

• Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

• Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



M. Ruth Bassett Huff
agent

Norma Jean Sherrard

Phyllis Montague
assistant agent

1955

Allegheny
county

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II. COUNTY SITUATION

Albemarle County contains 748 square miles, with a population of 26,662 rural people, 14,953 non-farm families and 25,969 urban families. The types of agriculture are chiefly small grain, poultry, fruit, dairying

and several large industries in the County, the unemployment remains acute, and for this reason, many of the small farmers have been forced to sell their farms. Some farms being bought by wealthy retired business men from other States, who have the money to operate with the modern machinery not available for the many various needs in farm operation.

Housing with all modern conveniences, and health care have long since gone.

V. ADULT WORK

A. Project Work

Although a large percentage of the homes in Albemarle County have been improved with such conveniences as running water, electricity, telephones, home freezers, radios, electric washers and ironers, our planning committee felt that in many cases is still inadequate. There

The lack of families doing things together in the home such as recreation, family worship, family planning, etc. The committee felt that the above factors were not contributing to wholesome stable family life. I wonder if it's the roads, automobiles and outside activities are taking the girls and boys away from the farms?

The above problems and situations formed the nucleus for the 1955 Home Demonstration Program.

Food and Nutrition:

Four months were devoted to food work which include: "Freezing Up-to-Date", "Quality Standards in Homemade Food Products", "Good Breakfast for a Good Day", and "One Good Meal".

Our farm families are continuing to buy home freezers, they are eager to keep up with the newest and most safe methods in the preparation and preservation of foods. Also, they are anxious to know more about freezing prepared food items to save time and energy.

The interest increases in the quality standards of prepared products. Our women wanted to know how to judge these products properly, their own, as well as when they are called upon to judge at community, county and many times other county fairs. Each year, at least ten or fifteen women are called to judge at various fairs.

Special objectives were in the minds of our women, when the Good Breakfast for a Good Day was included. First of all, a good nourishing breakfast for all; but during the planning discussion, it was forcibly brought out that to many of our young people, especially the teen-agers were not eating breakfast at all, and also, the family in many cases did not come together for this meal. The committee included this phase, hoping that it would encourage the family to sit down together for a leisurely family breakfast, of course, beginning with family worship. This has worked beautifully in a large percent of the homes. The women have reported forming breakfast clubs in the homes, getting up a half hour earlier to keep from rushing, packing lunches the night before, giving each member of the family certain duties in the preparation of the breakfast, each family member taking his turn for family worship, etc. The reports have been gratifying.

Our women included One Dish Meals because they felt by so doing, it would save time and energy, especially dish washing and pots and pans. Also many of these dishes could be prepared ahead of time and kept refrigerated or frozen to be warmed up when used. Even the men were pleased in many cases. The women have been enjoying this project, because the one dish meals have been so nutritious and appetizing, and especially pleased by the saving of time and preparation of these. They report many emergencies are solved by having these dishes prepared.

Mrs. J. B. ... and Dr. Mary Thompson, Nutrition
 from our State College, S.P.I. have been most
 helpful to us in carrying through with the above four food
 projects. They have conducted leader training meetings and
 kept us up-to-date with all necessary information. Again
 this year a "Tops Club" was organized. Twenty-four members
 enrolled and they met twice a month for various demonstra-
 tions in reducing. These included: low calorie meals,
 exercises, beauty hints and dress as the reducing began and
 several others. The club did not accomplish as much as the
 group last year, but I believe the majority of our women are
 more conscious of food habits and the danger of being over-
 weight as well as their general appearance.

The following results have been reported by Home
 Demonstration members:

Number participating in Good Breakfast for a good day	989
Number participating in One Dish Meals	981
Number other families benefited by the above demonstrations	460
Families with home freezers	276
Pounds of meat frozen	35,050
Pounds of vegetables and fruits frozen	18,572
Containers vegetables and fruits canned	10,347
Pounds meat and vegetables stored	58,992
Families with vegetable gardens	859
Value of these gardens	\$15,850

Beauty

To give a lift to the tired worn homemaker the planning committee felt that "Good Grooming" including hair and skin and "Restyling Hats" would help in a large measure. It will help a woman more than the feeling of being well dressed.

A special grooming meeting was held early in the year by Mrs. Beryl Johnson on these two subjects. Hats especially created a great deal of interest among the women. The women gave follow-up demonstrations in their respective clubs. Also special interest meetings with non-club women were held by leaders in four or five communities with great success.

The good grooming meetings were largely attended by all groups. It was fortunate in getting local beauticians to help with the hair and skin. The care of the hair, including shampooing and restyling and skin treatments and care of feet and hands went over in a big way. Seven local beauticians visited the clubs at different intervals for the above purposes. They took with them hair dryers, and all equipment needed. Most of them said home permanents were all right if

from the above subjects:

Number dresses made	1688
Number hats restyled	956
Number participating in care of skin, hair, nails and hands	1018

6. Home Improvement

This phase continues a must in our county. Very many are interested in making her home more attractive and pleasing to her family as well as guest. Even though house improvement was not planned for the 1955 program, much work was done. Helpful suggestions were sent by specialists from

Results:			
Furniture slipcovered	54	Chairs reseatd	210
Furniture Upholstered	135	Rugs made	163
Lamp Shades made	72	Curtains made	543
Furniture refinished	319	Other improvements	387

7. Housing

Many families are still faced with housing worries. Many of them have running water and electricity, but they have other problems such as inadequate room, storage, convenient bathroom, etc. Almost daily someone calls the office for help on some housing problem.

Miss Mary Settle and Mr. C. D. Wheary, State Housing Specialists, met with a group of women, 36 in all who were interested in housing. These specialists helped them to solve their problems while at the meeting, those who needed more help were visited. All during the year the agents have followed up these women and given the necessary assistance.

Results:			
New homes built	41	Kitchens improved	78
Homes remodeld	41	Laundry rooms	79
Baths installed	5	Central heat	15
Homes already with baths	446	Electricity	143
Storage	28	Rooms redecored	532
Home freezers	276	Floors sanded and refinished	68
Utility Rooms	57		

... meetings have been held in the homes of 75% of the
house for about some 671 have visited them.

Special meetings were held in this phase of work
and those who have participated expressed joy and satis-
faction in developing skills and newly formed hobbies. Our
feeling is that there must be included in the program something
other than the daily grind of cooking, washing, cleaning
and other household tasks, it is most satisfying to the

...
... phase considered especially good for tired nerves,
and to encourage new interests, or hobbies whichever the
can be as drying and arranging dried flowers.

... fortunate in securing Mrs. Rankin from the Albemarle
County Club, who was an authority in drying flowers to train
... leaders in this subject. These leaders, in every case
conducted these demonstrations in their local clubs. If the
readers of this report have never tried drying flowers for color
and to make them more interesting, please try it. It is most
satisfying.

... borax and methyl, for foliage
and as leaf-sprays, etc., 1 part glycerine and two parts
... flowers may be dried by the hanging method, but
... are not as good.

Results:		
Chairs caned and rebottomed	210	Leather articles made
Rugs made	163	Pictures framed and painted
Trays decorated	52	Trays etched
Other articles made	202	
O. O. dried flower arrangements	119	

Vegetable Gardening

Our rural families continue to consider the vegetable garden one of the most important. Not only for the fresh vegetables, but for freezing, and for storing for winter use. About 50% of these gardens are more than enough for home consumption. The surplus is sold on the local markets and to city dwellers.

Statistics

Families with gardens	989
Value of Vegetables Raised	\$15,850.00
Value of Vegetables Sold	\$7,925.00

Extension

There has been an increase in the requests for help in preparing grounds, outdoor living areas, entrances, and flower gardens. The agent meets these many requests to the best of her knowledge but many times she needs the help of those better trained along these lines, so she has frequently called Mr. A.S. Beecher from the Commercial Horticulture and Landscape Department, V.P.I. He is always willing to give in one way or another.

During the year, he trained forty-six leaders in the various phases of work. They repeated the demonstrations to the other women and also gave much help to individual gardeners. These leaders did a magnificent job in giving the demonstrations. They usually carried with them a signboard, colored chalk or large pieces of poster paper for drawing plans, covering the planting of flowers, shrubs, and base planting, lawns

(1) The agent worked with these individuals and living areas, etc. The agent
 was able to show up these individuals to help in any way and to
 make progress. Longtime planting plans are often made
 by the agent and a large majority are followed religiously.
 One of the most satisfying things that the agent has
 done this year was to work with a young homemaker, whose
 home had just been completed, and who knew nothing about
 cleaning the area surrounding the house. Several visits
 have been made to this homemaker, a longtime plan was worked
 out which called for simple, inexpensive and very informal
 house. The family was most grateful and very pleased. The
 cleaning has already begun.

Results:

Entrances improved	<u>253</u>	Outdoor living and work	areas made	<u>242</u>	
Some grounds improved	<u>211</u>	Flower gardens developed	<u>272</u>	Mailboxes improved	<u>137</u>
Porch hazards improved	<u>520</u>				

2. Pest Control - Home and Garden

There was a strong interest in eradicating the county
 home & garden vegetable and flower gardens of the various
 parts that have been infesting the county continually; therefore,
 the planning committee felt that this year they would try
 to do something more than they had ever done as a
 part of the pest control program was included for the
 year program.

Pest control leaders were named in each of the home
 instruction clubs and in July, Mr. J. O. Rowell, State
 Entomologist, conducted a leader training meeting on this
 subject. The meeting was well attended by 32 leaders.

These ladies followed Mr. Rowell's demonstration in their respective clubs, and the interest along this line was very satisfying. The women gave splendid demonstrations and the follow up work by those interested in going a step farther toward reaching the goal of eradicating pests. Of course, this is only a beginning, and I know that this work will continue.

The proper sprays, disinfectants, fly traps, sanitray storage containers, and various other control methods are being used by our people.

Understanding Home Demonstration Club Community Projects.

Family Life

By conducting an extensive study of family life, and some other projects that might bring about better and happier everyday life for families who were not getting satisfactory results. The planning committee included in the 1944 program of work Family Life as its most needed project.

They believe that there should be: Better mental outlook expressed in our families, start the day with a healthy family breakfast; every individual have a purposeful life; establish and strengthen individual and family worship habits; go to church campaign; more family planning together, in recreation and individual family problems. The way to help with these many family problems was to conduct community panel discussions on Family Life. So far, four such discussions have been held. Messengers, doctors, county school officials;

Another Panel is planned for December 30th to be held in the Albemarle High School and is being sponsored by six home demonstration clubs. This will be the most outstanding event of the affair.

The two panels already held, they were largely attended by the community people. Prior to the discussion, coffee and fish suppers were held and the community people invited to participate.

In the minds of the people, it is felt that these discussions are doing untold good and are meeting a long needed need. They are certainly first awakening the sleeping people and it is hoped doing much more.

These meetings have been held in community houses, schools and church halls throughout the county.

The County Superintendent of Public Education, Mr. Paul Cates, said "I believe such discussions are enlightening to the public".

In giving the program of the Free Union Community Panel discussions:

1. Hon. J. H. Huf - Moderator

Subjects and Speakers

2. Mrs. R. W. Garrison - How love and understanding in the Home Results in Happy Family Life.

3. Rev. J. N. Gallier - Problems in the Home and Community as seen by the Pastor

4. Mr. Paul Cale - Some of the Many Factors Influencing our Youth as seen by the Head of our Public School System of the County.

5. The Teacher - Rev. Charles Simmons - Close Cooperation with Parent and Teacher in the Development of the Child.

6. The Doctor - Dr. A. F. Deelia - Parent -Child Relationship

7. The Attorney - Mr. Jack Kegler - What we are Rural People Might do to Help our Youth Have Greater Appreciation and Deeper Respect for the Laws of our Land.

8. The Sheriff - Mr. Shirley Cook - How the Law Enforcement Office Might Help Prevent Young Offenders from Becoming Hardened Criminals (Guidance-Rehabilitation)

9. The Club - Mrs. Norma Jean Sherrard, Assistant Home Agent - How Through Youth Clubs Wholesome Recreation and Project Work can lead to a more Satisfying Family Life.

10. The Nurse - Mrs. Winnie Roberts - Some Causes of Unstable Home Life as Seen by the Visiting Nurse.

11. County Chorus

The Home Demonstration Clubs of the County are sponsoring a County Chorus. The Chorus meets once a week regularly and is directed by the Music Instructor of Abemarle High School. The Chorus will make it's first public appearance on December 8th, when they will sing Christmas numbers at the County Panel Discussion meeting at Abemarle High School.

Health

The Home Demonstration Health Center, sponsored by the Home Demonstration Clubs, and organized in 1945 as a memorial to the late Mrs. Bessie Dunn Miller, Home Demonstration Agent in Albemarle County for twenty-five years, continues to operate in a most satisfactory way.

The Center is located near the University Hospital.

The Staff consists of two examining Doctors, Dr. Dandridge, and Dr. Nuckols, a nurse and an executive secretary. There is a Standing Board of Directors. Each Home Demonstration Health Chairman is automatically a member of the Board.

The primary objective of the Center is to encourage semi-annual physical examinations. To look for cancer, conditions that might lead to cancer is the first consideration. However, the examination includes a complete physical check and hundreds of conditions not related to cancer in any way have been found, and the examinees referred to the physician of his choice for further treatment.

Not only do our Home Demonstration Health Chairmen encourage every member to have a check-up, but they encourage non-members to have a physical check-up.

The Health Center is open to all persons regardless of financial and race status. The Community Chest cooperates with the Center in providing funds to those who are not able to pay for these examinations.

This year, the following conditions have been found in 660 persons examined, 60% had conditions warranting

72

of the 60% observation. In the 60%, 8 cancers were found, 76 had potentially precancerous conditions; 36 unidentified lesions and masses being followed by their physicians, 51 benign tumors; 251 were found to have inflammatory, structural or constitutional conditions.

Community Rest Rooms

The Rest Room Project was sponsored by the Home Demonstration Clubs of the County in 1924, and it has operated in serving hundreds of people each year since. It is located in a central place on main street in Charlottesville, with a hostess in charge at all times. It is open daily to shoppers, visitors and tourist. It has a suite of rooms, consisting of large living room, bedroom, study, dining room, kitchen, bath and large hall, and is completely furnished. It is financed yearly by Home Demonstration Clubs, Retail Merchants, the three Charlottesville Banks, the County Board of Supervisors and the City Council. This past year, it has served 19,220.

International Para Youth Exchange

This has been our pride and joy project. When it was first learned that Mildred Crawford, one of our outstanding workers, Aid Stars, and a graduate of V.P.I. in Home Economics had been selected as a delegate, the entire County and City became extremely interested. We knew that our County's share of the financial part of this delegate would be \$700.00, therefore our Home Demonstration Clubs

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Interested citizens got busy. It was not interesting when we learned of those wishing to finance this. Home Demonstration Clubs gave \$128.00, Banks - \$100.00, Rotary Club - \$100.00, Farm Youth Organization - \$100.00, Ruritan Club - \$100.00, Kiwanis Club - \$25.00 and the remainder was given by other individuals, the amount ranging from \$2.00 to \$25.00. The All Stars, 4-H and Honor Clubs gave about \$50.00. Many individual gifts were given to Mildred from various sections of the county and the home demonstration club of which Mildred's mother is a member gave her a shower consisting of toilet articles, clothing and many better, useful gifts. We are confident that Mildred is doing an excellent job in Israel and will bring back to Virginia the good will of the people of Israel, as well as many interesting pictures and habits of the people there.

The agent was concerned when she learned that Israel had been Mildred's assignment and hesitated for a few days to tell her parents. They were very fine about it and said they were willing for her to go. When I had a chance to talk with Mildred on one of her visits from V.P.I., she said to me, "I'm delighted, for I feel that there is so much good work I can do in a country like Israel."

Mildred has sent her eight installments of Reports from these for the newspapers. The agent has had mimeograph copies of each report sent and has had them sent to everyone who

contributed to her trip. She has also sent them to the staff members at V.P.I. as well as to those who requested them.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. James A. Duncan of V.P.I., Mrs. Gailie Hughes, the 4-H State Staff and the National Committee for their help in making this assignment possible for youth from Albemarle County.

In the back of this report is attached one report sent by Mildred for news release.

V.I. 4-H Club Work

30 Project Work

30 Food and Nutrition

Most of the food work was done in the Meal Preparation project. The objectives of this project were to teach young girls the importance of planning meals from the Basic Seven foods and to prepare nutritious and attractive meals. The methods used in this project included method demonstrations on the Basic Seven foods, salads, refreshments for Christmas, table setting and service, milk and egg dishes, vegetables, planning and serving a club meal. Individual 4-H members and the agent gave demonstrations and a leader training meeting was held on salads. Individual clubs held exhibits on Christmas ideas in food preparation. The club members prepared club refreshments.

Record sheets on this project were turned in by 179 girls.

Food demonstrations were given by 155 girls in their local clubs. The Basic Seven foods were learned by 177 club members.

The things prepared by club members were: Milk dishes - 550; Eggs - 630; Vegetables - 850; Salads - 1000; Planned and served

Club meal @ 23; set the table - 675.

Members exhibited at Achievement Day foods they had learned to bake.

Clothing

The objectives of the "So You'd Like to Sew" project were to learn the main fundamentals of sewing through making simple garments and articles, to learn how to use a sewing machine skillfully, and to begin using a simple pattern. Method demonstrations were given on equipping a sewing box, needle case, apron, simple blouse, gathered skirt, pored skirt or jumper. Other methods used in teaching the objectives were pattern study and demonstration, individual assistance to club members at meetings, member demonstrations and distribution of written materials.

Fifteen record books were completed. Among the things made were: 15 blouses, 20 skirts, 25 aprons, 4 jumpers, and 13 sewing boxes were made and equipped. Thirteen girls learned how to operate a sewing machine and 10 girls used their first patterns. Members exhibited articles made at Achievement Day.

The objectives of the Make or Remake project were to teach the Club girls the importance of planning their wardrobe carefully; to have the girls look their best by teaching ironing, repairs, and how to judge fabrics and becoming styles. The methods used to meet these objectives were: member demonstrations and method demonstrations of ideas for the making of clothing, pattern adjustment and measuring,

Supervised cutting of garments, and garment construction and finishes.

This project was taken by the older 4-H club girls. They do their own work at home under the supervision of the agent and leaders. Demonstrations and exhibits are made in the local clubs throughout the year. Many of the completed garments were exhibited at Achievement Day.

Eight records were completed in this project. There were 7 member demonstrations, 18 dresses made, 4 suits made, 78 other garments made (shorts, evening gowns, blouses, jumpers, skirts, etc.)

3 Laundry (Home Management)

The objectives of the laundry project were to teach the importance of saving time and energy while doing the laundry. To teach the way to make the best possible use of products now on the market for laundry purposes.

Method demonstrations were given on laundering synthetic fabrics, use of water softeners, soaps, detergents and starch, stain removal, how to wash a sweater correctly, how to wash and hang up clothes. Member demonstrations were given. Twelve members learned to operate and care for a steam iron, 12 girls made some article to lighten work and laundry procedure.

4 Room Improvement

The objectives of the Room Improvement project were to teach the girls how to plan carefully each improvement and decoration job, to work out their own color scheme,

to use the things they have on hand instead of always purchasing new, to teach them the importance of over-all planning before starting any job.

A Home Improvement club was organized of 12 girls who were planning to redecorate their bedrooms. The club was organized on November, 1954 to continue into 1955 when judges will evaluate the work done by the girls and prizes will be given by the local stores. This will take place in December. Miss Jamison helped the girls get a good start on planning their work and setting up a score sheet for judging the work done.

The club held monthly meetings on the following subjects: How to Paint Your Own Walls, How to Plan a Color Scheme, How to Arrange Furniture, How to Select Material for Curtains and Other Bedroom Furnishings, How to Build a Modern Bookcase and End Tables (given by a local man from the Charlottesville Lumber Company. He also demonstrated floor coverings and their proper care.) The Sherwin Williams demonstration illustrated the proper use of paint by holding a demonstration in the home of one of the 4-H Club members. The company furnished enough paint for the 4-H member to finish her walls, without cost. A local interior decorator talked with the girls about coordinating the room and their personalities. Among the results obtained: 10 rooms were completely redecorated by club members, 11 rooms were painted, 19 pieces

68 furniture was refinished, 14 rearranged furniture, 10 pairs of curtains were made, 1 bookcase was made, 5 lamps were made and 8 demonstrations were given.

5. Electricity

The objectives of the electricity project were to teach the best use of electricity, to teach care of appliances, and to teach wiring and how each member can improve the use of electricity in his or her home and farm.

Four schools were held on electricity in Scottsville, Crozet, Esmont, Red Hill, and Charlottesville. Members gave demonstrations and each member kept a record on electricity - the use, and work done in the project.

One member had a tour of her home and farm to show improvements she made. Fourteen members attended. Twelve girls completed their record books, 10 girls drew plans for an improvement wiring system of their home, 5 girls planned a model kitchen, 1 girl won a trip to the Electric Congress in Richmond, 1 girl entered the State Electric Contest, 24 demonstrations were given. In the electric project, 15 lamps were renovated, 105 pieces of electrical equipment were repaired and 29 pieces of electrical equipment was bought.

6. Other Activities

a. Camp

The purpose of the camp is to provide as many members as possible with wholesome camp experience and to

to develop leadership among them.

A committee of members and leaders met in February and later in June to make plans for camp. A training meeting was held with Miss Catherine Peery, Rural Arts Specialist, the 4-H Club leaders and agents to acquaint them with handicraft items for camp. This year, 1955, the handicraft articles were leather belts, plastic lacing, metal bracelets and necklaces.

Classes were given in handicraft, agronomy, social graces, 4-H club recreation, 4-H Club songs, and swimming.

Seven volunteer local leaders assisted with camp. Sixty two 4-H members attended and took an active part in the various activities.

Achievement Day

Achievement Day was held on November 5 at McIntire School in Charlottesville. Plans were made in September. Member exhibits were classified under various subject heads in junior and senior divisions. Exhibits were judged while the members attended a movie shown in the auditorium followed by a picnic lunch. Premium money was given by the Farm Youth Foundation.

The afternoon program included the presentation of the awards, awarding the county 4-H banner to the club showing the best progress during the year, making the Danforth Foundation awards and citizenship award, and recognition of five girls as Honor Club candidates. The highlight of the afternoon was the Share the Fun Talent Show.

32 Rural Life Sunday

Rural Life Sunday was observed by most of the 4-H Clubs throughout the county with some putting more emphasis on it than others.

All the 20 4-H clubs held a joint picnic at the 4-H Club Camp. The community club leaders and members planned the day with a picnic and a program put on by 14 4-H club members from the community clubs. These members had the complete responsibility of the program. Earlysville, Free Union, Crozet Jr. and Sr., Cismont and Greenwood held programs during the morning church service at their particular churches. The 4-H Club members sat in a group and the ministers dedicated their sermons to these youth and the fine work they are doing.

33 County Contest

To be held in January

34 Other Activities

The 4-H Club leaders and members offer their help on many other county projects and activities. They are always willing to clean the 4-H Club Camp before camp opens, helping to put on money making drives, selling lunch at the Baby Beef Show, taking part in radio programs, tours and in many other special events.

One special event was National 4-H Club Week. The Honor Club put up an exhibit in the local department store window. The display gave a picture of how 4-H Club work has grown over the period of years since the "tomato and corn clubs."

The Piedmont Club had a banner made and displayed across Main Street in Charlottesville for the entire week. Posters were exhibited in the different communities in the county at local stores, post offices, service stations and schools.

VIII. Young Men and Women's Work

The young men and women's work is carried on through the All Star organization.

IX. Scope of Work

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. HD Clubs or Groups	23	24	23	23	19
Membership	966	972	989	995	1018
No. 4-H Clubs	18	20	21	21	20
Membership	397	405	425	425	360
No. other families reached	1763	2025	2070	1990	1614
No. of different families reached	1730	1890	1890	1890	1891
No. of community clubs	2	2	2	2	2
Membership				150	150 Est.

Our H. D. Clubs have decreased from 23 to 19, our enrollment has increased some. The cause of the decrease in number of clubs has been brought about by the merging of several clubs in close-by communities, Midway with Batesville; Howardsville with Hatton-Warren; Ivy with Rivanna and 250 with Gismont. Two new clubs are expected to be organized in the near future.

X. Organizations

County Home Demonstration Committee

This committee is composed of officers and a few key women from each organized adult club. It is the duty of the committee to keep alert at all times of the progress of the programs planned.

Two regular meetings are held annually. The first being held far in advance of the year for which the program is planned. At this meeting the representatives bring in all suggestions made by clubs, ideas are pooled, and the program is made to best meet common needs of the entire county.

At the second meeting, a check is made of the progress of the program and adjustments made to meet changing conditions. Also, at the second meeting, delegates are appointed for the State Federation Meeting.

The Home Demonstration Committee works together for the common good of the county people. They assume responsibilities, and give freely of their time to further the program.

County 4-H Council

The Albemarle County Council is composed of the 4-H club officers, leaders, and agents. They held two meetings, one in the spring and the other in the fall. The spring meeting was held on March 5 with 35 club members and 9 leaders present.

Among the goals of the County Council that have been accomplished thus far are:

The public speaking contest which was held for all senior and senior members wishing to participate. Five seniors and 15 juniors gave speeches. Carolyn Quarles was the senior winner who received a trip to Short Course to compete in the State contest. Marilyn Burton and Johnny Via were the junior winners who received scholarships to the county camp.

Three County Council members took part in a radio program to observe National 4-H Club Week.

30 The County Council sponsored the lunch sale at the Baby Beef Show on April 26, making a profit of \$63.62.

4. The County Council took the responsibility of the \$2,500 debt Albemarle owed to the National 4-H Club Center. They solicited money from 4-H Club members and paid some from their treasury. The treasury will be reimbursed from money made at sales, lunches, and other activities sponsored by the County Council.

30 County Honor Clubs

The Albemarle County Honor Club has 21 active members now in the county. Seven new members were taken in on November 2 and five of them were girls.

The club objectives that have been fulfilled are:

1. Helped to observe National 4-H Club Week along with the County Council.

2. The club gave \$10.00 to the I.F.Y.E. program to help Mrs. Mildred Stanford's trip to Israel.

3. The Honor Club entertained the 4-H club members one night at camp with games, songs, and dancing.

4. The members have served as junior leaders in their local clubs and helped younger members with their demonstra-

30 tions.

30 County All Stars

Albemarle has 27 active All Star members. Seven of these attended the District Key Board Banquet on November 16,

1955. Two new members were taken in at this banquet.

The All Stars entertained the 4-H Club members
with a carnival one night at camp. They had games,
fortune telling, amusement booths, music and prizes.

The All Stars donated the money for the two junior
public speaking contest winners, Marilyn Burton and
Johnny Via, to attend County 4-H Camp.

The annual banquet was held in March and presided
over by Franklin Muse, an active All Star member who is
one of Charlottesville's most popular businessmen.

This banquet was largely attended by members, agents
and friends. The main speaker was Mr. Earl Shifflett
who was an outstanding 4-H member, All Star, and at
the present time holds an important position with the
Grange. At this meeting Mrs. Huff, the Home Agent,
announced that Miss Mildred Crawford, outstanding 4-H,
All Star Member, and V. J. I. graduate had been selected
as an A. F. Y. E.

LEADERSHIP

Contributions of Volunteer leaders

organizational

Twenty-three adult organizational leaders have given
valuable support to the Home Demonstration Program.

These leaders arrange meeting places; conduct meetings,
plan with the project leaders for demonstrations; see
that clubs are represented at all leader training and other
county meetings, and keep in close touch with agents
and office secretaries for help needed. This is done

12
RM
By calling letters and office visits.

20 Program Development

Each year these leaders are doing a better job of aiding their club women in good thinking toward building a program of work to meet existing needs in the County. Two meetings are held each year to acquaint the program development leaders with their respective jobs and we feel that better programs are being planned and carried through.

21 Subject Matter

Each year the program planned determines the number of project leaders to be appointed. Leaders are appointed, elected or volunteer from the different subject matter demonstrators to be carried through. Reader training meetings are held prior to the months in which certain projects are to be given. At these training meetings detailed help is given to the leaders. They, in turn, take this information back to their club women. The women count it a privilege to serve as leaders. They enjoy attending training meetings, not only for the help they get in furthering the program, but for the contacts with women from other parts of the County and the first hand information received. There is not a big increase in project leaders over last year, but the work they have done has increased over a period of years. This increase will show in table "Growth of No. of Project Leadership."

The Club leaders serve as subject matter
 leaders. They give assistance to the agent, hold
 meetings, give demonstrations, and help their girls
 prepare for County Contest and Achievement Day. Some of
 the leaders will visit the girls at their homes to keep
 interested on their project work.

These leaders have been very cooperative and help-
 ful to the agent and club members. They helped with
 County Contest, Achievement Day, Baby Beef Sale, Camp
 and many other activities.

Growth of Leadership

HD Club Project Leadership	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. project leaders (Subject Matter)	345	350	460	465	594
No. goal chairmen	24	24	24	24	19
No. program development leaders	24	24	24	24	19
No. result demonstrators	8	10	19	23	25
No. training meetings by Specialists			1	1	13
by agent			2	2	1
Attendance at all training meetings	187	250	525	437	389
No. meetings without an agent	83	128	126	140	91
No. meetings leaders assisted	121	204	194	163	160
Demonstrations by leaders				179	188
Talks and discussions by leaders				980	672

Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership 1952 1953 1954 1955

No. club officers				114	114
No. adult project leaders	28	28	28	20	20
No. result demonstrators					12
No. training meetings held					
by specialists	3	2		2	4
by agent	5	13	12	5	4
by district agent					
by member club dept.					
by others					
Total attendance at leader training meetings	72	49	41	66	101
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	7	9	11	15	15
No. club meetings held by leader without agent	37	55	54	12	13
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	94	79	81	109	86
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	141	146	152	11	25
by junior leaders	103	75	67	8	15

C Outstanding Leader and Her Accomplishments

Mrs. H. A. Payne is one of the most outstanding leaders in the County. She has devoted much of her time and effort to improving her club and club members. The Piedmont 4-H Club, organized by Mrs. Payne's daughter, Phyllis Payne, has been under Mr. and Mrs. Payne's guidance ever since.

Mrs. Payne is now keeping a record of all her Club members, their projects, contests entered, medals won, newspaper articles, etc. to help them realize the importance of record keeping. She also helped the club make a large banner to display across Main Street for National 4-H Club Week.

She makes a special effort to see and help each girl in giving demonstrations.

Mrs. Payne has helped the agent and other 4-H clubs whenever possible. Her energy and interest is inexhaustible where 4-H Club work is concerned.

D Accomplishments of an Outstanding Family

Whereas, the N. C. Via family has a long way to go, the agent feels that the general improvements made in this family are worth telling.

Mr. Via was a man not generally liked in his community. He had always felt sufficient unto himself. His wife was a good, hard working, Christian woman, but had very little or no cooperation from him. Each year she had a baby. Of course this kept her tired and worn to a frazzel.

As the children became of club age, they enrolled in

60
cooperation
?

Left Club work. Of course they have very little to finance their projects, but the boys became interested in some of the agricultural projects and Dorothy in all phases of home economist's projects. Three years ago Dorothy made over her bedroom. She papered her walls, made curtains from feed sacks, dressing table from orange crates, cleaned and refinished her floor and made rugs.

Last year Dorothy continued her room improvement work by taking over a guest bedroom. She painted the walls, sanded and refinished the floor, cleaned and refinished the furniture, built in a closet and again made curtains from feed sacks.

It was gratifying to see the change in the father. He began taking Dorothy to county meetings and on two occasions took his wife and Dorothy to All-Star banquets. He seemed very happy about all of this. His wife joined the H. D. Club and is serving at the present time as a good leader.

This year Dorothy entered the living room in the contest. During this year, while the agent was visiting Dorothy, Mr. Via talked with the agent about putting in a bathroom and making other improvements. My, how glad I was that Mr. Via was making such a change in his attitude toward Extension work, community work and in general. A terrible disaster struck in April of this year, when Mr. Via was accidentally killed by a tractor on his farm. The family is pitiful, left with the farm, no insurance and no money to continue. Mrs. Via is taking the loss so well by raising poultry and vegetables for

her consumption and market. She seems discouraged, but I believe, even though it will be hard, she'll make it. The agent is willing to sell some of the land.

With all of her handicap, Dorothy has continued with her work in her living room. Again she painted her walls and woodwork, (the paint was given) cleaned and refinished the floor, upholstered an old sofa and three chairs, got the curtains (I'll never know how), rehung pictures (some from her late agent), painted the fireplace and all in all has a very attractive living room.

While on a visit to Dorothy's room last week Mr. Via told me that Mrs. Via had changed so much before his death. Now that she was related to the family, seemed more interested in the community and was so willing for the children to join in all community activities. She said 4-H Club and H.D. Club had changed her.

So outstanding accomplishments of a Club

Batesville, with its 26 members, has done outstanding work this year. They encouraged a smaller club that was hanging on by a thread to merge with them. Of course this increased the enrollment of the Batesville Club. They have served six or eight suppers during the year for the benefit of furnishing the Social Room of their church. The construction of this Social Room was completed last year. The Home Demonstration Club, in a large measure, furnished the work money making club activities. They have decorated

The windows with curtains, bought folding chairs for the Social Room, bought a coffee drip-motor for the kitchen, and furnished the kitchen with dishes, silver, tea towels and cleaning utensils. They sponsored a Halloween party, one each year, with more than 100 people present. This affair is usually a social gathering, where the old, the young, the in-between and the babies are all welcome. They also sponsored a Christmas party. The Batesville Club sponsored the first Family Life panel discussion this year and we feel it was a big success. This meeting was most challenging to the other clubs throughout the county. The Batesville Club has been represented at all county events and their leaders have officiated beautifully. All in all, Batesville Home Demonstration Club has had a good year.

Appraisal of Year's Work

Again this year the home demonstration program has presented a real and stimulating challenge. While it was evident it has been vitally helpful to rural living there is a definite feeling that there is still much more to be done with its contribution to betterment of the over-all rural homemaking program as a general boosting of the people's moral, there are many things which might have been done if our farm families still incomplete.

We believe that the farm families are pointedly aware of the value they are receiving through the Extension program and that they will continue to welcome available help

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~~These~~ our organizations and will follow recommended practices.

The family life program conducted this year has come a long way toward the betterment of family living and we believe it will ~~continue~~ ~~to~~ ~~do~~ so. We hope that by continuing the family life ~~program~~ for another year, ~~the~~ people will, through the various ~~and~~ discussions and family life programs, be better fitted ~~socially~~ economically, physically, spiritually, and mentally.

We agents wish to commend the homemakers, the 4-H and ~~club~~ leaders, and all of our club officers and committeemen ~~for~~ their willing and earnest help given in promoting the ~~family life~~ demonstration program for 1955.

