

VIRGINIA

GREENE COUNTY Annual Report HOME DEM. AGENT 1936

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REPORT FILES
OFFICE COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
GREENE COUNTY

HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT
1936

Virginia Swink
Home Demonstration Agent
December 1, 1936 - November 30, 1936

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111. PERSONAL REPORT SUMMARY

Days in field.....	202 $\frac{1}{2}$
Days in office	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
Days annual leave.....	15
Days sick leave	1
Days left without pay.....	0
Legal holidays taken.....	7
Number home visits made (adult).....	595
Number 4-H clubs demonstrations visited.....	109
Total number different houses visited.....	458
Office visits.....	306
Telephone calls.....	76
Number news articles or stories prepared for press.....	41
Number individual letters written	327
Number different circular letters prepared.....	19
Number meetings attended.....	345
Number miles traveled.....	8,528

IV. STATUS OF COUNTY EXTENSION ORGANIZATION

The Greene County Board of Supervisors which is composed of three members, one from each of the three magisterial districts appropriates a part of the Agents salary. The Home Demonstration Advisory Board, and 4-H Clubs raise part. The balance is solicited from friends of the work.

The Home Demonstration Advisory Board of Greene County is composed of twenty eight members. These women are officers of the home demonstration clubs, with the exception of eight who remain on the board indefinitely. The clubs are located in each of the three magisterial districts, therefore each district is represented on the board.

The board has met twice during the year. The first meeting was held last December on a cold rainy night. The past years work was discussed, the major project for the year was chosen and plans were made to hold a food sale to raise the first installment on the appropriation money. The campaign for the coming year was discussed and a "Home Repair Campaign" decided upon. Committees were appointed to assist in carrying out the plans.

In July when a play was given to raise some money the advisory board assisted in securing characters for the play, getting them to rehearsals and home again and with getting advertisements for the program and babies for the Popularity Contest.

A committee from the board assisted with the plans and arrangements for Achievement Day and in securing prizes for the contest winners.

A "No Trouble" luncheon was planned for the December meeting. The women volunteered to bring a covered dish of her favorite food. With just a little coaching on my part a most delightful meal resulted. It was served in my office on card tables. I supplied hot coffee and waffles. After the luncheon was over we went into business session, planned the years program, the county campaign for 1937 and a county fair or bazaar to raise the appropriation fund for 1937. Suggestions were given by the members of things they thought would improve the programs in the various clubs.

The 4-H Club Council is composed of the officers of the 4-H Clubs and the leader. It held one meeting during the year at which time it elected officers, planned the years program and set up County Goals for the year.

The council assisted in enrolling the members in club work and in securing complete reports and reports. Many members of the council helped with the play that was put on last July.

The project chosen by the council was Home Improvement with recreation and music as desired minors to appear on each monthly program.

Transportation is very limited in this county as there is no railroad, only one bus line and few of the leaders own cars, therefore the leaders and officers are not able to reach a central point for meetings without great effort. This handicap has caused the council meetings to be less effective than they might have been.

Greene County has a very small relief roll. There ten women working in the sewing room. I gave a series of demonstrations to these women in chair seating and other subjects. They seemed to enjoy the work. Each woman was required to

bring a chair and put a splint bottom in it . I tried to get the N.Y.A. director to line up worthy boys and girls for her project . I have visited in the homes of some of these women.

The Episcopal church has a number of Missionaries stationed in this county. I work with all of them but one . I have given demonstrations to groups of girls and women. At four of the stations I have regularly organized home demonstration clubs at two , a 4-H Club at the Blue Ridge Industrial School. I have given the girls a course in chair seating as well as having the regular 4-H Club program.

This county is not very organizationally minded so there are not many organizations with which to work , but I have cooperated with the High schools in raising money for a sanitary sewage. With the churches in their effort to meet their budgets and carry out their programs.

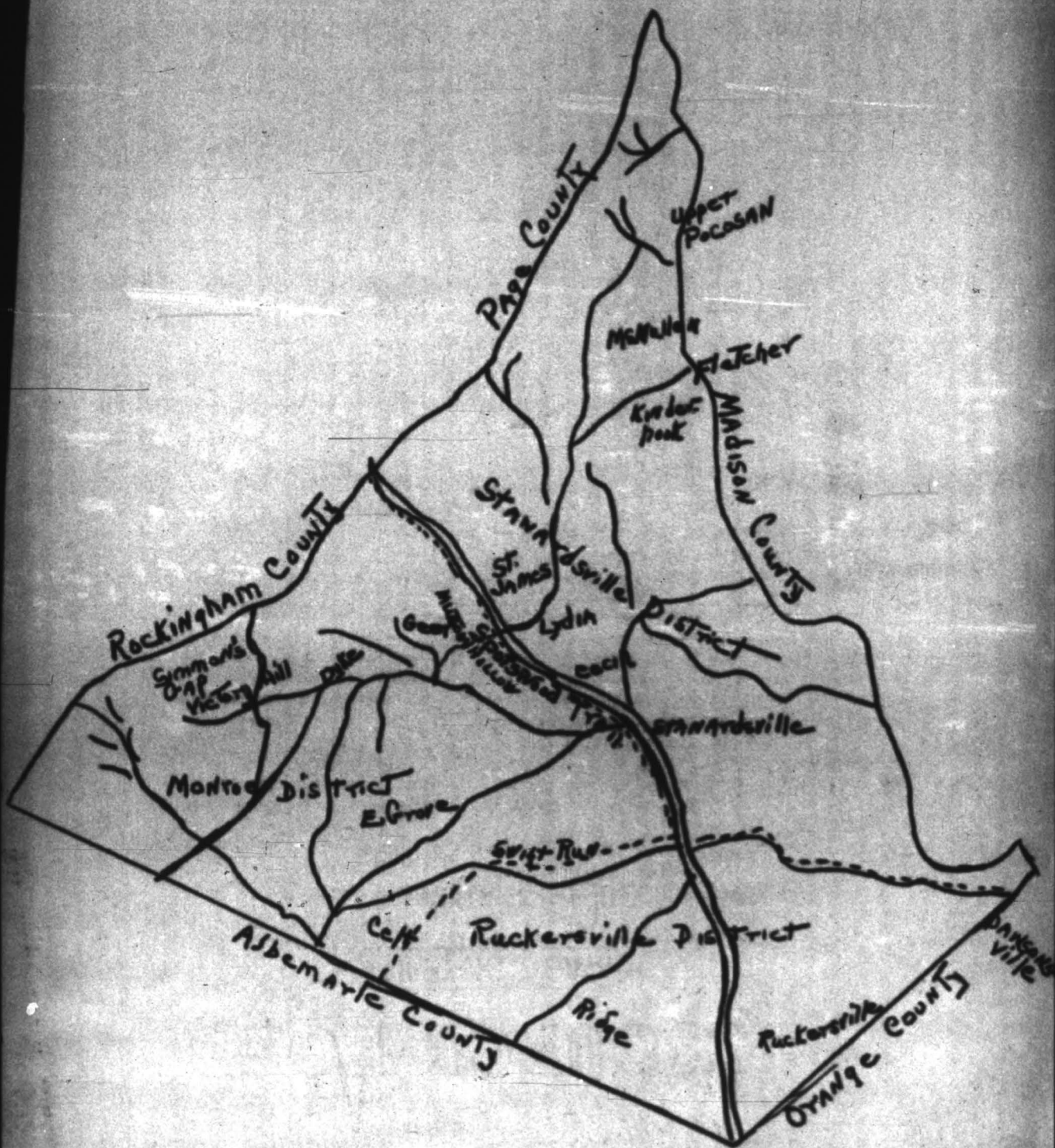
V. PROGRAM OF WORK

There are ten home demonstration clubs in Greene County as follows.

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>MEETINGS</u>
Bacon Hollow	35	10
Cecil.....	10	11
Dyke.....	14	11
Earlys Grove	10	5
Geer	16	6
Lower Pocason	10	5
McMullen	10	8
Ruckersville	25	12
S immons Cap.....	10	8
Stanardsville.....	24	12

Enrollment for past three years.

Year :	WOMEN		GIRLS	
	NO. Clubs :	No. Members:	No. Clubs :	No. Members
1933 :	8 :	137 :	22 :	
1934 :	9 :	140 :	14 :	274
1935 :	10 :	148 :	16 :	253
1936 :	10 :	158 :	18 :	345



The major project carried by the women was Handcraft. Since transportation is so limited in this county we tried using methods other than local leaders. The specialist came to the county in January and gave the demonstration to two home demonstration clubs. This enabled me to see the work as it was planned to be given for two months (January and February). In March she came again and gave demonstrations before two other clubs. This method gave the women of four communities the pleasure of seeing and having the specialists. However it did not train local leaders, neither did it give me someone in each group who felt the responsibility to collect and compile reports like the leader plan did.

The demonstrations consisted of demonstrations in making corn shuck mats, hooked rugs and mats, chair seating, wall hangings, basketry, household linens, pillows, and chair pads. Along with this unit we conducted a home repair campaign. An enrolment sheet was sent to each woman who would enter the campaign and she checked the items to be repaired on the sheet that she needed to work on. In the fall these sheets were collected with the work done checked on the other side. One hundred and fifty eight women enrolled. Sixty eight improved the selection of household furniture, seventeen did repair work on furniture, not counting chair seating, sixty five improved window treatments, seventy three improved the pictures and accessories in the home. One hundred and thirteen improved the walls, woodwork and floors. One hundred and nine improved the color in the home. Two hundred and eighty six rooms were improved. One hundred and two chairs and stools were resealed, the women used inner tubes splints or fiber. Fifty six table mats and chair mats were made, sixteen cushions, fifty one wall hangings, twenty eight shuck mats, seventy five baskets, and eighty five other mats.

A Typhoid Fever scare helped the campaign committee to get some worthwhile work done in sanitation in cleaning up unsanitary privies and unsafe wells. Twenty-eight wells were made safe and forty-five sanitary toilets built. Seventeen leaky roofs were repaired, nine new porches were built, twelve houses were painted or whitewashed. Thirteen fences were repaired. In a number of cases whole homes were rearranged and the pictures completely changed. I have worked on pictures this year and feel that some very gratifying results have been accomplished. *Notes*

The women minor in canning. Sixty-nine women made out canning budgets and canned to meet the family needs. A total of 100 713 quarts of canned food was reported by the women valued at \$25,753.60. The women made fifty-three exhibits at the County Achievement Day. One club member canned a corn surplus of food this year she said that she knew there would be lots of people this winter needing food and she expected to help all she could.

At a mountain school the women brought vegetables several times and canned them for the school lunches this winter.

I had the pleasure of having two commercial demonstrators with me this year. One in the spring who demonstrated canning fruits and vegetables and one this fall who canned meats. Fifty women attended the last demonstration.

In our county campaign we worked on home sanitation. Forty-five sanitary toilets were built and twenty eight wells were made safe.

All the women enrolled in club work raises poultry. Eighty of these made their

poultry really a minor project. Fifty eight followed recommendations in purchasing baby chicks ,sixty-two in rearing chicks, sixty one in feeding and disease and parasite control. Seventy-five women reported improving their poultry houses. Sixty seven culled their flocks.

I was consulted by six turkey raisers ,on parasite and disease control, culling and selection of breeders.

I saw there was a need among the women of the county for second hand clothing. So to meet this need I opened a clothing exchange .People who had clothes that could not be used any longer by themselves brought the articles to me and I sold them to the mountain people at a very small price. This project cleaned out closets, supplied the underprivileged people with some clothing and gave us a little money to use in furthering the extension program among the needy.

Home gardens have been developed to a very outstanding degree in this county. Practically ever home has one which supplies the needy vegetable in the summer and at least one leafy vegetable for winter. The natives make use of cress, rock lettuce, wild lettuce,dandelions and a number of other leafy vegetables which can be cut from the fields with the exception of about two months. My biggest task has been with root vegetables and things that can be stored . In one community I was able to secure money to hire a man with a plow to cultivate all gardens of the families in one community where the people did not have a horse ,or any way to get the gardens plowed . Seeds were also supplied and the women relieving the benefit were required to can a number of jars of vegetables for the school lunches for this winter. Fifty nine homes followed fertilizer recommendations , sixty- two insect control, sixty two disease control methods. One hundred and eighty two families are following a " Live at Home "program.

In home beautification of grounds the women have made an effort to plant native shrubs and trees in their lawns. Mountain laurel was planted at sixty-eight homes , and dogwood at forty five.

Fences have been another point of emphasis as no one can have an attractive lawn if the fence is down, so sixty six homes repaired them.

At seventy-three homes the exteriors of outbuildings were improved by either painting, whitewashed, or mending broken places.

The community activities in this county can be grouped under three heads .
(1) Furthering the extension program by raising money to keep the work in the county to help send worthy children to short courses and on trips. To secure prizes for 4-H and Home Demonstration awards . (2) promoting county beautification by having " Clean Up " days and campaign, cleaning off certain church corners and planting them with iris and mountain laurel . To finance these beautification projects supplies were given by home demonstration clubs .(3) Helping needy children and women find clothes at a very nominal cost.

Eighteen women from Greene County attended the district meeting of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs . The thing that impressed the women the most was the way so many people were fed with so little apparent effort.

The report of the highway beautification chairman brought to the attention of the women the great need that we have to do something about signs and trash along the roads . The women here do not keep in very close touch with legislation

so most of the delegates that went in for that talk were somewhat surprised by the facts presented. Some of them would have liked to have had more instruction on the subject.

Only one woman went to Blacksburg to the state meeting of the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. She was amazed at the number of women who went and that in other counties the clubs have money to send delegates to the meeting. As a result of her efforts at least two clubs and probably three will have funds to send a delegate next year. Mrs. Richardson's talk on "New Frontiers" and the talk about hobbies were the two that most interested the delegate from here.

Two cars full of women went to Washington to the Associated Country Women of the World Meeting in Washington. One car full stayed only one day the other was there three days. The hand-craft exhibit interested the women as much as anything. Those who stayed through the three days enjoyed the pageant showing the costumes of many lands and ages. The speeches were enjoyed but were different to understand. I think the women gained a feeling of nearness to those other countries that they had not had before. Of course the "Tea" was the really great and motivating power and is still being talked about.

Achievement Day was held in October in the County Court House. The exhibits were placed in the very front of the room where all could see. The canning was the most interesting part of the display. Fifty-one exhibit by women. Each exhibit consisting of two jars. The women also entered many articles from their major project, such as embroidered pictures, pillows, hooked mats and rugs, corn shuck mats, refinished and re-seated chairs, chochet and embroidered linens, quilts etc. The program consisted of songs and reports from the clubs during the morning and a speaker and a picture show in the afternoon. It poured rain for twenty hours preceding the day set for Achievement Day so that out down the attendance and the number of articles exhibited. Only two hundred people came.

Eleven women from two communities went to Richmond, Va. on a historical tour. We took in all the points of interest that we could in one day. These women have talked about the trip so much that I believe we would have a real delegation to go if we were to try another tour.

Sixteen women went to Orange to hear Mrs. Tobby's talk on "Clothes and Personality". They thoroughly enjoyed the day.

There are only ten rehabilitation families in Greene. I have visited in all their homes. Two of the women are members of home demonstration clubs and I have recently started a new club that will reach five others. I offered to give a demonstration in "Cheese Making" to a group of the women as soon as the worker could arrange the meeting so that she could be present. She was unable to get the need milk at the time set, so the project will be completed later.

The Stanardsville Home Demonstration Club started out on the major project in January and had a demonstration on it each month until the six demonstrations had been given. At each meeting the president presided and carried out a program consisting of singing, business, a demonstration and then some recreational

features. In December the club planned for a contributed to a food sale, in June it gave a supper and raised \$20.00 toward a clean up campaign, in July it assisted with a play which cleared over forty dollars. In August the club went on a tour to Richmond. The September meeting was devoted to plans for Achievement Day. At the October meeting the club held a canning contest. The November meeting was devoted to election of officers, selection of the major project for 1937 and appointing of committees. The club has increased in membership and held an attendance record above average.

GIRLS WORK

The girls majored in home improvement. Eighteen groups were organized with an enrollment of three hundred and forty-five.

Starting in December a demonstration was given to each group each month. Ninety nine girls improved color scheme of her room, ninety-five selection of furniture, one hundred arrangement of furniture, ninety six arrangement of pictures and accessories, seventy three made porches more comfortable. A total of two hundred and sixty nine rooms were improved. Fifty-two chairs reupholstered, fifty three pieces of furniture refinished, thirty one pieces of furniture made, seventy six window treatments improved, one hundred and twenty two rooms had walls and woodwork or floor finishes removed. Two hundred and twenty five pieces of linen made, twenty five rugs made. Two hundred and twenty seven small articles made, and two hundred and sixty three other articles made.

One girl whose room had been neglected because she was the younger girl and no one realized the older sister was getting the little that was to be had, started to work on her room. She made a dressing table out of two orange crates and two old rough boards. The planks were nailed together covered with paper then some old white cloth, then white and yellow plaid gingham. A skirt was made of the same gingham and draped around the planks. A cheap but good mirror was bought for fifty cents. A keg was covered with the gingham with a pillow for the top. Curtains of the same material were made for the windows. All articles, including a table cloth and a bureau scarf were trimmed with the running stitch made of black thread. She dyed some feed bags yellow to match the other things and tore them into strips and made a braided rug of them and some white cloth. She cleaned her walls and woodwork and made them a lighter color. Then she rearranged the furniture and made a door stop, a brush holder and several other small articles. Her mother bought a new bed spread and gave it to her. Audrey exhibited more things at Achievement Day than anyone else.

One hundred and thirteen girls made out canning budgets and helped their mother can to meet the needs of the family. The girls reported helping with 2,500 quarts of food and canning 2,200 quarts alone. Fifty four exhibits were made at the county Achievement Day.

Fourteen boys carried gardening as a major project and one hundred and seventy girls as a minor. Seventy nine members had fall gardens and vegetables through the year. Eighty four are storing vegetables for winter use, seventy seven grew flowers and one hundred and three beautified the home grounds. The members completing reported 2,445 bushels produced.

A large percent of the boys and girls in this county who produce poultry have in mind raising chicks to sell as fliers or as hens later in the winter to provide money for school needs. Very few of them can be persuaded to hold any

stock over . Forty seven members kept a record of the flock, fifty-five culled as directed. Seventy fattened and dressed poultry for home use or market, forty seven tried out new egg recipes. The seventy two members handled 1,667 birds.

All of the 4-H Club Members were enrolled in the "Growth Work". Each child was examined by either the nurse a doctor, a club leader or me. Sixty seven improved posture, fifty three had teeth fixed and sixty improved food habits. Through a man in Washington I was able to secure shoes for a crippled girl. Money for five girls to be fitted with glasses.

Where the club winners came in for the county elimination contest it was discovered that one girl had a very serious heart trouble and after further examination at the University hospital she was put on a very inactive program.

The best 4-H Club is composed of older girls who are going to high school in another town but want to keep their own club going . They met at night once a month during the winter at the home of some girl. After the program and demonstration the older boys from the community would join the girls for an hour of recreation, which was always followed by refreshments. The boys always brought the girls, to the meeting and would spend the time playing cards until the girls were ready to join them.

Demonstrations were given each month by the agent with the hostess 4-H Club member assisting her .

This club had a Valentine party, worked up a play to be given for the benefit of the club, voted to give five dollars toward an extension appropriation fund and ranked second at Achievement Day.

Transportation is so limited in this county it is difficult to secure leaders who can get to leader training meetings so I did not attempt them this year. I took the leaders manual to the leaders and went over it with them and discussed the work we were to do together . Each meeting we worked together to get the best results possible. I had to give most of the demonstrations and the leaders took charge of the other responsibilities. The attendance was much better at the summer meetings where the leaders continued their interest and effort. The leaders were a great help in collecting reports.

We do not attempt a county short course or camp, but send all the girls who can go to Blacksburg to the State Short Course. This year nine girls, one leader and one All Star went to Blacksburg.

Achievement Day was held in October . Two hundred people attended . The exhibits consisted of canning, linens, repaired furniture, home made furniture, novelties, and rugs. Our speaker for the day was our State Girls Club Leader and after her talk we saw a good picture show.

I took the 4-H Club winners who took part in the county elimination contest to Richmond on a historical tour. The girls were taken first to the State Fair then to the Capitol then to several other points of interest and lastly to one of the big department stores. The younger girls had never seen an escalator. They thoroughly enjoyed riding up and down.

An effort has been made to improve the recreation in the county by devoting a part of each club program to music and games. By directing club parties and picnics at which games requiring a limited amount of equipment, or such as can be made at home is used.

VI. PROGRESS MADE DURING THE YEAR

GOALS	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
1. County Extension Organizations:	:
a. To conduct a county home repair campaign.	: One hundred women enrolled and reported work done.
b. To raise home demonstration fund through county and community events.	: Funds over raised.
c. To send a delegate to the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs meeting in Blacksburg.	: One delegate.
d. Pay dues to State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.	: Dues paid.
e. To hold an Achievement Day.	: Achievement Day held.
f. To work out programs for 4-H clubs.	: Program worked out at meeting.
g. To work to develop better leadership in the clubs.	: The older 4-H girls have responded to need within her club.
h. To stress recreation in the clubs.	: Games conducted at each 4-H club meeting with each club having a party or picnic.
i. To raise money to send delegates to Blacksburg.	: Paid part expences for five girls.
j. To work for completions in 4-H clubs by assisting with the collection of reports.	: Assisted with the collection.
k. Hold one district meeting of 4-H officers in each district.	: District meeting did not succeed.
l. Have council cooperate in county home repair campaign.	: Assisted with campaign.
11. Program of work	:
1. Adult	:
a. To continue working with eight of the present home demonstration clubs.	: Continued with eight.
b. Organize two new home demonstration clubs.	: one new club organozed starting on the second.
c. Endeavor to raise membership in home demonstration clubs to 150 really active members, total enrollment.	: Membership raised to 158.
d. Endeavor to reach 100 people indirectly.	: That number reached.
2. Juniors	:
a. Aim to continue working with fifteen present 4-H Clubs, and extend work to one new club.	: Worked with eighteen.
b. Aim for an enrollment of 325.	: Enrolled 345.
c. Aim to reach fifty indirectly	: Goal reached.

B. Project work

Adult.

- a. Aim to have handcraft as a major in eight communities.
- b. Poultry as a minor in three communities.
- c. Canning in eight communities as minor.
- d. Aim to have garden minor in eight communities.
- e. Aim to conduct such thrift projects as soap making, cheese making and remodeling of clothes in three communities.
- f. Conduct a "Home Repair Campagin" as a county project.
- g. Have women help to reach thirty other women indirectly.
- h. Have three communities can for a school lunch.

- :
- :
- : Carried on in eight communities.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- :
- :
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- : One canned.

2. Juniors.

- a. Have fifteen 4-H majors in Home Improvement,
- b. Have six communities minor in canning
- c. Have three clubs minor in poultry.
- d. Have six clubs minor in garden.
- e. Have four clubs help can for school lunches.
- f. Have club members enter Health, canning and others for which they are eligible.

- : Eighteen majored in Home Improvement.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached.
- : Goal reached
- : One helped can for school lunch.
- : Goal reached.

III. General Activities

Extension Work

- a. Write one news article every week.
- b. Visit two new homes every week.
- c. Average 12 home visits a week.
- d. Stress recreation in both home demonstration and 4-H Clubs.
- e. Encourage office Visits.
- f. Make report to Supervisors twice yearly.
- g. Hold six canning meetings for school lunches.

- : Goal reached.
- : Five hundred and ninety five home visits made.
- : Recreation was made a part of each program.
- : More office visits made than ever before.
- : Goal accomplished.
- : Four held.

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- h. Try to locate some additional 4-H club leaders. : Three new ones found.
- i. Work with the subsistence garden people. : Most of them visited.
- B. With other organizations :
 - a. Aim to cooperate with the Public Health Nurse as we feel will best serve the interest of the county. : Goal reached.
 - b. To cooperate with rehabilitation or by visiting her women and by having conference with her. : Visited families and helped where I could.
 - d. Cooperate with the relief agency as seems best. : Enrolled some of these women in clubs, gave special demonstrations to women.
 - e. Cooperate with any school or community organization as will aid them in their program. : Have cooperated to best of my ability.

This year has seen the organization of one new women's club and the starting of a second. The attendance and Membership of the home demonstration clubs have increased. The attitude of the women is much more progressive and enthusiastic than it has been in the past. The women have responded better to calls to attend special meetings and Achievement Day was the best it has ever been, since I have been working in the county. Although I feel that this is the best years work I have ever done in Greene. I am not satisfied because I feel I have not been able to do as much as I should have for the Out of school boys and girls, neither have I been able to accomplish enough with the underprivileged women. The enrollment of the home demonstration clubs have not increased as much as I feel they should have.

VII. PLANS AND GOALS FOR 1937.

In all probability I will lose two of my women's clubs because of the park activities in moving the families out. I plan to meet the any curtailment by organizing at least two more groups of women, increase the membership in the clubs already organized by having more interesting programs, that will better fit the needs of the people and at the same time be more entertaining.

I am now prepared to start the nucleus of a circulating library around among the club members.

The home demonstration clubs are going to foster a movement to help the Out of School youths to organize clubs, secure reading materials and have parties and some regular source of entertainment and amusement.

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