

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Dinwiddie County

Dec. 1, 1946 - Nov. 30, 1947

Elnora S. Perry

Local Home Demonstration Agent

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SCOPE OF WORK

In Dinwiddie County there are twelve (12) Home Demonstration clubs, one (1) mother's club, and one (1) Demonstration Community Club with an enrollment of (235) two hundred and thirty-five members. Sixty-five (65) other women were reached by home demonstration club members. The thirteen (13) 4-H clubs have an enrollment of two hundred and ten (210) members. The home agent reached (28) one hundred and twenty-five through other groups. The community and neighborhood leaders reached three hundred and fifty (350) families this year. Other methods used to reach families were through publicity, circular letters, home visits and office calls. Seventy five (75) families were reached this way. Estimated total number of families reached this year were (670) six hundred and seventy and according to the 1945 census there are (668) eight hundred and sixty-eight farm families in Dinwiddie County.

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB PROGRAM

Adult Project Work

The Home Demonstration Program for 1947 was determined by county needs as the District and home agents, and club members saw them; these needs were brought to and discussed at the County Planning Meeting.

Subject matter fields in which work was done were: Production and Conservation (Nutrition and Health) Consumer Problems; Uses of Boys in House Furnishings; Extension organization and Planning. These fields were worked in because of the county needs as brought out and discussed at the county meeting held during the Fall of 1946.

Production and Conservation (Nutrition and Health)

Sugar Saving Recipes

The objectives set up in this project were to teach club women that they could still have homemade cakes and candies while sugar was rationed by using small amounts of sugar and with sugar substitutes, such as molasses and honey. Methods used to teach the project were: home visits, method demonstrations, and bulletins. As a result of the project one hundred and seventy-two (172) Sugar Saving Recipes were tried this year.

Meal Planning and Preparation

The objectives set up for this project were to teach the importance of planning well balanced meals for the family using the foods produced and consumed on the farm; and various ways to prepare and serve the same food. Methods used to teach this project were: method demonstrations, home visits, circular letters, bulletins and discussions. As a result of this project 46,424 meals were planned.

Food Preservation

The objectives set up for this course were to teach the correct methods used in preserving foods and to preserve farm products for future uses. Methods used in carrying out this project were, home visits, bulletins, method demonstrations, discussions and circular letters. The results obtained from this project were: 11,297 quarts of fruits, 14,696 quarts of vegetables, and 250 quarts of meat canned and preserved; 100 gallons of fruit and 136 gallons of vegetables in brine and 260 lbs of fruits dried. Twenty-one (21) steam pressure canners and thirty-five jar lifters purchased.

Poultry Improvement Project

The objectives set up for this project were to teach the importance of good housing, sanitation, feeding and the selection of a good breed of birds. Methods used to carry out this project were circular letters, home visits, and bulletins. Mr. A. L. Dean, Associate Poultry Specialist, made the first scoring of the twelve (12) Poultry Improvement Flocks in the spring and will make the second scoring sometime during December. As a result of this project three other poultry owners have made improvements.

House Furnishings (From Bags)

The objectives set up for this project were: to teach farm women to be both economical and conservative, and the many uses of the bag, that many times is thrown away. Methods used in carrying out this project were: Home visits, method demonstrations, group meetings, discussions, bulletins, circular letters and leader training meetings. Miss Ruth Jamison, House Furnishing Specialist, conducted a slip cover clinic. As a result of this project 1,115 articles have been made from bags which include bed and table linen, towels, rugs, chair covers, sofa covers, curtains, trunk covers, and scarves.

Handicraft

The objectives set up for this project were to teach the women how to use the frame in making mats and other house furnishings. As a result of this project (221) two hundred and twenty-one pieces were made on the frame and fifteen frames purchased.

Club Accomplishments this Year

Reams H. D. Club have met ten times this year; with seven women enrolled. The following accomplishments were made: made 50 articles from bags which included such things as bed linen, table linen, slip covers, towels and mats; purchased seven (7) jar lifters, canned 2000 quart of fruit and vegetables, purchased one steam pressure canner and sold \$1310.00 worth of fruits and vegetables; \$459.64 worth of poultry and poultry products, with two members in the poultry improvement project. This is one of the communities in the county working on "extra money through a better selection and display of products of the city market.

Hebron H. D. Club which was organized in March of this year, with a membership of 16 women, made the following accomplishments: purchased three frames, made 21 pieces on the frame, canned 1,213 quarts of fruit, 1,097 quarts of vegetables, 103 quarts of preserves, 34 quarts of pickle and dried 45 lbs of fruits. Two members are in the Poultry Improvement Project.

Accomplishments of One Club Member

• Mrs. Mary E. Chapman of Little Hill H. D. Club is a member of the Poultry Improvement project, has two cinder block chicken houses and sold \$800.00 worth of poultry and poultry products this year.

Other Activities

County Advisory Board

The Dinwiddie County Advisory Board meets three times annually. The objectives set up for this organization are: The planning and carrying out of the Extension Program in the county, send delegates to the State Advisory Board, sponsor Garden Towns, Achievement Day and support the H. D. Calendar program. Methods used to carry on this organization are group meeting circular letters and home visits. The accomplishments of the organization this year have been a constitution and By-Laws for the organization approved and adopted. Plans for an annual Rally Achievement Day and Farmers Conference.

County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee met twice this year. This organization is composed of club leaders and presidents from each Home Demonstration club in the county. The objectives set up for this organization were to plan a county calendar program for

H. D. Clubs based upon the needs of the people, set up county or club goals, check on the progress of the program and assist in training new officers.

This committee sponsored a spring H. D. Club Exhibit and Rally during high school commencement week, with one hundred articles made from bags on display and approximately two hundred (200) persons registered as having seen the exhibit.

Tour

One garden Tour was held in Reams community during June. The objectives of this tour was to see what recommended practices of the Extension Service had been used by these farmers and the results obtained from these practices, and to see if any improvements had been made by the same persons since 1946.

National Home Demonstration Club Week

National Home Demonstration Club Week was observed by three clubs in the county this year by holding all Day Slip Cover Clinics, in which Club members were taught how to make slip covers.

The objectives of this week are to reach now-club members and interested people by having a county-wide meeting or a specific piece of work to be done by the various clubs throughout the county which will be of interest to all rural people.

Method Demonstrations and discussions were used. As a result of the slip cover clinics, six sets of slip covers have been completed.

Poultry Culling Schools

Four Poultry Culling Schools were held in Dinwiddie County during October by Mr. A. L. Dean, Associate Poultry Specialist. The objectives for these schools were to teach farm men and women how to cull their flock and to show their neighbors how to cull for better egg production; how to select a good breed of poultry, and the importance of housing, sanitation, and feeding. As a result of these schools six other farmers have culled their flock.

Achievement Day

The County Achievement Day was held at the Dinwiddie Training School, Dinwiddie, Virginia, November 6, 1947, with 75 adults present.

The objectives of this observation was to see what accomplishments had been made by the clubs, hear reports and see the exhibits on display.

Methods used to get farmers to attend this meeting were home visits and circular letters.

One hundred and ninety-eight entries were made at the Achievement Day, which included articles made from bags, canned foods, handicraft,

farm products such as turnips, tobacco, corn, peanuts, dairy products, and small grain seed.

State Farmers Conference

The State Farmers Conference was held at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, April 10, 1947, with twenty-two (22) farm men and women from Dinwiddie County in attendance. The object of this meeting is to learn the latest farm and home practices as recommended by the Agricultural Extension Service.

Methods used to get farmers to attend the meeting were circular letters and home visits.

As a result of this meeting the farmers in Dinwiddie County have become interested in Home Water Supply and improved and better poultry and livestock.

State Advisory Board

The Annual Meeting of the State Advisory Board was held in Hanover County, September 3 - 4, 1947. The purposes of this organization are to sponsor the Live - At - Home Program in the counties throughout the State and hear reports from county delegates on the Demonstration Community and for the Farm and Home Unit. The farmers in this county are working on the goals set up by the State Advisory Board.

Leadership

There are two types of leadership in Dinwiddie County. They are club officers and project or subject-matter leaders. The objectives of the club officers are to preside at the club meetings and to keep the organization functioning. These leaders are trained by the home agent and specialist. The objectives set up for the Project or Subject-Matter Leaders are to give or assist in giving demonstrations, lead discussions and distribute bulletins on helpful information obtained from the County H. B. Committee Advisory Board or home agent. These leaders are trained by the home agent and specialist. Methods used to train these leaders were home visits, group meetings, circular letters, method demonstrations, and Leader Training Meetings. As a result of this type of leadership, 4 method demonstrations and two discussions among adult groups have been held in the absence of the home agent.

Leader Training Meeting

Six Leader Training Meetings were held this year, five by Specialist and one by the home agent. The objective set up for these training meetings were to teach the subject matter or project leaders how to give or assist in giving demonstrations.

Miss Ruth Jameson, Home Furnishings Specialist, conducted a Leader Training Meeting on Slip covers with 23 present. Mr. A. L.

Dean, conducted four leader Training meetings on Culling Poultry with 65 Present.

Reaching people by Other Means

The press was another way to reach people throughout the county. The press was used to announce the Poultry Culling Schools and the Achievement Day, and the results from lack of them.

The objectives of the press are to announce Extension meetings and other activities sponsored by the Extension Service.

4-H CLUB WORK

County Council

The 4th county council is an organization composed of 4-H Clubs officers and leaders, from each club in the county. The objectives set up for this organization are to plan the Program for the 4-H Clubs in the county, help train new officers, plan county activities for the 4-H clubs; send delegates to the State 4-H Scout Clubs and Wild Life conference and check the progress of the clubs.

The county Council meets twice annually At the fall meeting it plans a program for the 4-H clubs, and at the spring meeting they check the progress of the program and plan for county and state meetings.

Projects for 4th club girls were as follows: Housekeeping, Clothing Care and Make or Remake; Food Preparation and preservation and Bread Making. The accomplishments were of the 210 girls enrolled 195 completed their projects.

Project Work

The 4-H Program was determined by needs and desires as brought in by club members, leaders and the agents, with these in mind the projects for the clubs were selected.

Subject matter fields carried were as follows: Housekeeping, Clothing and Food and Nutrition. These fields were worked in because of the needs and interest shown in them by club members and leaders.

Housekeeping

One hundred and thirty-six (136) girls enrolled in the House-keeping Project. The objectives set up for this project were: to teach the girls how to care for their room properly, how to set the table and wash dishes correctly, how to make table mats and how to make a Laundry bag and garment protector.

Methods used in carrying out the project were: discussions, method demonstrations; and circular letters. As a result of this project 100 girls completed the requirements with three hundred and thirty-five articles made.

Clothing - Care and Make or Remake

Fifty-four girls enrolled in the Clothing project this year. The objectives set up for this project were to teach the girls how to wash and darn their socks, store winter and summer clothes correctly; how to wash and block a sweater, and how to make simple garments such as, blouses, skirts, aprons and dresses, how to make over clothes for themselves and others; and how to dye a bag or garment. Methods used to teach this project were method demonstrations, discussions, bulletins, circular letters and home visits. As a result of this project, forty-five (45) of the girls completed their projects and all of them did some of the work required.

Food Selection, Preparation and / or Bake

Sixty-eight (68) girls enrolled in the project. The objectives set up for this project were as follows: to teach the girls how to measure dry and liquid ingredients accurately; how to make good quick breads in a short length of time; how to make two hour rolls. how to select vegetables for cooking, the preparation, and cooking of the same vegetable in various ways; the cooking of vegetables in small quantities of water and the uses of this liquid. Methods used to teach this project were bulletins, home visits, discussions, and method demonstrations. As a result of this project the girls learned how to prepare and serve simple meals; the importance of accurate measurements and sixty-two of them completed the requirements for the project.

Food Preservation

One hundred and fifteen (115) girls enrolled in the food preservation project. The objectives set up for this project were as follows: to teach the girls how to select and prepare foods for canning; how to use the steam pressure canner and hot water bath; and how to judge canned foods. Methods used in this project were circular letters; bulletins, method demonstrations, discussions and home visits. As a result of this project 108 girls completed the requirements.

Accomplishment of One Club

Grubby Road 4-H Club with an enrollment of twenty-two (22) girls canned and helped to can 1776 quarts of fruits and vegetables. Only one of these girls had been a member of 4-H Club Prior to 1946.

Other Activities

State 4-H Short Course

Two girls from Dinwiddie County attended the State 4-H Short Course which was held at Virginia State College, Virginia, June 17-20, 1947.

The purposes of this meeting were as follows: to teach 4-H Club members from over the State to join others for work, play and fellowship and to give information and encourage better service for club, community and country. Methods used at this meeting were, tours, movies, method demonstrations and talks and group singing. As a result of this meeting the 4-H club girls learned to sing new 4-H club songs and the duties and obligations of 4-H club members to their club, community and country.

Rural Life Sunday

Rural Life Sunday was observed by members of the 4-H clubs in Darville District, at Shiloh Baptist Church, Sunday, June 8, 1947. The objectives set up for this meeting was to acquaint the public with the work of the 4-H clubs. Methods used to work up and carry out this program were circulars, letters and home visits. At the close of the program two movies were shown entitled "On the Road To Tomorrow" and "Saving Your Victory Crop."

Wild Life Conference

The Wild Life conference was held at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, August 5-7, 1947, with one girl from Dinwiddie County attending. The purposes of this conference were to teach the names of beneficial and harmful insects and animals; and to teach rural boys and girls to preserve the beneficial wild life.

Methods used at this meeting were movies, slides, talks, tours, and discussions. As a result of this meeting the 4-H club members have pledged to help preserve beneficial wild life and destroy harmful wild life.

Achievement Day

The First County Achievement Day for 4-H Clubs was held at the Dinwiddie Training School, Dinwiddie, Virginia with 86 eighty-six 4-H club members present. The objectives set up for this program were to hear accomplishments of the clubs through reports and exhibits and to get the club members throughout the county to join others for work, play and fellowship. Methods used at this meeting were reports, exhibits and movies. The 4-H clubs had approximately 116 entries which included canned foods, farm and garden products, dresses and articles made in the Housekeeping project.

Leadership

There are 300 cases of 4-H leadership in Dinwiddie County Club officers which are club leaders and project or subject-matter leaders which are adults. The objectives set up for the club officers are to preside over the meetings and keep the organization functioning.

The project of subject-matter leaders give or assist in giving demonstrations and lead discussions. These leaders are trained by the home agent or specialist. Methods used to train these leaders were circular letters bulletins, discussions, method demonstrations and home visits.

These leaders have given fine method demonstrations to 4-H Club members in the absence of the home agent.

WORK WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Farmers Home Administration

The home agent worked with the Farmers Home Administration by helping three families who were non-club members can pork and beef, and how to operate a steam pressure canner for canning and cooking. The Cookers were purchased through the Farmers Home Administration and the home agent was called on to teach them how to use the cooker. As a result of this work one of the women joined DeWitt Mother's Club and another began working with one of the 4-H Clubs in the county.

County Health Committee

A Health Committee was organized last fall and the home agent is working on the Educational Committee of the Health Committee. The objectives set up for the Educational Committee were as follows: to inform farm men and women of the importance of good health, advising them to attend the X-Ray clinics held in the spring, and the soliciting of funds for Red Cross, Infantile Paralysis and Tuberculosis. As a result of this organization twice as much money for Infantile Paralysis and Tuberculosis was raised during 1946 than in 1945 and the quota for the Red Cross was met and 750 Negroes were X-Rayed during the spring.

EVALUATION OF THE 1947 HOME DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

During this year some of the most outstanding contributions have been as follows: The Poultry Improvement Project; The uses of Bags in making House Furnishings; The Poultry Culling Schools and the Food Preservation Problems. As a result of the contributions the trends and developments have been: Sixteen (16) poultry flocks have been improved, which there is only 12 in the project; two new poultry houses built, and six remodeled; approximately 65 per cent of the club and non-club members learned new ways for using the bag in making house furnishing, and other articles around the house; 85 per cent of those attending the poultry culling saw for the first time how chickens were culled and learned how to cull by culling and many housewives learned how to can by using the Steam Pressure Canner for the first time this year. Twenty-one pressure cookers were purchased this year.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

NEW COUNTY BEGINS

DESCRIPTION TARGET