

ANNUAL REPORT

County Extension Work

1953



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COUNTY

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Table of Contents

- I Cover. x
- II Table of Contents. x
- III The county Situation Affecting 1953 Program. 1
- IV Contributions of the 1953 Program to Better
 - Family Living. 2
- V Adult Work 4

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

a. Objectives

b. Methods

- 1. Dressing up "Everyday" Foods
- 2. Broiler Meals - Emphasis on Special Diets.
- 3. Diet Food Served Appetizingly
- 4. Oven Meals.

c. Results

2. Clothing

a. Objectives

b. Methods

- 1. Buying a Dress - Fabrics and Their Care.
- 2. New Hints on Sewing - Emphasis on Children's Clothes.

c. Results.

3. House Furnishings

a. Objectives

b. Methods

1. Picture Framing - Selection and Refinishing
Frames, Selection of Mats, Pictures and Their
Hanging.

c. Results.

4. Housing

a. Objectives

b. Methods

1. Bedroom Storage

2. General Storage

c. Results.

5. Rural Arts

a. Objectives

b. Methods and Results

1. Textile Painting

2. Chair Caning.

3. Tray Etching.

B. Other Activities. 14

1. A Outstanding Family.

2. A Club in Community Project.

3. Community Improvement Work.

4. Federation Goal Activities.

5. County Objectives.

a. First Aid and Home Nursing.

b. Telephones.

c. Community Hospital

d. Community Centers

- e. Family Recreation.
- f. Civil Defense.
 - 1. Food Preservation.
 - 2. Feeding Masses of People.
 - 3. Emergency Shelf - (Food and Nutrition)
 - 4. Home Nursing and First Aid.
- 6. Result Demonstrations.
- 7. Year books.
- 8. County Fair.
- 9. Achievement Day.
- 10. District Federation Meeting.
- 11. Library Goal.

VI 4-H Club Work. 28

- A. Project Work
 - 1. Room Improvement.
 - a. Objectives.
 - b. Methods.
 - c. Results.
 - 2. Food and Nutrition.
 - a. Objectives
 - b. Methods and Results.
- B. Other Activities. 33
 - 1. 4-H Summer Camps.
 - 2. 4-H Club Short Course.
 - 3. County Fair.
 - 4. Achievement Day.

VII ● Young men and Women's Work. 34

VIII Scope of Work 35

IX How Other Organizations Functioned in 1953 Program. 35

 A. County Board of Agriculture.

 B. County Home Demonstration Committee.

 C. County 4-H Project Planning Committee.

 D. County 4-H Council.

 E. County 4-H Honor Club.

 F. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars.

 G. Professional Workers Council.

X Leadership. 38

 A. Contributions of Volunteer Leaders to the Program.

 1. Organizational.

 2. Program Development.

 3. Subject Matter.

 B. Growth of Leadership.

 C. An Outstanding Leader.

XI Work In Cooperation with Other Agencies 42

XII Appraisal of Year's Work 46

III The County Situation Affecting 1953 Program

Mecklenburg County is situated in the bright tobacco belt, with tobacco being the chief course of income. Thus the economic and social life of the county centers largely around the growing, harvesting and selling of the tobacco crop. During the winter months, the women attend the home demonstration club meetings and take an active part in their functionings. However, during the late spring and summer and into the fall, the tobacco crops occupy the attention of the entire family.

During the summer of 1952, the drought seriously affected the tobacco crop, and thus the income of the county families. This factor influenced the program planning for 1953.

For several years, the Buggs Island Dam Project, which is situated in the county, has provided a supplemental income to many families. This project, however, has been completed and the income from it has been cut off. So the family finances for many in the county has been doubly curtailed.

However, many of our home demonstration club women have found employment at the Robbins Mill, which is located in Clarksville, at the Ribbon Mill in South Hill, and the shirt factories at both LaCrosse and Chase City and a shoe factory in Chase City. All of these are comparatively new industries in the county, and they all affect the farm families to a great extent.

They provide a supplemental income for the families, but they also in many instances, take the woman of the house away from home during the day. It is therefore important that her work methods and equipment be improved, so that she can complete her house work in a much shorter time.

Besides this, many other people are working in these mills and thus help on the farm is more difficult to obtain.

All are endeavoring to maintain the higher standard of living to which they became accustomed when money was more plentiful, so they are working harder. The increased interest in nutrition and time saving methods of food preparation are other evidences of fewer hours to work at home and the higher standard of living.

IV Contributions of the 1953 Program to Better Family Living.

As one considers, in retrospect, the 1953 Extension Program in the county, it is difficult to rise above the details and get a composite view, and to be able to pick out those things which can be said to have contributed to better family living in the county. However, I would say that the improvement in the homes, and the improved practices in home making and general housekeeping have certainly contributed to better family living.

In addition to these, the increased awareness of our responsibility as citizens is evidenced by the fact that of the home demonstration club women reporting, 68% voted in the elections during the past year. Undoubtedly, the splendid programs on "Citizenship" which were prepared by the County Federation Goal Chairman, Mrs. C. H. Crowder, and which were given each month at all the home

demonstration club meetings, deserve a big share of the credit for this increased interest in our Government.

As evidence of the improvement in the homes and their surroundings, from the same 159 reports, eighteen (18) improved their mail boxes, eight (8) installed running water, ten (10) installed bath rooms, forty-nine (49) improved their kitchens, and eighty (80) improved other rooms. Ten (10) constructed new dwellings and twelve (12) remodeled existing ones, while seventy (70) improved their home grounds.

In 1949 there were ten (10) home demonstration clubs with a membership of 253; and fifteen (15) 4-H Clubs with 263 members. During 1953 the home demonstration clubs numbered fourteen (14) with a membership of 323 and there were eighteen (18) 4-H Clubs with 282 girls enrolled. Home Demonstration information was given directly to approximately 2370 other people.

New foods ideas learned from the demonstrations at the club meetings were used approximately 8500 times. 8877 quarts of food were reported to have been canned and 19,382 pounds of food frozen. These figures represent reports from only 50% of the club members.

From these same reports, seventy-eight (78) pieces of furniture were refinished and forty (40) pieces upholstered.

Two (2) long time goals which have received much attention and work from the Home Demonstration Club women are showing tangible results. They are a telephone cooperative and a community hospital. The telephone cooperative which was slow in getting started, has about completed its first line and telephone installations and is expected to be in operation in one community within a few weeks. From that

community they expect to continue to expand and install telephones until every householder in this area who wants a telephone, has one.

The hospital building is very nearly completed and is expected to be ready to receive patients early in the spring.

Another goal which was set up because of the Defense Program was more home demonstration club members trained in Home Nursing and First Aid. As a result of this, three (3) home demonstration club members completed Nursing Instructors Courses. These were Mrs. Dave Bryant of the Chase City Club, Mrs. James Sheppard of the Buffalo Club and Mrs. E. L. Watkins of the Palmer Springs Club. Seven (7) clubs signified a desire for a course in home nursing. Three (3) of these clubs have completed the course, and the other four (4) are to be given after Christmas. The three (3) clubs completing were Boydton, Wightman and Palmer Springs, altogether receiving a total of twenty-two (22) certificates.

Two (2) members, Mrs. Horace Gurley and Mrs. Dave Bryant, also took an Instructor's Course in First Aid. They have successfully conducted a First Aid Course for a troop of Boy Scouts and awarded them thirty-eight (38) certificates of completion.

The Skipwith Club took a First Aid Course and eight (8) received their certificates.

V

Adult Work

A. Project Work.

1. Foods and Nutrition.

a. Objectives.

The most important subject matter field contained in the 1953 Program for the Mecklenburg County Home Demonstration Clubs is "Foods." The objectives in these programs are:

First, to improve the health of the county people by serving balanced, nutritious and attractive meals.

Second, to be able to stretch the "food dollar" in this critical time of increased living costs, by serving low cost dishes that will conform to the nutritional requirements.

Third, to learn to prepare the above mentioned foods in the shortest possible time and in the most efficient manner, since so many of the homemakers in the county are also wage earners outside the home.

b. Methods

1. Dressing up "Everyday" Foods.

In this demonstration emphasis was placed on making everyday foods more appealing and thereby more appetizing. Meals can be beautified and delicious at the same time, and it is far more interesting to cook when some effort is also made to make foods look pretty. By making cheaper foods more appealing, the food budget can be stretched.

2. Broiler Meals. Emphasis on Special Diets.

Broiling foods is recommended as a healthful method of cooking in preference to frying. Many of us get too much fat in our diets, and broiling can avoid this, since no extra fat is needed. Aside from the health angle, broiling foods saves time. Since time and health were both considerations in program planning, this subject was very appropriate. Also, many people in the county have recently acquired electric stoves, and are eager to learn to use them to the

best advantage. So in having the demonstration on broiling, this goal was accomplished.

Both of these demonstrations were given entirely by leaders. Miss Cameron gave the leader training meeting when the agent was out of the county on sick leave. Ten (10) clubs had leaders present and they gave the demonstrations to their own clubs as well as neighboring ones which had no leaders trained.

3. Diet Foods Served Appetizingly.

In this demonstration, emphasis was placed on the desirability of keeping ones weight down for health's sake. In counting calories, extra pounds can be avoided and many times serious illnesses can be avoided. The need to hold ones weight down as age advances by stressing the diseases of obesity was brought out. Then low caloric recipes which can be very nutritious and very attractive, were demonstrated.

4. Oven Meals.

The chief purpose in this demonstration was to teach time and fuel saving methods of preparing food. The whole meal from the oven is a popular way to cook, and an economical one. Since so many people are buying new stoves with controlled ovens, there was much interest in this demonstration, which showed a meat, two vegetables and a dessert being cooked all at once.

Ten (10) clubs were represented at the leader training meeting for this demonstration. As usual, where a club was unable to be represented, the leader from the neighboring club acted as leader. While the oven meal was cooking, Mrs. S. B. Land, who was the hostess for the South Hill Club, gave a demonstration on making "Snow Man" cakes for Christmas.

c. Results.

The results of the demonstrations on "Foods" was that among the home demonstration women themselves, approximately 8500 times the new food ideas were used. This certainly would indicate that more time and money were saved and that the families were better nourished.

In many of the clubs, the members who needed to lose some weight resolved to begin counting their calories. Another result of this demonstration was a very comprehensive exhibit booth on the subject of "Low Caloric Diets," which was arranged by the Finchley Club at the Mecklenburg County Fair.

2. Clothing.

a. Objectives.

The main objective in the program on clothing is to teach the wise planning and buying of clothing, thus making the clothing budget go as far as possible. One advantage to be gained by careful planning is that of making the various articles of clothing blend so as to avoid unnecessary buying of accessories; also choosing the better dress so that it can be "basic" and be used in a number of ways by the wise planning of accessories.

Also an objective was to learn more about the newer fabrics, so many of which are on our counters today; and the care of which we know too little.

b. Methods.

1. Buying a Dress - Fabrics and Their Care.

In this demonstration, samples of the various new fabrics were shown, and facts about their care were given, as well as their outstanding characteristics. Many times, the groups assembled were found to be wearing various types of the new fabrics; often helpful suggestions in the wearing qualities could be given by members of the group.

Mrs. Paul Clark of the Palmer Springs Club gave an excellent demonstration to her club and to one other club who did not have a leader present at the leader training meeting. Mrs. Clark had secured from various sources, samples of many fabrics of the newer type. With each one she had a picture of a garment made up and she also gave suggestions as to it's care.

It was emphasized that in buying clothes, bright colors often should be avoided, because they not only "date" a garment, but also because they emphasize a bad figure.

2. New Hints on Sewing - Emphasis on Children's Clothes.

In these days when help is difficult to get and time is an all important element, children's clothes should have self-help features, so that a child can early learn to dress himself. Thought also should be given to the ease of laundering. At the leader training meeting for this subject, which was held by Miss Johnson, the leaders were asked to bring a child's garment. In this way, she pointed out to the leaders the various good and bad features to be watched. These

leaders carried the demonstration back to their various clubs, and in many instances gave helpful information on the buying of childrens clothes to people outside their various clubs.

c. Results.

In the various home demonstration clubs in the county there are many young mothers, and in some instances there are grandmothers who help with the buying and construction of childrens clothes. These were all benefitted by the new and helpful features which were brought out in the demonstration on Children's Clothes. In the demonstration on buying dresses with emphasis on fabrics and their care, I feel certain that there was not a woman who saw the demonstration who did not learn some helpful facts about the newer fabrics.

The information gained in the two (2) demonstrations on clothing was used, according to reports, approximately 372 times.

3. House Furnishings.

a. Objective.

The objective of any program on "house furnishings" is to create a more attractive and comfortable home in order that the occupants of the home, who compose the family group, might be more comfortable and happy, thereby enjoying a richer and fuller family life.

Another objective is that the homes be ones into which guests may be invited with pride and pleasure. When the homes in a community have reached such a standard, the general community life will be improved, because the members of such a community will stay in the community for their pleasure.

Another objective is to try to teach and help the people to use what they have to the best advantage, and many times to restore and use what they already own in preference to buying something new,

b. Methods.

The demonstrations as set up in this field for 1953 were pertaining to pictures: Picture Framing - Selection and Refinishing frames, and the Selection of Mats, Pictures and How To Hang Pictures.

A leader training meeting was held by the agent and a leader, Mrs. Alfred Slagle, who has done a great deal of work on refinishing and restoring old frames. Twenty-two (22) leaders from eleven (11) clubs attended this meeting and carried the demonstrations back to their clubs.

It was interesting to note the angle from which the various leaders approached the subject. Mrs. R. L. Andrews of the Chase City Club, very successfully taught her club the art of cutting and using a mat for a picture correctly. They used that as the subject for their exhibit booth at the Fair.

Mrs. S. B. Land of the South Hill Club showed in detail how to restore old frames, with various finishes. This was the subject which they chose for their exhibit booth at the Fair.

The Buffalo Club also chose a phase of this subject for their booth - Hanging Pictures.

These booths were well arranged and taught a very definite lesson. They were viewed during the week, by several thousand of people.

c. The results of the above demonstrations would be hard to estimate in concrete figures. However, it is a safe guess to say that of those several thousands of people who saw the booths at the Fair, in addition to the members of the home demonstration clubs who saw the demonstrations given, some lesson was taught to well over a thousand or more people. In many homes already, changes in practices have been made. The agent has also been called on for definite assistance on this subject several times by people in communities where there is no home demonstration club.

4. Housing.

a. Objective.

The chief objective in any program on housing is more or less the same as the one on the subject of House Furnishings - to make the home more comfortable and attractive, so as to encourage the members of a family to stay in their homes and enjoy a richer family life. Another very important objective is to plan the home so that it is more convenient and more easily cared for. This is a very important feature since as was stated earlier, so many of the homemakers in the county hold jobs outside the home and therefore have a very limited amount of time to spend in household care.

b. Methods.

Miss Settle came into the county to train leaders to give a demonstration for their clubs on "Bedroom Storage," and also to hold a "Special Interest" meeting on General Storage. There were fifteen (15) leaders present from eight (8) clubs. These leaders all carried the demonstration back to their clubs, and with the help of the agent, every club in the county was shown the set of slides on "Bedroom Storage"

which was loaned by Miss Settle.

The Chapel Club under the leadership of Mrs. Larnie Allgood and Mrs. Wilson Allgood, put up a very commendable and comprehensive exhibit at the Fair on the subject of "Bedroom Storage." For this exhibit, they built a closet using wood for the frame and covering it with cardboard and painted the whole thing. In it they had hanging space for clothes for adults and also for children, with shelves for hats and other things and a shoe rack for shoes. They also showed a dresser drawer divided with partitions for gloves and other things. The judges considered this exhibit so good that it was given the highest rating over the other booths.

c. Results.

So well received was the subject of storage that it was voted at the program planning meeting, to put the subject of "General Storage" into the program again for 1964.

Already 114 women have reported making some improvement in their storage space since the demonstration.

5. Rural Arts.

a. Objectives.

The objectives in a program on art is to help people to give expression to a longing to create something pleasing to look at and to do, and also to acquire skill or the effective use of one's hands in the doing.

b. Methods and Results.

The methods used in this county during 1963 were "Textile Painting, chair caning and tray etching."

Miss Daisy Howerton of Lunenburg County gave the leader training on Textile Painting. Nine (9) clubs sent twenty (20) leaders to the meeting, and much interest was manifested. Miss Howerton stressed the importance of creating ones own design since that is the purpose of the art.

Mrs. H. N. Dangremond and Mrs. W. R. Waldrop, Jr., of the Boydton Club did outstanding work as leaders of their club. They gave the demonstration to two (2) other clubs beside their own, showing how many useful and attractive articles can be made very inexpensively by using textile paints and some imagination and originality.

The Boydton Club also used this as the subject of a very attractive exhibit at the Fair, stressing originality of design.

Mrs. Alfred Slagle of the Raynob Club volunteered to conduct a "chair caning" special interest meeting. Six (6) people came and brought chairs which Mrs. Slagle taught them to cane.

Chair caning was the subject which the Raynob Club used for their exhibit at the Fair.

Mrs. O'Toole of the Palmer Springs Club volunteered to give for her club, a demonstration on "Etching Trays." They held an all day meeting, and aside from learning the process, they had a very happy time. Many commendable results in the form of various sizes and shapes of trays, some with original designs, were the result. This was the subject of their booth at the Fair, and it was well arranged.

B. Other Activities.

1. An Outstanding Family.

Without a doubt the E. L. Watkins family is an outstanding one in the Palmer Springs Community. Their farm is a dairy farm, situated between the Roanoke River and the North Carolina line, in the community known as Palmer Springs.

Mr. Watkins has one of the most outstanding purebred Guernsey herds in the county. He is active in the local Guernsey Breeder's Association, in which he served as president for numbers of years. He has held many offices in the organization and is now on it's Board of Directors.

He serves on the Dairy Committee of the County Board of Agriculture and has served as a 4-H Dairy Judging leader.

He is always the first in his community to adopt new methods and practices which are recommended by the Extension Service. His farm has from the beginning, served as a demonstration in his community of new and improved Extension dairying practices.

He has been secretary and treasurer of his Church for years.

Mrs. Watkins, who was Helen Johnson from Townsville, just across the line in North Carolina, is an outstanding leader, home maker and mother. She is very active in all the affairs in her community, especially in her Church and her home demonstration club. At Church she is teacher and leader for a group of young girls.

She has been very active in the Parent Teachers Association and all other school projects.

In the Milner Springs Home Demonstration Club in which she was a charter member, she served as its president for the first two (2) years of its existence. Since then she has been Program Development Leader and Project Leader many times. She is now Vice-President of the County Home Demonstration Committee.

In her home she is an excellent housekeeper and with her daughter, Peggy Jo's help does all the house work and the family sewing. In addition to that she always manages to find time to paint a room, refinish a piece of furniture or a floor, or do anything else as the need arises.

She is always ready and willing to do anything that needs to be done to help a neighbor or friend in trouble.

She organized a group of 4-H girls and served as their leader in the Room Improvement Project which they carried. In this she did an excellent job, going into each girl's home and helping them to decide what needed to be done and then showing them how, and often helping with the job.

It was under her guidance that Judy Moss, the county winner in the 4-H Room Improvement Project, did over her room.

She served as chairman of the Achievement Day Committee and did an excellent job of it. She is generous with her time and talents and has been a wonderful help to the Extension Program in the county.

She is on the County Board of Agriculture and serves on its Community Improvement Committee.

Peggy Jo, the only child of the Watkins' household, is a fine unspoiled girl. She has been an active 4-H Club member ever since she became old enough to join the club. In those years she has completed many projects, but the one nearest to her heart is "cooking." She won last year in the "Food Preparation" contest and went to Petersburg to represent the county. This year she is going again to compete in the "Dairy Foods" contest. She also carried the "Room Improvement" project which she completed creditably.

Since she has been a member of the 4-H Club, she served as the president for two years.

Peggy Jo also is interested in the family business of dairying. Two (2) years in succession she showed her cow in the Guernsey Field Day, which has been an annual event in Mecklenburg County. The first year she won grand championship. The second year she showed in addition to her cow, a young heifer. That year she won grand championship and reserve grand championship.

She is a well rounded girl, for she has been to 4-H Camp several times and always proves herself a good mixer and a good sport with the crowd. She takes music and both sings and plays the piano. And with all this, she finds time to help her Mother with the cooking and housekeeping.

The Watkins home was one which was chosen for the Yard Improvement demonstration which Mr. Beecher conducted in the county. They cooperated wholeheartedly. In Mrs. Watkins own words, this is what was accomplished:

"In our yard we had a circular drive which circled the pump house. When Mr. Beecher came to help us with some landscaping he suggested that we close that part of the driveway, which went around the pump house.

When we did this a lot of soil was needed, since the old drive had washed out much lower than the lawn. We were fortunate enough to get fifteen (15) loads of soil from a contractor who was building a highway near us.

Mr. Beecher planned the new drive to come straight from the highway to the side of the house. Then the parking space was planned to accommodate three automobiles. This parking area is twenty feet by thirty feet. There was a tree in this area which had to be moved to the other side of the house. We built a walk from the parking area to the front door with a post lamp to light the walk from the automobiles to the door.

This change in the drive has been most satisfactory. Before, many guests came to the back door instead of the front, because it was more convenient. Now if there is more than one automobile, the last one can leave without driving on the lawn or without the first car having to move.

The lawn has a more spacious and neater appearance since it isn't cut into by the drive. We are very pleased with all the changes Mr. Beecher suggested.

In addition to these improvement, we built a brick post at the entrance, which matches the house, to serve as a support for the mail box and the name plate."

Altogether and individually, the E. L. Watkins' are an outstanding family.

2. A Club In Community Project.

The Chase City Club realizing now, more than ever before, the need for healthful entertainment for its young people have pledged their support to build a community swimming pool in their town. They did not originate the idea but they are giving their wholehearted support to the project.

They have campaigned in its behalf and have pledged their financial support toward helping to build it. Already they have made and sold Brunswick Stew and raised over fifty dollars (\$50.00) and they plan to repeat this as many times as is necessary to raise the amount needed.

3. Community Improvement Work.

The members of the Palmer Springs Club, although it is a comparatively young club, have already made themselves felt in their community. They are a small community, now that the Buggs Island Reservoir has covered so much of their land, but they are also a very proud and community minded group.

They have a small three room school which provides a community center and meeting place for all of their group meetings and activities. This school has a small, but well equipped cafeteria. Several years ago the woman who was hired to operate the cafeteria left the community, and they were unable to employ anyone to take her place. So two (2) members of the home demonstration club, who have children in school, took over the job of operating the cafeteria. So they arranged between them that one would operate it for a month and the other for a

month, alternating. So Mrs. J. T. Tanner and Mrs. W. J. Tanner have successfully run the school cafeteria for three years. In addition, both of them serve as 4-H Club leaders; Mrs. J. T. Tanner for the Room Improvement Project and Mrs. W. J. Tanner for the Food Preparation Project.

This year the Club decided that they would set as their goal, the improving of the school grounds. Though they haven't gotten much beyond the planning stage, they hope to make some concrete improvement soon.

4. Federation Goal.

After carrying the goal "Citizenship" as the Federation Goal of the county, the program planning committee again chose it for the goal for 1963, realizing that all of us know too little about our government and how it operates, and also realizing that from the past two (2) years, much has been learned in the study of that goal.

This year, Mrs. C. H. Crowder of Wightman, was the County Goal Chairman. The slogan: "Every Virginian An Informed and Participating Citizen" was adopted, and the following goals were set up:

1. Each club elect a "Citizenship" chairman. The Chairman will give a ten minute program on this subject at each meeting.
2. Schools.
3. Being a good citizen - Stress using voting privilege.
4. Youth - Emphasis on 4-H leadership.

Each month Mrs. Crowder has prepared and sent to the club Chairman a program in the form of a contest. She asked that each Chairman keep a record of the scores of the members participating in

the contests. At Achievement Day, Mrs. Otis Wells of Buckhorn, was honored as the winner for the county.

These programs had a far reaching effect for each member carried her copies home each time and the family had fun and benefit when the programs were tried on them. (Exhibit No. 1).

5. County Objectives.

a. The County objectives as set up at the Program planning meeting were:

1. Community Centers.
2. Family Recreation.
3. Civil Defense:
 - (a) Food Preservation.
 - (b) Feeding Masses of People.
 - (c) Emergency Shelf (Food and Medicine).
 - (d) Home Nursing and First Aid.
4. Rural Telephones.
5. Community Hospital.

Mrs. Mary G. Mason, Executive Secretary of the Mecklenburg Chapter of the American Red Cross, who has worked closely and faithfully to furnish classes to all groups who were willing to take Home Nursing and First Aid courses saw to it that instructors were furnished.

Seven (7) home demonstration clubs signified a desire for a class. At present three (3) members of clubs have received the Instructor's training for Home Nursing and two (2) have finished Instructor's courses in First Aid.

HOW TO BECOME A VOTER

1. To vote in the November general election you must pay capitation taxes 6 months prior to election date and you must be registered 30 days prior to election date.
2. Go to see your local registrar.
3. Pay capitation tax for previous 3 years to registrar (if not already paid)

New residents of Va. after Jan. 1st pay capitation tax in advance for next year.

If you are 21 this year you will pay the capitation tax thru 1953 - and then you will not pay a capitation tax again until 1954.

When you move to another county in Va. all you have to do is bring a transfer from your registrar and tax receipt for past 3 years.

Residence requirements:

1 year in State
6 months in the county
30 days in the precinct.

A Responsible Citizen is a Voter

ARE YOU?

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY

1. A Health Officer does not practice medicine but works in an executive capacity. (True - False)
2. The cause of cancer is a small germ. (True - False)
3. Infantile paralysis cannot be quarantined unless set by the local health director. There is no state law for this since the exact method of spreading the disease is not known. (True - False)
4. There is a law that requires all couples to have a blood test before marriage. (True - False)
5. There is a law that requires all mothers-to-be to get a blood test. (True - False)
6. Diphtheria "shots" protect 90% of all children from this dread disease. (True - False)
7. Even though a poor pregnant woman has no chance of living through a delivery, the State will not pay for her hospitalization. (True - False)
8. A Clinic held for children before entering school, even though the Public Health Nurse works there, is the responsibility of the P. T. A. (True - False)
9. Typhoid "shots" are not necessary in Mecklenburg County (True - False)
10. Smallpox is required by law before entering school. This may be given at six weeks of age. (True - False)
11. A child can digest potatoes, if cooked well done, before six months of age. (True - False)
12. Tuberculosis is "not catching" in small babies and old people. (True - False)
13. Usually, the larger the waist line, the more susceptible a person is to an over-worked heart. (True - False)
14. The State law requires a person to either build a toilet or furnish materials so that a tenant farmer may build his own and have a safe disposal area. (True - False)
15. It does not matter what type transportation is provided in a polio case, as long as he is taken to the hospital immediately after diagnosis. (True - False)
16. A person who has had malaria may give a transfusion. (True - False)
17. All people who live in the house with a person with active Tuberculosis should be x-rayed every three months. (True - False)
18. There is no reason to suspect two cases of rheumatic heart fever in the same home. (True - False)
19. There is no tendency to pass diabetes from parents to child. (True - False)
20. One doctor and a member of the immediate family may commit a patient to a State Insane Asylum. (True - False)

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR MARCH

1. The Commonwealth of Virginia provides a pension for its aged citizens.
True - False
2. Old age assistance and Old Age and Survivors Benefits (Social Security) are administered through the same Agency. True - False
3. Tax money used for Old Age Assistance comes entirely from county taxes.
True - False
4. A person applying for public assistance goes to County Welfare Office to make application. True- False
5. A claim is taken against any property owned by an individual receiving Old Age Assistance. True - False
6. Statistical information from records in any Welfare Office is refused even though legitimate reason may be given for asking information. True - False
7. Aid to Dependent Children is a money payment in form of a check for needy children living in the home of a parent. True - False
8. To receive Aid to Dependent Children a parent should apply to County Health Department. True - False
9. A child's eligibility for Aid to Dependent Children continues after he is 16 years old and out of school. True - False
10. Welfare Department has a Program which it Administers Called A P T D (Aid To the Permanently and Totally Disabled). True - False
11. A person goes to County Clerk's Office to make application for A P T D (Aid To The Permanently and Totally Disabled.) True - False
12. A Doctor's signed statement is one requirement of an A P T D Assistance.
True - False
13. Virginia Commission for the Blind is responsible for the supervision of Aid to the Blind Program. True - False
14. There is no age requirement for a person receiving Aid to Blind. True - False
15. Local Welfare Department issues checks for A B to recipient. True - False.
16. Adoption of children may be made without investigation and visiting of Local Welfare Department. True - False
17. Local Welfare Departments supervise cases for County Juneville Court, also Childrens Bureau of State Department, Richmond. True - False
18. Employees of Local Welfare Department are always glad to discuss problems of the individual with him if he will visit Local Office and request an interview.

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR AIRIL
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

1. The Soil Conservation Service is a branch of the

Dept. of Interior	Dept. of War	Dept. of Agriculture
-------------------	--------------	----------------------
2. Soil erosion is more in evidence when land is planted in which
of these crops

Trees	Pasture	Wheat	Corn
-------	---------	-------	------
3. In a rolling field with a proper row layout the rows would run

East & West	with the slope	Across the slope
-------------	----------------	------------------
4. Forest fires are most likely to exist during

July	March	December
------	-------	----------
5. Which of the following would be considered a very poor
conservation practice?

Strip Cropping	Terracing	Burning	Seeding Cover Crops
----------------	-----------	---------	---------------------
6. Technical services of the Soil Conservation Service comes to the
farmer for

Free	\$2.25 per hour	\$1.00 per acre
------	-----------------	-----------------
7. Which of the following practices would NOT be included in the
S. C. S. duties?

Fish Pond Layout	Farm Planning	Tobacco Measurement
------------------	---------------	---------------------
8. One desiring the technical services of the Soil Conservationist
should contact

R. H. Bevell	C. B. McGavock	Travis Turner
--------------	----------------	---------------

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR MAY

- 1. Civil Defense is a way of saving lives and property. True False
- 2. Civil Defense is a way of protecting you and your family in case of War in the United States. True False
- 3. Enemy planes cannot reach every major city in the United States True False
- 4. There is a way of preventing most enemy bombers from reaching their targets in the United States True False
- 5. If you live on a farm, you need take no part in Civil Defense True False
- 6. Fire is one of the greatest dangers from enemy air attack True False
- 7. A basement is a poor place of shelter in an enemy air attack. True False
- 8. An emergency first aid kit is a necessary preparation. True False
- 9. Three main dangers from an atomic bomb burst are fire, blast and radiation. True False
- 10. In case of atomic bomb burst, never drop flat on floor or ground. True False.
- 11. To survive under biological (germ) warfare you should have a three day supply of food and drinking water, in sealed containers, on hand. True False
- 12. There is no danger to us of chemical warfare. True False
- 13. In case of attack, there will be doctors and nurses sufficient to care for all. True False
- 14. First Aid classes and Home Nursing Classes teach us how to assist in the care of victims. True False

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR JUNE
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. The president shall stand when calling a meeting to order. | True | |
| | False | |
| 2. The president shall have program of work before her. | True | |
| | False | |
| 3. The president is not responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting. | True | |
| | False | |
| 4. The president does not have power to appoint committees. | True | |
| | False | |
| 5. The president does not have a right to make a nomination or motion when presiding. | True | |
| | False | |
| 6. The minutes shall precede the roll call. | True | |
| | False | |
| 7. The secretary shall stand when calling roll. | True | |
| | False | |
| 8. The secretary shall stand when reading the minutes. | True | |
| | False | |
| 9. It is not necessary for secretary to make a record of all business. | True | |
| | False | |
| 10. The secretary shall keep a list of all members and their addresses with records of their attendance. | True | |
| | False | |
| 11. The secretary is not responsible for making reports of club to county extension agent. | True | |
| | False | |
| 12. The treasurer shall keep an account of all money owned by club and the paying of all bills on action by the club and approved by the president. | True | |
| | False | |
| 13. The treasurer should give a monthly report of all receipts and disbursements of club money. | True | |
| | False | |
| 14. A nomination does not require a second. | True | |
| | False | |
| 15. A motion does not require a second. | True | False |
| 16. The only time for a discussion is after a motion is made and duly seconded. | True | False |
| 17. It is not necessary to put the question to a vote after the motion is made and seconded. | True | False |
| 18. The meeting should adjourn at the close of business session before the project leaders take charge. | True | False |
| 19. A president may declare a meeting adjourned. | True | False |
| 20. When a motion to adjourn is made and seconded, it should be acted upon. | True | False |
| 21. When nominations are made the nominees shall be voted on as named and not vice versa. | True | False |

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM FOR JULY 1953

WHAT I KNOW ABOUT MY COUNTY - MECKLENBURG

1. Mecklenburg County was named in honor of the young Queen of George III, Charlotte of Mecklenburg. True False
2. Mecklenburg was formerly a part of Lunenburg County. True False
3. There are six incorporated towns in Mecklenburg. False True
4. Only two railroads run through the County. True False
5. Mecklenburg has only 4 banks. False True
6. There are only two weekly newspapers in the county. False True
7. The county has one regional Library True False
8. John Tisdale is the clerk of the Court. True False
9. O. B. Crowder is Commissioner of Revenue. True False
10. H. L. Brankley is Chairman of Board of Supervisors. True False
11. C. W. Cleaton is our representative in senate. True False
12. C. W. Cleaton is Mecklenburg's member of the House of Delegates. True False
13. Dr. Braxton is the head of Mecklenburg's Health Department. True
False
14. Ardelle Cogbill is the Superintendent of Public Welfare. True
False
15. Mrs. Mattie Thompson is the only Home Agent in the County. True
False
16. There are two Farm Agents in the County. True
False
17. Home Demonstration work was begun in Mecklenburg in 1916. True False
18. Are you qualified to vote in the July Primary?

These are for Home Nursing: Mrs. James Sheppard of the Buffalo Club, Mrs. E. L. Watkins of Palmer Springs and Mrs. Dave Bryant of the Chase City Club. Mrs. Dave Bryant also took the Instructor's Course in First Aid, as did Mrs. Horace Gurley, also of Chase City.

Four (4) clubs have had Home Nursing Classes with forty (40) women receiving their certificates. These clubs were Boydton, Wightman and Palmer Springs. The Shipwith Club had a course in First Aid with ten (10) certificates being awarded.

Mrs. Bryant and Mrs. Gurley also held a class in First Aid for a troop of Boy Scouts and awarded thirty-eight (38) certificates.

The goal of more Rural Telephones is soon to be realized, at least, in one community. The lines have been erected for the first community to be served by the newly organized Buggs Island Telephone Cooperative, and the system will soon be in operation. Then the organization plans to go on as rapidly as possible to other communities in turn, until all of Rural Mecklenburg County has telephone service.

The Community Hospital for which the home demonstration women have worked so long and so hard, is already a tangible realization. The building has been erected and as soon as it is equipped will open its doors for patients.

As to the emergency food shelf, 122 women reported they had one and seventy-three (73) reported that they had equipped a medicine shelf.

Food preservation was stressed, and even though the drought seriously affected the gardens, out of 159 reports from the club women, there were 8877 quarts of food canned and 19,382 pounds of food frozen.

As to family recreation, nearly all of the clubs held their family picnics during July and August. These picnics do much toward creating a healthful community spirit, as well as increasing their own membership.

No definite progress has been made on Community Centers.

6. Result Demonstrations.

Progress has been made on many home improvement result demonstrations, but probably the most outstanding is that done by Mrs. J. E. Lett in her home in the Boydton Community. Mrs. Lett sanded and refinished all the floors in her downstairs. The house is very old and the floors were of random width heart pine, and they showed up beautifully when finished. She also painted all of the walls and woodwork.

Besides, this, she completely remodeled her kitchen, and being a large room, it also serves as a breakfast room. For this she uses an old pine table and a pine corner cupboard and a hanging shelf, all of which have been refinished. Her kitchen is now a very functional and practical room as well as being very inviting.

Mrs. Lett's whole house is being refurnished in the period to which it belongs. She has much early American old pine and other furniture of that period.

The yard improvement demonstrations that were set up by Mr. Beecher last year have all made much progress.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Watkins was described earlier in this report under V-B-1.

At the home of Mr. J. W. Propst and Mr. and Mrs. Noel Propst, the greatest need was for a parking area. That has been laid off and is being used as such. A brick walk has been made which leads directly from this to the front door, discouraging guests from coming to the kitchen door. A brick terrace has also been built off the back porch. The clothes line has been relocated to a more secluded spot.

In Clarksville, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Reams have begun the improvements which Mr. Beecher suggested, by properly grading their lawn and laying off the driveway and parking, both of which have been graveled. They also have done some basic planting.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Royster, also of Clarksville, have graded their lawn, removed some trees, laid out and graveled their driveway and parking area, as well as the service area and vegetable garden. They also have done some basic planting.

In Red Lawn, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Crews have done practically the same things that the Reams and Roysters have done, as well as get a good stand of grass started.

These demonstrations have meant much to their communities and to the entire county. Slides of all of them both "before" and "after" were shown at Achievement Day.

7. Year Books.

Each year one of the home demonstration clubs is selected by the county committee to get up the Year Book. This job entails financing the book, selecting songs, devotionals, and hints on things to do each month and many other small details. Also the order of procedure at meetings, and the county officers, as well as a page

on the County goal. For 1953 the Buckhorn Club had this responsibility and did a commendable job.

It was financed for them by the South Hill Tobacco Board of Trade.

Each member is given a year book, and she can see by referring to her book, what demonstration will be given. There is also a space in it for the club officers and the place of meeting and the date.

8. County Fair.

Each year as the Mecklenburg County Fair is held, the Home Demonstration Clubs set up Exhibit Booths depicting some phase of the work during the past year. This year, which was the forty-second year of the Fair, twelve clubs had booths. These are judged on the following basis:

- Does exhibit teach a valuable lesson or show results. . . 25%
- Is the exhibit limited to one central idea 25%
- Is the display attractive and easily understood 25%
- Does the exhibit catch attention and hold the interest. . 25%

The basis on which ribbons were awarded, as set up by the County Committee was as follows:

- 80 - 100 Blue Ribbon
- 60 - 80 Red Ribbon
- 0 - 60 White Ribbon

The Buckhorn Club exhibited Textile Painting and won a blue ribbon. The Clarksville club exhibited a quilt which they had made to raise money, and they showed the various steps in quilt making.

Their award was also a blue ribbon. The Finchley Club had a booth on "Low Caloric Diets." They taught their lesson by means of very attractive and well made posters. They also earned a blue ribbon. The Buffalo club chose the "Hanging of Pictures" as their subject.

• Their award was also a blue ribbon.

The South Hill Club showed how to "Reclaim Old Picture Frames." They earned a blue ribbon.

• The Palmer Springs Club also earned a blue ribbon on their exhibit on "Etched Trays."

The Chapel Club, as was stated above, put up an exhibit on "Bedroom Storage" and won a blue ribbon with the highest grade of all.

The Boynton and Wightman Clubs both chose Textile Painting for their subject and both got a red ribbon, as did the Chase City Club on its booth on Picture Framing.

• The Skipwith Club showed varieties of handicraft and earned a white ribbon.

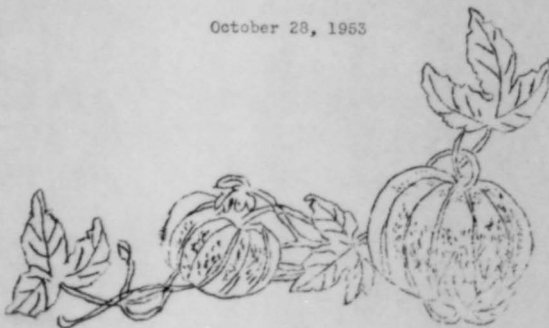
• Another project of the Clubs during Fair Week, is the Concession Stand.

Realizing that the subject of money was being brought up in the home demonstration clubs too frequently, as a result of the many drives that are put on for various purposes, and feeling that this was detrimental to the clubs, the county committee voted to discourage the raising of money in the clubs, individually. They recommended that all calls for money be referred to the county Budget Committee, who would in turn dispense the funds. In view of this it was agreed that the treasury should be replenished in one county-wide drive or activity.

Achievement Program

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

October 28, 1953



HOMEMAKERS' CREED

As homemakers we will strive to:

HAVE OUR ORGANIZATION foster highest ideals
in home, church, school and public life.

HAVE OUR HOMES reach out in service to the
community and help unite the people.

HAVE COOPERATION AND PROGRESS the leading
forces in our communities.

STUDY THE BEST WAYS to do everyday work
that we may find joy in common tasks
well done.

BE KIND BEYOND STANDARDS OF CHARITY, avoid
thoughts and words that condemn; be more
thoughtful than love requires; maintain
the highest ideals of Christian life.

PROGRAM

Presiding Mrs. Horace Gurley, Chairman Co. Com.
Welcome Mrs. Frank Chuchok
Response Mrs. Zadio S. Hundley
Devotions Mrs. D. A. Whitten
Music Chase City Boy's Choir
Report and Recognition of Winner Mrs. C. H. Crowder
Chairman, County Federation Goal
Introduction of Speaker Mrs. R. P. Gordon
Speaker Miss Maude E. Wallace
Associate Director
Extension Service
Blacksburg, Virginia

LUNCHE

Group Singing led by Mrs. D. H. Bryant
Accompanist Mrs. J. D. Bryson
"Preview of Fashions" Chase City Home Demon. Club
Reports Home Demonstration Club Presidents
Outstanding County Achievements Slides and Film
Narrator Mrs. A. D. Hart
Homemakers Creed in Unison
Achievement Day Committee:
Mrs. E. L. Watkins, Chairman
Mrs. Willie Wells
Mrs. Noel Propst
Mrs. Melvin Dalton

Since the concession Stand at the Fair had proven remunerative in the past, it was decided to operate it again.

So committees were set up and plans made. Each club manned the stand a half a day and carried with them Brunswick Stew, home made pies and other home cooked foods.

At the end of the week it was found that \$425.89 had been raised.

9. Achievement Day.

The Annual Achievement Day was held in the Centenary Methodist Church, Chase City, on October 28th. The program arranged was well planned, providing both a serious side as well as entertainment, and reflected some of the outstanding accomplishments of the year.

Miss Maude E. Wallace was the principle speaker for the day. She emphasized the progress that had taken place in home demonstration work for the past half a century and called attention to the sign posts along the way. (Exhibit No. 2)

Mrs. C. H. Crowder made a report of the accomplishments of the program on the Federation Goal, Citizenship. Mrs. Otis Wells was announced to be the winner for the county, in the contests that have been held during the year, on the various phases of our county government.

Slides were shown, to illustrate some of the outstanding county achievements such as improved kitchens and yards.

The Chase City Club gave a playlet on "Preview of Fashions" contracting the old and modern in dress and customs.

Though the program as arranged was very good, and reflected the accomplishments of the past year, the attendance was very disappointing.

In addition to Miss Wallace, the Mecklenburg County Home Demonstration Club women were happy to also have as their guest for the occasion, our District Agent, Miss Ann Wills, former home demonstration agent for the county.

10. District Federation Meeting.

Thirty-six (36) members of the Home Demonstration Clubs of Mecklenburg County attended the District Federation meeting in Lunenburg County on Tuesday, May 5th.

In the pageant, which was given by the members of the Second District, the period from 1920 to 1929 was portrayed by the Home Demonstration Club women of Mecklenburg County. The Buckhorn Club re-enacted the organization of the Advisory Board throughout the State. Mrs. R. P. Gordon of Union Level was at one time State President of the Board.

The Wightman Club gave a very realistic portrayal of the first Institute of Rural Affairs. They were dressed in long linen dusters with flowing veils tied over their hats to hold them on, as they rode in the open top cars, which they so realistically cranked in their part of the pageant. Mr. H. W. Nash of Wightman, attended the first Institute.

The Chase City Club then showed what a long way the women in the county had come in their kitchen improvements, which were begun in a campaign which was instituted and supervised by the county home demonstration agent, Miss Helen Ricks in 1922.

The Palmer Springs Club portrayed the beginning of the Ella Agnew Loan Fund and the Hallie L. Hughes Loan Fund; both established to help rural girls to obtain their education in the field of nursing and home economics, respectively.

11. Library Goal.

Our Library Chairman, Mrs. Noel Propst, who is also Librarian of the Southside Regional Library, is to be commended for the time and effort she has spent to further this goal. She reports:

- a. Books and magazines have been exchanged among members.
- b. Books have been reviewed at home demonstration club meetings by club members and visitors. One club has become so interested that each month, someone in the club reviews a book.
- c. The poolmobile carries the books on the home demonstration club recommended reading list. Mrs. Propst has conceived the idea of marking on the card pocket of each book, the letters "H. D." This is for the convenience of club members who want to read those books. It eliminates the necessity of consulting a reading list each time, to see if credit can be given for reading the book, when one is interested in securing a "Reading Certificate."

VI 4-H Club Work.

A. Project Work.

1. Room Improvement.

a. Objectives.

The objectives in this project as set up for Mecklenburg County 4-H Club girls were:

1. That each member learn what constitutes an attractive and comfortable bedroom.

2. That each member care for her own room, and if there is time, for other rooms in her home.
3. That each girl make at least one article for her room.
4. That each girl develop a feeling of pride for her home - a place where friends are welcome.

b. Methods.

The procedure used in carrying out these objectives were demonstrations on the following subjects:

- October - The Attractive Bedroom.
- November - Short Cuts In the Care of The Room.
Making a Dustless Dust Cloth.
- December - How To Make A Bed.
- January - Putting Partitions in a Dresser Drawer.
- February - Arranging Bedroom Furniture.
- March - Making a Bulletin Board.
- April - Suitable Flower Arrangements.

c. Results.

Some of the results of the Room Improvement project were of 282 girls taking the project, 178 completed; 194 cared for their rooms regularly over a period of several months, and 711 articles were made for their rooms and other rooms in the home.

Mrs. E. L. Watkins organized a group of girls in her community and conducted the project work.

On Monday afternoon, April 27th, the two (2) Palmer Springs 4-H Clubs held a flower show, as the culmination of their year's work on their "Room Improvement" project. All of the girls exhibited arrangements, varying from drift wood and native material, to containers of glass and pottery and varied types of cultivated flowers. They reflected credit to their leader, Mrs. E. L. Watkins and to Mrs. Simmons of Castle Heights, who had given them training in "Flower Arranging."

The Palmer Springs Senior Club met on June 22nd at 3 o'clock at the home of Mrs. E. L. Watkins, their leader, for a tour of rooms on which the members have been busy making improvements. Before starting the tour, refreshments were served by Mrs. Watkins.

The girls who toured each others rooms were Judy Moss, Mollie Jeffress, Peggy Jo Watkins, Patsy and Ann Bobbitt. The leader, Mrs. Watkins and the Home demonstration Agent, accompanied them.

The first room visited was Peggy Jo Watkins'. She had made a new bedspread, draperies, dust ruffles and dressing table skirt. She covered the cornice boards over the windows, refinished the floors, made a bulletin board, converted a kerosene lamp into an electric lamp, made a shade for another lamp. She also made partitions for her dresser drawers.

Ann and Patsy Bobbitt had a room together with two double beds. They had made bookshelves, a bulletin board, and have made sections in various drawers. They had bought new curtains, bedspreads, and an alarm clock radio. They had an old chair refinished and upholstered to match the other furnishings. They bought a desk and a bed table light.

The next on the list was Mollie Jeffress. She had made dust ruffles, draw draperies, refinished three pieces of furniture, put sections in her dresser drawers, and made a shoe bag. She had walls of her closet sealed with wallboard and a rod all the way across. She bought a "whatnot" stand and a new lamp.

Then the group went to the home of Judy Moss, who is the county winner for the Room Improvement Project. Let Judy tell you in her own words what she did to her room:

"I bought an inner spring mattress and box springs. We had an old discarded iron bed of which I sawed off the head. I padded and slipcovered the foot to be used as the head of the bed.

The material that I used for the slipcover was dark green, lime and white plaid denim. A bed spread was made of this same material. The dust ruffle and draw draperies were made of solid dark green denim.

I bought a vanity and stool and the skirt for the vanity was made from the same plaid as the slipcover and bedspread. Then I had a bedside table made with shelves and converted an oil lamp for my reading lamp.

After refinishing the mirror that came off the dresser, I hung it and the little candle stands that were on the mirror frame, over the mantle. Over the dresser I hung the bulletin board that we learned how to make in the 4-H Club. On this I keep little favors and pictures that all girls collect.

I made a foot stool at 4-H Camp and refinished a chair which I use in this room. I have learned a lot from this project and I am real proud of my room."

Besides being county "Room Improvement" winner, Judy was chosen "Big Chief" at 4-H Camp this Summer, and "Queen" of South Hill High School at their homecoming day.

The junior winner in this project is Mary Lee Jennings of LaCrosse.

2. Food and Nutrition.

a. Objective.

The objectives in this program are to teach the girls basic food requirements, thereby enabling them to eat more wisely, and to plan a balanced meal; to prepare individual foods, as well as the entire meal which they plan; to give a good food demonstration and to be able to plan and prepare dainty refreshments for their club or a party.

b. Methods and Results.

Since all of the clubs are carrying "Room Improvement" at their regular club meetings, only clubs with a leader or individuals are carrying this project.

Mrs. W. J. Tanner, who is the "Foods" leader for the Palmer Springs 4-H Club, also operates the school cafeteria on alternate months. She meets the girls in the cafeteria and either she or one of the other "Foods" leaders from the home demonstration club gives them a demonstration on some subject which the girls have chosen. Then the next month she has one or more of the girls give the same demonstration at the club meeting.

Often she lets them plan the menu for the cafeteria lunch, using the "Wheel of Good Eating" as their guide. Then they help to prepare the lunch. This gives them fine experience and creates more interest among them. Mrs. Tanner is doing a good job. The junior winner in the "Food Preparation" project this year, is from Mrs. Tanner's group. She is Roberta Read. The county winner is Roxie Driver of the Buckhorn Club.

Seventeen (17) girls are carrying an individual project of Food Preservation this year. The winners in this group are Frozen Foods: County winner, Florence Lee Daniel of Chase City and junior winner is Virginia Newton, also of Chase City. Hope Wilkins is the county winner in canning, for the second year.

These girls canned a total of 1111 quarts and froze 1699 packages.

B. Other Activities.

1. 4-H Camp.

Twenty-seven (27) 4-H Club boys and girls from Mecklenburg County, accompanied by Mrs. Lucy R. Hutcheson, Mr. S. B. Land, Mr. Joe Lewis and the home demonstration agent and the assistant county agent, spent the week of July 6 - 11 at 4-H Club Camp Farrar at Virginia Beach. The group was honored in having the camp governor and two of the colony lieutenants elected from their number.

Two (2) girls and one (1) boy attended Conservation Camp this year. They were Dean Crowder, Hope Wilkins and Hunter Marrow, all of the Buckhorn Club.

2. 4-H Club Short Course.

One girl and two (2) boys, Florence Lee Daniel of the Chase City Club, Mason Hutcheson and W. S. Bevell, Jr. of the Boydton Club, attended 4-H Club Short Course at Blacksburg. Mason Hutcheson, who has been a very outstanding 4-H Club member for many years, was taken into the 4-H All Stars. He has held many offices in his club, all of which he filled creditably, and has completed thirteen (13) projects. Mason and Florence Lee were each awarded

a \$12.50 scholarship to the Short Course; this scholarship being awarded annually by the County Home Demonstration Committee to the most outstanding 4-H Club boy and girl in the County.

3. County Fair.

This year at the County Fair, the 4-H Club exhibits reflected credit to the club members in the county. The girls' exhibits ranged from canned and frozen foods, cookies, cakes and breads to dresses, needle cases, laundry bags, shoe bags, aprons, skirts and many other articles of food and clothing to lamps made and converted. Also there were many articles of handiwork which reflected credit to the training received at summer camp.

4. Achievement Day.

The Achievement Day program which was scheduled for November 6th had to be cancelled because of bad weather.

VII Young Men and Women's Work.

There is no organized extension work among young men and women in the County. However, the agent often works with young people, helping them individually whenever the opportunity arises. There are also a few members of the home demonstration clubs who fall in that age group.

Mecklenburg County enjoyed having as a guest in the county during July, James Gibb, the International Farm Youth Exchange delegate from Scotland. James stayed in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Grower in Chase City, for the first part of his visit, and in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Hart at Union Level for the last few days of his stay here.

While in the county he made one radio broadcast in conjunction with the Assistant County Agent. He also made talks to the Ruritan Club, the Presbyterian Church, two (2) home demonstration clubs and other small groups. He visited many farmers' groups as well as those above, and in each of them he endeared himself to those who heard him by his attractive personality.

His visit served the purpose of fostering international good will wherever he went.

VIII Scope of Work.

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. HD Clubs of Groups	10	13	15	16	14
Membership	253	293	325	344	323
No. 4-H Clubs	15	15	14	13	18
Membership	263	278	271	272	282 (Girls Only)
No. YMW Groups	3	3	2	0	0
Membership	116	145	40	0	0
No. other families reached	585	325	350	380	2200
No. different families reached	2500	2545	2625	2783	3251
No community clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0

IX How Other Organizations Functioned in the 1953 Program.

A. County Board of Agriculture.

There is in Mecklenburg County a County Board of Agriculture. This organization is the over-all planning group sponsored by the Extension Service. However, in this county it is only active directly as a planning agency for the men's program, and only indirectly for the women.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee.

The County Home Demonstration Committee is composed of the president of each club, plus five (5) county officers and other

cooperating key individuals. This committee meets three (3) or four (4) times a year. When this group meets they plan, with help from others, such as the club women and the Program Development Leaders, the next year's Program. This committee functions as the governing body with the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. The Committee also conducts the business of their own organization. This committee also checks progress and results of their programs and its various phases. They are also responsible for committees for achievement programs, the year book and the Federation Goal.

This group plans each year, the operation of the Fair Concession Stand at the County Fair, at which time the county treasury is replenished with funds for the necessary expenses and any project which they might decide to adopt.

C. County 4-H Project Planning Committee.

On Friday, June 12th, the girls' 4-H Project Planning Meeting for Mecklenburg County was held in the Home Agent's Office, to plan and set up the project calendar for 1953-54, with representatives of nine (9) clubs present, and the district agent, Miss Ann Wills, conducting the meeting.

After some discussion, the girls voted unanimously to study "Your Room" as their project, and the following subjects were chosen: Make a Color Plan for Your Room, How to Make a Lamp Shade, How to Make a Shoe Rack, Making or Selecting Curtains, Improved Methods of Taking Care of your Room, Refinishing a Dresser or Other Piece of Furniture, How to Make Book Shelves and an exhibition of the lampshades, shoe racks and book shelves.

This committee is made up of two (2) girls chosen by the girls themselves, from each club and their leaders.

B. County 4-H Council.

The County 4-H Council is the governing body for the 4-H Clubs. It is composed of the officers and leaders from each of the clubs in the county, and meets usually twice each year. They plan the over-all program for the year, the date and type of achievement program, the observance of National 4-H Club Week and any other problems that might arise of an over-all county nature.

E. County 4-H Honor Club.

There is no organized 4-H Honor Club in the county, but plans are under way to organize one in the near future. Certificates have been secured and members chosen. The certificates were to have been awarded at the Achievement Day program which had to be cancelled because of the weather.

F. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars.

There is no organized county Chapter of 4-H All Stars, though an effort has recently been made to organize one, with no success.

G. Professional Workers Council.

The county Professional Workers Council is composed of all white and negro professional workers in the county. It meets quarterly with a very good attendance and much interest shown. At each meeting, a different member is delegated to give the program with is usually on some phase of their particular work. These are generally very interesting and very helpful since they show to others the type of work being done and how the programs of each can tie in together over the entire county. The Home Agent has served as chairman

of the group for the past year.

X Leadership.

A. Contributions of Volunteer Leaders to the Program.

1. Organizational.

The organizational leaders carry on the business of the clubs; presiding, keeping the records, calling extra meetings when necessary and looking after the publicity for the club. The president also serves on the program planning committee and on the county committee.

2. Program Development Leaders.

The program development leaders meet once each year for a "training meeting," at which time they are given an idea just what their function is. Here they enter into discussions as to situations that affect their program planning and are given ideas and material from which to lead discussions in their own clubs.

This year the leader training meeting was held by our district agent, Miss Ann Wills, on April 7th with eighteen (18) leaders from ten (10) clubs present.

Then in the fall, the program development leaders and the presidents meet, bringing with them suggestions from their club members as to subjects for study for the next year's program. These suggestions are made after discussions are held in the club, on existing conditions and needs in their respective communities and in the county as a whole.

3. Subject Matter Leaders.

The importance of the subject matter leaders cannot be emphasized too much. In Mecklenburg County, the project leadership is outstanding. To begin with, many leaders ask for the job, because they realize that in being allowed to come to the leader training meetings they gain much that they could not otherwise.

The attendance at leader training meetings is very good, and the information that the leaders carry back to their clubs by means of demonstrations is helpful to themselves as well as to those who see it.

Many communities stand out in the county as up-to-date and independent because of leadership that has been developed in past years.

B. Growth of Leadership.

HD Club Project Leadership	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. project leaders (subject matter)	176	204	194	175	169
No. goal chairmen	11	14	16	17	16
No. training meetings held by Specialist	8	9	6	12	12
by Agent	67	3	4	8	4
Attendance at all training meetings	817	197	222	321	167
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	36	56	70	122	103
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	64	105	54	68	70

Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. adult project leaders	69	21	38	48	11
No. junior project leaders	78	7	-	1	1
No. training meetings held by specialist	2	2	1	2	1
by agent	63	1	11	2	1
Attendance at leader training meeting	291	20	16	12	8
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	30	14	22	2	5
No. club meetings held by leader without agent present	27	20	12	12	32
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	82	37	16	25	80
No. demonstrations given by leaders	51	20	17	8	30
by adults	43	10	7	6	6
by juniors	8	10	10	2	300

C. An Outstanding Leader.

Riding along Highway Number 58 one sees signs advertising "Slagle's Motor Court," and about three (3) miles west of Clarksville, on the north side of the highway it is located.

Stopping there, one is very likely to be greeted by a smiling, cheerful woman, who more than likely already has one (1) or two (2) cars of visitors, for Lois Slagle is in demand constantly. She never seems too busy to stop and chat with friends or help them out of a dilemma, or just to give them a little "know how" on doing a job. More than likely each of her visitors will go away with arms laden with flowers, for Lois' flowers are like the Biblical "five loaves and two fishes," there are always enough to go around and some left over, for Lois definitely has the "green thumb" and she uses it well. Her motor court is surrounded with blooms in good seasons and bad.

Mrs. Alfred Slagle, or Lois as she is better known, has been an ardent and faithful home demonstration club member for many years. She has served in every office her club has and for a period of three (3) years was secretary of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. Once when she moved away from the community in which she had been living, she carried her home demonstration club with her, by organizing a club in her new community. She served as its president and guiding light for three (3) years, attending leader training meetings and acting as project leader, program development leader and in any other capacity where she is needed.

Lois is gifted with the ability to "do things," and she constantly puts her ability into practice. She canes chairs, refinishes furniture and picture frames. She sews and does them all well. She always cheerfully helps anyone who wants help with any of these things.

Recently she volunteered to hold a chair caning class for several in the county who wanted to learn how. The meeting lasted all day and when it broke up, everyone's chair was finished or so nearly finished that it could be done without further help.

Then she helped the home agent with the leader training meeting on "Picture Framing," by showing how to refinish a variety of old frames.

Clarksville had no garden club, so Lois got together a group of flower lovers and they organized a club, which has done outstanding work in their community. Aside from helping to beautify the yards and the community as a whole, they have held flower shows which have been commendable for the past three (3) years. She has served as its president since the organization.

Lois has been a wonderful help to the home agent, and to many others in the county. In my estimation, she is an outstanding leader in every sense of the word.

XI Work in Cooperation With Other Agencies.

All of the home demonstration club women, as well as the home agent, work with other Federal and County Agencies whenever it is possible.

The success of the Hospital Drive and drive to organize the Telephone Cooperative are evidences of this. Also, there is always cooperation between the Health department and the Extension Service. The home agent helps in every way possible, to further the Chest X-Ray, the Christmas Seal Sale and the Cancer Fund Drive, Home Nursing Courses, and any other phase of the health program.

The garden clubs, the Future Homemakers and other civic organizations frequently call on the home agent for assistance, either in giving programs or for necessary advice and data. This is given whenever possible.

XIII Appraisal of Year's Work.

As usual in writing an annual report and in trying to put into words on paper, one's feeling as to the value of the past year's work there is difficulty in knowing just where to begin, or in deciding what progress is tangible enough to be described. However, I do feel that much progress has been made during the past year.

Money has been less plentiful than for the past several years, it is true, but the standard of living for the people in the county as a whole which was definitely raised during the time of greater prosperity, has not suffered during 1953. Though the women in many instances have gone outside the homes to work, they are eager to learn more about short cuts and better work methods and better nutrition. This it seems to me, is an indication that they are not willing to go back to their former standards, even though there is not as much money to spend and not as much time in which to do the housework.

Then on the youth side of the picture, I feel that the 4-H Club girls have shown a keener interest in their club work than formerly. The figures may not show much improvement, but the girls do seem to take more interest and responsibility in their homes, and this must pay dividends in better homes for the future.

Mecklenburg County has always had outstanding leadership, and it continues to hold that record. Many times the attendance at leader training meetings has been far from perfect, but there is usually a very good reason. Generally when a project leader has been unable to attend, she either comes into the home agent's office and asks for individual training or else makes arrangements with some other leader to give the demonstration for her club. To me this shows a keen sense of responsibility, and good leadership.

Realizing the load that the home agent has to carry with the 4-H Clubs, the leaders are very helpful and cooperative. The 4-H Club leaders themselves are few in number, but they make up for that lack in quality.

Under the able guidance of Mrs. C. H. Crowder, who is "Citizenship" Goal Chairman for the county, all of the club members have become more aware of their responsibility to their government, and the privileges of being citizens of Mecklenburg County, the Commonwealth of Virginia and our own United States. This influence has not stopped with club members, but is felt throughout the communities of the county.

Two (2) concrete evidences of better living conditions in the county, and to which the home demonstration club women are due credit are the Duggs Island Telephone Cooperative and the Community Hospital. Neither of these are the work of a short time, but they have been accomplished, and unquestionably the county has been made more desirable by having them.