

We used the following educational activities in promoting our public relations program by personal contact with rural and urban people by county agent in the field and office, meetings, letters, press and radio.

XVII. Other Means of Reaching Rural People

The county agent feels that a double barrel approach is still necessary in reaching rural people, that is through mass media and by personal contact. Where only one of these approaches is used in the Extension Program the county agent feels that the job is only half done. Personal visits are absolutely necessary so is mass media. The weekly radio programs which the county agent has for twenty minutes has given the farmers, non farmers and the urban people more timely information than he has been able to give through meetings and individual contacts.

Next to our radio program in reaching rural people and others interested in timely agricultural information is through articles written by the county agent which are published most of the time by two of our weekly papers.

It is getting harder all the time to get people to attend farm meetings due mainly, we think, to television and radio programs. Since most of our farmers are part time farmers it is necessary in most cases to have our farm meetings at night which also conflicts with television and radio. Since it is hard to get the farmers and farm women to attend night meetings, the county agent feels the best way to get agricultural information to these people is through the radio and news articles.

XVIII. Evaluation of Year's Work

Keeping in mind our main objective in agricultural Extension teaching in the county is to improve rural living standards, we tried to teach the farmers and the family better improved methods of farming, homemaking and working together as a family unit.

It is hard to evaluate in dollars and cents the help the Agricultural Extension Service has benefitted the people in the county. Our timely news articles and radio programs no doubt have helped numerous rural and urban people in their farm and home problems than is possible for us to have a record. Our agricultural program is a continuous long time program and since most of our farmers are part time farmers it takes longer and is harder to get the agricultural program across, not due to their ignorance but due to their interest. It is a very slow and discouraging process in lots of cases, however, each year we feel that we have made a great deal of progress over the previous year.

interest by the farmers and homemakers in organizing such clubs we did not organize any.

XV. Farm and Home Development Program

Our goal in Farm and Home Development was to develop five or more farm and home development demonstrators. Since we are using the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Demonstrators as our Farm and Home Development families we have already written this report under the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Program.

XVI. Public Relations

The county agent set his goal for public relations to work with local, federal, state and civic organizations on programs for the general welfare of the people in the county.

The county agent has always been willing to assist in any way possible with the programs conducted in the county by any organizations who seek his help where it is beneficial to the people within the county. These organizations, business, civic, and religious, have been very cooperative with the county agent in assisting in any way possible with the Extension program.

As brought out in this report the banks have been very cooperative with our Extension program and the county agent has assisted them wherever possible in their programs.

The civic organizations have asked the county agent to appear during the year on their programs to discuss the agriculture program within the county and to advise them in any way they can help. The county agent is well pleased with the splendid relationship he has received from all organizations including business, civic, federal, state and local agencies, operating in the county. The radio and press have given splendid cooperation. The press has been very cooperative in publishing the timely articles the county agent wants published free of charge. One of the radio stations within the county gives the county agent twenty minutes a week for his program free of charge.

We used the following methods in our public relations program:

- a. Inform rural people of the various programs effecting them.
- b. To organize rural people to carry out programs in rural sections of county.
- c. To inform urban people of agricultural program and problems.

the county except our seven local banks. These banks are becoming more interested in obtaining the farmers' loans than in the past. The county agent and the local banks in the county have good relationship. Any time farmers wish to obtain a loan that the county agent thinks should be handled by a local bank he advises him to get the loan at the local bank in which he does business.

Two of our local banks are sponsoring two pig chains which started in 1954. Each bank at that time bought three registered gilts and one unrelated male pig for the 4-H Club members in their vicinity. These two pig chains have been very successful and helpful to the 4-H members.

The county agent attended the yearly agricultural workers and bankers three day meeting in Natural Bridge as a guest of the Wise-Lee-Scott Bankers Association. This was a very interesting and instructive meeting.

b. Farm Credit Administration

The Production Credit Association and the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore have a joint office with the same personnel handling both loans located at Big Stone Gap in Wise County serving Lee, Scott, Dickenson and Wise Counties. The executive secretary, Mr. Ralph Rasnick, and Mrs. Kermit Wilson, secretary, are very cooperative in making loans to our farmers where advisable. They are very cooperative with us in our Extension program also.

The county agent attended the annual dinner meeting held for the patrons of Production Credit Administration and Federal Land Bank at Big Stone Gap which was well attended.

We used the following methods in our credit and loaning program:

- a. Find out amount he desires to borrow and how he intends to use loan.
- b. Direct him to the loaning agency best suited for his type of loan and amount.

We used the following general educational activities in cooperating with credit and loaning agencies through meetings, personal contact with farmers by agent in field and office, radio, press and letters.

XIV. Rural Organizations

Our goal was to organize farmers and homemakers clubs provided the rural communities wanted to be organized. Although we tried to develop interest by personal contact with farmers in the field and office I am sorry to say that due to lack of

agent not only discusses the program in farm meetings but on the radio during the year and in his personal contacts with the farmers encouraging them to participate in the program and to obtain the practices that will be most beneficial to them in conservation on their farms.

The agricultural professional workers and the agricultural Stabilization Conservation county committee and office clerk held a meeting to determine the practices to be carried out in the county in 1959 program and to make recommendations to the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office for the 1960 Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation practices.

The county agent's office and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office including county committee, community committeemen, clerk and district field representative cooperated exceptionally fine this year.

The county agent's office and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office, every since the start of the program in the county in 1936, have been together or across the hall from each other in the Wise Court House. This close contact helped both the county agent and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation personnel to be of the greatest assistance to the farmers. Last summer the Stabilization and Conservation office was forced to move to an office in the building across the street from the Court House. This separation has shown its effect in hurting the county agent's program and also the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation program. For the benefit of the farmers in the county both of these offices should be in the same building.

The county agent used the following methods in assisting with the Stabilization and Conservation Program:

- a. Attend county committee meetings whenever possible.
- b. Keep in touch with county Stabilization and Conservation office as much as possible to see how farmers are participating.
- c. Keep up with changes in program.
- d. Explain program to farmers.

We used the following educational activities in promoting the program by meetings, personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, by radio, press and letters.

XIII. Cooperation with Credit and Loaning Agencies

The county agent's goal was to help all farmers obtain credit when advisable.

a. Local

We do not have any local agencies lending money to farmers in

county do not seem to be interested enough to put on a successful drive nor do the people seem to be interested in donating.

We used the following methods in our 4-H Club Program:

- a. Good leaders if possible.
- b. Good programs.
- c. Attend meetings when possible.
- d. Visit as many of the club projects as possible.
- e. 4-H Club Council meetings.
- f. 4-H Club Camp.
- g. Achievement Day.

We used the following general educational activities in promoting our 4-H Club program by meetings with rural boys and girls to explain 4-H Club work, project instructions by county agent in meetings and visits to members, by press, radio and letters.

XII. Cooperation with Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program:

Our goal is to serve as ex-officio member of the county committee and advise farmers of the program.

a. Organization

The County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation, formerly called the Production Marketing Administration, has a county committee of four members, one clerk and twelve community committeemen. The county agent is the fourth member of the committee who is ex-officio member without a vote or administrative power. The county committee handles the administration of the program within the county under the direct supervision of the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee from Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Buford Blevins, District Supervisor, supervises all the work done by the county office manager and committees within the county.

The twelve community committeemen are responsible to the county committee in any work in their respective community dealing with the Stabilization and Conservation Program. The county and community committeemen are paid for their services on a per diem basis. The county agent, being ex-officio member and a Federal and State paid employee, does not receive any compensation for his services in connection with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture holds all the county agents responsible for the educational phase of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation program within their respective counties. The county agent works closely with the county committee and office clerk in regard to the county program. The county

415 farmers and others in timber harvesting; 29 farmers and others in marketing forest products; 9,955 farmers and others in forest fire prevention.

We used the following methods in our forestry program:

- a. Get seedling trees from TVA and State nurseries for farmers and landowners to plant on steep, wasteland and coal stripped areas.
- b. One forestry demonstration showing proper management and cutting.
- c. Show farmers and landowners the need for proper woodland management.

We used the following educational activities by personal contact with the farmers in the office and field by county agent, by specialists and radio.

II. 4-H Club Activities

Our goal in 4-H work was to try to maintain the twenty-eight 4-H Clubs we now have organized.

The county agent had 249 boys enrolled with 133 completing in twenty-eight clubs. There were 13 enrolled in poultry with 6 completing; there were 4 enrolled in breeding and fattening pig with 4 completing; there were 6 enrolled in dairy calf with 2 completing; there were 5 enrolled in beef calf with 1 completing; there were 5 enrolled in rabbits with no completions; there were 18 enrolled in vegetable garden with 10 completing; there was 1 enrolled in Irish potatoes with 1 completing; there were 2 enrolled in small fruit with 1 completing; there were 51 enrolled in forestry with 25 completing; there were 45 enrolled in entomology and 13 completing; there were 88 enrolled in electrification with 67 completing; there were 12 enrolled in home grounds beautification with 3 completing; there were 91 enrolled in safety with 54 completing.

We had six boys and one girl attending 4-H Camp at Camp Summers in West Virginia. Two leaders also attended.

We had an achievement day with fair attendance.

We have organized the county for fund raising drive to try to raise the county's quota of \$15,649.00 for the construction of the Southwest Virginia 4-H Club Center which is located in Washington County near Abingdon, Virginia. So far we have not been very successful in raising our quota as the people in the

The county agent attended the two Southern States Cooperative Stores annual planning meetings and also attended the annual patrons' meetings of both stores.

The county agent also helped with the Wise and Lee Dairy Herd Improvement Association and the Wise and Lee Artificial Breeding Association of which both associations are set up under the cooperative laws of the State of Virginia.

We used the following methods in our cooperative program:

- a. Benefits dairymen obtain by belonging to cooperative.
- b. Consultation with directors and manager.
- c. Importance of dairymen supporting cooperative.

We used the following general educational activities by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, by meetings and letters.

I. Forestry

The forestry committee set as our goal planting wasteland to desirable forest tree seedlings and better care of farm woodland. Increase tree seedling plantings 500 acres in 1959 over last year. Establish one more forestry demonstration showing proper management. I am sorry to say we have not been able to find a suitable forest to establish another demonstration showing proper management.

Mr. A. B. Lyon, Assistant Extension Forester, VPI, Blacksburg, and Mr. M. E. Disher, District TVA Forester, spent about four days in the county with the county agent on forestry demonstrations and other forestry problems.

We feel that the farmers and landowners through our very intensive forestry program are taking better care of their farm and woodlots than they have in the past. They are taking out undesirable species and ill shaped and diseased trees of desirable species and doing a better job of selective cutting of larger trees for farm use and marketing. The farmers are also reforesting some of their steeper land and wasteland to short leaf, white and loblolly pines. The forestry committee is also putting on an intensive tree planting program with the coal strip operators and owners in reclaiming the stripped areas for coal. Most of the coal strip operators and landowners are very cooperative in this project. The committee feels that we reached our goal of planting 500 acres of tree seedlings this year.

We assisted 865 farmers and others in forestry tree seedling plantings; 90 farmers and others in timber stand improvement;

Since coal mining is the principal industry in the county farmers can not compete with the high labor wage scale of the mines in obtaining his labor. However, there is some labor in the county even with the difference paid the miners and the wages they can obtain from farmers they are more satisfied farming than mining due to the hazards of the mines. This type of farm labor in most cases has year around jobs, especially on specialized farms, mostly orchard and dairying. We use lots of women, teenage boys and girls in harvesting apples and snap beans.

We used the following methods in our farm labor program:

- a. Economic comparison of farm labor with machine labor.
- b. Machine custom work in communities where possible.
- c. Help farmers obtain good labor when necessary.

We used the following educational activities by meetings, personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field.

VIII. Agricultural Planning

Our goal in agricultural planning was to complete as many steps of organizing the County Agricultural Extension Service Board as time permits.

The county agent has not organized the County Agricultural Extension Service Board as outlined in the Virginia plan. However, he has organized four functional commodity committees of the outstanding projects in the county which are agronomy, fruit and vegetable, dairy and forestry. Each of these committees met with the county agent and planned the work in these projects for this year. The county agent feels that these commodity groups have cooperated exceptionally well and have done an excellent job on these commodities.

IX. Cooperatives

The county agent's goal in cooperatives was to help the Wise and Lee Dairy Herd Improvement Association and the Wise and Lee Artificial Breeding Association be more beneficial and successful. Also to help the Southern States Cooperative stores in obtaining better strains of seeds and the analysis of fertilizers recommended by the Agronomy Department.

The Wise County Farmer's Cooperative handled the Extension-TVA test demonstration fertilizer and since the Southern States has bought out the Southwest Virginia Cooperative, the Southern States Cooperative Store at Big Stone Gap handles the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority test demonstration fertilizer for Wise County.

VI. Extension-TVA Demonstration Program

Our goal was to carry out the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Demonstration Program as outlined for 1959 with an addition of five new demonstrators. I am sorry to say we only had two new demonstrators instead of our goal of five.

Since the county agent does not have an assistant he is unable to carry out his duties as county agent and conduct the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstration program as he would like. However, he has worked with all the demonstrators during the year of which there are ten.

Since the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Demonstration Program has changed considerably from its original form in that the demonstrators have to pay about two-thirds of the cost of the fertilizer it is hard to get any farmers who are eligible interested in becoming demonstrators. Most of our demonstrators are doing a fine job but it is very hard to get them to keep a detailed record book which is very necessary in analyzing the farm business.

We used the following methods in our Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Demonstration program:

- a. Consult with county committee concerning best method in carrying on Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Program.
- b. Individual farm planning with demonstrators.
- c. Advise demonstrators of changes in program.
- d. Farm account books.
- e. Assist in balancing farm business.
- f. Field meeting on demonstration farms.

We used the following educational activities in our Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority Demonstration Program through meetings, letters, by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, and specialists.

VII. Farm Labor

Our goal in farm labor was to help farmers obtain labor saving machinery wherever he can economically use it, thereby hiring labor only when necessary. Although there is a lot of unemployment in the county due to mechanization of the coal mines it is hard to obtain farm labor.

Realizing that there is not very much we can do about the farm labor situation except encourage farmers to obtain labor saving machinery wherever he can economically use it or by farmers obtaining farm machinery for his own use and also do custom work for farmers who are not economically situated to buy the machinery for themselves.

- c. Seed treatment.
- d. Proper application and kind of fertilizer to use.
- e. Kind of insect sprays to use and when to apply.
- f. Kind of disease sprays to use and when to apply.
- g. Rotation of vegetable crops to control diseases and insects.
- h. Better grading and packing.
- i. Cooperative market and cannery.

We used the following general educational activities by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, press, radio, letters and bulletins.

E. Ornamental Horticulture

Our goal in ornamental horticulture is to beautify our home grounds in urban areas as well as rural areas.

The county agent has made several visits and helped with numerous flowers and ornamental problems including lawns with individuals not only in rural areas but also towns throughout the area. He has discussed these problems from time to time on his weekly radio broadcast and through news articles. We have had numerous office and phone calls relating to ornamental horticulture and have given out lots of bulletins pertaining to same.

The county agent assisted 7,615 farmers and others in improved varieties and strains of flowers and ornamental shrubs; 8,733 farmers and others in use of fertilizer; 9,415 farmers and others in control of injurious insects; 9,110 farmers and others in controlling diseases; 416 farmers and others in harvesting and storing; 34 farmers and others in efficient work methods; and 26 farmers and others with some phase of farm marketing.

We used the following methods in our ornamental horticulture program:

- a. Kinds of annual and biennial flowers.
- b. Kinds of shrubs to plant.
- c. Kinds of lawn mixtures to seed.
- d. Cultural practices.
- e. Kinds and amounts of fertilizers to use.
- f. Insect control.
- g. Disease control.

We used the following general educational activities through personal contacts with rural and urban people by county agent in the office and field, letters, press and radio.

- b. Show farmer it is a good cash crop, especially for the small farmer.
- c. Proper location and soil types for good berry production.
- d. Best varieties suited to our county.
- e. Get plants from reliable nursery.
- f. Preparation of soil before planting.
- g. Kind of fertilizer to use and amounts and time to apply.
- h. Control of diseases and insects.
- i. How and when to mulch strawberries.
- j. How and when to prune raspberries.
- k. How and when to prune grapes.

We used the following educational activities in promoting our small fruit program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, bulletins, specialists and radio.

D. Vegetable Production

The vegetable committee decided not to increase our vegetable production until the growers organized a cooperative market and/or obtain a cannery.

Wise County, with its loam soil, its good rainfall and climatic conditions, makes it an excellent county for growing all varieties of vegetables that can be grown in our type of climate. Until we can obtain a cannery or a cooperative market or both, we feel that we should maintain our present vegetable production instead of increasing it. We feel that we are maintaining our present vegetable production and are able to market it in our own county, adjacent Kentucky counties and the vegetable market at Knoxville, Tennessee. The county agent has, and is still trying to get a cannery established in the county not only to take care of the vegetable situation but to help in our apple production. The Area Chamber of Commerce of the county is cooperating with the county agent and fruit and vegetable committee in trying to get a cannery established. So far we have not succeeded.

The main vegetables we are raising now for market are snap beans, tomatoes, Irish potatoes, head lettuce and sweet corn.

We used the following methods in our vegetable program:

- a. Market demand in county and adjoining market exceeds our production, however, hard to sell on account of poor marketing system.
- b. Better varieties and those varieties that are disease resistant if adapted to county.

We used the following methods in our peach program:

- a. Kind of site for peach orchard.
- b. The new varieties recommended for county.
- c. Kind of fertilizer to use.
- d. Cultural practices.
- e. Pruning.
- f. Control of diseases.
- g. Control of insects.

We used the following general educational activities in our peach production by personal contact with fruit growers by county agent in the field and office, meetings and through specialists.

C. Small Fruits

The fruit committee decided for our small fruit goal to increase the acreage of strawberries, raspberries and table grapes all we possibly can as the present production is way below the demand. The committee did not set any specific acreage goal.

Since our soils and climatic conditions are well adapted to small fruit production and with an excellent market we feel that the farmers, particularly the small farmers, should raise more of these small fruit crops such as raspberries, strawberries and table grapes, as their main cash crops. The small farmers with their family labor in most cases can take care of at least one-half to one acre and make a very nice income from same.

The fruit committee and the county agent has worked hard in trying to get more fruit planted but since there is a lot of work to small fruits, especially strawberries, the farmers seem to shy away from its production, even if it does pay a nice income.

I am sorry to say that we only had approximately six acres of commercial strawberries and three acres of commercial raspberries planted this year.

This year we assisted 49 farmers and others in improved varieties of small fruits; 78 farmers and others in use of fertilizer; 90 farmers and others in controlling injurious insects; 96 farmers and others in controlling diseases; 26 farmers in harvesting; 14 farmers in efficient work methods and 33 farmers in some phase of marketing.

We used the following methods in our small fruit program:

- a. Show farmers the demand far exceeds the supply of berries.

This year we assisted 1,981 farmers and others in improved varieties of apples to plant; 2,110 farmers and others in use of fertilizer; 3,763 farmers and others in control of injurious insects; 3,645 farmers and others in controlling diseases; 195 farmers in harvesting and storing; 80 farmers in efficient work methods; 183 farmers in some phase of marketing.

We used the following methods in our apple program:

- a. What constitutes a good apple orchard site.
- b. Desirable apple varieties and their desirable sports to plant according to consumer demands and their growing habits.
- c. Advantages of cooperative packing plant.
- d. Use right kind of spray materials for diseases and insects.
- e. Apply spray materials at proper time.
- f. Apply spray materials thoroughly.
- g. Prune trees properly.
- h. Proper application of nitrate and commercial fertilizer to trees.
- i. Proper cultivation of orchards.
- j. Orchard mice control.
- k. Thin apples if too heavy a set.
- l. Proper picking, grading and packing.
- m. Importance of maintaining quality from picking until reaching consumer.

We used the following educational activities in promoting our apple program by pruning, mouse control demonstration, meetings, tours, help from specialists, timely spray information through spray cards, letters, press, radio and personal contact with fruit growers by county agent in the field and office.

B. Peach Production

The fruit committee set as our long time goal to plant 2,000 acres of desirable varieties of peaches only on good sites. The 1959 goal was to start planting as many orchards as possible as there is only one peach orchard of about three acres in the county.

I am sorry to say that we did not plant any commercial peach orchards this year. However, some of the apple growers are planning to put in some peach orchards in the near future. They were so busy taking care of their orchards and short of help this year they were unable to make any plantings in the spring. With the development of new varieties in peaches that are more hardy against frost and freezing in the spring which is our greatest hazard in this section will also be an incentive to the growers to set peach orchards.

and net the apple growers a fair profit, I do not see anything for the apple growers to do but quit.

We have a very active fruit growers' association which meets monthly except in October at harvest time which has helped the fruit committee, county agent and horticultural specialists to put across our apple program in the county. Practically every month we have one or more of the specialists from the Extension department or Experiment Station to discuss timely topics. These specialists, as well as the county agent, have continually dwelled on production of high quality apples through use of right kinds of spray materials, timely spraying and thorough application.

We discuss other timely topics on orchard management at these meetings such as proper fertilization, pruning, mice control, picking, grading, packing, marketing and many other orchard problems.

We had seven monthly night meetings, one all day fruit school, one two-light orchard meeting, one all day tour of orchards in county and picnic, one pruning and mouse control demonstration. The all day fruit school in Wise County was for all growers of Wise and eight other Southwest Virginia counties. The school was conducted by the fruit specialists from the Horticultural Department, Entomologists and Plant Pathologists from the Experiment Station, VPI, Blacksburg.

We had a very fine and enjoyable all day tour of orchards in the county with a very fine picnic served by the wives of the fruit growers. Mr. Armstrong, Associate Horticulturist from University of Kentucky, Lexington, four fruit growers and bankers attended with him. Two Extension specialists of the Horticulture Department at Blacksburg, John Watson, Executive Secretary of the Virginia State Horticultural Society, James Chaffins and John Ligon of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Richmond, Virginia and fifty farmers and their wives from Wise County attended.

We are well pleased with the apple crop in Wise County this year considering we had a very large crop last year. However, the apples did not size quite as good as expected due to two drouths during the latter part of the summer and early fall. The fruit was exceptionally clean of diseases and insects. We estimated the crop to be 250,000 bushels.

Since the apple spray programs are becoming more and more complicated the county agent spent a lot of his time during the growing season in the orchards helping the fruit growers decide which spray materials to use and time of application for control of both insects and diseases.

with sports of desirable varieties and to build a cooperative packing plant.

Our goal for 1959 was to build a cooperative packing plant, and to plant as many trees of desirable varieties as possible on good sites. Take out as many old unproductive trees and undesirable varieties in present orchards as possible and replace them with sports of desirable varieties. To increase better quality of apples grown and a better quality pack. Also maintain quality from tree to consumer.

We are sorry to say we did not succeed in building a cooperative packing plant this year. However, we are continually working on it and eventually expect enough of the growers to become interested enough to develop this plant.

Our commercial apple tree population in Wise County has decreased 32% since 1949 according to the 1956 census of commercial apples made by the Division of Markets and Statistician of the Virginia Department of Agriculture. Trees of bearing age declined 38% during the period but trees of bearing age increased 1%. The number of commercial orchards decreased 19% from 70 in 1947 to 57 in 1956. The total number of apple trees including non bearing and bearing age in 1949 was 51,068. The number of non bearing and bearing age trees in 1956 was 34,955. In view of these statistics the committee in a long time program wants our apple tree population to be approximately 105,000.

We feel that we have accomplished a great deal in our apple tree planting goal for this year. There have been approximately 5,000 apple trees planted this year on good sites and approximately 6,400 trees set in old orchards replacing undesirable varieties, weak and dead trees. The main reason for our decrease in number of commercial orchards is due to the fact that the vast increase in cost of production and marketing the apples in comparison to the little or no increase in the past twenty years in sale price. Unless this one sided situation is corrected, I am afraid the small and medium apple growers will be forced out of business not only in Wise County but other commercial apple areas.

Wise County is well adapted to apple growing especially in the upper section of the county around the Wise Court House due mainly to its high altitude. With our good normal rainfall which is generally well distributed over the year and our soil being of a loam nature makes it well adapted to apple growing. We feel that the apples grown in the mountains of Wise County with its good rainfall, good climatic conditions, good soils rich in minerals, have a better flavor than those grown in most parts of the United States. Unless the consuming public is willing to pay the price of apples to take care of the high production cost

- e. Feed more minerals to breeding stock and fattening hogs.
- f. Treat pigs for worms.
- g. Vaccinate to prevent cholera.

We used the following general educational activities in our pork program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, letters, bulletins, press and radio.

C. Sheep Production

The committee decided that our goal in sheep production was to take better care of sheep now on farms and not increase sheep production due to the large population of dogs. However, we have had one farmer who has gone into the sheep business this year and so far is getting along nicely with his sheep as far as dogs are concerned. Due to the large dog population in the county, practically all sheep farmers were forced out of sheep business several years ago.

We have an excellent county for sheep but due to the dog population it would be foolish for the committee and county agent to encourage farmers to go into the sheep business only to have most of them killed by dogs.

We assisted three farmers in selection and breeding; three farmers in better feeding methods; four farmers in controlling external parasites; five farmers in controlling diseases and internal parasites; two farmers in efficient work methods; three farmers in some phase of marketing.

We used the following methods in our sheep production program:

- a. Better care of ewes at lambing.
- b. Better rams.
- c. Better feeding methods.
- d. Worm flock three times during year.

We used the following educational activities in promoting our sheep program through letters and personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, radio and bulletins.

V. Horticulture

A. Apple Production

The fruit committee set our long time apple goal to triple our present apple tree population, take out old trees and undesirable varieties in our present orchards, and to replace them

This year we assisted forty-one farmers in selection and breeding of beef cattle; 490 farmers in better feeding management practices; 672 farmers in controlling external parasites; 690 farmers in controlling diseases and internal parasites; 38 farmers in more efficient work methods and 31 farmers in some phase of marketing.

We used the following methods in our beef cattle program:

- a. Better calves from more desirable sires and dams.
- b. Buy better calves for feeders.
- c. Better pastures by seeding better pasture mixtures.
- d. Better pastures by reseeding old pastures and brushing where necessary.
- e. Better pastures by use of lime and fertilizer as recommended by soil samples.
- f. Better hay by seeding better hay mixtures.
- g. Proper liming and fertilizing of meadows where necessary.
- h. Better control of cattle diseases and parasites.

We used the following general educational activities in promoting our beef cattle program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, letters, bulletins, press and radio.

B. Pork Production

Our goal was to increase our pork production 20% in 1959 over last year. We feel that we increased our pork production only 15%, falling short of our goal 5%. We have not been able to get the farmers to raise enough brood sows to supply enough pigs for the pig market in the county. However, the farmers are taking better care of their sows at farrowing time and are breeding them to farrow twice a year. With some increase in sow numbers and breeding them twice a year and better care at farrowing time has caused us to have 15% increase in pig production over last year.

We assisted 975 farmers and others in selection and breeding; 811 farmers and others in better feeding methods; 917 farmers and others in controlling external parasites; 936 farmers and others in controlling diseases and internal parasites; 45 farmers and others in efficient work methods; 1,013 farmers and others in some phase of marketing.

We used the following methods in our pork production program:

- a. More sows to farrow.
- b. Better care of sows at farrowing.
- c. Breed sows to farrow in spring and fall.
- d. Better feeding methods.

- b. Better cows from high producing parentage to replace culled cows.
- c. Increase cow population from cows of high producing parentage.
- d. More ladino and orchard grass pastures.
- e. Better pastures by reseeding on thin pastures.
- f. Better pastures by using lime and phosphate.
- g. Use of complete fertilizer where needed.
- h. Better hay--alfalfa, clover and lespedeza.
- i. Better curing methods of hay.
- j. Small grain for late fall and early winter grazing.
- k. Better sires from high producing parentage.
- l. Better barns.
- m. Dairy Herd Improvement Association.
- n. Artificial Breeding Association.
- o. Breed cows to freshen in fall and winter months when milk is needed most.
- p. Make people conscious of county produced milk through advertising.
- q. Better feeding management.

We used the following general educational activities by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, by letters, meetings, bulletins, Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators, specialists, press and radio.

IV. Livestock

A. Beef Cattle

Since the agronomy committee is composed of beef cattle men they also serve as our beef cattle committee. The committee set our goal to increase beef cattle 25% in 1959 over last year and to increase quality and better finish on all cattle.

We felt that with the increased acreage and better quality of meadows and pastures we would need at least 25% increase in beef cattle production as well as an increase in dairy cattle as recommended by the dairy committee.

We feel that we met our goal. Since beef cattle prices have been very good for several years most of our beef cattle farms are stocked to capacity and some farmers are going into beef cattle business that were not in it before. The farmers are culling their cows very rigidly and replacing them with purebred and better grades. They are also obtaining more and better purebred bulls. The beef cattle farmers who do not have cow and calf herds are buying better calves in the fall to graze and sell the following fall.

- d. Better feeding methods.
- e. Better sanitation to control diseases and parasites.

We used the following general educational activities by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, by letters, press, radio and bulletins.

III. Dairying

The dairy committee set as our dairy goal to increase our commercial cow population 25% and our milk production 45% in 1959 over last year.

We feel we only increased our commercial cow population 15% instead of our goal of 25%. This was due to no more dairies starting in the county this year. The 15% increase was due to the present dairymen increasing their herd wherever possible and practical. Since we did not meet our commercial cow population goal we fell short of our milk production goal which was 45% to 35%. Our increase in milk production was due to some increase in number of commercial cows but mostly to the rigid culling of unproductive cows and replacing them with high producing cows. Also our milk production was increased by more efficient management, better feeding and better pastures.

We feel that the Wise-Lee Dairy Herd Improvement Association organized with the assistance of the county agents of Lee and Wise Counties about ten years ago has helped our dairymen a great deal in being able to weed out the undesirable low producing cows and getting records of dams and off-springs so the dairymen will know which calves to keep for replacements where needed and to sell to other dairymen. The Dairy Herd Improvement Association has also helped our dairymen in obtaining more milk per cow through better feeding program.

We also feel that the Wise and Lee Artificial Breeding Association which was organized about seven years ago by the dairymen of the two counties has been a great help in improving the dairy herds for higher production for both counties.

The dairymen of Wise County and most other Southwest Virginia counties as well as Tennessee and Kentucky are operating under the Tri-State Milk Producers Association and also under the Federal Marketing Milk Control. We feel that the dairymen operating under both of these programs have stabilized their milk marketing conditions.

We used the following methods in promoting our dairy program:

- a. 10 and 15 cow herds good income for family size farms.

poultrymen about doubled their flock and better management of farm flocks.

We used the following methods in our egg production program:

- a. Larger farm flocks for more cash income.
- b. Obtain pullets from pollorum free hatcheries and pullets from high producing parentage.
- c. Better housing.
- d. Better feeding methods.
- e. More rigid culling.
- f. Better sanitation to control diseases and parasites.
- g. Get baby chicks for laying flock early so they will start laying in latter part of August and middle of September.

We used the following general educational activities by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, by letters, press, radio and bulletins.

B. Increased Broiler Production

Our goal in broiler production was to increase our broilers 5% in 1959 over last year mainly for farm consumption. Due to the extreme low prices of broilers and high cost of feed and not having a poultry dressing plant in the county or nearby we did not think it advisable to put on a very intensive educational program encouraging our farmers to raise broilers for commercial purposes. Neither did we think it advisable to encourage the farmers to have a broiler contract with the feed dealers since there are no processing plants nearby. We do not have a farmer who is under a broiler contract within the county. However, we felt that the farmers should increase their broiler production in the county by 5% for their own consumption with a few to sell as dressed broilers to their neighbors and stores. Most of the house wives now prefer buying friars and broilers tray packed rather than buy them on foot and dressing them themselves.

This year we assisted 3,115 farmers and others in selection and breeding; 4,602 farmers and others in better feeds and feeding methods; 4,919 farmers and others in controlling external parasites; 5,510 farmers and others in controlling diseases and internal parasites; 195 farmers and others in efficient work methods and 230 farmers and others in some phase of farm marketing.

We used the following methods in our broiler production program:

- a. Better strain of chicks for broiler production.
- b. Obtain baby chicks from pollorum free hatcheries.
- c. Better brooders.

Again this year in cooperation with Mr. G. R. Mathews, Extension Burley Tobacco Specialist, VPI, Blacksburg, R. G. Henderson, Experiment Station Pathologist at Blacksburg, the American Tobacco Company, Reynolds Tobacco Company and Mr. McGruder Slamp, our leading tobacco grower, we put on an acre demonstration of burley tobacco of ten different varieties of 1/10 acre each. This tobacco will be chemically tested for flavor, nicotine content, aroma and probably other tests to determine which variety or varieties grow and produce the kind of tobacco the tobacco companies and consumers desire to buy. We are sure, as in the past, we will obtain some very valuable information for the burley tobacco growers and companies.

We also held two tobacco grading demonstrations this fall in cooperation with one of the Federal Graders from Greenville, Tennessee.

We used the following methods in our burley tobacco program:

- a. Varieties best adapted to county.
- b. Kinds and amounts of fertilizer and lime to apply determined by soil analysis for plant bed and field.
- c. Preparation of plant bed and field.
- d. Cultural practices best adapted.
- e. Harvesting and curing methods.
- f. Proper grading and care.
- g. Marketing.

We used the following general educational activities in our tobacco program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, contact with agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office as to tobacco allotments, letters, press, specialists and bulletins.

II. Poultry Production

A. Increased Egg Production

Our long time goal in poultry production is to produce all the eggs as far as possible and practical that are consumed in the county and also other markets in our nearby Eastern coal-fields of Kentucky. Our goal this year was to increase our egg production 30% more eggs than last year.

We feel that we only increased our egg production 20% of our 30% goal due mainly to the ups and downs in price of eggs in the relationship of high feed cost. We feel we gained this increase in egg production mainly through two of our largest

We used the following general educational activities with farmers in the office and field, by letters, press, radio, specialists and bulletins.

I. Proper Land Use of Coal Stripped Areas

The agronomy committee set as our goal 40% of coal stripped land to be put into adapted crops and forest trees.

I am sorry to say due to lack of state legislation requiring the coal stripper and/or the landowner to level the land back into a practical manner for crop production, we were only able to get about 25% of our goal planted to adapted grass and clover mixtures or planted to forest tree seedlings.

Most of the land that we were able to get the coal stripper and landowner to level up has been planted to grass and clover mixture, small grain and lespedeza according to its degree of fertility and humus. However, some of the leveled stripped areas was planted to pine tree seedlings, mostly short leaf and white pine. About 20% of the area that was stripped but not leveled by the stripper and landowner has been planted to pine tree seedlings. In most cases these pine tree seedlings are growing exceptionally fine.

We are still trying to get proper state legislation passed whereby all of this coal stripped area will be properly leveled and planted to its proper vegetation.

We used the following methods in our approach to proper land use on coal stripped areas:

- a. Soil and water conservation.
- b. Soil analysis.
- c. Best use of land.
- d. Preparation of land after being stripped.

We used the following educational activities by personal contact with farmers, landowners and coal strip operators by county agent in the field and office, by letters, press, radio, demonstrations and specialists.

J. Burley Tobacco

The agronomy committee set our burley tobacco goal for all the tobacco allotments to be planted if possible. There were two hundred burley tobacco allotments with an acreage of 76.58. There were 11.45 acres of this allotment not planted. The main reason for most of the 11.45 acres not being planted was due to such small allotments it was not economical for them to plant, harvest and market it. In some instances, the farmer was not physically able to take care of the crop and was not able to get experienced help.

- g. Application of phosphate.
- h. Application of complete fertilizer where needed.
- i. Advise against over or under grazing.

We used the following general educational activities in promoting our pasture program through the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators, personal contact with farmers by county agent in the field and office, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program, letters, specialists, press, radio and bulletins.

We are pleased with the response we are obtaining from our farmers in our intensive forage crop program. The farmers are seeding better meadow mixtures, fertilizing and liming them better as well as cutting and curing hay when it is at its best. The farmers are doing a much better job with their pastures by seeding better pasture mixtures, fertilizing and liming and better grazing methods. They are also seeding more small grain in the early fall for early winter and spring grazing.

There were approximately 900 acres of corn land taken out of cultivation this year and seeded either to meadows or pasture mixtures which is an excellent step in better land use and farm management as a lot of this corn land is steep and should be in a conservation crop.

H. Contour and Strip Cropping

The agronomy committee set our goal for 15% more farmers to contour and strip crop in 1959 than last year. We feel that we reached our goal of 15% as the farmers who are not contouring and strip cropping are realizing their soil is washing off and becoming less productive each year which means most of them are strip cropping.

This year we assisted 1160 farmers and others in contour and strip cropping.

With a large percentage of our land being steep we feel that this is one of our most important jobs in assisting farmers with proper rotations within the strips, the closeness of the strip according to the degrees of slopes and other cultural and fertilizer practices on these steep slopes.

We used the following methods in promoting our contour and strip crop program:

- a. Value of strip cropping.
- b. Proper rotations in strip cropping.
- c. Width of strips on different degree slopes.

We used the following methods in our legume and grasses for hay and ensilage program:

- a. Better use of lime and fertilizer.
- b. Kinds of legumes and grasses best adapted to locality and use.
- c. Higher rate of seeding in new meadows.
- d. Cutting at proper stage to give higher protein content.
- e. Proper curing to produce more palatable hay with higher protein and chlorophyll content.
- f. Installation of more hay driers.
- g. Installation of more silos.

We used the following general educational activities in our hay and ensilage program by personal contact with farmers by agent in the office and field, press, letters, Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators, bulletins, specialists and radio.

G. Pasture Improvement

The agronomy committee set as our goal to increase both permanent and crop land pastures 25% over last year. We feel that we exceeded this goal 15%. Several of the farmers have taken land out of cultivation and put it into pastures and meadows due mainly to the scarcity and high cost of farm labor. However, due to shortage and high cost of farm labor the farmers were not able to keep their steep pastures brushed off as good as they would like.

Where they were able to cut the undesirable vegetation with mowing machines, several have done so. Also, some of the farmers have killed this undesirable vegetation in pastures by spraying with weed and brush control chemicals. Several of the farmers have improved their old pastures a great deal by seeding where necessary and more use of fertilizer and lime. The new pastures were seeded in most cases to better adapted pasture mixtures and were properly fertilized and limed than in the past.

We used the following methods in our pasture program:

- a. Steep land used for row crops would be more profitable seeded to good pasture mixtures.
- b. Brush off pastures where needed.
- c. Renseeding pastures where needed.
- d. Best adapted grasses and legumes for pastures in county.
- e. Ladino and orchard grass pasture.
- f. Application of lime where growth and soil analysis show the need.

more about how to grow it better without bloating their livestock and to increase their acreage the following year. All the farmers who have grown ladino and orchard grass or ladino and Kentucky 31 Fescue mixtures like it as they can graze two or three times more livestock to the acre than they can on other pasture mixtures. However, where the farmers had too much ladino clover in comparison to the grass and were not careful in their pasture grazing management lost some cattle due to bloat. However, where our recommendations were carried out in grazing management they did not have this trouble.

We had a very fine spring and early summer growing season which caused an abundance of pasture, especially ladino and orchard grass or Kentucky 31 fescue pastures and a lot of the excess vegetation was put in silos or was cut for hay.

We used the following methods in our ladino clover and grass mixture program:

- a. Best use of ladino clover and grass mixture.
- b. Soil adaptation.
- c. Seeding with orchard grass or Kentucky Fescue 31.
- d. Preparation of land.
- e. Line requirement (soil sample).
- f. Kind and amount of fertilizer to use (soil sample).
- g. Rate of seeding.
- h. Care of stand.

We used the following general educational activities in our ladino clover and grass mixture program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, by letters, field meetings, Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators, specialists, radio, press and bulletins.

F. Other Legumes and Grasses for Hay and Ensilage

Our agronomy committee set as our goal for the other legumes and grasses for hay and ensilage was to increase it 25% over last year and grow and cure better hay and better ensilage.

Due to excessive rain during our hay season we exceeded our goal of 25% by 15% more legumes and grasses for hay and ensilage than we did in 1958, however, due to excessive rain some of our hay ruined.

Each year the farmers are realizing the importance of cutting the hay at the right stage for high protein and chlorophyll content and palatability. They are also realizing not to let it stay in the field any longer than necessary after cutting so as to retain protein, chlorophyll and palatability.

Our 1959 oat goal was to increase our acreage 207 over last year. We feel that we exceeded this goal by thirty acres as most farmers used oats as a nurse crop for seeding new pastures and meadows and several of the dairymen seeded it for ensilage.

Our 1959 barley goal was to increase our acreage ninety-nine over last year. We feel that we only increased our acreage forty over last year. We feel that the main reason we did not reach this goal was due to the fact that some of the farmers could not get their barley seeded early enough in the fall and seeded winter oats instead.

Our 1959 rye goal was to increase our acreage eighty-five over last year. We feel that we surpassed this goal by sixty acres as a lot of the farmers, especially dairymen, were seeding it early for winter grazing and a lot were seeding it to turn under in the spring as a green manure crop.

In 1959 our mixed grain goal was to increase our acreage ninety-four over last year. We feel that we surpassed this goal by thirty-six acres with quite a few of the farmers seeding mixed grain for late winter and early spring pasture.

We used the following methods in our small grain program:

- a. Advantages of growing small grain crop for feed on farm as grain.
- b. Advantages as cover crop and winter pasture.
- c. Advantages as hay and ensilage.
- d. Plant certified adapted varieties for county.
- e. Proper fertilization and liming according to soil analysis.

We used the following general educational activities in our small grain program by personal contact with farmers by county agent in the office and field, by press, letters, Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators, specialists, radio and bulletins.

E. Ladino Clover

The agronomy committee set for the 1959 goal 300 new farmers grow at least one acre of ladino clover and orchard grass mixture for every three head of livestock on farm. We feel that we only reached two-thirds of this goal in that approximately 200 new farmers grew ladino clover and orchard grass mixture or ladino clover and Kentucky 31 fescue mixture. We only had of the 200 approximately 100 who reached our goal of growing one acre of ladino and grass mixture to every three head of livestock on the farm. Some of these farmers who grew ladino and orchard grass mixtures for the first time thought they had better grow smaller acreage and see how well it would do on their farms and learn

- b. Use established alfalfa plantings as demonstrations and location of same.
- c. Proper drainage before planting.
- d. Soil samples (recommendations of Agronomy Department from soil samples as to liming and fertilizing).
- e. Proper preparation of seed bed.
- f. Adapted varieties to plant.
- g. Inoculation.
- h. Time, rate, and method of seeding.
- i. Harvesting and curing.
- j. Care of stand.

We used the following general educational activities in our alfalfa program by personal contact with the farmers by the county agent in the office and field, through regular farm meetings, letters, press, radio, bulletins and specialists.

C. Hybrid Corn

The agronomy committee's long time goal is to have all farmers raising corn to raise adapted hybrid varieties. The committee's goal in 1959 was for 95% of farmers to raise adapted varieties. We feel that we met this goal as practically all of the farmers raising corn are raising adapted hybrid varieties.

We used the following methods in our hybrid corn program:

- a. Advantages of adapted hybrid varieties over open pollinated varieties.
- b. Adapted varieties best suited to county.
- c. Plant only certified seed of adapted varieties.
- d. Proper fertilization including side dressing with nitrogen.
- e. Proper spacing of corn between rows and in row.
- f. Proper cultural practices.

We used the following general educational activities in our hybrid corn program by personal contact in the field and office by county agent, by meetings, press, radio, circular letters, bulletins and specialists.

D. Small Grain

The agronomy committee set our goal for our small grain for 1959 to increase our acreage back to at least where it was in 1940 for farm consumption.

Our 1959 wheat goal was to increase our acreage 262 over 1956. We did not get any increase in our wheat acreage over last year due mainly to the wheat acreage allotments.

agronomy handbook. We took 109 soil samples in the county this year.

A. Cover Crops

In our cover crop program for the year the agronomy committee set as our goal for at least 80% of our farmers sow winter cover crops on cultivated land. We feel that 60% of the farmers sowed some form of winter cover crop in the late summer and fall months on cultivated land. Although we lacked 20% of reaching our goal we feel that it was a big increase over the number of farms in 1958 sowing winter cover crops.

We put on a very intensive cover crop program with the following methods:

- a. Benefits of cover crops.
- b. The cover crops that are best suited to Wise County.
- c. Best varieties of adapted cover crops.
- d. Seed treatment of cover crops of the grain varieties.
- e. Inoculation of legume cover crop seed.
- f. Proper time and method of seeding.
- g. Proper preparation of land.
- h. Kind and amount of fertilizer to use according to soil sample.
- i. Amount of lime to use on cover crops as recommended by soil sample.
- j. Best use of cover crop.
- k. Demonstrations of desirable cover crops.

We tried to get these main points dealing with cover crops to the farmers by personal visits to farmers by county agent, through office visits, press, letters, meetings, bulletins, radio and specialists.

B. Alfalfa

The Agronomy Committee, realizing that alfalfa is the most superior crop in protein value we can raise and also be cut three or four times a season, we decided that we should put on a very intensive alfalfa program for both early spring and late summer seedings.

The agronomy committee set the goal to increase the acreage 525 acres in 1959 over last year. We feel that we exceeded this goal by thirty acres. This increase in acreage this year was mainly done by farmers seeding alfalfa for the first time.

We used the following methods in our alfalfa program:

- a. Advantages of growing alfalfa where adapted.

The 1954 census report shows that there are 1,497 farms in the county with an average size of 40.5 acres.

A large number of our farmers are part time farmers who work in the mines and other industries part time and farm the remaining. The farmers in the county not only have an excellent market for their products in the county but also in the adjacent coalfields of Eastern Kentucky. We find that the farmers in the county having such an excellent market are obtaining higher prices for their products than most farmers in the other counties of Virginia. However, with good roads and more efficient truck transportation our farmers are meeting more competition with other farm products of other states.

V. Project Activities

I. Agronomy

Since agronomy is the foundation of all agriculture we have tried to use it as a hub of a wheel in working in other projects of agriculture from it as spokes of a wheel. We feel that the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstration program, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation and the Lonesome Pine Soil Conservation District have helped us more than any programs to put over the Extension program to the farmers.

In 1959 we assisted 11,392 farmers and others in carrying out some type of improved land use practices; 960 farmers in carrying out contour and strip cropping practices; 615 farmers and others in grassing waterways; 780 farmers and others in water supply storage and distribution; 600 farmers and others in drainage; 2 farmers in irrigation; 5,360 farmers and others in use of lime; 10,693 farmers and others in correct use of commercial fertilizers; 915 farmers and others in production of soil improvement crops; 1,617 farmers and others in crop rotations; 26 farmers and others in land clearing operations.

In 1959 there were approximately 64,560 tons of commercial fertilizer and 14,125 tons of lime used as a result of the Agricultural Extension Service's recommendations.

Our experience has shown that the best way to decide the kinds and amounts of fertilizer and lime to be applied to a crop is to take soil samples of the field and send them to the Agronomy Department for analysis. Upon receiving analysis of the sample, we discuss it with the farmer and give him the Extension Agronomy's recommendations for the kind and amount of fertilizer and lime to use for this particular field and crop he wants to grow. This method of finding out the plant elements present and lacking in the soil has enabled us to give better recommendations from our

III. Brief Description of County Organization

The Agricultural Extension work in the county is an educational Service of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the United States Department of Agriculture with County Government cooperating. The four members of the Board of Supervisors are the governing body of the county.

The Wise County Extension staff consists of a county agent, home agent and secretary.

Since the old Agricultural Advisory Board has been discontinued, we are now in the process of developing the Virginia plan of organization for county Extension program development. When this plan is fully developed it will be known as the county Agricultural Extension Service Board rather than the Agricultural Advisory Board. The county agent has organized four commodity committees which are the agronomy, fruit and vegetable, dairy and forestry committees.

These commodity committees which consist of 40 members helped the county agent plan the work in the county for this year and also a long time program.

The Wise County Soil Conservation Association consists solely of the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority demonstrators of which there are ten members. The County Association is governed by a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

We have a 4-H Club Council consisting of 116 members who are officers and leaders of the twenty-nine 4-H Clubs. The duties of the 4-H Club Council are to plan the programs and activities of the 4-H Club Work and to supervise the carrying out of these programs and activities within the county.

IV. Description of Types of Agriculture in Wise County

Wise County is considered an industrial county, mainly coal mining. However, there is a considerable amount of agriculture carried on within the county. The county has a normal population of 56,000 people and we are trying to raise as many and much of the agricultural products that are adapted to the county to meet the food needs. The main types of agriculture we find adapted to our soils and climate are numerous vegetables, apples, strawberries, raspberries, dairy products, beef cattle, hogs, poultry and most of the agronomy crops. We have an average rainfall of approximately 58 inches which is normally well distributed during the year which makes our county very suitable to any crop production suited to our climatic conditions.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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COUNTY

Title

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1959

WISE

County