

with adults and sixty-seven with 4-H Clubs. Leaders held one meeting with adults and thirty-two with 4-H Club members.

Each of the project activities conducted had some affect on the people's change of attitude. Leaders, professional and business people and organized groups have assisted in influencing the people in making agricultural changes.

XIII. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

In order to further the Extension Program and develop good public relations, the agent worked with other agencies in the capacity of informing farmers as to their program. The work with all agencies included meetings, demonstrations, personal conferences and activities pertaining to the over-all agricultural program. Agencies worked with were the Vocational Agricultural Department, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, Welfare Department and the Social Security Administration.

XIV. EVALUATION OF 1960 EXTENSION PROGRAM

The results of the Agricultural Extension Program in Brunswick County in 1960 helped to determine the degree to which the agent and leaders accomplished the objectives as set up at the beginning of the year. From the situation, the agent established and used a "bench mark" in measuring the progress of the Extension Program. This helped to determine what improvements could be made for the following year's plan of work.

The Extension Agent made 586 farm visits, consulted with 406 office callers, and received 397 telephone calls. Eight news stories were written, 7 radio broadcasts were presented and 1131 bulletins were distributed. Twenty-two result demonstrations were conducted with adults. Six training meetings were held with adults and four with 4-H Club members. Other meetings the agent held or participated in included seventeen

This educational program has helped farm families to better understand the function of the Farm Social Security Act. Individuals who are eligible for benefit payments are having fewer conflicts. People whose earnings require Social Security tax are paying on time, thus, avoiding penalty. To a large extent people are better informed. Those who are eligible for benefits are receiving monthly incomes. In many cases, the program has increased the efficiency in agricultural management and better living.

XII. OFF-FARM INFLUENCES

There are off-farm forces having direct bearing on the operation of individual farms. Examples are: acreage controls, marketing agreements, price supports, tax policies, social security, and many other factors. Families are turning to the Extension Service for help in acquiring facts and for methods of analyzing and appraising such facts.

The general objective is to help people to understand and identify issues through educational processes on the basis of all available facts. The specific objectives were to present facts related to other agencies; to let the people make their own decisions on policy issues.

The techniques used in presenting information to the people were done through educational meetings, office conferences, bulletins, and circulars. Assistance rendered provided a clearer understanding of outside issues involving farm families.

X. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND IMPROVEMENT

The agent worked two months in a training program with an assistant agent, C. R. Stith. This phase of work was incorporated with the regular program. The objective of the training period was to have the trainee develop an understanding of the objectives and purposes of the Cooperative Extension Service. He studied the duties and privileges of an agent and observed the program in action during the period.

This training was provided through conferences, visits, study of publications, study of reports, meetings and working with other agencies.

XI. OTHER ADULT ACTIVITIES

A. Cooperating with Social Security Administration

Since the enactment of Farm Social Security Law, farm families have been confronted with many problems. This is especially true when it comes to what each is supposed to do when abiding by the law and receiving benefits.

Over a period of five years eight educational meetings have been held for the purpose of helping families with problems related to Farm Social Security tax and benefits. Representatives from the Social Security Administration and Agricultural colleges have been discussion leaders in this phase of work. Record keeping was another topic discussed to eliminate mistakes in filing and paying taxes. A large number of people have visited the office for information.

3. Rural Life Sunday

The fifteenth Annual Rural Life Sunday Service was held at Mt. Zion A.M.E.Z. Church, Danieltown on May 15. The program was centered around the 4-H Club theme for 1960, "Learn, Live and Serve Through 4-H." The services were conducted by club members. Miss Patsy Gillus, Council President, gave the purpose as providing an opportunity for 4-Her's to develop the Heart "H" spiritually and to take an active part in church activities.

The Reverend Mr. H. L. Marsh, minister of the church, delivered the sermon. In his message, Mr. Marsh compared the formative years in the life of Christ with those of youth enrolled in the 4-H Clubs.

The members of Mt. Zion Club were hosts and hostesses for the day. They served as ushers, decorated the church and presented the candlelighting ceremony.

One hundred twenty-six members, leaders, parents and friends joined in the service.

4. National 4-H Club Week

4-H members and leaders celebrated the month of March as 4-H Month. Activities were centered around the observance of National 4-H Club Week. 4-H Club members gave the meaning of the 4-H's and related progress made during the year and gave the purpose of the program. Parents attended the programs and were asked to support the program.

meetings. Six boys did outstanding project work and were recommended for County 4-H Awards.

A. Other Activities

1. Talent Program

The 4-H Council sponsored a talent night program on May 26, at the James S. Russell High School. The purpose of the activity was to raise funds for 4-H delegate fees to the State Short Course and Wild Life Conference in June and August, respectively.

4-H members from 9 local clubs in the county, along with members from Dinwiddie, Lunenburg and Nottoway Counties displayed their talents. The program consisted of skits, readings, dances, vocal and instrumental selections, patriotic drills and selections by a dance band.

Robert Taylor, Vice President of the 4-H Council and chairman of the talent program committee, served as master of ceremony. Three hundred fifty people attended the program.

2. 4-H Educational Trips

The 4-H Club members from Alberta, Oak Grove, Mt. Zion, Scott-Lewis III and IV and Virginia Morgan Russell II made educational tours to Washington, D. C. While there, they visited the Bureau of Engraving, Smithsonian Institute, Zoological Gardens, Washington Monument, Capitol and the National Airport Weather Station.

purpose of observing the system of management.

IX. 4-H CLUB WORK

The rapidly increasing number of youth living on farms and in rural areas calls for specially oriented programs for these future citizens and for the volunteer leaders who will assist them.

The general objective is to provide opportunities to 4-H members to prepare for future economic, social, and leadership responsibilities. The specific objectives were to develop useful work experiences, management, marketing, practical record keeping and reporting of achievements, and to create skills and desirable character traits.

The 4-H County Program for 1960 involved thirteen organized 4-H Clubs with an enrollment of 478 boys and girls. Of this number, 224 boys were enrolled in 297 projects and completed 209 project demonstrations. The 4-H boys were enrolled in 14 different projects. One hundred sixty-seven local meetings with an attendance of 2725 were held in 1960. A total of thirty-two meetings with an attendance of 950 were held by local leaders. The County Council held two meetings to plan the 4-H program and activities. Forty-nine adult leaders and seventy-four junior leaders assisted in carrying out the 4-H program.

4-H Club County Council conducted a Rural Life Sunday Program, celebrated National 4-H Club Week, held one County picnic, made tours, and sent 11 delegates to State

VIII. MINOR LINES OF ADULT WORK

A. Home Vegetable Garden

Approximately two hundred farm families have decreased the cost of food as a result of the production of vegetables. Monthly garden suggestions sent from the Extension Office helped families with the production of vegetables.

B. Cucumbers

Fitzhugh community farm families grossed \$5365.00 from cucumbers in 1960. According to C. R. Vaughan, station manager, this year's cucumber crop yield was cut due to dry weather conditions. Yet, it was better than last year's. The cucumber enterprise in the county had its beginning in 1943 as a result of the interest of farmers in Fitzhugh community, Charles F. Cates Pickling Company, and the work of the Extension Service.

C. Poultry

"Poultry Hints" an Extension publication was sent monthly to county poultrymen. This information has helped to increase the efficiency in poultry production. C. R. Vaughan, Lawrenceville, Virginia has twelve hundred layers. His average production has been 65 to 70 per cent for the past two years as compared with fifty per cent during previous years.

A group of 31 farmers from Franklin County, North Carolina visited the Vaughan farm on November 1, for the

is the main crop.

Forty-seven families in the Improvement Community reported improved methods and progress. These families made improvements in twelve different practices of farm development, five areas of farm buildings and machinery, twenty-one areas of home improvement and seven practices of family life.

VII. HOME AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

Four families in the Lawrenceville area requested information and assistance in planning and developing their home grounds. The purpose of these activities were to provide for desirable home surroundings and reduce the cost of landscaping through careful planning.

Dr. William Watson, Horticulturist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, and the Extension Agents visited each home and planned with the family where the different landscape areas should be developed. Dr. Watson recommended type and kind of trees, shrubbery and flowers to be planted. The families were provided with a detailed sketch of the landscape design to be used in developing the home grounds.

All of the families have established drives and parking areas as recommended. Two families have planted some shrubbery. Each family plans to complete the landscape design in the near future.

a great desire for improvement.

Today, as one passes, they will see a dwelling house under construction for which plans were secured from the State Extension Office. Progress on the house appears slow, but Mr. Mitchell is doing most of the carpentry work with the aid of his family. A poultry laying house has been built and the flock increased. In the home they have acquired a refrigerator, electric stove, home freezer, electric iron, television, some other small electric equipment, and a bedroom suite. They are keeping farm and home records. On the farm one will notice an improvement in pastures, additional fences and new equipment for the tractor.

There is still need for better management practices in the home and on the farm.

VI. COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Community Improvement work was conducted in the Dolphin Community. Families were scored on improvement twice yearly and progress was recorded. This was to encourage all families in the community to improve their living conditions by working with Extension Service.

Forty-seven families in the Dolphin Community participated in the Improvement Program. Twenty-eight families are owners, 15 tenants and 4 renters. The farms have a total of 1994 acres, of which 601 are crops, 214 pastures and 1179 forest. The farms in the community are small and tobacco

V. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

There are two farm and home development families in the county. They were selected by the County Advisory Board in 1955. The James B. Harrison, Route 1, Lawrenceville and Samuel E. Mitchell, Brodnax were the families selected.

Little progress has been made in the last two years by the families. Management is a major problem that confronts both families. The head of each household is employed part-time off the farm for economic reasons. Mr. Mitchell drives a school bus and Mr. Harrison works nights at a lumber mill.

The Mitchells are in their late thirties and have seven children. The oldest daughter is married. The second oldest attends college in Lawrenceville. Four attend public school and the youngest is pre-school age.

The family owns 46.5 acres of land and rents additional land. When work was begun with the family, they lived in a six room story and a half house in very poor condition. They had insufficient layers to provide the family with eggs and no laying house. They did not know if an enterprise were grown at a profit because no records were kept. There was a farm debt. They worked closely with the Soil Conservation Service.

This family did not have too much, materially, but they did have human resources, some natural resources and

for family planning, (2) most families have very little knowledge of record keeping, (3) in many cases available resources are insufficient for economic production, (4) cropping system is inadequate to meet economic needs, (5) methods of fertilization, liming, rotation, disease and insect control are problems accounting for a large number of failures.

Some of the objectives are to help families to determine their needs, resources, and ways of arriving at the most promising course of action.

The teaching methods used were family discussions, demonstrations and farm record keeping.

Each year an increasing number of farm and home record books are being distributed and more families are given assistance in planning. Periodically assistance is given these families in record keeping. Bulletins, leaflets, circular letters, field demonstrations, farm visits, meetings, office conferences and radio talks have been sources of information to families in an effort to improve the management program.

Approximately 550 families were assisted in some phase of management involving farm planning, fertilization and liming, rotation, disease and insect control, seed selection, soils, harvesting and marketing.

It is the opinion that more emphasis should be placed on this phase of work for years ahead.

B. Livestock

Limited resources and management are some of the factors involved in the establishment of livestock enterprises. An efficient livestock program on some farms could be a source of additional income.

The objective was to encourage an efficient livestock program by farmers who have the managerial ability and resources to raise livestock for additional income.

Farm visits were made to discuss the possibilities of developing or improving livestock enterprises on farms engaged in same, or had good possibilities. Radio broadcast, circular letters, meetings and assistance in selecting the type of livestock to fit the individual farm were other means of introducing the program.

The quality of livestock has improved. The numbers are approximately the same as last year's. The efficiency in management has no significant results at this time in terms of cost of production and price received or net profit. The encouraging part of the situation is that the quality has improved and it does point in the right direction for future efficiency in livestock management.

IV. FARM MANAGEMENT

A considerable amount of time has been devoted to farm management problems which are confronting a large number of farmers in Brunswick County. In making an evaluation, it was brought to our attention that (1) there is a great need

fertilizer demonstrations, crop rotation, soil sampling, grading and marketing demonstrations and individual and group discussions at the marketing places.

The U. S. D. A. Marketing Division made available the services of Roy R. Gordon, Marketing Specialist, to conduct four grading and marketing demonstration meetings. The Soil Conservation Service helped with tobacco rotation, contour strips, and the establishment of rows on the contour. County leaders assisted with the planning and conducting of the activities involving the tobacco program.

Generally, there was an adequate supply of tobacco plants for transplanting. This was largely due to good tobacco bed management. Twenty-eight farmers brought tobacco soil samples to the office to be analyzed for the purpose of fertilizer recommendations. In most instances, tobacco growers followed good management practices.

Tobacco yields in 1960 were high and the quality was good. A large number of growers did a good job in separating, grading, and marketing. The average price received for flue-cured tobacco was the highest since World War One.

and Marketing Quotas authorized by the Agriculture Adjustment Act of 1938. Since 1955 the allotted acreage has been decreased from 7089.9 acres to 5019.49 acres.

The average acreage per farm is less than three acres. A large number of Negro farmers fall in this category, or below. From all indications, these farmers must produce high yields of quality tobacco to stay in the business. But from all available data, the yield and quality of tobacco on small farms are below average. The small farm allotment creates a problem within itself, from a standpoint of not being an economical unit. Farmers with small tobacco allotments must be very efficient in production and marketing.

The objectives of the tobacco program were to get small farmers to be efficient in production and marketing, which would increase yields of high quality tobacco, thus, increasing farm net income. Tobacco growers were to learn the value of fertilizing properly, the importance of producing healthy plants for transplanting on time, the need for proper spacing of tobacco in row and hill, methods of controlling tobacco diseases, insects, suckers, and how to prepare, grade and market.

Some of the most effective methods used to encourage efficient production and marketing of flue-cured tobacco were tobacco bed field meetings, radio talks, tobacco disease and insect inspection field trips, field

and financially.

Field trips were made for the purpose of instructions on soil sampling, liming, fertilizing and seeding of forage crops. This type of information created a desire on the part of the farmers to understand the importance of each management practice.

Eight farmers developed a year-round forage crop for grazing. Yet, in some instances, the supply was not adequate for the number of animals on pasture. This created another problem of management - over-grazed pastures. On these eight farms, thirteen additional acres of permanent pastures were established. Six of these received financial assistance through A. S. C. Program. Fourteen farmers collected soil samples for pasture seeding and maintenance purposes. Approximately ninety-seven acres of permanent pasture, 48 acres of winter pasture, and 32 acres of summer pasture were involved in the pasture program on eight farms that were directly assisted through the Extension Service. An estimate of fourteen tons of fertilizer and forty tons of lime were used in establishing and maintaining pastures on these eight farms.

3. Flue-cured Tobacco

Flue-cured tobacco is the main cash crop in Brunswick County. The number of acres to be planted on each farm is controlled through the Acreage, Allotment

In December 1959 a field winter pasture demonstration meeting was held on the farm of Alvin Rice, Freeman, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting was to show livestock producers the result of an established pasture system and how it could apply to their feed program. On this farm eleven acres of winter pasture and six acres of permanent pasture had been seeded. The pastures were divided into sections for the purpose of rotational grazing. It was related that in every instance a soil test was made and recommendations were followed according to results of tests. At the time of the meeting, there were three angus cows, one bull, five grade cows, twenty-four market hogs, three brood sows, twenty-one feeder pigs, and five sheep on the Rice farm.

This meeting proved successful in that it showed a pasture program in action.

A group of farmers visited the Agricultural Experiment Station at Virginia State College and observed and discussed pasture mixtures and methods and rates of applying fertilizer and lime.

The Soil Conservation Service assisted in planning the location of new pastures. The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service shared the cost of establishing and maintaining pastures on farms that were approved by the committee. These two agricultural agencies served a major part in the program, educationally

application of barnyard manure. Both applied 100 pounds of nitrogen, 80 of phosphate and 80 of potash. The estimated average yield on the two farms on twelve acres was between 85 to 90 bushels per acre.

From past experiences, the major factors that account for low corn yields on a large number of farms are: (1) rotation, (2) not realizing the importance of fertilization and (3) failure to plan and work out the differences between profit and loss based on present prices, cost of production and yield expectation.

2. Pasture

The trend of an increase in livestock numbers on farms creates a feed problem that must be in proportion with the increasing demand. Since 1945 the livestock population has more than doubled. Climatic conditions and soil type provide for good pasture production. Once pastures are established, poor management has decreased production tremendously.

The objectives were to get beef cattle farmers to understand the value of a year-round forage crop in increasing beef cattle profits, and make use of it on their farms. Beef cattlemen were to learn the purpose of soil testing, liming and fertilizing pastures. They were expected to develop an appreciation of a good pasture and practice rotational grazing.

materials on how to increase corn yields. Spot checks were made in several communities to determine individual farm corn yields and management practices. These checks aided in getting volunteers with low corn yields to participate in the corn program. Leaders were given information on the cost of corn production and how it affects profit. Commercial dealers helped farmers in seed and fertilizer selection. Other agricultural agencies cooperated in tying their program in with the over-all county activity.

Emphasis was placed on the year's objective of getting five farmers to follow a good rotation system and applying adequate fertilizer to increase corn yields. Although there were others who improved their yield through rotation and fertilization, the five farmers or demonstrators, averaged less than 30 bushels of corn per acre in 1959. In 1959 most of their corn crop was planted on land that was in corn in 1958. Less than 600 pounds of fertilizer was used with no cover crop turned under. In 1960 three demonstrators planted corn on land that had been in soybeans and applied 90 pounds of nitrogen, 60 pounds of phosphate and 60 pounds of potash. The estimated average yield was between 60 and 65 bushels.

Two demonstrators planted on land that had been in lespedeza for two years. One of these used a light

III. ADULT PROJECT WORK

A. Field Crops

1. Corn

Brunswick County's corn yields are low as compared with counties having similar soil type and climatic conditions. Last year's (1959) average yield was below forty bushels per acre. It is estimated that the cost of producing an acre of corn, using 400 pounds of a complete fertilizer, is \$40.00. Corn selling for \$1.10 per bushel with a yield of 35 bushels per acre would gross \$38.50, which is \$1.50 less than cost of production. A large number of farmers average less than 35 bushels per acre. Farmers producing low yields were those who practiced poor rotation and used small amounts of fertilizer.

The objective was to get five farmers, who were producing less than forty bushels of corn per acre, to produce corn economically through a good rotation system and the use of more fertilizer. These demonstrators were to learn the difference in corn yields in a good rotation with the application of adequate fertilizer as compared with poor rotation and small amounts of fertilizer.

The members of the Agronomy Committee, along with other leaders, were furnished information on corn yields in the county. Leaders were informed and given

II. COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

The County Board of Supervisors is the legal organization that heads the County's Agricultural Extension Program. The Advisory Board, Agronomy Committee, Agricultural Professional Workers Group, and the L-H Council, consisting of local men, women, boys and girls are responsible, primarily, for setting up, planning and conducting the Extension work in the county.

The County Advisory Board is an over-all planning organization which is composed of 58 members who are farm men and women representing 12 communities. The Board sponsors a county-wide Farmers' Conference, appoints committees to aid in reaching goals set up by the Board, sets up the Community Improvement Program, and approves the Farm and Home Development families. Two meetings were held in 1960.

The Agronomy Committee is composed of eight members representing the five magisterial districts in the county.

The Professional Workers Group consists of all agricultural agencies in the county and some business and professional men and women. This group meets whenever it is necessary to plan and sponsor a special agricultural program.

The Forestry Committee consists of leaders interested in improving the management of farm woodlands. This committee meets annually for the purpose of assisting with the forestry program.

built which serves two districts. Progress is being made to consolidate the remaining elementary schools. Saint Paul's College, a private liberal arts college, is located in Lawrenceville.

There is one movie, one public library and a Bookmobile that serves all areas. Many areas of the county have telephone service, which aids in communication. All have power service. There is one recreation center and one playground. There are 51 Negro churches.

A health center is located near the county seat. There are five physicians; four dentists and one who works here two days a week; one local optometrist and one who works two days a week; four druggists and one veterinarian serving the people of the county.

Three railroads - Seaboard Air Line, Virginian and Atlantic and Danville - and three major highways - U. S. 1, U. S. 46 and U. S. 58 - pass through the county. Brunswick County is located within 350 miles of many of the major eastern seaboard cities. There are two tobacco warehouses and one livestock market in Lawrenceville. Because of favorable climatic conditions and available resources, Brunswick County is well located for marketing.

The non-farm and part-time farmers receive their income from employment at factories, lumber mills, pulp wood, stores (furniture, equipment, supplies, etc.), construction work, railroad companies and public utilities. The heads of many households work outside the county. There are very few jobs off the farm for women.

Essential major adjustments in the total agricultural economy, arising from surplus production and other factors, present adjustment problems on individual farms which affect income possibilities.

I. COUNTY SITUATION

Brunswick County is a rural area covering 576 square miles. It is located in the Southern Piedmont section of the state. There are three towns - Alberta, Brodnax and Lawrenceville. The latter, the county seat, is located in approximately the center of the county.

According to recent census, there are 2855 Negro families in the county. 1,463 are non-farm families and 1,392 are farm families. There are 593 owners, 262 part owners and 537 renters. The average size of the Negro farm is 54 acres, which is a 12 per cent increase in size since 1950. The families engage in general farming. They grow tobacco, cotton, peanuts, cucumbers, poultry, hogs and cattle as cash enterprises. Corn, hay, vegetables, broilers and small grain are grown mostly for home and farm consumption. Forestry products, such as pulp wood, veneer wood and logs are other sources of farm income. Brunswick is Virginia's leading county in the production of pulp wood. The value of productive assets on farms increased 21 per cent because of rising land prices, increasing mechanization and higher investments in equipment. The net farm income decreased.

There are 2965 youth in the county between the ages of 10 and 19. Eight hundred eleven are non-farm youth. Of the total, 478 are enrolled in 13 4-H Clubs. There is one Negro high school. One consolidated elementary school was recently

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

H. L. Maclin

Name

Local Farm

Title

Agent

G. H. Stith

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1960

Brunswick

County