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NAKATIVE REPORT

FOR

BATH COUNTY

Francis Owen, Emergency
Food Conservation Assistant

NARRATIVE REPORT

1. Purpose of Emergency Program

The purpose of the emergency program is to increase food production and conservation in order that the food supply may be increased. This increase is especially needed now due to the war which has brought about an increase in the demand for food. Due to this great demand, it has been necessary to employ Emergency Foods workers to conduct the program in those counties or communities which are not being reached by the Extension Program.

I have been employed by the Emergency Fund to work three weeks out of each month in Bath County. This includes working with groups or individuals over the entire county. The other week of each month, I spend in Rockbridge County as an assistant to the Home Demonstration Agent. During this week, I meet the clubs or groups that have been scheduled to meet and I also aid the Agent in organizing new groups. The assistance during this week releases the Agent, thus enabling her to reach more unorganized groups or individuals with the Extension program.

2. How Organized and Conducted

The emergency program was organized by the District Home Demonstration Agent and the Emergency Food Conservation Assistant with the County Agent and other key people in the County cooperating. We contacted the leading woman or women in the communities and they helped to create interest among the remaining women in their community. The organization of this program included many home visits to the women in the county.

I scheduled meetings and demonstrations in the county. These meetings were written up each week in the County paper and this helped to increase the interest in the community in which the demonstration was held and also in other communities.

The groups decided upon topics or subjects which they needed to know more about and would like to have demonstrated to them. These subjects were always chosen along the line of Food Production and Conservation. This is the manner in which the programs were determined until the planning meeting was held in October.

The planning meeting was held for the purpose of determining the program for the County for 1945. Several key women in each community were asked to attend this planning meeting. These key women included the presidents of the clubs which have been organized and the leaders of the unorganized groups in the county. The program was planned according to the needs of the people in the county. Each month for the coming year is devoted to some phase of foods.

I have organized three Home Demonstration Clubs in the County. These people became interested in the program and wished to organize clubs in their communities. There are five unorganized groups in the county. These eight groups meet regularly and have demonstrations each month.

My work deals not only with organized or unorganized groups but with individuals as well. Some of the families are so isolated that they are not able to attend meetings but they need help. There are other families who have their own problems in the home which require individual attention. In both of these instances and other similar ones, I visit the individual's home and give them help.

3. Number Families Reached:

The number of additional families that have been reached through the emergency program is one hundred and forty-seven. These families have

been reached through demonstrations and home visits. They were not being served by the Extension program until the emergency program was made available in the County.

4. Pressure Cookers

There has been no pressure cookers actually brought in the county due to my influence. I have demonstrated the use of the pressure cooker to the women in the county. This has helped the women to see the real advantage in using them and has increased the desire to own one. Some of the women wished to buy cookers this year but were unable to do so. I think it has helped the people to learn the method by which the pressure cooker is used.

5. Cheese Demonstrations

I have given 8 cheese-making demonstrations to the women. Other families have received cheese-making directions from me but I did not actually demonstrate the making of cheese to them. I have ordered rennet and coloring for 29 women in the county. The women have shown much interest in making cheese and have made a total of 86 pounds in the county. This cheese was made for home use.

6. Outstanding Work Done

(a) Food Production-- The most outstanding work that has been done on food production in the county is by a family in cheese-making.

One family alone has made approximately 68 pounds of cheese for home use. This family is able to have cheese to use during the entire year. This one example has been an inspiration for other women and families in the county.

(b) Food Preservation--

One of the families in the county has canned a total of 1291 quarts of food. This number includes the quarts of fruits and vegetables canned. This same family has also done the following work in food preservation:

50 gallons of vegetables brined
50 pounds of fruits dried
56 pounds of vegetables dried
100 pounds of meat cured
1500 pounds of fruits stored
800 pounds of vegetables stored

4-H Club Organisation

When I came to the county in April, there was only one organized 4-H Club. The County Agent and I have organized two other 4-H Clubs making a total of three clubs for the county.

Since these clubs have been organized, we have found it necessary to divide them into smaller groups because the children live such a great distance apart. This will give us eight 4-H club groups for the coming year.

Since the large groups have been divided into neighborhood groups, the children will be able to receive much more help from their club work during the summer months as well as the winter.

One of the Home Demonstration Club members became interested in organizing a 4-H Club in her community. She and her husband helped us to organize this 4-H Club and they are acting as leaders for the group.

TO CONTINUE
REEL IN
SEQUENCE:

SCAN OVER TO
RIGHT SIDE OF
FILM,
REVOLVE FILM
AND LAMP
HEAD 180° OR
UNTIL DOCUMENT
READS CORRECTLY
THEN TURN FILM
ADVANCE CRANK
COUNTER CLOCK-
WISE UNTIL END
OF FILM IS
REACHED