

not members of organized clubs and in this manner it has helped to inform more people of the Extension Program.

In reviving the Board of Agriculture setting up the Home Economics Committees and the Commodity Groups and with the help of the Home Demonstration and 4-H Programs, Extension work should grow in this county.

XIV. Appraisal of Year's Work

The Agents believe that the program during 1956 has contributed to better homemaking through improved practices thereby allowing the homemaker more free time to be with her family.

With many homemakers in this county going to work in stores and factories to supplement their income has helped to raise their standards of living.

With just one high school in the county that has many extra-curricular activities, the Agents find it very difficult to work with the 4-H boys and girls in the high school. It is becoming more important each year to organize community 4-H Clubs and eventually have no in-school clubs. Of course, this is a long time goal that will take many years to accomplish.

The program for 1956 helped rural families with some phases of clothing, housing, food, house furnishing, landscaping, health, and safety. Leaders are doing a fair job in giving demonstrations at their club meetings and it is hoped that gradually they will increase the number of demonstrations given to at least 6 or 8 out of the 12.

For those clubs that meet at night, the Agents attend two of their regular meetings during the year. This makes it necessary for those clubs to select good leaders that will give the demonstrations in the local clubs.

Through the work on the Program Projection and Farm and Home Development, the Agents feel that the Extension Program has been strengthened. These two phases of the program involve people who are

workers in the county, district, and state. The Agents attend other professional workers meetings and professional workers attend the Extension meetings.

D. Elected Representatives

The Agents try to keep informed on developments on the local, state, and national levels but do not express their views or enter into discussion of a political nature.

E. Commerical Interest

The Agents cooperate on educational phases of work but they do not endorse any particular product for any commercial firm. During 1956 the Agents have worked with Virginia Electric and Power Company, Mecklenburg REA, Welfare Department, Red Cross, Health Department, Cancer, and T.B. Associations.

XIII. Professional Improvement

The Agents read professional books and publications such as: What's New In Home Economist, The Journal Of Home Economist, Pratical Home Economist, The Farm Journal, Southern Planter, Country Gentlemen, Good Housekeeping, Forecast For Home Economics, Agricultural Leaders Digest, Extension News, 4-H Club Letter, and the National 4-H Club News. The Agents have attended all district meetings. The Agents are members of the District and State Agents Associations and the State Home Economics Association. They also read the daily paper, and the three local county papers.

The Agents attended the 4-H Short Course, District Camp, The Institute of Rural Affairs, and Agents Conference.

the Agents felt that this would help the parents to better understand the Extension Program.

The County Agent approached the Lions Club on this matter and before the Lions Club had an opportunity to make up their minds the President of the Bank of Halifax asked for the opportunity of sponsoring the banquet. This banquet has been held for the past three years now and it is very seldom that we ever have a county winner not to appear at the banquet.

Another way in which this banquet helps is to bring the work of the Extension Service before the people in that all of the members of the Board of Directors of the Bank, all members of the Board of Supervisors, and the School Superintendent are invited to attend.

XIII. Public Relations

A. Co-workers

Weekly conferences are held by the Agents to familiarize each other with the work to be done the following week. The Agents discuss and cooperate with co-workers on any problems that arise.

B. General Public

The Extension office has a daily radio program in which they bring families the latest information on farming and homemaking. Weekly news articles are written for the local papers. The Agents practice good public relations in all of their activities.

C. Other Professional Workers

The Agents cooperate and work with other professional

The activities carried on by the church and the 4-H Club makes up the social activities of the community. This club participates in the Danville Fair each year, and the Fair Association gives a \$75.00 prize for the club winning the most ribbons. The Calvary Club has won this prize for the past eight years. They participate in the Halifax County Fair each year winning at least one half of all the 4-H prizes given.

The club members have a Rural Life Program each year planned and conducted by the 4-H members. They have a 100% record completion. Five of the club members competed this year in the District Contest.

The Agents feel that the accomplishments of this club is due to a large extent to the interest and cooperation of all the parents. At monthly club meetings there are as many parents present as club members.

F. Achievement in 4-H Club Work

The 4-H Recognition Banquet for the county winners sponsored by the Bank of Halifax is a significant achievement of Halifax County. Halifax County is so large that transportation is a real problem for some of our boys and girls. At the Achievement Days in the past only a small number of the county winners came, in that this affair was held in the Court House each year on Saturday morning.

The Agents talked the situation over and decided to ask the Lions Club to sponsor a banquet and at this banquet present the County Awards. The 4-H Club members and parents would be invited and

Extension Program and what is had to offer her community. In her club she has had one national winner, eight state winners, who received trips to Club Congress, and fourteen district contest winners, and a large number of county winners.

D. Activities and Accomplishments of an Outstanding Family

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Williamson and family are very outstanding in the Calvary community. The entire family which is composed of the mother, father, and four boys are very cooperative with the Extension Service. Their oldest son is a junior at WPI and their second and third sons are in high school and the youngest son is in grade school.

All of the boys are 4-H Club members. Caret was a national winner and Tevis has been a state winner. The other two boys are following closely in their footsteps and some day will be district and state winners.

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson serve as 4-H Leaders, with Mrs. Williamson being the strongest leader. The family carries out Extension recommendations and plays a big part in encouraging others in the community to do the same. They hold demonstrations on their farm and encourage others to come.

E. Activities and Accomplishments of a Club

The Calvary Club is again this year the outstanding 4-H Club in Halifax County. This is a very closely knit community with the church being the most important activity in the community and the 4-H Club second.

C. Activities and Accomplishments of Outstanding Leader

One of the outstanding leaders in the county is Mrs. L. S. Williamson of the Calvary 4-H Club. When 4-H work was started in this community, about 20 years ago, Mrs. Williamson showed very little interest in the work. As her children came along and joined the 4-H Club, she became more interested but just having finished high school she felt very inadequate in helping the children.

Through the years she has developed confidence in her self and in her community. She is entirely responsible for the 100% record completion of this club in 1956. She is such an enthusiastic person, attends all the club meetings, and she works right along with the club members. She is very active in helping the boys and girls prepare records for the county, district, state, and national contests. Her son was a National Winner two years ago in Field Crops.

She is responsible for training all the girls in her club in demonstrations. The Agents have made only two club meetings this year. This club held their own Achievement Program for a number of years and the Agents judged their exhibits and showed the parents and club members how to select exhibits. Mrs. Williamson takes a leading part in assisting the boys and girls in selecting their exhibits.

The Agents feel that the Extension Service played a major role in helping Mrs. Williamson to gain the confidence in herself that she needed to work with these boys and girls, it helped her to develop the skills she needed in training boys and girls to give demonstrations and select exhibits, and it helped her to become familiar with the

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Growth of A-H Club Project Leadership	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No. club officers	0	0	150	156	156
No. adult project leaders	7	8	6	6	9
No. junior project leaders					8
No. result demonstrations	0	0	0	0	0
No. training meetings by specialists	0	0	0	0	0
by agent	2	3	0	0	6
by district agent	0	0	0	0	0
by members club dept.	0	0	0	0	0
by others	0	0	0	0	0
Total attendance at leader training meetings	11	43	0	0	38
No. A-H leaders trained individually	9	8	6	6	17
No. club meetings held by leader without agent	15	22	34	32	37
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	72	84	0	17	16
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	15	18	29	30	33
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	78	90	65	70	84

B. Growth of Leadership

<u>HD Club Project Leadership</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
<u>No. project leaders(subject matter)</u>	38	40	38	34	44
<u>No. Fed. Program Chairmen</u>	19	20	19	19	22
<u>No. Program Development Leaders</u>	0	0	19	19	22
<u>No. result demonstrators</u>	0	0	14	6	7
<u>No. training meetings by specialists</u>	5	6	7	4	2
<u>by district agents</u>	0	0	1	0	1
<u>by agent</u>	2	3	2	1	3
<u>Attendance at all training meetings</u>	127	171	194	184	136
<u>No. meetings without an agent</u>	96	108	79	94	87
<u>No. meetings leaders assisted</u>	51	40	12	92	81
<u>Demonstrations by leaders</u>	0	0	79	94	79
<u>Talks and discussions by leaders</u>	0	0	550	515	410

2. Program Development

In the Home Demonstration Clubs there are 22 Program Development Leaders. At the spring Planning Meeting the District Agent trained these leaders to conduct the program planning in their clubs, and these same leaders attended the fall Planning Meeting and helped set up the program for 1957.

There are 25 Program Development Leaders in the 4-H Clubs. The Vice-President serves in this capacity, and they are responsible for a program and demonstration conducted by the club members each month in the clubs.

3. Subject Matter

There are 44 Subject Matter Leaders in the Home Demonstration Clubs. They were trained by the District Agent at six meetings to give demonstrations. These leaders gave 79 demonstrations and they assisted with 61 demonstrations.

The 4-H Clubs have 12 Subject Matter Leaders. Most of the leaders serve as Organizational Leaders and Subject Matter Leaders. They gave 47 demonstrations and trained the club members to give demonstrations in the club, in the county, district, and state. They encourage the members to complete their records, and in all community clubs there is no problem in securing records.

as Junior Leaders, assist in collecting 4-H records, and offer encouragement and help to younger club members. The All Stars sponsor the public speaking and Share-The-Fun Contest each year in the county.

F. County Young Men and Women Board

There are no organized clubs of young men and women in Halifax County under the supervision of the Extension Agents.

G. County 4-H Project Planning Committee

This committee is composed of Honor Club members, as stated under D. Each boy and girl has a vote on the in-school project that they want and this committee helps to set up the monthly demonstrations. They also decide what goes into the 4-H Year Book. This group sets up all extra activities and dates for such activities.

XI. Leadership

A. Contributions of Volunteer Leaders

1. Organizational

There are 88 organizational leaders in the Home Demonstration Clubs. This includes the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and reporter from each club. They plan club meetings, conduct all meetings, appoint committees and have full responsibility of the club business with the support of the club members.

There are 17 organizational leaders for 4-H Clubs. These people make arrangements for the meeting place and announce the time of the meetings. In some cases they assist the club members in planning the club program. In most of the community clubs the organizational leaders also serve as project leaders.

4-H organizations. This club held two meetings in 1956. One was a Planning Meeting and the other an Initiation Ceremony and county wide picnic for 4-H members and their parents. The Honor Club worked toward the following goals in 1956:

- 1.. An exhibit for National 4-H Club Week.
2. More recreation for club members.
3. All Honor Club Members to complete and turn in records; to encourage and help other club members to complete and turn in records.
4. To have each Honor Club Member to try to be a Junior Leader.
5. To discuss in April of each year the in-school projects.

In the month of May each club member votes on the project they would like to carry the next year.

The Honor Club met with the Agents in June and set up the program for 1956 - 57. At the Initiation Ceremony and picnic sponsored by the Honor Club approximately 250 people attended. Fourteen new Honor Club Members were initiated into the club.

The Honor Club sponsors a 4-H Booth at the County Fair each year to raise money to promote club work in the county. This year they realized \$108.00 out of this project.

E. County All Stars

The County All Star Chapter works very closely with the Honor Club. They had a dinner meeting this year and at that time they selected the All Stars to be recommended to the State Chapter. They serve

material to use at each of the monthly meetings.

B. County Agriculture Extension Service Board

The County Board has not been too active in the past. In 1956 this board was revived. The men have had commodity groups for a number of years but the only phase that the women have participated in is the poultry and garden committees.

In 1956 the homemakers had the following committees: Food and Nutrition, Consumer Information, Youth, Garden, and Poultry. The chairman of each of these committees is serving on the Agricultural Board along with the chairmen from the commodity groups plus some business and professional people in the county.

In 1956 a dinner meeting was held of the County Agricultural Board Members and at this time the chairmen of each commodity and Home Economics group made their recommendations for the county program.

The Board of Agriculture adopted their plan of work from these committee reports. Mr. John Cole was elected chairman of the board to replace Mr. W. S. Adkisson, Jr. The Agents feel that more interest and enthusiasm has been created in the Extension Program by this group. It meant involving people in the program who were not members of the organized clubs in the county.

C. County A-H Council

There is no organized County A-H Council in Halifax County. The Honor Club serves as the governing body for the A-H Clubs.

D. County Honor Club.

The County Honor Club is one of the most active county

During National Home Demonstration Week local members wrote news articles for the paper and made radio talks.

Forty-eight club members attended the District Meeting of the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs that was held in Farmville.

X. Organizations

A. County Home Demonstration Club Committee

This committee is composed of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, Federation Goal Chairman, Presidents of all the local clubs and Program Development Chairman from each club. This committee held two meetings in 1956. The spring meeting was held in April and at this time plans were made for club members to attend the District Meeting. The program for the county was reviewed and the program chairmen were trained by the District Agent.

The committee voted to pay the expenses of an adult leader to the 4-H Short Course at VPI. The fall meeting of this committee was held in August. Each club brought in suggestions for the 1957 Home Demonstration Club program and this group set the program up for the coming year at this meeting.

A Year Book Committee was appointed by the president. This committee was composed of Mrs. Jim Weatherford, Chairman, Mrs. Malcolm Bradley, and Mrs. John Lovelace. This committee secured it's sponsor and set up the Year Book.

The Federation Goal Chairman trained the club chairmen for their demonstrations each month and she gave them some suggested

VIII. Young Men and Young Women's Work

There are no organized groups of young men and women in Halifax County but there are women between the ages of 18 and 30 in the Home Demonstration Clubs. These young women make a big contribution to their local clubs and to the county program. In the planning of the club programs consideration is always given to the needs of young women.

IX. Scope of Work

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
<u>No. H. D. Clubs or Groups</u>	19	20	19	19	22
<u>Membership</u>	550	550	442	450	475
<u>No. A-H Clubs</u>	32	32	25	26	26
<u>Membership</u>	700	657	419	420	373
<u>No. other families reached</u>	6112	6112	1500	1500	1550
<u>No. different families reached</u>	5002	4950	1400	1400	1450

B. What Was Done To Increase Scope Of Work

To help acquaint the public with what clubs are accomplishing there were seven educational booths at the county fair. The Agents have two radio programs each week over the local station WHLF and one each week over WBTV in Danville. They feel that these programs have helped to acquaint the public with the total Extension Program.

As a result of Program Projection Work, three new Home Demonstration Clubs were organized this year. These committees were composed of non-Home Demonstration Club members.

Grading Contest. Olivia Chaney was state winner in Poultry Achievement and received a trip to Club Congress.

4. Camp

There were 29 girls attending District Camp at Holiday Lake. Cookie Armistead, Patsy Carr, and Joyce Conner attended as Junior Leaders, and Frances Weatherford attended as an Adult Leader.

5. 4-H Electric Congress

Lucy Armistead was county winner in the Farm and Home Electric Project. She received the trip to Electric Congress in Richmond and found it to be very educational.

6. Danville Fair

The Calvary 4-H Club participated in the Danville Fair and received the \$75.00 for the eighth consecutive year for receiving the most points on ribbons won.

7. County Fair

The boys and girls had an excellent exhibits at the county fair. Elaine Owen was the high scoring individual and won \$62.00. There seems to be a big improvement in the quality of the exhibits made.

④ 8. Rural Life Sunday

The Calvary 4-H Club and the Wilson Memorial 4-H Club had a Rural Life Service this year. The program was planned and carried out by the boys and girls. They both gave a very impressive program and both of these services were well attended by parents and community friends.

Revue, Ann Mills - Frozen Foods, Lucy Armistead - Meal Preparation, Barbara Bass - Dairy Foods, Agnes Barksdale - Home Improvement, Elaine Owen - Canning, Betty Buckner - Public Speaking, and Mary Scott Blanks - Bread. All of these girls participated in the District Contest and all of them won a blue ribbon with the exception of Barbara Bass who won a red ribbon.

2. Achievement Program

The Bank of Halifax sponsored the 4-H Recognition Banquet in December for all county winners and one parent. The Board of Supervisors, School Superintendent, the Board of Directors of the Bank, and the Bank President attended. Reporters and photographers from the local papers attended and gave some excellent publicity to the winners.

This banquet was one of the most successful 4-H Achievement Program ever carried out in the county. It has done a great deal to promote 4-H Club work in the county. Mr. Bill Turner, Associate State 4-H Club Agent, was the guest speaker, and Hudson Reese, President of the Honor Club, presided over the meeting. The county awards were made by Roland Coles, Louise B. Tune, and Christine Searcy.

3. Short Course

There were 12 girls from Halifax County attending the State Short Course, these included the district winners. The group was accompanied by Mrs. Wilma Owen, an Adult Leader, and the Home Demonstration Agent. Miriam Harding participated in the State Dress Revue, Ann Mills - Frozen Foods, Mary Scott Blanks - Bread, and Elaine Owen - Canning, Joe Weatherford and Dixie Gravitte participated in the Egg

The chief obstacles in solving these problems as listed by the committee are as following: a convenient meeting place is hard to secure, lack of interest by parents of 4-H club members, size of the county, and getting pertinent information on 4-H Club work to the masses.

The long time goals set up by the Youth Committee are as following: to have a community 4-H club in each section of the county, to have the fourth and fifth grade 4-H Clubs meet separately, to increase the 4-H Club enrollment to 1,000 club members, to have more recreation in the 4-H Club program, and to secure at least two local leaders for each community club.

The action needed to reach these goals is as following: to use radio, news papers, and TV resources to the best of the advantage to inform the people of the 4-H Club activities, to secure local leaders through personal visits, to write letters to the parents of all 4-H Club members now enrolled in school clubs asking their help in organizing community clubs, to contact principals of all the elementary schools in the county and discuss the possibility of meeting the fourth and fifth grade clubs separately, to allow the first six months of the 4-H Club year as an indoctrination course in 4-H Club work, and to have parties or some form of outside recreation in each 4-H Club.

B. Other Activities

1. County Contest

A County contest was held in all homemaking projects to determine the county winners. These were: Miriam Harding - Dress

In April of each year the 4-H Projects are discussed with all the boys and girls. In May they vote on their in-school project for the next year. The Honor Club meets in June to help set up the program for the coming year. In October when enrollment cards are filled out, all projects and activities are listed on these cards. The club members are given a yearbook to take home with them which has all of the projects listed. They discuss this with their parents, and what project they should take in addition, to the in-school project. Then in November these cards are returned and the club members select the projects that they would like to carry.

For each person coming into the club for the first time, they are given a project manual describing each project, the requirements, equipment needed, and what they should get out of the project and the supporting projects.

Youth Committee

This committee was composed of one person from each magisterial district plus three outstanding Junior leaders in the county. This committee decided that one of the major problems in the county was to reach more boys and girls through 4-H Club work. Another definite need that was brought out by this group is the fact that more parents of 4-H Club members are needed to serve as adult leaders.

This committee also stressed as a need in the county more recreation for club members. Due to the fact that the majority of the 4-H Club work is carried on through in school rather than community 4-H Clubs, it is a problem to have very much recreation in the total 4-H Club program.

The objectives were: to make the boys and girls more safety conscious, to recognize and correct safety hazards, and to help make their homes and farms a safer place to live.

The methods used were: monthly demonstrations by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, news articles, radio talks, and bulletins from WPI.

There were 160 girls enrolled in this project and there were 151 to complete it.

Each month the girls reported the hazards that had been found and corrected since the last meeting. A great deal of interest was created in this project, and the girls reported the project to be most interesting and helpful.

7. Electricity

To promote better living the objectives were: to help save time and energy in the home through the use of electricity, and to create a desire to purchase electrical equipment that will help the club members to do a better and more economical job.

The methods used were: demonstrations by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, bulletins from WPI, radio talks, and news articles and home visits.

There were 12 girls enrolled in this project and all of them completed their projects. Lucy Armistead was County Winner and received a trip to Electric Congress in Richmond. Several of the club members had exhibits at the Science Fair held at school and they made exhibits at the County Fair.

There were 13 girls to enter this project and 12 of them completed it. Some of the girls exhibited some of their house furnishing articles at the county fair that they had made. Agnes Barksdale was County Winner and won a blue ribbon in the District Contest.

5. Garden

The objectives in this project were: to encourage the girls to grow a year-round garden, to plant a variety of vegetables, to practice good cultivation methods, and to help the girls to realize the importance of a good garden.

The methods used were: a contest sponsored by Sears Roebuck, visits by the Agents, bulletins from WPI, radio programs, and news articles.

There were 13 girls to enter this project and 11 of them completed it.

As a result of the work done, Agnes Barksdale placed first, Becky Dunn - second, and Mary Scott Blanks - third. The girls who entered into this project had an excellent exhibit at the county fair.

The County Special Interest Committee on Gardening worked with the adults and youth. The committee encouraged the youth as well as the adults to plant a year-round garden, preserve the surplus food from the garden, and to use recommended practices in gardening.

6. Safety

All of the in-school clubs in Halifax County carried Safety as a project.

the County Fair and 10 of these girls entered the Dress Revue at the County Fair for their age group.

3. Housekeeping

To promote better family living the objectives were: to encourage the girls to assume some responsibility in the home, to develop skills in cleaning methods, to learn to save time and energy in housekeeping.

The methods used to accomplish these objectives were: letters to the mothers explaining the project and asking for their help and cooperation, a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting, demonstrations by the Agents, Adult and Junior Leaders, bulletins from WPI, radio programs, and news articles.

There were 81 girls enrolled in this project with 51 completing it. Many of the girls are using baskets to carry their cleaning supplies from room to room, dusting aids have been made, and some of the girls have set up a schedule for their housekeeping activities.

4. Room Improvement

To promote better family living the objectives in this project were: to help girls realize their needs, to make the best use of existing furnishing, plans for improvements, and to make simple furnishings.

The methods used were: letters to the mothers explaining the project, a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting, demonstrations by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, bulletins from WPI, news articles, and radio talks.

was done on the selection of ready made garments and what to look for in buying such garments.

The methods used were: letters to the mothers of the girls explaining the project and asking for her help and cooperation, a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting, demonstration by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, home visits by the Agents, bulletins from WPI, radio talks, and news articles.

There were 90 girls who enrolled in this project and 50 girls completed it.

As a result of work done in this project, 24 girls participated in the A-H Dress Revue at the Halifax County Fair and the girls also exhibited the garments that they had made. Miriam Harding was County and District Winner and participated in the State Dress Revue Contest.

Clothing Unit III - This project was carried by the
① younger A-H Club members and the objectives were: to create a interest in sewing, to learn how to construct simple articles, to learn how to use a sewing machine, and to encourage the little girls to take pride in their work.

The methods used were: a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting, letters to the mothers of the girls explaining the project, demonstrations by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, bulletins from WPI, radio programs and news articles.

There were 95 girls enrolled in this project with 85 of them completing. These little girls exhibited their simple garments at

thought to be a teenage nutrition problem. As a result of this during the month of November a survey is being made in all of the schools in the county. The results will not be tabulated until December but it will give this group something to work on next year.

Food Preservation - The objectives were: to teach proper methods of canning and freezing, to encourage girls to plan the family meals, and to help with the preservation of food to meet these requirements.

The methods used were: demonstrations by the Agents, letters to the mothers of the girls explaining the project, news articles, radio programs, and a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting.

There were 10 girls to enroll in this project and all of them completed.

As a result of work done eight of these girls entered the Sears Roebuck Canning Project and one of these girls, Mary Scott Blanks, was District Winner. In the County Contest Agnes Barksdale placed first, Carolyn Lacks - second, and Mary Scott Blanks - third. There has been a definite increase in the amount of food frozen and a decrease in the amount canned.

2. Clothing

Clothing Unit II - To promote better family living in Halifax County the objectives were: to help these girls make a plan for their clothing needs, to develop skills in the construction of clothing, to learn better sewing methods and to know what to look for in the selection of materials and patterns. This year some work

demonstrations by the Agents, Adult and Junior Leaders, radio talks, news articles, and bulletins from WPI. A Mother-Daughter Training Meeting was held in June. Since Halifax County is a tobacco county, the Agents find it very difficult to get the girls together after the first of July for project work so for that reason Mother-Daughter Training Meetings are held in all homemaking projects.

Sixty-four girls enrolled in this project and a total of forty completed it.

Mary Scott Blanks was the County and District Winner in Bread Making and she participated in the State Contest. The girls entered some of their biscuits at the county fair.

Meal Preparation - The objectives were: to encourage the girls to plan and prepare well-balanced diets for the family, to learn to save time and energy in meal preparation, and to especially work on including green, raw, and leafy vegetables in the diet.

The methods used were: letters to the mothers of the girls explaining the project and encouraging them to help their daughters, news articles, radio program, demonstrations by the Agents, Adult, and Junior Leaders, and a Mother-Daughter Training Meeting.

There were 118 girls enrolled in this project and 80 girls completed.

As a result of work done in this project, Lucy Armistead was County Winner, and won a blue ribbon in the District Contest. The Home Economics Committee on Foods and Nutrition recognized what they

The Agents discussed Farm and Home Development with each Home Economics Committee, with the County Home Demonstration Committee, and with the Board of Agriculture.

C. Progress of Families

The Beece Wooding family in the Sutherlin Community has made more progress than any other family that the Agents have worked with. Of course, inventory has been completed, a benchmark has been made, and goals set up.

The Home Agent has assisted the homemaker in keeping complete records this year so that next year a budget can be set up by the family. They have worked on a plan to conserve time and energy, and have done considerable work on a food preservation plan for the family.

The County Agent has taken soil samples of all fields on the farm, made recommendations on crop rotation, and has helped make some suggestions on the operation of dairying that has proved helpful to the family.

VII. 4-H Club Work

A. Project Work

1. Food and Nutrition

Bread - The objectives in the bread making project were: to teach accurate measurements, proper methods of making bread, and to create interest in the younger girls assuming some of the responsibilities of the home.

The methods used were letters to the mothers explaining the project and asking her to encourage her daughter to do a good job,

The Paces Home Demonstration Club selected as their special project helping the needy families in the community. They have prepared boxes of food and clothing and presented them to these families.

The Home Demonstration Clubs throughout the county work with the Community Chest, T.B., and the Civil Defense groups in the county by distributing literature.

VI. Farm and Home Development

A. Method used in Selecting Families

The County and Home Agents selected the farm and home development families jointly by discussing the families that they felt could benefit most from the program and families that they felt would cooperate. Since this was something just being started in the county the Agents wanted families that could show some results to their neighbors and friends. They wanted families that were emotionally stable and would lay a firm foundation and get off to a good start.

The James W. Adams, Sr. family, James W. Adams, Jr. family, the N. H. Wooding family, and the Reece Wooding family were contacted and the program explained. The County Agent and Home Agent made their first three visits together. These families were selected in the summer of 1955, and some work done with these families but a great deal of help has been given these families in 1956 also. No new families have been contacted in 1956 due to a critical shortage of personnel in the Extension Office.

B. How Local Leaders were Acquainted with Farm and Home Development Approach

fair booth to assist with this project.

The Clover Home Demonstration Club had two community projects; one was to keep the town cemetery clean, the other was to sponsor pre-natal clinic. They had special clean up days in which the Home Demonstration Club members served lunch and help with some of the lighter work and the men did the heavy work. This club also sponsors a pre-natal clinic, they furnish the room, provide secretarial help, and a county nurse and doctor spend one day each month at the clinic.

The Mt. Laurel Home Demonstration Club have one of the most modern up-to-date community houses in the county. They have set up long time goals and each year they select what they think they can accomplish during the year. They serve a community turkey dinner each year at Thanksgiving to raise money to support their project.

The Sutherlin Home Demonstration Club members are especially interested in flowers. They have a flower show each year as a special activity, and at the October meeting they exchange bulbs and shrubs.

The Halifax Home Demonstration Club selected as their special project for the year civil defense. They had several extra meetings with an outside speaker on civil defense. Movies were shown to the group on different occasions, and they set up a fair booth on civil defense to help make the public more conscious on what the average family can do to protect themselves.

As a result of the excellent work done by this group on civil defense, the Woodmen of the World presented the club with an American Flag.

The County Chairman attended the work shop at the Institute of Rural Affairs on Family Life and she has done an outstanding job of planning the program for 1957.

13. Consumer Information Committee

This committee was composed of one person from each magisterial district. None of these ladies were Home Demonstration members. This committee felt that the average family did not spend their money wisely due to a lack of information and the ability to recognize their needs.

The long time goals set up by this committee were: to make information available on the selection of household furniture and equipment, to encourage families who needed to get an adequate and convenient water supply and to increase the number of farm homes with running water.

This committee felt that bulletin racks in local stores throughout the county with timely information available would be one means of informing the public. The Halifax County Farm Bureau had twenty-five racks made for the Extension use. Timely information of interest to the consumer on foods, clothing, housing, and house furnishings was given through news articles, radio talks, and mimeographed material.

B. Community Projects

Most of the Home Demonstration Clubs selected a community project to work on during the year. Winns Creek Home Demonstration Club selected their church. They are improving the grounds and building a parsonage. They are raising money to assist with this project by holding bake sales, selling brunswick stew, and they used the money from their

Demonstration Club had a booth at the county fair on the Home Medicine Cabinet.

.11. Social Security

The objectives were: to inform farm families about social security, such as what you have to pay, when you have to pay it, and the benefits derived.

The methods used were: a Leader Training Meeting by Miss Helen Alverson, Home Management Specialist from VPI, radio talks, news articles, mimeographed material and the help of a representative from the Danville Social Security Office in conducting county club meetings.

As a result of these talks many farm families are better prepared to make their returns. The meetings were open to both men and women and club members were urged to invite neighbors and friends.

12. Federation Goal -- Family Life

The objectives were: to recognize the importance of healthy family life in making our home, communities, and world a better place in which to live.

The methods used were: two monthly meetings for a discussion on Family Life, a family picnic, and a five minute report at the other ten meetings on some phase of family life, radio talks, news articles, and a Leader Training Meeting held by the County Federation Goal Chairman.

As a result of these demonstrations the clubs felt that they had gained some very worthwhile information but they were not willing to select a new federation goal in 1957, as they felt a need and desire to study family life again in 1957.

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As a result of the efforts of these two groups there has been more requests for help in culling poultry, poultry bulletins, and the hatcherymen say that homemakers are now requesting the type of baby chicks needed, such as those breeds for production and broilers and etc.

9. Landscape

The Agents had the opportunity of working with three churches and a large number of homes on landscaping problems this year. A month was not set aside for a demonstration or discussion on landscaping but there has been many individual requests. The Agents have had radio talks and news articles on this subject.

10. Home Medicine Cabinet

In the month of September the Home Demonstration Clubs had a demonstration and discussion on the Home Medicine Cabinet.

The objectives were: to help homemakers to know the desirable articles that should be kept in a home medicine cabinet, to help them realize the importance of safe storage of medicines, and to form the habit of discarding old prescriptions.

The methods used were: radio talks, news articles, mimeographed material, a Leader Training Meeting by Miss Jerry Scott, County Health Nurse, and demonstrations through the local clubs.

As a result of this demonstration club members reported cleaning out medicine cabinets, moving them up to a height that a small child can not reach them, and keeping a first aid book in the home medicine cabinet. As a result of this demonstration the Bethel Home

monthly garden letter to each of the garden chairmen in the Home Demonstration Clubs and this material was presented each month at the club meetings.

As a result of this work there was an increase in the number of garden exhibits at the county fair. There is still a lack in the variety of the vegetables grown in the home garden. It is a long time educational process to get farm families to use vegetables that they have never grown before.

A county committee with one representative from each magisterial districts on gardens recommended that every farm family be urged to have a garden, plant a variety of vegetables in order to have a balanced diet, and to have as near a year round garden as possible.

The same methods were used by this committee as was mentioned in the Home Demonstration Clubs.

As a result of this committee and the work done by the Home Demonstration Clubs the requests from the Home Agent's Office for canning and freezing bulletins were doubled.

8. Poultry

The objectives were: to have a good poultry flock on every farm, to create more interest in poultry work, and to develop better poultry practices.

The methods used were carried out by the Home Demonstration Clubs and the Poultry County Committee. These methods included a poultry letter each month, radio talks, news articles, mimeographed material and a special poultry contest sponsored by Sears Roebuck for the 4-H Club members.

During the month of July the Home Demonstration Clubs had a discussion and demonstration on, Selection, Gathering, and Drying Material For Winter Arrangements.

The objectives were to learn how to use to the best advantage native material for arrangements, proper procedure for drying material, and selecting the right container for the material to be used.

The methods used were: a Leader Training Meeting in June held by the Agents, a Local Leader, and the Home Agent from Charlotte County, mimeographed material, radio talks, and news articles, and a demonstration by a local leader in the clubs.

As a result of this demonstration the Oak Level Home Demonstration Club had a booth at the county fair on Winter Arrangements and placed first. The homemakers feel that they have learned how to bring beauty and color into the home in the winter months without having to spend any money. It was one of the most popular demonstrations of the year with four clubs having extra special interest meetings at which time they studied about the arrangement of flowers.

7. Garden

The objectives were: to help homemakers in Halifax County feel the need of having a good fall garden as well as a good spring garden, to help homemakers improve the family diet by including a larger variety of vegetables in the home garden, and to help the farm families realize that a good home garden is important not only to the diet but also to cut down on the grocery bill.

The methods used were: radio talks, news articles, a

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that they have made that big strides forward in installing water systems is being made in the county. Halifax County will always be low on a percentage basis due to the large number of sharecrop families. The owner in most instances have water in the home but does feel that he is financially able to install a water system in the tenant houses.

A Water System Committee composed of the Electric Suppliers, Farmers, Pump Dealers, Health Department, and the Extension Service was set up in January of 1956. This committee worked hard and tried to get out publicity on the home water system, tried to set up a demonstration on installing a water system on a farm in the county, and a meeting of the general public on the home water supply.

The water systems demonstration did not materialize due to a lack of interest on the part of the dealers and the general public. There were only five people and they were professional people, who attended the meeting that was held for the public. The committee disbanded after this meeting as they felt that it was not worthwhile at the present time. All of the pump dealers have more work to do than they can do, so they are not interested in donating prizes or putting on a demonstration in the county.

The farm families complain that they do not have funds for installing water systems yet they buy television sets and new cars. It is a long time educational process in getting these families to recognize their needs.

©

6. Rural Arts

in the home, how to take care of the finish on the furniture, and how to apply a new finish.

The methods used to accomplish these objectives were: a Leader Training Meeting held by Miss Ruth Jamison, House Furnishings Specialist from VPI, radio talks, news articles, mimeographed material, and demonstrations by local leaders in their clubs.

As a result of these methods the homemakers have learned how to apply and care for a finish on furniture and how to select furniture to go with what they already have on hand. They are beginning to demand that local merchants stock furniture of simple lines and that which is easy to care for. The Consumer Information and Home Economics Committee also had some suggestions on house furniture that will be referred to later.

5. Housing

The homemakers of Halifax County are doing a great deal toward better housing. Although a special month was not set aside for a housing demonstration. The Home Agents have made on the average of four home visits a month relating to housing problems. At many of the club meetings homemakers have asked questions and for advice on housing problems.

Many new houses are being built in the county and there is a great deal of remodeling of old houses. Big strides forward have been made in the adding of storage space in old homes.

The census figures of 1950 show a very low percentage of farm homes having a water system. The Agents are sure from the contacts

The month of October was devoted to Systematic House-keeping. The homemaker felt a need of knowing how to do a systematic job that would help them to save time and energy. They wanted to know what was the best equipment available to do the job and they wanted a special study on waxes.

The methods used to satisfy their needs were: a Leader Training Meeting held by Miss Helen Alverson, Home Management Specialist from VPI, mimeographed material, radio talks, news articles, demonstrations by local leaders in their clubs showing the different types of equipment and their uses.

As the results of this demonstration, the homemakers reported it to be one of the most helpful demonstrations of the year. The majority of the homemakers say that now they know what wax to select for a specific use, what to look for in buying cleaning equipment, and how to go about it in a systematic way.

4. House Furnishings

The homemakers in Halifax County felt a very definite need for some information on house furnishings. For the year 1956 they selected two demonstrations to help them with their needs. They were: What Goes With What In Furniture, and Furniture Finishes and Care.

© The objectives set up by the club members for improving family living were: to help the homemakers select suitable furniture to go with what they already had, to help them plan and select very carefully a few pieces of furniture at a time that will blend with the other furniture

2. Clothing

The homemakers in Halifax County lead such busy lives that they have very little time to devote to home sewing. In the 1956 program they expressed a desire for a demonstration on, The Selection and Care of Fabrics, and The Selection of Children Clothes.

The objectives for improving family living are: to help the woman know what fabrics are on the market, the care and use of these fabrics, some points to look for in buying children's clothes, such as care, finish of garment, safety features, and the features that make the garment easy to get into and out of.

The methods used were: radio talks, news articles, a Leader Training Meeting held by Miss Iva Byrd Johnson, Extension Clothing Specialist from VPI, and demonstrations by leaders in local clubs.

The results were not what the Agents had hoped for or expected, in that none of the clubs asked for a tour to a local department store. The Agents felt that a tour after the demonstration would have helped the homemaker to see more clearly what is on the market and what to look for in buying. However, as a result of these demonstrations two fair booths were set up on children clothes that brought out some very important points. Many homemakers have said that they are now saving money on the up-keep of garments as a result of these demonstrations, in that they select fabrics that they can wash rather than dry clean. The Home Economics County Committee on Consumer Education also brought out some points on clothing that will be referred to later.

3. Home Management

The committee felt that some of the major needs in the county were to educate all age groups and especially all homemakers with information concerning adequate diets, to have all age groups and economical levels to feel the need of an adequate diet and to encourage the production and consumption of fruits, vegetables, and milk whenever possible.

The committee felt that one of the great difficulties was to get people to recognize their needs.

The long time goals in this group were to reach as many homemakers as possible on the needs of the seven basic foods, and the preparing of foods to conserve food value, to raise the standard of living, to increase the consumption of milk to the minimum standard, to increase the production of small fruits, the home garden, meat, and poultry.

The immediate goals of this group were to reach 1,000 homemakers during 1956 with information on the seven basic foods, to improve teen-age nutrition, and to reach 40 4-H members with garden information.

The methods that this committee used were: radio talks, information through Home Demonstration Club Meeting, and the Sears Roebuck Garden Contest. A chart showing the seven basic foods was placed in each school in the county. Radio talks and news articles were given by the Home Agents.

This resulted in 58 of the 4-H boys and girls carrying gardening for a project, a nutritional survey to determine the present situation, request by two of the school lunch rooms for nutritional information and individual request for charts on the seven basic foods.

talks, news articles by the Agents, a Leader Training Meeting, mimeographed material, and demonstrations in the local clubs by the leaders.

As the results of these methods used, many of the Home Demonstration Clubs are serving refreshments for their club meetings and other community activities that contain milk. There is a tendency to get away from heavy refreshments and serve the light nourishing refreshments. Through the work of the Home Demonstration Clubs there has been a carry over into the community 4-H Clubs in serving refreshments that are more nourishing as well as being attractive and good to eat.

In January of this year a Home Economics County Committee on Foods and Nutrition was set up. One lady from each magisterial district who was not a Home Demonstration Club Member was visited by the Home Agent and was encouraged to attend this meeting. All districts were represented. After a general discussion on what the committee members knew about the food and nutrition needs of the county, they felt that they did not have sufficient information and would like to make a survey. Mrs. Dale Tetterton and Mrs. J. R. Oliver were appointed as a sub-committee to investigate the possibilities of making the survey.

It was decided that a survey would be made through the schools in the sixth grade. This survey questionnaire asked for all food eaten in the past twenty-four hours. Due to many complications in the county this survey was not made until November, so the results have yet to be tabulated. This committee will tabulate the results and have them available for the meeting in January of 1957.

South Boston is the largest town in the county with a population of approximately 8,000 and it is also one of the largest tobacco markets in the state.

Halifax is the county seat and is located near the center of the county.

There is only one high school in Halifax County with approximately 1,600 pupils. There are so many extra-curricular activities that it is extremely difficult for the boys and girls to attend 4-H Club Meetings. They are allowed only two cuts for a six weeks period and it is necessary for them to take a cut to attend the meeting. This causes our enrollment to drop each year with many of the boys and girls carrying 4-H work that are not members of an organized club.

V. Adult Work

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

The month of April was devoted to a demonstration on Light Refreshments. On March 20 Mrs. Mary Scott, Home Economist from Mecklenburg Co-op, trained the leaders for this demonstration.

The objectives were to help the women find some way to save time and energy in preparing light refreshments and yet have them attractive and nourishing. The women were interested in knowing what refreshments could be made in advance and frozen. The use of milk in light refreshments was something that all of the women felt should be stressed.

The methods used to carry out these objectives were: radio

IV. The County Situation as it affected the 1956 Program

Because Halifax County is the fourth largest in the state with an area of 814 square miles, the attendance at county wide meetings is affected due to the distance that many people must travel.

There are approximate 4700 farms in the county with tobacco as the main money crop. Meetings are held at a minimum during the summer months because all members of the family work in harvesting the tobacco crop. Tobacco farmers received a 12% cut in acreage in 1956 which greatly affected the income of our farm families. Many of our small farmers are being forced out of the farming business due to the cuts that have been made in tobacco acreage.

Most of the farms in Halifax County had some disease in their tobacco this year in spite of treating the soil and buying resistant seed.

Dairying and livestock production have gradually increased and of course, this means an increase of hay, grain, and pasture production.

Due to the tobacco situation, many farmers and homemakers have found it necessary to seek part-time or full-time employment in the Textile Mills, Shoe Factory, and Department Stores. More industry is being sort for the county to provide employment for these people.

Halifax County has an excellent net-work of hard surfaced roads. One of the greatest needs of the county is more telephones. Two communities are being served this year with telephones and it is hoped that other communities will be served in the very near future.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HALIFAX COUNTY

1956

Mrs. Louise B. Tunc, Home Demonstration Agent
Mrs. Sarah U. Bane, Assistant Home Demonstration Agent

Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



1956

LOUISE B. TINE
agent

SARAH H. BARK
assistant agent

HALIFAX
county

D. Participating in Programs and Workshops Planned by Other Organizations

The Agents will participate in any work shops or other worthwhile programs planned by other agencies whenever possible. The Home Agent expects to take a course offered in the county some time during the year to renew her teaching certificate.

E. Planned Educational Trips

The Agents plan to attend the State Home Economics Association Meeting in 1956.

XII. Plans For Cooperating With Other Extension Agents Toward A Unified County Extension Program.

The Agents in Halifax County work very closely together on all phases of Extension work. The program as it exists now is just on program with the responsibilities for certain phases of this program shared by different members of the Extension service. With all Special Interest Committees, both the men and women Agents are represented on each committee.

XIII. The Agents Most Difficult Problems in Carrying On the Extension Program

1. Securing and training 4-H leaders.
2. Getting more community 4-H clubs organized.
3. Securing the cooperation of school officials for club work during school hours.
4. Getting project leaders to give more demonstrations in their clubs.

The Agents have discussed with the County All Star Chapter the problem of securing and training 4-H leaders and this organization will help to secure leaders and serve as junior leaders for clubs in their communities.

The Youth Committee will help in setting up and securing leaders for six new community clubs during the year. Through the help of the Youth Committee the Agents hope to organize six community clubs in Halifax County this year. Eventually this county hopes to be able to have a community club in every community in Halifax County; thereby, eliminating the necessity of our school clubs. The Agents have met with the principals of the schools and discussed the meeting dates for the clubs. There are so many extra-curricular activities in the school that it seems impossible to make satisfactory arrangements so the Agents will help to organize community clubs as rapidly as possible.

will cooperate with these agencies in anyway possible to bring farm families the latest information on farming and homemaking activities.

C. Co-workers

The Agents will continue to discuss and cooperate with the co-workers on any problems that may arise. They will attend the weekly conference for Extension Agents and workers.

D. Commercial Interests

The Agents will cooperate on any educational phase of work. They will not endorse any particular product for any commercial firm with the idea of helping them sell their product.

E. Other Professional Workers

The Agents will cooperate and do everything possible to help other professional workers in the county, district and state.

X. Plans For Recording Progress and Evaluating Program As Planned For 1956

A. Organized Study

1. Schools

No plans have been made for the Agents to attend school this year.

2. Short Courses

No plans have been made for the Agents to attend a Short Course this year. One Agent will attend the Institute of Rural Affairs; both Agents will attend Agent Conference.

B. Reading Professional Books and Other Publications

The Agents read the daily paper and the three local county papers, and they are familiar with the following magazines: What's New in Home Economics, Journal of Home Economics, Practical Home Economics, The Farm Journal, The Country Gentleman, American Home, Good Housekeeping, Forecast for Home Economists, Agricultural Leaders Digest, Extension News, The A-H Club Letter and the National A-H Club News.

C. Membership in Professional Organizations

The Agents are members of the District and State Home Demonstration Agents Association, and the State Home Economics Association.

to get three or four leaders together at a time. The Agents have found that in the community clubs which have adult leaders, it is better to train these leaders separately as each community club is carrying a different project. Those leaders attending 4-H camp will attend a handicraft and general 4-H camp meeting early in June.

C.	<u>Number in 1955</u>	<u>Goal 1956</u>
Young Men and Women's Clubs	0	0
Number club officers	0	0
Number adult leaders or sponsors	0	0

VIII. Work With Other Agencies

The Home Economist from Virginia Electric and Power Company and Mecklenburg R.E.A. are very cooperative with the Extension Agents. The Home Economist from Mecklenburg R.E.A. will train the Home Demonstration Leaders for their April demonstration on Simple Refreshments. The Home Economist from Virginia Electric Power Company will have four of the Home Demonstration clubs come into her office for demonstrations. The Agents will cooperate in every way possible with the Welfare Department, the Red Cross Association, the Cancer and TB Association by furnishing bulletins whenever needed.

The Home Agents will assist the 4-H and Home Demonstration Clubs in planning and putting up exhibits at the Halifax County Fair, Danville Fair and Lynchburg Farm Show.

The Agents will work with other Home Economist throughout the state in trying to make the latest information available to farm people.

IX. Plans For Developing Good Public Relation In the County With:

A. Elected Representatives

The Agents plan to keep well informed on public developments on the local, state and national levels; but will not at any time express or enter into any public affairs.

B. General Public

The Agents will give regular talks over radio station WHLP in South Boston and will write news articles for the three local papers. They

	<u>Number in 1955</u>	<u>Goal 1956</u>
Number 4-H Club officers	156	170
Number adult project leaders	6	9
Number junior project leaders	10	14
Number result demonstrators	0	0
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	0	0
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by district agent	0	0
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	0	2
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by personnel in 4-H Department	0	0
Attendance at leader training meetings	0	16
Number 4-H leaders trained individually	16	16
Number club meetings held by leaders without agent present	32	36
Number club meetings at which leaders assisted	17	20
Number demonstrations given by adult leaders	30	34
Number demonstrations given by junior leaders	70	75

1. Plans for Training 4-H Leaders In Carrying Out the 1956 Program

The Home Agents are planning to have Mother-daughter training meetings in all of the homemaking projects. It is difficult for the Agents to get adult and junior leaders together for leader training meetings so most of the training will be done individually. In several areas it is possible

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Specialist of VPI will train the Home Demonstration leaders for the May demonstration on the selection and care of new Fabrics and the June demonstration on, The Selection of Children's Clothes. In April, the Home Agents will train the leaders for the April demonstration on, Simple Refreshments. In June, the Home Agents will train the leaders for the July demonstration on, Dried Arrangements, Selecting, Gathering, and Drying Material for Winter Arrangements. In September, Miss Helen Alverson, Home Management Specialist of VPI will train the leaders for the October demonstration on, The Systematic Housekeeping and the November demonstration, Social Security. In August, the county nurse will train the Home Demonstration leaders on the, Home Medicine Cabinet. The Home Agents will assist the leaders in securing material for demonstrations and having material mimeographed when necessary. The leaders will be expected to give at least six demonstrations to their local clubs. The Agents will assist the County Federation Goal chairman in selecting material for the Club Federation Goal chairman to present each month. The County Federation chairman will hold a meeting around the first of February to train the club Federation Goal chairmen for their year's work.

B. 4-H Club

(Chart on following page)

	<u>Number in 1955</u>	<u>Goals 1956</u>
Number project leaders (subject matter)	38	40
Number federation program of work chairmen	19	20
Number program development leaders	19	20
Number result demonstrators	14	14
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	5	4
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by district agents	1	1
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	1	2
Attendance at training meetings	184	190
Number club meetings held by leaders without agent present	94	100
Number club meetings in which leaders assisted	92	100
Total number demonstrations given by leaders	94	100
Total number of talks or discussions by leaders	515	550

1. Plans for Training and Using Leaders in Carrying Out the 1956 Program

On January 6, Miss Ruth Jamison, House Furnishing Specialist Of VPI, trained the Home Demonstration leaders for the February demonstration on, What Goes With What in Interior Decorating, and the March demonstration on, Furniture Finishes and Care. In April, Miss Iva Byrd Johnson, Clothing

E. County All Stars

This club works very closely with the Honor Club. They will sponsor in 1956, the public speaking and the Share-the Fun program. They will give each county winner \$10. The All Stars have a dinner meeting each year in December and at that time they select the candidates for the state All Star Chapter. The county All Stars in 1956 will serve as Junior leaders, assist in the collection of 4-H records, and offer encouragement and help to younger club members.

F. County Young Men and Women's Board

There are no organized clubs of young men and women in Halifax County under the supervision of the Extension Agents.

G. County 4-H Project Planning Committee

This committee will be composed of outstanding 4-H girls and boys in the county. In April, the Agents and Leaders will discuss the projects available as in-school projects and in May each girl and boy will vote for the project they would like to have taught as an in-school project in 1956-57. Early in July this committee will meet and help plan the demonstrations for each month, all extra activities and dates for such activities as well as the 4-H projects to be offered in the county.

VII. Plan for Leadership

A. Home Demonstration

(Chart on following page)

VI. Organizations to Strengthen Extension Program in 1956

A. County Home Demonstration Committee

The Agents will meet with the County Committee for the spring and fall planning meeting and help them in every way possible in carrying out the 1956 program. The Agents will secure from VPI, specialists, and help to sponsor any program that the Home Demonstration Committee endorses. The chairman of the Home Demonstration committee is a member of the Board of Agriculture and will be invited to the Board meeting in 1956. The Home Demonstration chairman met with the special interest Home Economics committees so that she might be better informed on the entire Extension program.

B. County Board of Agriculture

The County Board of Agriculture will meet about the middle of February to hear the reports from the special Home Economics committees that have been set up, the Youth Committee and the Agriculture Commodity Committees. At this meeting the Board will adopt a County Program. This Board will be composed of members of the Agricultural Council, the County Youth Council and the County Home Economics Council, some outstanding farmers and homemakers, the press, and business men of Halifax County. This Board will help to strengthen the Extension program by informing more people on the work going on in the County and the services available through the Extension Service.

C. County 4-H Council

This club is not active in Halifax County at the present time. The Honor Club is being used as the governing body.

D. County Honor Club

The Honor Club is one of the most active County 4-H organizations operating in Halifax County. There will be three meetings during the year, a planning meeting in June, a county-wide picnic for 4-H members and their parents sponsored by the Honor club in June, and an initiation ceremony for taking in new Honor Club members. The Honor Club set up the following goals for 1956:

1. Have an exhibit for National 4-H club week.
2. More recreation for club members.
3. As Honor Club members, we will complete and turn in our own 4-H records and encourage and help other club members to complete and turn in records.
4. Each Honor Club member will strive to be a Junior leader in 1956.

This club will meet with the Extension Agents early in July and help plan the 4-H club program for next year. This club sponsors a 4-H concession booth at the County Fair each year. This is the only money making activity during the year and they usually realize from \$100 to \$150 out of this project.

5. Rural Life Sunday

The Calvary 4-H club is the only club in the county that perhaps will have a rural life Sunday service this year. This service will be held in the Calvary Methodist Church and the entire program will be put on by club members with the help of their adult leaders.

IV. Young Men and Young Women's Work

A. Program Areas

There are no organized clubs for young women in Halifax County under the Extension guidance. There are Home Demonstration club members between the ages of 21 and 30 that are very active in Home Demonstration work, but there is no special program provided for this age group.

V. Scope of Work

A. Organization

	<u>No. in 1955</u>	<u>Goal 1956</u>
Number of home demonstration clubs	19	20
Membership	450	475
Number of 4-H Clubs	26	30
Membership	420	600
Number of young men and women's clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number Community Improvement Clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number other organizations	0	0

7. Room Improvement

The objectives are to help the girls use to the best advantage what they have on hand, and to plan what they need to buy. The Agents hope that this project will encourage the younger group girls to take pride in improving and caring for their own room. The methods to be used will be bulletins from VPI, demonstrations by Agents, adult and junior leaders. There will be a Mother-daughter training meeting.

8. Home Improvement

The objectives are to encourage club members to go from room improvement to home improvement; thereby, taking care of the entire house. The Agents will help the girls to use to the best advantage what she already has on hand, and help her to plan what she needs to buy. The methods to be used will be a Mother-daughter training meeting, demonstrations given by Agents, adult and junior leaders. Demonstrations on refinishing furniture will be given to this age group. There will be bulletins from VPI, radio talks and news articles.

B. Other Activities

1. County Contests

The county contest for 1956 has been held. Halifax County will have a girl to enter the District in bread, canning, clothing achievement, dairy foods, dress review, food preparation, frozen foods, laundry, poultry consumption, share-the-fun, and public speaking contests.

2. Achievement Program

The Agents expect the Bank of Halifax to again sponsor the 4-H Recognition and Awards Banquet. At this banquet all of the county winners and one parent of each winner, members of the Board of Supervisors, the Board of Directors for the Bank, and the Bank President will be invited. 4-H club members will be in charge of the entire program and awards will be presented to the county winners. The meeting will be covered by news reporters and photographers from the three local papers.

3. Short Course

All of the girls who are District winners will be expected to attend the state 4-H Short Course at Blacksburg, and other outstanding club members from the county will be encouraged to attend.

4. Camps

The Agents expect around 35 girls to attend District Camp at Holiday Lake. To be eligible to go to camp, the girl must have completed her 1955 projects and be an active member of her local club.

help the mother to understand what is expected of her daughter. The Agents will give a demonstration and answer any questions that come up on the project. Bulletins from VPI will be made available to club members. There will be news articles and radio programs on the meal preparation project.

3. Bread

The objectives are to encourage the younger club members to enjoy making bread and to share the responsibility of the meal preparation work in the home. The Agents will stress the importance of accurate measurements and how to follow directions and to make different varieties of bread. There will be a Mother-daughter training meeting in June.

4. Clothing II

The objectives are to encourage older club girls to learn better sewing methods, to use the best and most simplified techniques in sewing, to do more sewing for themselves and for their families and to teach the girls what to look for in the selection of materials and patterns. The methods to be used will be a mother-daughter training meeting. There will be demonstrations by adult and junior leaders showing the basic principles involved in the construction of a well-made garment. There will be mimeographed material prepared by specialists and Agents, and radio talks, and news articles. The community clubs will hold a dress review to show other club members, neighbors, and friends their work.

5. Clothing III

The Home Agents hope to teach the young girls the basic principles of sewing, the right equipment for a sewing box and how to use simple sewing equipment. The methods to be used will be a Mother-daughter training meeting, demonstrations by Agents, adult leaders and junior leaders. There will be bulletins from VPI, radio talks and news articles.

6. Food Preservation

The objectives are to teach the girls the best methods of preserving surplus food products by either canning or freezing. There will be demonstrations by Agents, adult leaders, and junior leaders stressing the importance of the right materials to use in freezing, time tables for blanching, proper storage methods, and how to use the home freezer to the best advantage. In canning, time tables will be stressed, the importance of cleanliness, and the importance of following correct procedures for canning. The methods to be used will be a Mother-daughter training meeting. There will be demonstrations by the Agents, adult and junior leaders. There will be radio talks, news articles, printed bulletins from VPI and mimeograph material prepared by the Agents.

2. Demonstrations

In Halifax County there are six result demonstrations in kitchen, two in house remodeling, two in bathrooms, one in poultry, one in gardening, and two in workrooms. All of these demonstrations have been included on Home Demonstration tours in the past with the exception of four. It is hoped that these can be included on the tour in 1956. The Agents feel that this is one of the best methods of showing other club members what is being done and what is possible on a limited income.

3. Publicity

To publicize Home Demonstration work in Halifax County, each club member has been asked to pass on information to at least two other people. The Agents will give radio talks and write news articles. The Agents feel that the special interest committees in Home Economics will do a great deal to publicize the services available through the Extension Service. Within the past ten days the Agents have had requests to organize three new Home Demonstration clubs.

III. 4-H Club Work

A. Project Work

1. Safety

All the clubs in Halifax County will carry Safety as an in-school project. Meeting conditions make it necessary for both boys and girls to meet in the same room for project work. The Agents and club members feel that more can be accomplished by having the boys and girls carry the same in-school project. The objectives are to encourage the boys and girls to remove safety hazards as they appear, to become more safety conscious, to help their families and neighbors to become more safety conscious, and to make safety a year-round study for all.

The methods to be used will be a demonstration by the Agents in club meetings each month, two demonstrations, one from a boy and a girl, in the club meetings each month, mimeograph material will be made available by the Agents. There will be radio broadcasts and news articles. For the March meeting, the club members will put on a Safety skit in each club.

2. Meal Preparation

The objectives are to encourage the girls who have carried bread making for a project to enlarge the project and include the entire meal. The Home Agents will encourage the girls to plan and prepare well balanced meals for their families and to save time and energy in meal preparation. The methods to be used will be a Mother-daughter training meeting in June. The Agents will outline the objectives of the project and

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the Agents unless there is a special request from some individual who would like to be included in the program. The Agents will follow the same procedure in 1956 that they did in 1955. The two Agents made several visits to the homes and talked with these families on this phase of the program. Some planning has been done, but the complete plans have not been finished. The agents hope to finish these plans very soon at which time the two Agents and the farmer and homemaker will get together and discuss them. In the meantime, the Home Agent has visited the homemaker then the County Agent, the farmer. It is hoped that the program will progress more rapidly in 1956 than it did in 1955.

D. Federation Program of Work

At the fall planning meeting in 1955, the 1956 program was set up, and the Home Demonstration clubs selected, Family Life, as the Federation Goal in 1956. The objectives are to promote better family life in Halifax County. The following points will be stressed:

1. The need for recreation.
2. Better understanding among different age groups.
3. Developing hobbies.
4. The problem of the ageing.

The methods to be used will be a Family Life Discussion in all Home Demonstration clubs during the month of January led by the Agents. The months of December and August are set aside for additional help with the Family Life Goal. During the month of December, most of the clubs held a family Christmas party and in August most of the clubs will have a family picnic. The County Federation Goal Chairman and the Agents will have a meeting in January to select material to be sent to the club chairmen to be presented to the club members. Soon after the meeting with the County Chairmen, a second meeting will be held in which the County Chairman will invite all club chairmen and she will discuss the years work and give them suggestions on topics to be discussed each month. The Federation Goal Chairman is allowed five minutes on the program each month to bring timely information. There will be radio talks and news articles on the Federation Goal.

E. Other Activities

1. County Objectives

- (a) To encourage adult leadership for 4-H groups.
- (b) Observe National Home Demonstration Week.
- (c) Pay expenses of one adult to State 4-H Short Course.
- (d) Each club work toward representation at County-wide and District meetings.
- (e) Each member pass information on to at least two other people.
- (f) Encourage each club member to be an informed and participating citizen.

of the Home Economist from Mecklenburg REA. The leaders from each club will be expected to attend and in turn, give the demonstration to their local clubs. There will be radio talks and news articles and mimeograph material for those who desire it.

6. Health

The month of September will be devoted to a discussion and demonstration on, The Home Medicine Cabinet. The objectives for improving family living are to help the women to know the desirable articles that should be kept in the home medicine cabinet, to help them realize the importance of safe storage of medicines and to form the habit of discarding old medicine. The methods to be used will be a demonstration given by the Agents with the help of the local Health Department. The leaders will be expected to attend and go back to their communities and give the demonstration in their local club. There will be mimeograph material and a sample home medicine cabinet available in each club. There will be radio talks and news articles to help reach those who are non-club members.

7. Garden

The objectives will be to help homemakers in Halifax County feel the need of having a good fall garden as well as a good spring garden. It is hoped that the homemakers will improve the family diet by including a larger variety of vegetables in the home garden and preserving the surplus. Each club has a garden chairman and she is expected to bring a three-minute talk each month to club members on a timely phase of gardening work. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting in January by Mr. F. H. Scott, Garden Specialist of VPI and at that time a garden manual will be given each leader. Each month the Agents will send a garden letter to the garden chairman, and there will be radio talks and news articles on gardening.

8. Poultry

The objectives will be to have a good poultry flock on every farm. It is hoped that more interest in poultry work can be developed and that better poultry practices can be followed. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting in January by Mr. Harry Moore, Poultry Specialist of VPI. Each leader will be given a poultry manual and will be expected to bring timely information to club members each month. A news letter will be sent to the club leader each month. In June, Mr. Moore will train the leaders in culling and housing the flock. Homemakers will be urged to purchase baby chicks that have been bred for production if they plan to keep pullets for the laying flock.

C. Farm and Home Development

During 1955 the County Agent and Home Agent worked with four families in the Farm and Home Development phase of the program. The Agents hope to work with at least six families in 1956. They will be selected by

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leaders for these two demonstrations. The objectives for improving family living are to help the women to know fabrics on the market, the care of these fabrics, and the use of these fabrics. It is hoped that the women will receive some help in selecting suitable clothes for children. Such points as care, finish of garments, safety features, and the features that make garments easy to get into and out of will be stressed. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting held in April by Miss Johnson. The leaders will be expected to attend the meeting and return to their local communities and give the demonstration to their local group. There will be radio talks and news articles to help reach those that cannot be reached in other ways. There will be mimeograph material for club members and additional material for non-club members if desired. Those clubs that would like to tour a local department store, the Agents will make the necessary arrangement.

3. Home Management

Miss Helen Alverson, Home Management Specialist of VPI, will train the leaders for the October demonstration on Systematic Housekeeping, and the November demonstration on Social Security. The objectives for improving family living are to help the women to organize their housework in a systematic manner to save time and energy. Since social security for farmers is comparatively new, there are many questions on the part of rural people that the Agents hope can be cleared up on the discussion of social security. At least half of the clubs hope to have their husbands attend the November meeting with them and also receive the information on social security. The methods to be used will be a leader training meeting in September by Miss Alverson. The leaders will be expected to attend and then go back to their local clubs and give their demonstration. The Agents will prepare mimeograph material for club members and there will be radio talks and news articles to both club and non-club members. The Agents will be delighted to help any club that would like to secure a local person from the social security office to talk to their club members.

4. Rural Arts

During the month of July, the Home Demonstration clubs will have a discussion and demonstration on the Selection and Drying of Material for Winter Arrangements. The objectives will be to help the homemakers to use to the best advantage, native material for arrangements. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting in June held by the Agents and two local ladies who have had some experience along this line. Mimeograph material will be prepared by the Agents for the use of club members.

5. Foods

The month of April will be devoted to Light Refreshments. The objectives for improving family living are to help the women find some ways in which they can save time and energy in preparing light refreshments and yet, be attractive and nourishing refreshments. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting in March held by the Agents with the help

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newspaper articles. 3. To sponsor an essay among teenagers on adequate diets. 4. To encourage greater participation in the Sears Roebuck 4-H Garden Contest.

The goals for the youth Committee to be attained by 1960 are: 1. To organize Community clubs in each community. 2. To increase membership in 4-H clubs to 1,000. 3. To have two leaders in each community club. 4. To have separate 4-H clubs in each fourth and fifth grade room in the county. 5. To provide some type of entertainment in each 4-H club.

The goals to be attained in 1956 are: 1. To have a club party in each club. 2. To organize six community clubs. 3. To secure two leaders for each one of these community clubs. 4. To notify each school of outstanding accomplishments of their 4-H club members. 5. To give the leaders more publicity.

The Poultry Committee and Water System Committee will meet early in February with one representative from each of the eight magisterial districts and at this time, the goals for each of these committees will be set up.

B. Home Demonstration Clubs

1. House Furnishings

Two months during 1956 will be devoted to house furnishings. In February the demonstration will be, What Goes With What In Furniture. In March the demonstration will be, Furniture Finishes and Care. The objectives for improving family living through the study of these two topics are to help the homemakers select suitable furniture to go with what they already have, to help them plan and select very carefully a few pieces of furniture at a time, that will blend in with the other furnishings in the home. It is hoped that the homemakers will be led to select durable, comfortable, simple furniture in good design that they will enjoy the rest of their lives. For those who select unpainted furniture or desire to refinish furniture, the objectives are to help the homemakers decide on a desirable finish and how to apply this finish. The methods to be used will be a Leader Training meeting in January by Miss Ruth Jamison, House Furnishing Specialist of VPI. The club leaders, two from each club, will be expected to attend the Leader Training meeting and in turn give the demonstration in their local groups. The Home Agents will prepare mimeograph material for the club members. There will be radio talks and news articles to help reach those that cannot be reached in other ways. If there are clubs that would like to have a tour to a local furniture store, the Agents will be delighted to make the necessary arrangements.

2. Clothing

Two months in the 1956 program will be devoted to clothing. In May the demonstration will be the Selection and Care of Fabrics, and in June the demonstration will be the Selection of Children's Clothes. In April, Miss Iva Byrd Johnson, Clothing Specialist of VPI will train the

The 4-H club enrollment continues to drop. There is only one high school in the county with approximately 1,500 pupils. There are so many extra-curricular activities offered by the new school with a limit in the number of activities that an individual can participate in, and this has severely hurt club work. It is very difficult for the boys and girls to get out of class to attend club meetings.

II. The County Home Economics Program - Adult

A. County Home Economics Committees

1. The Advisory Board committee met on Tuesday, December 6 and decided that a Consumer Education Committee, Youth Committee, Poultry Committee and a Foods and Nutrition Committee should be set up early in 1956. Early in November the Electric Suppliers, Health Department officials and County Agents met and discussed the need for setting up a Water Systems Committee. It was decided at this meeting that a committee would be set up the later part of January to help meet the needs in Halifax County.

2. When the Advisory Board met on December 6, each member gave the Home Agent a list of names of people from their community whom they thought would represent their community on these committees. The Home Agent contacted these people, and had one from each of the eight magisteral districts to come in and serve on each committee.

3. The goals of the Consumer Education Committee to be attained by 1960 are: 1. To increase the number of farm homes with running water to 2,500. 2. To encourage families who need to get adequate safe and convenient water supply. 3. To make information available on the selection of household furniture and equipment to at least 2,000 homemakers.

The goals for 1956 are: 1. To publicize the work of the Consumer Education Committee through the newspaper and radio. 2. To hold three special meetings on House Furnishing--(a) Selection of furniture and furnishings, (b) Window treatment, (c) Floor coverings. 3. To make timely Extension bulletins available to at least one country store in each magisteral district. 4. To cooperate with county water systems campaign by having bulletins on the home water supply among the Extension material in the eight stores.

The goals of the Food and Nutrition Committee to be attained by 1960 are: 1. To reach homemakers on needs of the seven basic foods and to prepare foods to conserve food value. 2. To increase the consumption of milk to minimum standards. 3. To improve the quality of year round gardens with special interest on green and yellow vegetables. 4. To increase production of meat and poultry.

The goals to be reached in 1956 are: 1. To appoint a sub-committee to make a survey on food habits of all six grade children in the county. 2. To reach 1,000 homemakers with information on the seven basic foods. This will be done through P.T.A., Home Demonstration meetings, and

1956 PLAN OF WORK

Louise B. Tune
Home Demonstration Agent

Betty U. Bane
Assistant Home Demonstration Agent

Halifax
County

I. County Situation Considered In Working Out 1956 Program

Because Halifax County is the fourth largest county in the state with an area of 814 square miles, attendance at county wide meetings is affected due to the distance which many people must travel. There are approximately 4,300 farms in the county with tobacco as the main money crop. Meetings are held to a minimum during the summer because all members of the family work in the tobacco. Tobacco farmers are sure that they will receive a 12% cut in acreage in 1956 and there is a possibility that this will be increased to 20 or 25% before planting time. This, of course, means that farm families will have to supplement their income that has been received from tobacco in some other manner. This excess farm land will have to be used for other purposes also. Halifax County farm families had an excellent crop of tobacco in 1955. Tobacco diseases are still on the increase in the county and many farmers are treating their soil and buying resistant seed. Dairying and livestock production have gradually increased in the county. This means, of course, an increase in grain, pasture, and hay production.

Many farmers and homemakers have found it necessary to seek part-time or full-time employment in the textile mills, shoe factory, and department stores. At the present time, there are six Home Demonstration clubs that meet at night to accommodate those homemakers who are working outside the home.