

In making this report, there is a feeling that at least people through the county have been given the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities pertaining to the welfare of the farm, the home and general economy of the county.

The various commodity groups and special interest groups have planned and carried out many projects which have not only benefited themselves but the county as a whole.

Working relations with other agriculture agencies has been excellent. All agencies apparently realize that the ultimate goal of each agency is the same - to help the rural people raise their standard of living through education, service and assistance. Each agency has a different procedure, but by uniting efforts goals can be accomplished much easier and with more pleasure and satisfaction to all who cooperate.

This report includes Extension activities as reported by G. C. Price, County Agent; H. S. Widener, Assistant County Agent; and G. W. Cundiff, County Agent-at-Large.

B. Program Emphasis

There were 537 days devoted to adult work and 190 days to 4-H club activities.

Extension organization and program planning occupied 119 days. There were 81.5 days spent in service training of agents.

Crops consumed 82.5 days of the agents time. Work with livestock and livestock programs amounted to 77 days. The agents spent 28.5 days on marketing, distribution and with service organizations.

The Soil and water conservation and management consumed 77 days of the agent's time. Forestry, which is now being given more attention here, had 58.5 days devoted entirely to the forestry program. There were only 2 days spent on wildlife which might seem much too little; however, some good work was accomplished along this line, especially with the 4-H club members.

Planning and management consumed 38.5 days of the agent's time.

On farm buildings and mechanical equipment 44 days were spent.

House, surroundings, furnishings, and equipment consumed 3.5 days of the time of the agents.

Most of the subject matter and assistance on family life, child development, and parent education is handled through the Home Demonstration Agents.

Community development and public affairs consumed 97 days of the total time spent working by the agents. There were 38 days that could not be charged specifically to any one phase of the over all Extension program.

XIV. EVALUATION OF YEARS WORK

It is difficult to evaluate the year's work due to the fact that results are not immediately known, but such indications of farm progress is the increasing acreage of alfalfa, the rise of corn yield, increased milk production, modern machinery, new farm structures and the rise in the standard of living of rural people. This has been brought about by the gradually transformation of Carroll County agriculture economy from livestock to dairying. On the small farm the dairy cow returns greater returns than her cousin the beef cow.

There were over 600 4-H members who took soil samples and had them analyzed. The results of the analysis were discussed at the 4-H club meetings. The samples were taken for information to use in the garden projects. They were also used in other 4-H crop projects.

Worth Cox, Jr. of the Coal Creek 4-H club is feeding a baby beef and heifer to show at the Booneville Fat Stock Show and Purebred Heifer Show. Worth's sister has a Purebred heifer that she plans to show. This is the first year we have had any interest in the project. This should encourage others to carry the project.

A new community type 4-H club was organized during the year. It is made up primarily of high school age members. It has been very active during the year and made a lot of progress for the first year. Our plan is to develop more community type clubs. These clubs usually accomplish more than the school type clubs.

### XIII. GENERAL ROUTINE

#### A. Extension Teaching Activities

There were 819 farm visits made during the year. Records show 2,078 office calls and 2,920 telephone calls made to the County Agent, County Agent-at-Large and the Assistant Agent.

There were 239 news stories prepared by agents for publication in the two local newspapers. 67 radio broadcasts were made over Stations WDOM in Galax and WMAJ in Mc. Atry, N.C.

County Agents distributed 31,693 bulletins to farmers, 4-H club members and homeowners throughout the county on a wide variety of subject matter.

There were 16 result demonstrations conducted this year. Training meetings held for adult leaders amounted to 11 with an attendance of 81. Training meetings held for local 4-H leaders and attended by agents amounted to 5 with an attendance of 106.

All other meetings agents held or participated in with adult groups amounted to 231 with an attendance of 5,606.

There were a total of 166 4-H club meetings held by the agents with a total of 4,702 in attendance.

Local leaders conducted or held 39 meetings with a total attendance of 1,163. Local leaders held 16 meetings with 403 members attending.

Ubert Frost, Jr. - Second, Buford Mabe - Third, Allen Cox - Fourth, and Ernest Vaughan - Fifth. Representatives of Sears Roebuck visited the projects and expressed their appreciation to us for the success of the project and their opportunity to support it.

Three boys were recommended for 4-H All Stars. Two of the boys had summer jobs out of the county so they were not present at Short Course to be taken in. The third boy, David Terry, was present and was taken into the 4-H All Star Organization.

There were 9 4-H boys and girls attending 4-H Short Course at VPI. While at VPI the members enrolled in several short courses for the week. Four boys and one girl competed in the State Contests. One boy was taken in as a 4-H All Star. One boy attended on a scholarship.

There was one boy and one girl attending the State 4-H Conservation Camp at Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach, Va. The camp is designed to train 4-H members to be leaders in teaching conservation to other members. The members reported a very successful week of camp.

There were 6 4-H boys receiving all expense paid scholarships to attend Holiday Lake Forestry Camp located near Appomattox, Va. This camp is designed to give boys training in forest management, game management, fire control and recreation. All the boys attending have reported a successful week of camp.

There were 46 members attending Junior and Senior Camp at the new Southwest Virginia 4-H Center located near Abingdon, Va. The 4-H members reported a very successful week of camp and they are encouraging other members to attend. The camp has the best facilities to train 4-H members in that phase of the 4-H program.

Larry Bowman of the Bell Spur 4-H Club won an all expense paid trip to the State 4-H Electric Congress in Richmond. The qualifications for the trip were based on Larry's achievements in the electric project. Larry is serving as the electric project leader in his club.

There were more 4-H members participating in the county fair than ever before. All of the 4-H exhibits are placed in a separate section. There were many crop exhibits brought in to the fair. There were more boys and girls showing their livestock at the fair than ever before.

16. We will encourage adult leaders to attend leader' conference at Natuzal Bridge.
17. We will encourage more 4-H members to bring some of their best 4-H work to the county fair and exhibit it.

E. Results

There are 51 4-H clubs in the county with an enrollment of 1,524 members.

There were two county council meetings held uduring the year. One in the spring and one in the fall. The officers of all the clubs in the county make up the county council. The purpose of the council meetings is to train officers and to make plans for county wide projects. Some of the county wide projects were the 4-H garden projects and assisting with the fund raising for the construction of the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center.

A tractor school was established in the Dugspur area for about 30 members enrolled in the tractor project. Local leaders, Archie Nester and Gene Heith, farm machinery dealers, were trained and they conducted a series of schools at night on care and maintenance of farm tractors and machinery. The dealer provided refreshments for the members and gave prizes to the first, second and third place winners in the tractor operators contest. The first and second place winners were given a free trip to the District tractor operators contest held at Abingdon.

There were 217 4-H members who received 83,300 white pine tree seedlings to plant for their forest establishment project. These treew were donated by the Virginia Division of Forestry. Claude Webb, Cheif Forest Warden assisted in giving demonstrations to members on how to plant the trees. Home visits were made to many of the club members homes to follow up with the survival of the trees.

There were 18 4-H members entering the Southwest District 4-H contests at Abingdon in May. Contests that members competed in and placing were as follows: Boys Public Speaking - third, Forestry Demonstration - second, Livestock Conservation - first, Tractor Operators - second, Land Appreciation - third, and Dairy Judging which due to age was not eligible for placing.

The sears 4-H Pig Chain was in the Laurel Community this year. Members in the pig chain and their placings were as follows: James Nester - first. He also had charge of the boar.

C. Objectives

1. To give rural young people the opportunity to improve and develop into desirable citizens.
2. Give rural young people the opportunity to learn and practice the modern methods used in agriculture and home economics.
3. To teach young people the importance of conservation, responsibility, management, and improvement of their home resource.
4. Recognize those young people who are talented and challenge them to go forward.

D. Methods -(Listed in order of goals)

1. Talk to 4-H officers in their club and encourage the importance of their attendance at County Council meetings.
2. Personal contacts with prospective leaders. Ask them to assist with 4-H club work.
3. Work with farm implement dealers. Ask them to assist with the program. Have the tractor leader to attend the tractor school at VPI. Assist leader with teaching material, visual aids and etc.
4. Explain to 4-H members the tree planting program. Have members to discuss the project with parents. Have parents and members to fill out order blank. Give demonstrations on planting with the assistance of extension forester. Visit club members to see what they actually did.
5. Locate sites for the signs with the assistance or resident road engineer. Have club members in the locality where signs are erected to assist with the erecting of the signs.
6. Explain to 4-H members the 4-H Share-the-Fun program. Have contest in their club. The winning act from each club will compete in the County Contest. Winners in the county contest will go to VPI for the State Contest.
7. We will have those 4-H members doing the best job in their projects to compete in the District Contests.
8. Place pigs from members of 1959 pig chain in hands of new members in another part of the county.
9. Any 4-H members who are eligible for All Stars will be recommended.
10. Will encourage outstanding members to attend Short Course.
11. Will encourage potential members to attend conservation camp.
12. Will recommend eligible members for scholarships to forestry camp.
13. Talk to 4-H clubs about 4-H camp. Show slides on 4-H camp in the past. We will take deposits for 4-H camp.
14. We will encourage one or more young men and women to attend YMW Camp.
15. We will send eligible delegates to State 4-H Electric Congress.

## XII. 4-H CLUB WORK

### A. Situation

With the consolidation of schools, enrollment has increased considerably over the past years. At the present there are over 1,500 4-H Club members enrolled in fifty-one (51) 4-H clubs.

The County 4-H Council feels that the combination of boys and girls into a club has its merits and club members like the system.

One of the major problems in our 4-H club work is the lack of 4-H club leaders. With the large enrollment, the agents do not find time to give as much individual help to members as they should.

The entire County Extension Staff devotes part of their time to 4-H club work and have a regular schedule in meeting the fifty-one (51) clubs throughout the county.

The assistant county agent and the assistant home demonstration agent do most of the 4-H club work.

### B. Goals

1. Have at least two county council meetings.
2. Recruit five new leaders to assist with 4-H club work.
3. Establish a 4-H tractor program.
4. Plant 80,000 white pine trees seedlings.
5. Erect county 4-H road signs.
6. Have a 4-H Share-the-Fun program.
7. Have 4-H members competing in District Contests.
8. Conduct Sears 4-H Pig Chain.
9. Recommend eligible members for All Stars
10. Have county quota attending 4-H Short Course.
11. Have county quota attending Conservation Camp.
12. Recommend all eligible members for forestry camp at Holiday Lake.
13. Have 40 4-H club members attending 4-H Camp at Southwest Virginia 4-H Center.
14. Have a man and a woman attend YMW Camp.
15. Send delegates to State 4-H Electric Congress.
16. Send adult leaders to leaders' conference at Natural Bridge.
17. Have more 4-H members entering exhibits and livestock at the County Fair.

particular club is in the Roanoke area of Community Improvement clubs. There should be several more community clubs in the county.

The community club is considered to be one of the best tools an extension worker could have.

B. Goal

1. To establish at least one additional club this year.

C. Methods

1. Meet with people in the community who have shown interest in community clubs. Later have community-wide meeting explaining community clubs and their function. Proceed according to wishes of people.

D. Results

The number of Community Clubs remain the same as of this time last year. The active clubs are Mitchell Cross Roads, Island Creek, Fancy Gap and Bel Spur.

Only one club, Mitchell Cross Roads participated in the Bristol Area Community Improvement Contest. There was no county contest this past year due to the fact that only Mitchell Cross Roads indicated a desire to be judged.

All four clubs hold regular scheduled meetings with planned programs. Two clubs namely Island Creek and Bel Spur has organized community 4-H clubs.

Extension personnel assisted clubs in planning of program, special activities, and have attended a majority of meetings.

An attempt was made to organize one additional club in the Vaughan Section of the county recently. Community leaders were contacted and a joint meeting was held with the Vaughan PTA to explain the project. To date there are no results to report on the project.

Community clubs are of great help in their respective communities. The club members are very cooperative in project undertaking and all clubs have accomplished a great deal this year.

this past spring. Mr. Gardner has set a good example by carrying out fertilizer recommendations suggested as a result of soil tests, seeding winter cover crops, proper pasture management and the production of quality forage. Mr. Gardner welcomes visitors and his farm is always available to those who wish to visit and observe.

Mr. Rufus Bunn, located in the Fancy Gap section has used his farm and influence especially in the field of quality forage production. Being a dairyman, he naturally believes in corn silage and quality alfalfa hay.

During the year of 1960 his farm was used for the experimental hybrid corn test demonstration in cooperation with the VPI Experiment Station and the County Extension staff. This year 25 different varieties were planted and it is only fair to say that this demonstration over the past four years has been responsible for the excellent progress made in regards to higher corn yields in the county.

As Mr. Bunn expands his operation we will be using his farm more in the future.

Mr. Howard Turner has cooperated to the fullest extent in carrying out practices which would demonstrate good farm management. Mr. Turners farm is one that we have not urged the use of heptachlor for the control of the alfalfa weevil, one because of elevation and two because Mr. Turner has spray equipment to combat the weevil should it strike. So far Mr. Turner has had no problem. It will be interesting to watch the results. This past year his farm was used for a corn demonstration of open pollinated corn. We will continue to use Mr. Turners farm as a test plot for the Bell Spur Community.

Mr. C. C. Vernon is carrying out excellent pasture demonstrations on his dairy farm. Being located on side of the Blue Ridge Mountain, and in a fruit growing section, he has made his farm available for demonstration on dwarf apple trees. At present he is involved in several Conservation practices. Mr. Vernon has served the Lanesburg section well as a TVA Test Demonstration Farm.

## XI. COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CLUBS

### A. Situation

There are now three active Community Improvement Clubs in the county. There is one other organized community club near the Carroll-Patrick line whose membership is made up of families from both Carroll and Patrick Counties. This

7. Mr. D. B. Hawks has been given considerable help in crop recommendations, insect control and dairy herd management.
8. John Mossermith given considerable assistance in dairy herd management, crop production, farm buildings and also counseling on farm machinery and equipment.
9. Mr. S. W. Terry given assistance on farm structure, IBM record keeping and analysis of DHEA Herd Book.
10. Four Farm and Home Families enrolled in the VPI farm record keeping system. Quarterly summary sheets discussed at length with each family.

These are a few of the general areas in which assistance was given. The home agent, county agent, county agent-at-large and assistant agents have worked together with a majority of the families. No attempt has been made to give a report on activities pertaining to the home as they are included in the Home Demonstration Agents annual report of 1960.

#### X. EXTENSION-TVA UNIT

##### A. Situation

Four Extension-TVA Unit Test Demonstration Farms have been established to date in the county. These farms were selected by the people in the community in which they are located.

These farms were established to demonstrate sound practices on the farm and in the home. These farms are typical of the farms in the area where located.

##### B. Objective

1. To demonstrate most advanced effective farm practice.

##### C. Methods

Give on-the-farm assistance. Use farm as demonstration unit. Hold field meetings and demonstrations on farm.

##### D. Results

Each of the four Extension-TVA unit farms have done an excellent job in carrying out their obligation as a demonstrations and field days the respective units.

Mr. Ernest Gardner's farm is serving well in the community as a demonstration farm. A forestry management demonstration started last year served as a teach tool to professional workers,

We have attempted to analyze the situation and study a possible supplementary income. One of the problems involved when intensive farming projects are considered is finances. At present we are investigating the possibility of financial assistance where families desire to expand their operation or consider a project such as production of commercial eggs or feeder pig production and finishing which has proven successful on many farms to the south of us. Approximately one-half of the families we are now assisting are part-time farmers.

B. Objectives

1. To help create better living on the farm and in the home.
2. Establish additional farm and home units to present participating families.
3. Search out possible source of income for part-time operator.

C. Methods

Assist in analyzing their situation in order to see what can be done to raise the standard of living. Encourage more efficient methods.

Offer assistance when and where opportunity presents itself. Inform people through press and other means, real purpose of program.

D. Results

Listed below are some of the areas in which Farm and Home Families were assisted.

1. Helped in making application for ASC Fertilizer materials, discussed results of soil test with farm owners to determine proper application of lime and fertilizer. Explain the functions of the ASC Program and SCS Program and encouraged cooperators to take advantage of this service.
2. Assisted in the control of diseases and insects. Three demonstrations set up on fertility and weevil control, on alfalfa. They were on the farms of John Messersmith, Matt Webb, and G. C. Price.
3. Cropping plans, rotations and production discussed at length with Rufus Bunn, Ernest Gardner, and C. C. Vernon. These three farms are also Ext.-TVA Demonstration farms.
4. Forest Management and Forestry in general discussed with farm and home families.
5. Assistance given to many farm and home families in the construction of silo, pole barns and dairy milking parlors.
6. Rufus Bunn cooperated in establishing experimental hybrid corn plot on his farm in the Fancy Gap section.

The Carroll-Greyson Chamber of Commerce has a very active Industrial Committee, headed by Mr. W. G. Steenman, businessman of Hillsville. This committee has held a series of dinner meetings throughout Carroll and Greyson Counties to show industry that we appreciate their contribution to the economy of the area and also assure them that as a chamber we stand ready to assist them in any way possible in the fields of expansion, development, labor training etc.

This committee has contacted many industries with the hopes of getting them to locate in this area.

The Rural Development Committee and personnel have worked harmoniously with the Chamber in all of their projects and will continue to do so in the future. Although the Chamber is in its infancy, the people of the area have placed a lot of faith in this group for the solution to some of our social, economic, industrial and educational problems.

#### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

No attempt will be made to give a complete detail summary on Rural Development and the results as they have mounted over the past five years, due to space allotted, time, avoiding repetition and in the interest of justice to both the Rural Development Annual Report and this regular annual Extension report.

An accurate and detailed Rural Development Report, along with a statistically and a five year summary was compiled in June of 1960 and filled with administrative personnel.

For a complete report on Rural Development we refer the reader to the 1960 Rural Development Report for the Carroll-Greyson Area.

### **IX. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

#### **A. SITUATION**

The program is designed to help farm families with problems relating to their economic welfare both on the farm and in the home. Some of the families with whom we are assisting realize that the farm alone cannot support the family. Some have secured off-the-farm employment to supplement the income. Full-time farmers have requested assistance in farm management and bookkeeping programs. Some of these families are full-time farmers while others are part-time operators.

## 2. Methods

Industrial expansion to be encouraged by:

- a. Cooperation - Area Rural Development Committee to work in close harmony with local and area industrial development organizations such as the Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce.
- b. Surveys and Studies - Continue to conduct the necessary resource surveys and studies and make the information available to the industrial development organizations, local and area newspapers, etc. Specifically, the "water resources study" should be continued for a period of five consecutive years. (Soil Conservation Service personnel are expected to assist with the study.)
- c. Trade-Technical School - Continue efforts to establish a "Trade-Technical school in the Carroll-Galax-Grayson area. The establishment of such a school would enable worthy students to learn a specific skill---and thus qualify for a higher-type position in industrialized urban centers. Also, such a school in the area would aid materially in attracting new industry. (The Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce---in cooperation with local school officials---is expected to take the lead in developing this project).
- d. Community and Town Improvement - Efforts are to continue to secure desirable improvements such as street and sidewalk construction; beautification programs; school development projects; and a host of other projects that must come from local efforts. (Civic Clubs; Home Demonstration Clubs; Town and City Councils, etc. will need to spear-head such projects).

## 3. Results

One small sewing industry located in Hillsville this past year, namely the Mayville Corporation. The company started operations in February of this year and began production by employing twenty-five female personnel. Present plans call for expansion of the plant and at the peak of production the Mayville plant will employ about 100 female personnel.

The location of this plant in Hillsville is due largely to the efforts and interest of the Hillsville Business and professional mens club. (Formerly the Hillsville Chamber of Commerce).

Forestry management practices. Secure wood-using industry to locate in area, if possible, to supply market for low-grade hardwood timber. (Forestry specialists to assist with project.)

- e. Marketing - Continue study of agricultural marketing problems in the county and area in an effort to find workable solutions. (Extension Service personnel to assume leadership in this particular field of activity).

### 3. Results

It is indeed a difficult task to separate the results of the agriculture phase of Rural Development from the results of the various extension sponsored special interest groups.

No attempt will be made to separate this since Rural Development has contributed to the Extension program, both in man power and results. Likewise Extension activities and results have contributed unmeasurable to the over-all Rural Development Program.

### C. Industrial Situation

Currently, there are six (6) industries in Carroll County that employ approximately 700 individuals. In addition, there are twenty-four (24) in the City of Galax, Virginia. These industries provide employment for approximately 4,000 men and women in the Carroll-Grayson area. Also, a large number of Carroll Residents are employed in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, Pulaski, and Radford, Virginia.

A labor survey of Carroll and Grayson Counties and the City of Galax was conducted by the Galax Employment Office in June, 1958. The survey revealed an existing, available labor force of more than 2,000 in the area. Job applications are running about 160 monthly.

A definite need for the area is industrial growth. The Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce is working to secure additional industry, along with private individuals.

#### 1. Long-Range Objectives

Secure additional industry in the area so as to provide employment opportunities for a large segment of the population in the Carroll County area.

## B. Agricultural Situation

The 3,757 farms in Carroll County average about 62 acres in size. More than 69 per cent of the farms are classified as part-time or residential farms. The average age of the farm operators is about 58 years. Rural youth are rapidly leaving the farms and migrating to urban and industrial centers in search of employment.

The rapid growth in the field of agricultural development toward intensive mechanization and specialization is having its effect on Carroll County farmers. It is forcing some of the younger farmers to seek non-farm employment. Others are seeking to expand the size of their farm operations by adding a few more milk cows, a few more acres of land etc. Some are shifting from beef cattle and sheep to intensive agricultural enterprises such as; commercial laying flocks and dairy operations. This trend is expected to continue--and will probably be accelerated by such developments as "Contract" farming and "vertical integration" of commercial companies.

### 1. Long-Range Objectives

Develop more stable and efficient farming units in the county.

### 2. Methods

Greater stability and efficiency to be secured by:

- a. Education - Special farm management schools to be scheduled during winter period for benefit of the full-time commercial farmers. Enrollment to be confined to 15 to 20 farmers per session so intensive assistance can be given. Follow-up on-the-farm assistance to be given by County Agents and other County Agricultural Agency personnel.
- b. Intensification of Farm Operations - Farmers will be encouraged to intensify and expand the size of their agricultural operations. Cooperation is expected from commercial farm supply companies and the Agricultural Extension Specialists. Demonstration or "pilot" units to be established when needed to test the practicability of specific intensive enterprises.
- c. Land-Use and Cropping Systems - Encourage greater use of higher yielding forage crops on suitable land areas. (Soil Conservation Service personnel to assist as to developing farm plans and cropping programs).
- d. Woodland Management - Establish one or more woodland management plots in county to demonstrate approved

Considerable emphasis was placed on the Home Garden through the 4-H Clubs. All 1,600 club members were enrolled in the garden project last year. This resulted in over 600 soil samples being taken and tested with recommendations being made according to the soil test topics such as varieties, insect control and record keeping were discussed at club meetings. Booklets and other timely garden information was distributed to 4-H members, which eventually found their way to the parents.

#### VIII. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

##### A. Situation (Organisational)

The Rural Development Program in Carroll County began functioning on an organized basis on April 11, 1957. Initial organizational procedures followed were those recommended by the State and National Rural Development Committees. This procedure resulted in a county committee of 35 members--- and an advisory group of 24 members. The committees functioned with varying degrees of success during 1957.

On November 7, 1957, an area development group was organized and adopted the name of the Carroll-Grayson Planning and Economic Development Commission. Equal representation--- three each---on the Commission is had by the counties of Carroll and Grayson, the towns of Hillsville and Independence, and the City of Galax. The area approach was deemed necessary because the economy and development of the two counties is closely interwoven and dependent upon the economy and economic development of Galax.

On January 29, 1960, the Carroll-Grayson planning and Economic Development Commission dissolved for the formation of a new work group---the Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce. This reconstruction was deemed advisable so as to provide the group with some working capital for Industrial Development. The Board of Directors of the Chamber consist of 18 members--- three each from the counties of Carroll and Grayson, three from the towns of Hillsville, Independence, and Fries, and three from the City of Galax.

The Board of Directors of the Chamber are assuming increased responsibility for the over-all development of the economy of the Twin County area. Therefore, it can be assumed that in 1960 the Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce will be expected to carry additional responsibility in the area development program. It is also assumed that the professional workers in Carroll and Grayson Counties will assist the Chamber in every way possible.

- which normally sell good on the market. Encourage timed planning. Contact growers through meetings and visits to give timely information.
- b. Stress quality and adapted varieties. Work for better control of insects and diseases. Cull out inferior produce before marketing. Secure services of State Marketing Division in carrying out educational program.
  - c. Hold meetings for growers, advising on all phases of production.

#### 4. Results

Cabbage and green beans, still remain the most commonly grown commercial truck crop. The picture has not changed to any extent from last year, as far as size of acreage is concerned. Acreage will vary from year to year depending on what the prevailing prices were the year before.

Growers found good markets for cabbage and beans in nearby towns and cities to the south. Acreage was slightly above last year.

Quality seems to improve and no great fault can be found in this respect. Growers have had experience in marketing the crop on an individual basis and realize quality must be had if the product is to be sold.

A study among the growers indicate they have the feeling that possibly a marketing outlet for the area could be established if efforts in the county and adjoining areas could be combined.

The State Markets Division specialists have been consulted as well as Extension Marketing specialists regarding marketing of the crop. Further study is being made along this line, as marketing remains a problem. Growers feel there is no incentive to produce if marketing outlets are not available.

A vegetable school conducted at Fancy Gap by L. B. Wilkins, Ext. Horticulturist at VPI was greatly appreciated by the vegetable growers. The meeting dealt mainly with varieties, control of insects, market outlook and planting dates.

Professional workers and leading vegetable growers were informed regularly as to timely tips on vegetable growing through newsletters, newspapers and radio.

A study is continuing on how to cope with problems relating to the marketing of the crops. The pros and cons on cooperative grading and storage have been discussed in several group meetings. It seems the trend at present is toward the individual unit.

It is believed that eventually the competition from outside force will bring the growers closer together for a possible trend toward a cooperative market.

Extension Service personnel will continue to work closely with the growers on existing problems, market facilities, and other management problems.

It is hoped that in the near future adequate storage and marketing outlets will be made available, but the growers have got to decide for themselves that this is what they desire before work can begin. When the time comes, Extension personnel and state officials stand ready to assist any way possible.

#### Truck Crops

#### 1. Situation

According to the latest figures, there are 800 acres of truck crops produced for sale. At present cabbage and green beans dominate the truck produce offered for sale. Of course a greater variety of truck crops can be grown and it appears that if the truck crop producers expect to attract buyers on the market in the area variety and quantity must prevail. There are three local produce markets in the area (Fancy Gap-Gladesboro) that serves as outlets in addition to the city markets wouth of the county in neighboring state of North Carolina.

Quality of produce must be improved. Local operators say they always have sale for quality produce. It is believed that if a greater quantity or volume of produce was produced, a stronger market could be established. Variety in truck products also would have its advantage.

#### 2. Goals

- a. Produce wider variety of truck crops.
- b. Improve quality of produce.
- a. To study possible market outlets.

#### 3. Methods

- a. Encourage growers to plant greater variety of crops

- c. Establish satisfactory marketing outlet.
- d. Secure storage facility in area if determined feasible.

3. Methods

- a. Hold educational meetings once a month, giving growers information on timely subject matter. Tours and demonstrations will be held during summer and fall months. Assistance will be given by Extension Horticulturalists.
- b. Through growers committee, secure basic information needed to work on marketing problems. Secure services of State Marketing Service and VPI Extension Specialists.
- c. Work through fruit marketing committee in contacting fruit processing companies and potential chain stores who buy in large volume.
- d. A detailed study will be made on the feasibility of establishment of a cooperative storage in the area. This study is now under way. Extension and State Departments will cooperate on this study.
- e. Hold fruit growers' school and bring timely information to growers.

4. Results

Growers continue to improve on quality of products being produced and packaged through the efforts of the extension service and State Department representatives. Through regular monthly meetings and tours held during the spring, summer and fall, the growers are being well informed on the control of diseases and insects along with good orchard management practices. At most all meetings and tours held this year the State Department representatives have been present. The growers are beginning to realize that they are being recognized in regards to problems that exist, especially in the field of marketing.

A two day fruit growers school was held at Mt. Airy, N. C. in January, at which time growers from Virginia and N. C. came together. Specialists from N. C. State College and VPI Horticulture Department served as instructors. The program covered the whole field of apple production as requested by growers who had a part in planning the program. Results were very satisfactory, in that we had a better informed group.

## 7. Horticulture

### 1. Fruit Production

#### Situation

Some progress has been made over the past year in the over-all marketing program; however, the general situation remains very much the same. An attempt has been made to bring about an awareness among the growers of their situation regarding the marketing trends. This has been accomplished to a great extent and more interest is being shown in trying to meet the problem of the marketing angle.

The production of apples and peaches bring in considerable income to growers in the southern part of the county. In a normal season, 275-300 thousand bushels of apples are produced in the area. This past year there was an estimated 65 per cent yield. Peaches are produced to a less extent; however, several growers are considering expanding their peach acreage.

The commodity group is well informed on all phases in the production of apples. They meet monthly and have specialists from the Horticulture department give timely information to their group. Tours are arranged during the summer and fall months to study the insect and disease control programs.

The growers have made rapid progress in production, but the marketing problem has grown. The lack of a central grading and storage unit has been discussed as a possible solution in solving some of the problems. A processing plant located in the area seems to have some merit.

Approximately 117 fruit growers are located in the Gandy Gap District of Carroll County. Only five of the producers have cold storage facilities. Thus, the majority of the small volume producers are forced to market their apple crops at the harvest time regardless of price conditions. In addition, volume of fruit of specific grades and quality to attract the larger chain store buyers.

### 2. Goals

- a. Continue efforts to improve quality of fruit.
- b. Study ways to cope with problems relating to the marketing of the fruit crop.

Repeated attempts have been made to find a market for the undesirable hardwoods; however, none have materialized. Local leaders and extension personnel have combed the market for possibilities. However none have been found that are feasible at this point and we have not been able to encourage outside users of undesirable hardwood to locate in this area.

Industries which have been explored are (1) Charcoal (2) Paper (3) Post Peeling (4) Pulp plant or yard.

The possibility of a pulpwood yard has been explored and has some possibilities. West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company has shown interest and are looking at possible sites. The yard would buy some hardwood but mostly pine.

A demonstration of the release of desirable seedlings was also initiated in the county this year. This is a joint demonstration between Freeport Sulpha, Va. Division of Forestry and Extension Service. In this demonstration we have used every known chemical and mechanical means to kill undesirable hardwood to release the white pine seedlings on the forest floor.

Since we have been unable to utilize our undesirable hardwood we may have to kill these trees to make room for productive species. Many farms have shown considerable interest in this project.

Six Christmas tree planting demonstrations were started in the county this year. They are located in various parts of the county. Several farmers have planted trees especially for Christmas tree production and many have indicated their interest in planting a few next year. This project is encouraged to make wise use of unproductive land and leisure labor and should add considerable income for farmers in this area.

The 4-H Forestry Project has been strengthened considerable over the past three years through the courtesy of the Va. Division of Forestry in their donation of seedlings to 4-H members. The project was carried to the clubs this year, but due to a severe winter, participation in the project was not as high as in previous years. The seedlings arrived late in the season.

While considerable progress is being made in forestry, we realize there is much yet to be done and efforts will continue along these lines.

County Forest Committee will work with Extension Foresters and County Extension personnel in investigating possible establishment of a post peeler and treating plant for the area. Work with local cooperative on this proposal.

In order to get more participation of tree planting through ASC, efforts will be directed toward bringing to our farmers the sound conservation practice involved and give publicity through all media to this effect. Give assistance to County ASC committee in promoting the forestry program.

The 4-H Forestry Program will be carried directly to the club. Program will include forest appreciation, tree identification, forest conservation, tree planting demonstration, and the actual planting of trees by the club members.

Further investigation will be made on the possibility of the location of a Charcoal Plant in the area. A follow-up on work in this direction will continue. Assistance from Extension Service will be sought.

#### 5. Results

There were 160,000 trees planted in the county this year. All of the plantings were of white pine, which makes excellent growth at this elevation. The Carroll 4-H members planted approximately 85,000 of the total shipped into the county.

The agencies and organizations greatly responsible for the increased reforestation program are namely the Va. Division of Forestry, SCS, ACP (payment), Extension Service, FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs.

A tour of the woodlot demonstration established on the farm of Ernest Gardner (Ext.-TVA) last year was conducted by A.B. Lyon, Extension Forester. Here Mr. Lyon pointed out timber that needed harvesting and why.

A planting demonstration of 1,000 white pines was added to this demonstration this year. These two demonstrations should prove a real asset because of location, topography, soil type and cooperation from the land owner. It will also be a valuable teaching tool in forest management.

There is approximately 33% of total acres of 103,765 acres of woodland in the county. White pine makes excellent growth and is naturally suited to the soils and climate conditions. There are many acres of land which are neither suitable for crop or pasture that needs to be planted into white pine. Many acres which would come into good production of timber is hampered by undesirable hardwoods. A study is now being made to determine how we can approach the problem of eradicating these undesirable hardwoods in order to release the white pines.

It is the thinking of the forestry committee, that the progress could be made in this direction if some means was found to utilize the undesirable trees. A study is now underway on this phase.

A better knowledge among the average farmer on woodland management is needed and efforts will be made to carry out an educational program to bring about the desired change. Carroll County planted 500,000 seedlings in 1959. The 4-H clubs planted 130,000 of this total.

2. Goals

- a. Plant at least 300,000 trees this year.
- b. Set up one woodlot demonstration.

3. Objectives

- a. Investigate possibility of post peeling and treating plant for farmers.
- b. Encourage more participating in tree planting through ACP.
- c. Strengthen 4-H Forestry Program.
- d. Continue to explore the possibilities of locating a charcoal plant in area.
- e. Investigate possibilities of producing Christmas trees as a possible source of income.

4. Methods

The program for planting more trees will start in January. Farmers and 4-H club members will be encouraged to get orders for seedlings in early. Wide publicity will be given to tree planting program through all media pointing out value of such a program.

Use woodlot demonstration to best advantage. Interested farmers will be contacted. This demonstration will be part of over-all farm operation. Will secure assistance of VPI Extension Forest Service and cooperation of the Virginia Forest Service. Hold field meeting for professional agricultural workers.

## D. Poultry

### 1. Situation

The production of poultry and poultry products remains at about the same level over the past few years. Laying flocks are small and only a few efficient size flocks are to be found in the county.

Production of eggs for hatching has been profitable for a few. Most of these flocks range from 150-200 hens. Five commercial laying flocks (1,000 birds) have been established since January 1, 1959.

### 2. Objectives

- a. Continue to study if it would be feasible to develop commercial laying flocks in the county.

### 3. Methods

Contact all potential egg producers, inviting them to meetings where a discussion can be held on the feasibility of the program. Visit with them; some of the farms who have already established laying flocks. Study their over-all farm program to see if poultry would fit in their program. Arrange for organized tours. Give publicity through press and radio.

### 4. Results

A special meeting was conducted for poultry producers by Denver D. Bragg and R. H. Burtner, Poultry Specialist at VPI. The purpose of the meeting was to bring to the attention of poultrymen the value and saving in using home grown grains. It was brought out at this meeting the price variation in commercial feeds and the price of home grown feeds vs commercial feeds. The important point being to cut cost of production.

One of the larger poultrymen in the county is considering the possibility of bringing in western grain and supplement and installing a small Hammer Mill and mixer for his operation.

## E. Forestry

### 1. Situation

#### 4. Results

Several demonstrations conducted in various parts of the county on vaccination of calves for Bangs and Blackleg. The demonstrations included informal discussion on price of vaccine, where it could be obtained, cost and care in handling the vaccine.

In the bangs eradication program all beef herds were tested and consequently Carroll County was declared a bangs free county the first of the year.

Because of inadequate facilities and low consignment local beef producers were encouraged to sell their feeder calves through the Dublin and Spytshville markets - publicity was given as to requirements of the sales, the date etc.

Two yearling steer sales sponsored by the Virginia Beef Producers Association, VPI Extension service and local livestock markets were held during October and November. Approximately 1200 head were consigned to the two sales. The quality of cattle consigned was an improvement over last year and prices a bit higher.

Some of the smaller producers have switched from the cow and calf herd to feeder calves. The buying of feeder calves seems more feasible especially on the small farm.

There has been no substantial increase in sheep numbers over the past year. There are approximately 2500 head in the county. The quality is good.

The Carroll Wool Pool was sold to Nichols and Company of Louisville, Kentucky on May 18, 1960. Top grade wool paid .7916¢ per pound. The wool was pooled and taken up at Hillsville on June 21. A total of 8,076 pounds were sold for a total of \$4,725.70. This represents approximately 2/3 of the wool produced in the county. Some of the wool was sold through local buyers.

Several livestock producers have built holding chutes and pens which has greatly assisted in the handling of livestock.

The trend in Carroll County on small livestock farms is to the dairy cow. This trend has prevailed this year as the dairy cow will bring more income than will the beef cow. This trend is expected to continue.

too on the more efficient size farms, sheep have been dropped from the program. According to farmers, dogs have been influential in this trend. Favorable beef prices have been one of the real causes for declining sheep numbers over the past few years according to the livestock committee. Sheep numbers on county farms may rise slightly during 1960.

## 2. Objectives

- a. Continue efforts to improve quality of livestock.
- b. Encourage feeder cattle instead of the cow and calf herd on farms where feasible.
- c. Increase sheep number in county.
- d. Increase construction on as many farms as possible facilities for handling livestock (holding chutes).

## 3. Methods

- a. Cooperate with Bangs Eradication program in getting as many heifers vaccinated for Bangs as possible. Livestock committee will cooperate in getting work done. Purpose of the program will be given wide publicity in the county.
- b. Assist in locating sires and informing producers of sales in area. Assist producers at sales in selecting replacements. Use press, radio, personal contact and all other means in promoting the livestock improvement program. Use organized and Extension sponsored sales in demonstrating quality livestock.
- c. Make individual analysis of situation regarding livestock production.
- d. Give publicity as to how sheep fit in the livestock program. Make available information where sheep may be purchased cooperatively at the lowest cost. Analyze individual livestock program, to determine if sheep would be profitable. Point out through all media advantages of this area in sheep production. Use livestock committee in promoting sheep program. Continue to market wool cooperatively. Give publicity to all sales.
- e. Work with organized groups in getting holding chutes constructed in community which will serve as demonstration. Assist those who construct chutes. Hold tour in community making stop at demonstration. Encourage all Ext-TWA unit farms to construct chutes as part of demonstration.
- f. Encourage participating in feeder calf and yearling steer sales in local area.

## C. General Livestock

### 1. Situation

The general livestock remains very much the same over the past year. According to the latest census, 37.6 per cent of the total income from livestock and livestock products. Cow and calf herds are still the trend; however, some are wintering calves where feed made on the farm is adequate.

Sheep numbers remain steady at around 2,500 head. There is still more need for sheep on many farms throughout the county.

Many herd sires and heifer replacements are bought locally through the annual sales sponsored by the Carroll-Grayson Hereford Breeders Association. Facilities for handling livestock are still lacking on many farms. This situation has existed over a period of years. It is a difficult job to treat, test, vaccinate, and dehorn livestock without good facilities. At present we do not have any organized feeder calf sales. All feeder calves over the past three or four years have been sold at nearby livestock markets. Two yearling steer sales were held at Galax this past fall. Some of the feeder calf producers have suggested that another attempt to organize a feeder calf sale be made for Carroll and Grayson Counties. Attempts heretofore have failed to get enough calves consigned to justify a sale. It seems there are too many livestock producers who do not vaccinate for Blackleg. Several cases were reported in the county last year.

A good many farmers are now beginning to realize that beef production on smaller farms may have to be replaced with a more intensive enterprise. Swine production is being considered. The production and finishing of feeder pigs has already made its appearance in the county.

The cow and calf herd is still popular and profitable on the large or efficient size farms. Some farmers are winter feeding and grazing out steers which are bought through local organized sales.

Although an effort has been made to encourage more sheep in the county, numbers remain about the same. On the smaller farms a dairy animals have replaced sheep and

Clyde Edwards, local DHA Supervisor has done an excellent job of testing this year. He has been interested in the work and interested in building the association.

The local Artificial Breeders Association bred 1989 cows this year.

On January of 1960 Carroll County was declared a Bangs Free County; however, we are still deficient in vaccinating eligible heifer calves. Approximately 40% of eligible calves were vaccinated.

A one day dairy meeting was held at the Appalachian Power Company auditorium in Galax for milk producers of Carroll and Grayson Counties - approximately 50 producers attended. The Dairy Specialists from the Dairy department conducted the school. Topics covered included verse (1) the dairy calf (2) using chemicals safely (3) record keeping (4) a panel discussion by local producers on quality forage production.

Dr. Baldwin, VPI Dairy Specialist, met with a group of dairy leaders in January to discuss the over-all dairy program. The discussion centered around feeding, breeding and good management.

A meeting conducted by Bill Griffith, VPI Dairy Specialist on records was a highlight meeting of the year. Dairymen turned out to the meeting and Mr. Griffith led a down to earth discussion that everyone understood and local dairymen had a better understanding than ever before, the value of a good record.

A Dairy Judging clinic was conducted jointly between Carroll and Grayson Counties for 4-H members. About 25 boys and girls participated in the event and as a result Carroll County had an eligible team (under age) in District competition.

The over-all results of general dairy progress for this year has been excellent. Dairymen are producing a better quality forage, doing a better job of selection and breeding, using records and consequently production per cow is up. This is true for the Grade A dairymen as well as the manufacturing producer.

The agriculture economy of the county is depending more and more each year on dairying. Farmers are better equipped to handle their herds and the next couple of years should be a growing era for the entire dairy industry.

- a. Increase membership in DHIA by addition of at least five new members.
- b. Breed artificially 2,000 or more cows this year.
- c. Vaccinate at least 45% of all eligible heifer calves for Bangs.

### 3. Objectives

- a. Strive for more efficient production of milk.
- b. Make available breeding stock through cooperative buying.
- c. Increase acreage of high-quality silage and hay where feasible.
- d. Feed for maximum milk production.
- e. Work with dairymen in procurement of replacements and breeding stock.

### 4. Methods

- a. Assist supervisor in encouraging those who have shown some interest in the program. Have present members contact potential members. Invite other dairy farmers to attend annual DHIA meeting.
- b. Give publicity through all media to the value of artificial breeding in herd improvement. Assist local association in promoting the program. Work through organized groups such as dairy and community clubs. Hold tour making stops where artificial breeding has been practiced for several years.
- c. Hold educational meetings using services of local veterinarian. Give publicity to this health program through press and radio. Secure cooperation of dairy commodity groups.
- d. Encourage more silage and good-quality hay. Improved pastures, by used adequate fertilizer applications. Higher producers through better herd management and breeding. Invite dairymen to two-day farm management school in February.
- e. Work with dairymen in locating and selecting breeding stock. Get assistance from Extension Dairy Specialists.
- f. Hold one-day dairy school for all producers.

### 5. Results

There are now 19 members enrolled in the local DHIA. Seven of these members enrolled this year, two above the goal set by the committee. The agents along with DHIA Supervisor visited personally all potential members. The records of DHIA are a valuable tool in increasing milk production and it is believed we will have a full association in the near future.

more silage and operating under the principle of "Feed the Cow all the Silage She Will Eat".

## B. Dairying

### 1. Situation

Approximately 31.7 of all agricultural income is derived from dairying. There are now 98 Grade A dairies and well over 1,200 Grade C herds producing manufacturing milk. Milk routes are well established throughout the county. Approximately 50 per cent of the Grade A producers are members of the Tri-State Milk Producers Association, which operates under a Federal Order. These members report they have certain advantages under the Federal Order, which gives protection in the marketing and prices received for their milk. Those who are not members are shipping to North Carolina processing plant which at present does not operate under a Federal Order.

Grade C producers are well served as to marketing. Grade C producers are now receiving incentive payments on having better facilities and increased fall and winter production of milk.

Dairymen in the county still have a long way to go in the dairy herd improvement program. First there are many dairy farmers who do not swell their herd to the Carroll Artificial Breeding Program. The DNA membership is still very low despite continued efforts to interest more dairymen in the program. The weight-a-day-a-month program now underway offers some encouragement toward record keeping on the herd.

Although we have had no serious outbreaks in Bangs, there are far too many heifers going past the age limit for vaccination against this disease. Carroll County was declared a Modified Bangs Free County as of January 1960.

Cost of production in milk still is too high. Better breeding and more efficient production of feeds, especially forage crops is a must if some of the dairymen are to stay in business. More high quality hay and ensilage is needed despite the progress made in this direction in the past few years.

## 2. Goals

Seven demonstrations and one tour were conducted in promoting alfalfa production. Extension TVA farms were used to set up demonstrations in the control of the alfalfa weevil. Ninety-five percent of the producers of alfalfa used control measures this year for the weevil.

Latest census figures show corn yields for Carroll County around 55 bushels; however, most professional workers agree that selected adapted hybrid varieties, recommended application of fertilizer, and adequate rain fall has boosted corn yields to around 75-80 bushels per acre. The official hybrid corn test plot was seeded again this year. The varieties best adapted for this area so far as determined by the test plot are VPI 646, VPI 648 and Funks G-91. Hybrid varieties have gained in popularity over the past several years and about 95% of all corn planted are the hybrid varieties.

All fertilizer and seed dealers received a mimeographed sheet of the results of the 1959 hybrid corn test. In turn they stocked their supply with the leading varieties which eventually found their way to the farm.

The best available figures indicate that approximately 50% of cattle producers are making corn silage. Approximately 95% of all corn grown on the Grade A Dairy farm goes into the silo. There were approximately 75 trench and bunker silos constructed and filled this year - a considerable increase over last year.

We have received reports from dairymen who indicate that they are producing 18-25 tons of silage per acre - in reality an excellent yield and most of it good quality. The rate of fertilizer applications has been around 1,000 pounds per acre.

Number of acres of pasture in county	124,338
Number of acres seeded in 1960	400
Number of acres top dressed	14,000
Number of acres of sudan grass & millet seeded	40
Winter pasture seeded (acres)	700
Red Clover Seeded	450
Leupedeza seeded	125
Per cent of farmers saving first cutting alfalfa and excess spring pasture growth for silage	15
Per cent of farms making corn silage	35

Due to limited acreage the quality forage produced comes from two sources; alfalfa and corn silage. However, there has been a tendency to produce more quality orchard grass and a little less alfalfa. The farmers are producing

enterprise. Give assistance in field when requested. Use soil tests for making recommendations.

- c. Give publicity through all media on more adequate fertilization. Encourage use of adapted hybrids. Work through community clubs in striving for greater yields. Work closely with dealers in getting right analysis of fertilizer and adapted varieties to farmers. Continue for fourth year official hybrid corn test plot. Have at least one farmer in each magisterial district demonstrate an adapted hybrid. Hold tour to these plots. Give publicity.
- d. Have corn fertilizer demonstrations. Hold community tours. Sponsor group to tours of test work at Experiment Station. Give publicity to importance of proper analysis and rate of application of fertilizer. Stress use of high analysis fertilizer. Have as many as possible attend one day Agronomy School.
- e. Give general publicity to importance of high quality forage milk production. Work with groups in promoting more ensilage on the farm where feasible. Work with dairy commodity group in promoting forage crop program. Hold farm management school, include feeding on program.
- f. Establish weed, insect, and fertilizer demonstrations on two alfalfa plots in county.

#### 4. Results

The committee reviewed the situation and used latest county data in formulating work to be done in promoting a more adequate forage program. The committee listed specific practices and plans that should be carried out to reach the agronomy goals.

Thirty five news articles plus a special edition of the county paper, seventeen radio programs, 6 meetings, one tour, two alfalfa fertilizer demonstrations and one forage crop exhibit comprised the publicity and meetings conducted for a better forage program. Through the various media, ASC payments were on the priority list. On the year of 1960 there were approximately 1200 acres of new alfalfa seeded, in addition to about 8,000 acres being topdressed. These figures are only approximate since latest census reports only 3,119 acres of alfalfa (1954). By next report period we should have an accurate figure to report.

Our situation at the beginning of the year, according to the latest census (1954) a total of 7,928 acres of land was planted to corn in the county. Following the corn harvest, only 25 per cent of corn acreage was seeded to winter cover crops. Three-fourths of the land acreage was exposed to erosion hazards during the winter period. The problem is "How to get the farmers in Carroll County to seed cover crops on cultivated acres?"

Corn yields in the county were approximately 60 bushels per acre according to the latest census report. There are too many farmers who are not using adapted hybrid varieties. Carroll County families are having difficulty in selecting corn hybrids that will perform satisfactorily at high elevations; however, this is being overcome with some promising varieties.

Increased yields and greater acreage of high quality hay and improved pastures are needed. Although alfalfa acreage has increased from 840 acres in 1949 to approximately 8,000 acres in 1960, there is still more room for this high-yielding and high-quality crop. Reports indicate that less than six per cent of the total permanent pasture in the county is being fertilized annually. Application rate was 307 pounds per acre on pasture land. Less than 500 pounds of fertilizer per acre was being applied on corn land. These rates should be increased substantially.

## 2. Goals

- a. Increase total acres to winter cover crops by 5%.
- b. Seed at least 300 acres of alfalfa this year.
- c. Increase average corn yields in county to 60 bushels per acre.
- d. Increase application rate of fertilizer on corn from approximately 800 pounds to 900 pounds per acre, or more.
- e. Increase corn silage acreage by 15%.
- f. Maintain more adequate control of insects on forage crops.

## 3. Methods

- a. Encourage this practice through ASC payments. Give publicity as to importance of cover crops. Use Ext-TVA unit farms as demonstrations for good farm practices.
- b. Tours in community which include stops at newly seeded and established stands. Encourage participation in ASC program which will assist farmer up to approximately 80% cost of establishing alfalfa. Give general publicity to importance of alfalfa in our livestock and dairy

The marketing of apples and truck crops is still a major problem. Dairy, livestock, and crop production have made rapid improvement, and along with this progress have come marketing problems.

Better herd management and increased quality and quantity of forage crops for adequate winter feed supplies need to be met. High feed costs still remain a problem on many of the dairy farms. There are still a great majority of dairymen who do not avail themselves to the artificial breeding program; however, there has been an increase in membership over the past year. Milk production records are needed on many herds in the county. The local DHIA needs to be strengthened along with an improved breeding and feeding program.

The livestock, disease, and parasite control program still need to be improved.

Facilities for handling livestock on the farm, with regard to chutes, is still a need.

Winter cover crops are still a need. Crop yields have room for improvement, especially corn, which averages about 60 bushels per acre. More adequate fertilizer applications on a great many farms are needed.

The production of apples brings in considerable income; however, income from this 250,000 to 275,000 crop yield could be increased if storage facilities or possibly a processing plant was established in the area. Marketing the crop is a problem especially for the small grower without proper facilities.

Truck farming could be a profitable enterprise if possibly a greater variety of truck crops other than cabbage and beans were produced. Small fruits should be considered on many of these truck crop farms. On many of the smaller farms or part-time farms, small fruits could serve well in increasing the total income. Marketing of the truck crop continues to present a problem, as ready markets are not available.

Many farms are too small for an efficient operation. There are many part-time farms (69%) in the county, which presents a problem--that is, seeking sources for additional income.

## VII. ACTIVITIES

### A. Agronomy

#### 1. Situation

F. 4-H Club

1. 4-H County Council

President - Betty Largen, RFD 2, Box 205, Hillsville, Va.  
V. President - Veda Vass, RFD 2, Box 114, Hillsville, Va.  
Secretary - Gaye Iroler, Fancy Gap, Virginia  
Treasurer - Rebecca Bond, RFD 1, Box 361, Fries, Va.  
Reporter - Brenda Jones, RFD 4, Galax, Virginia  
Song Leaders - Rita Burcham, RFD 2, Box 99, Woodlawn, Va.  
- Eva Lou Easter, RFD 1, Box 230, Cana, Va.

G. Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce

President - Dr. R. C. Bowie, Galax, Virginia  
V. President - Raleigh Cooley, Hillsville, Virginia  
Managing Secretary - Russell Farnsworth, Galax, Virginia

H. Rural Development

Chairman - Ray Felts, Route 5, Galax, Virginia  
Vice Chairman - Raleigh Cooley, Hillsville, Virginia  
Secretary - O. W. Cundiff, Hillsville, Virginia

I. Community Improvement Clubs

1. Fancy Gap
2. Island Creek
3. Mitchell Cross Roads
4. Belapur

J. Cooperating Agencies

1. Carroll County Farmers Cooperative
2. Farm Bureau - Duel Bowman
3. Farmers Union

K. Key Banker

John Fulcher, Carroll County Bank, Hillsville, Virginia

Each of the special interest groups or representatives of the groups listed above will meet at least once during the year. Several of the commodity groups will meet as many as six times a year. The fruit growers meet monthly as do the community improvement clubs. Therefore, good contact can be had with the different groups or representatives of the group.

VI. NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF COUNTY

2. Carroll DRIA

President - J. L. Harmon, Hillsville, Virginia  
Secretary/Treasurer - Russell Branscome, Woodlawn, Virginia  
Supervisor - Clyde Edwards, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia

3. Carroll Artificial Breeders' Association

President - John Messersmith, Woodlawn, Virginia  
V. President - Ed Hampton, RFD 1, Hillsville, Virginia  
Secretary/Treasurer - J. L. Harmon, Hillsville, Virginia

C. General Livestock

1. Livestock Committee

S. W. Cole, RFD, Galax, Virginia  
Brooks Edwards, Woodlawn, Virginia  
Willie Cruise, RFD, Willis, Virginia  
S. H. Collins, Route 3, Galax, Virginia  
Marvin Jennings, Route 4, Hillsville, Virginia

2. County Wool Pool

John Banks, Laurel Fork, Virginia  
Raymond Horton, Dugspur, Virginia  
Brooks Edwards, Woodlawn, Virginia

D. Horticulture

1. County Fruit Growers' Committee

Ed Douglas, 342 W. Pine Street, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
Dewey Boyd, RFD, Ararat, Virginia  
S. R. Levering, RFD, Ararat, Virginia  
G. C. Lovill, Mt. Airy, North Carolina  
Clarence Coulson, Ararat, Virginia  
Harvey Leonard, Ararat, Virginia  
Willie Vernon, Route 5, Mt. Airy, North Carolina

E. Forestry

1. Forestry Committee

F. E. Puckett, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
E. E. Gardner, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
John Messersmith, Woodlawn, Virginia  
J. L. Harmon, Hillsville, Virginia

livestock. Dairy farmers (1,000 - 1,200) Grade C and (86) Grade A are concerned over the future of the dairy business; however, at present they seem to be holding their own. Number of producers have not decreased and some Grade C are even considering moving up to a Grade A operation. These producers are asked to study the situation very carefully before making the decision.

With the exception of livestock and dairy marketing outlets for agricultural products, especially apples and truck crops are far from adequate. Assistance in studying the marketing situation is being requested.

#### V. DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM

Carroll County is one of the more diversified counties in the Southwest Virginia area. There are a number of commodity and special interest groups. The leaders of these groups comprise the County Agricultural Council. Due to the county being a "Pilot" County in the Rural Development Program, joint meetings of the County Agricultural Council and the Executive Committee of the Rural Development program seem feasible.

Following is a list of commodity and special interest groups which have contributed to the over-all County Extension Program for 1960:

##### A. Agronomy

###### 1. Agronomy Committee

Alonzo Quesenberry, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
Rufus Bunn, Fancy Gap, Virginia  
Howard Turner, Route 2, Hillsville, Virginia  
D. B. Hawks, Jr., Lanesburg, Virginia  
Fred Lawson, Shorts Creek, Virginia  
John Messersmith, Woodlawn, Virginia  
Hardin Higgins, RFD, Galax, Virginia

##### B. Dairying

###### 1. Dairy Committee

Ernest Gardner, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
Dyer Suthers, RFD, Woodlawn, Virginia  
Ed Hampton, Woodlawn, Virginia  
Freddie Currin, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
J. B. Frazier, Laurel Fork, Virginia  
Poe McGrady, RFD, Hillsville, Virginia  
James Branscome, RFD, Woodlawn, Virginia

### III. TYPE OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture employs more people than any other industry, but in recent years the value of products added by manufacturing had exceeded the value of farm products sold. Farm income is derived from many products, the most important of which are milk, cattle, apples, chickens, eggs, and vegetables. Milk production has increased rapidly and in 1954 was nearly five times as large as in 1939. Some of the most productive apple orchards in the State are located on the slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

In 1954, about 69 per cent of all farms were classed as part-time or residential farms. The former are those with value of products sold of \$250 or \$1,200 and the operator either reporting 100 days or more off-farm work or reporting other income exceeding the value of agricultural products sold. Residential farms sold less than \$250 of farm products. There were 480, or 13 per cent of the total, with less than ten acres. In contrast, there were 68 farms of 260 or more acres, and 62 sold \$5,000 or more of farm products.

The average age of the farm operators is about 58 years. Rural youth are rapidly leaving the farms and migrating to urban and industrial centers in search of employment.

The rapid trend in the field of agriculture toward intensive mechanization and specialization is having its effect on Carroll County farmers. It is forcing some of the younger farmers to seek non-farm employment. Others are seeking to expand the size of their farm operations by adding a few more milk cows, a few more acres of land, etc. Some are shifting from beef cattle and sheep to intensive agricultural enterprises such as: commercial laying flocks and dairy operations. This trend is expected to continue--and will probably be accelerated by such developments as "contract" farming and "vertical integration" of commercial companies.

### IV. TRENDS WHICH HAVE INFLUENCED 1960 ACTIVITIES

The price-cost ratio has made farmers to become more aware of the importance of efficient production of livestock and crops. Farmers continue to seek additional sources of income. The part-time farmer is finding it more difficult to produce on an efficient basis; some are leaving the farm to work in industry or public works.

Feed cost is the main concern in the county where a major portion of the total farm income is derived from dairying and

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# ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

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1960

Carroll

**County**