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This is the thirty-fourth year, over one-third of a century of continuous agricultural Extension work in Charles City and New Kent Counties under one county agent. At the beginning of this period, Extension work was in its infancy; it was new, and in many counties it was still non-existent. Today, it has developed to the point where there is not a county in Virginia that does not have one or more Extension worker.

This report is concerned not with this great development, but rather with the progress made in these counties during the present year. Several objectives were given in the plan of work in the following order:

1. Helping the farmer to keep his head above water during the present period of low farm prices. It will undertake to do this by:
 - (a) Helping to hold down his unit cost of production.
 - (b) Advising him within his limitations as to what shifts he can profitably make in types on enterprises.
 - (c) Helping him to get maximum benefits from the National ASC and acreage control program.
2. Helping the farmer do those things that will even under adverse conditions maintain fertility of his soil.
3. Do whatever is possible to provide better marketing facilities and better markets.
4. Do whatever is possible to improve farm living conditions and standards of living.

As one can see, the above are largely "generalizations". How these things are to be accomplished has to be, and is, spelled out later in the plan of work in more detail.

I shall now attempt to give you my report in narrative form, following in part the plan of work and in part the calendar of events so that you may see things as they actually happened.

Forestry.

One of the first projects to get started, and for New Kent, one of the most important was the forestry contest. This actually had gotten under way in September, 1955. It was an attempt, using a new method to break the crust of indifference that had held back all efforts to improve our extensive cut over forest area that needs improvement. On Saturday, December 8, a forestry field demonstration was held on three separate wooded tracts in the western end of New Kent County. The demonstration included bulldozing, weed tree killing, thinning and transplanting. Mr. Forrest Patton, Associate Extension Forester, gave the demonstration. Equipment was furnished by several commercial concerns. Following the demonstration during the spring, forestry experts visited all contestants and helped them work out their projects. They were also assisted in securing aid from the ASC and Soil Conservation Service. In September, contestants who had completed their projects were checked and prizes were awarded. The Buritans sponsored the program in the beginning, and when the prizes were awarded, gave the winners a supper and entertainment. Four adult and three junior prizes were awarded. Some of the results accomplished by this project are:

1. A greatly aroused interest in forest improvement by both young and old.
2. A considerable number of projects started by contest members.
3. Considerable outside help is being made available at a very low cost.
4. Many non-participants in the contest have started projects-- particularly tree planting.

5. The whole project is being handled by those directly concerned-- the woodland owners.

In November, a reorganization meeting was held and officers were selected for the coming year. A new contest is now under way.

Farm Management.

On January 12, Mr. W. J. Nuckolls, Jr., Associate Extension Economist at V.P.I., held two meetings in these counties to discuss income and Social Security taxes. This was the opening gun in the farm management program for the year. This meeting was followed by another in February by Mr. Nuckolls on "Keeping Farm Records" and by a third by Mr. Kenneth Loops on cost accounts. An interesting thing about these meetings was that each was larger than the one before it and at these meetings a number of farmers attended who had not been to some of the Extension meetings for a long time.

It developed at the third meeting on cost accounts by Mr. Loops that cost figures he was supplying us were for lighter farm equipment than we were using, so it was suggested that he come down later and work up some cost figures in this area. He did this in September, spending the better part of two days visiting some of our larger farms. We plan to make use of some of the information he has secured in meetings this winter.

Agronomy-- Corn.

From December through February, the various phases of the agronomy program developed. The wind-up of the 1955 corn club program, the banquet and awarding certificates and prizes was held on December 2nd. In January, the agronomy committee met and drew up a number of recommenda-

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tions for the farmers of these counties. They set up the 100 Bushel Corn Club as the principal project to be pushed, urged more farmers to join and suggested that we work the program to get the highest possible yield at the least cost. The 1956 Corn Club program was initiated with a supper meeting in February at which new members were taken in. Each farmer was asked to send in a sample to test, from which we could figure the amount of fertilizer needed to make 100 bushels. The winner in 1955 did just this. Our corn has now been checked for 1956 and winners have been determined. For the first time in eight years, the contest has been won in Charles City with a yield of 129.87 bushels per acre. The winner this year had soil samples sent in and tested, and using our formula, we figured exactly what he would need to do to make 100 bushels. Full report on all contestants is appended.

Soybean Program.

The soybean program was mainly one of studying new varieties. Farmers were advised to plant Ogden or Lee or both for comparison--Ogden being recommended. They were also advised as to how they could avoid practices that may lead to low yields. Among these were "too late planting, improper preparation of land, lack of inoculation, use of questionable seed, and poor weed control". I think we made considerable headway on these items. We do not, as yet, have any clear decision as to varieties. Early varieties have never done well with us, especially when we have a wet fall. This year, the Ogden beans are standing up better than the Lee. We do not find any recognizable difference in their yielding ability when conditions are equal.

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Pasture Program.

The pasture program called for more summer and more winter pasture, with permanent pasture remaining at about its present level. Due to the amount of rainfall, pastures have been uniformly good all season, and there was not the need for excess summer pasture that we usually find. There has also been a tendency on the part of the farmers to let the pasture ride. Fertilizer applied during the past three years has been able to show what it can do in 1956. One Coastal Bermuda grass plot of the four started in 1955 remains and is in good condition. It has created considerable interest in the neighborhood where it is planted. Its future is somewhat in doubt.

Weed Control.

A special Johnson grass control committee was set up this spring in New Kent with Mr. E. E. Harrison as chairman. In June, Mr. Amos and Mr. Kates from V.P.I. came in with a spray rig and set up a Johnson grass killing demonstration near Talleyville, using two types of weed killer. Following this, the New Kent Board of Supervisors appropriated money to purchase 100# of TCA 90 for demonstration purposes. Mr. Harrison took personal charge of this and distributed it over the county among twenty to twenty-five farmers, to assist them in killing small patches and demonstrate how effective it was. The local engineer for the State Highway Department also became interested and saw to it that Johnson grass along the highway was kept cut to the point that it would not go to seed. Considerable interest was shown in Charles City County; so it is probable that we will set up a committee there in 1957. I am attaching a

report form from Mr. Harrison on results accomplished.

Livestock Program.

Mr. Curtis Mast came to Providence Forge on March 30th to conduct a meeting for cattle, hogs and sheep raisers. It was well attended. The meeting served as an outlook report and also a general review of the problems facing livestock raisers in 1956. During the year, there has been some discussion of steer feeding; but few, if any, actual commitments. Two more farmers put calves in the feeder calf sale this year. Most cattle men are still marking time. The work with hogs was done through circular and personal contact. Two farmers were started in the hog business--one with pure-bred crossed. The sheep raisers were assisted in getting in a commercial sheep shearer and at an early date. One new flock of sheep was started. Proper management practices were encouraged--in fact, sheep raisers were told to "do right" or stay out of the business. Most of our present sheep men take this advice seriously.

Poultry.

A good deal of time was spent in talking to and visiting poultry farmers and helping them with their troubles. Like other counties, we are gradually losing our small poultry flocks and getting larger commercial flocks. Most of our farmers are developing their own markets for eggs. Some do their own grading and candling and by so doing, sell at wholesale on their own farm for a few cents above the Richmond wholesale market. In the past two years, two of our large river farms have turned to poultry as a means of augmenting their income and marketing some of their home grown grain. We have learned to control our con-

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tagious diseases and last year, did not have any serious outbreaks. Producing eggs has been a good business in 1955 and 1956 and has helped many of our people to stay on the farm. New Developments where hatcheries, feed dealers and even large milling companies are putting farmers in the egg business, frankly, have us worried. If they succeed in over-producing eggs as they have over-produced broilers, we may be in trouble.

Jamestown 4-H Camp.

When the plan of work was prepared, one month was allotted for work with Jamestown 4-H Camp. Actually, all or part of sixty-two days were put in working with camp in one way or another. Eleven of these days were Saturdays and Sundays. Early in the year, plans were developed to build a porch on the south side of the dining hall. Engineers from Blacksburg came down and drafted plans for a porch 18 ft. wide and 60 ft. long. Miss Slocum initiated a money-raising campaign and succeeded in getting contributions for about half the cost of the porch.

Campers started coming in early in May and continued through September and even into October. Camp officially opened, full scale, on June 11th and closed on September 5th. Seven 4-H groups came in for a week at camp. Two Presbyterian groups, two Methodist church groups, a choral group and a poultry group from the State Department of Agriculture each spent a week or several days at camp. Several counties had county-wide 4-H picnics. Several church groups had weekend camps. A great many people came in on Saturdays and Sundays to picnic and swim. Most of these were parents or friends of 4-H members.

Attendance this year struck a high point as did total and net income.

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The camp hopes to be sufficiently near out of debt in the near future so that it can make more needed improvements.

Miscellaneous.

During the year, almost from the first day, and continuing up to the present time, the various government programs have called for constant effort. Many people had to be advised about social security in addition to the help given at meetings. The "gas refund law" that went into effect on July 1st, brought in calls, and news letters were sent out to all farmers with reference to it, in addition to personal contacts. The ASC program in its various phases brought more than the usual amount of work this year. For one thing, Charles City became a corn allotment county for the first time. The workings of this program had to be explained at length to many farmers during the spring. Then, the Soil Bank program, when it went into effect, had to be explained. A number of farmers were helped to take advantage of the program. In September, nominating committees had to be set up for election of county and community committeemen. Now, we have the 1957 program staring us in the face. In one way, all these programs are all very simple. If you can prove to the farmer that it will pay him to participate in a program, he accepts it. Otherwise, he will not. Our farmers have in large measure accepted the Acreage Control program with peanuts and wheat. They will also accept, very willingly, the commodity credit loans. Corn acreage control, they do not appear to want, if sound and noise means anything, and some features of the Soil Bank, they do not, at present, think they like. But, they will accept them, if necessary.

Conclusion.

I think I have shown how we have tried to help the farmer during the present year. At the time this plan of work was adopted, we had hopes that a modern farm market would be set up in Richmond--this, opening up new opportunities for farmers in these counties. This market has, for the time being, fallen through. Aside from this, I do think we have made reasonable progress. As a whole, farmers are as well or a little better off than they were a year ago. This is due--not to the increase in prices--but because over our entire area, we have had a good crop year and are getting excellent yields, and on top of that, with some costs going higher, they have learned and applied a few of the lessons on economic production.

NEW KENT COUNTY

Name and Address	Variety	Row Width	Stalks Per Acre	Moisture Test	Conversion Factor	Wt. Corn 50 Ft. Row	Yield in Bushels
1. Russell Randolph Tunstall	Woods V-51	37.5	15,345	28.4	3.23	40.0	129.20
2. A. C. Frame Quinton	Funks G 194	34.7	12,642	25.1	3.70	34.58	127.95
3. Roger Gregory, Jr. Tunstall	Pioneer	40.5	12,079	22.9	3.31	37.5	124.13
4. George Fisher Quinton	Funks G 91	37.6	13,573	19.1	3.80	31.5	119.70
5. Chris Anderson Quinton	De Kalb 850	36.1	11,890	21.9	3.79	31.33	118.74
6. Will Watkins Quinton	De Kalb 837	37.9	12,972	19.5	3.74	29.83	111.56
7. H. P. Fisher Quinton	Funks G 91	38.0	12,972	20.4	3.69	29.66	109.45
8. P. P. Johnson Quinton	Pocahontas	39.9	12,578	26.3	3.14	34.5	108.33
9. Stanley Bowis Quinton	De Kalb 850	38.5	12,764	20.3	3.65	29.66	108.26
10. Daniel Peace Quinton	Pocahontas	38.3	13,152	19.5	3.73	26.83	99.08
11. Forest Sherman Lanexa	Funks G 91	38.5	10,336	26.3	3.26	29.83	97.25
12. W. P. Tunstall Quinton	Woods V 51	37.4	12,880	24.2	3.49	27.66	96.55

NEW KENT COUNTY

Name	Crops Plowed Under or Manure	Fertilizer Plowed Under or Disked In	Fertilizer Applied at Planting	Side Dressing
1. Russell Randolph	Weeds		250# 5-10-10	350# 20.5
2. A. C. Frame	Crimson Clover 600# 10-10-10	850# 5-10-10		130# Am. Nitrate
3. Roger Gregory	Bean Stubble	150# 10-10-10		450# 10-10-10
4. George Fisher	Bean Stubble	500# 10-10-10	200# 10-10-10	200# 20% N
5. Chris Anderson	Vetch and Oats		300# 5-10-5	400# 5-10-5
6. Will Matkine	Bean Stubble	600# 10-10-10		300# A & N
7. H. P. Fisher	Bean Stubble	500# 10-10-10	200# 10-10-10	200# 20% N
8. F. T. Johnson	Alfalfa Sod			
9. Stanley Bowis	Bean Stubble	500# 12-12-12		100# 80% Anhydrous Amm
10. Daniel Peace	Soybean Stubble		200# 5-10-10	200# Cal. N 20%
11. Forrest Sherman	Crimson Clover 400# 8-8-8	600# 2-12-12		300# 10-10-10
12. W. P. Gunstall	Corn Stubble	900# 10-10-10		110# Liquid Nitrogen

NEW KENT COUNTY (Continued)

	Name and Address	Variety	Row Width	Stalks Per Acre	Moisture Test	Conversion Factor	Wt. Corn 50 Lt. Row	Yield in Bushels
13.	Harrison Bros. Providence Forge	Ohio C 54	40.1	12,267	22.7	3.35	28.5	95.47
14.	Henry Anderson Quinton	De Kalb 37	37.1	11,886	27.7	3.31	28.83	95.43
15.	J. W. Adams Tunstall	Pioneer 309-A	40.4	10,836	25.8	3.14	27.17	85.30
16.	George Ellyson Tunstall	Wisconsin 355	41.1	11,044	16.7	3.74	19.83	74.16

4-H MEMBERS

1.	George Gregory Tunstall	U.S. 262	39.3	15,694	23.5	3.37	33.17	111.77
2.	Roger Gregory, III Tunstall	U.S. 578	40.0	9,918	22.6	3.36	30.0	100.80
3.	James Christian, III Tunstall	DeKalb 850	40.8	10,710	21.8	3.36	29.33	100.23

NEW KENT COUNTY (Continued)

Name	Crops Plowed Under or Manure	Fertilizer Plowed Under or Disked In	Fertilizer Applied at Planting	Side Dressing
13. Harrison Brothers	Bean Stubble		300# 5-10-10	450# 10-10-10
14. Henry Anderson	Bean Stubble			325# 10-10-10
15. J. W. Adams	Crimson Clover	100# 10-10-10		
16. George Ellyson	Crimson Clover & Oats Pastured		300# 5-10-10	150# 20# Soda

4-H MEMBERS

1. George Gregory	German Clover 400# 2-12-12			500# 10-10-10
2. Roger Gregory, III	German Clover 400# 2-12-12			500# 10-10-10
3. James Christian, III	Clover & Oats		200# 2-12-12	400# 10-10-10

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

	Name and Address	Variety	Row Width	Stalks Per Acre	Moisture Test	Conversion Factor	% Corn 50 Ft. Row	Yield in Bushels
1.	Orvin Browning Charles City	Funks G 91	41.8	14,940	18.3	3.51	37.0	129.87
2.	Lawrence Waitman Charles City	US 578	37.1	13,584	25.9	3.41	35.5	121.06
3.	John Copland Charles City	Funks G 91	40.0	12,006	20.1	3.52	33.0	116.16
4.	W. L. Edwards Charles City	Indiana 750	42.7	10,492	25.1	3.00	36.2	108.50
5.	A. G. Copland Charles City	Funks G 91	40.5	12,850	19.0	3.56	29.5	105.02
6.	H. D. Black & Son Charles City	Funks G 134	40.4	11,094	18.0	3.62	28.7	103.75
7.	L. M. Clark Charles City	Hofmeyer 101	36.4	10,332	18.9	3.97	25.5	101.24
8.	Norman Washburn Providence Forge	E. J. Funks & Son 880	40.4	10,062	20.0	3.50	28.3	99.16

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Crops Plowed Under or Manure</u>	<u>Fertilizer Plowed Under or Disked In</u>	<u>Fertilizer Applied at Planting</u>	<u>Side Dressing</u>
1. Orvin Browning	Soybean Stubble	350# 14-14-14	250# 5-10-10	300# 20.5 N
2. Lawrence Waitman	Bean Stubble	300# 2-12-12	200# 2-12-12	
3. John Corland	Corn Stubble		400# 5-10-10	Cynamid 200# 32% N
4. W. L. Edwards	Corn Stubble		300# 5-10-10	300# 5-10-10
5. A. G. Copland	Corn Stubble		400# 5-10-10	Cynamid 200# 32% N
6. H. D. Black & Son	Bean Stubble	300# 5-10-10	350# 5-10-10	
7. L. M. Clark	Corn Stubble	400# 10-10-10		
8. Norman Washburn	Milo Stubble 10 T. Stable Manure	800# 10-10-10		40# Liquid N

JAMESTOWN 4-H CAMP
1956 Season
October 31, 1956

Receipts:

Registrations	\$ 28,251.60
Extra Meals	107.90
Store	1,340.15
Handicraft	1,046.82
Weekend & Picnic	2,218.85
Food Sale	33.65
Donations	5.00
Insurance Claim (Roof Damage)	52.38
Transfer from West Point Bank	203.00
Bal. David Parrish Petty Cash Acct.	<u>35.25</u>

Total Receipts..... \$33,291.61

Expenditures:

Labor	6,639.40
Food	10,158.69
Supplies	1,040.88
Mileage	634.70
Gas & Electric	726.46
Handicraft	1,335.64
Insurance	1,189.90
Store	1,046.60
Repairs	399.12
New Construction (Porch)	1,887.59 *
Cleaning Cottages	179.00
Paint Signs	38.00
Feeding Weekend Group	115.00
Refund Overcharge Reg. Fee	30.00
Phonograph	100.00
Trimming Trees	89.05
Chairs	350.00
Lawn Mower	397.50
Telephone	112.55
Nurse	60.00
Note - Presbyterians	1,000.00
Interest on Note	120.00
Transfer to West Point Bank	<u>3,500.00</u>

Total Expenditures \$31,150.08

Difference 2,141.53

* Items not Applicable to Current Operations 7,255.09

\$ 9,396.62

Bank Balance at Beginning of Year. 319.97

Difference above 2,141.53

Present Bank Balance \$ 2,461.50

Fight on Johnson Grass Going Okay

Providence Forge—E. E. Harrison, Sr., chairman of the Johnson Grass eradication committee, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, reported at the November meeting of the supervisors that 100 pounds of TCA90 for demonstration purposes had been distributed to some 22 farmers and that the results were most favorable.

Mr. Harrison stated the farmers feel that eradication is not hopeless now and they want to follow up with the spraying on next year's growth.

W. P. Tunstall, H. P. Fisher, Roger Gregory and Kilby Davis are the other members of this committee.

Farmers reporting the demonstration giving good results were: C. L. Williams, H. W. Davis, E. L. Crump, L. R. Brown, E. P. Binns, Thomas Bowery, H. J. Batkins, P. Johnson, R. H. McCormick, W. D. Taylor, W. J. Wallace, R. W. Davis, R. R. Radolph, Royser Moody, Frank Washington, W. L. Evelyn, C. L. Fisher, M. R. Reams, H. P. Fisher, John Mihalcoe and W. R. Davis.

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PLAN OF WORK

FOR

CHARLES CITY AND NEW KENT COUNTIES

1956

V. B. Perry
County Agent
Providence Forge, Va.

RM
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1956

PLAN OF WORK FOR CHARLES CITY AND NEW KENT COUNTIES

V. B. Perry, County Agent
Providence Forge, Virginia

Charles City and New Kent Counties are located in Tidewater, Virginia, about half-way between Richmond and Williamsburg. They are bounded on the north by the Pamunkey River and on the south by the James River, with the Chickahominy River separating them. The land area comprises about 250,000 acres of which 80% is in the forest or swamps. Leading enterprises include beef cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, corn, soybeans, wheat and other small grains and in New Kent there is a considerable acreage in truck crops. The plan of work must undertake to recognize and serve all of these enterprises.

The 1956 plan of work is in some measure an outgrowth of previous plans. In others, it was developed through consultations with various groups including the Agronomy Committee, the 100 Bushel Corn Club, the poultry interest, and a group of farmers engaged in raising truck crops. The same committee that helped work up the agronomy program provided most of the ideas for the livestock program. The Charles City and New Kent ASC Committees also made suggestions which are being incorporated. The Forestry Committee started a program during 1955 which is being further developed in 1956.

The 1956 plan of work will have as its main objectives:

1. Helping the farmer to keep his head above water during the present period of low farm prices. It will undertake to do this by:
 - (a) Helping to hold down his unit cost of production.
 - (b) Advising him within his limitations as to what shifts he can profitably make in types of enterprise.
 - (c) Helping him to get maximum benefits from the National ASC and Acreage Control Program.
2. Helping the farmer do those things that will even under adverse conditions maintain fertility of his soil.
3. Do whatever is possible to provide better marketing facilities and better markets.
4. Do whatever is possible to improve farm living conditions and standards of living.

In carrying out this program, we will have the cooperation of other Government agencies. In addition to this, however, we shall have considerable assistance from the following groups:

- 1. The Agronomy Committee.
- 2. The 100 Bushel Corn Club.
- 3. The Forestry Committee.

During the year, we shall undertake to set up and get added cooperation from a special livestock committee and from a poultry committee. A group of vegetable growers have already largely outlined their needs as they see them, but they have not actually been set up as a committee. This may or may not be advisable to do ~~now~~. The outline as recommended has two major divisions not physically but in actual fact. They are as follows:

- 1. Specific things that should be done--regardless of the work required or the methods used.
- 2. General information and recommendations that may be given whether through circular letters, newspaper items, radio, personal contact or other means.

The Project Outline for 1956.

Agronomy

The agronomy committee recommends:

- 1. That use of lime be pushed on a "No. 2 basis". That assistance be given in furnishing soil sample boxes, sending in samples and interpreting results.
- 2. The Corn Program. The 100 Bushel Corn Club was made a major project. Plans are as follows:
 - (a) Increased membership both adult and 4-H.
 - (b) Every farmer to take soil sample and plant, fertilize and handle his corn in such a manner as to make 100 bushels per acre a possibility. Yields above this point not to be encouraged except as member wants to undertake it.
 - (c) That information be furnished farmers, through meetings or otherwise as to probable cost of production.
 - (d) That meetings to accomplish the above aims to be scheduled as needed.
- 3. The Soybean Program. That soybean varieties be given continued study before a change is made in recommended varieties. At present, Ogden

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is recommended with Lee as an alternative variety--superior in some ways--not so good in others. That growers be given more information on one or more early varieties that they may want to try. Planting dates were discussed and it was agreed that beans after barley were entirely satisfactory. After wheat, it was a question as to how early they could be planted. A final planting date was not determined.

4. The Pasture Program. There were several specific recommendations that were agreed upon.

(a) That more summer pastures be provided and that one type of pasture recommended be ladino and red clover in small grain or lespedeza in small grain. Sudan grass and Pearl Millet were recommended as an alternative.

(b) That more winter pastures be provided using a mixture of rye, oats and crimson clover in specified amounts and planting in August or early September.

(c) That permanent pastures be maintained at about their present level, or varied as to acreage and fertilization depending on whether the price of livestock is high enough to justify expense.

(d) That the trial plots of Coastal Bermuda grass be continued in order that more information may be available locally.

5. Weed Control. That a special Johnson Grass control program be put on in 1956 in Charles City and New Kent Counties. The program in 1956 is to be largely educational using meetings, circular letters and other means to acquaint the public with the means by which it may be eradicated.

6. Tours.

(a) That the corn club conduct a tour of members of the 100 bushel corn club to inspect varieties and check yields; this tour to be held at or about corn checking time.

(b) That a tour be conducted to the Front Royal Experiment Station in order to inspect the pastures and also the livestock.

Farm Management.

At a request of the Agronomy Committee, the 100 Bushel Corn Club and others, it was agreed that a farm management program be instituted in 1956. This was to consist of:

1. Income tax reports, and records.

2. Keeping farm records.

3. Costs of production and other factors that determine how profitable a farm operation will be.

Most of this work will be done through meetings. Since some of these meetings have been held, it has developed that Charles City is mechanized to the point where Blacksburg has no comparable cost figures. A request is therefore being made that someone be sent down from the college to make a study of these farms to secure some accurate up-to-date data.

Truck Crops.

Tomato growers have asked for and will have a meeting in March largely on tomato production. Soil samples are being taken and sent in to get definite recommendations. Periodic visits will be made to these growers during the summer by the Extension Truck Specialist from the Norfolk Truck Experiment Station. New Kent truck growers have taken a very definite stand on the farm market now under consideration in Richmond. They will do all they can to promote it and they believe that their livelihood depends on an expanding Richmond market whereas the present market is growing smaller.

Forestry.

The forestry project this year includes a county-wide forestry contest for New Kent, plus forestry 4-H club work for beginners in Charles City and New Kent Counties. Mr. Forrest Patton is supervising the work and will come in each month on a rather definite schedule. The projects include demonstrations in the various types of forestry work depending on what is needed on the individual farm. The 4-H members will all be given a few trees to set out so that as they grow they may watch the trees grow also. The forestry contest started last September and ends in September, 1936. A new contest will then start immediately. It is hoped that Charles City can arrange to have a contest starting in September.

Soil Conservation.

The county agent will advise farmers as to how they can make best use of the Soil Conservation Service. At the same time, the Soil Conservation Service will assist and cooperate in carrying out some Extension projects. Joint fields of endeavor are mainly (a) pasture, (b) forestry, (c) land use, (d) drainage, irrigation and ponds.

Livestock and Poultry.

Beef Cattle. The work will be conducted through meetings and individual contacts. Specialists will be used where available. Projects include:

1. Herd improvement work.
 - (a) Better sires.
 - (b) Culling inferior animals.
2. Herd Management.
 - (a) Improved pasture program.
 - (b) Feeding.
 - (c) Pest control (flies, lice, etc.)
 - (d) Disease control program.
3. Marketing.
 - (a) Feeder calf sales.
 - (b) Purebred sales.

There has been a tendency in the last year to shift from cow herds to steer or heifers to fatten. At present prices, most cowherd owners maintain that they cannot keep a cow a year for what they get out of the calf. Some cost records here would be useful and are needed.

Hogs.

Even with the present low prices, there is continued interest in hog production. Points to be stressed this year are:

1. Better breeding practices.
 - (a) Use of purebred sires and cross breeds for market.
 - (b) Having sows farrow at the proper time.
2. Better management.
 - (a) Proper sanitation.
 - (b) Proper feeding.
 - (c) Ladino pasture.
 - (d) Hogging crops.
 - (e) Protection from disease.

3. Meetings.

(a) One general purpose meeting.

Sheep.

It is recommended that there be a continued increase in the number of farm flocks. Sheep owners are advised to, and in most cases are carrying out the recommended practices including:

- 1. Shearing early.
- 2. Regular worm treatment.
- 3. Providing winter grazing.
- 4. Using purebred rams.
- 5. Trimming ewes before lambing.

Poultry.

The 1956 program will stress increased efficiency in production using all known methods to do this. Included in this year's program are:

- 1. One all or part-day poultry meeting.
- 2. Three or more night meetings.

3. Personal contact with all poultry raisers one or more times during year. All poultry raisers will be encouraged to attend the Virginia State Poultry Federation meeting and other out of county meetings of interest.

Agricultural Engineering.

Work will be scheduled on request.

Jamestown 4-H Camp Work.

The equivalent of at least one month's time will be required for the following purposes:

- 1. General camp management.
- 2. Camp improvement program for 1956.

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Miscellaneous.

Ground Hog Control.

General information material will be sent out.

Insect Control.

One meeting will be held in March or April. Special information will be put out on control of alfalfa weevil and other alfalfa pests. Other work as demand arises.

Weed Control.

One general meeting in March or April. Special information will be put out as needed.

Farm and Home Development.

At a committee meeting of farmers held this winter, the Farm and Home Development program was discussed with reference to its application to New Kent and Charles City farms. None of those present wanted the program in its entirety. Most of them were interested in certain portions of it--the farm management and being of particular interest. It was for this reason that the Farm Management Schools were held and that is why we want to get some local data on cost accounts. It appears that working by in-direction that we can get considerable work done during the year. It will not be a complete job as laid down in the program, but it will probably do more good than if too much were attempted at one time.

Publicity.

The usual means of publicity will be followed. These include:

- 1.
1. Radio talks over WRNL and other stations.
2. Circular letters.
3. News items in Richmond and West Point papers.
4. Instruction and planning meetings.
5. Field meetings at demonstrations.
6. Tours.

In the forestry program, already considerable newspaper publicity has been secured using pictures of people involved in the forestry program.