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## IV. THE COUNTY SITUATION AS IT AFFECTED THE 1954 PROGRAM

A plan of work, for Northampton County, in 1954, was set up with the people, land types, sizes of farms, marketing facilities, farm buildings, home conveniences, home food production, nutrition, health, recreational facilities, churches, schools, incomes and sources of income in mind.

Northampton County has a population of 17,300 with only 44% of the people living on farms. The other 56% live in small towns and villages. There are two towns with populations of approximately 1000. The negro population of the county is 53.4%.

Above average in the state, the soil is excellent for growing truck crops, giving the county the distinction of being the largest truck growing county in the state. The growing season is 210 days, over 50 farms are irrigated. In recent years, a few farmers have supplemented their income with livestock production, converting 1176 acres of land into pasturage.

Of the 603 farms in the county, 547 are specialized and commercial, ranging in size from 25 to 3000 acres. Only 62% of the Home Demonstration Club members live on farms.

Marketing, in nearby northern cities, is facilitated by the P.R.R., running the length of the county, and a 3-lane-highway paralleling the railroad. All roads in the county are hard surfaced.

80% of the people have electricity in dwellings of generally good condition, until the recent "Hazel", which destroyed chimneys, removed shingles and, in a few cases, overturned houses.

48.9% of the homes have running water in the homes but fewer have bath rooms. The 1950 census shows 122 farms having hot water heaters

which is too low, at present, as numbers of Home Demonstration Club members have put in heaters, recently.

According to 1950 Census, there are telephones on 50.7% of farms; 621 automobiles on farms; 23% with home freezers and 41% with washing machines. These are all too-conservative-figures, at present, agent feels.

From the standpoint of food production, 501 farms have cows (this includes beef cattle); 467 farms have poorly managed home farm poultry; 321 farms carry 2682 hogs and pigs, with a substantial decrease during the past five years; 336 farms report home gardens. Few of these are adequate year-around-gardens. (Time and labor elements are reasons for lack of same) Truck crops furnish an abundance of fresh vegetables, for the family, during the "Good-selling-price season, only.

With a high rate of tuberculosis in the county, the need for more milk consumption, together with better food habits, is recognized as a problem. Two T.B. Clinics are held bi-monthly at the county Health Department, for locating and supervising these cases.

There are no recreational facilities for young people; no gymnasium, parks or bath houses on the beaches, where young people can meet for wholesome recreation.

Twenty-four white and 9 negro churches, of all denominations, meet the housing needs of the communicants, for church services and some recreation.

Three commercial canneries; a railroad and ferry terminal; seafood industry; and truck cropping provide sources of income, for the majority of the people of the county. Due to lower prices for some crops and a desire for home freezers, televisions, etc., some homemakers have gone out of the home to supplement the income.

Using the preceding facts, together with outlook information, as a basis a plan of work was set up, by the county women, to help overcome some of the problems and raise standards of living.

## V. ADULT WORK

A. Project Work1. Foods and Nutrition

a. Production - In order to have an adequate supply of good, fresh food for the family, proper management of a farm laying flock and a year-around-garden were considered "musts".

Result demonstrators, in practically all clubs, were used to show the methods recommended by specialists in these lines. Monthly letters, prepared by the respective specialists, were also used by leaders in leading monthly discussions. While progress has been slow, one of 10 Poultry Result demonstrators has improved the management of her flock, during the past 7 years, to the point that the specialist declared her "graduated", at the last scoring, in the early spring. Through this demonstrator's efforts she has influenced several other homemakers to use lights with their layers, improve housing and feeding methods, etc. One member of her club has asked to become a Result Demonstrator and Poultry leader, to succeed the "graduated" demonstrator, in order to get help from a specialist.

b. Selection - In order to meet the needs of the majority of the club members, in conserving time, energy and food while feeding all members of the family, adequately, four food topics were included in the year's program: "Low Calorie Diets", "Dairy Product Desserts", "Pressure Sauce Pan Meals" and "Special Breakfast Diets". Trained leaders gave these demonstrations at monthly meetings.

Reports of loss of weight, through low calorie diets; use of more milk; conserving time, energy and food through the use of "Pressure Sauce Pan" and members of family eating better break-

facts have not been kept. Club members, generally, are more interested in a recipe than nutrition and argue that anyone who can read can follow a recipe and "cook". Conceding this, the planning committee still felt a need for more work in nutrition, as such, and included "Better Food For The Family" in the 1955 program.

c. Preservation - According to the 1950 Census, only 23% of the homes have home freezers. This figure will, no doubt, be almost double when the 1955 Census is taken.

Due to the large number of freezers and indifference on part of those who do not have freezers, the county canning center was discontinued. Agricultural Teacher, in charge of center, deplored the fact that the nice electrical equipment had to be abandoned although all professional agricultural workers urged homemakers to use the center in saving the truck crops that were not sold.

Reports, from approximately 50% of the club members, show the following amount of food saved for winter use through freezing and canning:

7434 pounds meat  
3633 pounds fruits  
9866 pounds vegetables.

d. Preparation - Homemakers asked for help in freezing dishes ready to serve, such as casseroles, to use on busy days and when the homemaker was away at meal time.

A commercial nutritionist gave this type demonstration, in May, to a county-wide group. Due to a misunderstanding, the demonstration was delayed until the busy strawberry season when numbers of interested homemakers could not attend.

191 casseroles were reported having been frozen and a number of club members reported freezing 200 biscuits, at a time when entertaining or in saving time with family-meal preparation.

## 2. Housing

Although homemakers, generally, in this county, are conscious of conveniences, especially in the kitchen, there is still much to be done.

Two long-time-problems are being supervised, by a state housing specialist, and two new long-time-problems are under way, after the specialist made suggestions for improving kitchens and putting in baths. Help in planning a new home was asked for and agent assisted homemaker in preparing her floor plan and submitting same to state housing specialists for necessary changes and additions. This homemaker expects to begin building, in April.

Results, in the two long-time-problems, have been gratifying to those of us who have worked with these homemakers. The interior of an old house will have been entirely remodeled, when plans are finally carried out. The owners of this home appreciate the help given to them, during the past four years and they have asked for a landscape specialist's help in improving their grounds. Two visits have been made by specialist, for planning.

One house, used in 1953 as a demonstration in training 5 Home Demonstration agents of the District in remodeling plans, has resulted in a joy to the owners and a satisfaction to specialists and agents, who assisted with the planning.

An unattractive, inconvenient kitchen has been converted into a convenient, attractive one, with adequate storage and work space. Running water, for the first time, was put in the kitchen and a utility room, made from one end of a back porch. Second-hand hot water tank was attached to the wood cook stove, used for heating as well as cooking, during cool weather. A used gas stove was contributed by a married daughter to use during the summer. Putting the washing machine in the utility room made space for the refrigerator at the work center and allowed more room for

the family dining center. With a sink, oil stove, ironing board, homemaker's desk and self-made-filing drawer, in the utility room, the owner finds real joy in doing her work and saving time and energy. In further carrying out the plans, a large clothes closet, with sliding doors, has been added in the master bedroom. Looking forward to installing a complete bath, upstairs, and a powder room down stairs, these home owners are constantly planning and saving for "that day".

### 3. Clothing

Homemakers, who make the family clothes, felt that there were a sufficient number of trained leaders in the clubs to assist the new members, who want this help.

Using discarded adult clothing, for "Making Children's Garments", was selected for study, realizing that children's ready-to-wear clothing is so expensive. Grandmothers appreciated and used the information, received from the clothing specialist, at a training meeting, in making 28 garments; 623 new garments were reported having been made.

Agent feels that "Buymanship" is needed, especially for mothers with teen-age daughters, who want all the clothes seen in store windows and magazines.

### 4. Home Management

Homemakers asked for a repeat demonstration, given in 1948, on "Short Cuts In House Cleaning". Agent trained leaders, who gave the demonstration in their clubs, the following month.

New members and new homemakers profited most from these demonstrations, although latest methods, and materials, used helped the older members, according to oral reports received.

### 5. Landscaping

In setting up a program, for 1954, homemakers felt the need for help in improving the appearance and use of their home grounds.

During the early spring, agent assisted a homemaker, with a new home, in selecting suitable shrubs for foundation planting and introduced her to a grower of dwarf English box bushes. As a result of this, a friendship developed which meant the donation of bulbs, other shrubs and a decided discount on the box purchased. Since that time, home owner has secured pine seedlings, which she has set back of the living area, where camellias and azaleas will be put in.

In September, a state horticulturist, trained leaders in planning home grounds, delineating the various areas, suitable plant material, walks, drives, etc. As a result of this training 5 leaders gave excellent demonstrations, using slides, furnished by the specialist. As this demonstration was given during October, no records are available at this time, however, some of the homemakers, who saw the demonstration; have asked for further help in building outdoor fireplaces, designing grounds, pruning, selecting material, etc.

#### 6. House Furnishings

To satisfy those homemakers who want handicraft and to provide useful house furnishings, "Making Corn Shuck Articles" was included in the program.

Agent trained leaders, in six clubs, for this demonstration, which is being given during November. Door mats and hot dish mats were the articles demonstrated. "Hazel" eliminated those shucks that were still in the fields but homemakers hope to find enough to learn the art. Leaders had gotten their shucks before the storm.

As a result of former years' training 40 slip covers, 43 picture frames refinished and 122 improvements in the home were reported having been made.

#### 7. Rural Arts

The second handicraft demonstration, asked for, was in "Making handbags". Although the clothing specialist trained leaders in Accomack and Northampton Counties, in an all day session, agent has seen only one creditable result.

Agent feels that, inasmuch as this demonstration was not given, in the clubs, until July, those homemakers, who would have made a bag or bags, were too busy with crop harvesting, to do any construction, at that time. We hope there will be a carryover of this training and results will show in 1955.

#### 8. Garden and Poultry

Reported under No. 1, Food Production.

#### B. Federation Goal

"Health-Safety" was selected for emphasis, following a year of work on a Safety Scrapbook, compiled by members of the seven clubs, during 1953. Having stressed "Health" during the past six years and Safety, in 1953, members willingly accepted the combination, by the State Committee.

Taking "Healthy-Safe Homes, Mentally and Physically" as the aim, the County Goal Chairman asked a former County Public Health Nurse to meet with her and H.D. Agent and help to set up goals for the county. This planning was based on personal health, family health and community health. After securing material from the State Health Department and other reliable sources, the County Goal Chairman met with the club goal chairmen and was assisted by the same people, who helped set up the goals. She outlined the year's work and gave the chairmen material to help them in carrying out the program. Club Goal Chairmen were put on the mailing list to receive the monthly State Health Bulletin.

Two clubs subscribed to Today's Health and goal chairmen watched for timely health articles written by members of the American Medical Association. Club Goal Chairmen led excellent discussions, at monthly meetings, and distributed excellent reference material.

As a result of the efforts of those trying to further the Health-Safety program, 36 reported following the Safety goals of the previous year. The Safety Scrapbook, compiled during 1953, was kept in each club, for one month,

giving all members, and other interested persons in the communities, time for studying it. 39 women reported having a physical check-up.

Mobile X-Ray Clinics (4 days) were held in the county, during October for the first time in 10 years. The County Public Health Doctor met with County H.D. Executive Committee, in September, and asked for the assistance of the Home Demonstration Clubs in publicizing the clinics and helping with the clinics. Club members gladly accepted this responsibility, posting material and covering their communities with pamphlets, giving necessary information. Although 500 attendance per day was the goal in order to have the clinics, in 1955, those in charge doubted they would reach it. 2626 persons were X-rayed. Two Home Demonstration Club members served in the clinics, daily.

Following the clinic, agent received a letter from Dr. Fritz, County Public Health Doctor, expressing his genuine appreciation for the success of the clinic and recognizing the club members as being largely responsible. In talking with agent, prior to meeting the Executive Committee, Dr. Fritz said he was asking what he considered the strongest organization in the county to assist his department in publicizing and conducting the clinics. Members of the Junior Woman's Club assisted with conducting clinics, Churches, P.T.A. and Civic Organizations also assisted in publicizing, giving notices at their meetings.

C. Other Activities

1. Home Demonstration Week - This week comes at a time of the year when our county is entering a heavy crop harvesting period - strawberries and beans. Homemakers are busy, assisting in the fields and doing other necessary jobs to facilitate this work. In spite of this handicap, ten members attended the District Federation Meeting, held in Warwick, Va., May 6. At this time, \$14.72 was contributed to the "Pennies For Friendship Fund". Going to a meeting across the Chesapeake Bay entails

an outlay of such energy, time and money. Serving breakfast to a family, driving 25 miles and catching a 7:00 AM ferry, across not-too-calm waters, is not too conducive to attending an all-day meeting and arriving home not earlier than 8:00 or 9:00 PM.

2. Continuing Education Center - When the County Home Demonstration Committee Chairman presented this project to the members of the County Committee, at their annual planning meeting, they accepted the challenge and included \$200 in their financial budget, for 1954.

Bakes, auctions and game parties were methods used in raising this fund. A check, for \$200, was sent to the State Federation Treasurer, preceding the annual State Federation meeting, held in July. The District Federation Chairman informed County Home Demonstration Committee Chairman, at the annual meeting, that Northampton County was the first in this district to meet its quota.

3. I.F.Y.E. - Having had an International Farm Youth Exchangee delegate, from Finland, in the county during 1953, the people of the county are more interested in this project. \$40 was contributed by a donor, who wished to remain anonymous, to help finance a Virginia delegate to New Zealand.

We hope to have a county boy, now a senior at University of Virginia, acting as an I.F.Y.E. delegate, to France, in 1955.

#### VI. 4-H CLUB WORK

##### A. Project Work

1. Due to lack of facilities in schools, where meetings are held, it is difficult to do good Foods work.

Four girls did Quick Bread work and two made yeast bread, during the year, their mothers acting as leaders in three cases, helping them carry out agent's instructions. These girls learned to make and judge bread. Bread was made 342 times by these girls.

The four, who took quick breads, in 1954, have signed up for yeast bread work, in 1955. Seven girls signed for quick bread. Agent correlates Food Selection, based on Basic Seven Food Charts, with the bread work, as far as possible.

Preservation of foods is a project in which agent has been unable to interest girls, due, largely, to fact that mothers are not interested, while money is rather plentiful. 10 girls, in one club, met for a demonstration in canning tomato juice and 2 girls, in another club, worked with mothers freezing and canning foods. A total of 159 quarts were reported canned and 161 packages, frozen.

2. Clothing - Unit III was selected by 8 first year girls in one club. An expert seamstress and mother of one of the members agreed to work with girls but found, in October, she would not have transportation and could not get to school, where club met. Club sponsor worked with group when agent was working with "Health" or "Bread" group. 7 girls completed this project, making and exhibiting, at club and Keller Fair, 31 articles.
3. Room Improvement - 53 girls, in 3 clubs, signed up for this project. Agent gave instructions at 7 monthly meetings. 41 girls completed, working on 69 rooms and making 182 articles. These girls learned to make beds, set a table, properly, and practiced same for 3 to 6 months. They all kept their rooms for at least 3 months.
4. Health - 16 girls joined this group. Check sheets were used, at beginning of project. Instructions were given, by agent, at monthly meetings, to help members improve. Final check showed all girls had improved along some lines. Grooming was stressed and girls showed decided improvement in appropriateness of dress, care of clothes, hair, skin, nails, etc. Agent feels this is one of best projects for 7th grade girls as they are soon to enter High School, and are more conscious of their appearance.

B. Other Activities

1. District Camp - 19 girls attended camp, the week of August 16. One little girl, whose mother died at child's birth, lives with old grandmother, who is very eccentric and father, who allows child to make own decisions. Agent tried to help child improve a very dingy, unattractive bedroom but, with no cooperation in home, she became discouraged and would have gotten out of club if agent had not made several home visits and gotten cooperation of an interested neighbor, whose daughter, liked this girl. With such planning and inveigling, we were able to get girl to go to camp. The interested neighbor helped child to complete her plans and went to her home Sunday P.M., before going to camp next day, and took her to her house, where she spent the night. Monday A.M. the neighbor, with her daughter and the other girl, met the school bus and agent at ferry terminal. "The impossible had been accomplished", was the feeling of school principal, teachers and members of family, outside the home, who knew the conditions. Needless to say, this girl had a wonderful week in camp and teachers tell agent she is doing better school work. Last year, this girl stayed out of school until agent and neighbors showed real interest in her. Agent talked with teachers, who did not know home conditions, and urged them to give the girl more attention and keep her in school.

2. Rural Life Sunday - In March, committees were appointed, by club presidents, to work with ministers in all the county churches, offering services of club members. Committees reported on progress, at April meetings, ironing out difficulties.

Club members distributed church bulletins, put flowers in churches, provided special music and attended, with their families, churches of their choice, when the day was observed.

3. National 4-H Club Week - All clubs arranged educational exhibits in public windows, during the week. These windows are judged on: (1) Originality, (2) Appearance, (3) Educational value, (4) Participation of membership. Awards of \$3, \$2 and \$1 are awarded, in that order, for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings.

These windows create genuine interest among majority of members, parents and public.

4. Fair - The Bi-county Fair, held for the 77th consecutive year, in the adjoining county, was held during week agents were attending their annual meeting, at V.P.I. Leaders and older members arranged exhibits and supervised same, during the 5 days of the Fair.
5. County-Wide Picnic - This is a day 4-H'ers look forward to. At the June Council Meeting, the date, time, place, etc., for the picnic, is set and committees are appointed. Members and families gather at the beach with picnic lunches. Swimming is enjoyed for an hour or two and hungry girls and boys eat in their swim suits. Following lunch, softball, contests and games are enjoyed until the lunches have digested and parents consent for members to go in water again.
6. Achievement Day - Achievement Day was not observed this year. County-wide newspaper will be published, by members, in lieu of Achievement Day.

## VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. H.D. Clubs or Groups	8	9	8	7	7
Membership	215	186	197	161	157
No. 4-H Clubs	4	4	4	3	3
Membership	90	63	67	72	68
No. other families reached	70	70	80	100	125
No. of different families reached	no figure	178	221	240	250

## IX. FUNCTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

- A. County H.D. Committee, composed of presidents of the 7 organized clubs, County Goal Chairman, secretary and treasurer, meet semi-annually for planning, checking progress and electing delegates to State Federation Annual meeting. A very active chairman of this group attended 20 county, district and state meetings in furthering the program, during 1954. This committee unifies the county program and serves as a steering committee. The treasurer prepares and presents a financial budget, which is acted on by other members of the committee, at the annual planning meeting. The secretary keeps legible and factual minute book, set up in 1947. The Goal Chairman is elected at the planning meeting, based on her background, interest in the subject and time she has to devote to promoting same. This chairman sent semi-annual reports to the State Goal Chairman and assisted club chairmen whenever possible.
- B. County 4-H Council - This organization, composed of all officers of the 4-H Clubs, their leaders and sponsors, serve as a planning and steering committee in unifying a program of work. Two meetings are held, yearly, one in November, for setting goals, outlining monthly programs, electing officers and training officers in their respective duties. The second meeting, held in June, is for the purpose of check-

ing progress, electing delegates to State Short Course, appointing committees for picnic, Keller Fair exhibits and Achievement Day.

Club members enjoy the winter meeting, when they bring their lunch and hot chocolate is served. Each club recreation leader teaches a new game and members renew and make friendships.

#### X. LEADERSHIP

##### A. Contributions

1. Organizational - Older 4-H club members and 3 sponsors (teachers) steer the program and conduct monthly meetings.

A Parliamentary Quiz, held in each club, annually, helps club members to feel at ease in carrying out the duties of their offices. Sponsors have expressed appreciation for the training members receive, in this line, and one sponsor stated she would like for P.T.A. of her school to see 4-H Club meeting as members conduct better meeting than adult group.

2. The programs are developed by County 4-H Council members, based on State and County activities, such as National 4-H Club Week, Rural Life Sunday, District Camp, State Short Course, Picnic and Achievement Day. Sponsors assist with this planning.
3. Subject matter leaders are difficult to find and more difficult to retain. Transportation, outside remunerative work, lack of interest on part of 4-H'ers are reasons homemakers have given for not serving as leaders or continuing after they agreed to serve.

At present, agent has one subject matter leader who is school sponsor and organizational leader. This leader has served for over 20 years and feels 4-H work has great contributions to make to all girls and boys. Three of her grand children are club members, today.

B. Growth Of Leadership:

Leadership has decreased rather than grown, due to fact that two leaders, who did serve, stopped; one to have a baby and one accepted work outside of home.

<u>H.D. CLUB PROJECT LEADERSHIP</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
No. Project leaders (subject matter)	98	103	96	61	66
No. goal chairmen	8	8	8	7	7
No. Program Development Leaders	8	8	8	7	7
No. Result Demonstrators	25	17	18	26	27
No. training meetings by specialists	14	13	9	5	5
by District Agent	2	2	2	2	2
by Agent	-	-	-	1	3
Attendance at all training meetings	170	111	92	61	101
No. meetings without an agent	53	63	62	63	52
No. meetings leaders assisted	35	26	25	17	12
Demonstrations by leaders	-	-	-	56	62
Talks and discussions by leaders-no figures available-				129	160

Growth of A-H Club Project Leadership

No. club officers	28	28	21	21	21
No. adult project leaders	3	3	3	2	1
No. result demonstrations	-	-	-	-	-
No. training meetings held by specialists	-	-	-	-	-
by district agent	-	-	-	-	-
by agent	-	-	-	-	-
by member club dept.	-	-	-	-	-
Attendance at leader training meeting	-	-	-	-	-
No. A-H leaders trained individually	3	3	3	2	1
No. Club meetings held by leader without agent present	31	7	15	16	7
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted		2	2	2	0
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	31	4	7	16	7
by juniors	-	-	-	-	-

C. Activities of outstanding leader and her accomplishments

Mrs. Herman Richardson, County Home Demonstration Committee Chairman, has done more to promote Home Demonstration Work, in this county, during 1954, than any other leader.

In addition to being county chairman, she has been president of her local H.D. Club, for the past two years, conducting orderly, constructive, monthly meetings. Her leaders have attended all training meetings and have given good demonstrations. Her Federation Goal Chairman has collected and presented to the members more and better material than any other chairman.

Having acted as hostess to an I.F.Y.E. delegate from Finland, in 1953, Mrs. Richardson is most interested in this project. The County Committee, not having included a contribution, for this cause, in the 1954 county financial budget, Mrs. Richardson felt a personal responsibility for responding to an appeal made, later in the year. The county was asked for \$5 per club, which would have amounted to \$35, for Northampton County. \$40.00 was placed in agent's hand, later, by Mrs. Richardson, and instructed to ask no questions as the donor wished to remain anonymous.

Appealing to her members to help support, financially, the Continuing Education Center, at Blacksburg, \$200 was put in the Home Demonstration County budget, at the planning meeting, in September, 1953.

Mrs. Richardson sent county reports to the District Chairman, on request, and attended the State meeting, held in Blacksburg.

Twenty meetings, in addition to her local monthly Home Demonstration Club meetings, have been attended by Mrs. Richardson, during 1954, in promoting Home Demonstration work.

- D. The family contributing most to the program and carrying on a long-time housing project is composed of only two persons, Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Fuller, Jamesville, Virginia

Mrs. Fuller, a newcomer to the county, attended her first Home Demonstration club meeting, July, 1947, which was present agent's first meeting, in this county.

The Fullers had purchased an old, dilapidated house on Occahannock Creek, in which an old, feeble couple lived. Mr. Fuller had a small three room house (later to become his studio), in which they lived, allowing the old couple to remain in their home, until two years later when the old man died and the wife went to live with a daughter.

During these two years Mrs. Fuller had decided to supplement the income and occupy her time with layers. She and Mr. Fuller built a laying house, according to Cornell specifications, and she bought the best stock available. Following, explicitly, the directions of Mr. Dean, Virginia Poultry Husbandman, after entering her flock in the Laying Flock Demonstration, Mrs. Fuller received maximum returns and had no diseases in her flock for three years. In 1951, this laying house and flock was included in the Achievement Day Tour.

With Mr. Fuller's business taking him to the middle west and Florida, for several months, during 1952 and 1953, they sold the flock in order that Mrs. Fuller could accompany him.

Following the departure of the couple, in 1949, who occupied the old house, the Fullers asked agent for help in remodeling the house. Miss Settle, Extension Division Specialist, V.P.I., came over and helped the couple complete plans for making necessary changes in construction, throughout the house. A modern kitchen and bath were also planned and a breezeway was converted into an attractive summer living-room but comfortable in winter. After months and two years of hard labor and patience, the Fullers moved into their partially completed home.

Having brought from their old home, in Ohio, numerous good plants, the Fullers asked for a horticulturist's help in designing the home grounds and

using these plants.

Mr. A. S. Beecher, Extension Division Horticulturist, V.P.I., met this need and has visited the place the second time for giving advice.

Today the Fullers have a lovely, comfortable home, overlooking a large creek and cove, which makes in at one side of the home grounds, giving them water on two sides. This home was included in the Achievement Day Tour, in 1952.

Mrs. Fuller has been very active in the Home Demonstration Club, serving as Treasurer of the County Home Demonstration Committee for the past three years. In this capacity, she has kept the finances in perfect order and has presented a financial budget to the County Planning Committee, during the past two years.

After joining the Jamesville Club, in 1947, Mrs. Fuller began acting as project leader, serving on committees and helping in anyway possible. In December, 1953 she was installed as president of her club and built up a rather run-down one, from the standpoint of attendance. Seven new members have been added and one retrieved, during her term of office. Leaders have attended all training meetings and have given the demonstrations to club members.

Mrs. Fuller, and a committee from her club, secured a financial sponsor for the 1954 year book. Her committee held two meetings for setting up and proof-reading the book.

At her suggestion, 10 Federation Cook Books were purchased for club members and a second order for 10 or more is now being placed.

Mr. Fuller, an Ornithologist and Taxidermist, by profession, is preparing 200 different birds of Virginia for the Virginia Museum of Natural Arts, in Richmond. His counsel and advice has proved of value to the club members in his community. At present he and Mrs. Fuller are assisting with preparing material for the "Birds" study in developing "Art In Daily Living", dur-

ing 1955.

E. Outstanding Club and Accomplishments

In 1952 the Birdsnest Home Demonstration Club was about to cease due to the fact that all but three of the members were working outside of the home for reaneration. Agent was consulted regarding holding night meetings. While she did not agree that this was a good plan, there seemed no other solution for those who wanted to continue the club. Beginning in November, 1952, the club met at 7:30 p.m., with trained leaders giving all demonstrations, since that time. Agent counsels with officers, leaders and members as often as she feels necessary and, while the meetings meet the social needs of the members, agent feels that afternoon meetings would be more intellectually beneficial.

Ten new members have been added, one old member retrieved and two, from a dissolved club, have joined them. Agent feels that they have too large a club, representing too many neighborhoods, at present, but they are all related or very good friends so it seems the thing to do.

This club works very closely with the 4-H Club, sponsoring one large evening of games, during National 4-H Club Week, in March. A committee, from each organization, meets with club sponsor (teacher) in planning and executing the plans.

When the big night comes, club members, together with all the families in surrounding neighborhoods, attend. Various forms of entertainment are provided and, while it is not designed as a money-making scheme, \$26 was realized, for each club, in March, 1954.

These members meet all financial club obligations, and send a delegate to District Federation meeting, in May. Two "get-togethers" are held, yearly, when members and their families "play" for an evening. The summer party is held on the beach with a wiener roast. During the winter another party is held at a near-by clubhouse when they roast oysters, dance and

play games with the children.

#### XI. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

While there is no county organization of agencies, agent works with all, when occasions, for correlating programs, arise.

1. With the Welfare Offices across the hall from County Agent's offices, it is convenient to confer with the visitors, when we are both working in same family. 4-H Club members, when Welfare Clients, are given extra attention and guidance, when possible.
2. School Officials are very cooperative in helping agent to arrange suitable time and places for holding meetings.

School Board agreed, in 1948, to let agents use school bus to transport 4-H Club members to and from District 4-H Camp. Up until this time a public conveyance (at over \$300) was used for this purpose.

3. Health Department

Reported under "V-E Federation Goal" page.

4. State Library

Two clubs have secured 50-book-libraries three times, during 1954.

- ⑥ Some of the club members and retired husbands read practically all of these books. More members of these two clubs are reading than prior to securing these libraries. Books, from the State Federation Library, Blacksburg, are also read by members of other clubs, as well as these two.

5. Migrant Labor

Agent is a member of the Advisory Committee for study of Education of Migrants' children.

Northampton County and Palm Beach County, Florida are being used as Pilot Counties for purpose of studying the effect of migration on education of these children. This work is sponsored by N.C.A.L.L. and financed by volunteer contributions from foundations, church groups,

etc.

September 1 a former school teacher, employed to work in these two counties, came to this county. Working under the supervision of the County Superintendent of Schools, she consulted members of the Advisory Committee, soon after her arrival, stating her plans and objectives.

At the conclusion of her work, November 1, she reported to us that she had been instrumental in getting 110 migrant children in Northampton County School. A new type report card was given to each child which is to be carried to each school he attends, while the parents are working in various states, harvesting crops. An official transferral letter was sent, by Miss Sutton, the worker, to each school in which the child will enroll. The letter carries information regarding the child's progress, in his academic work, while in Northampton County.

Miss Sutton, now working in Palm Beach County, Florida will return to this county, in May, when the children will again enter our schools.

6. Northampton-Accorack Memorial Hospital

Hose Demonstration Club members made and presented Christmas tray favors for patients in the hospital, during the holidays.

Each 4-H Club made a scrapbook and presented it to the hospital, during the year.

7. Southern States

Agent secures Food Preservation educational material for the two managers of Southern States stores on request. Annual meeting was attended.

XII. BRIEF APPRAISAL OF YEAR'S WORK

In discussing a program, for 1954, Club members, generally, seemed

"neighborly conscious" and wanted all the homemakers in their community, members of club. We felt that more understanding neighbors would make a better community, state, nation and world, eventually.

While not stressing "Citizenship", as such, "Pennies For Friendship" were collected, by majority of clubs each month. Some of this amount was used, during the year, to remember sick members with flowers, bed jackets, cards, etc. and a good share was put in the county, "Pennies For Friendship" fund, which was presented at the District Federation meeting.

We felt that if homemakers attended the monthly meetings, and exchanged ideas, standards of living would be raised, through a better understanding of nutrition, buymanship, and techniques.

Working with 68 A-M club girls was a joy. Seeing the first year girls' enthusiasm, and watching the older girls' development, along so many lines, gave agent a real appreciation of her opportunities. Parents' indifference, lack of time for instructions and inability to meet, during the summer months, are the greatest handicaps in doing A-M Club work.

Putting greater value on recipes than nutrition has caused great concern to agent, during the year. Although four Foods demonstrations were included in the 1954 program, several clubs stated they didn't want anything on Foods, in 1955. In spite of this, "Better Food For The Family" was included, when the County Committee recognized existing conditions and the need for further study, at the planning meeting. No food preparation will be demonstrated, at the January meeting, when this topic will be studied and members will be encouraged to consider the "Nutrition" needs of their families first and consider recipes, later. Food Habits, generally, are bad, but agent hopes the new homemakers will see the mistakes of those crippled with the "isms" and "itises" and feed their families more adequately in the future.