

Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



1955

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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT

HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

December 1, 1954 to November 30, 1955

Youtha B. Bell

Local Home Demonstration Agent

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County Situation

Prince Edward County is located in Southside Piedmont Virginia, and contains 432 sq. miles. The land is rolling and the annual rainfall is generally adequate for the pursuit of a general diversified farming program. Chief sources of income are from tobacco, livestock and livestock products, surplus poultry and truck crops. Employment is available to women in nearby communities which includes domestic service, garment factories, laundry, and for men in mining, milling, railroading, tobacco and woodworking factories.

According to the 1955 preliminary census of Agriculture there are 1179 farms in Prince Edward County of which 510 are classified as non-white and a total of 182 non-white and white tenants as compared to the 1950 census which listed 1340 farms of which 600 were classified as non-white, representing 489 owners and 111 tenants.

The population characteristics for Prince Edward County is as follows:

Total Rural Farm	6,944	Total Rural White	5,616
Total Rural Non Farm	<u>4,079</u>	Total Rural Non White	<u>5,407</u>
Total Rural	11,023	Total Non Farm	11,023
Total rural population		11,023	
Total urban population		<u>4,375</u>	
Total county population		15,398	

Below is a general statement of the material resources of the

County's non-white population:

Owners	Land	Building	Total
Rural	\$247,730	\$317,930	\$592,660
Urban	<u>73,810</u>	<u>180,170</u>	<u>253,980</u>
Total for county	\$321,540	\$498,100	\$846,640

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	Value of Personal Property	Merchants Capital
Rural	2,446,330	\$5,525
Urban	<u>75,690</u>	<u>8,716</u>
Total	\$3,522,020	\$14,241

The figures given above were compiled from information secured from the march 1954 issue of the University of Virginia Newsletter, the United States Census of Agriculture and the office of the County Commission of Revenue.

⑥ The non-white situation of Youth in Prince Edward County is as follows:

Age Group	Farm	Non-Farm	Total
5- 9	429	246	675
10-14 years	483	197	680
15-19 years	563	190	753
20-24 years	468	140	608
25-29 years	240	131	371
30-34 years	177	123	300
Total	2,360	1027	3,387

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There are 9 Four H Clubs with 223 boys and 228 girls for a total of 457 members. Twenty two adult volunteer leaders assist with the Four H Club Program. There are 984 other boys and girls of Four H Club age that have not been reached due to the need for more adult leaders.

There are 979 persons between 20 and 30 years of age in Prince Edward County. At present one group of 29 has been organized.

To arrive at the problems to be given attention in 1955, the general situation was studied with special attention to problems of the home. We

find that the main shopping center is about 20 miles from the farthest families with a majority living in a twelve mile radius. The family food supply is produced on the farm except for a few items that cannot be profitably produced locally. General Merchandise stores are in easy reach of most families.

The chief social activities of the family are carried on in the churches. There are fraternal orders, P. T. A.'s and a few other outlets for social group expression. The farm family is caught in the cost-price squeeze ; that is, the cost of production has not decreased in proportion to the decrease in the price of farm produce.

After a careful analysis of the above facts and other information brought out through discussions, visits and meetings, the major phase of work for 1955 were chosen. These included Christmas Decorations and gift wrapping; Foods with emphasis on Cakes and Frostings, Candy Making and Meat Stretchers, Clothing with emphasis on Construction of simple garments; Table Service and Manners; Home Improvement with emphasis on Kitchen Arrangement, Bedroom Improvement and Selection and Care of Floor Coverings and Draperies. The long Time goal selected is Home Improvement.

Adult Program

The home demonstration program is planned each year through the home demonstration committee which is made up of three members from each Club in the County. This committee met with the agent and District Agent to help plan the program of work for 1955. During the year the committee studies the needs of the family, their communities and surroundings, and based on the facts from their findings a program Calendar for the year is formulated

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Project Work

1. Christmas Decorations and Gift Wrapping

Objectives of Christmas Decorations and Gift Wrapping project were:

1. To give suggestions to homemakers on gifts that may be given from the farm or kitchen
2. To give suggestions to homemakers on gifts that may be handmade
3. To teach homemakers appropriate gifts that may be given to children according to Chronological Age
4. To give a short history of Christmas and why we preserve the spirit of Christmas
5. To discuss basic principles in decorating
6. To teach homemakers how to gift wrap for all occasions

Methods demonstrations were given by the Agent with fourteen adult leaders assisting. The demonstration included suggestions for gift from the farm, discussion of basic principles of decorating and gift wrapping for all occasions. Mimeographed material on the subject was also distributed. Each club member brought a gift wrapped and explained what occasion it was to be used. These were put on display at each Club meeting.

The members seemed to have enjoyed exchanging ideas on decorations, gifts and the wrapping of gifts and put forth special effort to make her gift unusual and attractive. As a result of the project club members stated it has helped them to improve on selection of gifts and wrapping them attractively.

Foods and Nutrition

Three main topics were discussed and demonstrated on Cakes and Frostings, Candy Making and Meat Stretchers.

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The objectives of the Cakes and Frostings project were:

1. To teach the preparation of cakes and frostings for different occasions
2. To teach homemakers the probable causes for failure of Standard Butter Cakes
3. To teach homemakers points to remember in Making Cakes
4. To teach the homemaker a variety of frostings for family use

Nine home demonstration clubs worked on this project. Demonstrations were given by Agent and Leaders. Eighteen leaders assisted the Agent in this project. Recipes and general information were given members on preparation of Cakes and frostings for different occasions, probable causes for failures of standard butter cakes, points to remember in making cakes and variety of simple cake frostings.

The project was selected by members out of a felt need to improve cake making techniques, and to learn new frostings for cakes. It is believed that the project proved helpful to all club members and especially newly married homemakers. Members reported using the suggestions given in the club meetings and passing the information to other people in their community. Written material was distributed and individual club members exhibited cakes at the Five County Fair held here in September. Club members won first and second prizes on all cakes exhibited.

The objectives for Candy Making Project were:

1. To teach homemakers the general rules for good Candy Making
2. Teach homemakers how to make different candies

Demonstrations were given to a proximately 85 club members on this project. Twelve leaders assisted the agent in six different club

meetings. The clubmembers observed general rules for making candy and how to make different candies. Mimeographed material and bulletins were distributed to club members.

The Objectives for the Meat Stretchers Project were:

1. To teach homemakers scientific points on selecting and cooking cheaper cuts of meat to maintain the food value
2. To give homemakers suggestions on in-expensive meat dishes that may be used to supplement the family's meat budget.
3. To teach homemakers to be thrifty on Left-overs
4. To teach homemakers to plan purchases of meat

Nine home demonstrations clubs worked on this project. Demonstrations were given by Agent and Leaders. Ten leaders gave demonstrations to five clubs and Eight leaders assisted the Agent in this project. Six home demonstration leaders and 17 home Economics students attended a leader training meeting on "Meat Stretchers" on February 2, at the Robert R. Moton High School in Faraville. Miss Janet Cameron, Food Specialist, trained these leaders on techniques involved in giving demonstrations effectively and money saving meat dishes. Several of these dishes were prepared and served. Bulletins and mimeographed materials were distributed to The leader. Leaders from clubs that were unable to attend the meeting due to circumstances beyond their control attended other club meetings and observed other leaders give demonstration for training. Club members, reported gaining invaluable information on purchasing and using cheaper cuts of meat and meat substitutes in the family diet. It is believed that all members have made definite improvements in selecting and cooking cheaper cuts of meat, knowing cuts of meat and actual

preparation of dishes. One club made up an exhibit on Meat Stretchers at the Five County Fair and won second prize on the exhibition.

Clothing

Clothing with emphasis on construction of simple garments and selection and care of clothing were projects carried in clothing this year. Sixteen leaders assisted the agent in carrying out these projects. Training meetings for leaders were conducted, method demonstrations were given, bulletins and mimeographed materials were distributed and charts were shown when necessary and desirable. The objectives for this project were:

1. To teach homemakers how to select and care for their clothing
2. To teach homemakers to apply basic principles learned in previous projects in constructing garments
3. To teach homemakers how to select and cut woolen garments

As a result of information and demonstrations given, club members reported definite changes in skills and techniques used in sewing. Approximately 185 garments were made during and after completion of the project at club meetings. Numerous household articles have been made also. All club members reported learning new methods of storing and caring for their clothing. Forty Home Demonstrations and 4-H members participated in the Annual Home Demonstration celebration observance in May.

Table Service and Manners

Nine home demonstration clubs participated in this project. Demonstrations were given by Agent and Leaders. Fourteen leaders assisted

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the Agent in this project. Training meetings were conducted, methods demonstrations were given, bulletins and mimeographed materials were distributed and charts were shown relating to the project. The objectives for this project were:

1. To teach homemakers an appreciation for good manners at the table
2. To teach homemakers the use of the Napkin
3. To teach homemakers the use of the knife and fork
4. To teach homemakers the use of the spoon
5. To teach homemakers foods that may be eaten from the fingers
6. To teach homemakers the correct arrangements of the table

Demonstrations for the project included suggestions for good manners at the table, the use of the napkin, the use of the knife, the fork and the spoon, foods that could be eaten from the fingers, arrangement of the table which included table protection, decorations, covers, runners, centerpieces and dollies; placing chairs and setting the table.

Club members participated in setting the table and other club members helped to make the necessary corrections. The members were very interested in the demonstration and stated it would help them a great deal in the future with personal problems they had concerning "do's and don't's" of the table service and manners. Two educational exhibits on this project were exhibited at the Five County Fair. The exhibits included correct and incorrect table settings, Mimeographed materials were included with the exhibit. The exhibits in the fair were judged by the Danish system and both clubs won 1st prize.

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Family Relationship

Parent-child relationship was the major phase of the Family relationship project. Other topics were included and discussed as a result of request from club members. The objectives of the project were:

1. To give suggestions in promoting better parent-child relationships in the family
2. To give suggestions of the places of the child in the family and home
3. To give some suggestions in bringing about better relationship in the family as a whole
4. To promote better community and family relationship

In carrying out the objectives, promoting better community and family relationships, all home demonstrations clubs carried this as a club project this year. Club members also suggested that all family members would participate in the project. By so doing, all family members would actually get a clearer picture of the duties and responsibilities of each family member. To complete the project each home demonstration club would serve as hostess in each respective community and invite all families who were interested to attend. The meetings were held, were well attended, and very successful, based on reports of members and observations of the agent. Seven home demonstrations clubs entertained ^{at} regular meetings. Included in the discussions were parent-child relationships, insurance and suggestions for improving family life.

All in attendance reported they received some very informative and helpful suggestions on the topics discussed.

The Pamplin Club sponsored a banquet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Green near Pamplin. Approximately forty home demonstration clubs

members and their husbands attended the banquet. Efforts were made to carry out information and techniques learned in club work on table service and manners. Club members prepared and served the dinner.

J. G. Lancaster, Local Farm Agent served as guest speaker on the topic of Family Relationships. Included in the discussion were parent-child relationships, insurance, deeds and wills, and suggestions for improving family life. The question and answer period which followed was quite stimulating and informative. Members and friends stated the was very helpful to them and they would pass the information received to others who were not in attendance.

Home Improvement

Three main topics were discussed and demonstrations given on the Home Improvement project. The topics were kitchen Arrangement, Bedroom Improvement (Making dressing table stools), and Selection and Care of Floor Coverings and Draperies. The objectives for the Kitchen Arrangement project were:

1. To teach homemakers correct arrangement of the kitchen to receive maximum comfort
2. To teach homemakers to arrange kitchens properly for future installation of Water under pressure

Method demonstrations were given by Agent and Leaders on the kitchen arrangement project. The leaders were trained by the Agent on Kitchen Arrangement. Demonstrations were conducted in the meetings by these leaders during the month of September. Leaders gave demonstrations to eighty-five club members. The leaders did a very good job. With more experience and an opportunity to develop it is believed they will be able to carry on the meetings in the future with a greater degree of efficiency.

As a result of the demonstrations and information given on the project, club members that suggestions were given to on rearrangement of the kitchen have made the minor adjustments, and some members have started on major repairs. Two club members have done a total remodeling job. All Members reported some improvements to the kitchen. These improvements included painting the walls and putting on wall tile, purchasing electric clocks, and putting on new floor coverings. Three club members have installed water in the kitchens. Basic instructions were given to all members on how to arrange the furniture for future installation of water under pressure with special emphasis on location of furniture especially the sink. Additional individual information will be given when requested. The objectives for the Bedroom Improvement project were:

1. To teach homemakers to add to the comfort and attractiveness of the bedroom by making simple but practical improvements
2. To have each club member do at least one improvement in the bedroom

Demonstrations were given 125 adult home demonstration women.

These demonstrations were given by the Agent, Assistant Agent with leaders assisting. The stools were made from old style round cheese boxes, padded and covered. To date approximately 30 dressing stools have been made by the club members. Other members are also planning to make stools who were not in the club through information and assistance given by club members. The club members were quite interested and proud of the finished product.

Aside from making dressing table stools, club members were to make at least one additional improvement. Approximately 85 percent of the 135 club members reported on some improvement. These included purchasing new bedroom suite and floor coverings, adding additional storage space, and making curtains, dresser scarves and slip covers for the furniture.

The objectives for the project Selection and Care of Floor Coverings and draperies were:

1. To teach homemakers the correct method of caring for floors and coverings
2. To teach homemakers the advantages of selecting practical floor coverings to correspond with the style of the home
3. To teach homemakers the advantages of selecting draperies to correspond with other furnishings in the home
4. To teach homemakers proper care of draperies.

Demonstrations were given on this project from an exhibit borrowed from Sears, Roebuck and Company on Floor Coverings. By so doing the Agent had an opportunity to actually show samples of floor coverings. Mimeographed material was given each member on the care of each type of floor covering and which was most suitable for each family. Charts and other illustrative materials were shown relating to selecting draperies to correspond with other furnishings in the home. Illustrations of attractive bedrooms were taken from magazines and posted on posters. Members have done very well with color schemes for the bedroom. The results did not in all cases measure up to the goals that were set up, but definite improvements have been observed.

Special Interest Groups

Only one of five scheduled demonstrations were conducted. The other demonstrations were not conducted as a result of scheduling too

many activities to effectively carry out the meetings.

One demonstration was conducted on Restyling Hats. The objectives as set up for the project were:

1. To teach homemakers to use hats that are discarded because of style by restyling them for future use.
2. To give some suggestions of appropriate style of hats according to the individual face and taste.

The Restyling hat demonstration was conducted by Miss IVA Byrd Johnson, Extension Clothing Specialist from V. P. I. Blacksburg, Virginia. Twenty-one leaders from six organized clubs, two unorganized communities, and four other persons attended the demonstration. The home agent and two adult leaders representing 1 club and 1 unorganized community from Campbell County also attended the demonstrations. Seventeen hats were restyled and two-hundred and twenty-five contacts were made. The meeting was rated as successful from the standpoint of reaching more people and acquainting more families with the educational program of home-making, and assisting women from unorganized communities in improving their home life. All of the ladies expressed they were very happy that they had learned to restyle hats that had previously been discarded; thus learning one other method of cutting down on money spent for the family's clothing budget.

Community Club Improvement

Demonstration Community

Sulphur Springs community has been the demonstration Community for the past several years and participates in the Community Improvement Contest sponsored by the State Advisory Board. One community in each County conducting the Extension Program participates in this program. At the 1955 Annual Meeting Sulphur Springs Community was awarded prize for improvements made in 1954.

for improvements made in 1954.

A survey of the 88 families was made in January to determine the situation and record the score. The second score in November revealed the following improvements. The first figure indicated improvement this year, the second figure represents the total in community after second score: Land ownership 7-77; in Community Club 26-80; Painted home 6-59; Water in Kitchen 3-19; Completed bath 1-9; Added room 0-14; Storage space 16-28; Shrubbery-grass 12-49; Vegetable garden 5-83; Family Cow 12-70; Family hogs 13-76; Poultry flock 21-72; Soil Conservation Plans 35-52; and A. S. C. Program 21-36.

There are two Four H Clubs with 64 members of which 44 completed their project.

The community Churches were asked to cooperate by making improvements. Sulphur Springs Church remodeled the interior, graded and seeded the lawn, added shrubbery and cut undesirable trees.

A month by month plan of work for the community was developed by the people with the aid of the Extension workers to help families achieve the goals set after the first score. Some items included were :

January	Take first score, set goals, enroll 4-H members
February	Pasture fertilization, Garden Needs, Poultry Culling
March	Garden emphasis, poultry demonstration started
April	Clean up and fix it week Follow Up Projects
May	Pasture Meeting, Rural Life Sunday, Four H Summer Plans
June	Progress Check, Top dressing corn, Garden Pest Control
July	Community recreation, Fall and Winter Gardens
August	Exhibits for fairs, alfalfa demonstrations, Winter Pasture

September Storage demonstration, Egg Production
October Second Score, evaluation, Plan future program
November Small grain demonstration, pasture management
December Family and Community Plans

Sulphur Springs Community represents 1/5 of the County's farm families. There are 2 home demonstration clubs, 2 Four H Clubs, 2 lodges, and one older youth group. All of these groups worked together to help make the community an effective demonstration of cooperative planning of families and community and set an example for the cooperating communities to follow.

Farm and Home Development Work

The farm and home development approach was begun after attendance at the concentrated three day short course for Extension Workers held in March at Virginia State College, after discussions to coordinate the thinking of the County Extension Staff, a meeting of the County Advisory Board was held to bring the leaders this approach to extension work.

Two families were selected to the Advisory Board to begin work. The W. A. Jones family of Pamplin, and the Solomon Flournoy family of Farmville Rte. 3. Bench mark inventories have been made, family wishes listed and plans have been stated. Drastic revisions on the Flournoy family's situation are being considered due to the loss of their home in October.

An agent training meeting was held in November in Charlotte County with Miss Amelia Fuller, Farm and Home Development Specialist from Blacksburg. Summary of the bench mark inventory and progress that had been made were reported and discussed. Information and possible solutions to problems that had been encountered in carrying out the program

were given. The meeting was quite informative and valuable to the agents in helping to carry out this new method of extension teaching.

The work with the Jones family included planning and execution of a home remodeling project, outlining alternative farm plan revision and coordinating the farm and home goals.

Wishes included installation of water and sewage and disposal, remodeling entire home to include front and back porches, kitchen, living room, and additional room with side porch and painting inside and outside.

Suggested ways to increase income includes: raising the below average yield of fire cured tobacco from 500 pounds per acre to 1,500 pounds, by better practices, increase grade B milk sale from six cows by better pastures and management and increasing the responsibility of their 14 year old son, who is the only other member of the family at home through his 4-H project."

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County Goals

For the past five years or more the home demonstration committee has selected reaching more people with the extension program as its county goal. In a special effort to reach more people activities included invitation to regular club and county meetings, sending circular letters, and making special home visits to non-club members. A radio broadcast was conducted from the local radio station WFLO in an effort to acquaint the public with the extension program and to reach those people not yet reached. Circular letters were sent to a number of adult women in all geographical areas of the county in an effort to initiate and make available the extension program to all families. As a result, eight women have joined active home demonstration clubs in their respective communities and requests for organization of 2 additional clubs have been received. Program load, time required to develop leaders, office work required without adequate clerical help, and time to follow the methods has retarded the expansion of the program.

Other Activities

Five County Fair

Four H and Home Demonstration Club members participated in the Five County Fair here from September 19-26. Handicrafts, Canned and bakery products, potted plants, arrangements of flowers, and exhibits on project work were exhibited by members.

Home Demonstration Clubs winning prizes on exhibits of project work according to the Dansih system were as follows:

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- Blue Ribbon Group Pamplin I- Gift Wrapping
- New Bethel- Table setting
- Mount Carmel - Simple Refreshments
- Red Ribbon Group New Hope - Meat Stretchers
- Darlington Heights - Gift Wrapping and Gift Suggestions
- Pamplin II - Simple Refreshments

In the Educational Exhibits, the County Advisory Board won second place on Farm Planning Pays, New Bethel second prize, Handicrafts, and the Home Demonstration Committee won second prize on Restyled Hats.

Prizes were also awarded on canned products, handicrafts, bakery products, potted plants, and on arrangement of cut flowers which were exhibited by both Four H and Home Demonstration members.

District Home Demonstration Committee

Twelve members from the home demonstration committee in the county attended the District home demonstration committee meeting in Mecklenburg, County in May. A report was given to the District Committee on the County goal for Prince Edward and a representative participated in the panel discussion on "How may we expand the Extension Program". The topic for this county was expanding the program through "Planned Community Projects". A report of the meeting in Mecklenburg was given in the home demonstration planning meeting in September.

National Home Demonstration Week

The highlights of the Week's activities in observance of National Home Demonstration Week May 1-7, 1955 included a Restyling Hat demonstration on May 5, twelve members attending to the District home demonstration committee in South Hill, Virginia on May 3, and a radio broadcast on May 12, 1955.

The radio broadcast was conducted from studios of Station WFLO on May 12. Six home demonstration club members appeared on the program. This is the first time a radio broadcast has been made and the results have been very effective from the standpoint of reaching and acquainting more people with the extension program and request for club organization.

On May 27 at 7:30 p.m. approximately 250 home makers, farmers, and young people attended a program and tea in observance of National Home Demonstration Week at Robert R. Moton High School. The program included demonstration on "The Basic Seven Foods" by Miss J. A. Peel, Local Home Agent Charlotte County; "Table Service and Manners Skit" by Mount Carmel Home demonstration Club; Dress for the Occasion by 4-H and Home Demonstration Members, Recognition, awarding prizes and a speech on "Today's home Builds Tomorrow's World" by Rev. L. F. Griffin, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Farmville.

The demonstration on the Seven Basic Foods included a Chart showing the basic foods necessary for a balanced diet and an demonstration in which an appetizing buffet tray using the seven basic foods was prepared. The demonstration was both informative and interesting.

The demonstration on Table Service and Manners was given in the form of a skit by home demonstration members. The skit included fundamentals of correct table service and manners and incorrect table service and manners. The ladies gave a very informative and interesting demonstration.

Dress for the Occasion was a Fashion revue in which home demonstration members and 4-H'ers modeled correct dress for church, street,

sports, school and evening wear. Appropriate dress for the different occasions was demonstrated by forty home demonstration and 4-H members. Those in attendance stated the demonstration was very good and quite informative.

First prize was awarded the Mount Carmel home demonstration club for having all ten members present and second prize went to New Hope home demonstration club for having thirteen out of eighteen members present. Mrs. Georgia Saunders of the New Hope Club won the prize for bringing the largest number of non club members. Immediately following the program a tea was served in the school cafeteria to all present. Many requests have been made for information about extension work and organization of home demonstration clubs in geographical areas where there are no clubs at present. Plans are made to begin immediate work in this direction.

Farmers Conference

The County Farmers' Conference was held on February 11, and 75 farmers and home-makers attended. Classes in Agriculture and Home Economics that came in for certain parts of the program are not included in this total.

The program was planned by the County Advisory Board relative to topics to be discussed, date, publicity and arrangements. The Farm and Home Agent executed the details. The conference this year was designed to emphasize phases of Farm and Home Management with relation to credit and record keeping.

A. H. Fuhr, Administrative Officer, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., led the discussion on Credit and Money Management, and J. W. Byers of the Social Security Administration discussed the Social Security program for farm and families. The farm and home agents discussed the farm and home phase of the 1955 County extension program to complete the program. Lunch was served in the high school cafeteria.

Involved in making the plans was the committee on Arrangements who made the contacts necessary to hold the meeting at Robert H. Moton High School, plans for lunch, providing a black board, chalk, and related matters.

The publicity committee helped to announce the conference in their community, through churches, community groups, home demonstration clubs, and individual contacts. The farm and home agent followed up with 400 circular letters to farmers and home makers, preparation of the program, helping committees to function and making radio announcements.

The conference was rated as effective from the standpoint of development through participation, information gained and attendance.

Educational Tour to Williamsburg and Jamestown

Fifty one home demonstration club members and friends went to Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown, Virginia on August 4 on an Educational Tour by chartered bus. They witnessed and enjoyed the colorful and dramatic production of the "Common Glory" and visited historical sites in the Williamsburg-Jamestown area. Picnic lunches were enjoyed, and from expressions of those who went it was very educational, interesting and enjoyable.

Community Projects

⑦ Seven home demonstration clubs in the county completed their community projects. The objectives of the project were:

1. To teach advantages of working together for community improvement
2. To help strengthen leaders activities in the county
3. To conduct a project in each home demonstration club

All active clubs completed the project. The Mount Carmel Home demonstration club is still working on an old school house as a community center. The home demonstration club and Sunday School cooperated in sponsoring a baby contest and play to raise funds for improvements to the center this year. The project was successful and the proceeds netted \$79.85. This money will be used to paint inside, paper one room and complete payment on the concrete blocks and other materials used to underpin the school house. The New Bethel Club is purchasing material and making draperies for their choir stand. The New Hope and Hampden

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Sydney clubs are giving games and toys to the Mercy Seat elementary school. The games will be selected on the basis of Chronological Ages of the children. The clubs have made previous donations and gifts to the school since the schools in the Hampden district have been consolidated and recreational facilities are limited. The Darlington Heights club is donating ferns and artificial flowers to the church for beautification to be used especially during the months that cut flowers are not available for pulpit decorations. The Pamplin I Club is giving games to the Pamplin 10 School and the Pamplin I Club gave games to the First Rock and Five Forks elementary schools.

Seven clubs in the county will distribute ten Christmas baskets to disabled and needy persons in the community on Christmas Eve. The objectives of the project are:

1. To teach members to share with others when the situation warrants
2. To teach members to strengthen the community by working together
- 3/ To get cooperation from members in carrying out the project

Result Demonstrations

Thirty six result demonstrations were conducted this year. Included are: Yard Improvement, Bathroom, Mailbox and Entrance to Homes, Poultry and Storage. The objectives of the project are:

1. To bring to the public the advantages of longtime planning
2. To try conducting a demonstration in each community
3. To teach improved practices through these demonstrations

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Home visits, circular letters, bulletins, meetings and tours by communities were procedures used in carrying out this project. A county wide tour planned this year could not be held due to ineffective scheduling. The demonstrators in some instances had not complete work planned on the date the tour was to be conducted. The tour is planned for early spring.

Results to date show nine of the 10 demonstrators on yard improvement seeded the lawn, planted flowers or shrubbery or made permanent walks. All 13 home improvement demonstrators did some improvement to the home which included painting and papering rooms, adding rooms and storage spaces, buying washing machines, oil circulators, storm windows and floors, and other small items for the home. One demonstrator on Bathroom completed installation of a complete water system including the bathroom. All six demonstrators on Mailboxes and Entrance to homes either painted the mailbox, put on name plates with addresses, new posts for the mail boxes or all three. The demonstrators on storage have begun the work but not completed it to date. The poultry demonstrators have been working very closely with the farm agent and much improvement has been reported concerning their poultry flock production and management program.

4-H Club Work

There are nine 4-H Clubs in Prince Edward County with an enrollment of 207 boys and 228 girls for a total of 435 members. Twenty-two adult volunteer leaders and eighteen junior leaders assisted with the Four H Club Program. Twenty-five of these leaders serve as project

leaders and fifteen serve as organizational leaders. Although these leaders work very faithful with assisting the agents in executing the 4-H program, there is still a need for more leaders. Approximately 984 other boys and girls of 4-H age should be reached, but with the present load it is impossible to work with more boys and girls and do an effective job. Plans are made to recruit more leaders and it is believed that the requests that have been made to the many people to serve as leaders will be accepted in the future.

Project training meetings were conducted for the leaders on the project "Your room Pep it up" and "Food Preservation." Other projects that were conducted by 4-H members were garden, pig, poultry, meal planning, clothing and safety. Project instructions were given at club meetings and leaders assisted in improving project completions.

There was an improvement this year, but efforts are still being made to get a larger percentage of completions. One hundred thirty girls completed their projects out of a total enrollment of two hundred twenty-eight.

Your Room - Pep it Up

The objectives for this project were:

1. To teach members to arrange furniture and accessories in an orderly manner (if needed)
2. To teach members to plan an attractive room
3. To teach members to make a bed daily and keep clothes in place provided for them for two months
4. To teach members to care for their room
5. To teach members to make inventory of bedroom and list improvements needed

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6. To suggest to members to provide a good lamp for desk
7. To teach members how to use a growing plant or to arrange fresh flowers to their room.
8. To teach members how to make a dresser scarf

One hundred ninety-four 4-H members were enrolled in this project. Club members were given demonstrations on arrangement of furniture and accessories, planning an attractive room, how to make a bed correctly, and how to make a dresser scarf. The members made inventories of their room, kept records of the number of times they correctly made up the bed and hung up their clothes and many members selected some type of growing plant for her room. Club members exhibited the scarfs made at the Annual Five County Fair held here in September. Ninety-five members completed this project.

Food Preservation

The objectives for this project were:

1. To teach members to make a canning budget
2. To teach members to can by budget
3. To teach members to use improved and correct methods in canning

Ten 4-H members were enrolled in this project. Eight members were enrolled in canning and two in freezing. There were two project groups in the several communities and project was conducted during the summer months. Adult leaders, Junior leaders and Agent assisted the members in the completion of the project. The parents also assisted the members with the project. All ten members enrolled completed the project.

Short Course

Six 4-H girls and one adult leader attended the State 4-H Short Course held at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia for a week.

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Members were selected to attend the short course on the basis of achievement and interest. The objectives for participation in this short course as determined by the 4-H Council with leaders and agents assisting were:

1. To reward 4-H members for good work
2. To provide opportunity for association with members on state wide basis

As a result of participation in this activity members were stimulated to improve their work. Members attending the short course gave excellent reports and encouraged other members to do better work and to get other girls and boys that were not members to join organize a 4-H club in their respective community. Members attending stated they found the conference inspiring, challenging, and informative.

Wild Life Conference

Three 4-H girls and one Adult leader attended the Wild Life Conference held at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia for three days. Members were selected to attend the Wild Life Conference on the basis of interest and accomplishments in the conservation of natural resources. The objectives for participation in the Wild Life Conference determined by the 4-H Council with leaders and agents assisting were:

1. To teach 4-H members the importance and significance of the conservation of natural resources
2. To reward members for good work
3. To stimulate members to appreciate nature and to cooperate for the best interest of all

Members attending this conference gained a deeper appreciation for nature, and the Conservation of Natural resources. This was evident through their comprehensive reports to the clubs and interest in con -

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ervation of Natural resources.

Community Activities (Christmas Project)

All clubs will cooperate with the school in giving Christmas baskets in their respective communities. The objectives are:

1. To teach members to share responsibility
2. To teach members to strengthen the community by working together
3. To get cooperation from members and parents in carrying out the project.

All clubs are planning to participate in this project.

Five County Fair

Four H members participated in the Five County Fair held here from September 19-26, 1955. Handicrafts, clothing, canned and bakery products, potted plants and exhibits on project work were exhibited by members.

Due to school just opening in the county only two clubs put educational exhibits on the Fair. These exhibits were on project work. The Mission and Mercy Seat Clubs exhibited work done in the "Your room, Pep it up" project and won second prize. The Mission Club also exhibited a handicraft exhibit and won first prize.

Prizes were also awarded on canned products, handicrafts, bakery products, potted plants and clothing which were exhibited by the 4-H Club members.

County Contests

The county contests are designed to motivate members to greater achievement and acquaint the public with the 4-H program. The objectives were:

1. To enroll members in contests available
2. To solicit cooperation of leaders and public in promoting the program
3. To encourage parent cooperation
4. To get information about the 4-H Club activities to the public
5. To encourage completion of projects

Leaders and parents are continuing to do a nice job of participation in this activity but there is still a need for more of this type of participation from other parents and leaders. Club members were encouraged to complete their projects. The percentage this year is commensurate with the efforts put forth. County awards that were presented members were as follows:

Achievement	Carmelia Cabarrus
Canning	Patricia Anne Davis
Clothing	Helen Sheppersen
Food Preparation	Emma Carey
Frozen Foods	Pauline Johnson
Home Improvement	Bessie Ann Reid

The contest served as an incentive for better all around 4-H Club work. It is believed that members will continue to strive "to make the best better" with better participation, interest and project completion in the future.

Young Men and Women's Work

One extension organized group of older youth consisting of twelve men and thirteen women between 18 and 30 was assisted this year. Home visits, circular letters, and bulletins were distributed to the mem-

bers. These men and women had an opportunity to participate in County and State Extension Activities. Other activities included group discussions on problems of this age group, family relationships, social activities and participation in the Five County Fair. Some other activities scheduled was not held due to members of this group leaving the county for higher institutions of learning, better jobs, armed forces, marriage and other reasons. It is hoped that from the interest of those who remain that they will cooperate in encouraging others between this age to join the group. At present the home demonstration Club members, community clubs and other organized groups are assisting the agents in teaching more young men and women. Assistance has also been given to unorganized groups and other individuals not directly organized by extension service. Efforts were made to give any kind of assistance available with problems that they have, pertaining to the home and surroundings and developing themselves to useful citizens

Scope of Work

There are nine home demonstration clubs in Prince Edward County that meet to carry out Extension practices with a membership of one hundred and thirty five. The membership remains the same for this year compared to last year due to the loss of some members. Twelve adults have joined active homedemonstration clubs this year but ten members became inactive. This the total active membership remains the same. Active members became inactive as a result of finding part-time jobs to supplement the familys' income and other family obligations. Circular letters, bulletins, and invitation to community and county are methods used to keep these members informed of extension activities.

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When the situations have been improved it is believed that these members will become active.

There are nine 4-H clubs with a membership of two-hundred seven boys, and two hundred twenty-eight girls. The two hundred twenty-eight girls are carrying two hundred twelve projects. One hundred thirty girls completed their projects.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. H. D. Clubs or Groups	12	12	12	9	9
Membership-----	125	125	135	135	135
No. 4-H Clubs-----	16	14	15	8	9
Membership-----	290	241	222	226	228
No. of Community clubs	0	1	1	2	1
Membership	0	35	42	58	25
No. other families reached	100	105	95	120	375

Methods used to increase scope of work and publicize

Home Demonstration Work

Some methods used to increase scope of work and publicize home demonstration work were through community club meetings, home visits, leader training meetings, office calls, home demonstration meetings, educational tours, in and out of the county, National home demonstration week observances, newspaper articles published about work accomplished or planned, announcements of extension activities at church meetings, on radio, public service announcements and other public meetings, giving community projects and Christmas Baskets to disabled persons. Invitation of non-club members to extension activities, information carried by club members to friends and neighbors on progress and activities of the home demonstration clubs, and a radio broadcast made with six other home

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demonstration members participating.

Organizations functioning to strengthen the 1955 Extension Program

A. County Home Demonstration Committee

The County home demonstration committee is composed of twenty seven members. This number represents three home demonstration club members selected from each club in the county. The committee met four times this year to analyze the county situation, and assist in executing the program as planned for the year. The committee assisted in planning the County observance of National Home Demonstration Week, selected delegates to the district home demonstration committee meeting, studied plans by which full participation in all phases of the district program could be maintained, observed needs in each community, and assisted in making program calendars for the year at the planning meetings. This committee also worked with the Advisory Board on problems of the community improvement program, Five County Fair, tours, and all agencies that will strengthen the county extension program.

B. County Advisory Board

The County Agricultural Advisory Board composed of 55 leaders representing the several communities and neighborhoods, is the overall county organization assisting the extension agents with organization, planning and conduct of the work in the county. Representation is included from the Home Demonstration Clubs, Four H Clubs, Junior Four H Council and Young Men and Women's Club. Leaders from non-farm groups, professional workers, commodity and Special Interest groups are included.

Quarterly meetings were held to plan, follow up execute and evaluate the various activities. Committees appointed to function this year included:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Agronomy Committee | Home Demonstration Committee |
| Awards Committee | Livestock Committee |
| Four H Club Committee | Community Improvement Committee |
| Forestry Committee | Better Homes Committee |
| Farm and Home Development Committee | |

In addition to these committees, special committees are appointed as needed and sub committees on specific phases of activity when necessary.

All major and minor project activities involved participation of members of this group.

Specific activities of a countywide nature included: representation at the State Advisory Board meeting, District Home Demonstration Committee meeting, helped sponsor the State representative in the International Farm Youth Exchange Program, (Walter G. Berryman, local 4-H member spent six months in England and Wales on this program), helped sponsor the Junior Market Hog Show and Sale in Lynchburg, transportation arrangements of farmers attending the State Farmers Conference and such other activities to help carry out the County Program.

C. County 4-H Council

The County 4-H Council is composed of 45 Four H Club Officers and 18 adult leaders. This council set up goals for members attendance at meetings, project completion and club standards. The council assisted in plans for observance of National 4-H Club Week, Rural Life Sunday

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and the Five County Fair.

Twelve club members attended the State Four H Short Course and six attended the Wild Life Conference.

The council is represented on the County Board and report regularly on progress made and participates in planning and executing the total county program.

D. County Four H Project Planning Committee

The 4-H project planning committee is composed of Junior leaders, two club members, and adult project leaders from each club in the county. The committee met three times this year. The first meeting the 4-H program was planned after a study of the needs and interests of the members with special attention given to total county program, and problems of the family. At the second meeting project instructions were given for projects selected during the year. The third meeting is held to determine 4-H County and State winners, and other activities necessary to carry out the proposed program to completion.

Leadership

Leaders are doing a very nice job on leadership. All leaders, organizational, program development, and subject matter leaders work diligently in executing their respective duties.

There are forty-five adult home demonstration project leaders and forty 4-H women and girls project leaders who are actively engaged in carrying out the extension program. Twenty-six training meetings were held for these leaders. As a result the leaders held sixty-one meetings without agent present and assisted the agent in seventy-nine meetings.

Last year there were thirty-two adult project leaders engaged in

carrying out the extension program with sixty-five leaders in the neighborhood leader system. The leaders held twenty-seven meetings and assisted in fifty-two meetings.

In comparison to last year, there is an increase in project leaders both 4-H and Adult. Leaders held more meetings without the agent present. This was due to more leader training meetings being held and the agent having to be out of the county on sick leave. Leaders also assisted with a few more meetings this year. The leaders continue to grow as the years pass and are much more at ease and confident when giving demonstrations or discussions on club activities than they have been previous years.

H. D. Club project Leadership	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. project leaders(Subject Matter)	32	38	40	32	45
No. goal chairman -----	12	12	7	8	14
No program development leaders	22	13	16	8	9
No. result demonstrators-----	7	10	22	26	39
No. training meetings by Specialist -----	0	0	1	0	3
District Agent	0	0	0	0	1
Agent -----	4	3	3	13	26
Attendance at all training meetings ----	42	48	116	290	577
No. meetings without an agent ---	58	30	18	27	61
No. meetings leaders assisted----	18	16	45	52	79
Demonstrations by leaders -----	39	52	50	42	43
Talks and discussions by leaders	26	32	40	51	112

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Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership		1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. Club Officers -----		80	90	90	56	45
No. Adult Project leaders -----		32	38	40	25	20
No. result demonstrations -----		0	6	4	8	9
No. training meetings held by:						
Specialist -----	0	0	0	1	0	
Agent -----	3	1	4	6	7	
District Agent -----	0	0	0	1	1	
Member club dept. -----	0	0	0	1	0	
Others -----	0	0	0	0	0	
Total attendance at leader training meetings	31	14	80	54	159	
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	115	7	12	14	16	
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent	90	51	47	26	69	
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	20	15	15	18	68	
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	79	68	72	70	60	
by junior leaders	40	16	20	24	9	
Young men and Womens' Clubs	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
No. of Officers	0	7	8	8	6	
No. of adult leaders or sponsors	0	2	2	3	2	

Outstanding Leader

Mrs. Eva Hurt of the New Hope Home demonstration Club has been and still is an outstanding leader in the Home Demonstration Club, other Extension activities and has served as leader of the 4-H Club which meets

at the school in her community. Mrs Hurt is a result demonstrator on Poultry, yard and home improvement.

Mrs. Hurt's role as 4-H leader included assisting 4-H members with project instructions and other related activities. She has one girl who has not yet reached 4-H Club age but is interested in sewing and is getting some assistance from her mother and the agent. By the time she is of club age it is believed she will make an outstanding 4-H Club member.

Aside from 4-H club activities, Mrs. Hurt is active in the P.T.A. Church and other civic activities in the community. She is president of the home demonstration club, representative to county home demonstration committee and the county Advisory Board and has been a result demonstrator on home and yard improvement for a number of years.

As a yard improvement demonstrator a demonstration was conducted by the local Farm Agent on fertilizing, seeding and planting of shrubbery on her lawn last year. The results were good and she has a very pretty lawn.

This year as home improvement demonstrator she has added a porch 1 bedroom and a bathroom although she has not installed running water, painted the kitchen, papered 4 rooms and painted the outside of her home, and purchased small household equipment. This improvement makes the house more livable and attractive.

Mrs. Hurt takes an active part in seeing that her club is represented at county meetings and meet all other requirements. In the absence of the agent she conducts the meetings giving demonstrations if necessary, talks and assist in making and carrying out plans for her

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club improvement. In many instances she has served as program development, organizational and subject matter leader.

Participation in extension activities has really helped in developing Mrs. Hurt. Although the potentialities were present having the opportunity to participate meant a great deal in her total development. Some areas she has participated this year are: serving as president, representative to County and State Meetings, chairman of county wide activities and participating in the radio broadcast at the local radio station.

Mrs. Hurt is eager to learn new ideas to help her club and community. She takes suggestions and criticisms from her club members without resentment. In conclusion Mrs. Hurt has done an outstanding job in Extension and community activities.

Outstanding Family

One of the families doing outstanding extension work in 1955 was the T. C. Berryman Family of Pamplin, Rte. 2.

Mrs. Berryman is program development leader, representative to the County home demonstration committee and Advisory Board and result demonstrator on Home Improvement.

Mr. Berryman has served on the County Community Improvement Committee Agronomy Committee and the Farm and Home Development Committee.

Their adopted son James Burnes is a 4-H Club member and carried a tobacco project this year. Their older son Walter Berryman, was selected as International Farm Youth Exchange student to England and Wales for six months. Walter was the first 4-H member from Virginia to be selected.

Mrs. Berryman has also served as secretary for her club and had been the club's program development leader and result demonstrator for

for a number of years. Last year Mrs. Berryman installed running water in her home papered 2 rooms, painted the kitchen and a bedroom. Improvements have also been made to road leading to her home. This year's improvement included making a dressing table stool for her bedroom and purchasing a television for family recreation.

The Berryman family has always been a progressive family; one interested in work that will result in better living. They have been active in extension service for an number of years and contributed much to the effectiveness of the total county program.

Outstanding Club

An example of an Outstanding Club in 1955 is the 35 member Pamplin No. 1 H. D. Club.

The club has the largest membership of any club in the county and are still adding new members.

The club began the year with 28 members on roll. During the campaign of reaching more people with the extension program, which is the county's goal, seven members joined the club.

Some of the activities of the club this year included a family dinner with discussions of family problems in August representation at all county activities such as County Advisory Board, Home Demonstration Committee, National Home Demonstration Week Observance, Five County Fair, and assisted in the Cancer drive of which the agent served as chairman. Members of the club also participated in the radio broadcast and the Special Interest Meeting on "Restyling Hats" in May.

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The club leads all other clubs in percent of improvements this year. More running water systems have been installed than any other club in the county. To date there are eight systems. Mrs. W. A. Jones president of the club is also one of the Farm and Home Development families and is doing a complete remodeling job to her home. One demonstration has been conducted on Yard Improvement at the home of Mrs. S. A. Green Rte. 2, Pamplin. Other members have made improvements which include painting and papering rooms and purchasing smallhousehold equipment.

The club's community project for the year is giving games to the two elementary schools which their children attend and giving two baskets to disabled and needy persons in their community.

The club had the largest number of members on the educational tour of Williamsburg and Jamestown in August. They enjoyed historical sites in Jamestown and the performance of the "Common Glory" in Williamsburg.

Significant Achievement of Extension Work

An example of significant family achievement from extension teaching is the S&S. Reid family, Green Bay, Va. Rte. 1. Beginning with a bride; an axe and faith he returned from their wedding ceremony over 40 years ago to their one acre of land. Today the family home complete with modern conveniences is a demonstration of wise decision and hard work. The farm now embraces 500 acres, including the tract where his mother served as a slave, a modern 20 cow Grade A Dairy Barn, and equipment to meet their needs.

His dairy business began after attending a Farmers' Conference at Hampton Institute in the 20's. He heard a discussion on supplementing the family income from dairy products. He stopped in Richmond on his way home from the conference and bought a cream separator on credit and began

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selling cream from his 2 family cows. Continuing to follow extension teaching the enterprise grew to its present proportion.

In 1941 extension work installed a complete bathroom as a demonstration. The farm home has been the focal point on many demonstrations through the years. In 1952 the 40th anniversary of Extension Work in the county was held at this farm to hear the story and see the results.

Mr. Reid died this year and his daughter and son in law are carrying on helping their 14 year old son grow up to take over the enterprise.

Mrs. Reid raises 200 turkeys and 1,000 broilers annually. Their daughter is leading of the local 4-H Club and her 2 children are 4-H Club members.

This family's achievement is an example of direct extension influence and many other families have benefited by their example.

Appraisal of Year's Work

Reviewing the extension program for 1955 on the basis on contributing to better homemaking, rural living improved practices, changes of skills and attitudes and improved people, the program was very successful.

Participation in the extension program exceeded all previous years. Improvement was noted in the quantity and quality of work. Leaders are more developed and are taking an active part in the extension teaching thus relieving the agent to do work in some other needed areas. The program as a whole was effective in view of the obstacles that were encountered. Application of practices was higher than before. Extension teaching was attempted through different approaches and proved very effective.

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The program, if as effective as the results show, should contribute much to the total improvement of the people in the future as changes and closer observations are made.

The greatest limitation affecting the program was inadequate clerical assistance to make best use of agent's time.

In light of these facts, in strengthening the extension program for 1956 more emphasis should be placed on 4-H Club work and more time devoted to reaching people in all magisterial districts of the county. To do this the agent plans to have more leader training meetings for adults. From observations, it is believed that the adults could very well help execute the program without the program suffering from leadership.

With the conclusion of the reports from this year's work there is still need for improvements on some phases of the work. Some phases of the program was done very well and participation and results of project work was effective. However, some other phases, especially special interest activities scheduled, were not accomplished. The progress that was made was based on using the best recommended methods available and should result in better homemaking, better rural living and improved people all over the county.