

1946

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

FOR

HALIFAX COUNTY

N. E. JENNINGS

LOCAL HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

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III. Scope of Work

A. Home Demonstration Clubs

Number of clubs - - - - - 13
Membership - - - - - 309
Other women reached by Home Demonstration Clubs - - - - - 276

B. 4-H Clubs

Number of clubs - - - - - 16
Membership - - - - - 225

E. Number families reached through neighborhood and
community leaders - - - - - 890

F. Total estimate of families reached - - - - - 1260
Number farm families in county - - - - - 2357

IV. Organization

B. County Agricultural Board

Now, as in the war years, this board includes County Advisory Board, neighborhood and community leaders, Home Demonstration executive committee members and community club presidents making up a membership of approximately one hundred thirty-two members with duplications. Normally five meetings are held during the year on each Saturday before fifth Sundays. In the first meeting of this board in February, county crop, garden, poultry and better farm kitchen demonstrators were selected for each district. The Farm and Home Unit Demonstrators were also selected. County goals in the selected lines were here set up and ways of realizing them formulated. Specialist help needed in our years work is usually made known in this first meeting and such ones listed on the annual County Farmer's Conference Program to give the desired training. This annual County Farmer's Conference is solely the responsibility of the County Board of Agriculture. The above mentioned members and leaders worked cooperatively with extension agents to the extent that the production, conservation, health and sanitation programs reached more than sixteen hundred farms and homes during the year.

C. County 4-H Council

Our county council, composed of ninety-two club officers and leaders, held one meeting to plan the year's program of work.

Officers and leaders alike are more likely to do a better piece of work if they are sure they know what to do and how to approach it. This council meeting proved to be the training meeting for club officers, who were grouped together as such, and one-half day was devoted to the task.

The organization approved the county plan of work which carried as major objectives; (1)urging all community 4-H clubs to hold more of their regular meetings, preferralby not less than ten, (2)have the local press carry more of the club activities, especially that of very good project achievement, (3)the most deserving girl and boy be sent to the State Short Course by the council, (4) all clubs continue to produce to the maximum in food and feeds and help in some definite way in the saving of fats and oils, paper and other drives that were continued after the war and (5) that all clubs exhibit some of their best work at the County Fair.

V. LEADERSHIP

A. Adult Work

Results accomplished in our 1946 extension program can well be attributed to the voluntary help of twelve fairly active neighborhood and community leaders, thirteen home demonstration club presidents and the chairman of the county executive committee, who received some training, either by attending the four county leader training meetings or they were given individual training for carrying on special community campaign activities, to hold specific meetings which the agent could not attend and to conduct canning meetings for other groups. Since our projects were continuations of 1945 selection, the specialists' training in slip cover making and clothing remodeling was used to an advantage which showed improvement over the leadership work rendered in last year's work.

These twelve leaders held five club meetings in which twenty-three single chair covers were cut out and finished. Mrs. Williams of Clay's Mill Club, who makes slip covers for her partial income, found time, as a club leader, to give approximately fifteen hours of her service to the work in five different community clubs.

These twelve leaders also helped with canning demonstrations in approximately thirty communities for the families connected with the neighborhood leader system (ten families per leader). Nine other Home Demonstration meetings, in which a total of eight hundred sixteen quarts of vegetables was canned, was held unattended by the agent. They also served to make possible the culminating program for National Home Demonstration Week. In short the exhibition and program was the work of the leaders.

B. 4-H Work

Leadership training work for junior organizations has been done mostly by adults who carried the organization and project responsibility, with the club officers' help. In the Council's urge for quality club work some leader training work had to be done on an individual basis. The agent went to the leader's home and drilled the leader for the special jobs ahead, by demonstrating the activities, using equipment and material found in her kitchen, making sure she had enough literature to supply ten girls, seldom

they had more than ten. Every leader contacted was willing to venture out with the work, since only one activity was asked of them and the training involved was within their group. Twenty-three leaders were so visited three times, in carrying through the forty-six demonstrations in bread, canning and food preparation projects.

This procedure resulted in the leaders working directly with one hundred eighty-nine girls in eleven communities, who made biscuits one thousand six hundred seventy-two times. Thirteen clubs held an achievement or bread judging contest, drawing one hundred sixteen girls who brought in six hundred eighty-seven biscuits to be judged. Those in the canning group numbered two hundred ten girls, canning twenty-three thousand three hundred eleven quarts of fruits and vegetables, sixty-seven pints of meats (chicken) and dried one hundred nineteen pounds of fruit. These same leaders worked with one hundred twenty-seven girls who served nine hundred ninety-one meals at home by patterns which they had planned in club meetings. Some of these leaders (three) brought reports into the office in person and told how much they themselves had received from the work and asked for more material for neighboring families who had seen some of the material used by the girls.

VI. RESULTS

A. Home Demonstration Club Project Work

1. Project Work

a. Food

(1) Production

With the close of the war we felt that the tendency of farm people would lean toward a period of relaxation in the field of production especially of food crops. To this end, the local press, the radio and all meetings, where farmers gathered, were instruments through which the urge for a bigger than ever garden program be continued, not alone in self-defense but also as a life preserver for the starved and devastated areas.

Neighborhood and community leaders, club leaders, garden demonstrators and urban leaders were kept constantly informed of the serious need for more and better gardens through the Neighborhood Leaders Digest, extension bulletins on cultivation, pest control methods; best varieties, their planting dates and the possible yields. These were followed up personal visits to some fifty-six gardens and thirty-four garden leaders whose reports carried eight hundred fifty-six family gardens, showing a small decline from last year's standard.

Home Poultry - Our home poultry production work was carried only with Home Demonstration club members who were helped through club meetings, office and home visits, with such points as when, where and how to buy baby chicks to get best laying results, methods of combating common diseases of home hatched chickens and how to can them. Our objective in this work was to give variety in the farm meat supply and to make possible a sufficient egg consumption for the various families.

A little time was given in each meeting for progress reports from members who were working with home poultry production. Two hundred eighty-eight families bought from our local hatchery and hen hatched at home thirty-one thousand birds with a loss of less than a thousand.

There were no sales reported and very few of these birds have been canned for winter meals.

(2) Conservation

The food conservation program was made available to more than thirteen hundred families through the shared responsibility of the thirty or more local leaders.

Letters were sent twelve community and _____ neighborhood leaders asking that they send into my office their request for canning demonstrations for the families under their supervision, before the gardens were ready, stating about the time they would want it and at whose home. This request was not answered as fully as we knew the need was, however, more demonstrations were requested than we could possibly have given (fifty to be exact). With the limited help and canning equipment owned by the families involved twenty-two canning demonstrations were given cooperatively by agent and leaders in communities for non-club members or rather for the general public, showing both the pressure and water boiled methods of canning non-acid vegetables, tomatoes and meats, and five such demonstrations in canning fruits with and without sugar.

Our overall canning program resulted in the successful canning of thirty-six thousand, seven hundred eighteen quarts of fruits and fruit juices, twenty-seven thousand seven hundred ninety-eight quarts of vegetables and one thousand one hundred seventeen quarts of meats, mostly chickens. Through voluntary efforts four thousand nineteen pounds of fruits and six hundred twelve pounds of vegetables were dried. Stored fruits amount to eight hundred ninety-seven bushels, while vegetables stored reached the ten thousand bushel mark, including both kinds of potatoes.

On the basis of present food prices the estimate value of our conservation program would reach the fifty thousand mark.

(3) Nutrition and Food Preparation

It is agreed among all food authorities that American families

should eat more vegetables. It is further agreed that families who raise their own gardens are likely to eat more than those who depend on the market. A garden certainly can be interpreted into better balanced diets for farm people. It is from this angle that our nutrition work was done in Home Demonstration clubs. All food demonstrations showed the better ways of preparation of vegetables and combined vegetable salads so as to get the greatest nutritive value. Illustrative materials from National Dairy Council, articles and charts from Forecasts and What's New in Home Economics were helpful sources in carrying on club discussions and demonstrations. The demonstrations revealed the fact that farm families are not attracted enough to raw vegetable dishes, even in salad making most of them like the vegetables precooked some or entirely. The same thing held true with raw fruits. Demonstrations of salads made from raw fruits were not nearly so heartily eaten and enjoyed as those made from canned and dried fruits. In discussing the value of raw foods and its many advantages in preparation in labor, time and fuel saving, we found that it was not the dislike of raw foods but rather they were hard to chew.

Our program provided no plans for physical inspections of adults but to our surprise more than one half of the club women had teeth which could be considered bad. The fact is plain that balanced diets will pay larger dividends when organs of the body, especially the digestive organs, are in perfect working order. In view of this, we wove into our future discussions mouth hygiene and its relation to good health without which our whole nutrition aim would be defeated if we allowed our teeth and the children's also to go to pieces. Personal appeals were made to members. We asked local dentists for some illustrative materials from which we based short talks in meetings. Nine women have done something ^{to} the condition of their mouths. Our 1947 work will continue to stress this point of health improvement among adults as well as the girls.

b. Clothing

(3) Construction

(a) New Garments

The recent conditions effected the farm families' clothing program rather seriously. They consumed a large supply of work garments which during the war production was curtailed on. Making new garments then became a must with farm families and continued through as such during 1946 with two hundred eighty-five club families who under the leadership of six fairly well trained leaders and the agent brought to completion one hundred eighty-nine new adult garments. These were cut under supervision, by patterns, in correct sizes for individual owners. Work aprons from feed sacks were on parade in a colorful array. House dresses, work shirts, skirts and rayon blouses too passed gaily by in the annual club garment review that

that closed the clothing work. The cost of the garments made was Two hundred seventy-six dollars. One hundred such new garments readymade would have cost somewhere around Three hundred twenty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents. We estimate our saving to be Fifty-two dollars and seventy-five cents.

(b) Remodeled Garments

This project was rather small in numbers and in garments. It seemed that over the period of the war years the supply of remarkable clothes had been used up. Thirty-seven members remodeled twenty-nine dresses and jackets and three fall hats at a cost of \$37.65 Seventy-five cents per article is the estimated saving value.

c. House

(1) Repair

There were no special demonstration groups carried in this line. In club meetings and on home visits members usually asked for suggestions in cases where repair work was being considered. These families, thirty-two in number, were given plans and layouts for additions to farm homes as illustrated in Farm Home Plan Booklet from V.P.I. These plans with some variations, were used in most of the repair jobs. "Wiring the Farm House" and suggested farm house plans which the agent received through the courtesy of the County Extension Office (white) were used to a good advantage in the remodeling and wiring of old houses.

(2) Home Safety

Much of the repairs made were done in home safety defense, such as adding a chimney where flues were, building new steps with hand rails for support, putting in partially new floors, removing old pillars under both house and porch and putting on asphalt shingle tops to replace wood shingles

d. House Furnishings

(2) Constructions

(b) Slip Covers

In the beginning of the year's work in Home Demonstration Clubs those members who would need special help in slip cover making were asked to get all material ready so that they might begin early. Slip covers are not easy to make and the fitting and cutting process must be accurately done to make a good job. For this particular activity there were only forty-six families, involving sixty-three chair covers. Twelve leaders who had some special training in slip cover making worked untiringly with these families.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mrs. Minnie Williams, leader of Clay's Mill Home Demonstration Club, makes slip covers for her main income she also made her services available to five different clubs for approximately fifteen hours. All the women did not get their covers made. To date we have brought to completion forty-six single chair covers and four large sofa covers. Some of these were made from worn draperies which could be cut so as to avoid the worn, faded portions. They are well made, they fit and they slip on and off so that washing can easily be done.

(c) Curtains, Draperies, Shades

The increased desire on the part of farm families to have better homes have brought on great demands for house furnishing information, through our extension work, to both club and non-club members. The work in this line with two hundred nineteen farm families in the thirteen Home Demonstration clubs was carried on with eleven method demonstrations in window treatment showing how to curtain these types of windows, twin, single, casement, kitchen and attic. Materials and curtain styles were stressed for the various rooms in the house.

It is not rare now to find window draperies in the farm home and each year just a little more request for help with these is being asked for. Sixty-two families were assisted with the selection, making and draping of ninety-three pairs, ranging in price from One dollar ninety-eight to Eleven dollars and twenty-five cents. One hundred sixty-seven women made one hundred seventy-seven pairs of curtains for livingrooms, bedrooms, kitchens and attics. Materials for curtains on the market are scarce and inferior so the women made the kitchen curtains from feed sacks and toweling material.

Window shades are available on markets now and the work in shade renovation was more of a community project for the schools. In Elkhorn, Mason's Chapel and Scottsburg, the Home Demonstration and community club members reconditioned forty-six window shades for the schools. Prices on the made to order shades have always been higher than on standard sizes. With this idea prevailing, we estimate the women's work was a saving of about One dollar per window. Material for renovation work was furnished by the teachers.

(d) Storage Space

It is a rather difficult matter to get much done in providing adequate storage in homes that are all ready constructed, without this in mind. We have encouraged many families to make cabinets and tables from orange crates, again by extending rods across one corner of bedrooms with curtained doors, and they have bought paper closets but these have not proven

altogether satisfactory. Our most successful work with storage has been with the families who constructed new buildings. Under constant persuasion on every visit, calling attention to the plans which carried closets for every room, especially bedrooms and kitchens, these homes have fairly adequate storage for every thing save canned goods.

e. Home Management

(2) Kitchen Arrangement

Improvements in farm kitchens have traveled and are still traveling at far too slow a pace to keep up with the rest of the house. In order to get our idea of what farm kitchens should be like fixed into the minds of housewives over the county, one homemaker in each of the eight districts was selected by the County Board to carry her kitchen as a demonstration, opened at all times to community women. The families were selected on this basis: (1) they were about ready to begin work in the kitchen, (2) they had some money to start, (3) they would follow plans of extension agents and (4) they would admit visitors and keep account of expenditures. Materials and equipment have so critically been rationed that not much progress has been made as equipment was what the eight demonstrators needed most.

Accomplishments All kitchens are painted in bright, pretty colors, in combinations of buff and ivory, white and black, white with red, white with green and all over white. All floors are covered with complementary linoleums. Four have the stoves they will use for the completed rooms, while four others have not yet been able to get them. Five of the homes involved are equipped with electricity.

(5) Home and Farm Unit Demonstration

Demonstrators: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Coleman
County - Halifax Address - Virgilina, Virginia

The Colemans live about eighteen miles southeast from South Boston toward North Carolina, on a thirty-six acre farm of his own. He has available for cultivation his mother's and his uncle's farms, which bring his total farming acreage to one hundred forty acres. The Coleman family, father, mother and eight children (as each one becomes ten) has been enrolled in extension work since the early thirties.

A four room log cabin formed the living quarters for this family through the growing process of practically all the children, the youngest is now about eighteen years old. The oldest girl has finished her college education and three others are now in college. The two sons were drafted into the army shortly after they finished high school. Mrs. Coleman made good with poultry raising back in the early days when most rural people hatched their flocks with a few good hens, raised enough for the home table and sold a few to buy small household articles.

The Home Demonstration program encouraged increased production of home poultry among those families, especially those who could make better preparations for caring for larger flocks. Mrs. Coleman was one of those who launched out to improve her poultry house in order to accommodate more hens and finally she began buying a few chicks to supplement those hatched out at home. First she tried twenty-five, then fifty and as the girls grew up she made it a cooperative project to include two of the girls. It was at this point they began to sell chickens for a profit. The ages of the girls and boys were fast developing to the place where the house was not large enough to adequately house the family. The war madly relieved this situation by taking the two boys. At home the Colemans worked hard, saving as much of their earnings as they could and the boys' earnings also. They were now on the verge of building a new home but help was so scarce and all of the rough timber had to be cut from their own woods. In spite of this fact, Mr. Coleman picked up a little help here and there and early in 1945 he cut and hauled to the mill enough timber to make the framework for an eight room farm house. Field crops, garden vegetables and poultry showed good price prospects and their flock and garden was fairly large which made every member in the family work a lot overtime. However, they all wanted the new home badly so they made the sacrifice without a grumble. Work progressed on the building slowly but when the County Advisory Board suggested that Mr. and Mrs. Coleman be the County Whole Home and Farm Unit Demonstrators they really got busy. In March 1946 they moved into the new site and immediately got busy with some interior and exterior improvement, under the plans drawn up by the family, the home and farm agents. These plans had for the 1946 accomplishments; the installation of adequate furniture in three bedrooms, dining room and some kitchen furniture, such as can be found, finish the walls in the living room, two halls, dining room and kitchen, plow the yard, lay off the drive and paint the house outside.

Along with this intensified house improvement work was also was also the home food production and conservation work. For three preceding years the cooperative poultry project had brought in fair returns so in 1946 Mrs. Coleman and two of the girls who were 4-H ers, planned for the biggest poultry project they had ever carried, while four other girls carried home garden and canning projects. The family canning budget was one thousand six quarts. To realize this budget everybody had to work. We were able to locate a pressure canner for Mrs. Coleman which they used together with the water bath equipment to can nine hundred sixty-eight quarts of food. The poultry project brought in two hundred ninety-eight dollars and thirty cents as follows: she bought five hundred chicks for seventy-five dollars, hatched out two hundred twenty-two, they bought feed amounting to one hundred eighty-four dollars and twenty cents, while the estimate cost of home grown feeds was around seventy-five dollars, making the cost of chicks and feed three hundred thirty-five dollars. Four hundred fifty chickens sold for one dollar and twenty-five cents each and seventy-one sold for one dollar each, totaling six

hundred thirty-three dollars and fifty cents. This income from the poultry work was practically all used for the painting job and screening for the back porch. Dining room furniture and furnishing were bought with the income from the general farm crop. Not much kitchen furniture is available, and when it is located the price is unusually high, thus the only improvement accomplished in the kitchen was getting the floor covered, one makeshift cabinet and curtains hung. The 1946 goals of achievement have been accomplished save the kitchens cabinets and electrical equipment which as stated above are not available yet. Mrs. Coleman looks forward to '47 with the hope of getting furniture in the other bedrooms, living room and of being able to purchase labor saving electrical appliances as means for doing a bigger and better job at housekeeping.

4. Account of outstanding work of a Home Demonstration club member is same as Home and Farm Unit Demonstration.

B. 4-H Club Work

1. Projects

a. Bread

Our 1946 Bread Project work started out with seventy-six girls in twelve clubs whose threefold aims were: first, to learn to make better biscuits, yeast and cornbreads, second, study the value of good bread in the daily diet and, third, to learn to judge for quality in the different breads named. As the work advanced more girls were attracted but too late to do a complete job in baking the three types of bread before the time to hold the judging contest in March meetings. Thirty-four first year bread project members attended twelve demonstrations in making muffins and biscuits, either in the regular community meeting or in small groups with the community leader carrying on. Thirty-eight second and third year members participated in the judging in club contests where two hundred forty-seven biscuits, one hundred ninety-two muffins and thirty-eight samples of yeast bread were judged. All phases of the Bread program reached directly ninety-two club members with seventy-two completions. The members completing made bread at home five hundred seventy times. Zenobia Clay of Bold Springs Club led the group in the number of times and the amount of each kind of bread that was made.

b. Food Selection and Preparation

More than two hundred girls benefited from the discussions and method demonstrations on the selection of foods that give the most in nourishment for different ages and activity groups. For this training we used the Basic 7 Chart. We selected foods from each group for each day's meals, then the girls put down on paper (in the light of what was growing in their garden) everything to

be served for at least a week. Demonstrations showed how leftovers could be utilized. Then the members checked with the chart to see if enough vegetables, particularly the green ones, enough milk, tomatoes and enriched or whole grain bread and cereal had been included for both adults and children of the family, as these are the foods most commonly slighted. Demonstrations followed which showed just how to prepare the various meals in order to get the day's nourishment. The breakfast starts the day so we should count on this meal to give our supply of needed citrus fruits, milk or egg and cereals. The dinner which is the heaviest meal for farm families should provide proteins and a portion of the required vegetables, while the lunch or supper support the other two meals where they are weak. In carrying out, in the homes, the practices learned in our food work, one hundred fifty-one members planned four thousand five hundred thirty meals, an average of thirty per member which was the minimum number asked for. They helped with the cooking and serving of one thousand and ninety of those planned. This latter seems too small a percentage of prepared meals but when we consider how short our meat and lard supply has been we should surmise that mother did not want to risk precious meat cookery and the handling of rationed food to the hands of youngsters who were not experienced in the cooking nor the buying of such. The idea of selecting and planning far enough ahead of preparation, for one to check to see that the proper things to give the needed nourishment have been included in the right proportions for all members of the family, has gained ground with the girls connected with the work on Food Preparation.

c. Canning

Canning project work began late in May and continued through November with one hundred seventy-one club girls in fifteen 4-H clubs. Family canning plans were used by more than two thirds of the girls, plans the girls made or the plans that were made by their mothers who belonged to Home Demonstration Clubs. 4-H leaders and members who had been connected with club canning work for two years and more were permitted to go ahead with the community canning meetings that were held for canning alone. 4-H club girls were also permitted to come into any and all adult canning meetings held within a reasonable distance for carrying their products. The community canneries were also opened to them. Through all of these sources the correct canning methods were made available to every section of the county. The bounteous crops of fruits and vegetables made it possible for girls canning to reach a total of twenty-four thousand three hundred and eleven quarts, a little more than twelve thousand quarts of fruits, eleven thousand, seven hundred eighty-nine quarts of vegetables and five hundred ten quarts of meats, which will make better balanced winter meals a reality.

e. Poultry

The twenty-three poultry project members have carried the work for the past three years and in nearly every case it is in cooperation with their mother. This work consequently was carried on by making visits, sending out such material as members requested, writing

information on housing, feeding and combating diseases of young chickens in the local paper and teaching one demonstration team in how to dress poultry for market. The Farm Agent gave one culling demonstration on the home lot of Martha and Louella Coleman which six other poultry members witnessed. The largest flocks were owned by the two Colemans named above of Mayo 4-H Club and Juanita Brewer of Mason Chapel Club who raised to marketing size six hundred seventy-five chickens. Juanita bought her chicks in three lots of one hundred each and home hatched sixty-five, three hundred sixty-five in all. The Brewers live on a small farm with a small tobacco acreage, thus another income crop is very necessary to care for the family needs. So Juanita and her mother, who is a Kitchen Demonstrator for Mt. Carmel District, worked together in her poultry activities. The birds reported here, however, are all Juanita's and have not been counted in the adult work. Poultry feeds were hard to get and high in price so Juanita bought as little as she could get by with. She fed her chickens home grown corn, cracked wheat and buttermilk on which she did not estimate any cost in calculating her profit. For seven hundred ninety-five chickens Mr. Brewer bought two hundred twenty-seven dollars worth of poultry feed, roughly estimating Juanita's chickens to have consumed less than one half or about one hundred dollars worth which was all she paid. Juanita sold three hundred thirty-five birds weighing between two and one half and two and three quarter pounds for ninety cents each. We said in the beginning that this project grew out of the fact that tobacco acreage was short on this farm thus the profit which came to Juanita is really to be used for buying some of her necessities and some spent for the other children of the family. They talked early in the summer of building a bigger house to be used as a brooder and laying house for the old hens. Other poultry members than the ones designated had small flocks which they used for family eating purposes during the season, canned some five hundred quarts for winter meat variety and the rest they are keeping as starters for the coming year.

f. Home Gardens

Approximately sixty-seven acres of normally fertile and fairly well cultivated land was planted to garden vegetables by 4-H club girls. These gardens were family plots simply turned into the care of 4-Hers to aid them in their garden efforts. Fifty-two bags of garden fertilizer were used and one hundred one wagon loads of barnyard manure broadcasted over before early spring plowing. In addition to the 4-H garden leaflets, these little gardeners stuck close to the information found in U.S.D.A. Garden Publication No. 483 and the leaflet entitled "War Declared on Garden Pets" from V.P.I. With the cooperative experience given by the parents of most of these gardeners they produced more creditable garden crops this year than for a long time. Generally the youngster starts the work out in the early spring and parents take over with the girls losing interest. Some force somewhere has and still is teaching rural parents to rely more than before upon the ability of their children believing that they can do a better job in all lines by doing the work themselves with some adult guidance.

These seventy-six gardens furnished the vegetables for the families involved during the growing season and much of the adult and 4-H canning include canning from this source.

1. Housekeeping and Storage

In setting up this very important project activity we tried to attract 4-Hers who were somewhat designated to do such work at home either because of special adaptation or because of inability of the mother to carry on, on account of sickness, other work at home or work away. In following out this plan twenty seven of such responsible girls enrolled, living in homes of from two rooms to seven. Eleven of these houses were being kept on very low or meager levels, six were very commendably kept by the girls involved while ten others were fair. The demonstrations set up to improve these conditions were as follows: 1. How to go about cleaning up a room - attended by fourteen members. 2. Providing a place for personals - eleven girls attended, 3. Mending and cleaning furniture - thirty-six members attended as this demonstration was opened to all members who desired, 4. Lengthening sheets that are too short which nine members witnessed. After each demonstration the agent would visit as many of the demonstrators as possible especially among those mentioned as unsatisfactory and fair. Upon these visits the more delicate problems were discussed and some personal help like showing the girls how to arrange things, because of their inability to grasp enough from the general demonstration to go back home and put it in to action. Such conference visits seldom took up more than one hour thus one visit was made to each girl and a second to nine others who made some progressive changes in the work in each home. The work meeting in mending chairs and old tables resulted in getting twenty eight chairs and tables so that they can be used without fear of collapsing. Seven storage closets were made by placing two wood boxes on end, making one box tall enough to hang garments, wall papered the outside and curtained the front. These boxes will hold closely packed fourteen or fifteen garments with space at the bottom for shoes. Four of the girls bought paper closets.

m. Clothing Care

"Care saves wear" applies to clothes as well as to automobiles and the time to save wear certainly has been the last few years when clothes have been such a hard problem to figure out. With this prevailing situation eighty-six club members learned through demonstrated methods how to wash and iron rayon garments, to store out of season clothes and how to daily care for woolen shirts, sweaters and shoes to get the best and longest service from them. These demonstrations were given to girls in small groups by the agent and three other leaders somewhat as the bread work was done. Club girls were also asked to go into adult meetings where clothing work was being done in remodeling of garments, for demonstrations in this line could not be conveniently given separately. To this end the twenty-six members following this phase of the clothing program reconditioned thirty-seven small jobs like adding collars of contrasting colors, putting whole dress fronts where buttonholes had torn or spots were not removable and making dresses longer, the cost of which was not itemized because of using other materials already on hand.

2. Health

The approach to health instruction with club members has been mostly through the nutrition discussions and food selection and preparation demonstrations previously reported in this writing. The school health program, while not as adequate as we should like to see, sponsored Health Clinics for its pupils. The greater number of our members being school children we cooperated with school teachers and supervisors in urging parents to have children take advantage of what the schools offered. Fifty-eight club members were x-rayed, twelve of the same fifty-eight made some corrections in their teeth and one outstanding first year club girl of Bold Springs Club has been fitted with eye glasses partly as a result of a personal talk with her parents in this interest. Zenobia is also in school.

4. Turbeville 4-H Club and Community Activity

Turbeville Club has thirty-three members, the largest enrollment of any single County club. The ages of the members range from ten years to seventeen years of age. Twelve regular and two call meetings were held having an average attendance of one third of its members. Canning, clothing remodeling, bread and gardens were the projects carried by the members individually while school ground improvement and food contribution for emergency purposes were the goals toward which every member pledged support. Twenty-four members completed their projects with a canning record that exceeds any since 1940. The twenty-one canning project members canned two thousand six hundred eighty-one pints of vegetables and fruits and ninety-nine pints of meats. Among the clubs who selected girls to be given training for special county demonstrations, it was the Turbeville team that stood first and the president was sent to represent the County at State Short Course. The school plot needed so much they realized it to be impossible to complete this job so they voted to continue until completed. The driveway was unusually rough and from early winter to late spring it was impossible if the weather was the least rainy. They began with the drive. Several parents let them use plows, team, rakes and shovels. The leader was with them throughout the process. This little work has added much to the appearance of the ground already. The playground is now in front of the building but the improvement plan will take the playground to the side and build a front lawn with a few planting around the steps and perch. The exhibit from this club won second premium at the County Fair. It placed third last year.

D. Other Work of Agent

The agent has given assistance during the year to the following agencies:

1. Red Cross, serving as District Worker for annual Fund Drive
2. Tuberculosis, Assistant County Chairman 1946 Seal Campaign
3. USO, assisted the County Agent who was in charge of the Negro Division
4. Through our clubs 113 quarts of food products have been left at three canneries for the emergency food drive and the five dollars given by the Business Men's Club as a prize for the Home Demonstration Booth during National Home Demonstration Week will go toward this food shipment aid.

VII. Appraisal of Most Significant Contribution to the County in the Home Demonstration Program

Our 1946 Home Demonstration program emphasized the continued production and conservation of foods and feeds as a vital activity to the successful winning of Peace.

It was the Home Demonstration workers who kept this fact before the negro public the county over.

It was through the influence of the clubs that the home garden program reached out to more than thirteen hundred negro families.

It was through the voluntary assistance of club leaders and members that the approved food conservation methods reached directly the nine hundred or more county families.