

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

Prince Edward County

Virginia

1948

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County Home Demonstration Agent

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III. SCOPE OF WORK

A. Home Demonstration Clubs

Number 11 Membership 275

Other women reached by H. D. Club members 700

B. 4-H CLUBS

Number 7 Membership 200

C. Number reached through other groups by agent 250

ⓐ D. Number families reached through neighborhood and community leaders 100

E. Other methods used to reach families: News articles, radio stations WSVS and WFLO, circular letters, home visits, telephone and office calls, bulletins, result demonstrations, clinics, county and community meetings, slides and movies, exhibits and Five County Fair.

Number families reached 1250

F. Estimate total number families reached 1250. Number farm families in county 1553.

IV. ADULT WORK

A. Home Demonstration Club Program

1. Project Work

a. Determining the Program

The home demonstration committee composed of presidents of the eleven clubs met in April to discuss the factors to consider and the methods to use in planning the 1948 program. County conditions and outlook information were presented at club meetings following the county meeting.

Each home demonstration club president appointed members to make studies of county, community, and home conditions. Reports were made on these studies. Club members made additional suggestions of projects which they wished to have included in the program.

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Club presidents presented these suggestions at the county home demonstration committee meeting in September. Demonstrations or topics requested by a majority of the clubs were worked into a month by month program by a committee of three club presidents, the state agent and county home agent. This program was presented by club presidents at club meetings the following month for approval or changes which would meet their needs.

b. Subject Matter Fields

(1) Foods

"Being a gracious hostess" was selected as the topic for the December meeting. The members wanted to learn how to set the table attractively, etiquette rules and simple ideas to use in entertaining groups. Clubs also planned to have Christmas parties this month.

To achieve better health through better nutrition and food preparation, demonstrations were planned on meat cookery, preparation of salads and desserts.

A county meeting was planned on preparing foods for freezing since many homemakers were buying home freezing units. There is not a community freezer locker in the county.

A county-wide clinic to test pressure cooker gauges was planned in order that women might have gauges tested for accuracy each year.

(2) House Furnishings and Housing

Converting oil lamps into electric lamps and modernizing electric lamps was selected to help homemakers use available lamps on hand for better home lighting. Electricity has been extended to most sections of the county and there is a need for teaching principles of lighting and factors to consider in selecting lamps and shades.

Repair of iron cords was included in the program to teach a practical skill which would save homemakers time and money.

Bottoming chairs and footstools with fiber cord was selected by many clubs. This project had been carried in the county many years ago but there were new members and others interested in learning this skill.

A county-wide slip cover clinic was planned at the request of many homemakers in the county who wished to make slip covers to protect furniture and make homes more attractive.

County meetings on housing and "water in the house" were also planned for those interested in receiving this help.

(3) Home Management

To help homemakers save time and energy, demonstrations were planned on kitchen arrangement and labor savers. Labor saving ideas in laundering and ironing were included in the program. A majority of homemakers do laundering at home and are interested in learning more efficient methods.

c. Results

(1) Foods

(a) Nutrition

The importance of eating the proper foods was stressed during the year. Members were given nutrition charts and other information which would help them in planning and preparing nutritious meals for their families. This information was also given in radio talks.

Better nutrition was the objective for the demonstrations on preparing meats, salads, and desserts. Club members feel that the knowledge they have received has helped their families enjoy better health.

Five hundred families were given assistance in improving diets.

(b) Preparation

Homemakers were interested in learning how to prepare salads and desserts which would be nutritious and appetizing. A leader training meeting was conducted by the food specialist. Leaders from ten of the eleven clubs were present.

Leaders gave the demonstration on preparing desserts at club meetings in June. A variety of desserts were prepared using milk, eggs, and fruits. Frozen desserts were included as many families had recently purchased refrigerators.

The demonstration on preparing salads was given in July when fresh vegetables were in season. Several raw vegetables and fruit salads were prepared showing how to get the maximum amount of food value in the diet. Methods of preparing different types of salad dressings which could be made at home were enthusiastically received by the members. Copies of recipes were given to those who attended the meetings.

Proper methods to use in cooking meats was the subject of the demonstration given in January. Since there was a national educational program on saving meat at this time, a film strip on meat cookery was shown at each club meeting. The film, "How to Cook Meat With Dry Heat", showed effectively the best methods to use in pan broiling, broiling and roasting. Members were given copies of the bulletins, "Meat for Thrifty Meals" and "Poultry Cooking."

Two hundred and seventy families are using better methods in food preparation as a result of this project work.

(c) Production

Home demonstration club women were assisted in making plans for producing adequate yearly food supplies to meet their family needs. Information on garden and poultry was given at club meetings. Club members were invited to visit the 4-H garden projects in their communities. One hundred and

thirty-six families were assisted with improvements in food production.

(d) Conservation

Farm families were urged to produce and conserve enough food to meet their needs for adequate diets. They were given the latest information on canning methods. Revised canning bulletins were given to those who had not previously received copies. Information on canning and freezing foods was given in several radio talks.

A majority of the members now own pressure cookers or use one of the five community canning centers in the county.

The agent has tested eighty-four gauges on pressure cookers this year. A clinic to test gauges was held in cooperation with the home management specialist for Farmers Home Administration. Twenty-one gauges were tested. Those having gauges tested were given instructions on proper care of pressure cookers.

There is not a community freezer locker in the county but a number of families have bought home freezing units. They requested information on preparing foods for freezing. The assistant food specialist was asked to conduct a county meeting. The names of all persons who had bought freezing units were secured from the local merchants and invited to the meeting. Fifty-three people attended and received information on preparing foods for freezing and preparing frozen foods.

Two hundred and twenty-four home demonstration club members canned fourteen thousand four hundred and seventy-five quarts of fruits; thirty-one thousand seven hundred and twenty quarts of vegetables; and three thousand eight hundred and twelve quarts of meats.

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These families dried one hundred and sixteen pounds of fruits; twelve hundred and forty-eight pounds of vegetables; and cured seventeen thousand two hundred and fifty pounds of meats.

The amount of food stored includes two hundred and sixty-eight pounds of fruit and seven thousand four hundred and ninety-five pounds of vegetables.

Eight families have frozen two hundred and fifty-eight pounds of fruit, six hundred and twenty-six pounds of vegetables, and eight hundred and four pounds of meats.

Three hundred and fifty families were assisted with food preservation problems.

(e) Table Service and Etiquette

"Being a gracious hostess" was selected as the topic for December as a majority of the clubs have a social in connection with the meeting this month.

Leaders were trained by the specialist and gave demonstrations on the correct way to set a table, attractive table decorations, and gave suggestions for members to use when entertaining groups.

2. House Furnishings

a. Lighting the Home

"Better light for better sight" has been the slogan adopted since electricity is being extended to all sections of the county. The demonstration on converting oil lamps into electric lamps and modernizing lamps was included because members wanted to use available lamps on hand to have better lights.

The house furnishings specialist conducted a training meeting for leaders. They were taught how to wire different types of lamps and how to make lamps from tall candlesticks and vases. They also learned the characteristics of a good lamp and shade.

The specialist and home agent also presented this information on a radio program. The specialist's recommendation on removing cellophane from shades was so effective that one club member reported removing the cellophane from a shade while listening to the remainder of the program. A number of others have reported using the recommendations which they heard on the radio.

The demonstration on converting oil lamps and modernizing lamps has been enthusiastically received by club members. To date approximately one hundred lamps have been fixed. The project is being continued next month.

A demonstration on repairing iron cords and small electrical equipment will also be given next month. This will help the women learn how to make simple repairs of equipment to save time and money.

b. Refinishing Furniture

When the county program was planned the September club meeting was open for club choice. A majority of the clubs selected bottoming footstools and chairs. Demonstrations were given on seatweaving with fiber and how to finish woodwork on the stools.

Members fixed bottoms in eighty footstools and sixty chairs. They were given instructions on types of finishes for furniture. This information was also given in news articles and radio talks. Twenty-eight other members report that they have refinished one hundred and ten other pieces of furniture.

c. Slip Cover Clinic

A county-wide slip cover clinic was held in Farmville in cooperation with representatives of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. The clinic was open to homemakers in the county who wished to cover furniture. The agent received applications for the two-day course.

Ten members registered for the class and were given individual help in measuring the furniture and selecting fabric. They brought the furniture to the clinic and covered the ten chairs during the two-day course. Over fifty women attended part of the class to see the demonstration.

Twenty-five other members have made slip covers for thirty-six chairs.

d. Flower Arrangement

Worsham home demonstration club had a special meeting on flower arrangement. The agent was asked to give a talk on this subject. The club president arranged a contest and asked each member to bring an arrangement of flowers. The exhibits were judged by members of a local Garden Club. The chairman awarded ribbons and explained principles of flower arrangement.

A member of this club, Mrs. T. M. Dean, was a delegate to the Institute of Rural Affairs at V.P.I. After seeing a demonstration on flower arrangement at the State meeting, she arranged an educational exhibit for the club at the Five County Fair showing how to arrange flowers. This exhibit won second prize and created much interest at the fair.

e. Home Decoration

Home decoration was the major project carried last year. Results of accomplishments made this year are given since many of the activities were continued although the demonstrations were not given this year. Help was given to homemakers through home visits, conferences, illustrative material, bulletins, news articles and radio talks.

Sixty four members have framed or re-hung two hundred and forty pictures following project work on selecting, framing and hanging pictures.

Fifty members have crocheted or braided ~~forty~~ six rugs. Two clubs made educational

exhibits at the Five County Fair showing attractive rugs made from old material and new material.

Fifty-seven members have made two hundred pairs of curtains and draperies.

Forty-two members have painted walls and fifty-three have painted woodwork during the year. Twenty-seven have refinished floors since seeing the demonstration last year.

The outstanding work on refinishing floors was done by Mrs. G. L. Cox, member of the Worsham Club. Her home is Colonial type with pine floors which needed repair. Mrs. Cox had the floors sanded and repaired, then used the floor seal finish. She was delighted to find that it was possible for her to have beautiful floors in her home.

3. Home Management

a. Kitchens

Kitchen Improvement was the topic selected for meetings held during March and April. The home management specialist, conducted a training meeting for club leaders.

Demonstrations were given on how to arrange kitchens to save steps. Labor saving ideas were shown which would help homemakers save time and energy.

Color slides showing improved kitchens in Virginia were used to give the women ideas which they might use in their own kitchens. Samples of floor finishes and other new materials were displayed.

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Homemakers who were making definite plans to remodel kitchens were given copies of the bulletin, "Convenient Farm Kitchens". The agent loaned blueprints of the step-saving U kitchen to four families.

Several radio talks were given to present information on how to make kitchens more convenient.

Mrs. Raymond Chernault of Worsham held a meeting in her home and showed members how she had made her kitchen more convenient by re-arranging and adding shelves to the kitchen cabinet. She and her husband made a woodbox using the instructions for the box which they saw at the Labor Saving Show last year.

One hundred and ten families were assisted in re-arranging or improving kitchens.

b. Laundering and Ironing

Labor saving ideas in laundering and ironing were shown at club meetings in May. They were shown how to make tailor's cushions and other small equipment which would make this household task easier.

Eighty members used labor saving ideas in laundering and ironing.

c. Equipment

Individual assistance was given a number of families regarding factors to consider in selecting washing machines, irons, stoves, refrigerators, ironers and freezing units. The women seem to be more interested in investigating different makes of equipment to make wise selections.

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(4) Clothing

(a) Construction

Clothing construction was one of the projects carried last year. One hundred and fifteen members have made approximately fifteen hundred garments this year. There has been increased interest in making clothes in order to save money.

- (b) The agent attended a tailoring school conducted by the specialist. The total cost of the woolen material, pattern, and other items needed for a two piece suit was twenty-five dollars. A suit of comparable value would have cost seventy-five dollars if bought ready-made.

Fifteen women have been given individual assistance with tailoring problems.

2. Federation Goal

"Safety" was selected as the Federation goal at the fall planning meeting of the home demonstration committee since a large percent of accidents occur in the home.

The objective was to make Prince Edward farm homes safe by making the families safety conscious.

Club meetings held during the month of February were in charge of Goal Chairmen. Programs on safety were presented. Chairmen were in charge of short safety programs at intervals during the year. Members used the check list of accident hazards and made improvements which would make their homes safer.

Radio programs on safety were presented by the county goal chairman and home agent. News articles were published in the local newspaper.

Three hundred and seventy-five families were assisted in removing fire and accident hazards.

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3. Other Activities

(a) Club Goals

(1) Increase Membership

Membership in home demonstration clubs has increased from two hundred and thirty-eight to two hundred and seventy-five during the year. The percentage of members attending meetings has also increased.

(2) Participate in Radio Programs

Buffalo and Social Hour Clubs presented radio programs during the year. Members from Prospect, Busy Bee, Worsham, and Darlington Heights Clubs were on programs with the agent at different times. The Extension Service has a regular program over local station WFLO.

The Buffalo Club presented a program on the activities of their club with the president, Mrs. Frank Trainer, in charge. Others on program were the first club president, the secretary, a leader and community project chairman, Mrs. J. M. Grainger, who explained how their club sent a parcel of clothing each month for foreign relief.

The theme of the program given by the Social Hour Club was a model club meeting. Mrs. J. M. Foster, club president, presided with other members taking part in the business meeting and giving a short demonstration.

(3) Pay Federation dues by March 1.

One hundred percent of the clubs paid Federation dues this year.

(b) Community Projects

Special projects sponsored by the clubs were varied depending on interests and needs.

The Buffalo Club continued to sponsor the project on clothing for foreign relief. Boxes of clothes were sent directly to families in Greece. Bags for shipping clothes were secured from the Church World Service Office in New Windsor, Maryland. The club sent a bag of clothes to this center each month.

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The used clothing was contributed by members of the club. Many articles of clothing were remodeled or made from new material.

Members of the club served a dinner for the local Rotary Club and made money to contribute to a Chinese orphan.

Social Hour Club sent a box of clothes to the collection center in New Windsor, Maryland. Members of the Busy Bee Club held an all-day social get-together and quilted a quilt which they are sending to the collection center for foreign relief. This meeting was in addition to their regular meetings.

Worsham home demonstration club is sponsoring a community project to improve the school grounds and play ground equipment. A committee from the club met the County School Board to explain the dangerous conditions which existed. The Board agreed to pay half the expenses, one hundred dollars, for the needed improvements. The club sponsored a Halloween Party at the school to make money for their share of the expenses.

Prospect and Buffalo Clubs have furnished library books for people in the community to read. Each club secures quarterly one of the Extension Division libraries from the State Library in Richmond. People in the community appreciate the opportunity of having good books available. This is a continuation of the projects started last year when "Library" was the Federation Goal.

Social Hour Club again served the luncheon at the district meeting of the Production Credit Association. They served one hundred and twenty-five people and made a profit of ninety dollars, which was added to the club treasury.

Social Hour Club made improvements in the community Rest Room which is sponsored by the clubs. They secured a county appropriation to pay for having the lounge painted. Members met and assisted with the painting. They bottomed a chair and fixed three footstools for the room. Pictures and pillows were donated to make the room more attractive.

Committees from all clubs assisted with campaigns such as Red Cross, Community Chest and March of Dimes.

Home demonstration club members were in charge of a booth in one of the stores in Farmville to receive contributions in the March of Dimes campaign. Mrs. C. C. Roberts of Farmville was chairman and had members of the county clubs volunteer for duty during store hours for the week.

Annual club picnics for members, their families, and friends were held in August to improve community recreation.

(c) Home Demonstration Week

Officers of the County Home Demonstration Committee were in charge of a radio program over local station WFLO on May 7 in observance of Home Demonstration Week. Miss Sarah Wilkerson, vice-chairman, explained the purposes and aims of club work, and Mrs. George McLaughlin, secretary, gave a report on county activities. Mrs. C. B. Carson, Federation Goal Chairman, discussed the safety program and Miss Eunice Chernault, member of the recently organized club at Worsham, explained ways in which her ideas of club work had been broadened. She closed the program by reading the Homemaker's Creed.

Twenty-two members from the county attended the district Federation meeting at Blackstone and were assistant hostesses.

News articles on home demonstration work were published in the local weekly paper.

(d) Other Federation Activities

The county home demonstration committee paid the expenses for a delegate to attend the State Federation meeting held during the Institute of Rural Affairs at V.P.I. the week of July 28 to 30. Mrs. T. M. Dean of Worsham was the delegate. Others from the county who attended were Mrs. Frank Orange and Mrs. C. D. Williamson of Prospect.

All clubs in the county paid Federation dues of three dollars.

(e) Achievement Day

The annual Achievement Day program is scheduled

to be held on November 5. The program arranged by committees from Buffalo and Social Hour Clubs includes educational movies, club reports, county activities and entertainment by Tuggle and Busy Bee Clubs. Worsham Club will be hostess during the social hour following the program.

(f) Community Rest Room

The home demonstration clubs sponsor a community rest room in the basement of the County Court House. The matron is selected by a committee of three club women who serve as advisors. The Town Council and County Board of Supervisors appropriate funds to pay the matron's salary.

The community lounge is open from eight until five o'clock every day. During the past year there were over five thousand visitors registered. Thirteen hundred children were cared for by the matron while mothers went shopping or transacted business in town. The lounge is also used as a meeting place for rural people. Shoppers leave packages with the matron which is another service to the people.

A small library is located in the lounge. Two traveling libraries are borrowed quarterly from the Virginia State Library. Around five hundred books were loaned during the year. Current issues of magazines are also available.

4. Leadership

(a) Organization

Each of the eleven home demonstration clubs have three organization officers, namely, president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer, making a total of thirty-three officers. They received training by the home agent or former club presidents on their duties and responsibilities. They were given information on how to conduct meetings according to parliamentary procedure.

Club presidents presided at meetings. In their absence, the vice-presidents took charge. The presidents were responsible for making necessary arrangements for meetings, appointing committees, sending semi-annual reports to the county chairman, attending two meetings of the county committee and

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furthering Extension activities in their communities.

The vice-presidents of clubs have presided in the absence of the presidents. They serve as chairman of the program committee and are in charge of the devotionals at meetings.

The secretary-treasurer of each club has kept records, sent notices of meetings, made reports of club activities and performed other duties as are customary to this office.

The club officers have accepted more responsibility than in previous years. The clubs have been active, and membership has increased. These officers are recognized as key women in their communities and have made many contributions in promoting Extension programs.

(b) Project Leaders

There were two or three project leaders elected in each club. Four training meetings were conducted by the state specialists. Twelve other training meetings were held by the agent to train leaders who were unable to attend the county meetings.

Two training meetings were conducted by the food specialist. Leaders received training for the demonstration which they gave on "Being a Gracious Hostess".

Thirty-five leaders and club presidents attended the training meeting on preparing salads and desserts for better nutrition. Nine of the eleven clubs were represented. Leaders gave the above demonstration at all club meetings in June and July. The agent attended either the June or July meetings to assist with program planning.

The home management specialist trained leaders for the kitchen improvement project. Due to bad weather in February only ten leaders were able to attend. These leaders assisted with the demonstration given at their club meetings. The agent attended several of the meetings to show the color slides on improved kitchens in Virginia.

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Leaders received further training from the house furnishings specialist on converting oil lamps into electric lamps and modernizing lamps. Sixteen leaders attended the meeting and either gave or assisted the agent in giving the demonstration at club meetings.

The outstanding leaders during the year have been Mrs. Mona McKay and Mrs. Raymond Chernaault of Worsham. The club was organized a year ago and has been quite active. The leaders have attended all training meetings and have assumed complete responsibility for giving the demonstration effectively at their club meetings.

After attending the training meeting on converting lamps, they collected lamps and vases in the community which members wanted to wire at the meeting. They brought the lamps to Farnville and bought the necessary fixtures before the club meeting. Then they showed the members how to do the wiring and modernizing at the club meetings.

Leaders have given 53 demonstrations.

(c) Federation Goal Chairmen

Safety was the Federation Goal. Each club had a chairman who was in charge of the safety program. Mrs. C. B. Carson of Prospect was county chairman and sent suggestions to each club chairman.

The goal chairmen were in charge of club meetings in February. They presented goals for the year and special program on Safety in the Home. They were in charge of short programs on safety at intervals during the year.

B. Other Means of Reaching People

1. Special Meetings

a. Housing

The agent had a large number of requests from families who wished to build homes, remodel or make other improvements. To assist with these problems, the agricultural engineer was asked to conduct a county-wide meeting in March.

Club members and others interested in building or making home improvements were invited to attend the meeting. Following the meeting, home visits were made to four families who had special problems.

One of the families whom the specialist visited had bought a small house which was inadequate for the family's needs. Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Steele have added a living room with garage in basement and a side porch as the specialist recommended.

While in the county the specialist made a radio talk giving information on building plans available, adding bathrooms, water supply, and heating the home. These topics were selected because rural families had asked for information on these subjects.

b. Water Supply

The agent had a number of requests for assistance in installing water systems. The agricultural engineer came to the county and conducted a meeting in Tuggle community where there were several interested families. Following the meeting home visits were made to give individual help where there were special problems. Eight families were given assistance.

c. Frozen Foods

Fifty women attended a meeting conducted by the specialist on preparing foods for freezing. Homemakers who had bought freezing units were invited to see the demonstration. Several women from the

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town of Farmville attended in addition to the rural people.

The agent has furnished information to ninety families on factors to consider in buying freezing units; how to prepare foods for freezing; types of containers to use and how to prepare frozen foods.

2. Five County Fair

The Five County Fair was held two miles west of Farmville in Prince Edward County the week of September 20 to 25. Other counties included were Appomattox, Buckingham, Charlotte and Cumberland. The fair is under the direction of the Five County Fair Association.

The objectives for having exhibits at the fair were to contribute to a better understanding of good standards for farm and home products and to display achievements of individuals and groups.

It is felt that the fair this year was the best ever held. There was a separate tent for home exhibits. The quality and quantity of exhibits made by 4-H Club members and homemakers far surpassed previous years. The home agent or home demonstration club members stayed on duty during the week to explain the exhibits in order to make the fair a better educational means of reaching people.

Excellent cooperation was received from the home demonstration club members in decorating the tent and arranging the exhibits. The fair association made improvements and furnished more space for the exhibits. The fair was said to be the most successful ever held.

3. News Stories

The Farmville Herald is the county newspaper which is published weekly. The editor and reporters have been most cooperative in publishing news stories on phases of the Extension program.

News stories were used to keep homemakers

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informed on improved practices and recommendations, to announce and promote interest in special meetings and programs, and to give recognition to accomplishments of organizations and individuals. The schedule of club meetings was published weekly in the calendar of coming events.

Eighty-two news articles were published weekly. The approximate circulation is four thousand copies.

4. Radio

Local station WFLO has a regular program presented by Extension agents daily at 12:15 P.M. Appomattox, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland and Prince Edward County farm and home agents participate in the scheduled programs. Every Friday is "Prince Edward Day" with the farm and home agent having charge of the program on alternate weeks.

The home agent has given twenty-eight radio talks during the year. Radio talks were used to present information and to inform the public on outstanding work done by individuals. The programs were varied. 4-H and home demonstration club members were invited to be on the program at intervals.

Rice 4-H Club members were in charge of a program during 4-H Club Week. Members explained the 4-H symbols, goals and objectives, club activities and types of project work. Farmville 4-H Club girls presented a program using information on room improvement which they had received in project work.

When the 4-H Achievement Day program was held, thirty minutes of the program was broadcast over Station WFLO. At this time county medals were awarded. Winners were interviewed by the farm and home agents. The broadcast also included group singing, a report on 4-H Camp and other club activities.

A radio program was made from 4-H Camp at Holliday Lake while Prince Edward County members were attending. The program was tape recorded and broadcast at a later date. The program

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consisted of an introduction of camp officers, special events, group singing, tribal songs and yells. The program was transcribed on records and made available to counties attending camp that week.

The Home Demonstration Committee was in charge of a program during Home Demonstration Week. Members from six clubs were in charge of programs during the year.

WFLO serves an area with population of approximately seven hundred and twenty-four thousand people. It is estimated that there are ten thousand listeners to the Farm and Home Hour in Farmville and Prince Edward County.

5. Circular Letters

Letters were sent at intervals to home demonstration club members, 4-H club members and neighborhood leaders to present timely information; to announce training meetings, special meetings and programs; and to obtain information on results of project work.

6. Home Visits

Home visits were made to give assistance to homemakers requesting help on various problems, to give information on projects, to receive first-hand information regarding problems and activities, to reach families who were not being reached by other methods and to promote interest in extension activities.

The agent made a total of four hundred and seventy-five home visits conducting extension work.

7. Slides and Movies

Slides were used as a teaching method in showing improved methods and practices. Color slides on meat cookery and kitchen improvement were shown at meetings of each of the eleven home demonstration clubs.

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A movie on cancer and another educational film are scheduled to be shown at the Home Demonstration Club Achievement Day program on November 5.

Color slides showing 4-H Camp activities and room improvement were shown at meetings of each of the seven 4-H clubs.

8. Bulletins

Bulletins were used to give printed directions following demonstrations, to answer requests for information, to give reference material for project work and to supplement other teaching methods.

The agent distributed twelve hundred and forty bulletins during the year.

9. Office Calls and Telephone Calls

The agent had four hundred and fifty-three office calls and five hundred and ninety-three telephone calls relating to Extension work. Callers requested information, advice, bulletins, discussed plans for meetings and gave agent information which would be helpful in carrying on Extension work in the county.

V. WORK WITH YOUTH

A. 4-H Clubs

1. Organization

a. County Council

The 4-H Council held a meeting in March with officers of the county clubs present. All officers of the county clubs are members of the council.

The program included making the county plan of work, setting up goals and objectives. Officers were given training on how to conduct meetings and perform duties of the offices which they held.

Goals adopted were: To have special programs during National 4-H Club week, to observe Rural Life Sunday in May, to have a local leader for each club, to have one hundred percent of members complete projects, to send delegates to 4-H Camp, to enter contests available, to have all members learn 4-H pledge and motto, and to have an Achievement Day program in the fall.

Officers of the Council who were installed in the candlelighting ceremony were: Helen Cooke, president; Elizabeth Shorter, vice-president; Barbara Chernault, secretary; Joyce Carter and Eugene Fowlkes, song leaders.

Council members helped to plan the Achievement Day program and presided at this event.

2. Project Work

a. Determining Program

The home agent discussed all projects which were offered at club meetings held in September. Girls were advised to discuss the projects with their parents. Factors considered were needs and interests of the members and the limited time for meetings held at the schools. The following month the club members voted on the project which they would carry during the winter months. Summer

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projects were selected in March.

b. Subject Matter Fields

Room improvement was selected as the winter projects by members of the seven clubs. All the girls were interested in making improvements in their rooms.

Summer projects were selected according to special interests of the girls. Members of three clubs continued the room improvement project. One club selected food preparation and three clubs selected clothing. Ten girls enrolled in the special garden and canning project sponsored by the Sears Roebuck Store in Lynchburg.

c. Results

(1) Room Improvement

One hundred and ninety-five girls enrolled in this project with one hundred and sixty-nine completing. The objectives of this project were to help the girls plan improvements for their rooms and to teach skills in homemaking.

Demonstrations were given at meetings on planning an attractive bedroom, making room accessories, color plans for the room, making dressing tables and stools, and room arrangement. Each member was given copies of mimeographed instructions and illustrative material which would be helpful in making improvements in their rooms.

One hundred and sixty-nine girls cared for their rooms three or more months; one hundred and twenty-eight made color plans; one hundred and forty-six improved the arrangement of furniture; one hundred and eight cleaned, painted or finished the walls in their room; thirty-two refinished the floors; eighty-six made, bought, or renovated curtains; twenty made, bought, or renovated rugs; and forty-seven built a closet or made it more convenient.

Club members made, remodeled, or refinished thirty-eight pieces of furniture; made, renovated or refinished one hundred and fifty accessories, made or renovated eighty-seven pieces of bed linen; bought forty-one pieces of furniture; bought sixty-two pieces of accessories and made improvements in one hundred and seventy-six rooms.

One of the outstanding projects in the county was carried by Joyce Carter of Worsham Junior Club. She made her room most attractive by making curtains, bedspread and a dressing table. An old iron bed was painted, the bedspread was made to match the vanity using skirt of renovated white dotted curtain material over pink cotton. A dressing table stool was made from a peach hamper and a night stand made from an orange crate. Both were covered with the same material as the dressing table and bed. She used the jewel box made at 4-H Camp on her dressing table.

The walls were painted blue last year so Joyce cleaned the walls before starting her project. She cleaned and refinished the floors. The 4-H Club met with her during the summer to see the improvements which she had made in her room.

(2) Clothing

The objectives of the projects on clothing were to teach the girls how to look their best by careful planning of their wardrobes, how to give proper care to their clothes, how to select becoming clothes and develop skills in clothing construction.

Ninety-five girls enrolled in Unit 11 - Make or Remake Clothing project during the summer with eighty completing. They were given demonstrations on selecting sewing equipment, patterns and materials; how to adjust and use patterns; cutting and fitting garments; and finishing details. The girls were given manuals, record sheets and illustrative material.

Eighty girls made one hundred and seventy-two garments at a total cost of three hundred and forty-six dollars, and remodeled eighty-one garments at a cost of sixteen dollars. Each of

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the girls outfitted a sewing box and have a pattern for themselves.

In caring for clothes, they darned two hundred and twenty garments; patched one hundred and forty-three; dry cleaned thirty-eight garments at home and washed sixty sweaters.

(3) Food Preparation

Forty-six members enrolled in this project during the summer with thirty-five completing. The objectives were to teach the girls how to use basic recipes, prepare foods for their families and form good work habits in the kitchen.

Demonstrations were given on preparing egg dishes, green and root vegetables, custards and cookies.

The thirty-five girls prepared custards one hundred and seventy-eight times; gravy, one hundred and forty times; green vegetables, two hundred and three times; root vegetables, two hundred and sixty times; eggs, three hundred and ten times; and cakes and cookies seventy-three times. The total number of dishes prepared was eleven hundred and sixty-four.

(4) Garden

Ten girls enrolled in the garden project sponsored by the Sears Roebuck Store in Lynchburg for 4-H Club girls in nine counties. The purpose of the project was to encourage the production and conservation of food, to teach through result demonstrations the best methods of growing vegetables, and to help provide families with well-balanced gardens for better nutrition.

Seeds and plants amounting to approximately four dollars were given to girls. Varieties selected were those recommended by the Virginia Extension Service.

Records were kept by the girls. The agent visited

the projects four times during the year and they were scored by the specialist twice. Recommendations were sent in letters and information regarding the project was given to the public in news articles and radio talks.

Records kept by the ten girls show a total value of vegetables grown estimated at one thousand three hundred and forty dollars; total expenses were two hundred and four dollars and fifty cents; making a profit of one thousand one hundred and fifty-six dollars and fifty cents.

Winners in the county contest were: Theresa Shorter, first; Jenny Leigh Smith, second; Virginia Ann Gibbs, third; and five fourth prize winners.

(5) Food Preservation

The ten girls enrolled in the garden project also enrolled in the food preservation project. They canned six hundred and thirty jars of fruits and eight hundred and fourteen jars of vegetables alone; and helped can seven hundred and forty jars of fruits and thirteen hundred and thirty jars of vegetables.

Top winners in the county canning contest were Jenny Leigh Smith, first; Theresa Shorter, second; and Peggy Simpson, third. In addition to the county canning contest Jenny Leigh Smith won over two hundred dollars in prizes on canning exhibits at the Five County Fair in Farmville, Lynchburg Farm Show and Atlantic Rural Exposition in Richmond.

3. Other Activities

a. 4-H Camps and State Short Course

Sixteen girls, two leaders and a nurse attended 4-H district camp at Holliday Lake the week of July 12 to 17. 4-H Club members, leaders and agents from Appomattox, Buckingham, Nelson and Amherst counties also attended camp the same week.

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The campers were divided into three tribes under the supervision of Miss Lou Winn, recreational director. Mary Lou Vaughan of Prince Edward County was elected chief of one tribe.

The program for the week included recreation, handicraft, game and song leadership, swimming and nature study. The agent was in charge of vespers. Each county was responsible for one of the evening programs.

Three girls and the agent attended the State 4-H Short Course at V.P.I. the week of June 28 to July 3. The girls attending were Sara Jane Brisentine, Joyce Brisentine, and Mildred Simpson of Prospect.

Two girls, Helen Farmer and Sara Schuler, attended State Conservation Camp at Holliday Lake.

Girls attending camps gave reports on activities at club meetings.

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b. Fairs and Farm Shows

4-H Club members made exhibits at the Five County Fair, Lynchburg Farm Show and Atlantic Rural Exposition in Richmond. Exhibits were made to show results of project work.

All clubs arranged educational exhibits showing results of project work, gift boxes from home grown products or collection of handicraft articles made at camp or club meetings.

One club members, Jenny Leigh Smith of Prospect, won over two hundred dollars in prizes. A number of other girls won prizes and were more interested in comparing qualities of exhibits on display.

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c. Achievement Day

The 4-H Achievement Day program was held at the State Theater in Farmville on October 9. Approximately three hundred club members, parents and friends attended this annual event.

The program included reports on club activities

given by club presidents, county summary by secretary of the county council, a report on 4-H Camp activities by a delegate, presentation of awards to outstanding members, recognition of leaders and movies shown by the management of the State Theater.

Club members were guests of a Youth talent program which is regularly broadcast from the theater every Saturday morning. Twenty-five minutes of the 4-H Achievement Day program was broadcast over local station WFLO. During the broadcast medals and awards were presented and winners were interviewed by the agents.

The State Theater awarded fifty dollars in prizes which were given to first and second winners in the county contests for boys and girls. They also announced that they were giving four scholarships to two boys and two girls who would be selected next spring to go to 4-H Camp at Holliday Lake.

d. Contests

4-H Club members entered the contests which were open to those enrolled in the different projects. Exhibits were judged and records checked to determine the county winners. Medals were awarded at the Achievement Day program. The State Theater gave four dollars to each first prize winner and two dollars to those winning second prize.

County winners of medals were: Canning, Theresa Shorter; Room Improvement, Elinor Bass; Clothing, Betty Lou Southall; Dress Revue, Lucy Rowsey; Food Preparation, Hazel Bates; Safety, Hazel Pigg; Leadership, Helen Cooke; Girl's Record, Joyce Carter and Garden, Virginia Ann Gibbs, Larnette Glenn, Frances Nelson and Peggy Simpson.

e. Rural Life Sunday

Rural Life Sunday was observed in the county by special church services. Ministers were given information and asked club members to take part in the services. These services were announced and explained over local radio stations and in local newspapers.

f. Recreation

Clubs held special recreational meetings during the spring or summer months. Club picnics and socials were planned and arranged by committees of club members.

4. Leadership

a. Organization Leaders

Each of the seven clubs had the following officers: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and two song leaders. This makes a total of forty-two junior organization leaders. There was a sponsor for each club who assisted with the organization at the schools where clubs have meetings during winter months.

The officers received training at the County Council meeting on how to conduct meetings and perform their duties. Group conferences were held before or after club meetings. Each officer was given a leaflet which explained the duties of the officers and rules of parliamentary procedure.

The officers conducted the monthly club meetings. The vice-president in each club served as chairman of the program committee and was in charge of preparing a short program for each club meeting. In this way a majority of the members participated in a program during the year.

b. Project Leaders

Ten women served as 4-H club leaders and twelve others were helpers for neighborhood groups. The agent held seventeen training meetings with a total attendance of sixty-three. They gave twenty demonstrations with two hundred and one members attending the meetings. Leaders were given project manuals, mimeographed material and illustrative material to assist them in leadership activities.

There was a junior project leader in each club

who gave or assisted the agent and leaders in giving demonstrations.

c. Honor Club

The County Honor Club was organized in 1944 to recognize outstanding members who were at least fourteen years of age and had satisfactorily completed three or more years of club work. Twenty-eight girls in the county are members of the Honor Club.

New members were initiated at the Achievement Day program and county council meeting. Goals were set up to enroll new members in 4-H Club work, to assist younger members with project work and record books, to promote club programs and to take part in other activities that would be of benefit to their communities.

VI. Work Done With Other Agencies

A. U.S.D.A. Council

The agencies of the Department of Agriculture represented on the U.S.D.A. Council were: Production and Marketing Administration, Farmers' Home Administration, National Farm Loan Administration, Production Credit Administration, Veterans Administration, Vocational Agriculture and Home Economics, County Agent and Home Demonstration Agent. Other agencies represented were the County Health Department, Welfare Department, and negro professional workers.

Meetings were held to discuss county problems, programs of work, outlook information, and other matters of interest to members of the various agencies. Each month the chairman asked a member of one of the agencies to discuss their work in the county.

The home agent served as secretary and sent notices regarding montly meetings to the members.

B. Health Department

The agent cooperated with the Public Health Department in promoting educational programs. Detail information was given to club members on special programs such as the mass X-ray clinic held in the spring. Many clubs participated and were responsible for getting others to have chest X-rays.

A local chapter of the Virginia Council on Health and Medical Care was organized in the county. The purpose of the council was to strengthen a full health program in the district, to assist the established agencies with the various health programs and to support specific programs which would improve the health and medical care conditions.

Members of the council assisted in getting funds made available for expanding the local hospital. The agent was elected treasurer of the organization to receive contributions from members of the council for expenditures such as postage.

C. County Planning Board

The County Planning Board sponsored a workshop to study county conditions and to make plans for needed improvements.

The County Workshop Committee met with Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Ogden and other representatives of the University of Virginia Extension Division. Mrs. Grace C. Gordon serves as chairman for home demonstration work under the committee on "Better Living". The agent assisted by reporting on work being done in the county and presenting plans for furthering the work and reaching more families.

The Workshop Committee met jointly with the County Council on Health and Medical Care to discuss local health and hospital needs and outline plans for furthering the project.

VII. Evaluation of the 1948 Home Demonstration Program

Home demonstration work has contributed to better living for families in Prince Edward County. The people are interested in receiving information which will help them in having better homes and better family living. They have learned ways to perform more easily and efficiently their many household tasks, how to provide more healthful meals for their families, how to furnish and decorate their homes more attractively and within their income.

Attendance of members at meetings has increased during the year. Leaders have assumed more responsibility and have more confidence in themselves. They are interested in the values which they receive from home demonstration and 4-H Club work and have plans for reaching more people during the coming year.

The agent has enjoyed working with the people in Prince Edward County. Their interest and cooperation has been greatly appreciated.