

VIRGINIA

PIITTSYLVANIA Home Demonstration Agent Annual Report 1959
County

Index		Page
* 1 e 2.2	Community civics	10
* 1 e 1.4	Libraries, community	12-13,15
6 h 3.2222	Fairs, county	11

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REPORT FILES
EXTENSION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY
VIRGINIA

HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

1939

Miss Evelyn Click

Home Demonstration Agent

December 1, 1938 - November 30, 1939

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. COVER AND TITLE PAGE.....	1
II. TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	1
III. SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES.....	2
IV. THE COUNTY AND IT'S PEOPLE.....	3
V. FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF WORK.....	4
VI. WOMEN'S WORK.....	4
1. Organization	
(a) County Homemaking Board.....	4
(b) County Home Demonstration Committee.....	4
(c) Home Demonstration Clubs.....	5
(d) Scope of Work.....	6
2. Project Work	
(a) Major.....	7
(b) Minor.....	8
(c) Community Projects.....	8
3. Project Leadership	
(a) Training and use of Leaders.....	9
(b) Results Obtained.....	9
4. Other Activities	
(a) Campaign.....	9
(b) Income Earnings.....	10
Market.....	10
Private Sales.....	10
(c) Recreations.....	11
(d) County Meetings.....	11
5. Participation in Federation	
(a) District.....	12
(b) State.....	12
(c) State Federation Goal - Library Work.....	12
6. Story of Achievement by Club Carrying Best Program	14
7. Outstanding Achievement by Individual.....	14

III. SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

Days in field.....	230
Days in office.....	61
Days annual leave.....	17
Days sick leave.....	0
Days leave without pay.....	0
Legal holidays taken.....	5
Number home visits made (adult).....	550
Number 4-H Club members visited.....	101
Total number different homes visited.....	265
Number office calls.....	469
Number telephone calls.....	43
Number news articles or stories published.....	44
Number individual letters written.....	1,108
Number different circular letters written.....	109
Number meetings attended.....	381
Number miles traveled.....	12,724

IV. THE COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE

Pittsylvania County located in Southside Virginia is bound by the state of North Carolina and Halifax, Campbell, Henry and Franklin counties of Virginia. It is the largest county in the state with an area of 1015 square miles; it's length is forty miles from north to south and twenty-eight miles wide.

The county lies within the Piedmont Plateau, a distinct physiographic province. The general topography of Pittsylvania is that of a high plateau which has been cut by many streams making the lay of the land decidedly rolling. The Dan River with its tributaries drain the greater portion of the county. The mountain ranges form a picturesque background for the rolling hills and valley slopes. The general range of elevation of the county is from four hundred to eight hundred feet above sea level however, Salt mountain has the highest elevation of two thousand feet above sea level.

The even climate, short winters with six and one-half months for growing season makes it possible to grow a variety of crops as well as being a desirable place in which to live.

Since Pittsylvania is primarily an agricultural county its most important natural resource is it's soil. The sandy loam soil is the most extensive and a large per cent is under cultivation since it produces heavy, bright leaf tobacco. The largest portion of the money crop is light tobacco. In production of fine tobacco Pittsylvania ranks first.

The water power has been developed along the Dan River since it furnishes power for the operation of the cotton mills. The forests in the smooth areas have been destroyed to obtain farm land. We have now about forty-one per cent of farm land in woodland. The trees are for the most part hardwood although there is some soft wood.

The greater part of the white population of Pittsylvania is of pure American stock, chiefly of English descent. The negro population in the county is around one-third of the total population.

Of the total 647,680 acres in the county there are about 582,496 acres in farm land. There are about 7,529 farms in the county with the average of twenty-eight acres of cropland per farm. There are many small farm owners in the county due to the fact that tobacco is the prevailing crop. One of the problems confronting the agriculture of the county is high per cent of tenants on farms. Since tobacco crops require much hard labor, the county has developed slowly in the use of farm machinery. Because tobacco is the money crop the farmers too often neglect their supply crops, consequently much of the money goes out of the county for the purchase of food.

Home Demonstration work was first begun in this county in 1935. Much progress has been noted in this period of time in activities related to the home.

V. Financial Support of Work

The Board of Supervisors of Pittsylvania County gives financial support to home demonstration work. This board is composed of one member from each of the seven magisterial districts. On July 1, 1935, the first appropriation of \$750.00 was made for home demonstration work in this county. In July 1937 this appropriation was raised to \$850.00. Reports are given by the agent to the Board at intervals during the year on the progress and types of work done. Response and interest on the part of the members has been very good.

VI. Women's Work.

1. Organization (a) County Homemaking Board

The County Homemaking Board is composed of the Presidents of all Home Demonstration Clubs in the county plus seven others selected as members at large. The latter are elected at a Board meeting to serve for a two year period.

The Home Demonstration Agent, the Home Supervisor for Farm Security, and one Home Economics teacher, selected to represent Vocational Home Economics in the county, are advisors to the Board. The Health Department is also represented.

This board serves to coordinate the homemaking agencies in the county. Two meetings are held annually, one in the spring and one in the fall. The profession of Homemaking, its problem and needed helps are discussed at these meetings. Other agencies are given an opportunity to present matters they wish the Board to consider.

(b) County Home Demonstration Committee

This committee is composed of the Presidents of all Home Demonstration Clubs in the county. The Home Demonstration Agent is the only professional county advisor to this group since it deals solely with the home demonstration program. Three meetings were held during the year.

To this group leadership was given in planning the 1940 program. When it is considered just how much a program of work means to a home demonstration woman certainly too much emphasis cannot be placed on having this program carefully planned. Recent trends are to give the women themselves more active part in the development of plans.

At the spring meeting of the County Homemaking Board the District and County Home Demonstration Agents presented background facts regarding the county. This included a summary of previous home demonstration activities and accomplishments, economic data, taxation matters, educational and social factors, and the general needs of the homemakers.

Representatives of the Home Economics teachers, the Health Department, and Farm Security were present and presented needs as they saw them in their work. This information served as a basis for club discussions on county needs at regular Home Demonstration Club meetings at which time each club arrived at their most outstanding community needs.

A meeting of the Home Demonstration Committee was called in June at which time each club president reported their community needs and expressed the wishes of her club as to major project, federation goals, and campaign. Through discussion and finally by vote of the committee the program was determined and definite recommendations as to its content worked out. Plans were made at this meeting for sending two delegates from this group to the State Planning meeting in Blacksburg.

Another meeting of the Executive Committee was held shortly after the state meeting. At this time the State Homemaking Specialist was present to help plan a program in House Furnishing for the major project. Details of demonstrations were discussed and scheduled for the year and the final program made and adapted to the needs and interests of the people of Pittsylvania County.

Thus a program has been built as planned by the local women on the basis of their needs and interests.

Growth in leadership has been especially noted in program planning activities. The women discussed their problems more freely and were better able to express themselves before a group.

In addition to program planning activities this committee plans all other county wide activities as Achievement Day, Fair, and other special events related to home demonstration work.

(e) Home Demonstration Clubs

There are sixteen Home Demonstration Clubs organized in the County. Each club has a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, two project leaders and other officers and committees as needed. Training is given to the officers of local groups as to their responsibilities and to effective ways of carrying out the aims set up by the clubs.

Each club President automatically becomes a member of the County

Homemaking Board and also a member of the Executive Committee.

The leaders hold at least one-half of the club meetings in the major project, thus freeing the agent for other work. She prepares or secures adequate illustrative material from directions given at the leader training meeting before she attempts to hold the meeting.

This year each club had, in addition to the regular officers of the club, a library chairman and a citizenship chairman. The duty of the library chairman was to plan a short cultural period at each meeting or to plan a study course for the club. She also checked the book and magazine exchange and borrowed books from the city and county libraries for club use.

The citizenship chairman constantly kept before the club goals set up along this line. One meeting was devoted to this topic which she planned.

(d) Scope of Work

(1) There are in Pittsylvania County 5,240 white homemakers. Three hundred and seventy-four are being reached directly by home demonstration work. It is estimated that around twelve hundred are being reached indirectly.

(2) Enrollment for past three years:

Year	No. Clubs	Membership	No. Reached Indirectly
1937	14	374	1100
1938	14	334	1200
1939	16	374	1200

(3) Magisterial Districts. Name and number of clubs in each.

1. Staunton River District
 1. West Hurt
 2. Renan
 3. Hurt
2. Dan River District
 4. Glenwood
 5. Dan River
 6. Keeling
3. Chatham District
 7. Climax
 8. Concord
 9. Fairview
 10. Spring Garden
 11. Weal

4. Pike River District
 12. Liberty
 13. Motley
5. Banister River District
 14. Riceville
 15. Greenfield
6. Callands District
 16. Callands
7. Nuttall District
(None. A club is being organized there this month)
2. Project Work
 - (a) Major Project

Major emphasis throughout the county was put on clothing work. The women wanted help in planning the family clothing needs, how to buy ready-made garments and yard goods, selection of line and design, and help with construction and finishes to prevent the homemade look. The outlook for relatively higher prices for garments than for cloth and the recommendation of making clothes at home as a means of having better quality and a larger amount, also influenced the selection of this project. Five demonstrations were given along this line in each club.

The first demonstration was "Fabrics and Patterns in Relation to Individual Figure Problems". This included a study of color, the figure, line and design and an analysis of style trends.

"Adjustment of Patterns and Fitting Problems" was next taken up in March. Many of the women were beginning to make clothes for spring and interest was shown particularly in making coats, suits and some of the more complicated problems.

Suggestions for "Construction and Finishes" were given at the April meeting. Proper pressing, construction, and attractive finishes were shown. Some partially made garments were brought to this meeting for help on these things.

A number of the groups had a Style Revue to follow at the May meeting to show what had actually been accomplished. Eighty-three women took part in the Revue. Each garment was discussed as it was modeled.

"Clothes in Relation to Health" was a demonstration in bymanship. How to select shoes and foundation garments was stressed.

Another demonstration on buymanship was that on how to select winter coats. Materials, workmanship, and trims were studied and the women expressed a particular interest in the demonstration.

There were ninety-seven method demonstrations given in Clothing. Of this number seventeen were given by leaders.

(b) Minor Projects

Minor emphasis was put on different things in different clubs according to needs and interests of the local group.

Fifteen demonstrations were given in Food Selection and Preparation. Six were given in Preservation. A number of Christmas demonstrations were given on food preparation, candles, table service, cakes, salads, Sunday night suppers and others were included.

In March canning budgets were made by the women. Sixty-one women report having carried out this budget. There has been a total of 45,941 qts. of foods canned, the value of which is estimated at \$8,269.76. It is estimated that six hundred homes were reached by canning suggestions.

Little emphasis was put on canning contests this year as had been done previously. Twenty-six women entered the Ball and Kerr contests however and at the county contest held in connection with Achievement Day, Mrs. C. S. Farmer, Keeling, won first place for the emergency meal exhibit while Mrs. T. W. Foster of the Renan Club won first on an exhibit of two jars of meats.

Other minor demonstrations included Flower Arrangements, Homemade Furniture, Bathing Centers, Accessories for a Complete Costume, Cheese Making, Selection and Use of Small Electrical Equipment, Etiquette and Health.

(c) Community Projects

Most clubs select at least one community activity or project for the year.

The Keeling Club uses a vacant room in the school as a club room. This year they bought some new furnishings for the room which is used as their community center. This club also put on a booth at the Danville Fair for which they received \$25.00.

Another club contributed to the school library fund and helped to build an adequate library for the Elementary school in their community.

One club again sponsored a church improvement contest for the community and gave a prize of \$10.00 to the church making the greatest improvement.

This was a continuation of a project began last year.

At Christmas six clubs packed boxes for unfortunate children in the community. Gifts were sent to "shut-ins" and card showers given.

There are eight clubs cooperating with hot lunch projects. In each case there was W.P.A. help but club women assisted in canning surplus products and in several cases acted as sponsor for the project.

Many schemes were used to make money for local groups. Hurt Club made two quilts which were sold. Neal Club had a rummage sale. Callands Club gave a public program. Other clubs had lawn parties, sponsored movies, and sold products.

Home Demonstration Club women have cooperated with the Red Cross in doing some emergency sewing. A number of the women also volunteered to knit sweaters.

Other community activities included the sending of cards and flowers to persons who were sick, showers to needy persons and community socials.

3. Project Leadership

(a) Training and Use of Leaders.

Project leaders have been most cooperative in putting into effect the Extension program. Each club has two project leaders making a total of thirty-two persons serving as voluntary workers. Each leader serves for a term of two years, elected at different times so that there is always one old and one new leader serving.

Leader training meetings are held several times during the year, usually with the State Specialist assisting. Four leader training meetings were held this year with a good attendance. At this time leaders saw the demonstrations and were given help and materials. This prepared them to go back to their clubs and give the demonstrations in the absence of the agent or assist the agent. Two of these training meetings this year were put on by the Extension specialist and two were conducted by the Agent.

(b) Results Obtained.

The response from adult leaders has been very good. Thirty-six method demonstrations were put on by leaders alone. Most of these were in the major project, however they also assisted with minor ones. They were also responsible for having a large per cent of the women turn in reports at the end of the year which they summarized.

4. Other Activities

(a) Campaign

The campaign selected by the women this year was "Citizenship". It was found from a survey that very few of the county women were eligible to vote. With 1939 the year for the election of county officials the women asked to know more about county government.

A county campaign chairman was appointed who stated the following aims of the campaign:

1. To stimulate a greater interest and a more constructive attitude toward county government.
2. To encourage more women to use the voting privilege. (50% of membership)
3. Make a definite effort to put good men in county offices.
4. Bring about an understanding between politics and citizenship.

A campaign chairman was appointed in each club and a suggested plan of work was sent to each.

Every club devoted one entire meeting to citizenship. Some Groups had Guest speakers, most of them taking up county government.

At the Gallands Club's annual banquet the program was centered around citizenship. The speaker on this occasion presented the subject in a most delightful manner. A member of the House of Representatives spoke to another group. A number of cultural periods at regular monthly club meetings was devoted to citizenship topics.

The goal to have 50 per cent of the club membership to vote was not reached. Even though only 28 per cent were eligible, this was an improvement over last years figure of 15 per cent.

(b) Income Earnings

A number of women near Danville are selling regularly their surplus products at the city market. Timely information is given club women from time to time by the agent regarding selection and preparation of their products for market.

The agent has also helped several women secure private sales for handicraft articles. Mrs. Matilda Gammon, 90 year old woman, who is skilled in making baskets from honeyuckle sells her products regularly at the Old Dominion Home Industries Cooperative. Her sales have brought her around \$50.00 this year. For the first time in her life she had her home screened this summer. This was made possible because of the money received from these sales. All materials used are native which she gets from the woods and fields and prepares herself. This year she has made several new types of baskets which have been popular.

(c) Recreation

When the local clubs made their plans of work some provisions were made for recreation and social activities. Some of the groups set aside one meeting date for this purpose. The types of sociale varied and included picnics, teas, venier roasts, banquets, and others.

The Reman Club went to Palustrone Park for an all day outing. The Keeling Club had a picnic supper followed by an evening of games and songs. The Callende Club had its annual banquet to which the husbands were invited. This was quite a nice occasion and one to which the community looks forward. Olinax Club members entertained their husbands and school faculty at a party in the Home Economic cottage. Hart Club members cooked an out-of-doors supper at a county roadside park. Other social meetings of varloze types were held.

Some of the clubs have a social half hour after each meeting ending with the serving of simple homemade refreshments. In many communities the club is the only outlet for social activities and the Homemaking Board, feeling that the county women need more opportunity to get together, emphasized that this phase of home demonstration is meeting a need.

(d) County Meetings

Home Demonstration Club women took an active part in the Danville Fair. All members were encouraged to make exhibits in open class and a number of prizes were awarded to members of Home Demonstration Clubs. Two clubs put on educational booths for which they were awarded \$25.00 each.

Since the major project for the year was clothing one booth showed this phase of work. An adequate wardrobe for a farm woman was shown. The theme was "Stepping Out of the Bandbox for all Occasions". Good looking homemade garments showed how home sewing helped to make the clothing dollar go farther.

The other booth had as its theme "Conveniences in the Home". A study of marginal housing made by the Rural Sociology Department and reviewed by the clubs prompted this exhibit. The exhibit was divided into two parts. The first emphasized the fact that Virginia lags in home convenience and posters gave figures and results of the survey. Poor type equipment was shown. The contrast came in the other part of the exhibit which showed good equipment. Both booths attracted much attention and favorable comment and gave the thousands of people attending the fair an opportunity to know something about Home Demonstration work.

The fourth annual Achievement Day for Pittsylvania County Home Demonstration Clubs was held October 27th. Approximately two hundred women attended the meeting and enjoyed an all day program. The president of the County Homemaking Board presided. A panel discussion on "Four years of Home Demonstration work in Pittsylvania County" led by Mrs. George Moore and participated in by a member from each club was the highlight of the morning's program. This

discussion showed achievements and growth in the various clubs in the county. Special music followed.

A county summary of the years activities was accurately and interestingly given by the Vice President of the Homemaking Board. Following this a plate lunch was served by a committee of club women.

Since club women this year put special emphasis on clothing, immediately after lunch a showing of homemade garments was made in form of a style show. Many attractive dresses and coats were modeled. Presentation of awards and recognition to clubs doing outstanding work was made by the Home Demonstration Agent. The awards to outstanding clubs were current books, the Weal Club winning first, Keeling second, and Concord third. Winners in the canning contest were also announced.

Music was furnished by the newly organized Home Demonstration choral group which made its initial appearance at this time.

The main speaker of the day was Miss Maude E. Wallace, Assistant Director of Extension, who spoke on "The Family as a Unit".

It is felt that this was the most successful program of its kind attempted by the club women.

5. Participation in Federation (a) District

Fifty-six women of the county attended the Central District meeting of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs held at Hotel Roanoke. These women represented ten clubs of the county and is the largest number that has ever attended. One member from the county appeared on the program. This meeting stimulated interest and the women came back to the county with a much broader view of Home Demonstration work. It gave the members an opportunity to see the scope of her organization and how it is functioning.

(b) State

Sixteen women of the county attended the State Federation meeting and the Institute of Rural Affairs held in Blacksburg in July. Two of this number went as official delegates from the Homemaking Board while others were delegates from individual clubs. Twelve of the sixteen clubs paid dues and their members had the privileges of regular delegates. One member took part in a panel discussion.

(c) State Federation Goal - Library Work

Interest in Library work as a Federation Goal was so keen last year that

the Homemaking Board made plans for its continuation. The need for better library facilities in each community was brought out.

Mrs. George Moore continued her second year as County Library Chairman, and to her, much credit is due for its success. Each club had a Librarian. The recommendations made by the county chairman were as follows:

1. Establish a study course in each club.
2. Purchase a good book for this course.
3. Write the following inscription in each book now owned and each new book purchased "This book is the property of Pittsylvania Home Demonstration Circulating Library, donated by (name of club)".
4. See that all magazines have the same inscription with name of club.
5. Have each non club member who reads the books and magazines write her name on a slip of paper which shall be pasted in the back of book or magazine. In this way we can readily determine the number of women without Home Demonstration privileges.
6. Each library chairman is asked to keep an accurate account of the number of books and magazines read by her club. (Each member read 10 books during the year).
7. Each library chairman is asked to furnish the County Library Chairman with a list of books and magazines on hand so that they may be called for if needed for reports or discussion by any of the other clubs or organizations.
8. Conduct a book storage campaign in each club. Have shelves or magazine racks made in each home.

Some of the books purchased for the study courses were "How to Win Friends", Dale Carnegie; "Etiquette", Emily Post; "Wake up and Live", Dortha Brand; "Personality Pointers", Jill Edwards; "Charm", Marjorie Wilson; "Living Together in the Family", Dennis; "Constructive Citizenship", Jack; and many others. These study courses were conducted in various ways. Some groups devoted one meeting to this discussion and continued it during the fifteen minute cultural period of each meeting.

The Home Demonstration women are gradually building a library of their own. At present the Home Demonstration Agents office serves as a distributing center for the sixty books owned by clubs.

One goal this year was to have every woman read ten books during the year. Two thousand nine hundred books were reported read by club women.

Through the generosity of a public spirited benefactor money was given to erect a county library building which is well equipped with books. This fills a long felt need in the county and too much cannot be said in praise of such a generous act. When the County Library Board was appointed by the Circuit Court Judge our own County Chairman was appointed to this Board.

This in a measure is some recognition for the work successfully begun by county women.

Clubs have been able to borrow boxes of books from both the county library and city library of Danville for a period of one month. Each club librarian makes out a want list of the newest and best books and as fast as they are available they are included in the regular monthly box. These libraries have been established in fifteen communities.

6. Story of Achievement by Club Carrying Best Program

The best work by an individual club was done by the Neal group. This club held fourteen meetings during the year, one of which was social. There are thirty-five members on roll. Average attendance at meetings was twenty-two.

The club was represented at all out-of-county meetings. Six members attended the District Federation meeting and one delegate was sent to the State Federation meeting. Representatives have also been present at all county meetings.

In project work this club has been active and many improvements have been noticeable. Two active leaders gave four of the demonstrations during the year. Eighteen of their members made a garment for herself and modeled it in a club style revue. Improvements in house furnishing, foods, and home management were also reported.

This club raised \$41.00 during the year to defray club expenses. They paid dues to both county and State Federation, sent delegates to all out of county meetings and took care of local activities.

The library chairman was most active and carried out the county recommendations. The book used for their study course was "How to Win Friends" by Dale Carnegie. In addition to this book the club purchased two books of current fiction. The members reported having read an average of ten books each. Twenty-eight per cent of the membership was eligible to vote.

This club has done quite a bit of social service work too. Food and clothing was sent to needy families in the community at Christmas time. Card showers and fruits were sent to persons who were sick. Books and magazines were sent to non-members.

The club has been quite active in all community undertakings. Their spirit of cooperation is splendid.

7. Outstanding Achievement by Individual

Mrs. George Moore has made the most outstanding contribution to club work in the county this year. She has been county library chairman for three years and in this capacity has served most faithfully. She is most active in her club and her enthusiasm has not only been an influence in her club but in the county as well.

She has worked closely with the club chairman in library work, keeping them posted by letter and personal visits. The success of the library program has been due largely to her efforts.

Then the Library Board for the new county library was appointed by the Circuit Court Judge, Mrs. Moore was asked to serve.

Mrs. Moore missed only one meeting of her club, attended both the District and State Federation meetings and took a part on both programs. She also led a panel discussion at the County Achievement Day program.

Even though a mother of four children who does her own house work her slogan is to manage her work and not let her work manage her.

VII. 4-H Club Work

1. Organization (a) County Council

The 4-H Club Council is made up of the officers of the 4-H Clubs. Leaders are ex-officio members. There are forty-two members on the council. The purpose of the Council is to unify the club work in the county, to make the county plan of work, and to give training in parliamentary procedure and game and song leadership.

The first meeting of the Council held early in December was for the purpose of building a program for the year. The project program for girls had been planned prior to this meeting.

The Council set up standards and clubs measuring up to these standards were to be closed as banner clubs. The standards set up were:

1. Hold fourteen meetings during the year.
 - (a) Twelve regular meetings.
 - (b) Two social meetings.
2. Have 75% attendance at each meeting.
3. Have 90% project completions.
4. Have club represented at District and State Short Course.
5. Have club represented at County Council meetings.
6. Each club pay \$2.00 dues to County Council.
7. Each club be represented at Achievement Day with a report from clubs.

Other goals set up by the Council were:

1. To have better attendance at Council meetings.
2. To improve parliamentary practices at meetings.
3. Plan and assist with 4-H Achievement Day.
4. Sponsor a one-act play contest.

Only two clubs measured up to the banner club standard and was given recognition at Achievement Day.

The Council was given the responsibility of planning and carrying out the Achievement Day program. Plans were made and committees appointed at the Spring meeting of the Council. These were successfully carried out.

(b) 4-H Clubs

All girls and boys in a rural community between the ages of 10 and 20 years who conduct a 4-H Club project, automatically becomes a member of a 4-H Club. The club is organized with a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Reporter, and Song Leader. The general work of the club is supervised by the Farm and Home Demonstration Agents and joint meetings are held once each month. After the joint meeting the club divides into project groups with the Farm Agent supervising the boys work and the Home Agent supervising the girls work.

Thirteen clubs meet in the schools and during school hours. The length of period varies from one hour to one and a half hours. One Club meets out of school.

2. Project Work.

The Family Activity program is based on the need for a better understanding and appreciation of the every day routine of the home. The county-wide unit chosen for construction work was one in House Furnishings with emphasis on "The Girls Bedroom". The project plan of work was made by leaders and older club girls in a joint program planning meeting. The following plans were made.

December

Girls Project group

1. Discuss
 - (a) Notebooks and how to keep them
2. Demonstration
 - (a) Christmas gifts one can make

January

Girls Project group

1. Discuss

- (a) Health in relation to the home
- (b) Standards for the year's project work
- 2. Demonstrations
 - (a) Check homes for health
 - (b) How to keep a food habit score

February

Girls Project group

- 1. Check note books, monthly records, etc.
- 2. Demonstration "Room Inventory and Plans for Improvement".

March

Girls Project group

- 1. Check monthly records
- 2. Demonstration "Color and Color Schemes".

April

Girls Project group

- 1. Check monthly records
- 2. Discuss making canning budgets
- 3. Demonstration "Window and Window Treatment".

May

Girls Project group

- 1. Arrange for two project meetings during the summer
- 2. Demonstration, "Rearrangement of Room".
- 3. Check monthly records.

June

Girls Project group

- 1. Discuss "Homemade Furniture for Girls room".
(Dressing table, book shelves, etc.)
- 2. Demonstration on Homemade Furniture by girls and agent

July

Girls Project group

- Discussion: Cleanliness for health, charm, and personality
- Plans for exhibits at fair

Girls Project meeting

- Demonstration: The Bathing Center

August

Girls Project group

- 1. Check notebooks
- 2. Discuss "Accessories with girls participating."

September

Joint meeting

1. Hold club contests
2. Appoint fair committees
3. Discuss completions of records
4. Social meeting (Ompfire suggested)
5. Display accessories made

October

Girls Project Group

1. Check exhibits
2. Check monthly record
3. Complete project work and make report on #342

November

Joint meeting

1. Reorganization
2. Plan program for next year
3. Announce enrollment of new members

The standards for completing project were set up as follows:

1. Complete two units.
2. Take part in club meetings and other club activities.
3. Keep a "Personal Account" of all money spent in twelve months.
4. Keep a "Food Habit Score" for at least one month.
5. Learn to do well, one home task and assume the responsibility for it.
6. Keep the "Monthly Record" on form given and transfer the date to 4-H Member's Report, at October meeting.
7. Keep a 4-H Club Book throughout the year.

Of the two hundred and eighty-three girls enrolled only one hundred and forty-six completed their projects according to these standards. The girls seemed especially interested in the house-furnishing program but the agent and leaders felt that too much was undertaken in the time allotted to club meetings. Some of the girls became discouraged. One hundred and nine demonstrations were given in House Furnishing. One hundred and forty-six girls report having made improvements along this line. Homemade furniture attracted a great deal of attention both from the girls and their mothers. Such things as dressing tables, stools, benches, book shelves, bed-side tables and closets were successfully made. The bathing center was also popular and the girls made screens, wash stands, towel racks, and other small accessories.

Some work was done along the line of Health, too. In January, discussions were conducted on health in relation to the home. Each member checked her home for health. Food in relation to health was also discussed which formed a basis for the food habits score that was kept by each member. Weight was checked before and after keeping the score and in

cases where the member did not show a gain, food habits were checked. One hundred and twenty-one members kept this good score.

Each club had a demonstration on "Suggestions for making Christmas gifts". Oven bags, mats, and other handiwork articles were shown and many girls report having used these suggestions.

(a) Best Project Work by Individual

The best project work by individual was done by Elizabeth Bourne of the Concord Club. Elizabeth is Reporter of her club and has attended twelve meetings of her club, Achievement Day, and County Council meetings.

Elizabeth kept her records up to date in her notebook. She assumed several added home responsibilities as part of her club work, kept a food habits score, and a personal account for twelve months.

Improvements in House Furnishing was particularly shown in the living room. Here to fore there was no living room in her home except her mother's bedroom which served as living room and bedroom. The house was rearranged and a living room provided. Three pieces of furniture was bought, the fireplace refinished and accessories added to make an attractive room. Her family had very little money to spend of this project and Elizabeth has plans to make other improvements as they can. She planned the color scheme in this room and rearranged the furniture in three other rooms.

Elizabeth also takes a great deal of responsibility in canning and preserving foods at home. This year she canned ninety-four quarts alone and helped can sixty-four quarts. She entered six jars of foods in open class at the Danville Fair and won several prizes.

Elizabeth entered the Rural Electrification Contest last year and won first place in the county. Due to her age she was ineligible for the State Contest. This year she reworked her paper, entered the State Contest and won first place. This entitles her to enter the National contest and a trip to the National Club Congress in Chicago in December.

She shows real leadership ability and because she is capable of doing a job well has been called on to take part in public programs and other club activities.

5. Community Activities

(a) Recreation

Recreational activities play an important part in the 4-H program. The council put in their plan of work that each club should hold at least two social meetings. This was not done in every case but most clubs had at

least one meeting that was entirely social. These included winter roasts, picnics, campfires, Christmas and Halloween parties and others.

The Chatham and Concord Clubs had a joint picnic at a near-by lake and enjoyed swimming and boating as well as a beautiful supper. After supper and until after dark the group sat on the banks of the lake and sang songs. Greta Club had a costume Halloween party. Games, contests and appropriate refreshments gave the fifty girls and boys a pleasant evening. Dan River Club had three social meetings. One was a brunswick stew at the home of the leader, one an evening party at her home, and one an out of doors supper at the fireplace on the community school ground. Singing meetings were held by other clubs and attendance is always good on such occasions.

Some training in recreation was given at the first council meeting of the year. Members attending District and State Short Courses also received help and could take a lead in recreational activities in their own communities.

(b) Raising Money for Club Activities

One of the best means of raising money for club activities has been the Danville Fair. Six prizes were offered the first being \$25.00. One hundred and eight dollars was raised for club activities this way.

Public programs have been a means of bring money to the club treasury. The county council sponsored a play contest in May. Four clubs entered the contest. A \$5.00 prize was given to the club having the best play. Admission was charged and in addition to the development of talents and fun the club made a little money.

Other means of making money was through sale of products as flavoring, and waxed paper, ice cream, etc.

The money was used to defray club expenses, send representatives to camps and short courses, and some social service work.

A. Local Leadership

(a) Training and Use of Leaders

There are thirteen women serving as local leaders of 4-H Clubs. In several of the larger clubs there are club sponsors who are teachers and who take care of the organizational activities. All leaders and sponsors are expected to guide the best interests of the members by encouraging and assisting them to take part in all club activities. The leader also keeps the community informed of the activities of the club and visit the homes in order to foster better understanding and more cooperation.

The project leader is a person outside the school system. Her duty is to help each member understand the requirements of the project and to assist the agent or give demonstrations in her absence.

Training meetings are held at intervals during the year. The November meeting is for training in organization. Project leaders meetings are held to give instructions in projects. These are often held with the State Specialist assisting.

(b) Results Obtained

Leaders in 4-H Club work have not been as responsive as leaders in adult work. There were five leader training meetings with a total attendance of twenty-eight. The agent did some of the training in individual conferences. Seventeen demonstrations in the major project were given by club leaders. Nineteen other meetings were held by leaders alone.

5. Other Activities
(a) Camps

1. District Short Course

The District Short Course was held at Hargrave Military Academy the week of June 19, with girls and boys from Halifax, Henry, Franklin, and Pittsylvania counties participating. One hundred and one girls, boys, agents and leaders participated with twenty-two on the number from Pittsylvania County.

Organization of the camp was completed the first evening with the division into tribes and the election of tribal officers. Classes were conducted each morning in First Aid, Nature lore, Swimming, and Handicrafts. The handicrafts consisted of weaving, leather work and making book ends.

Afternoons were given over to recreational, tribal meetings and swimming.

The evening programs were varied and consisted of an informal party stunt night and a campfire ending with the candle lighting ceremony.

2. State Short Course

Twelve girls, one leader, and the agent attended the State Short Course held in Blacksburg the week of July 24. These delegates represented seven clubs of the county. One girl was elected to the All Star organization. This group of girls took an active part in all activities and came back with renewed enthusiasm. Interesting reports were made in the

respective clubs.

5. County Meetings

(1) Fair

4-H girls did not make individual exhibits at the Danville Fair as they had done previously. However six clubs had booths in which they arranged quality exhibits and showing the aims of club work. These were on a competitive basis and the Concord Club for the third consecutive year won first award of \$25.00. Cash awards on booths amounted to \$108.00.

(2) Achievement Day

The 4-H Clubs of Pittsylvania County brought their current year to a close with a most successful Achievement Day program held on November 4. Even though rain and snow cut attendance, one hundred and five boys and girls participated. At this time reports were made on work done by individual clubs and recognition given to persons for outstanding achievements. 4-H Leadership pins were given to twelve girls and boys who had done good work. These awards were made during the morning program which was presided over by the Vice-President of the County Council. The County Farm and Home Agents summarized activities in projects.

After lunch the entire group joined in a recreational program in the gymnasium consisting of games, stunts, and contests. Club members had charge of this part of the program.

(3) One Act Play Contest

This contest was sponsored by the council and one which creates a great deal of interest among several of the clubs. This year four clubs participated. The plays were judged and a prize awarded the winning one. Chatham Club won first place on a play "Who Gets the Car Tonight". Concord Club placed second on "4-H Tackles Father". All of the plays were excellent and brought out much talent.

6. Story of Achievement of Best Club

The Concord Club did the most outstanding work this year. This club has eighteen girls on roll. Meetings are held out of school and in club members homes. Joint meetings with the boys are held at night.

This club has an active community leader who has contributed much to the success of the club.

Fourteen regular meetings and two socials have been held. Attendance is always good. Two members attended the District Short Course and five

went to the State Short Course. Two girls also attended the Conservation Camp at Jamestown. One girl from this club was made an All Star.

In the one act play contest this club placed second and won first place in their fair booth.

The Rural Electrification Contest for the county and state was won by a member from this club. She will enter the National contest in December.

Fourteen of the eighteen girls turned in complete reports at the end of the year. More honors and recognition for outstanding work has come to members from this club than from any other in the county.

VIII. Older Youth

The only older youth organization in the county is the All Star group. There are twenty All Stars who belong to the County Chapter. Only twelve of this number are active. This year efforts were made toward organizing a District group. The Pittsylvania group took the initiative in calling together All Star members from Henry, Patrick, Franklin, and Halifax counties and at Christmas a banquet was held at Hotel Oatham. Following the banquet and program a business meeting was held at which time District officers were elected and plans for the year's activities discussed.

Since the All Star group was so scattered and most members in school or working, their activities were somewhat limited. Several county members have been most helpful in leadership and county-wide activities.

The last meeting was held in Martinsville in September. This was a supper meeting and social.

IX. Progress Made During the Year

The fourth years program in Home Demonstration work has just been completed in Pittsylvania County. Two new adult clubs were organized with an increase in enrollment over last year. The agent received requests for organization from five other communities in the county.

A new county office building was erected in which the Home Demonstration Agent now has an office, that is well equipped. At the request of the agent the Board of Supervisors also gave to the women a demonstration kitchen or laboratory and equipped it with electric stove, refrigerator, water, and cabinet space. The clubs have added small equipment, dishes, silver, and glassware. It is felt that this office and kitchen is quite an asset to the county and a generous act of good will toward Home Demonstration work from the Board of Supervisors.

Leadership development has been most evident in the last two years. This point was so strongly brought out by the women themselves at the Achievement Day program. Quality of work has also improved.

I. History and Appraisal of Home Demonstration Work in County.

Home Demonstration work is not as old as the Agricultural work in Pittsylvania County. An emergency agent was placed in this county during the World War and through 1919 after which time the work was discontinued until 1935.

A Miss Fritchett was the first Home Demonstration Agent and came to the county in the spring of 1916 at which time she began canning club projects. Mrs. Mae Campbell was appointed to succeed Miss Fritchett in the early spring of 1917. She continued canning and tomato clubs and her first work was done mostly with the girls.

There are few records of the womens work but from a news item in a local paper dated May 1918 this paragraph was found. "The Demonstrations by the Home Demonstration Agent in War cooking are being attended with much interest. Those who have learned the art of using wheat substitutes are more than pleased with the results. The housewives are showing their patriotism by using wheat substitutes in order that their sons and brothers in the trenches may be provided with wheat which is the only grain that can be shipped abroad".

Mention was also made of garden and poultry work.

The period immediately following the World War was most disheartening for Home Demonstration work. The Public regarded the Home Demonstration Agent as an emergency worker and curtailment of the force began immediately at the close of the war. From the period 1920 to 1935 Pittsylvania County had no Extension work in Home Economics.

In July 1935, due to the efforts of the District Agent and request of the county women, an appropriation was secured from the county of \$750.00 and Miss Evelyn Glick was appointed as agent July 1st. Two years later the appropriation was increased to \$850.00.

Eleven Home Demonstration Clubs with an enrollment of two hundred and sixty-five women were organized in 1935. At present there are sixteen clubs with an enrollment of three hundred and seventy-four women. Fifteen 4-H Clubs were organized this first year with an enrollment of two hundred and eighty-three.

In 1935 emphasis was first put on the "five at home" program. Help was given in gardening, canning and storage of food. This merged into a program of food preparation the first full year of work. This project was

called "Use of Home Grown Products". New and pleasing ways of preparing home grown foods were shown as well as how to conserve the food value.

The second year we moved a little further into the house and stressed Home Furnishing from the standpoint of convenience and the making of a more beautiful place to live. The few years preceding had been hard ones and homes had gone down for need of paint and repair. The tobacco crop sold better this year and some money was available for the needed improvements.

Because food preparation takes such a big share of the homemakers time, a study of more efficient planning and preparation of meals was selected for major emphasis again last year. There was also a consciousness of the importance of diet on the welfare of the family from the standpoint of health, as well as economy.

Meetings have been held on landscape gardening, homemade conveniences, child training and family relationship problems, boymanship, citizenship, and cultural interests. Home Demonstration work is giving the women an opportunity to get together for social and recreational meetings, make exhibits, and bring the women closer together in the community.

The chief accomplishments have been great improvements in standards of canned goods, an improvement of homes in both convenience and attractiveness, and development of leadership.

Through the home demonstration clubs, too, more good reading has been stressed so that approximately three thousand books were read by club members this year. Home Demonstration work is expanding each year and already taxes the ability of one agent to reach all sections visiting clubs.

XI. Plans and Goals for 1940

Plans for 1940 were begun early this year. In May club women began discussing needs within the community. These in turn were translated into the county program of work, as far as possible, at the September meeting of the Homemaking Board. It was found that the majority of the women felt a need for help in home furnishing problems with emphasis on refinishing, repairing and renovating furniture. Problems in arrangement and boymanship were brought out. Five demonstrations were selected along this line. Individual clubs will select others to meet the needs of the community.

The Federation Goal selected for special emphasis during 1940 is Health. Many needs along this line were brought out at club meetings and the women felt that thru cooperative effort and with the Health Department assisting that improvements should be made within the county.

A county campaign for home and yard beautification was selected.