their ability to accomplish tasks both in communities and in their homes. Security is definite progress. Facts and figures through this report have shown that.

The 1951 Program in the light of the long-time-goals, as well as immediate goals (for individuals as well as groups,) has a real foundation in the 1950 program. There are weak spots in all programs, the agent feels that more should be accomplished in the way of leaders for the 4-H Clubs and in the rural youth program. Another weakness is the few project reports secured from the women at the close of year. Definitely these members have done many interesting and worthwhile things in their homes, with the agents help and as a result of the Extension program, but the figures in this report were taken from reports of only half of the Home Demonstration members. The other half were not turned in.

34  
72

The 4-H members reports are almost 100%. A real goal for 1951 is to try to have more people report the fine work they will do.