

VIRGINIA

ALBEMARLE County Home Dem. Agent Annual Report 1937

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REPORT FILES
OFFICE COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
ALBEMARLE COUNTY
VIRGINIA

HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

1937

Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller

Home Demonstration Agent

December 1, 1936 - November 30, 1937

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III Personal Report Summary:

Days in field	159½
Days in office	109½
Days annual leave	17
Days sick leave	6
Days leave without pay	0
Legal holidays taken	5
Number home visits made	201
Number different homes visited	123
Number office calls	819
Number telephone calls	1178
Number news articles prepared for press	22
Number individual letters written	782
Number different circular letters prepared	141
Number circular letters distributed	4566
Number bulletins distributed	3623
Number meetings attended	133
Number miles traveled	10,927

In the year 1634, the colony of Virginia was divided into eight shires or counties - Accomac, Charles City, Charles River, now York, Elizabeth City, Henrico, James City, Warrosquyoake, which was changed to Isle of Wight, and Warwick River, or Warwick. After the year 1634, the counties formed were by subdivisions of the original territory of these original eight counties.

Albemarle was a subdivision of Henrico, organized in 1744, and is located in the Piedmont section on the north side of the James River, near the center of the State.

The Blue Ridge Mountains border it on the north and west, while the Southwest or Ragged Mountains, a detached range of the Blue Ridge, extending from near Lynchburg in Campbell County, and losing itself in hills in Culpeper County, traverse its southern border.

One large creek known as Ivy Creek and two rivers - Moorman's and Mechum's have their sources in the county. The two last named unite to form the Rivanna or River Anna, named in honor of Queen Anne, which flows into the James at Columbia, Fluvanna County.

The Skyline Drive will run, when completed, the whole length of the western boundary.

For a number of years before and up to the time of the depression, soapstone was worked in several places on the south side of the county - now those places look like Goldsmith's "Deserted Village". The land lends itself well to the cultivation of wheat, corn, hay, oats and garden crops, and to grazing. In the western section are many commercial orchards - both peach and apple - much of the mountain land being used for this purpose.

Albemarle County was settled largely by the English, who came on up from Tidewater Virginia. A few French settlers, who came to America and settled at Manakin Town with the Huguenots drifted up to the mountains, and a few Scotch-Irish, who came to Pennsylvania with the German settlers, thence through Maryland to the Valley of Virginia, then on over through Wood's Gap to Albemarle and settled near the base of the mountain. The descendants of the English still boast of their heredity, the French think of ease and comfort before anything else and the Scotch-Irish are hard working, thrifty, God fearing people, but they are so in the minority!

The people derive their income through sales of stock[^] sheep, cattle and hogs, fruit, apples and peaches, and garden products. Very little feed is sold. It is fed to the stock, and this is one method the farmer has of building up his land. Some women sell home products in the Home Demonstration Shop. A large number of the young people - both boys and girls are employed in the offices, stores and factories in Charlottesville, Albemarle's county seat.

This county can well be proud of many beautiful and historic homes. Many of these are the original - built for the well-to-do planters. It is to be regretted that many of these homes have passed out of the hands of the families, as their fortunes were depleted after the Civil War. These places have been purchased by the people of the north and west. Then men, who were overseers of these early planters practically all bought land and these farms have frame buildings, and we also have the mountain cabin. Some of the lower type Germans who were brought over by Governor Spotswood to work in the iron mines at Germanna, gradually moved towards the mountains of Orange, now Greene County, and from there to Albemarle. The intermarriage of these Germans with the French and English, does not produce

People of which the county is proud. These same people are those who are being sent from the Shenandoah National Park area, and they are not desirable citizens with which to live. Adjustments are going to be difficult for all classes.

Many changes have been brought about by extension work in the county. Several cases which I shall note will give an idea of the type of work being done. The agent was planning a series of demonstrations on wall finishes, so she went to an old man, who had been a dealer in wall paper for fifty years, for samples. She selected a number of pieces of good design, then she asked where she could find the paper that did not have good design to be shown in contrast. He looked up and said: "We do not stock it any more. Since you have been giving demonstrations in wall finishes, the people have been educated away from the poor designs, and we have no calls for it." Another person - a wealthy northern woman, who has purchased one of the handsomest estates in the county, and who has done a great deal in a charitable way says when she first came here that her carriage driver would go in advance of her, to clear the path to the houses.

Now she finds nicely laid walks, bordered with flowers-
showing pride in home, inspired by home demonstration
work. A man whose ancestors have been in the county
for several generations, says extension work has
done more than all other agencies combined to raise the
standards of living in Albemarle County - not excepting
the efforts made by Thomas Jefferson for free education.
These are just a few opinions of others, looking on.
A woman, who has been directly benefited, and who is
taking a prominent part in the affairs of the county
and state, says she owes everything worth while that
she has ever done to the influence of extension work.

V. Status of County Extension Organization:

After a very hotly contested election, the
County Management form of government was adopted in
Albemarle County, and began to function January 1st,
1934. Now, all appropriations made by the County Board
of Supervisors are subject to the approval of the
County Manager. This man seems to have realized the
need of extension work, and has been very cooperative.
Albemarle has had a home demonstration agent ever since
the enactment of the Smith-Lever Act, and it has had
a full time assistant agent for the past sixteen years.

This county had extension work through an agent who started on her services in 1911. From the beginning of the work, till the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, it was financed by the National Educational Fund. Thus Albemarle has had extension work continuously from 1911 to the present date - making a total of twenty-six years.

Realizing that a close cooperation with the people in the different localities was needed, a Home Demonstration Advisory Board was organized ten years ago. Originally it was composed of twenty-one key women from the six magisterial districts. These women, were in most cases, ~~was~~ selected by the agent. Some were recommended by different individuals, who knew their ability, their public spiritness, and their willingness to give public service. In addition to these original members, the chairman, secretary, and two leaders from each of the sixteen organized community groups have been added making a total of eighty-five members at the present time. These women represent practically every section of the county. This organization serves in an advisory capacity in all matters pertaining to extension work for women, that are planned in the county.

The Advisory Board has held two meetings during the past year - one in November 1936, to plan the work for the coming year, and another in November 1937, for the purpose of completing plans for the 1937 Achievement Day plans and to make complete plans for the 1938 program.

On account of the keen interest exhibited in the "Better housing" campaign conducted in 1936, and of the repeated requests to the home demonstration agent for help in home improvement, it was decided to continue some form of homemaking as the major project for 1937. In addition to the project work, which was to cover housefurnishings and yard beautification, a campaign entitled "Bringing the Old House Up-To-Date" was launched. The goal was set to have at least one hundred members. The number exceeded the hundred, and the communities reached were twenty-one. This campaign covered any type of improvement, inside or outside of the house, from the simplest repairing and remodeling, to the addition of rooms, and even building new houses, for which blue prints from the extension office at Blacksburg were furnished. The men, who seemed to have suddenly awakened to their responsibility of providing more pleasant, comfortable and

attractive homes for their wives and children during the 1936 campaign, continued their efforts. What a few men do in a community is noticed, and their influence spreads, and there is a much better family cooperation for making higher standards of homes than has previously been experienced in this county.

County Home Demonstration Plan of Work

1937

County-Albemarle

Agent-Bessie Dunn Miller

Preface: The Advisory Board feels that the continued response to former home improvement campaigns, and the eagerness with which people call on the Extension Service for this type work, that it should be offered again this year. The representatives who attended the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs at Blacksburg last year were impressed with the Hobby Show, and it was decided that phase be also offered to both men and women - thinking a different class of people may be reached-thus broadening the work.

I. County Extension Organization

1. The objectives for the Advisory Board.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>a. Sponsor a Better Housing Campaign. Try to encourage at least 25 tenant or underprivileged home owners to enter. Try to have every home demonstration club sponsor at least one home.</p> <p>b. Promote a Hobby Show on Achievement Day, and invite both men and women to exhibit their hobbies.</p> <p>c. Encourage Health Programs. Urge women to have physical examinations.</p> | <p>a. The campaign was sponsored. Only ten tenant families entered. Eleven clubs sponsored one home each.</p> <p>b. A Hobby Show was held in connection with Achievement Day. men, women and children participated with a total of 57 entries.</p> <p>c. A Health Program was planned with a county chairman. Many women had general physical examinations, and a number of underprivileged women were treated for birth control through a special clinic.</p> |
|--|--|

d. Sponsor meetings on Citizenship and Legislature. Try to get women to register to vote.

e. Try to do some definite work in Highway and Home Beautification by planting home entrances and along highways- especially dogwood trees.

f. Encourage the extension of rural electric lines.

g. More Home Demonstration meetings without agent.

2. Other Organizations:

a. Market - Raise standards of products.

II. Program of Work

1. People reached -adult

599

a. Continue 16 clubs

b. Try to encourage club membership-at least 5 to each club.

c. Try to reach 200 other women indirectly.

A number of Citizenship meetings were held.

e. Many entrances were planted as a part of the campaign. 1372 trees were planted.

f. Several local meetings were held in the interest of rural electric lines. Nine homes installed complete electric plants.

g. Only a few meetings were held without the home demonstration agent.

2. Other Organizations:

a. Several meetings were held to discuss standards of products for the Home Demonstration Shop. It is thought that the standards are gradually being raised.

II. Program of Work:

1. Reached 553 through clubs.

a. Continued 16 clubs. One dropped- one added.

b. Only four new members were averaged to each of the 16 clubs.

c. Over 200 other women were reached indirectly.

Goals

Accomplishments

III. Projects:

1. Adult
 - a. The "Well Dressed House" in 16 communities
 - b. Housefurnishings and Yard Improvement in 16 communities.
 - c. County contests in general home improvement extending in each of the six magisterial districts, reaching 100.
 - d. Hold County Canning Contests.

IV. General Activities

1. Extension
 - a. Make monthly reports to Board of Supervisors and to County Manager.
 - b. Average one news article per week.
 - c. Hold at least two Advisory Board meetings.
 - d. Send representative to State Federation of H. D. Clubs and District Federation Meeting.
 - e. Hold Achievement Day with Hobby Show and Household Linens.
 - f. Increase home visits.

III. Projects

1. Adult
 - a. The "Well Dressed House" campaign reached 21 communities.
 - b. Housefurnishings and yard improvement in 21 communities.
 - c. Contests extended into the six magisterial districts, and reached by membership 103 families.
 - d. Held canning contests with 61 entries.

IV. General Activities:

1. Extension
 - a. Monthly reports have been made to Board of Supervisors and to County Manager.
 - b. Did not average one news article per week. Only averaged 1 5/6 articles per month.
 - c. Held two Advisory Board meetings.
 - d. Sent representatives to both the State and District Federation of H. D. Clubs.
 - e. Held Achievement Day, with Hobby Show, with 57 exhibitors - and an exhibit of hundreds of pieces of household linens.
 - f. There was not an increase of home visits made during the year. 201 visits were made.

Goals

Accomplishments

g. Encourage tenant families to improve living conditions. Discussion Meetings of Agric. programs.

g. Visits were made to tenant families both by agent and club members, encouraging them to try to improve living conditions. On account of illness the agent was unable to attend the Discussion Meetings of Agricultural Programs.

B. With Other Organizations:

1. Member committee on City and County Beautification sponsored by Chamber of Commerce.
2. Cooperate with County Welfare Board.
3. Member of volunteer committee of Red Cross to solicit baskets and clothing for needy, report cases of children who need eye examination and tonsils removed.
4. Cooperate with Rehabilitation officers.

B. With Other Organizations:

1. Was member of committee on City and County Beautification sponsored by Chamber of Commerce, but very little work was accomplished.
2. Have cooperated with County Welfare Board in reporting on cases.
3. Am member of volunteer committee of Red Cross. A number of baskets were solicited and delivered to needy. Cases of children who need tonsils removed and eyes examined have been reported. The women's clubs have made thirty-seven dresses for Red Cross.
4. Have cooperated with Rehabilitation officers in reporting on cases.

The home demonstration agent has cooperated with the City and County Beautification Committee in its efforts to beautify the landscape. Last year, 10,000 dogwood trees were planted, the home demonstration agent furnishing the workers with leaflets especially prepared at the extension office at Blacksburg, giving explicit directions for planting the same. This year, these trees have been worked and fertilized. The county has recently built a new high school near Charlottesville, and a new park adjoins the grounds. This park and the school grounds are being developed with WPA labor, under the general supervision of the city manager. The superintendents on the job - mostly women, some of whom have been former home demonstration club members, have been helped through agricultural bulletins, general advice and visits by the home demonstration agent.

The same general policy has been followed for a number of years relative to the Welfare Board. Knowing most of the families of the county, the agent is called into consultation on many cases during the year, and she also reports on needy cases found in remote sections of the county. She also takes relief supplies to some central place in different communities for distribution. She has not been called on as frequently during the past year for this service, as the Welfare Board is not carrying so many families on its rolls as it had during the depression years.

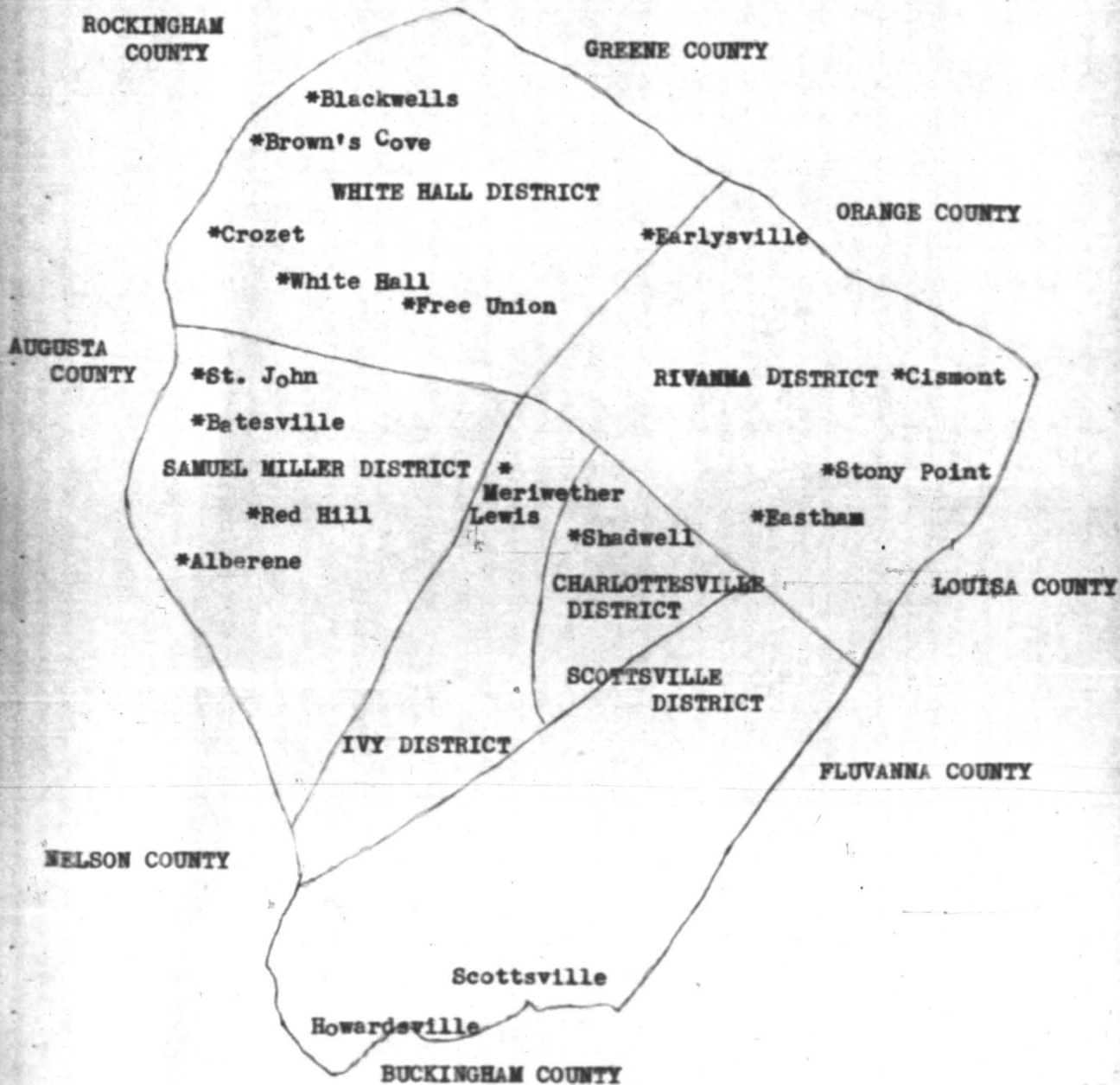
Having been for a number of years, a member of the Volunteer Committee of the Red Cross, the agent helps with the activities of that organization. Certain sections of the county are assigned the agent each year, in which to select Red Cross memberships. In addition to this service, the agent has been instrumental in having the women of the different home demonstration clubs make dresses for needy women and children. Over one hundred dresses were made during the past year. This Volunteer Committee reserves a fund for eye examinations and tonsil operations, and the agent reports cases of this nature that come under her observation. She also solicits and delivers numbers of Christmas baskets of clothes, food and gifts to underprivileged families.

The clubs did not have a canning center, but the women in nine clubs contributed canned goods to the different schools for hot lunch.

Since the Rural Rehabilitation organization is more nearly perfected - now having a woman on the staff, the only way in which the home demonstration agent cooperates is in an advisory capacity, as to the character and financial status of the clients.

The Children's Home here, which on the average during the year, cares for about forty-five dependent children, is supported entirely by private subscriptions, and there are times when the matron is sorely pressed for the necessities with which to run the home. Last year, some person donated eighteen single beds, and the women of the different home demonstration clubs made a quilt for each bed. This year, they have made three quilts, and eleven clubs are donating canned goods.

MAP OF ALBEMARLE COUNTY



Index to County Map

Clubs	Membership	Number Meetings
Shadwell	50	11
Eastham	19	2
Stony Point	16	7
Earlsville	44	9
Mer. Lewis	34	8
Scottsville	39	5
Howardsville	37	12
Batesville	28	4
St. John	30	4
Red Hill	20	3
White Hall	48	4
Free Union	53	9
Blackwell's	57	4
Alberene	42	7
Brown's Cove	15	4
Cismont	21	8

There are 2062 white homes in the county - 553 of which have been reached through home demonstration clubs, and others reached through the campaign and indirect methods amount to about 900 having been reached in all during the year 1937.

Scope of Work

Year	Number of Clubs	Number members
1934	15	526
1935	16	546
1936	16	484
1937	16	553

The major project - "The Well Dressed House" was selected because of the interest shown in the major - "Bringing The Old House Up-To-Date" last year, and the numerous requests that go to the home demonstration agent for assistance along home improvement lines.

The Advisory Board Members and members of home demonstration clubs assisted in enrolling the 103 members for the campaign. All persons entering their homes selected for themselves the improvement they cared to make, and the home demonstration agent advised with them relative to this work. Houses of

people in practically every social and financial scale in the county were entered. The people who are in good circumstances, who have been able to buy up the old homesteads are asking repeatedly for assistance in landscaping. For lack of funds, many of these old places had been allowed to become run down, and while they have means to employ an architect to make plans for the remodeling of these houses they are depending on the extension service for landscaping the grounds.

The agent has been able to secure the cooperation of several very fine architects, when she has knotty problems, and where the home owners are unable to employ one, and the combined results have been gratifying.

For several years past, the Advisory Board had offered prizes to the homes making the most outstanding improvements, but this year, it was decided that the people should make their improvements for the sole purpose of raising their own standards of living, so no prizes were offered. This eliminated the necessity of scoring the homes, so the results of the campaign have been checked by reports.

In planning the major project, it was decided to concentrate on general home improvement, so House Furnishings, Home Management and Beautification

of Home Grounds were combined to fill this need, demonstrations in each subject being given, which culminated in the campaign. "The Well Dressed House". Special emphasis was placed on Household Linens.

Some of the reported results of the campaign follow:

Number of homes entered in the campaign	103
Number rooms improved	363
Number kitchens improved	92
Number closets built	102
Number pieces furniture refinished	155
Number women using dyes in renovating furnishings	67
Number windows and glass doors cut	17
Number home improving heating system	73
Number central heating systems installed	39
Number lighting systems installed	9
Number homes weatherstripped	32
Number houses painted	31
Number roofs repaired	67
Number porches improved	98
Number chimneys repaired	38
Number window panes reputtied	201
Number labor saving devices secured	95

Number refrigerators bought	23
Number ranges bought	34
Number kitchen sinks installed	12
Number homes installing running water	8
Number bath rooms installed	8
Number chairs reseatd	108
Number pieces household linens made	5801
Number unsightly buildings removed	14
Number unsightly buildings screened	12
Number houses insulated	7
Number new rooms built	2
Number new houses built	2
Number outhouses built	4
Number walks made	35
Number driveways made	67
Number trees planted	1372
Number lawns improved	117
Number steam pressure cookers bought	12
Number miscellaneous improvements	122

A series of Food Preparation demonstration were given in several sections of the county. In connection with the Food Preparation project, demonstrations have been given in Table Service and decorations for

special days. Buffet suppers for large groups seem to solve many a problem of informal entertaining. Suggestions have also been given for benefit suppers.

Demonstrations were also given in Food Preservation. 61 women entered the Kerr and Ball Canning Contests, all making canning budgets. Over 200 women made budgets as guides in providing canned goods for their families. They with others report the following results for their year's work:

Sixty-seven women report having canned with a steam pressure canner. Twelve women report having bought one this year. One community has in it 22 steam pressure canners.

Number quarts of tomatoes canned	15,420
Number quarts of other vegetables	29,918
Number quarts of fruits	11,461
Number quarts meats	6,343
Number quarts juices, pickles, jams, preserves, etc.	10,524
Total number quarts canned goods	73,672
Number clubs donating canned goods to schools	9
Number pounds dried fruit and vegetables	1,105

Besides the foregoing, hundreds of bushels of root crops have been stored.

Besides the canned goods, hundreds of gallons of molasses were made, several thousand pounds of honey harvested, and gallons of apple butter stored.

One woman, a widow, canned over 1000 containers, to find at the end of the season that she had no place to store it. Neither did she have any place for her new washing machine, so she and her children went to work and built a cement cellar, with a wash house over it. Needless to say, they are pleased with their work.

By cooperating with the County Health Department, the agent has taken up the subject of sanitation in the home, with the following results:

Number wells tested	25
Number sanitary closets built	31
Number houses screened	41
Number sewerage systems	9
Number homes controlling pests	541
Number homes having clean-up campaigns	323

One piece of this was a work of cooperation as well as of sanitation. One of the churches was celebrating its one hundredth anniversary, and it had no toilet accommodations. The agent applied to the Health Office and found that a man would be sent to build the closets, provided the community provided the materials - so the people got the materials together for the two closets.

Most of the clubs conducted some type of community activity.

All except three - those in the mission field, gave canned goods, apples, potatoes to the Children's Home.

Two clubs gave receptions to the teachers when schools started in the fall.

Three clubs have worked with the school league through the summer, on articles for a bazaar to be held in December - the proceeds to go towards school lunches.

One club had a community picnic on the lawn of one of its members, to which all members of the family were invited. About one hundred and fifty people were present, with food for an army. The men pitched horseshoes - the best player receiving a set of heavy shoes, with directions for playing the game, as a prize. The women and children played the game of pitching jar rubbers over hooks. After the picnic lunch, several contests were staged - the men competing in a hog calling contest, the women in a husband calling contest, and the women singing against the men. Members of the extension office acted as judges, and most of the decisions were in favor of the women. The evening closed with joint singing of familiar songs by all. Before the "good

nightⁿ song was sung, one of the men voiced the sentiment of his sex, by thanking the women for a most enjoyable evening and voted that this picnic be made an annual event.

This county has not been quite so fortunate in having responsibility taken over by the leaders, as some others. Mass leadership may exist in some counties, but individual leaders are most valuable here. Several of them influenced a number of women to enter their homes in the home improvement campaign, several visited underprivileged families, trying to help raise their standards of living.

A Hobby Show was planned in connection with Achievement Day, and it was a tremendous undertaking. Leaders assumed much of the responsibility, and the day was made much easier for everyone by this cooperation. Some leaders are made, but it seems that the real leaders are born, and they are so few!

One club held a community fair, exhibiting canned goods, household linens and bread. The assistant home demonstration agent judged the products, giving only ribbons in recognition of the best work. This club has created community interest by the fairs.

The home demonstration agent cooperated with a Smith-Hughes School Fair. Both women and children exhibited. Hundreds of entries were made, and it seems a forerunner of a much larger one next year.

The home demonstration agent planned and conducted a garden tour for the agent in Orange County, sixty women joining the group. Homes that had been improved in Albemarle's 1936 campaign were visited, as well as several formal gardens.

The Achievement Day featured a Hobby Show, in which there were fifty-seven entries. A household linen exhibit was also made, with hundreds of articles. In addition, there was a short program. The President of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs was the guest speaker, using as her subject the Meeting of the National Council of Home Demonstration Clubs in Manhattan, Kansas. The district agent gave a talk, "Looking Forward" and the county home demonstration agent gave a short report of the year's activities.

At the conclusion of the program, the President of the County Home Demonstration Advisory Board, presented the home demonstration agent a beautiful

silver tray, a gift from the sixteen home demonstration clubs, in recognition of her continuous service of twenty years as agent, in her home county-Albemarle.

Several years ago, a home demonstration market was established by the women, with a board of managers and a paid manager. Later, it was decided that all women selling on the market should constitute the board of managers. The home demonstration agent acts in an advisory capacity, and visits the shop at least several times a month. The number of women selling varies, but the average during the year is 18. The sales for the past year have amounted to \$4591.13 , a small increase of \$828.61 over the sales of 1936. Most of the women use their money for necessities - groceries, clothes, taxes. One woman spends hers in the education of her children. One woman, who is well in the seventies says she has no other income except that derived from her market sales.

The Earlysville Home Demonstration Club

The Earlysville Club met nine times in or around Earlysville and once or twice in Charlottesville with the other County Clubs. Among the demon-

strations given were "Mending Christmas Toys",
"Table Linens", "Household Materials Easily made by
Hand", "Making a Boudoir Chair and Slip Covers",
"Bottoming a Chair", and "Preparation of a Luncheon".

Plans were made to start a library at Earlysville.
In order to promote a greater interest in Music,
Art and literature, committees were appointed to give
a ten minute program on one of these at each meeting.

A committee was appointed to inform our Con-
gressman that the Earlysville Home Demonstration Club
is against war and is looking to them to promote
peace.

Five members of the club entered the Ball and
Kerr Contest. We expect to have a number of
exhibits on display at the Achievement Day. We are
quite interested in the Hobby Show. Several of our
members entered things in the Community Fair held
at the Parish House in October.

The club made, mended and distributed toys to
thirty-six needy neighborhood children at Christmas.
We sent a supply of canned goods to the Children's
Home.

We are proud to report a marked increase in
membership and interest since holding our meetings
in the Parish House."

The above is a copy of the secretary's report for the past year of the Earlysville Club.

The Episcopal Church there was given an old building, which they took down and built into a community hall. The secretary of the house committee wrote the home demonstration agent, offering the hall for the meetings. This invitation was accepted, and when the first meeting was held, the group of fifteen women from the Episcopal group attended, and expressed their desire to join with the home demonstration club, which is composed mostly of women of the Baptist faith. This is the first cooperative move between the two groups of religious faiths, so it seems that the home demonstration clubs is to be a common meeting ground for all rural women. By this union, the club seems to have taken on new life - each of the groups contributing to the other in the general melting pot.

Albemarle was represented at both the district and State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, with about fifty women.

The women who attended the state meeting were much pleased with the program, and the representative sent from the Advisory Board brought back many suggestions that have been proving helpful to the clubs.

At the district meeting, the Federation Goals were brought rather emphatically by the different state chairmen, and the home demonstration agent came back and immediately appointed a county chairman on Library, Health, Citizenship and Highway Beautification. These women have started to work in real earnest, getting a good start, and this new interest, in our clubs is working like magic. The library chairman has visited, with the home demonstration agent, practically all of the clubs in the county, appointing library committees, composed of a chairman on literature, music and art. Each of these chairmen is responsible for the cultural or social part of the monthly program, taking the meetings alternately. This feature has enlivened the interest, increased the attendance, and has been a source of pleasure and added information.

The health chairman has not organized the clubs as closely, but has a county committee, composed of women vitally interested in health problems. This committee has visited the University Hospital and made arrangements for women to have a general examination at a cheaper rate than is usually charged.

It has also not through the general medical staff, but through the head of the obstetric department, been able to get birth control treatment for the underprivileged women through clinics. Many women - those recommended by this committee - have taken advantage of this treatment. But there is still a long way to go before any difference can be seen in the lessening of undesirables being born to be charges of the county and the state. But some one has said great movements grow from small beginnings, and it is most desirable that this matter of birth control grows!

On account of illness of the citizenship chairman, not as much organization work has been done in that field. A number of meetings have been held, and it is planned for another year, that each club have a chairman, whose duties shall be to learn through the precinct registrar the number of women who have registered to vote, and to name a small committee of conservative women to ascertain the number of other women in the community eligible to registration. After this has been done, it is

planned that the chairman of the club invite a disinterested speaker - preferably a man - to give a talk on citizenship and stress the importance of women voting. It is hoped, by this method, some of the women, may inform themselves better, and take more interest in civic affairs.

The ~~chairman~~ and her committee on Home and Highway Beautification, visited every filling station on the main highways in the county, asking the owners to cooperate in removing the objectionable advertising signs and giving suggestions for improving their places. The women were tactful in their approach, and were encouraged by the response given. This is just a start for an intensive campaign to be waged the coming year for the beautification of the county.

Several meetings have been held on rural electrification, but very little has been accomplished as yet. It seems that on account of a ruling of the State Corporation Commission, the Virginia Public Service thinks it is not making enough profit on their rural extensions to justify the branching out, and it is only in cases where the pressure is brought to bear very heavily is it being done.

VII. Progress Made During the Year:

As in former years, the work is reaching further and further in the field of general home improvement, but when these improvements have been accomplished, in a number of cases, the writer is forcibly reminded of a high school pupil, who was master of practically every rule given in high school English, yet on account of her heredity and environment could scarcely apply a single one in her daily conversation. This same thing seems true of the people of a great many of these improved homes - they do not get the amount of enjoyment from them which they should. It seems they should have demonstrations of applied education - if there is such a thing - treating of the cultural things of life - that they may apply this knowledge and get the most from their homes. Much may be gotten through the cultural committees of the clubs, but we need something more definite, more tangible. No home demonstration agent can feel satisfied with her efforts till she has brought these vital things more intimately within the reach of her people.

VIII. Plans and Goals for 1938.

Since general Home Improvement work had been the major project for the past several years, it was decided by the Advisory Board to adopt Foods as the major for the coming year, with Home Improvement as a minor, since there is such continued interest in that phase of work.

Foods will be handled in as varied a manner as possible - historic dishes of Virginia, dishes for special days, dishes for busy days, meals for threshers and the corn huskers, party dishes and decorations, table service and table manners.

A special committee was appointed to draw up county goals, and as yet, that committee has not met. It is more than probable that some of the general Federation goals will be adopted - a continuation of the work done during 1937.

Achievement Day Program Staged

Silver Tray Presented Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller, Gift of Clubs

More than 1,000 persons including the members of the sixteen home demonstration clubs in Albemarle County, attended the Achievement Day program and Hobby Show today in the City Armory.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 o'clock this morning by Mrs. C. Nelson Beck, of Keswick, president of the Home Demonstration advisory board, and following group singing there was a talk by Miss R. Belle Burke, district agent.

A brief report of the year's work was given by Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller, of Free Union, county home demonstration agent, after which two solos were rendered by Miss Mary Smith. Her selections were Schubert's "Who le Sylvia," and Grieg's "Mit Einer Permuia Veris." The accompanist was Mrs. Eula Mitchell.

The principal address was delivered by Mrs. Ben Wallis, president of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

At the close of the program a silver tray, a gift from the home demonstration clubs in the county, was presented Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller, upon her completion of twenty years as the head of extension work in Albemarle. The presentation was made by Mrs. Nelson Beck.

The first extension worker in Albemarle, said Mrs. Beck, was Miss Rhea Scott, of Richmond, a representative of the National Bureau of Education. The first home demonstration club was formed in 1914, under the leadership of Miss Mazie McFarland, of Alexandria. Other extension workers who preceded Mrs. Miller were Miss Julia Stebbins, of Charleston, S. C., and Miss Marion Parish, of Charlottesville. Mrs. Miller entered upon her duties on August 1, 1917.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Miller extension work in Albemarle has made rapid progress, until today there are sixteen clubs in existence, with a total membership of 553.

Mrs. Miller is a daughter of the late Dr. Thomas Martin Dunn, of Free Union, who represented the county in the House of Delegates for several terms and later served as senator from the counties of Albemarle and Greene.

This afternoon was given over to an inspection of the Hobby Show exhibits and of the large collection of household linens put on display by the women members of the sixteen home demonstration clubs. There were seventy-five entries to the Hobby Show, which attracted much attention from club members and visitors. The show was designed to encourage women who have leisure time on their hands to occupy it profitably.

Tray Presented To Mrs. Miller Of Albemarle

CHARLOTTESVILLE — More than 1,000 persons, including the members of the 16 home demonstration clubs in Albemarle County, attended the achievement day program and hobby show, held in the City Armory yesterday.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M. by Mrs. C. Nelson Beck of Keswick, president of the home demonstration advisory board. Following group singing there was a talk by Miss R. Belle Burke, district agent.

A brief report of the year's work was given by Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller of Free Union, county home demonstration agent, after which two solos were rendered by Miss Mary Smith. The principal address was delivered by Mrs. Ben Wallis, president of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

Veteran Worker Honored

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