stronger 4-H club programs, but a decrease in enrollment. Whether one balances the other or the situation will correct itself remains to be seen.

The program has its strong points and its weak points. However, it is the general feeling that the overall program is very good.

The 4-H Club program is extremely well received in the County and an excellent working relationship exists with the school officials.

3. Poultry School
4. Swine School
5. Vegetable School
6. Garden Lovers' Short Course
7. 4-H Leader Recognition Banquet
8. Farm City Luncheon and Farmer of the Year Award
9. Has committees working of City Market, Dismal Swamp, Land Use Plan and cooperating with T. V. Regional Planning Commission.

The Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce sponsors the following projects:

1. 4-H Jr. Steer Show and Sale
2. Feeder Lamb Project
3. Rural Urban Get-Together, with a dinner
4. Promoting alivestock market.

Next year they are planning to sponsor the 4-H Automotive project. These seventy one men are each very good assistants to the County Agent and the work they do for the Extension Service is far reaching in promoting public relations and direct results in many areas of teaching.

Our better forage handling programs, live better electrically, and automation are really moving forward. We had an excellent feature story on the front page of the Virginian-Pilot on Sunday, November 26, 1961. Pictures of two automatic silage feeders, one of H. B. Ashburn, Jr.'s automatic beef silage feeding arrangement, and one picture of B. W. Berry's dairy automatic silage feeder partly complete. The articles were prepared Monday, the 20th, by visiting these two farms with the reporter and photographer.

The 4-H Club program is in a period of transition of sorts. All but three of the school clubs have been eliminated and community clubs are taking their place. This is giving more project time and

Our DHIA program has improved and is becoming very effective. All DHIA members are in the EDPM record or testing program. Requests from beef cattle, hog, poultry, and dairy farmers has increased.

More bulletins have been requested, more individual counselling and assistance in management, feeding, internal and external parasite control has been given. Help has been given in securing better sires and foundation females for their herds.

The attendance at all schools, short courses, and other educational meetings have improved.

We have a Monday morning Farm Page in our daily paper but it has not done a very good job of getting information to our people. The paper reaches a lot of people in North Carolina and Virginia and it carries quite a bit of agricultural needs several days during the week. We work very close with three of the news editors, and we work to get a feature story each month and we get about eight or ten each year.

Some of our most valuable work is co-sponsored by two Chambers of Commerce, one of Norfolk City and one of Portsmouth City. The Norfolk Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee has thirty one members; this includes the two county agents and two assistant county agents of Princess Anne and Norfolk Counties. The Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee has forty members.

The Norfolk Chamber of Commerce sponsors the following programs:

1. A two day Dairy Short Course
2. Agronomy School

suppliers have been most helpful.

5. Farm and Home Safety

Situation:

The necessity for farm and home safety and the practices of it are so evident that it needs little discussion. Several of the elementary clubs and one of the senior clubs took the safety project this year. There were twenty completed projects in safety and the response of the children was excellent.

Method: Each child was given a copy of the safety project manual and the safety project record book. A certain section of the project manual was discussed at each meeting and regular checks were made on the progress in the safety record books.

Two meetings were devoted to electric safety and the rest were devoted to general farm and home safety. Three movies on farm and home safety were shown.

6. Wildlife

Situation:

The wildlife project has proved to be one of the most outstanding projects offered to the elementary school clubs. Last year there were thirty six members enrolled in this project with nineteen completion.

Method: The project material is divided into sections to be present during the club year. This material is supplemented with films and color slides to add interest.

agreed to purchase as many of the lambs as possible and some have been sold privately.

It is hoped that the sale will be as successful as the project has been up to this time.

3. Entomology

Situation:

Interest in the Entomology project is still good in the County, however, the total number of club members enrolled in the project has decreased over the past year. Method: Those club members taking the Entomology project were given copies of available insect information. The project manuals and insect identification booklets were discussed in detail with each member. Participants were encouraged to display their collections at achievement day and County Contest.

4. Electric

Situation:

With the intensification of the electric project by the electric demonstration each year many improvements in home lighting and wiring have been made. There is still a great need for more improvements in these two fields of home lighting and wiring. This intensification has required a lot of time and effort on the part of all agents, however, it has paid off in some very outstanding club work. The power company representatives and the electrical equipment

sheep shearers to shear the lambs and the stockyard dipped them. The wool was sold and it brought enough to pay for shearing and transportation of the lambs to the distribution point in Norfolk County. The lambs were then given a day's rest and they were then treated for foot rot and parasites. The lambs were given another rest and then divided into pens of ten. These pens were numbered and the children drew for their pen and sponsor. Arrangements were made with four members to take care of the four replacement lambs on the basis that they keep them until needed. Then the child taking a replacement lamb would pay back the amount of feed eaten by the replacement lamb.

The lambs were vaccinated for "over eating" disease and the feeding program started.

It was necessary to devote considerable supervisory time to this project but the enthusiasm of the children, their parents and the Agricultural Committee made it an extremely pleasant task.

The lambs progressed very well with only a few problems. Three of the four replacement lambs had to be used for one reason or another.

A local shopping center took over the sponsorship of the show and sale and donated space, ribbons, trophies, and free advertising. One of the local packers has

also take over and sponsor the 4-H Automotive and Safety Project as of January, 1962).

Under the very able guidance of Mr. George Allen, Extension Sheep Specialist, Dr. W. VanDresser, Extension Veterinarian and Mr. Arden Huff, 4-H Livestock Specialist, the project was set up as follows:

Contact was made with a livestock market in Staunton for the purchase of the lambs. It had been decided earlier that the project would be limited to ten children (five in Norfolk County and five in Princess Anne County) and each child would feed ten lambs. However, it was decided to buy four extra lambs to cover the death loss which was expected. One of the local feed companies was contacted and a standard feed was mixed for all lambs. This feed consisted of 1200 lbs. of cracked corn, 960 lbs. of dehydrated alfalfa meal, 120 lbs. soybean oil meal, and 120 lbs. molasses. This was a pelleted feed and it was delivered to the children prior to lamb distribution.

The lambs were selected and carefully culled by Mr. Allen, Dr. VanDresser and Mr. Huff. The 104 lambs were picked from some 300 odd lambs at the market. These lambs came from the medium and low good grades of lambs.

Arrangements were made with two local commercial

c. Swine

Situation:

The swine program is still one of importance in this area. Although the number of club members actually enrolled in the project is small, many boys request information on swine to use on home herds. One local breeder offers purebred gilts to club members at reduced prices in an effort to promote swine production in the area.

Method: Continue to encourage those already participating in the swine project by working more clearly with them on breeding and management. Continue, also, to try to obtain a sponsor for a purebred pig chain for the County.

d. Sheep

Situation:

In 1959 the chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce appointed a special committee to search for a new project for the Chamber. This committee was charged with the responsibility of deciding on several projects and writing up these projects for presentation to the members of the parent committee. After much discussion with local 4-H leaders and farmers the committee took the problem to the Animal Husbandry Extension Staff and the 4-H Staff at V. P. I. and come back with the Market Lamb Project. (The committee will

grading, and numbering. Club members must provide their own feed and containers and provide their own transportation to the show.

o. All steers will be sold at public auction following the show. Parents may purchase their son's or daughter's steer for any purpose desired, however, payment must be made to the sponsoring Agency for the sale price of the calf.

p. Only steer calves will be allowed in the Fitting and Showmanship class.

Rules Committee

B. B. Ferguson, Jr.
E. L. Wood
E. R. Cockrell

b. Dairy Cattle

Situation:

Because of the size of the "Norfolk-Portsmouth Milk Shed" dairying is a very important business. However, there are at the present time only three boys entered in the 4-H dairy program as such in the County. It is very difficult to pin point any reason or condition responsible for this apparent lack of interest among the 4-H Club members in the dairy project. It is hoped that this year there will be a dairy judging team formed in the County. The manager of one of the large dairies has agreed to help coach a dairy team.

members growing calves from his or her own 4-H heifer project be permitted to enter all competition in Fat Stock Show and Sale.

g. A Club member will not be allowed to show or sell more than one baby beef animal.

h. No unmanageable calf may be shown, but can be sold.

i. All steer calves must be dehorned.

j. Club members may feed any choice of feeds approved by the County Agents, however, nurse cows or milk in its natural form cannot be used. Milk substitutes may be used at the discretion of the club member.

k. No calves may be put on feed by 4-H club members prior to distribution date for all calves. Steers selected from club member's herd must be weened by distribution date.

l. When a club member refuses to do a good job, the calf may be moved by the committee.

m. Each club member is expected to exhibit his own animal in the show. If the Club members cannot be present then another club member may be engaged to show the animal. In no case shall a professional showman, County Agent or other adult exhibit a Club member's animal.

n. Baby Beef calves shall be brought to the show grounds on the day proceeding the show and sale for weighing,

Norfolk County who is an auctioneer.

The entire program is governed by a rigid set of rules and regulations which are drawn up by the Extension Agents and the Rules Committee of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee. The following is a copy of these Rules and Regulations:

a. All contestants participating in the Portsmouth Fat Stock Show and Sale must be bonafide member in good standing of an active 4-H Club.

b. Each club member who participates in the Portsmouth Baby Beef Show and Sale must feed out a sponsored calf.

c. Each Club member will be required to draw for his or her calf and its sponsor, in person unless prevented by illness.

d. Each Club member participating in the Baby Beef Project must give a note for the full amount of the cost of the animal to the sponsoring organization. Note is to be due and payable within 30 days after the date of the show and sale.

e. All Club members will be required to pay to the sponsoring organization $5.00 insurance.

f. All calves fed by 4-H'ers must be drawn from lot numbers from his breed choice. Club members may not show calves from their home farm, but 4-H Club

warranted. During the course of the feeding period demonstrations are held in general care and management as well as fitting and showmanship. Each club member is encouraged to participate freely in those informal meetings. More direct supervision is given to club members participating for the first time or second time than to those who have shown for two or more years. At different times during the eight months feeding period each club member carrying a baby beef or heifer project is visited by the Chairman of the Agriculture Committee and his or her individual sponsor. They are accompanied by the Assistant County Agent and the County Agent when he is available.

Each sponsor is also asked to be present for the distribution of the calves in September and the annual sponsor-4-H member cookout which is held in December.

The baby beef program is climaxed during the first week of May. At this time the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce sponsors its annual Rural-Urban Get-Together for all participants in the project, their families, the sponsors of the program, the Agriculture Committee members and invited guests. Some outstanding leader in Agriculture is invited to speak at this program. The Show and Sale are held the next day at the Portsmouth City Stadium.

The sale is handled by an ex4-H Club member from

of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, the sponsors are secured by them and the rules and regulations governing this work are set up by the above mentioned committee.

The actual selection and placement of the animals is left up to the County Agent and Assistant County Agent and members of the County Beef Committee. This group makes a trip to different farms in the State looking for calves. Farms on which prospective steers are located are asked to hold certain animals until late August at which time those animals which meet the required size, weight, and conformation are tagged.

Again this year for the second time, all the calves except two came from two farms. These two came from local herds; one was purchased and one was a gift. Around the middle of September these steers are brought to a central location in the County for distribution to the 4-H Club members. Prior to the distribution the Extension Office sends each participant a folder containing information on housing, rations, and general care and management of the animal along with a livestock record book. Shortly thereafter, each member is visited again and the project is discussed with him and his parents. During the first month each member is visited every week or as often as necessary. After that, only a new member is visited more than twice a month unless more visits are

There is an ever increasing need for new and improved pastures in the County because of the increasing livestock numbers. There were only three participants in this project during the past year, however, the quality of work done by these three boys was excellent. There is still a great need for more participation in this project.

Method: Each member was urged to have yearly soil test made of the present pasture and any new pasture. Information on pasture mixtures, fertilization, weed control, over grazing, and rotation was supplied to each participant.

2. Livestock Projects

a. Beef Cattle

Situation:

The enthusiastic response of the people of this area to the 4-H Jr. Steer program is most gratifying. This year there were eight angus steers and nine Hereford steers in the County. There are three heifer projects in the County this year. Because of the possibilities of beef production in this area this is one of the most important phases of club work in the County. Several small herds of purebred Angus and Herefords have been started as a result of the 4-H Jr. Steer and heifer projects.

Methods: Since the 4-H Jr. Steer and heifer projects are under the direct sponsorship of the Agricultural Committee

were given the recommendations on new and better adapted varieties. Each member supplied the necessary boxes for soil testing and recommendations for liming and fertilization were based on the soil test. Insect and weed control were also stressed.

c. Vegetable Growing

Situation:

The garden project was one of the largest projects in the County last year. There were 19 participants who wanted their gardens judged for county competition. The judging was done by Mr. A. V. Watts, Associate Extension Horticulturist of the Virginia Truck Experiment Station. Mr. Watts stated that the garden showed great improvement over the previous years and they were of considerably more economic value to the families.

Method: At the beginning of the planting season each club member participating in the garden project was given a folder containing the latest information on varieties, fertilization, cultural practices of vegetables and spray bulletins for insect and disease control. The standard garden score card was used when the gardens were scored in July. At the time of scoring each child was given suggestions for a full garden.

D. Range and Pasture Projects

Situation:

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done is excellent.

a. Corn

Situation:

This year was one of the most productive corn years in a long time. We had one of the best growing seasons in many years. Early harvested corn was yielding about 125 bushels. Although only five 4-H club members were enrolled in a corn project, 11 members planted corn on their farms as a part of the overall farm crop program.

Method: Those 4-H club members requesting information were given copies of the corn variety recommendation list for Tidewater, Virginia. The fertilization recommendations were based on the soil sample reports and each was given copies of the corn weed control recommendation.

b. Soybeans, Field Peas, Alfalfa and other legumes

Situation:

Due to the soil type, climate, and market in Tidewater, Virginia, soybeans are major legume crop. There is an excellent market in this area for soybeans and recently an oil extraction plant was built by one of the grain companies; these two facts have greatly increased the interest in these crops as a 4-H club project. Like corn, soybeans had one of the best growing seasons in many years. With new and better varieties of soybeans, yields have been very good this year.

Method: The 4-H membersparticipating in the soybean project

2.	Farm Cooperatives	Bobby Saunders
3.	Livestock	Jimmy Floyd
4.	Achievement	Edwin Nettles

At the Atlantic Rural Exposition this year, two 4-H Club members entered livestock. One of the boys showed the reserve grand champion Hereford steer of the junior division while his other steer stood sixth in a class of thirty four. The other 4-H Club member exhibited his Dairy heifer and it stood seventh in a class of thirteen.

B. 4-H Club Projects

1. Agronomy

As was true in the past years the agronomy projects are carried on by a few members in the Senior 4-H Clubs in the County. Most of the members doing agronomy work are in one of four community 4-H Clubs. Although the number of Agronomy projects is small the quality of the work being

while many of the members who actually live on farms are from farms which supply less than fifty percent of the total annual family income. The average size of the county farm is small and the number of farms is decreasing each year.

Third: The number of youth of 4-H Club age reached by the 4-H Club program in comparison to the total number of youth of 4-H Club age is very small. There is a great turnover of population in the County each year, this is due primarily to the heavy concentration of military personnel in the area. In comparing the total number of 4-H club members in the county against the total youth of 4-H club age, we find that the percentage is up from last year. This is not due to a greater 4-H Club enrollment but rather due to the annexation of ten square miles of heavily populated County area in January of 1960.

It is hoped that these facts will enable the reader to get a clearer more comprehensive understanding of the 4-H club program in Norfolk County.

A. 4-H Club Work

During the past two years, the quality of 4-H club work in the County has greatly increased. Along with this there has been an increase in enrollment as well as an increase in percent project completion and percent member completion.

Four record books were submitted to the state in the following contests:

1. Field Crops David Glemming

Our 4-H Club teams gave demonstrations at several civic clubs on proper lights and the selection and use of proper bulbs for the home and farm.

X. 4-H Club

In order that the reader may get a clear, more concise picture of the 4-H Club program in Norfolk County there are several factors which should be considered before going into the main report. These factors limit to a great extent, certain points of the 4-H Club work while bringing out others. The reader should bear in mind the following things while reading the report.

First: This year there were twelve 4-H clubs which had boys enrolled in them. Eight of these clubs met in public schools during school hours. Some of the schools provided meeting time during the regular monthly club period while others set up special meeting periods for 4-H. These periods vary from forty minutes to one hour but never lasted more than an hour. This, of course, limits project instruction and activities of these clubs quite a bit.

The four community clubs met after school hours or at night. Two of the clubs met in community centers and two met in private homes. These four 4-H clubs are the only boys' clubs in the County which had adult volunteer leaders. Of the five adult leaders, only one was willing to hold meetings without the Assistant Agent being present.

Second: Approximately seventy-seven percent of the 4-H Club boys enrolled in Norfolk County are from urban or rural non-farm homes,

2. Get all farmers harvesting timber to use the forest stand improvement plan.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

There were many thousands of pine seedlings planted in the County last year. We worked with two farmers in getting seedlings and helped one get a planter from the Virginia Forest Service.

We discussed timber harvesting with several farmers and helped them obtain a forester to help them with management, harvesting, and planting.

IX. Lights for Better Living Program

a. Situation:

The wiring and light in most farm buildings are inadequate. Yard and outside lights are poorly placed and in most cases very poor light. Home lighting has improved in many homes, but still a majority of the homes do not have proper lights.

b. Objectives:

1. To increase the number of farms with outdoor lights.
2. Improve quality of light both indoors and out of doors.
3. Improve wiring of farm buildings.

c. Methods and Accomplishments:

There have been several radio programs on the value of proper lights for the farm and home. We have worked with the VEPCO engineers in getting better wiring on several farms. Two farmers have changed their complete distribution systems.

has taken the committee over with the Extension Agents of Norfolk and Princess Anne counties assisting. They sponsored a Garden Lover's Short Course in October, 1960 with one afternoon program in the Norfolk Municipal Garden and two night programs. A Horticultural-Floricultural School program has been planned for early spring.

We have assisted many home owners with landscaping, insect and diseases of shrubs and lawns, seeding problems, fertilizer and lime recommendations, weed control, etc. Many radio talks have been prepared on these topics, several news articles and many bulletins and circulars furnished to home owners. This work or part of our program is very popular and time consuming.

VIII. Forestry

a. Situation:

The price of farm land in Norfolk County is $400 or better per acre. This is too expensive for planting into forest trees. There are thousands of acres of farm wood lots that could be planted to trees but most of this land is low and wet.

b. Objectives:

1. To work with the Virginia Forest, Inc. in their plant more trees program.
2. Promote an educational program on forestry.

c. Goals:

1. Get 50,000 pine seedlings planted.

home owner, their use and care.

2. Many houses both old and new are poorly landscaped. Some of the common faults are: poor lawns, overgrown plant material, lack of privacy, lack of year around interest, lack of trees, and poor use of land area surrounding the home.

3. Lack of pride in the appearance of personal property (home grounds).

c. Objectives:

1. To encourage families to clean yards, paint and repair houses.

2. To help 25 families develop a landscape plan.

3. To acquaint 200 home owners with some plant materials - use and care.

4. To acquaint home owners with horticulture information, and assistance available from the County Extension Service.

5. To get 100 families to have their soil tested for lawns or flower borders.

6. To encourage 200 families to help conserve our natural resources.

7. To encourage 200 families to help keep our roadways and parks clean.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

The Norfolk County Committee did such an excellent job of putting on a Home Grounds Beautification Short Course two years ago that the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee

2. Better educational program on poultry production.
3. Provide farmers with information on feed rations.
4. Provide farmers with plans for suitable buildings and equipment.
5. Improve the egg market situation.
6. Encourage the production and consumption of quality eggs.
7. Hold a poultry school.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

Broiler production has just about moved out of the county. Many commercial broiler houses and laying houses are being converted to other uses. Farm flocks are becoming less and less and the price situation doesn't warrent too much promotion.

We are working with our producers or individuals, holding poultry schools every other year. We are also giving timely information and tips by radio and newspapers.

VII. Home Grounds Beautification

a. Situation:

With the rapid rate of urbanization in the County, there is a great need for work in the field of home grounds beautification. Building permits for homes are being issued at the rate of 900-1000 per year. Landscaping materials are in abundance in the area and are priced well within the reach of the average home owner.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of knowledge of landscape materials on the part of the

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will be on December 13. This project is sponsored by the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce for Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties. The two counties have ten boys carrying ten lambs each.

VI. Poultry

a. Situation

The Norfolk area is one of the largest consumer markets South of New York. In 1958, the last broiler processing plant closed because of the shortage of broilers and keen competition from large processors. The closest processing plant is located in Richmond, Virginia about one hundred miles away. Broiler production in the County is at the lowest it has been for many years.

Layers are on the increase in the County with fewer flocks. This increase is in large flocks, while the number of small flocks are greatly reduced. Poultry (layers) fits well into the farm program here. Two good grading stations have located here and are working on a quality egg program. About 65% of the eggs sold on the Tidewater Markets are shipped in from out of State.

b. Objectives:

1. To increase the number of commercial laying flocks and improve marketing.

c. Goals:

1. Increase the number of layers in Norfolk County by 25% in 1962.

marketing pools.

4. Conduct an extensive educational program on sheep.
   (a) Furnish each producer a copy of the sheep production bulletin.
   (b) Use letters, radio, and newspapers to inform each producer of the importance of good management and parasite control.
5. Assist farmers in getting good ewes and rams and help them to cull.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

All sheep producers have been furnished a copy of the sheep production bulletins. This has resulted in many inquiries by phone and office visits. We have given publicity to sheep production problems periodically by radio and newspapers.

We held three cooperative lamb pools with most of our top lambs going through these sales. Our wool pool was very successful with most of the wool being shipped through the pool. We had commercial wool shearers to come to the county and shear most of the sheep.

More interest has developed in sheep. Several farmers are feeding out late lambs. We have five 4-H boys feeding 10 lambs each. This is our first year. The lambs were selected by Extension Specialists from the Staunton Sale and delivered to the County. The lambs are doing fine on feed. The sale

their Starlight Boar and Commercial Sow Sale.

3. Sheep:

a. Situation:

Sheep are of little significance in our livestock program. The number of ewes have varied from 509 to 287 from 1954 to 1959. Most of the sheep are small flocks, about six each, used to keep bushes, weeds and grass down. Sheep receive very little attention. However, there are a few flocks in the county that are well managed. Sheep numbers could be increased and profitably so as many beef cattle farms.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of commercial flocks of good quality sheep.
2. Poor feeding and management.
3. Parasites are hard to control due to poor drainage and high humidity.
4. Most flocks are too small to justify the producers hauling their lambs the long distance to our lamb pools or the wool to our wool pools.
5. Many sheep are killed by dogs.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Add sheep to a number of cattle farms.
2. Increase size of flocks to more economical units where possible.
3. Work to get farmers to ship lambs through cooperative

4. Need for better markets.

5. Too many farmers doing a poor job of feeding and management.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Increase meat type hogs in the County to 90% by 1964.

2. Good hog pastures on all farms that are not using confinement feeding.

3. Improve marketing methods of hogs.

4. Reduce losses from lice, worms, and diseases.

5. Improve feeding and management for more efficient production.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

We were unable to schedule a swine school during the winter of 1960-61. We hope to hold one before the spring of 1962.

The results of an extensive educational program on the meat type hog has been very good. All of our breeders are using meat type boars and a very good job of selecting meat type sows as results of this program.

Many farms have been visited and assistance rendered in selecting breeding stock, better management, feeding, disease control and internal and external parasite control. Each producer has received copies of the latest parasite control recommendations and disease control through sanitation and management.

This program has received continued publicity by radio and newspapers. We have assisted with the state plans for

The County Agent assisted in selecting calves for sale, vaccinating, tagging, etc. A very extensive educational program on feed production, parasite control, feeding and management has been carried out during the year. The newspapers, radio, newsletters, bulletins, circulars, farm visits, have been used through out the year.

We have had one automatic silage feeder installed, new silos built and two other farmers are working on their automation program.

2. Hogs:

a. Situation:

Hog numbers have reduced yearly in Norfolk County since 1954 from 8,610 to 6,327 in 1959 yet hogs and pigs sold alive increased from 6,721 to 7,187. Garbage feeding has just about disappeared and accounts for most of the earlier decline in hog numbers. There is a surplus of corn in the County which could be fed profitably to hogs.

The quality of hogs has improved and good breeding stock is available locally. There is a trend to confinement feeding with considerable success and interest. More farmers are using registered meat type hogs.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of meat type hogs.
2. Shortage of good hog pastures.
3. Lack of control of internal and external parasites.

2. Reduce cattle numbers on the few farms that are over stocked.
3. Improve feeding and management of herds.
4. Work with the Chambers of Commerce Agricultural Committee and the Farm Bureau Committees of Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties in improving local markets.
5. Get one or more herds in B. C. I. A.
6. Improve bulls saved for breeding purposes.
7. Increase marketing of calves through feeder calf sales.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

We have tried for two years to schedule a livestock school but have not been able to get it worked out with the animal husbandry department at V. P. I. We hope to have one before the spring of 1962.

We have culled two registered herds selling 20 head out of a herd of 45. This brought his herd more in line with his production of feed and improved the quality of his herd. We hope to build this herd up with a better feed production program. We culled another herd and went out and bought 6 good bred registered cows. Several other registered herds have been culled each year without assistance.

We have helped to get four better registered bulls in our beef herds this year. More calves were marketed through the Petersburg and Smithfield Sale than we have ever been able to get in the one sale held in past years.

Some of the producers are selling their calves through the Feeder Calf Sales but this is only a small part of the total calf production of the county that is eligible for sale at the Feeder Calf Sale.

Parasites both internal and external are causing considerable losses in production or profits. Definite improvement is being made here but there are still some problem areas.

The Agricultural Committee of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce sponsors the 4-H Jr. Steer Show and Sale for Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties. Norfolk County has between 18 and 20 calves each year.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of good hay, pasture and silage.
2. Too many poor feeders and managers.
3. Too many poor quality animals.
4. Very poor control programs for internal and external parasites.
5. Lacking good registered bulls within a reasonable distance of the County.
6. Severe culling is badly needed in some herds.
7. Lack of good markets in the immediate area.
8. Need for a producer organization.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Improve quality of cattle by rigid culling and replace culls with better cows or heifers.

people to attend the tour with 66 attending lunch.

We have had a good educational tour to increase silage production, improve quality and substitute more silage for hay. This program was emphasized at all dairy meetings and tours, by radio, newspapers, individual visits, etc. Several dairymen have put up new silos this year.

All of our DHIA herds increased their milk and butter fat production over last year. All of the DHIA members were visited several times during the year and we reviewed their program.

Plans have been finished for feeders, individual layout of buildings and equipment.

V. Livestock

1. Beef Cattle

a. Situation:

The beef cattle numbers in Norfolk County have increased from 4,311 in 1940 to 5, 895 in 1959. The beef cattle population is continuing to increase each year. More and more farmers are finding cattle to be an extremely economical outlet for some of their home produced crops. There are a few purebred breeders of Hereford and Aberdeen Angus in the County. The majority of the cow herds in the county are composed of average to poor cows.

There are several feeders in the county at the present time. The largest of these feeders keeps about fifty head of cattle.

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the American Breeders Association; we held three meetings of the board with several other dairymen from Norfolk and Princess Anne Counties. The first meeting was with the artificial inseminator present. The second was with the inseminator and Dr. V. L. Baldwin, Associate Dairy Specialist, in charge of dairy breeding work present. The third meeting was with a representative of the American Breeding Association. This resulted in a better understanding and agreement with the Artificial Breeder's Association and the technician and the dairy farmers.

The DHIA members attendance was good at the Dairy Short Course, agronomy school and annual meeting of the DHIA.

We have had a very extensive educational program on automatic equipment for feeding and milking for three years. There are 27 grade A milk shippers in the county, 2 have completed automation for milking and feeding silage. Seven others have gone beyond the planning stage and have part of the automatic system.

The agricultural engineers from V. P. I. and VEPCO have assisted us.

A tour was held in August; one dairy farm with automation was visited in Princess Anne County and two in Norfolk with automation and one where the silo had been built and the layout completed. The County Agent, a dairy specialist, and the VEPCO engineers discussed the different systems. We had 78

one hundred miles to attend it each year. Our program was as follows: First day: Breeding Better Dairy Cattle, Dr. V. A. Rice, former head of Department of Dairy Science, University of Massachusetts. Economic Analysis of the Dairy Farm, Kenneth E. Loope, Farm Management Specialist, Department of Agricultural Economics, VPI Agricultural Extension Service. Feeding Tidewater Forage for Dollars, W. S. Griffith, Assistant Extension Dairy Specialist, VPI Agricultural Extension Service. Panel discussion with all speakers and three dairy farmers. Second day: Mastitis & Sterility, Dr. A. V. Bartenslaughter, Veterinarian, Dairy Farmer, Professor, University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School. Animal Nutrition, Dr. R. G. Warner, Professor of Animal Nutrition, Cornell University. Herd Management, Paul M. Reeves, Professor of Dairy Science, VPI. Panel discussion with all speakers and three local dairymen and veterinarian on the panel.

We had good attendance, excellent newspaper coverage and a most successful and effective program.

The next program has been planned and advertised for December 5 and 6, 1961.

Our DHIA has been very active this year. I met with the board of directors six times during the year. We had two membership meetings with a good attendance at each. Mr. W. S. Griffith, Associate Dairy Specialist, was our speaker at each. This board made a study of the Artificial Breeding program of

moved very fast and has received radio, newspaper publicity, tours, etc.

IV. Dairy

a. Situation:

The number of Grade A dairy farms in Norfolk County has reduced continually since 1940. There are only 27 herds left in the County and we have only 11 herds in DHIA and 3 in owner-sample. The high land values and high labor cost make the cost of producing milk in Norfolk County much higher than the average cost for the State. Other factors such as lack of land suitable for alfalfa, low producing cows, poor quality forage and poor herd management have also forced many farmers out of the dairy business.

b. Objectives:

1. To produce milk more economically.

c. Goals:

1. Increase the number of DHIA herds to 12 in 1962.
2. Increase the production of milk per cow in DHIA from 10,785 pounds per cow to 11,500.
3. Help each herd owner to make better use of his DHIA or owner-sample records.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

Our annual two day short course was held in December, 1960. This short course is very popular and some farmers drive nearly

again in the fall with corn silage.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Get all farmers to switch a part of their corn silage to early and medium season varieties to reduce the damage from hurricanes making it possible to harvest before the hurricane season.
2. Get two hay dryers installed in 1962.
3. Increase acreage of corn silage crops by 50%.
4. Increase acreage of winter grazing by 50%.
5. Increase number of hay conditioners by 100%.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

At our dairy short course, agronomy school and two DHIA meetings, the importance of good hay and silage has been emphasized. The fact that more net energy can be produced per acre with corn silage and we can grow corn on the same land year after year has also been emphasized. We have had a great increase in the number of silos and silo automation equipment and a tremendous increase in tons of silage produced. According to our Agricultural Economist, our dairymen can buy good alfalfa hay cheaper than they can produce it. This practice is on the increase. In other words, we are substituting silage for hay to greater degree or feeding hay at a minimum.

We have used Mr. Dan Kite and other specialists in locating silos, automatic feeders, etc. This program has

importance of having supplementary summer and winter pastures, received timely publicity on the radio and in the newspapers.

Many farm pasture problems were studied and recommendations for improvement in such as renovating, increasing the number of fields and other suggestions for increased production were made. Two weed control demonstrations on pastures were put on to control buttercups. They were very effective and well attended.

7. Hay and Silage

Situation: About three-fourths of needed pasture, one-third of the hay and one-half of the silage is being produced in the county. Poorly drained soils limits alfalfa to only a few farms. High humidity makes hay curing difficult. Lack of silos, limited funds and the fact that trench silos cannot be used has kept silage production small. There is a need for more silos and hay drying equipment. Hurricanes have made harvesting of corn silage difficult. However, the number of silos on farms are increasing and silage is being substituted for hay to a much greater extent year after year.

b. Objectives:

1. Increase the acreage of ladino clover and tall grass pastures for hay silage and pastures.
2. Increase the number of silos and get farmers to fill silos in the spring with small grain and grass silage and

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

We have had great emphasis on the production of silage and automation of harvesting and feeding of silage. This effort has caused some decrease in pastures on our dairy farms. All of our dairymen have automation for filling silos. Nine of the twenty seven have either partial or complete automation for feeding silage. Two of our beef cattle farmers have their automatic feeding partially complete.

The seed dealers and fertilizer people were furnished the latest circulars on pasture fertilization. We held our agronomy school in January for farmers, fertilizer company representatives and other professional agricultural workers. Agronomy specialists gave the latest fertilizer recommendations, etc. This was well attended and we think it was an excellent program.

Pasture was included in our two day dairy short course. A very extensive educational program on pastures was presented on our radio program through the season. They included top dressing, seeding, seed bed preparation, liming and fertilizing recommendations.

Several talks were given on pasture management, including rotational grazing, over grazing, insect control, and the importance of shade and ample water. The newspapers were used for the same purpose through the 12 months. The

having silos, to be fed in lure of pastures during these periods.

b. Problems:

1. Shortage of good pastures.
2. Shortage of supplemental pastures for both winter and summer.
3. Lack of ample fertilizer and lime on most pastures.
4. Lack of managed grazing.
5. Shortage of drinking water for animals in pastures.
6. Lack of shade in pastures.
7. Low yields on large percent of pasture acreage.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Increase acreage of permanent pastures for dairy cattle, beef cattle and hogs.
2. Increase supplemental pastures in summer on all beef and dairy farms.
3. Increase acreage of winter supplemental pastures on farms.
4. Get farmers to use soil samples then fertilize and lime as indicated by soil sample results.
5. Improve pasture management and rotational grazing on each farm.
6. Work towards a goal of ample water and shade in each pasture.

Station:

Many home gardeners have received copies of the bulletin, Vegetable Gardens in Virginia and other publications. Many of these requests were results of newspaper articles, radio programs, or due to problems that developed in their gardens and they called the County Agent.

6. Pastures:

a. Situation: Only a few farmers have sufficient acreage of good pastures for their dairy herds and other livestock. The census shows considerable decrease in pastures from 1945 to 1954 but an increase between 1954 and 1959.

Permanent Pasture Acreage	1945	1950	1954	1959
	11,103	6,778	5,264	7,515

The acreage increase since 1954 is encouraging with better quality and more grazing per acre. These farmers follow a good fertilization program and a good management program. A good portion of the pastures are under fertilized, over grazed, and have poor stands of desirable pasture grasses and legumes. The most successful farmers are using small grain and other supplemental pastures for winter grazing to an advantage, however, many farmers in the county are not. There is a shortage of pastures nearly every year during the dry, hot, late summer season. Some farmers are using sudan grass or millet to carry their livestock over this period. We need to increase corn silage on farms

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a farm produce market in the city of Norfolk. This committee represents Norfolk County, Princess Anne County, Norfolk City, and Currituck County, North Carolina. The County Agent is a member of this committee and serves as secretary of the committee. This committee has held three meetings and met with representatives of the city manager's office trying to find a site that we can get the zoning board and city council to approve.

A sub-committee is working on the site and is to follow through with the building plans. The County Agent is serving on this sub-committee. This committee has had two meetings. We have a new temporary site in the city of Norfolk that was turned over to us when we had to leave Myers Field.

The counties of Princess Anne and Norfolk have set up a strawberry committee to work on improving the marketing situation. Two meetings of the producers have been held and one meeting of a sub-committee which has the responsibility of making recommendations on what type of organizations to set up and suggestions for our marketing program.

Vegetable growers have been advised on production goals, fertilizer recommendations, insect control, disease control and weed control. We have used Mr. A. V. Watts, Associate Horticulturist many times as well as many of the professional men from the Virginia Agricultural Experiment

insects, diseases and weed control.

3. Work towards a cooperative farm machinery program in communities where several small producers are located close together.

4. Try to locate a cannery in the County to take up the surplus of fresh vegetables.

5. Farmers should be encouraged to plant according to production guides.

6. Increase sweet potato curing housing to cure all Number one potatoes produced to facilitate orderly marketing during the winter and spring when prices are higher.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

A meeting of producers and professional people was held on Vegetable and Potato Outlook. Dr. Al Mercker, discussed the production guide and outlook information. Production guides were given publicity on radio and in newspapers. In cooperation with the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, a Vegetable School was held at the Virginia Truck Experiment Station. This school was attended by producers, fertilizer and seed company representatives and other professional agriculturists.

We had a program on varieties, fertilization, cultural practices and marketing. I have met with the Virginia Potato and Vegetable Growers Association board members at their meeting.

We have a special marketing committee working to establish

has forced many small producers out of production.

Second, a lot of the land best suited for vegetables has been sold for housing developments.

Third, the crowding of farm produce trucks off of the city streets due to congestion of traffic and closing of the old city market.

Fourth, the chain stores (housewives) are demanding convenient small packs and the average small farmer is not equipped to put this type of package up. The chain stores are looking for large quantities of such packs which can be furnished only by large producers or packing concerns.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of suitable markets for small vegetable growers.
2. High cost of labor and low return for product.
3. Lack of the necessary quality packs to meet the chain store demands.
4. Need for cooperative marketing to get quantity and reduce individual machinery cost for grading and packing.
5. The cost of equipment makes it almost impossible for the small producer to equip his farm for the present day spray program for the control of insects and diseases.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Try to organize a farm produce market in the City of Norfolk.
2. Inform all producers of the latest recommendations for

825, Control of Stem Rot in Peanuts by Cultural Methods and recommended varieties to plant. We had farmers representing 75% of the County's peanut acreage at the Equipment Harvesting Show and Fair in Suffolk in July. They also attended the demonstration on planting peanuts to control stem rot. Stem rot control by cultural practices was practiced by a few peanut farmers with the larger allotments.

Several farm visits were made on stem rot, corn ear worm, nematode injury, etc.

5. Vegetables, Potatoes, and Sweet Potatoes.

a. Situation: The vegetable acreage in the County has continued to reduce during the past 10 years.

Potato acreage increased from 469 acres in 1954 to 682 acres in 1959.

Sweet potatoes decreased from 95 acres in 1954 to 48 acres in 1959. During this period the yields per acre increased from 136 bushels per acre to 162 bushels. Strawberry acreage is up from 47 to 143. The acreage of vegetables such as kale, turnip salad, mustard, cabbage, collards, peppers, snap beans, etc. is about 3,000 acres and the value of vegetables sold is about $560,000.

Several factors have caused the reduction in vegetables and potato acreages. First, vegetables require a lot of hand labor, and the high cost of labor and poor local markets

RM

and problems of small grain.

We had an excellent tour of farmers at the Harvesting and Storage Equipment Show and Fair in Suffolk.

4. Peanuts:

a. Situation: There is only a small acreage of peanuts in the County. The acreage recorded by the A. S. C. office in the County is 304½ acres. Norfolk County's yield is 150 to 200 lbs. per acre less than adjoining counties. Most all of the peanuts are being produced in one magisterial district.

b. Problems:

1. Insects and diseases are reducing peanut yields.
2. Too many peanuts are lost in the process of digging.
3. The acreage on most farms is too small to justify owning peanut harvesting equipment.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Keep peanut producers informed on latest recommendations from the Experiment Station on insect and disease control.
2. Assist all farmers growing peanuts to select the best adapted varieties and soils or fields for peanut production.
3. Furnish all peanut producers with fertilizer and cultural practices information.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

We furnished each of our 23 peanut producers a copy of Circulars 413, Larger Yields and Better Quality Peanuts;

take recommendations to them and get dealers to stock the best varieties and encourage farmers to plant them.

5. Help farmers in fertilizing small grains wisely for best yields and to reduce loss from lodging.
6. Inform farmers of the advantages of having small grain cover crops on their corn field to reduce leaching and for winter grazing.
7. Demonstrate to farmers their loss of grain from insects and rodents and encourage better storage, and proper treating of small grain for insect control.

d. Methods and Accomplishments:

At our agronomy school and meeting of professional workers, seed dealers and salesmen, the importance of good seed, using recommended varieties was presented. Our seed dealers are working closer and closer with us each year on varieties. The farmers did a much better job in planting winter hardy oats varieties this fall. Two hard winters with a lot of winter kill has helped us in this accomplishment.

We used the newspapers and radio to publicize this program and each producer was furnished a copy on the recommended varieties of small grains and weed control recommendations.

We have had an increase in the acreage of oats and barley planted. Many farms were visited to observe winter injury,

animals.

2. Disease control problems are increasing.

3. Controlling noxious weeds is a problem..

4. Lack of good adapted varieties for this climate.

5. Need to increase small grain cover crops, to prevent leaching of soils.

6. Improper fertilization decreasing yields and causing lodging.

7. More grain on the farms has caused a need for more suitable storage room. Farmers are using most all kinds of buildings and bins for storing small grains, this has resulted in an increase in the amount of grain damaged and/or lost by insects and rodents.

8. Too many farmers are seeding oats and barley too late.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Increase the production of small grain for feed by helping farmers to increase acreage. Work towards better fertilization and cultural practices to increase yields.

2. Inform farmers of the latest disinfectants to use for seed treatment for disease control. This is very important for farmers using home grown seed.

3. Inform farmers of latest recommendations on the control of onions and other noxious weeds in small grain.

4. Furnish all farmers a list of the latest variety recommendations. Also contact all seed dealers and

3. Small Grain:

a. Situation: According to the U. S. Census, the wheat acreage in Norfolk County increased from 1,441 acres in 1954 to 2,449 acres in 1959, an increase of 1,008 acres in 5 years. The A. S. C. S. records show 2,593 in 1959, 2,305 acres in 1960 and 2,906 acres in 1961 or an average planted acreage for the three years of 2,601 acres. With 1,376 diverted to date in the wheat program the 1962 harvested acreage will be rather small.

Livestock numbers have increased annually for the past ten years. The demands for barley and oats for feed has increased. The acreage of oats decreased from 1,732 acres in 1954 to 989 acres in 1959. Barley increased from 284 in 1954 to 695 in 1959 with about six bushels increased yields per acre. The dairy and livestock farmers are planting more barley and oats each year.

Generally small grains in Norfolk County do not do as well as they do just North or Northwest of the County. The high organic matter of our soils plus extremely high humidity which is inducive to diseases, poorly drained soils and other factors, such as, lack of adapted varieties, and the habit of planting the less winter hardy varieties all contribute to low yields.

b. Problems:

1. Shortage of barley and oats to feed livestock and dairy

cover crop when fertilizer residue from corn is not efficient to make a good soybean crop.

d. Methods and Results:

All seed dealers and soybean producers received a copy of the recommended varieties of soybeans and a copy of the planting dates for the Tidewater area. Several radio talks were made on soybean varieties, plant dates, rates of planting insect control, fertilization and insect control.

Fertilizer recommendation from soil sample results were made on 179 fields. Insects are a problem from the time beans first immerge until near harvest. We made checks on insect infestation during the year and gave publicity to it on radio, newspapers and other contacts with farmers and others.

The agronomy committee set their county yield object at 28 bushels for 1961, a 5 bushel increase over 1960. We estimated our yield this year at close to 30 bushels.

Using better adapted varieties, better cultural practices helped to improve our yield but we also had an excellent season.

Several farmers have put up storage bens for storing soybeans as result of our educational program. We have had a more orderly marketing of our crop due to an increase in farm storage.

during the bloom, pod and bean making periods. Many farmers are going to the expense of spraying too early or when the cost of the spray is not justified. The producers have been flooding our markets with soybeans during the harvest period causing a market glut and lower prices during harvesting.

b. Problems:

The problems in corn and soybeans are the same except with the soybeans we have additional problems in :

1. Controlling insects in the field such as corn earworm, bean beetles, loopers and green clover worms.
2. Soybean yields are too low and the yields have increased only about three bushels per acre in 18 years.
3. Too many farmers planting the same land to soybeans year after year.
4. Too many farmers planting soybeans too thick.
5. Some farmers do not plant suitable varieties adapted to their soils.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. To encourage farmers to spray or dust the beans for insects only when it is needed.
2. Increase soybeans yields from 23 bushels per acre to 28 bushels per acre in 1962.
3. To establish a two-year rotation of corn and soybeans when practical.
4. Have corn land seeded to cover crop and fertilize the

clean up storage bens, treat bens and stored grain to control grain storage insects. We assisted several farmers that had grain weevil problems. This has been one of our long time objectives and the percentage of farmers responding has been excellent.

Weeds have taken their tall of corn in Norfolk County. This year we furnished the latest herbicide recommendations in mimeographed form to most producers. Three demonstrations were conducted with semazine. Farmers have visited this demonstration and we feel this will result in a much wider use of this herbicide another year. The high cost is the greatest limiting factor.

We took a very active part in the 1961 Feed Grain Program. The county agent held meetings with the County and Community Committeemen of A. S. C. S. and farmers. We used the radio and newspapers to publicize this program. Five thousand six hundred ninety one acres were diverted.

2. Soybeans:

a. Situation: Soybean acreage decreased from 16,719 acres in 1954 to 15,261 acres in 1959. During the period of acreage control on corn the acreage of soybeans was reduced about 1,450 acres. Many farmers are following soybeans after soybeans. Where beans follow beans year after year, there is an increase in disease and insect damage and reduced yields. Soybean yields are being greatly reduced by insects

Farmers are conscious of the importance of adapted varieties and our results have been excellent.

During 1961 the A. S. C. S. of Norfolk County made 16 grain storage facility loans and 11 loans for grain dryers. This is the direct results of a tremendous educational program launched by the Extension Service of Norfolk County from 1955 through this year. We held tours three years, used meetings, radio, newspapers, farm visits, agricultural extension specialists to launch this program. Norfolk County has had farmers and Extension Agents from other counties to tour some of our better installations.

To increase corn yields we have stressed the importance of proper fertilization and use of lime, using soil sample results for the bases of our recommendations. During the year the County Agent has made 261 recommendations for lime and fertilizer for corn from soil sample results, using crop history and soil types.

The problem of wasting corn with harvesting equipment during harvest has been publicized at meetings, by working with farm machinery dealers, use of radio talks, and newspaper articles. Our results have been very good in getting the companies to make proper adjustments in harvesting equipment and teaching operation to adjust their machines.

Several radio programs were used to get farmers to

farms in the County until all large grain farmers have ample storage and proper equipment to dry corn and keep corn to grain in condition on the farm by 1965.

2. To encourage producers to plant the best adapted varieties of hybrid corn as recommended by the Experiment Station.
3. Increase the use of soil samples for proper fertilization of corn from about 30% at present to 75% by 1965.
4. Improve adjustments of operation of corn harvesting equipment to reduce waste of corn during the harvest.
5. Encourage farmers to clean up grain storage building, bins, etc., and treat for stored grain insects before harvest and to treat grain when stored.
6. Get farmers to follow the latest herbicide weed control practices.

d. Methods and Results:

Each corn producer was furnished a list of recommended corn hybrid for seeding in the Tidewater area. Selecting varieties for different soil conditions and different uses, such as early harvest, silage, etc. was presented on radio, in newspapers, at different meetings of producers and was discussed with many individual producers.

All seed dealers, fertilizer companies were furnished a copy of the corn hybrid seed results. Seed dealers have assisted us greatly in getting the best varieties planted.

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and more corn per acre. Weed and insect control has been a great problem. There is a shortage of storage and drying equipment on the farm. This presents a very undesirable but improved marketing condition, as most of the corn is dumped on the market at harvest time when the prices are the lowest. Hurricanes and wet fall seasons have presented a harvesting problem nearly every year. Harvesting equipment is wasting too much grain during harvest. Many farmers are not using soil samples to best advantage in their fertilization program.

b. Problems:

1. Lack of proper storage and drying equipment on the farm.
2. Farmers not planting the right varieties.
3. Farmers not using soil samples for correct fertilization program.
4. Wasting corn by mechanical harvesters.
5. Insect damaged - by weevil and other stored grain pests.
6. Weeds are greatly reducing corn yields.
7. Keeping stored grain in condition.
8. Farmers drying corn on farms are being docked five cents per bushel.
9. Grain exporters blending wet and dry corn.
10. Standardization of grain moisture testing machines.

c. Objectives and Goals:

1. Increase grain storage and drying facilties on the

to investigate the Agricultural problems of the area by commodities.

The first sub-committee set up was a sweet potato committee of which I am a member. This committee has met several times. We have completed a survey on sweet potatoes and prepared a program to be submitted to the Agricultural committee of the Southeastern Virginia Regional Planning Commission.

The program includes the sweet potato areas from New Kent County to Eastern Shore and several counties in eastern North Carolina or the area of approximately 100 mile radius of Norfolk City.

III. Agronomy

General Situation: The agronomy program for Norfolk County is broad in scope. It includes corn, soybeans, small grain, pastures, hays, silage, as well as commercial and non-commercial production of potatoes, sweet potatoes and vegetables.

There is a wide variety of soils that vary from well-drained sassafras to poorly drained mucks. The lack of drainage, high labor costs and inadequate marketing facilities have a great effect on our agricultural economy. The development and expansion of new pastures has been on land that must be drained and limed heavily.

1. Corn:

   a. Situation: The corn acreage in the County has been increased from 17,493 acres in 1954 to 18,841 acres in 1959. Our yields have increased from 43.9 bushels per acre to 57.1 bushels per acre. Many farmers are making 100 bushels

2. Master Land Use Plan
3. Economic Base Study - present and future
4. Plan for Schools
5. Plan for Parks and Recreation and Institutions

The Agriculture Committee of the Southeastern Virginia Regional Planning Commission was established to compile and analyze information on the agricultural sector of the region's economy and correlate the resulting conclusions with the results of other studies of the various sectors of the region's economy.

The Southeastern Virginia Regional Planning Commission was established under local sponsorship under state enabling legislation. It is financed by local, state and federal funds.

The Commission will prepare a comprehensive plan for the Region. In carrying out this objective, it will coordinate the improvements to be constructed by cities and counties with those by the State Department of Conservation and Economic Development and other state and federal institutions and agencies.

Liaison is carried on with state and federal officials in preparation of the plan as well as in the collection and analysis of economic and social data.

A paramount objective of the Commission is to establish the continuing process through which information can be channeled and plans coordinated among various levels of government and other agencies affecting the physical development of the region.

I met with the Regional Planning Commission several times and assisted in setting up the Agricultural Committee and am serving as a member of the Agricultural Committee. The Commission plans

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Livestock Committee
Dairy Committee
Marketing Committee
Home Grounds Beautification Committee
Youth Committee
Home Demonstration Clubs

The Youth and Home Grounds Beautification Committees are joint committees of the County Agent and Home Agent.

Other committees that have planned and helped carry out a part of the Extension Program are: The 4-H Honor Club; 4-H County Council; DHIA Board; Soil Conservation District Board; Norfolk County Cooperative Farm Bureau Board; The Norfolk Cooperative Milk Producers Association; and the Virginia Potato and Vegetable Growers Association. Two Chambers of Commerce, Agriculture Committees, one for Norfolk City and one for Portsmouth City. The two Chambers of Commerce Agricultural Committees used 13 sub-committees to plan programs such as agronomy, poultry, swine schools, 4-H programs, Garden Lover's Short Course, Farm and City Luncheon, etc.

The Agricultural Committee of the Southeastern Virginia Regional Planning Commission began a two year project. Half of the funds needed to finance the project, $150,000, were supplied by the Housing and Home Finance Agency. The remaining 50% of the funds were collected from the State of Virginia, the City of Norfolk, Portsmouth, South Norfolk, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and the counties of Nansemond, Norfolk, and Princess Anne.

The master plan consisted of five projects:

1. Master Transportation Plan

count. January, 1960, ten square miles were annexed by the city of Portsmouth with a population of 31,423. So the population figures given in the census do not represent a true picture of the growth of Norfolk County.

Norfolk County has 501 farms averaging 151.2 acres in size; the average value of land and buildings is $45,087. The median income of families in 1949 was $3,125. One fourth of the families had an income of $2,000 or less.

The median school years completed by men in Norfolk County is nine grades and by women is ten grades.

Norfolk County has had a rapid industrial development which has furnished a lot of employment. The cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and South Norfolk and the large number of Government installations furnish excellent employment for about 80% of the County population.

The rapid urban development within the County greatly affects the educational work of any Extension program. The cosmopolitan population makes effective organization almost impossible, and greatly increases the Extension Agents work load.

II. County Organization

All of the committees of the Extension Service Board were organized in 1959 and each committee planned a long-time program. This year our program was reviewed by each committee and revised. Annual programs and goals were planned.

Committee of the County Board

Agronomy Committee

The frost-free growing season is 240 days, extending from March 22 to November 17. The annual precipitation averages 45 inches.

Many more residents are now employed by Government, manufacturing, and other occupations than in farming, but agriculture is still of considerable importance in the County's economy. As of the 1960 census, there were 55,612 people in the county, 3.91 persons living in a household and between 13,000 and 14,000 homes in Norfolk County. The value of farm products sold in 1954 according to this census was $4,442,691.

Norfolk County is the leading county in the State in the sale of nursery and greenhouse products exceeding five and one-half million dollars. It is also one of the leading corn and soybean producing counties with about 19,000 acres of corn and 20,000 acres of soybeans. The 1959-60 base acreage used by A. S. C. in setting the 1961 bases was 21,804 acres of corn. Of this acreage 5,691.9 acres were diverted leaving about 16,000 acres of corn planted in 1961. Farm income is very well balanced. The main sources of income are as follows: nursery and greenhouse products, corn, milk, soybeans, vegetables, poultry, hogs, cattle, wheat, and potatoes.

The land area is divided as follows: Cropland and cropland pasture, 67%; woodland, 25%; other land, 8%.

The 1950 census showed Norfolk County's population as 99,937. In January, 1955, Norfolk City annexed one of the six districts of the County and that district had a population of 55,800 by city

NARRATIVE REPORT

1961

I. Brief Description of Norfolk County

Norfolk County lies in the southeastern part of the coastal plains area of Virginia. The County is bordered on the south by North Carolina, on the east by Princess Anne County, north by the cities of Norfolk, South Norfolk and Portsmouth and the Hampton Roads and on the west by Nansemond County and the Dismal Swamp and most of this swamp is in Norfolk County.

According to the 1959 census, Norfolk County has a land area of 263,680 acres with 75,775 acres of land in farms with 501 farms of which 460 are white and 41 are colored. According to the census, land in farms shrunk from 78,461 to 75,775 in 1954 to 1959. Harvested acreage increased from 42, 359 to 44,345 acres.

The land is level and much is swampy or poorly drained with better than 40,000 acres in the Dismal Swamp and Lake Drummond.

A large acreage of this area and other low lands are being drained annually for farm land. A large land holding company has purchased 50,000 acres in the Dismal Swamp in Virginia and North Carolina of which they are harvesting the timber, digging drainage canals, putting up flood control gates, roads, bull dozing and have planted a small acreage to crops. Twenty thousand acres of this area is in Norfolk County. You can drive about 30 miles on newly constructed roads through this swamp.

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COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

E. L. Wood
Name

County **Agent**
Title

J. A. Thomas
Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

1961

Norfolk
County