

IV. GENERAL APPRAISAL OF PAST YEAR

The agent has worked with more farmers this year than in 1962 and of these farmers, many have been worked with for the first time. More farmers are following recommended practices than ever before and the results have proved very beneficial to the county and farmer. Of course, crops have not been as good as in the past years due to the drought condition in the county. As a whole, improvements can be seen by the agent and he is pleased with the accomplishments of the Middlesex County farmers.

IV. GENERAL APPRAISAL OF PAST YEAR

The Extension program in Middlesex has a goal of reaching families in order to help them with problems in home economics, agriculture, and related subjects.

There were more families worked with in 1963 than in 1962. This year a very varied program was offered to the women and girls in Middlesex. There were demonstrations at club meetings, special interest workshops each month, programs sponsored by the two special home economics committees, and a number of special activities sponsored by the home demonstration club committee.

In 4-H there were demonstrations at each club meeting, individual community project groups, and various other activities. These programs offer a wonderful opportunity to further one's knowledge and they were participated in well but the agent feels that there are many families in the county who are not taking advantage of these worthwhile programs.

Newspapers, radio, and visits from other club women and leaders have helped to distribute knowledge to many families not in the Extension program. The home demonstration and home economics girls' program will begin it's 9th year in Middlesex and through observation the agent feels confident that this type of program has made a great contribution to the higher standards of living in Middlesex. The agent expects a large participation in the 1964 program.

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enable Barnhardt Farms to continue to operate with a minimum of expense and at the same time meet the standards set by the State Water Control Board.

At this time last year there were doubts as to whether or not this million dollar a year business would continue to operate. With the cooperation of all agencies a solution has been discovered that will enable the farm to operate at a profit. This means a great deal to the economy of the county.

III. SUCCESS STORY

The agent in cooperation with the poultry specialists from V.P.I. has worked with Barnhardt Farms, Incorporated on a solution to lower the bacterial count of the effluent. Much time and work has been devoted to this problem as Barnhardt Farms is the largest duck farm in the United States, producing one half million ducks per year and with an anticipated increase of one million and a half in 1963 - 1964. At present this farm is feeding approximately 200,000 bushels of grain which is being purchased from local farmers. Barnhardt spends an average of \$700,000.00 a year in the county and his operation contributes greatly to the economy of our county.

The county agent and the Poultry Department of V.P.I. arranged for a meeting with Dean Bell acting as chairman. Representatives from the State Department of Health, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Barnhardt Farms, Incorporated, the State Water Control Board, Poultry Department of V.P.I., and the Middlesex County Extension Service, participated in this meeting. Plans were made to conduct extensive research on the effluent entering the Rappahannock River from Barnhardt Farms, Inc. Mr. Daniel Goldmintz, bacteriologist, was employed by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute to conduct this research and he began his work in April at the farm in Urbanna. This research was concluded in August and the information contained in his report proved to be very valuable in deciding upon proper procedures to follow in the lagooning process to be used at the farm. The lagoons have been installed and are proving very successful. It will

leader. She in turn develops self assurance and strengthens her knowledge of construction.

One member in particular, Mrs. Garland Robins of Deltaville, is a faithful and devoted clothing leader. Upon completion of the leaders' class she and her assistant taught a group of eleven women. They made wool dresses - some with jackets and later they modeled them at the county fashion show. Mrs. Robins did some sewing prior to her experiences in the Extension classes but she now remarks how much help she has received and the appearance of her garments are more professional due to the method of steaming. She also remarked how useful her small equipment has been and urges all members to make this equipment before construction of a garment begins. Mrs. Robins' students taught a beginners' sewing class in November and she made a check on the class and gave further instruction.

The Extension is proud of women of Mrs. Robins' caliber and pay tribute to her because of what she has done to further the Extension ideals in all phases of home economics.

III. SUCCESS STORY

The Home Economics Committee on clothing has made an outstanding contribution to the family clothing budget in Middlesex during 1963.

In 1961 a group of women were selected by the agent and the Home Economics Council to form the first clothing committee in Middlesex for the purpose of giving additional information on fabrics, construction, and what to look for in ready-made garments. In 1961 this group conducted a spot check in one community by the use of a survey and the program for 1962 - 1963 was a result of this survey. The group participated in a hat making clinic and the guest instructor taught the homemakers how to select becoming hats and the steps in making a hat. There were thirty-one women attending this clinic and a total of ninety hats were made.

In 1962, prior to the basic wool dress school, ten women participated in a class "Get the Most Out of Your Sewing Machine." This helped the women to become familiar with their machines before the class.

Miss Margaret Groseclose, clothing specialist from V. P. I., taught nine clothing committeemen construction of the basic wool dress. These committeemen returned to their communities and taught three classes. The first group involved twenty-one people but the total women participating in the basic wool workshop in 1963 were thirty.

Numbers cannot be estimated for the times these committeemen have answered clothing questions in their communities. The women turn to the committeemen now in place of the agent, thus building confidence in the

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program which has demanded a great deal of attention due to the drought situation in the county. The agent has assisted these dairymen with working out feeding rations.

OTHER FIELDS OF WORK:

Livestock Disease Control

The agent worked with farmers on the control of diseases in livestock through personal visits, newsletters, etc. Improvements can be noticed in this phase of the program.

Farm Management

Six farmers are enrolled in the V. P. I. Mail-In Record Program at V.P.I. The agent has worked with these farmers very closely and has assisted other farmers with farm management problems. A farm management school is planned for February of 1964 for Middlesex County farmers and the agent is one of the instructors for this school.

Farm Buildings

The agent has worked with several farmers in planning farm buildings and has secured building plans for them to follow.

Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service

The agent has worked closely with the ASCS office, especially on the drought disaster program. He has provided the farmers with educational information concerning the new programs offered by the ASCS.

Dairy Production

There are nine dairies in Middlesex County and the agent has worked with each one individually on specific problems, especially the feeding

Landscaping

The agent gave a demonstration to a special group on landscaping and Dr. A. S. Beecher spent a day with a committee from the Deltaville Recreation Center giving them plans and suggestions for improving their recreation building and grounds. The agent worked with three result demonstrations on improved driveways.

OTHER FIELDS OF WORK:

Housing

The agent has worked with a number of homes this year in connection with architectural problems, interior design, kitchen planning and storage arrangement both in new homes and homes being remodeled.

Consumer Education

Mrs. Roy Whitlock, Consumer Consultant for the Pure Food and Drug Administration, spoke to the consumer chairmen and homemakers in May. There is a consumer chairman in each of the seven home demonstration clubs. Each month this person presents a five minute report on a specific topic that was requested during the year by a homemaker. This has been of great value to the homemaker in helping her to have a better idea of what to buy.

Rural Arts

A number of arts have been taught as special interests in the home demonstration clubs this year. These workshops have been conducted in addition to the regular club meetings in order to give the homemaker an opportunity to complete articles in the art workshop. Leaders contributed a great deal to these workshops as they are responsible for half of the workshops being held during the year. (Read House Furnishings for additional information.)

PHASE: Public Affairs, Year - 1963

The county has the resources for recreational areas but these areas are in need of developing. There is also a lack of funds to start such projects.

The objective set up was to create a desire among the local people to establish a recreational park. This objective was explored and the committees met and visited a local park. This was not established because in each community elementary schools were purchased by a local community organization to become community centers.

The Extension Service has helped landscape the grounds of several centers and has helped by giving suggestions for improving the interior of present buildings.

PHASE: 4-H Honor Club, Year 1963

The senior club members need an area where they can excel in leadership. Boys and girls lack time in completing records and projects, therefore making them ineligible for the Honor Club.

Objectives were (1) to organize an Honor Club, and (2) to encourage boys and girls to select projects that they can complete and have the feeling that it has been of educational value.

The results of a request from senior 4-H boys and girls to have an Honor Club was accomplished in August at the "4-H Get-Together." The Extension agents tapped five girls on August 29th as charter members of the Middlesex 4-H Honor Club. On September 19th these girls were initiated in the club with a dinner at Seawell's Ordinary in Gloucester. There was a special cake decorated with the Honor Club insignia and each member was presented a certificate of merit for their outstanding leadership and project completions. 4-H uniforms were presented to them by the Bank of Middlesex. These girls participated in the Oyster Festival Parade and they won a silver bowl for the best decorated float. They plan to have their next meeting in January. The goal of the Honor Club is to urge boys and girls to take a renewed interest in 4-H project work and to submit their records to the Extension office.

PHASE: 4-H Adult Leaders, Year - 1963

More 4-H boys and girls can be reached in 1964 if parents would volunteer to serve as 4-H leaders. People lack time and they are not willing to give up something else to work with youth one or two hours each month.

Objectives were (1) to train and assist parents to become 4-H leaders, (2) to assist leaders in working with 4-H projects and to encourage them to train 4-H members.

There are twenty adult leaders serving as organizational and project leaders and also as sponsors in the county 4-H program.

For the first six months of last year these leaders served at in-school meetings and this fall participated in community 4-H Clubs.

Individual training has been given by agents and plans are being made to hold a county-wide leader-training meeting in January.

The project leaders have helped with demonstrations and records.

techniques in sewing.

The agent has worked with a number of groups ranging from beginners' sewing, cotton dresses, and last summer a basic wool dress workshop was conducted for senior girls.

The attitude of students in sewing has changed because they are interested in improving present methods and in receiving pointers that will improve their personal grooming.

programs. This was excellent because it gave the women a standard to go by when purchasing foundation garments. A number of homemakers bought according to the suggested methods and are very happy with the results.

Members of the clothing committee taught a beginners' sewing class this fall and are planning another one in February.

Mrs. Carl Diets of Urbanna won the best award in knitting at the Northern Neck Fair. She also won an award at the State Fair in Richmond, Virginia.

The results of the clothing committee have been most successful and the leaders have made an outstanding contribution toward the improved techniques of construction.

The youth clothing program has developed through the use of local 4-H project leaders. There are clothing project groups in many of the communities during the summer and winter months and they are all represented at the county dress revue. One senior and one junior 4-H girl went to the District Contest. Sharon Bray, a senior clothing member modeled a cranberry wool jumper at the "Wool Contest" at the state fair. 4-H girls attended the "4-H Fashion Count-Down" at Thalhimers on May 18th. They received pointers on patterns, fabrics and also trends on the teenager's wardrobe.

The construction information that was given during this year by the leaders has helped the beginning students in a number of ways and as they advance into more complicated garments they have a better knowledge of the

group was given a month to collect the materials and equipment. Leaders of the clothing committee taught this class on basic wools. Suits, coats and pure silk dresses with jackets were made.

As a climax to the spring sewing and hat classes the homemakers sponsored a spring fashion show. "The Boutique Shop" was the setting for the show. The models were club women who had made their own garments. Even their daughters and sons modeled garments that "Mom" had made for them. There was a pre-Easter Parade featuring the hats made by the women in the hat clinic. Other home demonstration women modeled garments from the Simplicity Loan Kit.

The changes have been mostly those that involved shorter methods of construction. The hat clinic helped the clothing budget as the women spent less than half on her spring hat. The change in the homemaker's attitude toward working with wool has been one that deals mostly with the methods of pressing a garment to give it a more professional look. The knowledge gained from tailoring has been noticed in many areas of the program because of general comments made by club women to others as to how they have improved their techniques.

The agent gave demonstrations on "Wash and Wear Fabrics" and showed a film on this topic. This is one area where the agent receives a number of calls and the film strip was so thorough that it answered many questions on construction of wash and wear.

The agent attended an agent-training meeting on "Foundation Garments" and later gave this demonstration at all home demonstration club monthly

PHASE: Clothing, Year - 1963

The Middlesex County Clothing Committee feels the situation is one of changing the attitudes of the people. The committee feels that there is also a definite need of improved methods of construction among local women. Homemakers lack the desire to improve their own workmanship and they feel that their present work is acceptable.

Objectives were (1) to provide knowledge on personal grooming, (2) to furnish knowledge on fabrics, patterns and equipment, (3) to teach construction on wool, (4) teach skill in coordinating costumes, (5) to provide information on recognition of clothing fabrics and importance of labels, and (6) to provide knowledge on the proper selection of foundation garments.

The clothing program has tried to teach homemakers methods of improving their workmanship and also give them knowledge of a good personal appearance.

The hairdressers in Middlesex gave interesting demonstrations on personal grooming and hair styling at all home demonstration meetings in February. The agent discussed the selection of hats and gave preliminary instructions for the spring hat clinic. The hat classes were conducted by the agent and each class displayed talent and originality. There were forty women participating and a total of sixty hats made.

The agent conducted a sewing machine clinic and a basic wool dress discussion on fabrics, patterns and equipment thus giving the women an idea of what was involved. She used supplies from local stores and the

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The results of the foods and nutrition program both for youth and adults have had a definite effect on the buying of foods. The homemaker is more conscious of her buying and she has remarked that her cooking and eating habits have changed.

and gave them many useful as well as tasty recipes.

The 4-H food leaders received this training and they have helped the 4-H Club members with salad demonstrations. Two salad demonstrations were given by 4-H'ers at the Northeastern District Contest.

The specialist also gave training in outdoor cookery both to 4-H members and adults. Classes were taught by the leaders during the summer. All communities had cook-outs and the agent and leaders conducted workshops for all foods groups and had a meal on the grill.

The agent gave a demonstration on methods of preparing and baking puddings and cakes for foods and nutrition adult and 4-H leaders. These leaders gave demonstrations to the home demonstration and 4-H Clubs. This demonstration was given during the month of November.

The program on foods and nutrition has done so much to entice the child and adult of the family to eat the correct foods and to cut the quantity of food intake.

There are two active 4-H foods groups in the county. They have met each month for the past year. The children have learned to eat so many foods they said they disliked and they do a large amount of the food preparation at home.

Nineteen girls and leaders toured the Holde Brothers' Bakery in Richmond as a part of their food preparation project.

The Virginia Bakery Council representative and the home economist from the Virginia Electric and Power Company conducted a very interesting demonstration on "The Use of Bread and Electricity" for homemakers and 4-H Club members.

PHASE: Nutrition, Year 1963

The Nutrition Committee feels there is still a great need for further study in nutrition. The homemaker needs to make better use of the time allowed in order to plan nutritious and attractive meals.

Objectives were (1) to teach proper methods of meat cookery, (2) to provide additional information on preparation of salads, (3) to teach new ways of outdoor cookery, and (4) to teach proper methods of making puddings and cakes.

A home economist gave very informative demonstrations on "Meat Cookery" at each of the monthly home demonstration club meetings. She prepared and displayed three different types of meat and later served them to the homemakers, giving them an opportunity to see and taste the meat before they actually prepared the meat at home. The results of this demonstration have made the homemaker aware that she can buy a less expensive cut of meat, prepare it and still get the required amount of nutrition.

The home economist also gave a meat demonstration for the senior 4-H Club girls.

A number of homemakers have remarked how much they learned about meat but there is still a need for more information. In 1964 there will be a night meat school sponsored by the Foods & Nutrition Committee for men and women.

The Foods and Nutrition Specialist from V. F. I. trained home demonstration food leaders to give salad demonstrations at their monthly club meetings. The homemakers felt these leaders had developed in leadership

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used in the room. Films on room improvement were shown to the L-H groups during the month of November.

In January one group refinished boxes and made accessories and paper weights for their desks.

can take old articles and make useful and valuable ones. The results have been very gratifying and a sense of pride was developed from their own work.

The agent collected and made up ideas that would be useful for Christmas gifts. All homemakers were asked to bring in one item to be displayed for an open house of ideas for gifts. The homemakers attending this activity viewed, read directions and made patterns for the gift ideas that they liked the best. Approximately one hundred women participated and the agent feels that this was a most successful workshop.

The agent conducted a tour for the Mathews Junior Woman's Club in one of the new homes in Mathews, Va. Gifts were displayed in an appropriate place throughout the home. The agent explained how each gift was made. The homemakers praised this program and the newspaper printed an article on the practicability of this project.

A monthly demonstration was given by the agent to all home demonstration clubs on the selection of drapery hardware and a preview of the new drapery fabrics. There will be a drapery workshop in January 1964. The results have been quite effective as one can readily see the information has been put into practice.

The agent has visited many homes and helped with individual color planning, furniture selection, and various other related topics.

The 4-H "Your Room - Pep It Up" was done on an individual basis. The girls' rooms were visited and discussed with the parents as to what needed to be done. Many rooms were re-decorated and others made articles to be

actual chair caning. These women can now do their own caning and save that house furnishings dollar for something else. The remark was made, "It is not as hard to do as I thought!"

Homemakers attended a preliminary meeting on Early American stenciling and tole trays. They received instructions on the steps in preparing the tray and also methods of applying the dust. Only a very few participated in this workshop due to the time of year it was conducted. A follow-up meeting was called in order to complete the trays.

A guest, Mrs. Lawson Garrett of the Mathews Junior Woman's Club, discussed the equipment needed to do an effection job of flower arranging. She made four different types of arrangements and gave points to consider in making an arrangement. Approximately thirty people attended this special interest meeting. The change noticed was the interest taken in flower arranging. In the afternoon Mrs. Garrett gave a very interesting talk on what to collect for dried plaques and she displayed several types for the women to see. The agent met with twenty-five women four months later to make plaques. The women displayed a great deal of talent and used a variety of materials - both in design and in the background. This was a good course in the identification of nature. A number of the women taught classes in their communities. These women have developed an awareness and more interest in art principles.

The agent conducted two picture frame workshops. The women brought picture frames of many styles and materials. This was one of the most successful programs during the year because it taught a lesson on how one

PROJECT AREA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS

PHASE: House Furnishings, Year - 1963

The homemaker takes great pride in her furnishings and a deeper appreciation is formed when she refinishes, repairs, or makes an accessory. Therefore, the homemaker is always eager to be doing something that gives her the feeling of satisfaction. The homemaker lacks knowledge in the skills and methods of repairing furnishings.

Objectives set forth were (1) to provide an opportunity to revive some old arts, (2) teach methods of chair caning, (3) to provide the homemaker with knowledge and teach the skill of toled trays, (4) to have leaders teach others how to etch trays and glass, and (5) to teach methods of flower arranging and the art of making dried plaques, (6) to teach better selection of picture frames and the art of framing pictures, (7) to teach the principles of making gifts, and (8) to provide information on the selection of draperies and hardware.

The progress that was made in house furnishings this year cannot be measured in quantity of work but in changes of attitudes.

The leaders took much pride in teaching local women some old arts. A home arts class was taught by the leaders on the techniques of smocking, crocheting, hucking, and knitting. Later on in the year there was a follow-up day devoted to checking on progress of the articles being made. The homemakers who participated in these arts found new trades and hobbies.

The chair caning workshop was also taught by local leaders. Homemakers purchased their own supplies and spent a day preparing the chair for the

PHASE: English Pea Production - Year - 1963

A small percentage of the cropland in Middlesex County is grown in english peas. The yields are not as high as they should be due to improper fertilization, liming, and weed control.

Objectives were (1) to encourage farmers in the use of more lime and fertilizer on english peas, and (2) to stress the importance of farmers using herbicides for weed control.

A meeting was held at the local cannery with specialists from V.F.I. and the University of Maryland attending. The pea growers were invited to attend this meeting to hear discussions on fertilizer recommendations, rate of planting, and weed control in english peas. The growers attending this meeting followed all recommended procedures but due to the drought conditions the english pea yield was 30% below normal.

PHASE: Soybeans Production - Liming, Fertilization and
Insect Control - Year - 1963

The largest cash crop grown in Middlesex is soybeans. Observation of soybeans grown in this area show a lack of lime and recommended fertilizer practices. As a whole, insect control has not been effective due to improper insecticides, time and rate of application, etc.

Objectives were (1) to encourage farmers in the use of more lime and fertilizer on soybeans and to use the proper insecticides for insect control, and (2) to instruct farmers how to calibrate a sprayer.

Fertilizer demonstration plots using minor elements were conducted by the agent and several agronomy specialists. There were also demonstrations on plots for corn-ear worm control. We have found that corn-ear worm infestation will cause considerable damage to soybean yields. Some plots observed by the agent have resulted in as much as 25 - 40% reduction in yield by heavy infestation of the corn-ear worm.

The agent sent letters and made farm visits to individual farms concerning soybeans. The agent has encouraged farmers to take soil samples on land where soybeans are grown in order to determine the needed amount of lime.

Because of drought conditions this year the soybeans have been reduced in yields to 40% of normal.

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As a result of the past year's work the farmers realize that in order to be financially successful with their hog operations they have to follow closely good feeding practices and management. At this time the majority of hog producers in Middlesex are doing an excellent job and they are realizing a profit.

II. REPORT ON PROJECT AREAS

PROJECT AREA: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION,
MANAGEMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PHASE: Livestock - Feeding Hogs, Year - 1963

Many farmers in the county fail to feed their hogs proper rations, thereby causing slow and expensive gains. Some of the farmers feed the same rations to hogs weighing from 40 - 200 pounds.

Objectives set forth for 1963 were (1) to get farmers to realize the economy in feeding a balanced ration, (2) to encourage more farmers to feed a balanced ration, and (3) to have farmers realize the benefit of good feed efficiency.

A meeting for farmers on feeding hogs was planned but has been post-poned until the second week in January. The agent and several hog producers toured the Holland Hog Experiment Station to observe methods that would be helpful in managing hog operations in Middlesex. Circular letters containing information on feeding and management were sent to the hog producers. The agent and L. Barnes Allen, Assistant Extension Animal Husbandman, worked with several producers on the feeding and management of hogs, and building plans for a more successful hog operation.

The agent has worked closely with the consignors to the Tappahannock Feeder Pig Sales and feeder pig production. Fred Crittenden, president and sales manager of the Tappahannock Feeder Pig Sale Association is from Middlesex County.

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leader attends a leader-training meeting prior to the time she is expected to give a demonstration.

The county agent trains committeemen in the field of agricultural work through method demonstrations, personal contacts, and meetings.

The leadership in Middlesex has progressed to a very high peak during the past eight years. The program has grown from individual home visits in 1955 when the program was started, to seven home demonstration clubs - all having officers and leaders. There are now three active committees and a council plus an active 4-H Club.

The people in Middlesex have gained confidence within themselves due to the Extension programs and now they are capable of projecting themselves to further this program, both in adult and youth work.

I. INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT THE EXTENSION PROGRAM

The Extension program in Middlesex is carried on by leaders both in adult and youth work. These leaders function on all committees and do a very effective job of carrying out the over-all program.

There is a county home demonstration committee that governs all programs and activities. The Home Economics Council directs all adult home economics committee work and the 4-H county council plans and carries out all 4-H programs and special activities during the year. The Middlesex 4-H Honor Club gives outstanding leadership to the 4-H program.

The agricultural program in Middlesex is primarily planned and carried out by committeemen.

Leaders in all phases give of their time and talent to function as officers, project leaders, sponsors, advisors, and also helpers, in order to conduct a continuing educational program. Leaders participate from time to time in training programs that help develop leadership and knowledge. The agent has done a great deal of training in the home economics program and leadership during the year.

The 4-H boys and girls select their own leaders and then they are visited by the agents and members. In January of 1964 these leaders will be trained through an orientation program.

The home demonstration and other committee members are volunteers and they receive their training at the beginning of the year. Each project

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

W. D. Edwards, Jr.

Extension Agent

Helen A. Rowe

Extension Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



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