

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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Home Demonstration

Title

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1959

**Hacklenburg
County**

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1959 PROGRAM

The Two (2) most outstanding contributions made to family living as a result of this year's program were made, in this agent's opinion, by the 4-H Project group started and by the Home Demonstration Club Federation Program of Work which was Home Grounds Beautification.

The 4-H Project group revived interest in 4-H Club work and opened the door to the many joys of preparing food for twelve (12) little 4-H'ers. Through working on this project, the 4-H'ers changed in skills, knowledge, attitudes and behavior, as they gave demonstrations, prepared food for others and helped others through what they had learned.

Home Grounds Beautification, Mecklenburg County's Home Demonstration Federation Program of Work, contributed much to family living. Through improving the surroundings, the home demonstration members began making their homes look better, and they encouraged others to improve their surroundings and homes. New bulbs and different flowers were planted which increased the beauty of the county.

I The County Situation at the time the Program was Planned.

Mecklenburg County has an area of 675 square miles which is divided into eight (8) magisterial districts, with a population of 33,497, of which 6,883 live in the towns and 26,614 live in the rural areas. There are 3,783 farms in the county with a population of 20,810. The non-farm population in the rural areas numbers 5,804. Fifty-two (52) percent of the total population is non-white.

Mecklenburg County is situated in the bright tobacco belt, with tobacco being the chief source of farm income. Thus the economic and social life of the county centers largely around the growing, harvesting and selling of the tobacco crop. During the winter months and early Spring, the Home Demonstration members attend the Home Demonstration meetings and take an active part in their functionings. However, during the late Spring, Summer and into Autumn, the tobacco crops occupy the attention of the entire family.

The income from the summer of 1959 has been cut due to drought and the inferior growing season, but not drastically.

Last year a new garment factory opened in Chase City and the increased number of employees in other factories have supplemented the farm income in many rural homes. With the added increase of income from industry as well as farm income, the total income of some families has increased and thus the standard of living has been raised somewhat.

The facilities in the county are very helpful in many instances. There are 4-H Clubs in all eight (8) of the county schools. The faculties and the School Board work very cooperatively with the Extension Agents. If any school is needed for any extra activity of the 4-H or Home Demonstration Clubs, they are available.

The Home Economics kitchen of the Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative is available to the agent for use with 4-H Club project groups and also for Leader training meetings. This is an excellent place to hold meetings on laundry or food, because it is fully equipped. One home demonstration club also uses it as their meeting place when they have food meetings.

More of the rural people have telephones which is a help to the over-all program. Without the phone many women would miss many of the meetings and important dates that come up unexpectedly. All in-county telephone bills are paid by the county, which is an added boost to the effectiveness of the program.

Recreation facilities are available to most every family in Mecklenburg. There are public pools. The John H. Kerr Dam has created many areas for swimming and fishing. There are theaters in the county and town centers for the youth in Clarksville, South Hill and Chase City.

II County Extension Program - Adult

A. Over-all Program

1. County Agricultural Extension Service Board.

a. At present the county has several committees - some inactive. They include foods, clothing, youth and some agricultural committees. These committees have not been organized as yet into one County Board.

2. Home Economics Council.

a. The County Home Economics Council is composed of the County Home Economics Committees which are food, clothing and the County Home Demonstration Club Committee. To this agent's knowledge, the Home Economics Council did not meet this year, but the County Home Demonstration Club Committee helped in the carrying out of the program and in the planning of next year's program.

3. County Home Economics Committee.

a. The two (2) home economics committees in Mecklenburg County are clothing and foods with nine (9) members on each who represent the various sections of the county, low, medium and high income and whose interests are varied.

Neither the foods or clothing committee met as a group, but the agent contacted most of them individually and talked of the goals set and the methods that would be used to meet the goals set up for 1960. Several of the foods and clothing committee members were instrumental in getting the county-wide home demonstration club program to include something that was needed.

4. County Home Demonstration Club Committee.

The County Home Demonstration Club Committee is the county's home demonstration planning and executive body for the clubs. This committee is composed of the president of each Home Demonstration Club, the committee officers, and the past county home demonstration committee presidents.

This committee is used to further the interests of home demonstration work in the county, to plan and promote the program, to advise and assist the agent in serving people, to get reports on the year's accomplishments and to evaluate the program.

B. Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas.

1. Foods.

Foods received the major emphasis in the 1959 Home Demonstration Program of Work. Five (5) months were devoted to Foods.

Problems or needs recognized by the women included:

Women work away from home and wanted to know comparative costs and values of commercially prepared, partially prepared foods, and homemade mixes. It was recognized that diets lacked food nutrients and variety found in salads. To eliminate the waste of vegetables and fruits, information was desired on the preservation of these foods in the form of pickles and relishes. The women wanted to learn the standards and quality of canned or frozen foods in an attempt to save money and yet have good, wholesome, nutritious food. The women also wanted to learn how to plan and serve more attractive meals to their families in order for the meals to be more appealing to their families.

It was the agent's desire that the women learn how to make and use a master mix, to become aware of the values and the comparative cost of the master mix as compared with the commercial ones, to plan better meals both appealing and nutritious, through the use of salads and good planning. Through studying the standards in canned and frozen foods, the agent desired to make the women aware of the differences in standards, and to learn how to get the most nutritious food for the least money. The agent wanted the women to learn new methods of preserving fruits and vegetables and thus utilize more of the home products in preparing meals.

Twenty-two (22) foods leaders were trained by Extension Food Specialists to give method demonstrations on "Mixes," "Salads," "Standards in Frozen and Canned Foods," and "Pickles and Relishes." Mrs. Mary Scott, Home Economist for the Macklenburg Electric Cooperative, trained foods leaders to give the method demonstration on "Serving Meals with Appetite Appeal." The Home Demonstration Agent gave five (5) demonstrations on "Pickles and Relishes" and three (3) on "Standards in Frozen and Canned Foods." Leaders assisted the agent in two (2) of these demonstrations.

The Chase City and Buckhorn Home Demonstration Clubs prepared educational exhibits on "The Master Mix" at the South Central Fair.

Keen interest was shown on the subject of Mixes. At least twenty (20) homemakers called the office for the Master Mix Bulletin. At least 487 contacts were made on foods, and 950 food ideas were used by home demonstration members and others as a result of the demonstration as reported in the home demonstration club summary.

Numerous homemakers have commented that the Master Mix saves time and was quite a bit of help in preparing foods.

Interest was such in the "Pickles and Relish" demonstrations that homemakers made better use of the fruits and vegetables they had and exchanged recipes in many instances to get new ideas and to allow for variations.

Actual results have not been noted on "Standards in Frozen and Canned Foods" and "Meals with Appetite Appeal."

2. Clothing.

The subject of clothing was second in popularity in the 1959 Program of Work for the Home Demonstration Clubs and two (2) months was devoted to this subject.

Homemakers felt the need for learning how to select clothing which would be good line and design for various types of individuals. They also felt the need of learning to buy more comfortable and attractive shoes that would give satisfaction.

In an attempt to meet the needs of the homemakers, the following information was presented:

Colors suitable for the individual - line and design for different figure types such as short, tall, thin and stout. (This information included collars, necklines, belts, waistline, hips, shoulders and hemlines).

Proper Care of Shoes and Feet - What to look for in selection of shoes for comfort as well as durability and the occasion for which they are to be worn.

Nineteen (19) clothing leaders were trained by the Extension Clothing Specialist to conduct method demonstrations on "Buying Shoes" and "Line and Design for the Individual".

At least 315 contacts were made. Home Demonstration Club members indicated that they had used 629 clothing ideas. Members indicated that they had helped other homemakers with clothing information 366 times.

Very little interest was shown as a result of this clothing program.

3. Rural Arts.

"Gifts for All Occasions" was selected because there seemed to be a great amount of money spent by homemakers for gifts. Homemakers wanted to know how to make attractive and inexpensive gifts, as well as how to wrap them attractively.

Emphasis was placed on color combinations, good construction, use of materials around home and inexpensive wrappings.

Sixteen (16) leaders were trained by the Extension Rural Arts Specialist to give method demonstrations in the respective clubs.

Neel DuFree, Home Economist for the Virginia Electric and Power Company at Lawrenceville, conducted a special interest meeting on "Christmas Decorations." Balance, rhythm, color, design and proportion were stressed. Recipes were distributed.

The Wightman and Skipwith Clubs had educational exhibits at the South Central Fair on "Gifts for all Occasions." Keen interest was shown in the clubs as well as by the general public at the Fair.

Home Demonstration Club members reported 155 gifts were made.

4. Health and Safety.

As a result of previous classes in Home Nursing and First Aid, interest was aroused and a need was felt for more work on the Home Medicine Chest.

The Agent attempted to teach the homemakers how to organize their medicine chest, what went into a well equipped medicine chest, and the vital importance of having First Aid supplies.

It was planned that the County Health Department would cooperate with this part of the program and conduct a method demonstration in each club. When the time came, the Agent had to present the method demonstration at each club due to conflicts which arose in the Health Department activities.

The Finchley and Clarksville Home Demonstration Clubs had educational exhibits at the South Central Fair on the "Home Medicine Chest and First Aid Supplies." It was noted that these exhibits were of interest to many.

Sixty-five (65) Home Demonstration Club women improved their home medicine chests or purchased a new medicine chest.

5. Home and Community Beautification.

This was the County Federation Program of Work and was the same program as was selected last year. Homemakers felt a need for making their home grounds more attractive.

An attempt was made to help homemakers improve entrances, plant bulbs for spring blooming, identify property, plant flower borders and screen plantings where needed.

Ten (10) leaders presented timely information at various club meetings. The Agent distributed landscape notes at regular meetings.

Results in this area included the following:

- 32% of the club members improved entrances.
- 46% of the club members planted bulbs.
- 16% of the club women identified property.
- 42% of the club women planned flower borders.

This program aroused much interest throughout the county and many homes were made more attractive.

Story in Subject Matter Field.

In the field of Home Grounds Beautification, the home agent and the assistant county agent worked with the T. E. Brewer family in grading and landscaping their yard.

The house was built a few years ago on the outside of a curve, and on a slope downgrade. It is a ten (10) room, nicely built brick home. There was absolutely no yard, a very inadequate driveway and no trees nor shrubbery.

At the request of Mr. Brewer, the assistant county agent and home agent went to the Brewer farm to help with landscape problems. Assistance from Mr. A. S. Beecher, Extension Horticulturist, was requested, but it was found that he was unable to come due to his work load.

The assistant county agent and home agent made numerous visits and talked with Mr. and Mrs. Brewer about various methods of landscaping, and drew plans of different ways the yard could be landscaped, showing the driveway, walks, grading of the lawn, trees and shrubbery.

The Brewers graded their yard, planted trees and shrubbery, seeded the lawn, relocated the driveway and parking area. As a result of their action, the house and grounds have been transformed into an attractive setting that seems to be tied in with the surroundings and looks very livable.

C. Other Activities.

1. National Home Demonstration Club Week.

There was not an agent in the county during National Home Demonstration Club Week, but the County Committee met and National Home Demonstration Week was observed.

All clubs furnished flowers to the hospital in the county during the week which was a good public relations activity.

A newspaper article was written which showed other phases of Home Demonstration Club Work.

Eighteen (18) members attended the District Home Demonstration Federation Meeting which created interest in Home Demonstration Activities carried out in other counties.

2. Home Demonstration Club Achievement Day.

The Home Demonstration Clubs had their Achievement Day Program at the Boydton Elementary School on November 5th. Mrs. Mary A. Milton, Assistant Home Demonstration Agent in Charlotte County, presented an IPYE talk after a buffet supper. Reading Certificates were presented and the year's progress was enumerated. Thirty-nine (39) members and their families attended. The Achievement Day Program was planned as a means of evaluating the year's work. (Program is enclosed as Exhibit I.)

3. The Finchley Home Demonstration Club gave a needy boy a pig for his F. F. A. Project. They also gave baskets of good cheer to needy families at Christmas time.

4. The Clarksville Home Demonstration Club awards the outstanding girl in the county in Home Economics, a pin.

III. County Extension Program - Youth

A. Organization.

There is no active Honor Club, 4-H County Council nor Project Planning Committee in this county at this time.

B. 4-H Project Work.

The Farm and Home Electrification Project was selected as the 1959 county-wide project. The Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative and Virginia Electric and Power Company personnels, helped with the programs. Information on electrical terms, improving lighting in rooms, repairing service cords, replacing fuses, making extension cords and caring for electrical appliances was presented. They also visited an electrified farm and home. Printed materials, talks, method demonstrations, films and discussions were used in carrying out the entire program.

347 girls were enrolled in the electric project. Interest was keen and 80% of the girls enrolled completed the project.

As a result of the Electric Project, lighting in home was improved, fifty-three (53) lamps were made, three (3) chicken brooders were built, extension cords were made and repaired, new methods were used in caring for electrical equipment and most members replaced fuses. Edith Lacy Gordon was the 4-H Club girl delegate to the State Electric Congress in Richmond and she and Virginia Locks received county medals.

Exhibit No. 1

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

HOMESMAKER'S CREED

As Homemaker's we will strive to:

1. Have our organization foster the highest ideals in home, church, school and public life.

2. Have our home teach the community and help it to



3. Have cooperative leading forces in

4. Study the best work that we may do well done.

5. Be kind beyond membership; avoid thoughts and words that condemn; be more thoughtful than love-repeter; maintain the highest ideals of Christian life.

BOYDTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

6:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1959

1. of 11111111

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

HOMEMAKER'S CREED

As Homemakers We will strive to:

Have our organization foster the highest ideals in home, church, schools and public life.

Have our homes reach out in service to the community and help unite the people.

Have cooperation and progress the leading forces in our communities.

Study the best ways to do everyday work that we may find joy in common tasks well done.

Be kind beyond standards of charity, avoid thoughts and words that condemn; be more thoughtful than love requires; maintain the highest ideals of Christian life.

BOYDTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

6:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1939

PROGRAM

CAFETERIA

Buffet Supper 6:30 P. M.

AUDITORIUM

Mrs. A. D. Hart, County H. D. Chairman,
presiding

Group Singing. America The Beautiful

Devotionals. Mrs. Horace Gurley

Solo. . "Onward, Ever Onward".
Miss Jackie Hallett

Roll Call by Clubs . . . Mrs. J. C. Jeffress,
Secretary

Recognition of Achievements . Mrs. A. D. Hart

Awarding of Reading Certificates

Introduction of Speaker. . Miss Patsy R. Carr
H. D. Agent

Slides and Talk. Mrs. Mary A. Milton,
Ass't. H. D. Agent
Charlotte County
Former IFYE Del. to Belgium

Homemaker's Creed. H. D. Members

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber
 waves of grain,
 For purple mountain majesties, Above the
 fruited plain.
 America! America! God shed His grace
 on Thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees
 beyond the years
 Thine alabaster cities gleam undimm'd
 by human tears.
 America! America! God shed His grace on
 thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood,
 From sea to shining sea.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- Mrs. R. L. Andrews, Chairman, Chase City
- Mrs. S. W. Land, South Hill
- Mrs. A. D. Hart, Buckhorn

2. Foods.

There was not a single foods project in progress when this agent came to this county. However, during the summer, thirteen (13) 4-H girls were enrolled in foods projects. Twelve (12) of the thirteen (13) completed foods projects.

A Meal Preparation 4-H Project group was started in Boynton at the County Office Kitchen. Twelve (12) girls were enrolled and one (1) adult leader was in charge. Six (6) meetings were held, at which time the twelve (12) girls gave a total of eighteen (18) demonstrations.

The agent trained the leader in giving the demonstrations and the following things were taught:

1. Table setting and serving - Table Courtesy.
2. Preparing milk dishes.
3. Preparing salads.
4. Preparing vegetables.
5. Preparing meats.
6. Preparing desserts.

Two (2) meetings were held monthly at which time talks and demonstrations by the agent, leader and club members were given. Pamphlets and bulletins were distributed. Discussions were held. Interest was very high, and most of the girls began cooking more in their homes. Parental approval was high. The members gained poise and self confidence in giving demonstrations.

The following girls received medals in food project work: Patsy Brooks, Sally Newman, Ann Reams and Melva Davis. Publicity was given through county-wide newspapers.

3. Clothing.

There were no clothing projects in progress in the county as far as this agent knew as of May 18th.

A "So You'd Like To Sew" project group was attempted in Chase City, but Summer presented too many activities for it to be successful. However, two (2) club members were enrolled in this project and have satisfactorily turned in their records.

C. Other Activities.

1. 4-H Camp.

Eighteen boys and eighteen (18) girls participated in camp activities at Camp Farrar in July. Helen Hobgood served as a Junior leader.

Members attending camp met new friends, increased knowledge through classes, developed leadership through participation in sports and as tribal leaders.

Five scholarships were given to 4-H members attending Camp Farrar by Mr. Frank Hassell, Principal of the LaCrosse Elementary School and the LaCrosse Ruritan Club.

2. 4-H Club State Short Course.

Eddie Rose Newman and Mildred Callahan attended the State 4-H Short Course from Mecklenburg County. Enthusiasm and interest was created through participating in classes and other activities. The two (2) girls were given scholarships by the County Home Demonstration Club Committee.

3. National 4-H Club Week.

Mecklenburg County held its annual county Share-The-Fun Contest in observance of National 4-H Club Week and also participated in the Share-The-Fun Contest between the counties of Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Nottoway, Amelia and Powhatan. A display of talent was exhibited. Interest, poise and confidence has been developed. Members have been inspired through competitive efforts.

4. 4-H Parade

Mecklenburg County 4-H'ers had one (1) float in the area 4-H Parade held in Lawrenceville. Few 4-H'ers participated in this activity. It is felt that interest has decreased and that the Parade no longer fulfills the purpose for which it was intended.

5. South Central Fair.

Mecklenburg County 4-H members participated in the South Central Fair which was held the week of October 12 - 17. Forty-nine (49) entries were made by 4-H girls representing every school club. The premium list was small and the prizes very small. The quality of the individual exhibits was very good. Two (2) educational exhibits on electricity and 4-H Home Economics projects were exhibited by the boys and girls and both received second prize.

6. 4-H Yearbook.

The agents compiled a 4-H Yearbook which enabled club members and agents to know dates of club meetings and other 4-H activities. (A copy is attached as Exhibit No. 2).

IV Scope of Work.

A.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. H. D. Clubs	12	11	9	9	9
Membership	248	248	248	236	189
No. H. D. Groups *(unorganized)	-	-	-	-	-
Membership	-	-	-	-	-
No. 4-H Clubs	18	22	25	26	19
Membership	258	298	382	332	347
No. YMW Clubs	-	-	-	-	-
Membership	-	-	-	-	-
No. Community Clubs	-	-	-	-	-
Membership	-	-	-	-	-
No. Home Ec. Committees	-	2	2	2	2
No. General Interest Committees	-	-	2	2	-
No. Youth Committees	-	-	1	1	1
No. Other Organizations	-	-	-	-	-
No. Farm & Home Dev. Families	-	-	-	-	-
No. Other Families reached	2000	2300	2690	2525	1300
No. Different families reached	2258	2450	2725	2650	1050

*Report all groups that met 3 or more times a year.

B. What was done to increase Scope of Work and Inform the Public about Home Demonstration Work.

Newspaper publicity was used by the agent during the year to inform the public about Home Demonstration Work. Through the newspapers, non-club members received Extension information.

Special publicity was given during National Home Demonstration Club Week and other special activities to inform others of Home Demonstration work.

The South Central Fair was one big way of reaching many people not in organized Home Demonstration Work. The educational exhibits prepared on phases of the year's program informed the public of some of the Home Demonstration Clubs' activities.

Home visits were also used to work with people not in organized club work.

V Leadership.

A. Growth of Leadership.

	1957	1958	1959
1. Overall Program Leaders			
a. County Agricultural Ext. Service Board	-	-	-
b. Youth Council	-	8	4
c. Home Economics Council	-	15	35

2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. organizational leaders	36	33	33	33	36
No. Project leaders (subject matter)	27	57	66	72	69
No. Federation Program of work chairmen	12	11	11	9	9
No. program development leaders	12	11	11	9	9
No. result demonstrators	13	6	26	7	0
No. training mtgs. by specialist	2	7	5	5	4
No. training meetings by district agents	1	0	1	0	1
No. training meetings by agents	0	3	4	1	0
No. training meetings by others	0	0	4	0	1
Attendance at all training meetings	27	128	248	129	80
No. meetings held without an agent	21	59	62	72	70
No. meetings leaders assisted	3	5	5	0	5
Demonstrations by leaders	29	49	62	45	67
Talks and discussions by leaders	12	15	32	26	35

3. 4-H Club Leadership

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. Club Officers	80	153	175	175	132
No. adult project leaders	2	26	14	8	81
No. junior project leaders	2	3	6	9	8-
No. result demonstrators	0	4	14	26	-
No. training meetings by specialists	1	0	0	0	0
No. training meetings by dist. agents	1	0	0	0	0
No. training meetings by agent	0	2	2	3	0
No. training mtgs. by members club dept.	1	0	0	0	0
No. training meetings by others	0	1	2	0	0
Total attendance at ldr. tr. meetings	21	24	21	8	0
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	1	4	3	6	3
No. club mtgs. held by ldr. w/out agent	-	67	33	26	10
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	-	-	11	-	5
No. demonstrations given by adult ldrs.	-	67	49	42	11
No. demonstrations given by jr. leaders	-	16	22	0	0

B. Leadership Story

Patsy Brooks, age 13, lives with her family in Boynton. She has two (2) sisters. Her Father is employed in Clarksville and her Mother has part-time employment. Patsy assumes much of the responsibility in caring for her two (2) younger sisters, and assists her Mother with the housework.

Patsy has been in 4-H Club work three (3) years and has done a creditable job with her projects. This year she completed Electricity and Meal Preparation projects.

The opportunity arose for Patsy to attend 4-H Camp. Children in her cabin accepted her as a leader and helped her to maintain discipline during the week. Patsy served as Scribe in her Colony, and was instrumental in getting the various teams organized in her colony. The 4-H boys and girls respected her leadership, and fell in quickly with her useful suggestions on the various discussions that had to be made at the talent shows and stunt shows. Patsy was a participant and she helped boost the spirit and enthusiasm of the club members.

After returning from camp, Patsy helped the home agent get 4-H girls interested in a Meal Preparation Project and showed considerable interest and ability as a leader. Mrs. Brooks, Patsy's Mother, caught some of Patsy's enthusiasm and volunteered to be the adult leader of the club. She conducted the meeting in the agent's absence, and did excellent demonstrations in the various fields the project covered.

Patsy further developed her leadership abilities by assuming the responsibility of getting the club members information concerning the project classes. She phoned or contacted each member before the meeting, and this agent feels certain that this was a boom to the effectiveness of the project group.

Patsy gave four (4) foods demonstrations to the group, and her project work merited a county medal in food preparation.

The agent feels that Extension played a big part in developing Patsy's leadership through encouraging her to take part and giving her responsibilities that she mastered. Self-confidence and poise was developed through these experiences. Other club members respected her and went to her for assistance.

VI Special Consideration.

A. Achievement Story.

Mecklenburg County was without a Home Agent for two (2) months. Project leaders were trained by specialists and were able to conduct regular club meetings and method demonstrations in the absence of a Home Agent. Organizational leaders had a part in helping to hold the clubs together at this time. It is felt that the interest of these leaders played a great part in keeping the Home Demonstration Program functioning.

B. Progress in Developing Good Public Relations in the county with the following:

1. Co-Workers. This agent has made every effort to cooperate in every way possible with her fellow workers. She feels there exists a cooperative spirit and that there is a feeling of togetherness among the staff.

2. General Public. This agent has tried to develop good public relations with the general public through home visits, individual contacts, phone calls, group contacts and showing interest in various activities.

3. Elected Representatives. The contacts this agent has had with elected representatives has been quite pleasant. She has met all members of the Board of Supervisors and upon seeing them in her office always strives to uphold the Extension policy.

4. Commercial Interests. Relationships in the businesses in the county have been very pleasant. The Bankers in the county sponsored the County-wide Share-The-Fun Contest.

Various business concerns throughout the county furnished the necessary "Ads" for the County 4-H Newspaper published prior to the Seven County 4-H Parade.

Ed's Restaurant in Boynton cooperated fully with the agent in helping set up the coffee urn at the Annual Home Demonstration Achievement Banquet.

The Cooperative Supply, Inc., in South Hill and Clarkeville, sponsored the 4-H Club Calendars for 1959.

Five (5) 4-H Club signs were erected on the five (5) major highways that enter the county. The money was donated for these signs by five (5) interested business concerns in the county. Had there not been good public relations in the county, this project would not have been possible.

5. Other Professional Workers. Relationships with all principals and teachers in the county schools have been pleasant. They are willing to cooperate in every way to strengthen the 4-H program.

Home Economists and Engineers from the Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City and those from the Virginia Electric and Power Companies in South Boston and Lawrenceville, cooperate with the Extension Program each time they are invited and always do an excellent job. They have conducted 4-H meetings in the schools, judged in the Fair and conducted leader training meetings, as well as assisted in building floats and exhibits.

C. Professional Improvement. The agent has read all subject matter furnished her by the specialists on various subjects being studied throughout the year. She also reads publications to improve herself professionally, such as Extension Service Review, Daily and County Newspapers, Extension Division News, Forecast, What's New in Home Economics, Journal of Home Economics, Progressive Farmer, Farm Journal, Successful Farming, Better Homes and Gardens, Ladies Home Journal, McCall's, American Home, Modern Miss, Reader's Digest, National 4-H News, Good Housekeeping.

The agent attended the New Workers Conference at V. F. I., also the Institute of Rural Affairs, the Agents' Conference, District meetings for agents and agent-training meetings on subject matter.

VII Appraisal of This Past Year's Program.

The Extension Program was greatly handicapped this past year because of the illness and resignation of the home agent. There was a period of two (2) months without a Home Demonstration Agent in the county, before this Agent was assigned to come to the county.

This agent feels that some good was accomplished in the county in spite of the many unfortunate circumstances. Sixteen (16) out-of-school 4-H projects were completed after this agent came to the county and much interest has been created in 4-H as far as out-of-school projects are concerned.

The Home Economics Extension Program could be improved in the year ahead if more time were spent on program planning in order to get a well planned program to meet the needs of the people. Revived interest is needed. More work in out-of-school groups of 4-H members will be a great help in developing a better 4-H program. More 4-H leaders are needed.