

Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



Bessie R. Yates
agent

1954

assistant agent

Charlotte
county

NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT'S WORK

CHARLOTTE COUNTY VIRGINIA

1954

Bertie R. Yates, County H. D. Agent

Gladys C. Crute, Secretary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. Cover	
II. Title Page	
III. Table of Contents	
IV. County Situation	1
V. Adult Work	2
A. Project Work	2
B. Federation Goal	9
C. Other Activities	11
VI. 4-H Club Work	14
A. Project Work	14
B. Other Activities	19
VII. Young Men's and Women's Work	22
VIII. Scope of Work	22
IX. Organizations	23
X. Leadership	25
A. Contribution of Volunteer Leaders	25
B. Leadership Growth	27
C. Mrs. George T. Willson Outstanding Leader	28
D. The C. M. Watts Family Outstanding Leaders	29
E. Aspen Club Outstanding in Leadership	30
XI. Work In Cooperation With Other Agencies	31
XII. Summary	32

IV. COUNTY SITUATION

① Charlotte County is primarily an agricultural county with an area of 496 square miles. According to the latest census, there were 2000 farms averaging 113.6 acres in size. The census states that 75% of the population lives on farms. The largest town is Keysville, which has a population of around 600. The county population is approximately 58% white and 42% negro.

The county is 43% woodland, timber manufacturing and cutting pulp-wood being important industries.

The chief sources of farm income in the county are: flue cured tobacco, dairying, dark fired tobacco, poultry and beef cattle.

There are two industrial plants located in the county. Pacific Mills has a large manufacturing plant for processing woolsens. There is also a plant for manufacturing chenille products. These plants employ around 500 workers, the majority of which are women.

There is one consolidated high school and eight elementary schools for white children within the county. Each of these schools has a cafeteria where children may secure hot lunches under the school lunch program.

Electricity is available to around 90% of the farm families. Only two of the ten communities have telephone service.

Community canneries located in each of four communities serve the rural population in the conservation of fruits, meats, and vegetables. There is no community frozen food locker within the county.

V. ADULT WORK

A. Project Work

1. House Furnishings Receives Emphasis in 1954 Program

There were three demonstrations on house furnishings, namely: Good Design in House Furnishings; Fabrics in House Furnishings; Color Harmony in the Home.

Objectives were as follows:

- a. To enable the homemaker to recognize and apply principles of good design to the selection of house furnishing and accessories for the home.
- b. To help her to recognize basic qualities of construction in furniture selection and to improve her standards by acquainting her with good design.
- c. To acquaint her with available fabrics and their properties in order that she may more intelligently select those suited to her needs.
- d. Through a better understanding of the use of color to make home and house furnishings more attractive for her family and friends.

Two leaders training meetings were held prior to the time when these demonstrations were given, one by the House Furnishings Specialist and the other by the agent using illustrative material supplied by the specialist.

Method demonstrations were used supplemented by illustrative material, fabric samples, paint color cards, wall paper samples and a collection of decorative accessories. Around 20 home visits were made

to assist with planning color schemes, making and hanging draperies, choosing rugs, refinishing furniture and other problems related to house furnishings.

Reports gathered from the 230 club members indicate 198 rooms papered or painted and 67 members selecting material and making slip covers or draperies using information gained in club discussions.. At least five other homemakers were advised as to selection of furniture for the home.

2. Housing Receives Emphasis in the 1954 Program

Three demonstrations were held on Housing and related problems. There were two meetings on Simple Household Mechanics and one on Organizing Kitchen Storage for More Efficient Use. It was decided to conduct a special interest group on Simple Carpentry as a workshop at a later date rather than attempting it as a topic for a monthly meeting.

Objectives were as follows:

- a. To teach homemakers to keep their equipment in repair and to make simple repairs needed for greater convenience and efficiency in the home.
- b. To enable homemakers to construct simple articles needed to make better use of existing storage space.
- c. To enable homemakers to use existing storage space to better advantage through organization and space saving devices.

Two leaders training meetings were held, one by the Housing specialist and the other by the agent using materials supplied by the specialist. Method demonstrations were conducted using appropriate illustrative material related to the demonstration.

Records collected from club members indicated the following activities to date: 95 families making approximately 147 simple household repairs, including replacing window panes, replacing window weights, replacing washers in leaky faucets and repairing loose hinges. Forty-two members report improving kitchen storage with extra shelves or space saving equipment.

This has proven one of the most popular and practical series of demonstrations given to date. In addition to the regularly scheduled club meetings, these were used as the basis for two TV programs, one on Simple Mechanics, which was given by two leaders, Mrs. W. E. Daubenspeck and Mrs. K. E. Colley from the Bethel-Phenix Club, the other on Improving Kitchen Storage, by the agent.

3. Home Management Problems Included in 1954 Program

There were two demonstrations in the Home Management field, namely: Family Washing and Family Ironing.

Objectives were these:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with the newest laundry methods and materials.
- b. To teach the homemaker time and effort saving methods of doing the family washing and ironing.

One leaders training meeting was held by the Home Management Specialist to train the 24 leaders of the 12 clubs. Mattie Kessler, Home Economist for Southside Electric Cooperative gave three demonstrations washing and three on ironing in various communities during the months in which this series was being conducted. Method demonstrations were used supplemented by illustrative material.

A club survey revealed that 57 women have improved their home laundry arrangements since this demonstration; 38 have learned to sit while they are ironing.

See attached clipping from the Rural Light:

RURAL VIRGINIA OCT. 1954

Home Economist Give Hints For Laundering

(Ed. Note: Charlotte County Home Demonstration Club members spent several months studying laundry and ironing procedure. Miss Bertie Yates, the Charlotte County home agent, invited Miss Mattie Kessler of Southside Electric Co-op to give some of the demonstrations. Southside Electric Cooperative which serves the rural areas is vitally interested in adult and youth extension groups, school groups and clubs.)

By Mattie Kessler

Few of us can picture the laundry miseries of former days when the homemaker had to trudge up from pump or well with every pail of water consumed in the house. Today for "greatest-of-ease" laundering, running water of the right temperature and softness has made our work more flexible. Because of the tremendous savings in energy, time, and money, laundry at home is big business. So a definite space should be allotted to laundry work. The perfect arrangement is a separate laundry room on the first floor. But the kitchen-laundry combination, back porch, pantry or even a closet that can be made into a compact laundry may be convenient and practical. If there is good light, adequate ventilation and a moisture-resistant flooring even the basement can be made into a pleasant place. Plan your laundry from one step to the next smoothly and with no wasted motion.

a non-automatic machine, or doing your clothes by hand. Study the instructions given by the manufacturer of your laundry equipment and follow them exactly, especially as to quantity of water to be used and the weight of clothes to be washed in a load. No machine ca.: work well if it is overloaded.

Soft water is necessary for well-washed clothes. If you live in a hard water area and wash your clothes with soap, be sure your water is softened. If you are using a syndet (synthetic detergent) you may not need a water softener. If your clothes come out gray, yellow or stiff it may be necessary for you to use a water-softener in addition to the syndet. Whether you use soap or syndets in your machine is a matter of personal preference. But remember that too much is as bad as too little.

Accent upon new test tube fabrics is sweeping like a whirlwind through fall fashions. To the average woman, this great array of new fabrics is confusing. So it is best to handle each synthetic fiber—acetate, dynel, rayon, orlon, dacron, and rayon—according to the manufacturer's own recommended method. Even slight differences in laundering techniques may mean the difference between a professional look and a not-quite-successful result. Rayon, acetate and dynel is weakened when wet. Wet dynel retains about 55 per cent of its

Continued on Page 12

There are five main steps in doing your wash. (1) Preparing clothes for washing, which includes sorting, stain removal and mending. (2) Washing. (3) Drying. (4) Sprinkling. (5) Ironing. Procedure and directions are basically the same whether you are using an automatic machine,



MEMBERS OF THE ASPEN HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB are pictured in a study of fabric and materials. Directions for washing and ironing are given in the article in the adjoining column.



DOWN ABOVE ARE MEMBERS OF THE MIDWAY Home Demonstration Club during a session on ironing methods and procedure.

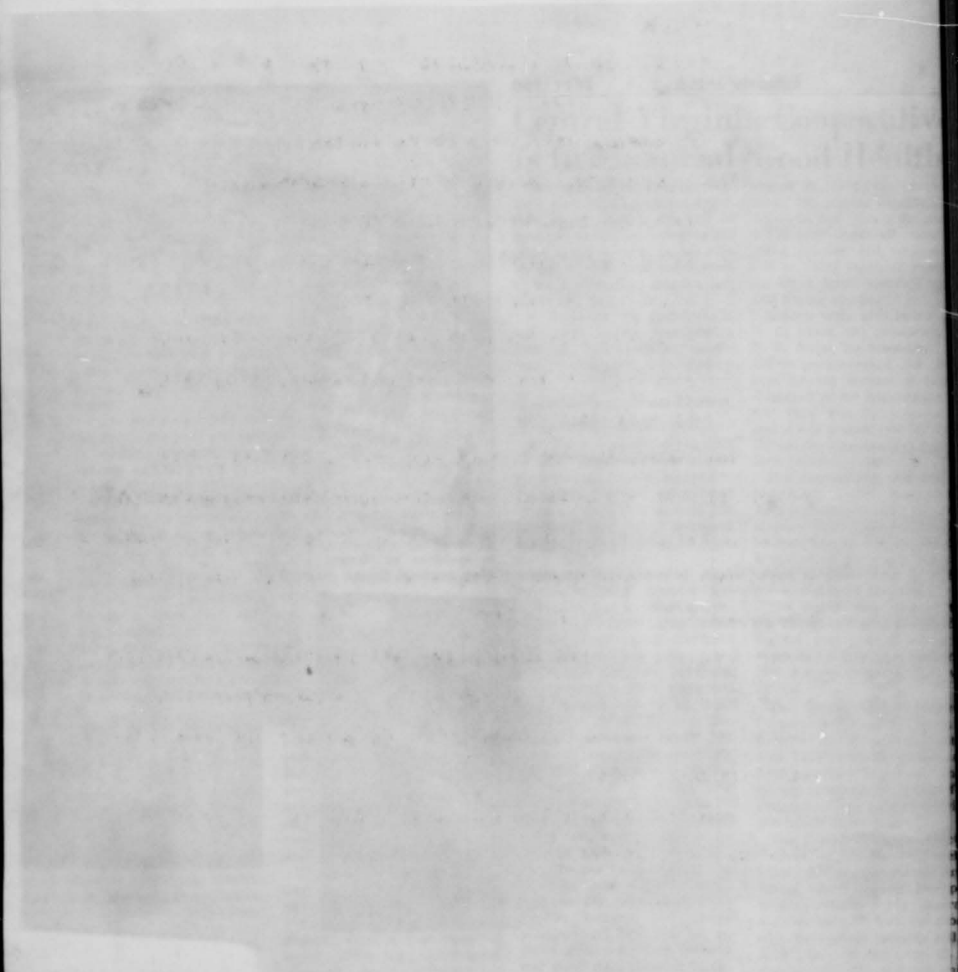


MEMBERS OF THE OAK VIEW HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB are pictured in a study of fabric and materials. Directions for washing and ironing are given in the article in the adjoining column.



THE EUREKA HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB is shown above with laundry products used in their study of laundry methods.

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...



Members of the club receive a surprise package each month, an almost impossible-to-duplicate gift mailed directly from the spot where it is produced. These gifts are always a fine example of an artisan's heritage of

All crop trees were pruned to a height of 17 feet.

The trees that were harvested yielded 30,800 board feet of sawlogs, 315 fence posts, and 61 cords of salable fuel wood. Planting, hardwood control, pruning, and all other labor required less than three man-days per acre. Labor was paid 80c per hour.

Cash outlay for seedlings, tree poison and other incidentals averaged 44c per acre. Taxes and fire protection were 17c per acre annually. Total cash outlay came to \$727. Subtracting the \$563 from products sold, left \$164 as the net cash outlay, or \$4.05 per acre for putting this particular tract into good growing condition.

If a farmer had been doing the job, and had provided the labor, the sale of products would have repaid all his cash outlays and left him \$12.80 per acre for his time and trouble. The real profits will come later as the desirable trees grow.

Southside Lineman Is Burned Fatally

Thornton V. Robertson, Jr., of Blackstone, who worked as a lineman with a construction crew of the Southside Electric Cooperative, died from burns received while working on one of the distribution lines of the system.

He was at work in the Nutbush section of Lunenburg County when the accident occurred the middle of September. He is survived by his mother, two brothers and two sisters.

\$12 or \$22. Each month they receive a gift from a different country, with a descriptive folder telling of its history. A bonus gift is given to each new member. It's a complicated process, and there were headaches along the way, but Margulies reports with satisfaction that subscribers are enrolling their friends and giving gift subscriptions.

several at the meeting said they were using almost \$100 worth electricity every month.

At the business session, membership elected the following to the board of directors:

H. G. Black, Palmyra; J. Burnett, Appomattox; H. Mays, Sandhides; F. R. Moore, Warminster; L. C. Dawson, Attertsville; Harry D. Burton, Tivillians; Frank Johns, Farmville; and J. B. M. Carter, Powhatan.

At the reorganization meeting of the board, held immediately after the annual meeting, Mr. Black was renamed president; Mr. Burnett, vice-president; Mr. Mays, secretary; and Mr. Moore, treasurer. Robert Whitehead, attorney for the Central Virginia Electric Cooperative.

During the morning session Carroll Johnson, of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, was the guest speaker, and summed up some of the benefits of agricultural legislation which was passed by the last session of the Congress.

At the afternoon session, J. I. Smith, manager of the Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, and president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, pointed out to the members the milestones of progress which are marking the work of the electric cooperatives throughout the nation. "Yours is one of these successful cooperatives," he said, referring to the Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. "Our electric cooperatives here in Virginia are keeping pace with progress and giving service to their members," Mr. Smith said. There are 16 electric cooperatives in Virginia.

During the lunch hour, the membership and their friends were guests of the Central Virginia Electric Cooperative for Brunswick stew and soft drinks. Attendance was excellent and many of the members were awarded prizes as part of the afternoon program.

4. Clubs Continue Interest in Food and Nutrition

Two meetings were held in relation to foods, one discussion on Practicing Good Nutrition in Planning Family Meals and the other on Outdoor Cookery, which was the Federation Goal topic.

Objectives were these:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with basic food requirements of the individual and to enable her to use this information in planning the daily meals for her family.
- b. To enable the homemaker to serve more nutritious and attractive meals by planning in advance.
- c. To enable the homemaker to save time and to buy more wisely by planning her meals ahead of time.
- d. To promote friendship, fellowship, and family enjoyment through better knowledge of preparing and serving foods for outdoors.

Two leaders training meetings were held by the agent, using material supplied by the Extension Nutrition Specialist and supplemental material. Each homemaker was given a copy of the Basic 7 Chart. Mimeo-graphed materials were made available to each club member with recipes and suggestions for outdoor meals.

Demonstrations were given in each of 10 communities at some home having an outdoor fireplace. At four of these, Midway, Bethel-Phoenix, Oakview and Wyllesburg, the demonstration was given in connection with their community picnics.

Plans for fireplaces were supplied 20 individuals; 9 of these have been built to date.

HD

1
3
1
1

1 (4) ~~3~~
1
2
1
2
1

4-14

1
3(?)

1
2
2
1
1

7+4

3
1
1
6

HD

18
19

11
39

11

5. New Fabrics and Waymade Fibers Interest H. D. Club Members

One month's program centered around a discussion on New Fabrics and their Care.

Objectives for this demonstration were these:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with the various materials and fabrics now used in clothing.
- b. To enable her to choose more wisely those suited to her needs and to learn the proper care in cleaning and laundering articles made from the many fibers and blends.
- c. One leaders training meeting was held by the agent to train the clothing leaders of the 12 clubs. The Extension Clothing Specialist supplied mimeographed material, supplemented by illustrative material from commercial sources. There are no immediate accomplishments to report as this was the November demonstration.

6. Landscaping and Home Ground Improvement Continue Popular

Interest continues in this topic which for three years was a popular federation goal.

Work continues on the 8 result demonstrations. Two others have been added, one the Wylliesburg Elementary school, and the other, the Concord-Bethel Baptist Parsonage.

Mr. Albert S. Beecher, Extension Horticulturist, spent an entire day in the county developing plans for these two projects, which will be carried as result demonstrations, as well as making valuable suggestions for three other homes.

It is our feeling that the efforts to improve church grounds and

and community houses have been among our most successful and worthwhile projects. These will continue to increase in value as result demonstrations as plantings grow to maturity. We feel that this has been a means of increasing community pride and of stimulating greater interest in the appearance of homes throughout the community in general, landscaping.

o Twenty-two members report improving driveways leading into their homes; 24 report providing outside lighting.

7. Charlotte County Participates in Water Systems Campaign

o Charlotte County sponsored the Improved Water Systems Campaign under the able leadership of Mrs. J. E. Weston of Saxe, and endorsed by the county federation.

Surprising facts came to light from the 1950 Census, namely that while electricity was available to 71% of Charlotte County families, only 21% had running water in their homes.

Armed with these facts, the leaders in the 10 communities set about to acquaint others of this condition and to set forth the advantages of pressure water systems.

Entry blanks for the contest were made available at about 20 localities in the county, four news articles were submitted, two radio programs and one TV program were directed in this effort.

At this time results cannot be measured, but it is believed that this will be a means of interesting more families in getting water under pressure in their homes.

8. Rural Arts

Handicraft was club choice in the Madisonville and Mt. Harmony

Clubs. All day meetings were held and around 14 baskets were completed.

While no workshops were held on chair seating during the year, several persons have been given individual instructions and at least 25 chairs have been re-seated by those who previously had this instruction. We feel that this has been a very popular and profitable craft.

Three clubs made aluminum trays as a special activity. These were special interest groups that had been previously trained. Around 33 trays were completed in time for Christmas gifts.

E. Federation Goal

Recreation, Home and Community, was carried as a federation goal for the second year. Charlotte is a very rural county with limited recreational facilities.

Objectives were as follows:

- a. To promote friendly competition between communities in providing well rounded entertainment in which families could participate.
- b. To include non members in recreational activities.
- c. To provide recreational materials for clubs and individuals.
- d. To devote 10 minutes of each club time to simple recreation.
- e. To assist in planning a more effective L-H program for each community, thereby reaching a greater number of rural youth.

These accomplishments were secured. Ten of the twelve clubs held family picnics in July, a usual custom.

A very successful leaders training meeting was held by the agent and trainee on Outdoor Cookery. Plans for outdoor fireplaces were given

21 families. About half of these have been built. Others will be erected during the year.

Five demonstrations on Outdoor Cookery were given by the leaders to special interest groups. Six of the clubs have 10 minute recreation monthly, others occasionally. Each of the clubs contributed to the tuition fee for their federation goal leader, Mrs. C. M. Watts, to take an extension course in folk dancing which was being given in the county for teachers and others. She then conducted very successful weekly recreational programs for children and teen agers at the Eureka Community House during the winter and spring.

The Madisonville Club gave a Christmas tea and part in early December and sent 50 invitations to non club members in the community. Both County and State federation presidents were present. However, there were less than a dozen non club members in attendance. Six clubs held Christmas parties to which their families were invited; three held Christmas community dinner parties with recreation following. Two delegates attended the class in song leadership given at the Institute of Rural Affairs. The Charlotte Court House Club and the Charlotte Court House Woman's Club held a joint Christmas program which was presented as a panel on "The Modern Application of the Christmas Story". This was written by one of the members.

The Achievement Day program was successfully carried out with around 150 members and family members in attendance. Nine of the 12 clubs presented an entertainment number ranging from violin solo to a square dance number. Members and their families took part with the assistance of a few outsiders.

While there was not as much group participation along the line of dramatics as had been anticipated, the program on the whole was well worthwhile and demonstrated some of the uses of local talent and leadership.

The secondary goal, Landscaping, has been described under Adult Project Work.

C. Other Activities

1. Community Projects

a. Water Systems Campaign - described under Adult Project Work.

2. County Objectives

a. Continuing Education Center

Each of the 12 clubs sponsored an especial fund raising project such as a dinner, talent show, or food sale to raise money for the Continuing Education Center. An amount of \$176.00 was raised in this way and enough was contributed from the county federation treasury to total \$200.00 for this purpose.

b. Home Ground Improvement - Described under Adult Project Work.

c. Improved Water Systems

Improved Water Systems is a long time objective. Timely information is given on radio and newspaper, and through direct contact in the clubs. One television program was presented on Bathroom Planning. Members report 14 bathrooms built during the year, and 12 families have put water in their kitchen.

d. National Home Demonstration Week

National Home Demonstration Week was observed by an appropriate radio program. Extension releases were used in the local papers. Twenty-

seven club members attended the district meeting held in ~~Madisonville~~ on May 4.

4. State Federation of H. D. Clubs

Each of the 12 clubs paid their dues before April 1st. One paid delegate and six others attended the state federation meeting. The Madisonville, Lebanon and Wylliesburg clubs paid half of the expenses of their five delegates.

5. Fairs

Two club members serve as active members on the board of directors for the Five County Fair. Five members gave eight days time assisting as superintendents of the various departments. Five of the clubs put on educational exhibits.

The agent was in charge of the Beauty Contest for the Five County Fair in which 68 girls took part. At least 8 days was spent in contacting exhibitors and in assisting with the Five County Fair. One day was spent at the Lynchburg Farm Show. The agent was in charge of the girls' Dress Revue.

At least eight days was spent in working on the catalogue, in contacting club members and in putting on the Charlotte County Fair in cooperation with the vocational educational department of Randolph-Henry High School. This fair, which is sponsored by the Puritan Club is a joint Achievement Day for L-H, FFA and FHA members. All of the elementary schools participate in dramatic and athletic activities. Due to the storm the original date the program was cancelled at noon and postponed until following Monday. Around 2,000 were in attendance each day.

Library

Each month the agent takes a collection of books from the excellent county library to the eleven clubs outside the village. These books are circulated by the club librarian during the month. This encourages good reading among the members and makes the library available to many who would not be able to visit it. This is a continuation of the federation goal "Better Reading" which was selected in 1940.

7. Publicity - News Articles, Radio, Television

The agent submits timely articles to county and local papers publicising extension work in the county. A regular column will carry a schedule of the time and place of meetings.

Circular letters are used to call special meeting and to convey timely information to the various club members and leaders.

Charlotte County has a regular spot, Homemakers Time, a daily broadcast on radio station WFIC. The home agent presents a program once each week. Club members, both H. D. and 4-H are presented from time to time as a means of publicising the activities of their respective organizations.

Charlotte County also has a regular program on TV over WLVA. Once each month the home agent is responsible for preparing and presenting a program. Here again 4-H and H. D. leaders assist in presenting timely information. Since the beginning of this series of programs in May, 4-H members have given two demonstrations and home demonstration leaders, one.

VI. 4-H CLUB WORK

A. Project Work

Project instruction is given in the 16 organized clubs in the nine schools of Charlotte County by the agent during school time with leaders assistance. During the summer, members have met in five communities in neighborhood groups with adult leaders assistance. Girls in more isolated areas have worked under the leadership of their mothers.

1. Food and Nutrition

a. Food preparation was selected by 90 girls as an out of school project. The Wylliesburg group met with adult leaders in the school cafeteria, the Saxe group met in a private home; other girls in scattered areas worked under the direction of their mothers.

Objectives were as follows:

- (a) To teach girls simple skills in food preparation to enable them to prepare simple meals.
- (b) To stimulate her interest in food preparation.

Method demonstrations were used. The agent supplied appropriate bulletins and mimeographed material and instructed the leaders as to methods and project requirements.

The 81 girls completing reported 1865 meals prepared and 3893 dishes prepared.

b. 4-H Club members do Outstanding Work in Food Preservation

Food Preservation, both canning and freezing were carried as out of school projects. There were 26 girls enrolled in canning and six in freezing and canning.

Objectives were these:

- (a) To teach the girls to make a canning plan suited to the needs of her family.
- (b) To teach approved methods of food conservation by canning and freezing.
- (c) To teach the proper storage of canned foods.
- (d) To teach the members to judge quality in canned food.

Method demonstrations were used. One group of girls at Midway worked under the direction of trained adult leaders. Others girls worked under their mothers' directions.

The 20 girls completing report 2271 quarts canned and 584 pounds of food frozen.

Members of the Midway A-H Club won 40% of the canning awards made at the Charlotte County Fair. Leaders assumed responsibility for collecting these exhibits and bringing them to the fair.

c. A-H Garden Project Again Selected

Eight courageous young club members selected the home vegetable garden as their summer project, but prolonged drought conditions reduced the number to five by the end of the summer.

Members worked under close supervision of their parents, learning to plant, care for and gather their vegetables.

Mimeographed letters of instruction were sent out from time to time, prepared by the horticultural specialist. Record books were supplied by the agent who also visited them twice during the summer in addition to accompanying the specialist when gardens were scored.

- Objectives accomplished were these:

- (a) Helping the girl to gain experience in learning varieties and in correct planting and proper cultivation.
- (b) Gaining experience in the proper methods of pest control.
- (c) Learning the importance of variety in planting the garden.
- (d) Learning how to record information and to value the vegetables grown.
- (e) Learning the value of patience and persistence in spite of adverse weather conditions.

This was perhaps the least successful project carried. Largely because of the prolonged drought three girls had no fall garden and three others had no surplus to can.

2. Clothing Selected by Mine Clubs

Nine clubs with an enrollment of 151 selected "So You Want to Sew". Around 15 members continue Clothing II, Make or Remake as a year round project.

A group of 7 girls in Drakes Branch worked under the direction of an adult leader. Another group in Saxe worked with an adult and junior leader during the summer.

Objectives were these:

- a. To enable club members to develop simple basic skills in making the articles suggested under their project requirements.
- b. To encourage each girl to make a clothing plan and to keep a record of her clothing activities.

Method demonstrations were given by the agent or by trained leaders. A few girls worked under their mothers' directions.

Records collected indicate that the 128 girls enrolled in the

project completed 457 articles in "So You Want To Sew" and 37 articles in "Make or Remake". Ninety six of the girls equipped sewing boxes.

There were 41 articles of clothing exhibited at the county fair in comparison with 24 of the year previous. Credit is given to the leaders who worked with the girls and reminded them to make their exhibits.

Good Grooming was selected by 67 members ranging in age from 12 to 17.

Objectives were as follows:

- a. To help the girl to become more interested in improving her personal appearance and to teach the proper care of clothes and of person.
- b. To emphasize the importance of a well groomed person.
- c. To teach choice of color as related to the individual's coloring.

Method demonstrations were given by the agent. Girls were given an opportunity to repeat demonstrations and to rate each other on personal grooming.

Some of the members made an earnest effort to improve while others did not profit by the instruction. In the agent's opinion less was accomplished in this project than in either of the others.

3. Room Improvement Chosen

Room Improvement was chosen by 61 members of three clubs. These girls ranged in age from 10 - 17.

Objectives were as follows:

- a. To encourage the girl to care for her own room.
- b. To enable the member to make a wise choice of colors and

accessories for her room.

- c. To teach her to arrange her room attractively.
- d. To teach the basic skills as the individual case may require.

Method demonstrations were given by the agent. Some of the girls had an opportunity to repeat the demonstrations. Room Improvement is being carried as a year around project.

4. Housekeeping

Housekeeping was chosen by the nine members of the Madisonville Senior Club.

Objectives were these:

- a. To teach the member correct methods in house cleaning.
- b. To help the girl to assume responsibility for the care of her own room and to assist with caring for other rooms of the home.

Method demonstrations were given by the agent which were in turn repeated by the girls.

Records indicate 9 girls completing the 5 activities chosen. This is a valuable year around activity as many of the mothers of these girls work outside of the home and much of the responsibility for the care of the home rests upon the girls.

5. Electric I Carried by Wyllesburg Club

Twenty members of the senior club at Wyllesburg were instructed in the Electric I project by the agricultural engineer and home economist of the Mecklenburg Cooperative.

Objectives were these:

- a. To learn the care of household equipment.
- b. To learn to improve and care for home lighting.
- c. To make simple repairs to cords.
- d. To replace fuses with the correct size.

Members were given an opportunity in workshop to master the techniques as they were demonstrated. This was a very practical and worthwhile project.

B. Other Activities

1. District Camp Well Attended

Twenty three girls attended L-H Camp at Holiday Lake. One of the older girls went as councillor as well as one of our high school teachers.

2. Conservation Camp

One girl and two boys attended Conservation Camp at Virginia Beach. These members felt that this was a very valuable experience.

3. State Short Course

Charlotte County sent four delegates to State Short Course in addition to two All Stars. These boys and girls feel that this was a most worthwhile week.

Becky Crouch, who attended Short Course for the first time, gave a report on L-H club work at the fall planning meeting of the H. D. Clubs. This included an account of the activities of the State Short Course. Becky will also be asked to report briefly on State Short Course at the first meeting of the County Council.

4. All Stars

The L-H girl who was recommended for All Star was unable to

attend the Short Course. The three All Stars now in the county, members of the County Council and their adult sponsor prepared an exhibit for the Five County Fair which won second place and an award of \$20.00. They also assisted with collecting exhibits for the county fair.

5. L-H Girls Participate in District Contests

Charlotte County L-H members competed in district contests won first place in canning, second with dairy foods team and third with dairy foods individual.

6. Achievement Day Well Attended

An estimated crowd of 2000 including all L-H Club members attended the fair and Achievement Day sponsored by the Ruritan Club and in cooperation with F.F.A. and F.H.A. members. School busses transported all school children to the consolidated high school on the day of the fair. Agricultural agents, vocational teachers and adult and junior leaders worked in close cooperation to make the day a success. The exhibits were of unusually good quality and there were more different members exhibiting than in any previous year.

7. L-H Club Week Given Due Publicity

L-H Club Week was publicized with a special two page section of the Charlotte Gazette carrying articles and letters on L-H work and with appropriate by-lines by the advertisers. The county and H. D. agent each presented a radio program featuring L-H club work. Two window displays were arranged.

The Drakes Branch Senior L-H Club prepared attractive and timely posters for a window display under the leadership of their president, Mary Williams, who used ideas from The National L-H News. The Keysville

4-H Clubs, under the direction of their sponsor, Mrs. C. M. Watts, prepared an attractive window display in which they exhibited various examples of project work.

Twenty subscriptions to The National 4-H News were secured during the month.

8. Club Members Contribute to National Headquarters

Charlotte County Club members and agents contributed \$44.00 to National 4-H Headquarters. This amount was raised by individual contributions supplemented by donations from the club treasuries. The teachers in the seven elementary schools show a paid movie during the year which all children are permitted to attend. This movie is secured by the agents and sponsored by the 4-H Clubs within the school. All profits are given to the 4-H Club sponsoring it. Around \$80.00 was raised in this way.

9. Madisonville Senior Club Sponsors Community Project

Twenty members of the Madisonville Senior Club, under the direction of the extension agents, resealed 12 chairs for the school lunchroom. The school P. T. A. supplied the craft cord for this project. Working in pairs, the job was completed in little more than two hours time. With this experience, these members later assisted in reseating chairs in their own homes.

On another occasion the agent instructed members of the Phenix seventh grade in basket making. Twenty baskets were completed during the afternoon.

VII. YOUNG MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WORK

There are at present no organized groups of young men and women, however assistance is given upon request in such matters as selecting house plans, landscaping, choosing fabrics, colors, and furnishings for the home.

Around 30 young women between the ages of 18 and 30 are active members of the H. D. Club. One of these ladies, Mrs. Baylor Cloudis, is president of the Aspen H. D. Club which has a membership of around 30. Others hold other offices, serve as project leaders and participate in special club activities.

VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
<u>No. HD Clubs or Groups</u>	12	13	13	12	12
<u>Membership</u>	267	243	265	270	232
<u>No. A-H Clubs</u>	11	13	13	14	16
<u>Membership</u>	237	242	267	281	296
<u>No. other families reached</u>	125	200	250	275	290
<u>No. of different families reached</u>	425	500	550	600	700
<u>No. community clubs</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Membership</u>	0	0	0	0	0

IX. ORGANIZATIONS

A. County H. D. Committee Functions In Overall Planning

The county home demonstration committee composed of the executive officers of the 12 clubs, the immediate past president and the federation goal chairman met twice during the year. A half day meeting was held in May to check on the progress of the county program and to appoint delegates for the state federation meeting and other committees needed in carrying on the work in the county. At the fall meeting reports were given on program planning discussions and the calendar of activities was made up for 1954-55. Final plans were made for Achievement Day, for fair exhibits and other matters of business relating to the federation were discussed.

B. County Advisory Committee Serves in Advisory Capacity

The County Advisory Committee composed of representatives county leaders in agriculture and homemaking, meet upon request of the county extension agents to consider and advise in matters of interest to the county as a whole.

Such a meeting was held in October at which time the Farm and Home Development Program was presented. The committee unanimously voted to accept this opportunity to put new emphasis on Farm and Home Management in Charlotte County. They will again be asked to select the section of the county that will be offered this assistance.

Program Development Leaders Active

The twelve Program Development leaders were responsible for initiating club discussions during June and August on the needs of the individual and of the community as a whole. Suggestions were gathered

for topics for discussion for the club year 1954-55 which in turn were presented at the countywide planning meeting as described in paragraph A - County Home Demonstration Committee.

A training meeting for Program Development Leaders was held prior to the beginning of these discussions. At this time suggested procedures and techniques were given by Miss Mary Hille McCoy, Agent at large. These ideas were helpful in stimulating club discussions.

C. County 4-H Council Plans Overall Objectives

The County 4-H Council, composed of officers of the 16 4-H clubs met once during the year for officer training and to select countywide goals for the year. This meeting was held in the early part of December immediately after the election of officers.

Objectives selected were these:

- a. Teach all members, pledge, motto, song, colors and emblem.
- b. Send quota of members to encampments.
- c. Assist in securing adult leaders for summer projects.
- d. Cooperate with other agencies in mailbox improvement.
- e. Hold Countywide recreational meeting during summer months.

A check on the progress of countywide goals was made in the individual clubs at the end of the year. Due to a full schedule of school and extension activities it was not possible to hold the countywide recreational meeting as had been previously planned, however each club held its own picnic before the close of school, thus enabling more members to attend.

D. County Chapter of All Stars Assist in 4-H Club Activities

Eleven 4-H Club members have been initiated into the Virginia

Chapter of All Stars during the past seven years. Of this number all except three, one girl and two boys, have either married and left the county, entered service or are attending college. Those that remain in the county have helped with fairs and farm shows and with carrying out the objectives of the 4-H Council. The 1954 president of the Council was an All Star who with the assistance of other club members and an adult leader organized and entered an exhibit of overall 4-H Club activities at the Five County Fair. This exhibit won second place.

All Star members have also taken part on radio and TV programs.

X. LEADERSHIP

A. Contribution of Volunteer Leaders

1. Organizational Leaders Conduct Programs

The 36 organizational leaders, presidents, vice presidents, and secretary-treasurers are responsible for holding regular meetings of their respective clubs and of presiding and conducting all business pertaining to them.

The county federation officers, county goal chairmen and club presidents meet twice each year to conduct matters of business pertaining to the clubs as a whole.

2. Program Development Leaders Assist in County Planning

The 12 Program Development Leaders are charged with the responsibility of constant awareness of the needs of the community, of sensing its problems and of leading the members to develop a program based on their needs.

The program development leader must not only be alert to the needs of her county and community, but she must exercise all of her resources in leading her fellow club members to become aware of these needs and to suggest ways of meeting these needs. It requires tact and patience to get people to think and to express themselves.

3. Subject Matter Leaders Active

There were seven leaders' training meeting held for the 89 subject matter leaders with an attendance of 101. Three of these meetings were held by extension specialists and four by the agent who had been previously trained by the specialist or who had secured exhibits and subject matter material from the specialists for this purpose. Seven other leaders were trained individually.

As a result 45 demonstrations were given by the leaders to adult groups, 30 without the agent being present.

B. Leadership Growth

<u>H. D. Club Project Leadership</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
No. project leaders (subject matter)	76	72	80	54	94
No. goal chairmen	12	13	13	12	12
No. Program Development Leaders	12	13	13	12	12
No. result demonstrators	12	20	20	12	8
No. training meetings by specialists	10	6	5	4	4
by District Agent	0	0	0	0	0
by agent	2	2	8	8	7
Attendance at all training meetings	96	68	126	115	108
No. meetings without an agent	36	31	31	45	30
No. meetings leaders assisted	36	47	75	28	45
Demonstrations by leaders	72	78	108	73	45
Talks and discussions by leaders		91	88	51	141

Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership

No. club officers	55	78	74	79	96
No. adult project leaders	21	28	28	16	11
No. result demonstrations	6	6	7	0	3
No. training meetings held by specialists	0	0	0	0	1
by agent	5	2	16	8	4
by district agent	0	0	0	0	0
by member club dept.	0	0	1	0	0
Attendance at leader training meeting	5	4	6	12	5
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	7	4	11	4	4
No. club meeting held by leader without agent	12	16	24	33	16
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	5	6	3	2	4
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	5	2	16	8	6
by junior leaders	2	3	8	4	2

Young Men and Women Clubs

There are no organized young men and women clubs in the county.

C. Mrs. George T. Willson Outstanding Leader

For the past two years Mrs. George T. Willson has been the capable and enthusiastic president of the Eureka Club. During this time the club membership has increased 20%. Nearly 100% of the demonstrations have been given by the leaders due to Mrs. Willson's efforts in providing transportation to training meetings. Mrs. Willson has shown outstanding leadership in her ability in getting less confident members to take an active part. An interesting example is the way in which she has worked with a neighbor, a capable, but rather timid person, first in bringing her to the club, then encouraging her to serve as project leader, until she has accepted the club presidency for 1955.

Her club under her leadership participates actively in all civic and community affairs. Each year they have won first place on their educational fair exhibits. They contributed original talent to the Achievement Day program. They have assisted at Chest X-ray clinics and have furnished food and hostesses for the Blood Mobile. At Christmas clothing donations were sent to Korea and more recently her club led in their contribution to the Continuing Education Center at V. P. I. They were the first to vote an extra \$25.00 to help meet the county quota. Prior to this Mrs. Willson had visited a number of clubs during the agent's absence at camp, to explain the purpose of the Continuing Education Center. She is due much of the credit for the \$200.00 contribution which the Charlotte County clubs made.

Mrs. Willson is past president of the county federation and past

chairman of the federation goal, Home and Community Beautification.

Her home is being used as a result demonstration in landscaping. She

has served as district secretary of the federation of H. D. Clubs and is now vice president of District III.

Her leadership is not confined to her club work. She is past president and at present of the Randolph-Henry High School P. T. A. and active in the organizations of her church.

D. The O. M. Watts Family Outstanding Leaders

The O. M. Watts family of Eureka Community are outstanding leaders in the county as well as in their community.

Mr. Watts, a prosperous dairyman, is an active member and secretary of the Charlotte Artificial Breeding Association, as well as being active in other farm organizations.

Mrs. Watts is past president and at present goal chairman and leader in the Eureka H. D. Club. She has been very successful as chairman of the goal, Recreation - Home and Community. After becoming goal chairman she enrolled in a course in Folk Dancing which was being taught in the county. During the winter months she meets weekly a group of children and teen agers at the community house, teaching them folk games and square dancing.

She has served a program chairman for Achievement Day activities for the past two years. These have featured Family Recreation and Talent Night with contributions from the different clubs.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Watts are enthusiastic A-H Club boosters. Their three children 11, 12, and 14, have already done outstanding project work, the boys in livestock and entomology projects and their daughter

Bettie Mac in clothing and poultry.

It was rather singular that Johnnie and Bettie Mac were presidents of the Keysville 4-H Club during the past year. The three Watts children recently put on a TV program on their Entomology project under the direction of the Assistant County Agent.

Mrs. Watts assisted a group of 4-H Club members in making a window display in one of the Keysville stores during 4-H Club Week. Their interest in 4-H Club work is not limited to their own children and community, but to young people in the county as a whole.

Niether is their leadership limited to Extension Activities. They are active in church and P. T. A. work and anything that makes for the betterment of their community.

Because of their interest and leadership in community and county affairs it is evident that they deserve to be recognized as an outstanding family.

E. Aspen Club Outstanding in Leadership

The Aspen Club, numbering around 25 members in a remote rural section of Charlotte County, has had a very successful year under the able leadership of its president, Mrs. Baylor Clowdis. Not only have they gained several new members, but they have had good attendance at all of their meetings. They have been well represented at county and district events and have demonstrated initiative and resourcefulness and the ability to work together.

In addition to a family picnic and Christmas party, they have sponsored a box supper and a beauty contest for fund raising purposes. Around \$100.00 was realized from these activities.

After incidental club expenses were paid and after contributing to the Continuing Education Center, the balance was added to their Community House Fund.

As far as loyalty, interest and enthusiasm is concerned, this club is tops and well deserves recognition as the most outstanding club of 1954.

II. WORK IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

1. County Health Department

The agent cooperates at all times with the program of the county health department and helps in publicizing the services which they are prepared to render.

2. T. B. Association

The agent contributes regularly to the T. B. Association and encourages club members to take advantage of Chest X-rays and to promote the work of the organization. Club leaders in several communities serve as chairmen for seed and bond drives.

3. Red Cross

The agent serves as chairman of the foods committee for disaster. She encourages active participation of her members in membership drives and in special activities.

4. Woman's Clubs

The agent maintains active interest in the Keysville Woman's Club and will assist with the annual flower show.

5. County F. T. A.

The agent supplies subject matter material when requested and takes the responsibility for a program when the opportunity arises.

6. County Fair, Five County Fair and Farm Show

The agent is active in assisting with fairs and farm shows. She serves on the home economics committee for each of these events, was chairman of the flower show and the beauty contest for the Five County Fair and of the girls' dress revue for the Lynchburg Farm Show in which 58 girls participated.

XII. SUMMARY

Demonstrations given during 1954 have contributed towards saving time and energy for the homemaker and towards making her home a more orderly and attractive place for her family and friends.

The demonstrations on improving methods in laundry and in ironing, on simple household mechanics and improving kitchen storage, offered many practical suggestions for making daily household chores easier.

● Reports indicate that these ideas are already being used.

● Those homemakers who were interested in making their home more attractive and livable have been interested in the demonstrations on new fabrics, and color harmony in the home. This, too, has had direct application by those members who were building and furnishing new homes or redecorating old ones.

● After reviewing briefly the topics included in the past four years work it would seem that more emphasis should be placed on Home Management and Housing which would include Improved Storage and Water Systems.

● A continued effort should be made to interest young homemakers in the work of the home demonstration clubs.

Certainly more 4-H Club leaders are needed. Continued effort is also needed to retain the members after they enter high school.

Competing interests result in many members of high school age dropping out.

PLAN OF WORK

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

1954

Bertie R. Yates
County Home Demonstration Agent
Charlotte Court House, Virginia

1954 PLAN OF WORK

BERTIE R. YATES

Home Demonstration Agent

CHARLOTTE

County

I. COUNTY SITUATION CONSIDERED IN 1954 PROGRAM

Charlotte County is primarily an agricultural county with an area of 496 square miles. According to the latest census, there were 2000 farms averaging 113.6 acres in size. The census states that 75% of the population lives on farms. The largest town is Keysville, which has a population of around 600. The county population is approximately 58% white and 42% negro.

The county is 43% woodland, timber manufacturing and cutting pulp-wood being important industries.

The chief sources of farm income in the county are: flue cured tobacco, dairying, dark fired tobacco, poultry and beef cattle.

There are two industrial plants located in the county. Pacific Mills has a large manufacturing plant for processing woollens. There is also a plant for manufacturing chenille products. These plants employ around 500 workers, the majority of which are women.

There is one consolidated high school and eight elementary schools for white children within the county. Each of these schools has a cafeteria where children may secure hot lunches under the school lunch program.

Electricity is available to around 90% of the farm families. Only two of the ten communities have telephone service.

Community canneries located in each of four communities serve the rural population in the conservation of fruits, meats, and vegetables. There is no community frozen food locker within the county.

II. CONTRIBUTION OF THE 1954 PROGRAM TO FAMILY LIVING

Much thought and discussion went into planning for the 1954 program in an effort to find the needs and interests of the rural people of Charlotte County. With these facts in mind the program has been designed to improve homemaking practices by bringing her the latest information in a usable form which she can apply to her daily problems and to stimulate her interest in improving her standard of living, in making her home more comfortable and attractive for family and friends.

The federation goal, Home and Community Recreation, will be continued and an effort made to stimulate more community participation in a wholesome recreational program, in which the entire family can participate to promote a more effective 4-H program through adult 4-H leadership.

These activities will be duly publicized through news articles, radio broadcasts and exhibits in an effort to extend the influence of extension teaching and to reach others throughout the county.

III. THE 1954 PROGRAM AS PLANNED

A. Subject Matter Fields in Which Adult Program Is Planned

1. House Furnishings

There will be three demonstrations in house furnishings, namely: Good Design in House Furnishings; Fabrics in House Furnishings; Color Harmony in the Home.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To enable the home maker to recognize and apply principles of good design to the selection of house furnishings and accessories for the home.
- b. To help her to recognize basic qualities of construction in furniture selection and to improve her standards by acquainting her with good design.
- c. To acquaint her with available fabrics and their properties in order that she may more intelligently select those suited for her particular home making needs.
- d. Through a more intelligent understanding of the use of color to make her home and house furnishings more attractive for her family and friends.

Two leaders training meetings will be held prior to the time when the demonstrations will be given at which time the 24 leaders from the twelve clubs will be trained by the extension specialist.

The agent will supply leaders with such materials as are available for illustrative purposes. Method demonstrations, exhibits, slides and field trips will be used. Home visits will be made to advise those who request especial assistance.

A special interest workshop on Upholstry has been requested.

2. Home Management

There will be three demonstrations in Home Management, namely, Family Washing, Family Ironing, and Organizing Kitchen Storage for More Efficient Use.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with the newest laundry methods and materials.
- b. To teach the homemaker time and effort saving methods of doing the family washing and ironing.
- c. To enable the homemaker to use existing kitchen storage space to better advantage through organization and space saving devices.

Two leaders training meetings will be held by either the extension specialists or a qualified home economist prior to the time when these demonstrations will be given. At this time the 24 home management project leaders will be trained. Appropriate mimeographed material will be furnished the leaders by the agent. Method demonstrations will be given and field trips will be made to see the newest laundry equipment demonstrated.

3. Housing

Two demonstrations are planned, one on Simple Carpentry and the other on Simple Household Mechanics.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To teach homemakers to construct simple articles which will add to the convenience and enjoyment of their homes.
- b. To enable homemakers to keep equipment in repair and make simple repairs to home and equipment; making for greater convenience and efficiency of the home.

The 12 housing leaders of the 12 clubs will be trained by the extension housing specialist prior to this demonstration. Where feasible workshops will be held on a special interest basis. Method demonstrations will be used.

The agent will endeavor to acquaint the public with service available through the extension program. Plans will be furnished upon request and the services of the specialists will be requested for those who require especial assistance.

4. Foods

Two demonstrations have been planned for foods, namely, Practicing Good Nutrition In Planning Family Meals, and Outdoor Cookery.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with basic food requirements of the individual and to help her to include these food groups in the daily meals of her family.
- b. To enable the homemaker to serve more nutritious and attractive meals by planning.
- c. To enable the homemaker to save time and to buy more wisely by planning her meals ahead of time.
- d. To promote informal entertaining and family enjoyment through better knowledge of preparing and serving foods for outdoor cookery, which is in keeping with the county federation goal.

Two leaders training meetings will be held by extension specialists prior to the demonstrations to train the 24 Foods leaders from the 12 clubs. The agent will supply mimeographed material and such illustrative material as may be available. Method demonstrations will be used for outdoor cookery, discussion methods will be used for meal planning.

5. Clothing

There will be one demonstration on clothing, namely; Use and Care of New Clothing Fabrics.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To acquaint the homemaker with the various materials and fabrics now available.
- b. To enable her to choose more wisely those suited to her needs, and to use proper care in cleaning and laundering articles made from the various fibers and blends.

The 12 leaders of the 12 clubs will be trained by the extension clothing specialist prior to the meetings. Mimeographed material and exhibits will be made available to leaders by the agent.

*6. Landscaping

There will be 8 result demonstrations carried in landscaping. These projects, which were started several years ago, will be used to

teach the advantage of orderly planning and planting.

Work in home ground improvement will continue with special assistance given by the extension horticulturist and by the agent.

Mailbox improvement is another phase of the program which will be promoted through the home demonstration clubs and the 4-H Clubs. An effort will be made to get boxes placed on suitable supports, painted and marked with owner's name.

*7. Running Water

A continued effort will be made to encourage the installation of systems in rural areas. Special emphasis will be given through publicity on radio and newspaper. Individual assistance will be given when needed.

8. Miscellaneous

December was left open for club choice. Eight of the clubs selected Christmas Decorations for the Home; two clubs requested all day workshops on Basketry, one club held open house for non-members and one had a family Christmas party for its members in place of a demonstration.

Special interest groups will be held on refinishing furniture, caning and chair seating as requested. Members will be instructed in the proper techniques by the agent. Sources of material will be made available to them.

B. The 1954 Four-H Club Program

1. Clothing

Fourteen clubs with an enrollment of 151 have selected "So You Want to Sew". These clubs are composed of members ranging in age from 9 to 13.

Around 15 members are carrying Clothing II, Make or Remake, as a year round project.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To enable club members to develop simple basic skills in making the four articles which are suggested in their project requirements.
- b. To teach the girl to make a clothing plan.

- c. To select materials and make a simple fitted garment, thereby gaining skill in simple construction.

Method demonstrations will be given by trained leaders or by the agent in the basic techniques of clothing construction or the girls will work under her mother's direction if she is capable of giving the needed assistance.

Members will be encouraged to take part in style shows and to exhibit at local fairs.

2. Room Improvement

Three clubs with a membership of 61 have selected Room Care and Improvement. These girls range in age from 10 to 17.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To encourage the girl to care for her own room.
- b. To enable the girl to make a better choice of colors and accessories for her room.
- c. To teach her to arrange her room attractively.
- d. To teach basic skills as the individual case may require.

Method demonstrations will be given by the agent or leader after which the girl will have an opportunity to repeat the demonstration. This project will be carried the year round.

3. Good Grooming

Good Grooming was selected by the 67 members of three clubs. These girls range in age from 12 to 17.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To help the girl to become more conscious of her personal appearance and to teach her care of clothes and person.
- b. To emphasize importance of a well groomed appearance.
- c. To teach choice of color as related to the person.

Method demonstrations will be given by the agent. Girls will be given an opportunity to repeat the demonstrations and to rate each other on personal grooming.

4. Food Preparation

Food preparation will be offered as an out of school project. There will be around 90 girls taking this project. Girls will work in small groups under an adult leader or under the direction of their mothers. These leaders will be given either group or individual instructions to acquaint them with requirements and proper techniques of the project.

Objectives of this project are as follows:

- a. To teach simple skills in food preparation that will enable the girls to prepare simple foods.
- b. To stimulate her interest in food preparation.

Method demonstrations will be used. Members and leaders will be supplied with appropriate bulletins and mimeographed material by the agent.

5. Food Preservation

Food Preservation, both canning and freezing, will be offered as out of school projects.

There will probably be around 40 girls taking this project ranging in age from 10 to 17.

Objectives will be as follows:

- a. To teach the girl to make a canning plan suited to the needs of her family.
- b. To teach approved methods of food conservation by canning and freezing.
- c. To teach the members how to store canned foods.
- d. To teach the member to judge quality in canned food.

Method demonstrations will be used. Girls will work under direction of adult leaders or their mothers. Appropriate bulletins, records and mimeographed material will be supplied by the agent.

All members will be encouraged to exhibit at the local fairs.

6. Vegetable Garden

Members will be encouraged to select vegetable gardening as a summer project. There will probably be 10 or 12 girls ranging in

age from 10 to 16 who will select this project.

Objectives will be as follows:

- a. To teach the girl to make a garden plan.
- b. To teach variety in vegetable selection.
- c. To help the member gain experience in planting and cultivating her garden.
- d. To help her gain experience in proper methods of pest control.
- e. Through record keeping to teach an appreciation of the value of the home vegetable garden.
- f. To learn to conserve by the latest and best methods, foods produced in the garden.

Members will work under direction of their parents. Mimeographed material, record books and letters of instruction will be supplied by the agent.

The gardens will be visited twice by the agent and twice by the extension horticulturist to give timely information and to score them.

Girls will be encouraged to exhibit both garden products and canned vegetables at fairs and farm shows.

C. Young Men's and Women's Program

There is at present no organized group of young men and women in the county as such. However, young married homemakers will be encouraged to join and become active in the home demonstration program. Individual help will be given upon request in housing, landscaping and other phases of homemaking, upon

IV. OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Adult

1. Home and Community Recreation

Home and Community Recreation has again been selected as the Federation Goal for 1954.

Objectives are as follows:

- a. To promote friendly competition between communities by cooperating with existing organizations.

- (1) Youth activities
- (2) Recitations and readings for men, women and youth.
- (3) Well rounded entertainment in which whole families participate, including equipment, indoors and out.

- b. Include more non members in recreational activities.
- c. Provide recreational materials for clubs and others.
- d. Set aside 10 minutes at each meeting for recreation.
- e. Assist in planning a more effective 4-H program for each community which will reach a higher percentage of rural boys and girls.

2. Continuing Education Program

Each of the 12 clubs will make a contribution to the Continuing Education Program. In most cases the proceeds from some special project will be contributed to that fund.

3. District and State Federation of H. D. Clubs

Each club will pay dues by April 1, 1954 and will send delegates to the district meeting. Two delegates will also be sent by the county to the state federation meeting. An effort will be made to have as many as 10 delegates attend from the county.

4. National Home Demonstration Week

National Home Demonstration Week will be observed by attendance at the district meeting; by newspaper articles and appropriate radio publicity. An effort will be made to arrange at least one window display showing some of the activities of home demonstration work.

5. Tours

Members will be given an opportunity to organize a tour to visit some of the gardens of Virginia during Garden Week as they have done for the past three years.

This promotes a greater appreciation for the historic and beautiful places within our state and helps to establish higher standards.

6. Achievement Day

Achievement Day will be observed in an appropriate manner in keeping with county activities and the federation goal. This program

will be given due publicity through newspaper, radio and individual announcements.

*7. Fairs

Two club members will serve as active members of the board of directors of the Farmville Five County Fair. Others will serve as superintendents and assistants of the various departments. An effort will be made to use adult volunteer workers in connection with the Charlotte County Fair.

Both clubs and individual members will be encouraged to exhibit.

*8. Library

As a continuation of the goal "Library" which was carried eight years ago, books are circulated in 10 communities by the 12 clubs. Each club appoints a librarian who is responsible for circulating the collection of books brought to the community by the agent each month from the county library. This brings books within easy reach of many who would otherwise not visit the excellent county library.

9. Community Houses

Home demonstration leaders will sponsor recreational activities at the three community houses at Madison District, Saxe and Eureka.

The Oakview H. D. Club is cooperating with two other local organizations to complete payment on construction of the Madison Community House. The Red Oak Club is cooperating with others in the community in an effort to build a community house in their community.

10. Work in Unorganized Communities

There is a home demonstration club in nine of the ten communities. An effort will be made to reach non members through the radio, newspaper and by personal contacts. Home visits to 4-H Club members will be used as another means of reaching non members.

Procedures to be used as follows:

a. Method Demonstration

Method Demonstrations will be used as a teaching means in each of the 12 monthly home demonstration meetings.

b. Result Demonstration

Result demonstrations will be used in each of the 9 communities

where landscaping and planting demonstrations are being held.

c. News Stories

A regular news column will be maintained in the local paper to inform the public of the work being done by the clubs and to advise members of the time and place of meetings. Articles will be sent regularly to the Charlotte Gazette and the Union Star which have coverage in the county. Special articles of interest will be sent to the Farmville Herald, a regional paper covering five counties and to papers with state wide circulation.

d. Radio

Charlotte County has a regular spot on the WFLO station' Homemaker's Hour, a daily broadcast weekdays through Friday. The home agent or club leaders appear each week, presenting topics of timely interest. From time to time 4-H Club members are featured.

e. Circular Letters

Circular letters will be used to call special meetings and to keep members informed on matters of pertinent interest.

f. Home Visits

Home visits will be used in making contacts in the interest of the work, in answering calls for special assistance, in training leaders and in getting first hand information as to conditions in the county.

g. Exhibits

Both individual and club exhibits will be entered at the Farmville Five County Fair. Exhibits will be featured in the several villages during National Home Demonstration Week and at the Charlotte County Fair.

h. Slides and Movies

Slides and movies will be used as a teaching device whenever feasible.

i. Tours

Tours to result demonstrations will be used in order that a greater number may benefit by what has been done. Visits to stimulate greater interest in the use of improved practices and to improve the home and surroundings will also be made to other worthwhile improvements.

j. Meetings

County wide meetins will be used in both organized and unorganized groups as a means of reaching more people directly with timely information. Topics of special interest will be discussed in the community groups in which the agent works.

B. 4-H Clubs

There will be an organized 4-H Club in each school in the county. Five of the schools will have junior and senior clubs. These schools are Charlotte Elementary, Drakes Branch, Keysville, Madisonville and Wylliesburg. Members are grouped as follows, fourth and fifth grades - junior club; sixth and seventh grades - senior club. There will be three organized clubs at Randolph-Henry, the consolidated high school. These are grouped in this manner, eighth grade, ninth and tenth grade - junior; eleventh and twelfth - senior.

1. Project Instruction

Project instruction will be given in the schools by the agent assisted by adult leaders when available during the school term. During the summer months members work under the direction of adult leaders in neighborhood groups when available or under the guidance of their mothers or some other volunteer leader.

2. 4-H Council

The 4-H Council which will be composed of the officers of the 16 clubs will hold two meetings during the year, one in the fall for training officers and for selecting objectives for the year, and another in the spring at which time progress on selected goals will be checked and plans made for attendance at summer encampments and other activities.

Objectives of the Council for 1954 are as follows:

- a. Teach all members songs, pledge, colors, emblem, motto, with especial attention to new members.
- b. Send quota of members to encampments.
- c. Assist in contacting adult leaders for summer project instruction.
- d. Cooperate with other organizations in mailbox improvement.
- e. Hold countywide recreational meeting during summer months.

3. 4-H District Camp

Charlotte County will send a full quota to district camp with representatives from each club in the county. The county will also furnish its proportionate part of counselors and leaders.

4. Conservation Camp

Charlotte County will send a full quota of representatives to the State Conservation Camp.

5. State Short Course

Charlotte County will send a full quota of representatives to the State Short Course. These delegates will later be used as junior club leaders and will assist with county wide activities.

6. All Stars

One new All Star will be recommended. All "All Stars" will be used to strengthen 4-H Club work in the county through leadership and active participation in other activities relating to 4-H Club work.

7. Contests

A county winner will be selected from each project carried who will represent the county in the area contest in Lynchburg.

8. Achievement Day

All club members will observe Achievement Day in cooperation with F. F. A. and F. H. A. members. Project work will be displayed and club members will receive recognition for outstanding accomplishments.

9. 4-H Club Week

4-H Club Week will be observed in an appropriate manner with special activities by the club members. The local newspaper will be asked to cooperate by publishing articles of special interest. Window displays will be arranged and a radio program over W.F.L.C. will be presented with club members taking part.

Procedure to be used:

a. Organizational Leaders and Sponsors

- (1) Secure a sponsor for each 4-H Club.
- (2) Train club officers in method of conducting orderly,

business like meetings.

(3) Let club officers take responsibility at each meeting.

b. Project Leaders

Secure project leaders for at least 12 4-H groups which will meet during summer vacation.

c. Junior Leaders

Junior leaders will be used to assist younger club members in project instruction. They will also be used to assist with summer out-of-school groups.

Methods of Extension Teaching To Be Used

a. Method Demonstration

Method demonstrations will be used for at least 5 monthly meetings to help develop skills and techniques that are to be learned from the project selected.

b. Result Demonstration

Result demonstrations will be used as a teaching method in garden projects and in room improvement projects.

c. News Stories

Special 4-H activities and accomplishments will be publicised through local newspapers. Club reporters will send club reports to local papers each month.

d. Radio

Individual club members will be given an opportunity to appear on radio in recognition of outstanding work done. A program of special interest featuring 4-H Club activities will be presented during 4-H Club Week. Radio will also be used to publicise meetings and events of special interest.

e. Circular Letters

Circular letters will be used to carry information to members and to keep leaders, members and their parents informed as to matters of pertinent interest.

f. Home Visits

An effort will be made to visit at least 50% of the club members in order to become better acquainted with their parents; to check the progress that the members are making in their project work and to get a better understanding of the home life of the members in order to work with them more effectively.

g. Exhibits

- (1) All members will be encouraged to exhibit at the county fair, the Five County Fair and the Farm Show.
- (2) Clubs with sewing projects will be given an opportunity to exhibit at the completion of the project.
- (3) An exhibit of representative work will be made at some appropriate place within the county during 4-H Club Week and at the Five County Fair.

h. Slides and Movies

Slides and movies will be used whenever practical to make 4-H Club work more interesting. Slides and pictures of local projects and project exhibitors will be made and used from time to time to stimulate greater activity and participation in fairs and farm shows.

i. Tours and Achievement Days

Tours will be made to result demonstrations to observe the results of improved practices. The one day County Agricultural Fair will be used as an Achievement Day at which time members will make exhibits of their project work and will be recognized accordingly.

j. 4-H Contests

- (1) All girls will be encouraged to compete in contests for which they are eligible.
- (2) Club contests will be held to select representatives for county contests.
- (3) County contests will be held to select representatives for area contests.

C. Young Men and Women's Activities

While there is, at present, no such organized group of young men and women within the county, young women between the ages of 18 and 30 will be encouraged to join their nearest home demonstration club, and their participation in countywide activities will be solicited.

V. SCOPE OF WORK:

A. Organization

	<u>No. in</u> <u>1950</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>1951</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>1952</u>	<u>NB. in</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>Goal for</u> <u>1954</u>
No. home demonstration clubs	12	13	13	12	12
Membership	267	243	262	206	230
Number of 4-H Clubs	11	13	13	14	16
Membership	237	242	256	281	300
Number young men & women's clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0
Community Improvement Clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0
Other organizations	3	3	3	0	0

B. Number of families reached through:

Home demonstration clubs	267	236	265	220	230
4-H clubs	217	203	220	225	240
Young adult clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Special interest groups	16	10	16	20	20
Result demonstrations	12	20	20	12	8
Home visits	116	215	268	208	250
Contacts by club members	100	150	200	220	250
Other (newspaper, radio, county meetings, etc.)	800	900	1000	100	125
Estimate number of different families reached through above means	1200	1400	1500	500	600

VI. PLANS FOR USING THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE EXTENSION PROGRAM IN 1954

A. County Home Demonstration Committee

The home demonstration committee will be composed of the president of each of the 12 clubs, the county federation goal chairman, and its executive officers, president, vice president, secretary and treasurers. They will hold two meetings a year, one in the fall for planning the program of work and another in the spring to check on the progress of the program and to make plans for attendance at district and state meetings and other pertinent business. This is the overall planning organization which will be responsible for directing the home demonstration club activities within the county.

B. County 4-H Council

The County 4-H Council will hold two meetings during the year, one in the fall for training the newly elected officers and for selecting goals, the other for summarizing accomplishments and for planning summer activities. This will be the overall planning group for special activities such as fairs, camps, achievement day and other events of countywide interest.

C. County All Stars

County All Stars will be used as junior leaders and will assist in events of countywide interest such as fair exhibits, achievement days and the observance of 4-H Club Week.

VII. PLAN FOR LEADERSHIP:

A. Home Demonstration

	No. in <u>1940</u>	No. in <u>1941</u>	No. in <u>1952</u>	No. in <u>1953</u>	Goal for <u>1954</u>
Number project leaders	76	72	80	54	84
Number federation goal chairmen	12	13	13	12	12
No. program development leaders	12	13	13	12	12
No. result demonstrators	12	20	20	12	8
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by specialists	10	6	5	4	5
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by district agents	0	0	0	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	2	2	8	8	2
Attendance at all training meetings	96	68	126	115	112
Number club meetings held by leaders without agent present	36	31	31	45	36
Total no. demonstrations given by leaders	72	78	108	73	80
Total no. talks or discussions by leaders		91	88	51	60

1. Home Demonstration Club Officers

There will be 12 club president, 12 vice presidents, 12 secretary-treasurers, whose responsibility it will be to preside over the club meetings and transact other businesses of the club pertaining to the offices which they hold. New presidents will be elected before the fall meeting of the county federation and will be trained in the duties of their office at that meeting.

2. Subject Matter Leaders

There will be 24 foods leaders, 24 house furnishings leaders, 24 home management leaders and 12 clothing leaders. Seven leader-training meetings will be held by extension specialists or by a commercial demonstrator to train leaders for the demonstrations which

they will give.

3. Federation Goal Chairmen

There will be 12 Federation Goal Chairmen who will be responsible for planned recreation within their club at intervals. They will cooperate with youth leaders of other organizations in sponsoring planned recreation and for using to better advantage the community houses that are located in the three rural communities. They will encourage 4-H Club work and will assist in providing leadership for summer 4-H groups.

4. Program Development Chairmen

The 12 program development chairmen are charged with the responsibility of ascertaining local needs on a community basis and for discussing ways and means to meet these needs. They help to formulate objectives and long time goals. With the help of the members they prepare a summary of recommendations for the county planning meeting and collect information for the annual club summary of activities.

5. 4-H Club Leaders

The 4-H Club leader will be responsible for keeping her club informed as to 4-H Club activities within the county. She will also assist in securing project leaders for club members living in her community.

B. 4-H Club

	<u>No. in</u> <u>1950</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>1951</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>1952</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>Goal for</u> <u>1954</u>
No. of 4-H Club officers	55	78	74	79	83
No. adult project leaders	21	28	28	30	20
No. junior leaders	9	3	3	2	2
No. result demonstrators	6	6	7	0	2
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	0	0	0	0	1
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by district agent	0	0	0	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	5	2	16	8	8

	No. in <u>1940</u>	No. in <u>1941</u>	No. in <u>1942</u>	No. in <u>1943</u>	Goal for <u>1944</u>
No. of meetings at which leaders were trained by personnel in 4-H department.	0	1	1	0	0
Attendance at leader training meetings	5	4	46	12	20
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	7	4	11	4	6
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	12	16	24	33	36
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	14	42	24	17	20
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	2	3	8	4	4

Plans for Training and Using Leaders for 4-H Club Work

1. Organization Leaders

There will be 16 club presidents, 16 vice presidents, 16 secretary-treasurers, 16 reporters and 16 song leaders whose responsibility it will be to preside over each club meeting and to transact the business of the club relating to their offices. These officers will be trained individually and will also be given group instructions at the first meeting of the County Council.

2. Project Leaders

Adult project leaders will be secured for at least 12 out of school summer groups. These and other leaders who will work with individual club members will be given project instruction by the agent prior to beginning work with these groups.

3. Junior Leaders

Junior leaders will be used to assist members with their projects. During summer vacation others will be enlisted to assist with project instruction.

4. Handicraft Leaders

Leaders assisting with camp handicraft will be trained by the agent before the week of camp.

VIII. PROBLEMS IN CARRYING OUT EXTENSION PROGRAM AND PLANS FOR MEETING SAME

The several problems affecting the extension program in Charlotte County as I see them are as follows:

1. The employment of many of the most active club members in nearby industrial plants. While this means more money for home furnishings and improvements it deprives the extension program of some of its more active leaders, those who are in a position to devote some of their time to community affairs.
2. The inability of many women to drive has been given repeatedly as the reason for not actively participating in extension activities.
3. Lack of telephone service in many of the rural areas making communication difficult.
4. Complacency on the part of many individuals preventing their making their best contribution to the extension program.

These obstacles will be a challenge in presenting a program which fits the needs of more individuals and which in itself will serve to attract them to more active participation.

An attempt will be made to reach an even greater number by means of the radio, newspaper, personal visits and contacts by active club members and through the 4-H program.

Problems affecting the 4-H program are:

1. The need for more active adult leadership.
2. The need for closer supervision of project activities.
3. Lack of sufficient in-school-time with the club members of high school age to present an effective program.
4. Inability to retain the interest of many older club members.

A continued effort will be made to secure needed adult leaders who in turn will help to provide the project guidance needed. This, I believe, will result in a higher percentage of completions and better quality of project work. By introducing more challenging projects it may be possible to retain older and more experienced club members.

IX. WORK WITH OTHER AGENCIES

1. County Health Department

The agent will at all times cooperate with any program of the county

health department, and will help in publicizing any program which is to the best interest of public health in the county.

2. T. B. Association

The agent will be a contributing member of the T. B. Association and will encourage her club members to cooperate through participation and services and to encourage others to do the same.

3. Red Cross

The agent will maintain her membership in the Red Cross and will serve as chairman of the foods committee in time of disaster. She will encourage active participation of her club members in membership drives and special activities.

4. Woman's Clubs

The agent will maintain active membership in the Keysville Woman's Club and will assist in securing program material when requested.

5. County Mobilization Committee

The agent is a member of the county mobilization committee and will cooperate in any activities if and when her service may be needed.

6. County Mobilization Committee

The agent is a member of the Keysville F. T. A. and will assist with programs and material when called upon.

7. Soil Conservation and A. S. C.

The agent will cooperate with these programs in anyway possible.

8. County Fair, Farnville Five County Fair, and Lynchburg Farm Show

The agent will serve on committees and will attend committee and board meetings and assist in anyway possible in putting on these events.

X. PLANS FOR DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING PUBLIC RELATIONS

A. & B. Elected Representatives and General Public

The agent will endeavor at all times to develop good public relations with elected representatives and with the general public by using every opportunity to inform them of the work being done by the extension service and by cooperating in answering requests for services in-so-far as possible. She will at all times avoid participation in activities of

a political nature or those of a controversial nature or anything that would savor of partisanship.

C. & D. Co-workers and Other Professional Workers

Public relations with co-workers and other professional workers will be strengthened through a discussion at staff meetings of problems of mutual interest that arise from time to time. An effort will be made to understand the duties and responsibilities of each and to exhibit professional courtesy and understanding at all times.

XI. PLANS FOR RECORDING AND EVALUATING PROGRAM AS PLANNED FOR 1954

The agent will review her plan of work at intervals to check the progress that is being made. She will also study monthly and annual reports and check her own progress against state summaries and statistics as received from the state extension office. These will be reviewed with the district supervisor for help in correcting weaknesses that may be evident.

XII. PLANS FOR PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

1. The agent will continue to maintain active membership and to fill an office in both the State H. D. Agents' Association and in the State Home Economics Association.
2. She will endeavor to keep herself informed by reading subject matter articles in the several professional magazines to which she subscribes.
3. She will attend agent work shops and short courses when available in order to develop needed skills and techniques which will contribute to her efficiency.
4. She will avail herself of any trips, field or educational, and will attend district and state professional meetings which will enlarge her capacity for service.