

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
HALIFAX COUNTY
VIRGINIA

1944

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Home Demonstration Agent

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III. SCOPE OF WORK

A. Home Demonstration Clubs

Number 19 Membership 466 .

Other groups sponsored by home demonstration clubs.

White 4 Membership 200 .

B. 4-H Clubs

Number 16 Membership 284 .

D. Number reached through special classes taught by agent 250 .

E. Number families reached through neighborhood and community leaders 6500 .

F. Estimate total number families reached 6900 . Number farm families in county 8973 .

IV. ORGANIZATION

A. County Home Demonstration Committee

1. Membership:

The committee is composed of presidents of the 19 Home Demonstration clubs elected by the club members; and two members at large, making a total of 21 members.

2. Function and Results:

The committee plans the general Home Demonstration Club program, formulates policies, plans county wide club activities and send delegates to the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. The chairman of the committee is a member of the county agricultural board, and therefore acts as a connecting link between the two groups. Programs adopted by the agricultural board are discussed by the committee and plans are made for carrying them out through the clubs.

The committee met twice this year. The first meeting was on April 26th. The work of the Home Demonstration Clubs for the first six months of the year was reviewed, and the program for the next six months discussed, and it was decided to change the demonstration in September from "Repair of Household Equipment", to "Repair of House Furnishings". It was also decided to buy a pressure cooker gauge tester for the use of the Home Demonstration Agent, and the club members, and to buy a lock for the door to the demonstration kitchen. The above mentioned articles were purchased and the purchase of the pressure cooker gauge proved to be a big help in checking the pressure cooker's in the county. Delegates for the State

Federation meeting were selected. Those chosen were; Mrs. R. I. Weatherford, and Mrs. R. T. Cassada; the two alternates were; Mrs. Lacy Powell, and Mrs. Elwood Clements. It was voted to pay the chairmans expenses, and \$10.00 on the other delegates expenses. Mrs. R. I. Weatherford was unable to attend the Federation meeting in Blacksburg, so Mrs. Lacy Powell and Mrs. R. T. Cassada attended in her place. The delegates divided the club's when they returned to the county each attending 8 clubs besides her own and making a report on the meeting.

The second meeting of the committee was held in the fall on October 5th, for the purpose of planning the 1944 club program. There were 20 women present representing 10 home demonstration clubs. The month by month plan of work for the home demonstration clubs were made. The committee selected Health as their Federation Goal for 1945. The new officers selected were; Mrs. Lacy Powell, President; Miss Elise Clark, Vice-president; Mrs. W. J. Foster, Federation Goal Chairman.

B. COUNTY AGRICULTURAL BOARD

1. Organization and Its Stage of Development.

The present set up, with a few changed in members, was effected in the Fall of 1941. The county is divided into 12 large communities, and each community is divided into from 4 to 12 neighborhoods making 94 neighborhoods. Every community has at least one man and one woman leader making a total of 24 community leaders 12 men and 12 women. The 94 neighborhoods have 200 leaders 98 men and 102 women. These leaders and co-chairman along with county heads of rural organizations (Home Demonstration Clubs, Men's Clubs, Farm Bureau, P.T.A. etc.), compose the county board of agriculture.

County agricultural workers are non-voting members or advisers. Since there is a negro home agent and a farm agent in the county, the negroes have set up a parallel organization of their own, with a county board of agriculture, community co-chairman, and neighborhood leaders. The negro board is represented on the white board, and work simultaneously on the same programs. Plans have been made for meeting of neighborhood leaders for the purpose of listing accurately every farm family in each neighborhood. Heretofore, the leaders have had only their definite Boundary lines and it is felt that in many cases families are not being contacted. When these lists are made, more leaders will be selected to serve in addition to the present leaders as it is the aim that no leader should have more than 10 families, and at present several of the leaders have more than 10 families.

There has been a very fine spirit exhibited by the board members in the various programs this year. Leaders have sacrificed time and energy in order to inform their neighbors. Many have done part of their visiting "on foot". Approximately 80 % of the county's farm families have been contacted by neighborhood leaders this year. The program carried out this year was "Food Fights for Freedom". The board has helped with distributing the information for production goals for the state and county. Giving

information to farmers on the agricultural situation, needed agricultural production, marketing and special agricultural programs, and worked some on a freezer locker for the county. The freezer locker hasn't gone very far, and is really at a stand still now.

The Food Fights for Freedom program has been a continuous program which was begun in November of 1943, and carried through the year of 1944, with September set aside as Nutrition month. The neighborhood leaders have given information in this all during the year. County agricultural workers are divided into "teams" to act as advisers and helpers for the communities.

The organization is doing a good job not only in the strictly agriculture questions, but helping with rationing board information, and other questions that are of county wide interest. Most of the professional workers feel that if you want a program put over, it is necessary to have the cooperation of the Board of Agriculture.

D. Professional Worker's Conference

1. Agencies represented, Vocational Agriculture and Home Economics teachers, Soil Conservation Services, Emergency Crop and Seed Loan Service, Production Credit Association, Federal Land Bank, Superintendent of Schools, Department of Public Welfare, Health Department, Farm Security Administration and Extension Service (white and colored).

2. The council has regular monthly meeting with a two months vacation in the summer. Ten meetings were held this year with an average attendance 55 % of the members. Some of the teachers live twenty miles and more from Halifax, so they very seldom get into the meeting which cuts the average attendance down.

The council has been active this year. The council functions is to clarify and unify the thinking of the agricultural workers on all phase of work carried on in the county that effects farm people. All programs to be worked on in the county are first discussed by the agricultural workers before it is presented to the board of agricultural and plans made by the group to cooperate in carrying them out. After the board of agriculture had adopted a plan, the agricultural workers serve as advisers, and helpers to the community leaders in carrying out the programs. There is fine spirit of cooperation among the workers, and a willing acceptance of extra responsibilities. The council has cooperated whole heartily with the war board on all programs they attempted. The home agent brought to the workers all new information she received that would help to keep them up-to date on developments affecting the farm home. She made plans with home economics workers for carrying out feed preservation, nutrition information, equipment repair, and other conservation programs. She visited all new home economics workers, and invited them to attend the council and to help with nutrition program in the county. She served as chairman of the refreshment committee and as secretary to the council.

V. LEADERSHIP

A. Adult Work

1. Club Officers:

Each of the 19 Home Demonstration Clubs have a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and five project leaders. Most of the clubs have in addition to these, a song leader and various appointed chairmans, such as Red Cross Chairman, Recreation Chairman, Federation Goal Chairman, Poultry Chairman, and Garden Chairman. There are 57 of the regular club officers, not including project leaders and special chairmans. Club presidents were trained at two county meetings. Other officers were trained at club meetings or by home visits or office calls. Three hundred and ninety seven days were given by these officers to club work this year.

2. Project Leader

Each of the 19 Home Demonstration Clubs have 2 project leaders. These leaders are responsible for the monthly demonstrations, preparing for the demonstration and giving them or assisting the agent. Three county wide leader training meetings were held this year and twenty five small leader training meetings, training of leaders from one to four clubs at a time. The county wide leader training meetings were; Housing and Home Furnishings In War Time, with 18 leaders present, and Household Repairs with 10 leaders present, the two demonstrations were given by the State Home Furnishing Specialists, and Butter and Cheese making was given by two State Dairy Specialists with 12 leaders present. The other 25 leader training meeting were conducted by the agent in the homes of various leaders in the county on that months demonstration, with an attendance of one to eight leaders present at each meeting. (Some times leaders were taken to another club where the agent gave the demonstration therefore training that leader to take care of her own club.) These project leaders gave a total of 502 days to club work including time spent in preparation and training for the demonstrations, in getting reports from members and in giving the information to members. Around 1/3 of the 210 club programs were conducted by the leaders. Some clubs take care of as many as 8 of their own meetings where others would take care of only one.

Leader training meetings that were held at which others were invited besides the project leaders were: The Butter and Cheese making demonstration in March, with an attendance of 18, Canning Demonstration given by a commercial canning demonstrator in May, with an attendance of 15, Landscape gardening demonstrations given in April and in August with an attendance of 48 people at the two meeting, four Poultry culling demonstrations, with an attendance of 48 people. A leader training meeting was conducted in May for the poultry leaders by a Poultry Specialist from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with six of the Poultry leaders present. A training meeting for the garden leaders was conducted in May by the State Gardening Specialist. These leaders were given a manual with outlipes for talks and at each club meeting the poultry and garden chairman gave short talks. These leaders have given 30 days to club work.

The leaders in the Crystal Hill, Mt. Laurel and Dan River Clubs have done outstanding work this year, each club has conducted their own meetings at least 5 times and helped the agent with other demonstrations. The Crystal Hill Club has sponsored a new home demonstration club, namely the Clay's Mill Club. The Mt. Laurel Club has sponsored a new 4-H Club, namely the Mt. Laurel 4-H Club. The Dan River women have served as project leaders for some of the members of the Halifax 4-H Clubs. The above mentioned clubs have unusually strong leaders who are willing to assume responsibility and can always be depended on to have everything in readiness for a demonstration, whether they or the agent gives it.

3. Federation Goal Chairman

Each home demonstration club has a Federation Goal Chairman, and the home demonstration committee has a county chairman. Plans were made early in the year for carrying out the housing goal. Material was sent to the county chairman's and they were kept posted. The chairman gave a short talk on different phases of housing such as; Disposing of Rubbish, Providing Proper Storage Space, Controlling Insects, Providing Adequate light and ventilation, Checking and Correcting electric circuits, Making the Water Supply Safe, and fire prevention, at each club meeting during the year. During the month of February the housing chairman had charge of the club meetings. She sent two reports during the year on the work done on housing by her club. Fifty five days were given by the Federation Goal Chairman this year.

4. Red Cross Chairman

Each club had a Red Cross Chairman that contacted the county red cross sewing room, and got materials, distributed it to their club members then collected and returned the finished garments to the sewing room. These chairman gave 150 days to this work.

5. Community and Neighborhood Leaders

Four county meetings and 50 community meetings were held for the purpose of training the 225 community and neighborhood leaders. Attendance averaged about 75 % and community leaders took the responsibility of informing leaders not attending. These leaders gave 3000 days to visiting neighbors, attending training meetings, studying programs, holding meetings of their neighbors to train other leaders. They have accepted the responsibility of informing their neighbors as their part in helping win the war. A fine spirit of cooperation has also been exhibited among the leaders. The worthwhile accomplishments of the board of agriculture leader system is the development of community leadership.

B. 4-H Club Work

1. Adult 4-H Leaders

Nine of the 16 4-H Clubs had adult leaders who served as organization leaders and sponsors. Twenty five women served as special project

difficulties, no county wide meeting was held for leaders, but eight small leader training meetings were conducted with two or more leaders present at each. Some of the special project leaders were trained at Home Demonstration Club meetings, or by Home Visits. The leaders in the nine clubs have given over half of the demonstrations in their club this year. These leaders have given 232 days to 4-H Club work this year. Mrs. Hula Hudson, of Crystal Hill, was given a certificate of "Recognition of Service", for 10 years service as a 4-H Club leader, by the Extension Division of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and signed by Hallie E. Hughes, State 4-H Girls Club Agent, Gordon A. Elcans, State 4-H Boys Club Agent and John R. Hutchison, Director of Extension Service.

2. Junior 4-H Leaders

Each club has a president, vice-president, secretary-treasure, reporter, song leader, and librarian. Most of the club presidents have done especially good work in keeping up enthusiasm among their club members and also in properly conducting their club meetings. Three of these clubs are strictly girls clubs and the other thirteen are girls and boys clubs.

Dwendolyn Gravitt, of the Cluster Springs Senior 4-H Club and Junior leader of the Cluster Springs Junior 4-H Club has done outstanding work this year. She has helped the junior girls with their projects, acted as an adviser for the same of the younger girls when she was at camp this summer, and acted as librarian in her own club this year.

June Nichols, of Clever 4-H Club has also done outstanding work, she has served as vice-president of her club, and as junior advisor for the younger members in her club. Secured an adult project leader for the club for the summer and won one of the metals of the safety contest this year. At 4-H Club camp this summer she served as the scribe for one of the tribes.

IV. RESULTS

A. Home Demonstration Clubs

1. Project Work

a. Food

1. Production

Food production was an important part of the club program. Every monthly program included a short discussion on gardening and poultry and the month of May was spent on studying and discussion of gardening. Having smaller and better gardens has been the aim of home demonstration women this year. This program was successful according to the following reports. Four hundred and thirty eight of the 466 club women reported that their gardens produced enough vegetables for their families this summer even if we did have a late spring and a dry summer. Four hundred and seventeen

families had fall gardens; 348 families bought disease resistant varieties of seeds and 108 families had vegetables to sell this summer. Two hundred and sixty one families reported that they planted edible soy beans this year. Three hundred people reported that they gave 839 people information on production of food as to proper selection, recommended varieties and insect control. The fruits grown by the home demonstration families this year were; apples 130, grapes 34, plums 28, raspberries 12 and cherries 14, some had only a small amount others had all the family needed and then some for sale. There were 1974 bushels of fruit sold this year by home demonstration families.

Three hundred and ninety nine families reported raising 68,597 chicks this year; while 308 bought from state inspected hatcheries. Two hundred and twenty one families reported selling 12,458 hens and broilers with a profit of \$2,605.84. Sixty families reported selling eggs with a weekly sale of 627 dozen. More families than ever before in the county are selling milk and cream. One cause for this is because we have more milk routes in the county. In addition more people have reported making cheese than ever before this may be accounted for by cheese being so hard to buy. More people are making bread than before, of course this may be due to the bread trucks not going to small country stores as often as before the war.

The Home Agent helped with this production by, giving talks on gardening and furnishing leaders with materials for their talks, securing a specialist on gardening to train the club garden leaders. Getting a merchant in South Boston to handle edible soy bean seed and giving demonstrations in their use. Giving talks and demonstrations on poultry, securing a specialist from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, to train poultry leaders for their monthly talks; and to give four poultry culling demonstrations in various sections of the county. The home agent spent one month giving demonstrations on care of milk and butter and storage of butter. She found a place where milk strainer could be purchased, helped farmers get in touch with milk route drivers, and is now helping the county agent make a survey of the county to see if there is enough milk for sale to justify the Coble Dairy Company erecting a milk processing plant in the county. Cheese making demonstrations were given in the county by a specialist from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and several given by the home agent. The home agent was able to give more time to the work by having a part time secretary to release her some of the routine office work.

2. Conservation

Food conservation was an important part of the club program this year. The results of this work is shown by the amount canned which exceed that of last year by a large number, even more vegetables were canned this year than last. The home demonstration families canned 71,041 quarts of fruit, 68,071 quarts of vegetables and 16,102 quarts of meat. Two hundred and one gallons of fruits brined; 257 gallons of vegetables and 88 gallons of meat. Four thousand and thirty two pounds of fruit dried, and 2418 pounds of vegetables. Forty one thousand, seven hundred and sixty three pounds of meat was cured. Four thousand one hundred and forty four pounds of fruit stored; 3, 218 pounds of vegetables; and 2,275 pounds of meat. Three hundred and forty one pounds of fruit was frozen and eight one pounds of meat. (Some families have the ice cream containers that they use for freezing of fruit and meat in small quantities,

other families are taking fruits and meat to the cold storage plant in Danville, Virginia.)

There are at present four canneries in the county and two hundred and sixty three women reported using them. Two of the canneries was supervised by home demonstration women. Three hundred and twenty two women reported using pressure cookers in their homes for canning this year. Five families used the bushel size electric dehydrator that belongs to the Home Demonstration women. A large number use the bushel dehydrators at the canneries and the large one at Turbeville cannery. Improvements were made in storage places for canned food this year. Forty six families reported improving their basements, 78 built shelves and 35 built food storage closets. One hundred and thirty nine families use mound or trench storage.

The home agent helped in Food Conservation program by arranging for all home economics workers in the county have a food preservation conference. Spending the month of April giving food preservation demonstrations and talks to not only home demonstration groups, but other groups of interested women in the county. Then every month from April to November she gave from one to ten food preservation demonstrations of one kind or another. Having a part time secretary to relieve the agent of routine office work made it possible for her to meet extra groups of women and give food preservation demonstration in canning, hot water bath and pressure cooker, dehydration of food, drying of food using cook-stove drier, making of American cheese, storage of eggs and butter, and making of mounts for storage of food. The home agent also cooperated with the canneries in the county by having their schedules and announcing it at her club meetings. She also had food preservation bulletins and recipes that were available to people that wanted them.

3. Nutrition

The major program for 1944 was nutrition. Most of three months demonstrations was on various phases of nutrition. The demonstrations given were on nutrition in war time, packing school lunches, use of edible soybeans, use of soybean flour, making of whole and enriched breads, keeping the family fit, and the use of home canned foods in meal planning. Every school that did not have a 4-H Club or a home economics department was given a talk or demonstration on nutrition by a home demonstration woman or a professional home economics worker. Three hundred and sixty one home demonstration families reported planting edible soy beans, 120 families reported using soy bean flour, 309 families reported using graham or whole wheat flour this year and several families are now asking for enriched flour.

The home demonstration women have been responsible for hot school lunches being in three of the schools in the county and are sponsoring it at Oak Level, Clover, and Clarkton schools. The home agent has helped with nutrition work by conducting training schools for leaders. Furnishing leaders with information for their talks and demonstrations, giving demonstrations on the phases of nutrition mentioned above.

b. Clothing

1. Consumer Problems

- a. Buying
- b. Care
- c. War production
- d. Substitute fabric

Around ten meetings at various clubs was devoted to clothing consumer problem. In some cases these demonstrations and talks were substituted for the regularly monthly demonstration and in others in addition to the program planned for the month. The news letters on clothing that were put out by the clothing specialist during the year was read either by the agent or the leader at each of the clubs. Other material of general interest on clothing consumer problem that come to agents desk was sent or taken on to the clubs.

2. Conservation

- a. Woolen garments
- b. Storage
- c. Laundering
- e. Dry cleaning

Only three demonstrations were given this year by the agent and leaders in the clubs on conservation of woolen garment altho a lot of information on it was given by the members and agent outside the club meetings and some women gave individual instructions and demonstrations to their neighbors on how to laundry sweaters and how to store woolen garments for the summer.

3. Construction

- a. New garments
- b. Remodeling clinics

Very little club time was devoted to clothing construction this year. The women reported making 3,032 dresses at an estimated saving of \$4,499.62; making of 2,255 other garments at an estimated saving of \$1,979.25; remodeling of 594 garments at an estimated saving of \$820.14; making 81 hats and remodeling 78 hats at an estimated saving \$159.25; making of 35 purses with an estimated saving of \$45.50; making of 679 slips at an estimated saving of \$359.35; and mending of 5,837 garments of clothing. The women knitted 39 articles of clothing for children and 19 for adults. The home demonstration women taught 217 people some steps in clothing construction.

c. House

1. House repairs

One months demonstration was on housing repairs. A leader training meeting was conducted in January by the house furnishing specialist which was attended by 18 home demonstration women. The women were taught how to clean painted walls so the paint would not be harmed. How to clean wall paper and given a recipe so they could make their own cleaner. How to clean greasy spots off of wall paper. How to turn and clean a window shade. How to patch a window screen. Shown a handy tool box with a handle on it and the tools that should be in with the tacks, nails, patching and adhesive tape.

The wall finishes most-practical to use, and colors that are suitable for the different rooms in the house. How walls or floors were to be treated before they were-refinished. How to repair loose plaster and plaster cracks. The women were especially interested in this and conducted so many of their own demonstrations during the months of February and March as any month of the year. The home agent was ask to give this demonstration at two women's clubs in the county and to three other groups. The results of this months work is shown by the reports that were sent in by the housing chairman, 100 families repairing their screens or putting up new screens, Forty families repaired the foundation walls of their homes. Thirty five families repaired steps, 47 floors, 46 windows, 15 doors, 3 banisters, 3 handrails, and 24 roofs. Sixty two houses were painted, 279 rooms were papered or painted, 143 floors refinished and 81 roofs painted.

2. Home Safety

The safety of the home was discussed along with the housing repair. The women were told how to clean their chimney and flue. Given check sheets on safety to use in their clubs. Taught how to repair electric iron and lamp cords. The housing chairman reported that 60 families had chimneys and flues repaired, 56 families checked and corrected the electric circuits, 69 families made their water supply safe and 155 provided sanitary disposal of waste. The home agent had two articles in the paper during the year on safety in the home and the housing chairman gave a talk in July on checking and correcting electric circuits, in August on making water supply safe and providing sanitary disposal of waste; and in October on Fire prevention.

d. House Furnishings

1. Conservation

a. Woolen (rugs, blankets, upholstery) Cleaning and storage

The women were given instructions on how to clean rugs with a soap solution and how to wash wool blankets. Demonstrations were given on how to wrap and store wool blankets. Instructions were given on how to treat upholstered furniture to keep it from becoming infested with moths.

b. Furniture and Furnishings Repair and Care

The month of March was spent on conserving household furnishings.

The women were taught how to turn old curtains so as to make them last longer. How to use plant bed materials for curtains. Use of feed sacks for curtains, scarfs, luncheon cloths, and kitchen chair slip covers. Recovering of old lamp shade frames. How to decorate old pieces of furniture that was painted. How to use wall paper border in decorating windows. One woman used this border very effective on her stairway she put it up about 2 1/2 or three feet from the floor and put washable paint under the border, then the finger prints of the children going up and down the stairs could be washed off.

The women have reported the dying and renovating of 125 curtains at a cost of \$47.87 and savings of \$76.05; renovating of 13 pairs of draperies and renovating of 49 lamp shades at a cost of \$5.50 and a saving of \$6.50.

c. Furniture Clinics

Chair seating
Refinishing
Upholstering
Tying of Springs

The tying of springs in furniture, gluing and minor repairs to furniture was the demonstration given in every club during the month of September. At the clubs there were 30 chairs that the springs were tied and 12 pieces of furniture that parts of it was glued. The women reported that during the year they had refinished 68 pieces of furniture at a cost of \$48.75 and a saving of \$104.00; and resealed 185 chairs at a cost of \$108.76 and a saving of \$144.62.

2. Construction

- a. Furniture
- b. Slip Covers
- c. Curtains, draperies, shades
- d. Storage space (other than kitchen)
- e. Other

The women reported the making of 520 curtains at a cost of \$171.89 and saving of \$184.24; draperies 86 at a cost of \$265.68 and a saving of \$352.62; slip covers 107 at a cost of \$220.31 and a saving of \$264.87; rugs 13; table linens and luncheon cloths 133 at a cost of \$33.31 and a saving of \$27.62; center pieces 16 at a cost of \$2.69 and saving of \$6.50.

E. Home Management

4. Home Accounts

There were seven books given families on which to keep home accounts during 1943. Five of the seven families turned in their books

in February 1944, but two of these books did not have complete accounts. There were six books given out in 1944, these families requested the books and promised to keep the home accounts.

5. Farm and Home Unit

There is one farm and home unit in Halifax county which was started in 1941, but to date has not accomplished much. The family moves back and forth from their home to the man's father's home there forth keeping the homerecord mixed up and the home management problems divided. Two families have been lined up and plans are made to work with them on farm and home units for 1945.

6. Time and energy management

The month of December was spent on the home makers calender. The use of the home makers calender was explained in each club and the women were given sheets on which to make their calender's. These were checked on at various times during the year around 50 % of the women used the sheets up until about June when they got so busy that most of them dropped them, only around 5 % carried them on through the year. The women reported that planning helped but have not been thoroughly convinced that they have time during the busy season to set down with a pencil and plan their work. The women agree that they need help on time management.

8. Home Laundry

There has been more questions on home laundry this year than in a number of years, because more of the women in Halifax county are doing their own laundry than ever before. The home agent has given information on laundry and type of equipment to use and how to soften water. Most of the women insist that they do not want to buy any equipment, because they don't intend to do their laundry long.

f. Consumer Problems

1. Foods
2. Clothing
3. House furnishings and equipment
4. General household supplies.

The consumer problems for the american people have been more numerous than they have had for years and the general public is worried about it and wanting help. There was not a club this year at which some problem of consumer education was not brought up and discussed. Every day during the year the agent was called or asked on the street about some consumer problem either on clothing, food or house furnishing. Some people have more money to spend than before and want to spend it wisely others are wearing out the things they have and have to make replacements. It

is estimated the home agent and home demonstration women have helped 1470 people on food problems, 500 people on clothing problems, 1200 people in the house furnishings and equipment problems and 1200 people on general household supplies. The outlook material sent out by the specialists was read at each club.

2. Home Demonstration Club Activities

a. Federation Goal

The Federation Goal chosen by the clubs this year was housing. The month of February was set aside as the month that the Federation Goal chairman would have charge of the program. Each club member was given a check sheet and asked to check their homes for fire hazards. At each monthly meeting the Federation Goal chairman gave a short talk on housing. The following report was received from the club chairman. Sixty families had their chimneys and flues checked and repaired, 55 families checked and corrected their electric circuits; 69 families made their water supply safe; 155 families provided sanitary disposal of waste; 43 families provided proper storage place for food; 100 families put up new screens or repaired their old ones; 40 families repaired the foundation of the house; 18 families installed running water; 31 families made needed repairs to 35 steps; 47 floors, 46 windows, 15 doors, 3 banisters, 5 handrails, 24 roofs; 62 houses were painted, 14 yards leveled; 3 clothes closets built, 18 kitchen cabinets built; 270 rooms papered or painted; 143 floors refinished; 89 roofs painted; 101 medicine cabinets equipped.

b. Campaign

The county-wide campaign for this year was "Food Fights for Freedom", which was sponsored by the board of agricultural in all communities. During this campaign in the spring all 12 communities were contacted and 90 of the 94 neighborhoods. It was felt that at least 6500 families were contacted on the farms and that 1200 of the 1575 families in towns were contacted by the Block leaders. The phases stressed in this program was produce, conserve, share and play square. On the farm produce and conserve was stressed, and in town share and play square were stressed.

The nutrition program ^{was} which was sponsored by the nutrition committee was also a county wide program and every school and community in the county was contacted with this program, and it is estimated that as many families were contacted with this program as was with the "Food Fights for Freedom" program.

c. Other special activities.

The women have helped with the war board drives with the scrape drives and with the fat drive and with the red cross drives both in money and in work. Ten of the club Red Cross chairman reported making 50 service kits, 11 dresses, 14 skirts, 1 bath robe, 17 scarfs, 17 pair pajamas; 15

15 pairs overalls; and 107 other garments. Knitted 20 scarfs, 29 sweaters and 8 pairs of socks.

3. Give a brief account of year work of one outstanding club.

The Dan River Home Demonstration Club has done outstanding work this year. Their leader has given more of the demonstrations in the club than any other club, she gave eight of the 12 demonstrations and talks. Some of the club members have acted as leaders for the Halifax 4-H Club. They have made reports and attended all meetings that concerned county wide club work. Their President, Mrs. Laoy Rowell attended the State Federation meeting of home demonstration clubs that was held in Blacksburg in June and made a good report to her club, she then attended 9 other clubs and made a report on the meeting. The club helped furnish the kitchen at the Dan River church and now putting some of their money in war bonds. Plans are made to have a sale of hand made articles that could be used for christmas presents at their meeting in December. The women have pooled their cars and come in two or three cars now. Some of the members are teaching and do not wish to miss meeting with the club; so part of their meetings are at night during the winter months.

4. Give account of how a home demonstration club member has adjusted to the war conditions.

Mrs. R. I. Weatherford, president of the county home demonstration committee for the past two years, and president of the Omega Home Demonstration Club has adjusted to the war conditions and is really doing her part. She is the back bone of her home demonstration club and her church strifes and never misses a meeting unless her mother, who lives with her is ill. She has two little girls, does all of her own work including her sewing, raises a truck garden has a nice flock of hens and in emergency helps her husband in the field. She bakes cakes, makes butter and cottage cheese for sale in South Boston. Mrs. Weatherford sells \$135.00 of products, milk, butter, and cheese a month. She and her husband have a nice home that is only about 4 years old and is well furnished.

d. Agricultural Boards

The Home Demonstration Agent worked along with other professional workers, as advisor of the board of agriculture. The agent helped with planning and carrying out the important programs sponsored by the board this year. The first program carried through the board was "Food Fights for Freedom", in which the home agent explained the program at their meetings; wrote letters to community and neighborhood leaders that were not at the meeting about the campaign and visited some of them personally. Helped secure the material that the leaders needed for the program, and saw that each leader received this material. Discussed the campaign at club meeting where there was not a community of neighborhood leaders present. Attended the production goal meetings and helped leaders with material. Attended the U.S.D.A. war board meeting for agricultural workers and helped secure the specialists from Virginia Polytechnic Institute to

explain the freezer locker plant to the leaders. Has explained the use and cost of a freezer locker to the Home Demonstration Clubs and gave some of the contracts out to the leaders. The home agent has trained all the leaders in the food conservation program.

c. 4-H Clubs

There are at present 16 4-H Clubs in the county, and two more lined up ready to be organized. Three of the sixteen clubs are strictly girls clubs and 13 clubs are composed of boys and girls. There were during the year 285 girls enrolled in 4-H Club work; 284 under the Home Agent and one under the county boy club agent. Two hundred and fourteen girls completed one or more projects under the home agent and five girls completed projects under the boy's club agent. The home agent visited 180 4-H Club girls during the year. The 4-H Clubs in the county cooperated in collecting milk weed pods for the army, there were 26 bags collected.

a. Bread

Two hundred girls enrolled for the bread project and 135 girls completed the project. One hundred and thirty five girls made loaf bread at least twelve times; 188 girls made biscuits; 175 girls made muffins; 188 made corn bread; and 160 made other bread. A demonstration was given by the agent or 4-H Club leaders in every club but one on the making of biscuits, muffins, and cornbread. The making of loaf bread was demonstrated by the agent and leaders in all but four clubs. The bread project leaders than demonstrated making breads to those that would come to their homes and give this help any time that the girls ask for it.

b. Clothing- Make or Remake

Forty six girls that enrolled for the clothing project and 36 girls completed the project. The girls made 72 new garments at a cost of \$69.71 and remodeled 27 garments at a cost of \$8.17. The girls mended 144 garments, dry cleaned 38 garments and laundried 116 garments. According to their records, 38 girls spent \$2,617.50 on outer garments; 31 girls spent \$598.10 on underwear; 38 girls spent \$261.00 on shoes and hose; 29 girls spent \$62.78 on accessories; 37 girls spent \$48.67 on care and repair and 25 girls spent \$30.35 on personal care making a total of \$3,618.90. There were clothing construction demonstrations given in 4 clubs and the other girls were given demonstrations by their project leaders or individual instructions.

d. Home Laundry

There were four girls that enrolled for a laundry project and three girls that completed the project. Two of the girls helped with the family laundry six months doing the family laundry four times and one helped with the family laundry 12 months doing the family laundry 4 times. The girls working on this project were given individual instructions after club meetings.

e. Poultry

Thirteen girls enrolled for a poultry project and nine girls completed the project. Five of the girls helped with the family flock and 4 had separate flocks. The total receipts according to what the girls turned in was \$126.75 expenses \$43.75 and profits \$83.00. Individual instructions were given these girls and they were invited to the culling demonstrations given by the poultry specialist.

f. Gardening

There were 13 girls that enrolled for the gardening project and only 6 completed it. None of the girls sold vegetables so the value of the garden was the same as the vegetables used which was \$99.00, Expenses \$22.00 making a profit of \$77.00. These girls were given individual instructions.

h. Child Care

Only one girl enrolled for this project she bathed and dressed the child 7 times, prepared food and fed it 7 times and directed its play 20 hours.

j. Housekeeping

Sixty girls enrolled for the housekeeping project and 50 girls completed the project. Fifty eight girls cared for a room daily for 2 months; 25 girls rearranged the bed room to make it easier to care for; 20 the dining room and 5 the kitchen. The following girls did the following things regularly; 61 washed dishes, 28 made beds, 51 set the table, 2 cleaned lamps, 10 cared for stoves and fire places, and 12 brought in fuel. Ten girls provided a place for cleaning equipment; 12 for personal things; 6 repaired pieces of furniture; 10 made table mats. Bed making demonstrations were given in four clubs and the project leaders helped the girls with the other parts of the projects.

i. Stop-food-waste

Thirty seven girls enrolled for stop food waste project, and 30 girls completed the project. Thirty girls cooked and served green vegetables; 37 served potatoes; 30 served other vegetables; 34 served raw vegetables; 32 prepared left over foods; 30 improved food storage space; 37 girls collected 540 pounds of salvage fat. Most of the demonstrations for this project were given by the project leaders. An all day meeting was planned for all the clubs during the summer only five got to have their meetings. Before most meeting for girls were called off on account of Infantile Paralysis Epidemic.

k. Canning

Forty girls enrolled for the canning project and only 30 completed it. All the girls did the work but ten didn't turn in records. The girls in

the clubs are young so this accounts for the small number taking the project, although one girl 10 years old a first year club member, Julia Ann Covington of the Crystal Hill 4-H Club, carried a bread and canning project and completed both. Took her canned products to the fair and found there were no exhibits for 4-H Club members, so she entered her's with the women and won 4 prizes, first place on canned butter beans and canned tomato juice. Second place on whole packed tomatoes and apples. The girls reported earning 3,556 quarts alone and helping canning 4,686. Seventeen girls reported improving their food storage place. Canning demonstration were given in five of the 4-H Clubs and others attended meeting of the home demonstration clubs when they had demonstrations, while others were taught by their mothers or project leaders.

1. Milk, butter and cheese

A dairy specialist from Virginia Polytechnic Institute came to the county and conducted a leader training meeting for the home demonstration members and the 4-H Club girls taking this project were invited. Then other American cheese demonstrations were given in the county by the leaders, Farm Security Supervisor and home agent and the 4-H Club girls were invited. The girls were also ask to join a team for the milking contest which was held in the county.

Sixteen members took the milk butter and cheese project and ten completed it. The members reported that 4 milked regularly for 2 to 4 months, 5 from 4 to 8 months; and 7 for 9 to 12 months. Six members cared for the milk and utensils 2 to 4 months and 5 9 to 12 months. Ten members reported making of butter 2 to 4 months and 3 to 4 to 8 months. Two members reported making American cheese and 16 made cottage cheese.

2. Health

All 4-H members did some Health improvement work. Health discussions along with nutrition was given in every club. Every 4-H Club member is striving to be a "5 point" student according to the State Health Department. More emphasis was placed on posture and personal cleanliness than other points of health besides nutrition.

3. Community activities of the club.

Three 4-H Club girls representing two clubs attended the state short course at Blacksburg in June. One girl came back and made a report to her club. The girls studied bread, clothing and house furnishings. Seventeen 4-H Club girls representing six clubs attended the 4-H Club camp at holiday lake. The educational part of the program was food production, conservation, storage, dairying and soil conservation. All the girls come back and make good reports to their clubs. Six 4-H Clubs, namely Crystal Hill, Rose, Clover, Scottsburg, Calvary and Oatka observed rural Sunday.

The 4-H Club girls have helped collect fat and turn it into the schools, helped sell war bonds and stamps, and bought a few themselves. Helped

with the food conservation program and many have done the house work during the summer while their mothers and older sisters worked outside the home often in the field. The 4-H Club girls and boys collected and dried 26 bags of milk weed pod for the army.

The Calvary 4-H Club had a community wide achievement day with the home demonstration women. They exhibited all kinds of home canned fruits and vegetables. Had scarfs and luncheon cloths made from feed sacks. One new jumper dress and a girls suit made from two old suits. The work exhibited this year was much better than that exhibited at the achievement day last year.

4. Brief account of work on one club.

The Catawba 4-H Club, a new one, which was only organized in March has done outstanding work this year. All of the girls in the club turned in their project reports complete. The club turned in 6 sacks of milk weed pods. Four of the girls attended 4-H camp in June and Joane Armistead the president, of the club carried a calf project under the boy's club agent. Entered her calf in the dairy show and won a red ribbon and \$4.00 in cash. The Catawba group had been asking for a club for around a year before the club agents were able to get to them. The home agent was able to take this club after she received the services of a part time secretary.

E. Other work done by the Home Demonstration Agent

1. County Home Economics Workers

The agent co-operated with the county home economics workers on the following program: Nutrition, gardening, poultry, food preservation and furnishings and equipment repair schools. The agent arranged for training meetings helped work out plans and schedules for community meetings and assisted in notifying people of the meetings. The home agent, Virginia Public Service Home Economist and Farm Security Assistant Supervisor took the responsibility for meetings in the areas not served by home economics teachers on the nutrition program. The home agent has made it a point to meet all the new home economics workers and professional workers. It has been said that the home economics workers in the county have worked more closely together than last year than they had before.

2. County Nutrition Committee

The agent has served as nutrition chairman for the office of civilian defence, and worked very closely with the other Home Economics workers in setting up a county nutrition committee which is reaching every corner of the county. One or more talks on nutrition was given in every school and community in the county. Every child was furnished with a nutrition book mark. This year every school has a food chart showing the seven basis feeds.

During nutrition month in September there were nutrition exhibits in the store windows in South Boston, Scottsburg, Halifax, and Clever. The one at

South Boston was put in by the home economics teacher, the one in Halifax by the woman's club, the one at Clever by the Home Demonstration club and the one at Scottsburg by the Home Demonstration club.

5. Office of Civilian Defence

Served as nutrition chairman and gave information on the programs they were sponsoring at the home demonstration and 4-H Clubs. Trained the community and neighborhood leaders of the board of agricultural for the campaign "Food Fights for Freedom". Distributed their material and cooperated on the nutrition month which was September.

4. Salvage Committee

The agent has cooperated with the county salvage chairman by doing educational work on the following programs: scrap metal and fats. This work has done through the Home Demonstration clubs, 4-H Clubs newspaper articles, board of agricultural and community meetings.

5. Rationing Board

The agent has helped with the educational work in connections with all rationing programs. She helped set up booths and committee over the county so the educational part of the program would be available to all persons. The agent has served on the community service panel of the War price and rationing board.

6. War Beard Committee

The agent has encouraged the members of both the 4-H Club and home demonstration clubs to buy bonds and stamps at any time they could and especially during the war bond drives.

7. School Lunch

The agent gave advice and recipes for the school lunch program when ask and has visited all lunch rooms where there is a 4-H club in the school. The Clever home demonstration club is sponsored the Clever lunch room. The Oak Level Club is sponsoring the Oak Level lunch room and 4-H club and home demonstration club is sponsoring the Clarkton lunch room. The agent has given these clubs more help, by giving canning demonstrations on the vegetables they wish to can for the lunch room and helping plan the equipment that the clubs could buy with the money that they had left.

8. Red Cross

The agent co-operated with the Red Cross on the following programs: sewing knitting, and drive for funds. Home demonstration clubs had Red Cross

chairman who worked through the district red cross chairman. The agent carried sewing from the sewing room to the women and the completed garments back to the red cross room. The red cross work done by the women was reported in VI-2-c.

9. Other

The agent would like to say here that she co-operated with all agencies in the county and tried to make a good county wide program, and she has received good co-operation from all agencies especially from Mrs. Mary Gilland, Home Economist for the Virginia Public Service, Mr. R. L. Lacy, County Superintendent of schools, Miss Iena Bryant County Health Nurse, and Mrs. Betsy Booker of the Welfare office.

VII. APPRASIAL OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTY

Perhaps the most valuable contribution made to the rural people was the information and materials given them on production of food and conservation of food, clothing, household furnishings and equipment during these war times it is hard to buy new pieces of household furniture and equipment and people have been anxious to conserve and use what they have.

Another contribution to the county was the help given rural people in understanding and meeting the changing situations by training leaders, club community and neighborhood leaders to understand the new programs as they appeared they could explain them to their groups, by securing first aid speakers to train people what to do in case of emergency in this time of shortage of doctors and explaining how those at home were helping win the war by conservation, salvage, increased production and good management.