

1955 PLAN OF WORK

Dorothy Tolleth
Dinwiddie County

I. County Situation

Dinwiddie County has a 50% farm population. Items produced are tobacco, corn, grains, legumes, some meat and dairy products and food for home consumption.

Two thirds of the county population is non-white. The median income is \$1126 with 65% of the population having an income of less than \$2000. 30% of the farm families work off the farm to supplement farm income. 90% of the farm work is done by the farm families, with women and children working in tobacco.

The homes in the county are economically decorated, many are poorly arranged, lack storage space, relatively few have modern conveniences, and fewer still have central heating. The people are exceptionally well dressed and drive good cars.

People in Home Demonstration work are mostly from a settled population. They have been in the work a long time, so many phases of the work need not be repeated as often as with a shifting population.

Homemakers expressed the desire for help in planning all the things they want to do. Therefore our program is keyed to "time savers" and help to try to take them "out of the kitchen", while still keeping their families nutritionally safe.

II. Adult Program

A. Subject Matter Field

1. Foods

Objectives

- a. To make every dinwiddie county family a healthy one.
- b. To study better and more modern freezing methods to preserve quality of food and nutritive value.
- c. To study gardening for best results in home freezing.
- d. To study quick meal methods to save the homemaker time for other work.
- e. To suggest better summer deserts that will save time, save money, be nutritious and add variety to the menu.
- f. To study a variety of year around salads that are nutritious and appetizing and inexpensive.

Procedure

- a. The following demonstrations are planned.
 1. Gardening for freezing
 2. New freezing methods
 3. Quick Meals
 4. Summer deserts
 5. Salads
 - b. Leaders will be trained by the specialists in the 5 related food projects.
 - c. Flannel graph kits will be furnished by the agent, to help stress important points to be brought out in the meeting, when it is applicable.
 - d. Schedules have been made to hold the freezing meetings in homes where a freezer is handy. The leader to be a freezer owner.
2. Home Furnishing
- Objectives
- a. To teach color harmony.
 - b. To teach simplicity in design.
 - c. To teach hooked rug technique and good design.
 - d. To teach restoring picture frames and good mounting, and hanging.
 - e. To teach cleaning techniques for rugs and upholstery.

Procedure

- a. The following projects are planned.
 1. Decorating with color
 2. Restoring picture frames (special interest)
 3. Hooked rug meeting (special interest)
 4. Cleaning rugs and upholstery
- b. Hooked rug meeting and restoring frames will be a special interest meeting. Results of these meetings will be exhibited at Achievement Day.
- c. Cleaning Rugs and Upholstery will be a monthly project. The leaders trained by a specialist. It is to be a work meeting at a home where the hostess would like the work done. Everyone will come prepared to work. To learn by doing.
- d. Plans are not complete for the Decorating with color meeting. It may be a regular meeting by project leaders trained by specialist and the leaders use kits furnished by the agent. If plans work out it will be a county meeting with Mr. Rucker showing 3 pictures on color, design, and buying furniture, and a field trip through the new furniture and decorating store.

3. Home Management

Objectives

- a. To inspire the families to make wills and review deeds, to be sure they are what the writer intended.
- b. To alert farm families about the new social security law in effect this year.
- c. To alert the families to the 1955 income tax change.
- d. To have the husbands learn first hand the "goings on" in a H.D.S. meeting.

Procedure

- a. A project on family business will be given by the agent. She will distribute VPI pamphlets on wills and deeds and the income tax. Mr. Robertson, district social security director will attend the meetings with the agent and give information on the social security law.
- b. Meeting time has been altered, when the club desired, to make possible a pot luck dinner so the husbands can attend. We think they need to know what goes on at a H. D. meeting.

B. Federation Goal

The county goal is a recreation project. Last year the ground work was layed for creating interest in a county building large enough to take care of county and district groups for meetings and recreation. It was a "whispering campaign" to gain a helpful attitude from other organizations such as Farm Bureau, Ruritans, Church organizations and clubs.

The H. D. groups chose to work toward the building this year. The representative committee has been appointed, and they will outline and direct the plans that will be worked on a county wide basis. The group will meet in January to formulate plans and procedures.

These are suggested objectives.

1. Study Recreation and Educational meeting places available in the county.
2. Set up a planning committee with representatives from other organizations.
3. Each club have a building chairman to create sentiment for a building.
4. Each club work on a building fund.
5. Each club cooperate toward any county project for a building.

C. Other Activities

These club objectives were planned because the committee thought they would improve the H. D. work in the county:

1. Strive for award (\$15.00) for outstanding H. D. club*.
- Award to be presented at Achievement day, (* attached last page)
2. Show more courtesy to leaders presenting demonstration.
3. Take part in club and community activities.
4. Furnish leadership and financial aid for 4-H club work.
5. Send delegate to institute of Rural Affairs.
6. Report club activities to newspaper, keep scrap book to exhibit at Achievement day.
7. Attend all training meetings.

National H. D. Week

A district meeting is usually held at this time. 9 members will be encouraged to attend. The agent will write up some phase of the county work and send to the papers.

Achievement Program

A program will be held in the fall climaxing the years work. A committee will do the planning in August. The clubs will probably exhibit some phase of work. The award to the outstanding club will be given. Members who have earned pins will receive them.

Judging by local leaders

Trained local leaders will continue to judge at 4-H contests and other events.

III. 4-H club work

A. Project Work

1. Health

Objectives

- a. To teach eye protection with proper lite.
- b. To teach good manners.
- c. To teach some first aid practices and technique.
- d. To improve posture,
- e. To teach good grooming
- f. To emphasize good sportsmanship

Procedure

- a. The following program is to be carried by all members at club monthly meetings.
 1. Protect your eyes
 2. Have good manners
 3. Learn about the Health department and practice first aid
 4. Improve posture
 5. Looking your best in dress and grooming
 6. Be a good sport
- b. Members will conduct demonstrations when possible.
- c. Members will keep a record of their accomplishments.
- d. A member of the Health Department will give a resume of its activities and talk on first aid.
- e. Members will make exhibits and give demonstrations at Achievement day.
- f. Certain members will continue to carry projects in foods, clothing and home improvement on an individual basis with the agents help and supervision.

B. Other Activities

1. A talent show will be held in Feb. with members competing for a county award.
2. Camps
 - a. A-H camp is an incentive for completing project work and these members are eligible to attend.
 - b. Members 14 years and older with completed projects are eligible for State Conservation and A-H Short Course.
 - c. Members give reports to their clubs on activities at previous camps thus giving encouragement for completing projects and for better attendance at camp.
3. Contests and Achievement Day
In the fall a combined contest and achievement day will be held. Projects and record books will be exhibited and judged and demonstrations given. A program of entertainment will be planned with as many participating as possible. Ribbons will be given for work done. County medals will be given out at the Xmas party.
4. Rural Life Sunday - A tentative program will be given to ministers and members for Rural Life Sunday. The A-H'ers will be responsible for working out their part of the program with their own ministers.

IV. Young Men and Young Womens Work

No special program in this area . The work is included in Adult Work.

V. Farm and Home Development

No definite program or method planned for this county at the present time.

VI. Scope of Work

A. Organizations	no. 1951	no. 1952	no. 1953	no. 1954	no. 1955
Number of home dem. Clubs	14	13	13	12	12
Membership	313	304	244	242	250
Number of 4-H Clubs	10	13	13	12	12
Membership	210	185	179	162	170
No. young men & women's clubs					
Membership					
No. Community Improvement Clubs					
Membership					
No other organizations					

VII. Plans for Strengthening 1955 Program through:

- A. County Home Dem. Comm. Will act as an executive body for the clubs and help carry out the home demonstration program.
- B. Program Planning Committee. This group will consist of a representative from each club. They will be agent trained in county situation, and economic trends. The April meeting will be given over to program planning and which time the leaders will discuss the goals and problems. The project list of each club will be compiled in the office and sent back for member vote. The major and minor will be chosen in the fields having the largest vote.
- C. 4-H Council. Three unsuccessful attempts have been made to organize a 4-H council. Transportation has been the problem. Another attempt will be made in January to organize. This group will plan all 4-H activities other than the project program.
- D. County Honor Club. Another attempt will be made to organize this group. They will plan the recreation phase of 4-H work.

- E. County All Stars. This group has recently been reactivated. They will work with the agents to promote interest and better 4-H work.
- F. County 4-H Project Planning Committee. The work is accomplished at a 4-H picnic probably in June, at which all members are invited to voice their opinion on the next years program. The in school project is developed. The members who wish to carry on other projects will be consulted individually by the agents.

VIII. Plans for leadership

A. Home Demonstration	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. Project leaders (subject matter)	74	63	185	193	100
No. federation goal chairmen		13	13	13	13
No. program development leaders		13	13	12	12
No. of result demonstrations			67	117	0
No meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	7	6	13	9	7
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by dist. agents	0	2	0	1	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	1	2	4	17	2
Attendance at training meetings	104	195	274	314	100
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	66	105	112	98	77
No. club meetings in which leaders assisted			5	53	24
Total number of demonstrations given by leaders				120	80
Total number of talks or discussion by leaders	104	195	274	278	277

Plans for training and using all types of leaders.

Leaders will be trained at county training meetings by specialists in gardening for freezing, salads, quick meals, freezing methods, summer desserts, planning the best use of time and cleaning upholstery and rugs.

The agent will give the meeting on Family Business. Mr. Robertson from Social Security will talk on the new law for Farmers.

Specialist will give training for special interest meetings on hooked rugs, restoring picture frames and needlepoint.

The decorating with color meeting will probably be a county wide meeting with Mr. Rucker showing 3 movies on color, design and buying furniture. Concluded by a tour of the store.

The May program planning meeting leaders will be trained by the agent in March or April.

The Xmas party and picnic will be planned and conducted by club members.

A county recreation committee will meet in Jan. to plan club recreation for the remainder of the year. The recreation to be used before meeting time to insure prompt arrival.

Devotional leaders will have a training meeting in Jan. to select passages and subjects related to the projects.

Committee and leaders will work at various times during the year to plan yearbook, achievement day, club objectives, and points for securing a pin.

B. 4-H Club - Leadership Record

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. 4-H club officers	78	78	78	72	72
No. adult project leaders	15	15	5	8	8
No junior project leaders				2	3
No result demonstrators	0	0	0	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	1	3	0	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by dist. agent	0	0	0	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	6	0	0	1	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by personnel in 4-H Dept.	1	0	2	0	0
Attendance at leader training meetings	39	56	0	15	0
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	48	0	5	5	8
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	34	23	19	12	12
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	10	0	6	0	3
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	34	23	14	4	12
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	0	0	0	12	36

Plans for training and using 4-H leaders in 1955 program

4-H leaders have already been trained in Subject matter fields in which we are working and in judging 4-H work. We will continue to use the leaders who show interest in this work in fields which suit the individual.

IX. Plans for work with other agencies

- a. The Federation goal committee plans to work with Farm Bureau, Buritan, church groups to instigate a building fund for a community center.
- b. A member of the Health Department will give first aid information to 11 A-H clubs.
- c. Mr. Robertson of the District Social Security office will meet with 11 Home demonstration clubs to talk on the new Social Security law for farmers.
- d. Mrs. Gehring of VEPCO will give the project "Protect your eyes" demonstration to 12 A-H clubs.

X. Plans for good Public Relations

- A. Elected representatives: The pin Committee continued the policy of offering a point in getting a HEG pin if the members voted.

The agent will continue to have the county committee set the policy for County H. D. work.
- B. General Public: We will continue to publicize meetings for public participation. Each club now has a reporter who will write articles for the papers.
- C. Co - Workers: I think a weekly staff conference would enable the agents to coordinate efforts better in the county.
- D. The agent has received much help in illustrative material from commercial concerns, and will continue to write an expression of gratitude.
- E. The agent has cooperated with the three Home Ec. teachers in furnishing information for their work.

XI. Plans for recording progress:

A double page for accomplishments has been included in the county yearbook. Two minutes at each meeting are to be given to filling in. These are summarized and sent to the agent in October to be used for the annual report.

Club presidents give a report at Achievement day on club progress.
A-H groups report each month on assignments completed and make a written report of the years work at the May meeting.

XII. Professional Improvement

No organized study is anticipated in schools or short courses. The agent will attend the Institute and agents conference, continue reading professional publications, and keep membership in H. Ec. and WDA organizations. No workshop participation or educational trip have been planned.

XIII. Plans for Unified County Extension Program

The Assistant Agr. Agent and H. D.A. have worked out a unified A-H program for 1955. We are working together on forwarding the All Star group and organizing Honor club, A-H Council, Talent Show and Achievement Day. We hope to participate in the 5 county celebration in Lunenburg for National A-H week.

XIV. Problems in carrying out Extension Work

Transportation to meetings: Too many woman cannot drive, too many children cannot get to A-H special interest meetings for good participation.

For the H. D. meetings we have tried to select leaders who can drive to come to the training meetings. And included in the suggested outline for the years work that the president discuss transportation at each meeting prior to a county event.

For A-H work we have tried to find leaders who will gather up youngsters in the neighborhood to bring to county events.

"Too many things to do and go to and not enough time". This year we have a project planning the Best Use of Time to help the homemakers. We have included quick meals and other food projects to facilitate their work.

Apathy toward county improvement: We have had a whispering campaign for a new county building for a year. Now we are endeavoring to interest leaders in all organizations and committees through meeting and projects.

Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



Dorothy Tolleth
Dec. 1, 1954 to May 31, 1955

W. Joan Tilley
Sept. 1, 1955 to Nov. 30, 1955

agent

assistant agent

1955

Dimwiddie

county

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
OF
EXTENSION WORK IN DIMIDDIE COUNTY VIRGINIA

December 1, 1954 to November 30, 1955

W. Joan Tilley
Home Demonstration Agent

HEADQUARTERS
Dimiddie Court House
Dimiddie, Virginia

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IV. County Situation

Dixie county has a population of 19,000, with two-thirds of the population non-white. The median age is 30.8 years, with 9% of the population over sixty-five. 74.8% of the persons 14 to 17 years old are in school.

This county has a 50% farm population. Items produced are: tobacco, corn, grains, legumes, meat, dairy products and food for home consumption. The size of the county is 506.36 sq. miles or 324,480 acres, of which 319,480 is agricultural land.

The median income is \$1,226, with 65% of the population having an income of less than \$2,000. Thirty per cent of the farm families work off the farm to supplement the farm income. Ninety per cent of the farm work is done by the farm families, with women and children working in tobacco.

Of the homes in the county many are poor morale builders (except for the T.V. sets). As contributing factors, the homes are poorly arranged, lack storage space, relatively few have modern conveniences, and fewer still have central heating, but the people are showing feeling for this situation and improvements are being made.

The women in Home Demonstration work are mostly from a settled population. Most have been in the work a long time; so many phases of the work need not be repeated as often as with a shifting population.

V. Adult Program

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

For the past 10 years Dinwiddie county has carried a Health Project. This background has made the Home Demonstration members conscious of the need for continued emphasis on nutrition, therefore, the program major has been food work this year.

Objectives outlined for 1955:

- a. To make every Dinwiddie county family a healthy one.
- b. To study better and more modern freezing methods to preserve quality of food and nutritive value.
- c. To study gardening for best results in home freezing.
- d. To study quick meal methods to save the homemaker time for other work.
- e. To suggest better summer desserts that will save time, save money, be nutritious and add variety to the menu.
- f. To study a variety of year around salads that are nutritious and appetizing and inexpensive.

The following demonstrations were planned:

1. Gardening for Freezing
2. New Freezing methods for fruits, vegetables, meats, and prepared foods.
3. Quick Meals
4. Summer Deserts
5. Salads

A project leader from each club, interested in the specific topic, was trained by specialists in each of the five projects. (An effort was made to select a different person, as leader for each project, so that all members in the club could have some part in the yearly program.) These trained leaders gave the demonstrations in their club. An effort was made to have the freezing meeting held in a home where a freezer was handy.

Kits to help stress important points were prepared by the agent and circulated to the leaders in time for the meetings.

One club used the demonstration room at Vepco in Petersburg for their freezing meeting, and Mrs. Dora Goran, Vepco Home Economist, helped with the program.

As a result of these demonstrations, not only were the regular canning, jelly making, juices, and pickling done but there were 1,871 times reported of improving nutrition in the family by using more milk. Weight was controlled 226 times and health information applied an additional 165 times.

Some of the other examples of improvement and new methods reported adopted as a result of the demonstrations are as follows:

Instances	Subject
89	Improved gardens for freezing
29	Improved winter gardens
177	Improved freezing techniques
907	Nutritious quick meals prepared
398	Summer desserts made as demonstrated
593	Salads of type demonstration

There were many enthusiastic comments about the salads, particularly the cucumber salad.

Following is a summary of the projects and attendances:

	Leaders	Meetings	Attendance
Gardening for Freezing	18	11	167
New Freezing Methods	12	11	185
Quick Meals	11	11	192
Summer Desserts	11	11	119
Salads	11	11	136

Information from these demonstrations was reported
to be passed on to 407 additional people.

A. Project Work

2. Home Management

This project minor was an outgrowth of last years work on insurance and banking. The members thought they wanted more help with other phases of family business. Since family business is a family affair, it was decided to have the husbands and public invited to the meetings. An added reason, for this type of meeting, was to present the importance of the work of the Home Demonstration program to other members of the family, and also to provide a means for promoting good fellowship with neighbors.

The project objectives were to:

- a. Inspire the family members to make wills and review deeds, to be certain they are what the writer intended and bring them up to date.
- b. Alert farm families about the new social security law in effect this year.
- c. Alert the families to the 1955 income tax changes.

The agent (Tolleth) gave the project on family business (wills and deeds) and distributed V.P.I. pamphlets on "What Will Become of Your Farm?" and the new bulletin on Income Tax.

Mr. J. W. Robertson, District Social Security Director, and Mrs. Dunbar, his assistant, presented the new social security law in its application to the Farm Family.

The meeting time was changed when the clubs desired to make possible a "pot luck" dinner for the families to enjoy.

The meetings were well attended. As news traveled around about the project, increasing numbers of husbands and neighbors came to the meetings. The last four meetings almost lost the identity of a Home Demonstration meeting.

Results: 11 meetings - attendance 302.

The idea of these open meetings, when the project is applicable to the interest of the whole family, I (Tolleth) think should be continued and encouraged.

Much of the information from this demonstration was put into effect. One third of the Home Demonstration women actually reported ~~is-of~~ having applied the information of: wills, deeds, inheritance tax, banking or signatures. Many more checked their wills or made new ones or applied the information in some other way, according to the comments made. In addition, information

was passed on to 111 other people.

The idea of the night meetings is being continued in 1956 with a meeting on Administering Estates. Husbands and friends are invited.

A. Project Work

3. Home Furnishings

In program planning, the desire for home improvement seemed to be balanced with wanting to do something with the hands. This mass of interest in varying, unrelated home furnishings projects was brought together as a minor in project work. As a means of tying the interests together, a demonstration was planned on Decorating with Color and Simplicity of Design. The skill projects on hooked rug making, needlepoint and restoring picture frames were then scheduled as special interest meetings.

The objectives of these projects in the Home Furnishings Field are to:

- a. Teach color harmony
- b. Teach simplicity of design
- c. Teach technique in making hooked rugs
- d. Teach restoring picture frames, good mounting, picture selection and hanging.
- e. Teach cleaning techniques for rugs and upholstery.

The specialist held the meeting on hooked rug making; teaching the design, selection of materials, color harmony, dyeing, and hooking techniques. Although some are progressing on the project, others lost interest when they found out the amount of work involved in the rug making process.

I (Tolleth) believe that if we would give a better description of the projects, at the time we plan the program, more people would know what to expect and would not encourage a project that requires so much material and time from busy people.

The agent, trained by the specialist gave the meeting on Restoring Picture Frames. Each member attending worked on at least one frame. The variety made it possible to demonstrate almost every technique in restoring frames. The variety of pictures afforded opportunity for a good discussion of types and uses.

Following is a summary of the projects and attendance:

Project	Meetings	Leaders	Attendance
Hooked Rug Making	1	0	11
Restoring Picture Frames	1	0	32
Decorating With Color	11	16	121
Cleaning Rugs and Upholstery	12	12	138
Time Management in Housecleaning	12	11	121

The Special Interest meeting on Needlepoint was never held since the agent (Tolleth) left and there was no one available to give the demonstration.

The demonstration on Decorating with color was given by leaders, in each club, who were trained by the specialist. A special meeting to Rucker's Furniture Store in Petersburg was planned, but due to a change in Home Demonstration Agents, was unable to be carried through. It is hoped that it will be possible to make this tour in the spring of 1956, if interest still warrants. If the tour is continued, plans will be completed with Mr. Rucker for a showing of films on color and design.

The demonstrations on Time Management in Housecleaning and Cleaning Rugs and Upholstery proved very useful. The ladies have had much enthusiastic comment about the procedures and results demonstrated, and have readily adopted these suggestions. They

particularly liked the method of cleaning windows with ammonia water and a chamois, the (comparison of the) three methods of cleaning rugs (soap jelly, cleaning fluid, dry cleaning powder) and the method of determining the proper wax to use.

Following are the results as tabulated from the cooperators reports which were turned in.

- 77 Ladies improved their use of time by better organization
- 25 H.D. ladies improved in time management by help from others
- 241 ladies used color and design to improve their home in one or more of the following ways - walls, rugs and floors, furniture improvement or arrangement, window treatment
- 66 families reported improving sanitation
- 140 H.D. ladies reported improving their home by one of the following: building new, remodeling, painting, water system, bathroom, heating, providing better storage.
- 41 ladies refinished picture frames. (This information spread - 32 attended the demonstration)
- 29 Women made hooked rugs
- 61 Ladies reported doing one of following: Early American stenciling, needlepoint, reseating chairs, bedspread making.

A. Project Work

4. Housing

There were no demonstrations given in the Home Demonstration clubs this last year on housing but individual families were worked with. Help was given to one of the young Home Demonstration ladies, and mother, Mrs. Crawford Reese in remodeling the kitchen of a home they bought. (Mrs. Reese is the former Extension secretary.) The home was constructed of cement blocks and, as purchased, had no bathroom or running water. Therefore the first problem was to get water into the house and plan the bathroom and kitchen. Since major structural changes were necessary to work out the ideal kitchen, the second best was decided upon as the course of actions. The cabinets are now finished and a pleasant, convenient kitchen is the result of the planning. Work and planning are now being continued with the walls, window coverings and decorating.

B. Home Demonstration Community Project

The Federation Goal of the Home Demonstration clubs in 1955 was Recreation with the emphasis being on working with other agencies in the county for a "County Building."

In 1954 the ground work was layed for creating interest in a county building large enough to take care of county and district groups for meetings and recreation. It was a "whispering campaign" to gain a helpful attitude from other organizations such as Farm Bureau, Buritans, Church organizations and clubs.

The representative Home Demonstration committee was appointed and they were to outline and direct the county wide plans. The objectives for this committee were:

1. Study Recreation and Educational meeting places available in the county.
2. Set up a planning committee with representatives from other organizations.
3. Each club have a building chairman to create sentiment for a building.
4. Each club work on a building fund.
5. Each club cooperate toward any county project for a building.

Resistance to this campaign has manifest itself in the form of a dead weight and a counter proposition by other organizations of the county, such as the "Woman's Club", who were in favor of a "Community Building" just for the Court House.

Even though there is still very strong feeling among some of the ladies for a County Building, the clubs as a whole seem to be in much darkness to the project. Some of this lack of interest has perhaps come from a change of agents.

The campaign seems to be very much at a stand still, never seeming to have gotten "its feet off the ground."

VI Farm and Home Development

A. Method Used in Selecting Family

The Farm and Home Development Training Meeting for agents from the Southeastern District was held in Dimirddie County. The G. T. Richardson family was selected, prior to this meeting, as the family with which to work for this Training Meeting, since they are a very cooperative family and easy to work with.

B. Acquainting local leaders with Approach

I (Tilley) have talked with leaders from the various Home Demonstration clubs to explain the Farm and Home Development work, its goals and methods. There is still much to be done to give the ladies a real understanding of this approach and its value to them.

C. Farm and Home Development Family Progress

The G. T. Richardson family has been making reasonable progress in their kitchen improvement goal, despite the slow down necessitated in their work, due to continuing the farm operations of the summer and fall. The change of agents, and the period without an agent, have also slowed their progress.

Efforts are again being renewed and the actual work in the kitchen should begin soon. Plans for the work are

nearly completed. The new electric stove has been purchased to replace the large wood cook stove. A new hot water heater is purchased and ready to replace the old one which is worn out.

The agent (Tilley) and the Farm and Home Development Specialist (O'Brien) paid a visit to the family in November 1955 to complete the remodeling plans, which were developed by the specialists and agents in the spring, at the time of their Training Meeting.

VII. 4-H Club Work

A. Project Work

1. Health

Health was selected as a project that might not only fit into the time allowed for school meetings, but one beneficial to both boys and girls enrolled.

The project was outlined to teach:

- a. Eye protection with proper light for various tasks.
- b. Better manners and correct etiquette for various occasions.
- c. Acquaint the 4-H'ers with the Health Department services and practice some important first aid techniques.
- d. Improved posture.
- e. Good grooming in relation to person and dress.
- f. Emphasize good sportsmanship.

The following program was carried by all members at monthly club meetings:

1. Protect your Eyes - The project was given by Mrs. Doral Guerin, Veeco Home Economist.
2. Have Good Manners - a capable member from each club was trained to give the project.
3. Learn About the Health Department - Mrs. Frances Hoffman, County Health Nurse, gave the project.
4. Improve Your Posture - was given by the Home Demonstration Agent and Assistant Agricultural Agents.
5. Looking Your Best in Dress and Grooming - Home Demonstration Agent.
6. Be a Good Sport - Assistant County Agricultural Agent.

A total of 160 girls were enrolled in the 4-7 Health Project. Of these, 135 completed the project, a total completion of 84 3/8%.

A. Project Work

2. Individual Projects

Besides the Health project taken in school, some members initiated or continued additional projects.

So You'd Like to Sew

Make or Remake

Food Preservation (Freezing)

Food for Pop

Meal Preparation

Room Improvement

Your Home

Home Beautification

Grounds Beautification

Share the Fun

Junior Leadership

(These are totaled on page 31)

A detailed outline of the project with the method suggestions was sent to each member. Credit for the success of these should go to the mothers, who have directed, helped, and encouraged the members in these individual projects.

B. Other Activities

1. Talent Show

A share the fun program was carried at club meetings, to encourage youngsters to demonstrate abilities and develop leadership traits.

On February 18th, thirty members competed in the Counties first talent show contest at Dinwiddie High School.

A winner in each field was chosen and represented the county at the six county talent show in Victoria, during National L-H Week.

Joyce Sedivoy - Vocal; Nancy Anthony - tap dance; Donald Carson - Accordion.

There were 18 Blue ribbon winners and 12 red.

"Uncle Johnny" Atkinson was Master of Ceremonies.

Judges were Mary G. Hargrave, Mrs. R. E. Skinner, T. O. Rainey.

2. Six County Rally

Dinwiddie joined five neighboring counties to celebrate National L-H Week. Three winners from the county talent show appeared on the program at Victoria

March 11. (Sixteen from Dinwiddie attended).

Sandra Winn and Joyce Sedivey were interviewed by the Home Demonstration Agent for a Radio Program Saturday March 5.

Livesay Motor sponsored a float for the county in the Parade April 16, at Victoria and Lunenburg. Seventy-eight L-H'ers traveled by bus for the event. The youngsters helped prepare the float. It represented Dinwiddie County as the cradle of L-H Work in Virginia. Nine boys and nine girls dressed as they did in 1913 represented the tomato and corn club members of that time.

3. Special News Addition:

The following L-H girls wrote news articles for the Special 6 county 24 page L-H Edition of the Courier Record that was distributed to all L-H members.

Martha Moore - My L-H Story

Sandra Winn - Good Club Member Participation

Nancy Mayes - My L-H Story

Angelica Simmons - Necessity developed a project

Jean Mitchell - Mary T. Rainey, - It's fun to work together

Joyce Sedivey - Complete Refurnishing in my L-H Room.

4. District L-H Contest

The following demonstrations were given in the L-H

District Contest in Petersburg December 14th:

- Senior: Joyce Sedivoy - Home Improvement - Cleaning Kit
Angelica Simmons - Style Revue - Black wool suit
Jane Ragdale - Clothing Achievement - Cotton Dress
- Junior: Sandra Winn - Room Imp. - Fruit Arrangement
Jean Mitchell - Food Prep. - Chip Cookies
Mary T. Rainey - Dairy Foods)
Martha Moore - " ") Year-Milk Sherbert
Carolyn Chandler - Canning - Sweet Potatoes

Leaders Attending:

- Mrs. Chester Sedivoy, Mrs. H. E. Moore,
Mrs. S. E. Winn, Mrs. H. B. Gray.

5. Awards Luncheon:

The Petersburg Chamber of Commerce sponsored the
A-N District Contest Awards Luncheon Saturday, March 5th.

The Dinwiddie County girls won the following awards:

- Senior: Joyce Sedivoy - Home Imp. District Winner
Angelica Simmons - Dress Revue - Blue
Jane Ragdale - Clothing Achievement - White
- Junior: Sandra Winn - Room Imp. - Red
Carolyn Chandler - Canning - White
Jean Mitchell - Food Prep. - Red
Martha Moore - Dairy Foods - Dist. Winner
Mary T. Rainey

6. Recreation: Picnics

Three A-H clubs celebrated the completion of their yearly A-H School program with a combination swim party, picnics and hay ride. The members sold subscriptions to a newspaper and extract for expense money.

7. 1955 County Contest and Achievement Day:

The Annual County Contest and Achievement Day, for the girls completing their projects, were held the same day. The contest was in the morning of November 5 with a variety show and awards being given after lunch.

Lunch was served by a A-H committee, with the purpose of raising money toward a sewing machine to be used in A-H clothing project meetings. About a fifth of the money needed for the machine was raised at this meeting.

The attendance was about 50 for the contest. Demonstrations were given in clothing projects as well as in the Foods projects. Joyce Sedivey prepared an excellent exhibit for her Home Grounds Improvement project. There was a good representation of mothers who attended this contest and gave their support to the A-H girls.

8. T. V. Programs:

In addition to their other activities, two A-H girls have given demonstrations on T. V.

In October, Mary Teene Rainey gave a demonstration on what she plans to do in Home Grounds Beautification for 1956.

Angelica Simmons talked about the fashion trends for men and women in 1956 in her T. V. program of November 26. She also gave a report of her work in 4-H Clothing projects, showing examples of her work.

November 1955 - 4-H Record

Girls

	Enrolled	Completed
Health	156	135
Beautification of Home Grounds	3	2
Meal Planning and Preparation (Including baking)	55	49
Food Preservation (Freezing)	1	1
Make or Remake	27	23
So You'd Like to Sew	17	15
Your Room	9	6
Your Home	1	1
Junior Leadership	2	2
Share the Fun	30	22
Total	301	255

VIII. Young Men and Women's Work.

Work with the young women of the county is done in conjunction with the Home Demonstration Club work. About one-fourth of the membership of Diniddie Home Demonstration Clubs is this age group.

IX. Scope of Work

I (Tilley) have not been in the county long enough to give a personal appraisal of the scope of the work. It would seem, however, from the figures available, that even though the membership in Home Demonstration clubs has been on the decline, there are as many families being reached now as previously.

The L-H membership seems to be holding more steady, with only minor fluctuations.

B. Increasing Scope of Work

1. Result Demonstrations:

As a result of projects in 1953 and 1954 in Landscaping, the following cooperators are set up as result demonstrators:

Mrs. R. E. Moore	Darvills
Mrs. Chester Sedivey	Church Road
Mrs. G. S. Duval	Church Road
Mrs. T. L. Clay	Sutherland
Mrs. R. M. Ritchie	Dimuddie
Mrs. M. G. Rainey	Sutherland

Before pictures and progress pictures in both black and white and color are filed.

Kitchen improvement pictures filed:

Mrs. M. G. Rainey	Sutherland
Mrs. G. T. Richardson	Church Road

Kitchen improvement work is in progress for

Mrs. Crawford Keese	Dimuddie
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B. Increasing Scope of Work

2. Home Demonstration Week:

A special news release, a T. V. program and attendance of District Federation Meeting celebrated National H. D. Week.

Cooperation with Chesterfield and Prince George Counties furnished a half page of H. D. Accomplishments in the local papers celebrating H. D. Week.

Pictures of Mrs. Batts, County H. D. Committee Chairman and Mrs. Poole, County Secretary, appeared and a two column article on "Leadership Accomplishments in Dinwiddie County."

Seventy-eight Dinwiddie County H. D. members attended the District Federation Meeting at Branches Church in Chesterfield County, April 14. Mrs. J. A. Batts, County Chairman gave the presidents report on the accomplishments in the Health Goal.

Mrs. R. R. Newton, County Federation Goal Chairman, represented Dinwiddie County on a panel discussion with Prince George and Chesterfield, of Federation Goals over WTVR Richmond, Thursday, May 5.

Mrs. Newton reported on the accomplishments in the county in this last years program as well as describing how the county worked together to secure a Health Department building and a new doctor.

B. Increasing Scope of Work:

3. Club Objectives:

These Club Objectives were selected for special consideration because the committee thought them vital to the betterment of the work in the county.

1. Show courtesy to leaders, not visiting and interrupting.
2. Take part in club activities.
3. Furnish leadership and financial aid for A-W club work.
4. Send delegate to Institute of Rural Affairs.
5. Report club activities to the newspaper and keep a scrapbook.
6. Attend all training meetings.
7. Strive for award (\$15) for outstanding H.D. Club.

X. Organizations

A. County Home Demonstration Committee:

The Dinwiddie County H. D. committee is composed of the President and Program Development Chairman from each club plus the County H.D. Chairman and Secretary and key leaders.

The committee met with the agent in the spring to make plans for the 1956 Home Demonstration program. In August, this committee met again to complete the plans for the following years work, as their respective club members had indicated their preferences.

B. Advisory Planning Committee:

The County Home Demonstration Committee has been acting as the only "advisory committee" for the women of the county.

C. County A-H Council:

Attempts have been made to have this a functioning unit but all efforts have apparently met with little success. There seems to be a lack of knowledge of the honor and responsibility of being on this committee. Transportation difficulties are also an important consideration in this matter.

D. County Honor Clubs:

A county honor club has never gotten started as a functioning body. Efforts have been made but haven't proved successful.

E. County All Stars:

There is a good representation of All Stars in Dimiddle County. Some of these are now assisting the 4-H clubs as leaders and advisors.

F. County 4-H Project Planning Committee:

This work has been carried on mainly by the agents, with counseling and advice from 4-H'ers, leaders and parents.

II. Leadership

1. Contributions of Volunteer Leaders:

1. Organizational

Each club has at least five organizational leaders who have been trained in their duties. These leaders plan and direct the work of their Home Demonstration club as well as make suggestions for the over all county program.

2. Program Development

Each club has a program planning chairman, trained as to duties. (The chairman is encouraged to accept the responsibility indefinitely if she has proved satisfactory, because of the added background information she has previously received).

This chairman is alert to all suggestions for projects, help needed and better methods. May was reserved for the Planning Project.

This year leaders were given county statistics, trends in family living, economic outlook, specialists observations, a resume of projects for the past five years and were taught the 66 methods of discussion.

They were furnished a questionnaire of project choices to be filled out and returned. This was compiled, to show thinking and needs of other club members, and returned for a vote selection of projects for 56. The final decision was done by the County H.D. Committee after second vote was compiled. This committee decided on what was to be included in the 1956 projects. Results - Meetings 2 - Attendance 37.

3. Subject Matter

A total of 135 subject matter leaders have been trained in some specific field. These leaders have given the demonstrations in their respective clubs, as well as demonstrate to their neighbors and friends day by day the methods learned. Through this leadership, considerable progress has been made in adopting recommended procedures.

B. Growth of Leadership

Credit for the demonstrations given in the Home Demonstration clubs and 4-H clubs, should go in large measure to those who have been the leaders in these clubs. Without these leaders, the program of Extension work would not accomplish much. This leadership continues to improve and develop as new members are trained each year and the leaders of previous years remain to help guide the program.

C. Accomplishments of outstanding leader

Angelica Simmons has been in the A-H club work for eight years and has completed numerous projects in this time. Besides her project work, she is now helping those younger than she is by acting as a Junior Leader.

Angelica's fine A-H work and record of accomplishments has inspired other A-H'ers to stay in A-H in high school, where previously none had remained in A-H.

In 1955 Angelica had the idea of a Year Book for the A-H clubs of the county. She tried to encourage interest among others in this project but without a great deal of success. So, all by herself, she undertook to write the Year Book. She wrote to V. P. I. and other counties for information and suggestions. The result - a yearbook for each A-H'er in Dinwiddie County.

Angelica has also been instrumental in the attempts to organize a county chapter of All Stars, a county Honor Club and a County Council.

In this past year, Angelica has written articles for the newspaper, appeared on T.V., won the County Singer Sewing Contest, represented the alumni club at V. P. I. at out of state youth conference, won the county clothing achievement and other activities, in addition to the projects already mentioned.

Through her A-H club work and activities, Angelica has increased her interest in personal development. The result is an attractive person and personality.

D. Activities of an Outstanding Family

One of the many outstanding families in Dinwiddie County is the Chester Sedivey family. Mr. and Mrs. Sedivey have been active supporters of the Extension Program for a number of years. Mrs. Sedivey has been instrumental in the A-H club work as an adult leader.

Mrs. Sedivey has attended A-H camp three summers as an adult director of the program. She has also worked as a project leader for the individual clubs and helped with county projects undertaken.

Joyce Sedivey, the daughter, is one of the outstanding A-H'ers of the county. She has been in A-H club work eight years and is now active as a Junior Leader as well as member.

In 1955 Joyce won the State Room Improvement Contest and a trip to National A-H Club Congress at Chicago.

Joyce has also been active in her church and community. She is now a freshman at Longwood College.

Joyce has worked with her family in improving their home and making it a place to be proud of. Through her A-H work

she has made many improvements in her bedroom and the living and dining rooms. The family is now in the process of making the outside area of their home more beautiful.

This is a family you can depend on to do a job when it needs to be done and to do it the best possible.

E. Outstanding Club

There are several clubs which could be written about for their outstanding work, but since we are just mentioning one, the Junior Gerow Home Demonstration club will be reported here.

This is a club of many young women with most of these families living in the country but obtaining a large part of their income from the city.

The Junior Gerow Home Demonstration club is a very active club. They have increased their membership this last year, been represented at all leader training meetings and special interest meetings, participated in all county projects and carried on several community projects.

They serve dinner to the local Britans each month in order to raise money for their club projects. One project they participated in was donating four pairs of pajamas and small toiletries to the patients at

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Piedmont T.B. Sanitorium. They also contributed money for a LeHer to attend camp.

Junior Gerow made the best scrapbook, in the county, of their club activities and met the other requirements to win the Outstanding Club Award of the County in 1955.

F. Achievement of Extension Work

One of the outstanding achievements of the Extension Program in Dinwiddie County in 1955 has been to acquaint the farmers and their families with the new Social Security Law in effect.

The Home Demonstration Ladies of the County selected, as one of their demonstrations, a night meeting on Wills and Deeds. Husband, family and friends were invited.

The objectives for this meeting as set up were:

1. To inspire the families to make wills and review deeds, to be sure they are what the writer intended.
2. To alert farm families about the new Social Security Law in effect this year.
3. To alert the families to the 1955 tax change.
4. To have the husbands learn first hand the "goings on" in a Home Demonstration club meeting.

The procedure used was to have the agent (Tolleth) give the project on family business. V. F. I. pamphlets on Wills and Deeds and Income Tax Revisions were distributed, in addition to the information presented by the agent on these subjects.

Mr. Robertson, district social security director, and his assistants attended the meetings, with the agents, and gave the information on the Social Security Law.

The meeting time was altered, when the club desired, to make possible a pot luck dinner so the husbands could attend. Family business is a family affair and needs the attention of all members. The meetings were well attended. As news about the project traveled, increasing numbers of husbands and neighbors came to the meetings. The last few almost lost the identity of a Home Demonstration meeting - result: 11 meetings, attendance 302.

XII. Appraisal

It would be difficult for me (Tilley) to give a fair appraisal of the Extension work in Dinwiddie County in 1955 since I (Tilley) have been here only three months. However, I believe the records speak for themselves and indicate much fine work has been accomplished. There are jobs which are not yet completed, such as the Community Building project of the Home Demonstration Clubs, and further consideration and planning of these will be continued in 1956 wherever practicable.

Work is still needed in the 4-H field in order to train more adult leaders for their jobs and have a well organized plan for project work.

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Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



B. F. Bedwell
agent

1955

James E Wrenn
assistant agent

Dinwiddie
county