

It is the opinion of many that the Northern Neck growers will have to decide whether or not they want to grow for the canner or solely for the "pink and green wrap market", and that the canner must decide whether or not he wants to continue canning a product that is losing demand on the grocer's shelf or to put up products for which a demand is growing such as: Juice, Purée, Paste, and Catsup.

Poultry

It is becoming evident that the farmer with a small poultry flock will not be able to compete with the large operators, and in just a very short time specialists will be furnishing the eggs for the farm table just as the large broiler producers are now furnishing the chickens. A great many farmers did not house a laying hen this fall, but four farmers have gone commercial, three to cages and one to floor housing. Three of these have retail routes in Washington and they should increase their earnings considerably.

Feed manufacturers have been most active in the county, but the Agent has urged his farmers to think the situation through before going into the business.

The Agent has worked closely with the poultry producers of the county on disease prevention, housing, and general management problems.

Farm and Home Management

The Agent worked closely with 13 families helping them to add new enterprises, make needed adjustments caused by changing conditions, and on Farm Management Problems in general.

V. SUMMARY

The Extension Program in this County was built largely on personal service and we still operate very much on this basis. However, there has been a definite change over the years from that of physical help to that of consultation and information.

During the year there were 1046 farm and home visits made, 1722 office visits, 2703 telephone calls, 17 news articles, 39 radio broadcasts, 5014 bulletins and leaflets distributed, and 67 meetings held relating to Extension work.

The Agents are sincerely appreciative of the support given to the Extension Program by the many volunteer leaders, the personnel of the N. N. State Bank, the Farm and Home Advisors of the two power companies, the seed and feed dealers, the farm machinery dealers, the gas and oil distributors, and the Editor of the Northern Neck News. They all helped to make the job of the Agents much easier in reaching the goals of the Extension program. Our local radio station, WJNT, has also made time available each day for a 15 minute program. Without their support and help we would accomplish little.

MINOR PROJECTS:

Weed Control

Controlling weeds is becoming one of the major problems confronting our farmers. The Agent has spent considerable time working with individual farmers on control measures. In addition to this, thirteen demonstrations were carried out as follows: 3 on burdock, 3 on horse nettle, 2 on bulbous buttercup, 2 on Johnson grass, 1 on wild garlic in wheat, 1 on chickweed in lawns, and 1 on summer grasses in asparagus. Good results were obtained on all except burdock and horse nettle. We believe that these two can be controlled and that work will be continued toward this end.

Information was given all farmers on control measures for the troublesome weeds of this area by leaflets, radio talks, and newspaper articles. The Agent is indebted to Mr. Allan Kates, Weed Specialist of V.P.I., for his assistance in this work.

Home Gardens

It is our aim that each farm family raise a good garden of sufficient size to produce the family's needs. While we do not consider this one of our major projects, we do give it more than passing attention. The value of a home garden is mentioned briefly at every opportune occasion. Garden leaflets are mailed to every farm family each month of the gardening season.

Tomato Quality Program

In February a County-wide meeting was held for the growers and canners to discuss the tomato situation. Specialists from V.P.I. and the Norfolk Experiment Station led a very interesting discussion on cultural practices, proper fertilization, prevention and control of insects and diseases, and tomato varieties. Slides on tomato culture were also used to show some of the most important practices recommended.

Farmers are showing more interest in producing quality tomatoes, and three area meetings have been held with representatives of the canning industry and other interested persons in an effort to get the canners and farmers to unite on a definite program to save the tomato industry in the Northern Neck. An area meeting of all interested parties, including members of the V.P.I. Horticulture Department, is set for Dec. 8th to develop a program for the area that will be acceptable to all parties concerned.

Our new variety, Campbell Soup 146, was introduced to the area and was well liked by the farmers and canners. It is a deep red tomato that hauls well and holds red for several hours after delivery to the canning plant. However, it did not look to be a good green wrap variety this past season.

Fund Raising

The 4-H Club Council of the county served food at the Spring and Fall Northern Neck Field Trials in order to raise money for the promotion of 4-H work and activities. Money made from the Spring trials was used to buy 4-H Roadside Signs. Money made from the Fall trials was placed in the County Council fund to use as the Council sees fit.

YOUNG ADULT WORK

Very little accomplishment was made toward the establishment of a Young Adult organization this year. A list was compiled of potential members and several members of the former club were contacted and expressed an interest in the reorganization of the club. It is the opinion of this Agent that when Extension personnel and time permits, there is a great need for a Young Adult organization to reach the young people of the County who are not now being reached through the Extension Program.

study and ceramics were two added features which contributed to the success of the camp. Special radio programs and news articles were used to help promote camp for future years.

4-H Achievement Day

Exhibits were placed in store windows in observance of 4-H Achievement Day. News articles also appeared in the local paper regarding the observance of Achievement Day.

Northern Neck Fair

4-H club members took a very active part in the Northern Neck Fair this year. There were approximately 30 4-H members who exhibited dairy and beef animals as well as swine at the Fair. Two educational exhibits were placed at the Fair by the Senior and Junior 4-H clubs. The Senior club exhibit on Safety won 2nd prize and the Junior club exhibit on Better 4-H Projects won 4th place. The 1st place educational exhibit was won by a member of the Warsaw Senior 4-H club with an exhibit on Forestry.

The Twin Cedars Senior and the Warsaw Intermediate 4-H clubs won 1st and 2nd prizes respectively for the greatest increase in number of exhibits per club.

Special Programs

Three programs on 4-H club work in the county were presented to Civic organizations during the year. These programs contributed to the development of leadership as well as keeping the public aware of the 4-H club work in the county.

4-H District Contest

Our District Contest was held in Richmond on May 10th. The contest was quite successful with large participation and interest shown by all who attended. The day was highlighted by a most enjoyable Chicken Barbecue and Award Program. Richmond County had two District winners.

Annual Award and Agricultural Banquet

Our Annual Agricultural Banquet was held in February. Approximately 150 persons attended. Recognition was given to Agricultural, Home Demonstration, and 4-H volunteer workers of the County. 4-H club members received county medals and awards for their achievements in 4-H club work.

members planted seed plots for wildlife cover and feed. These plots were judged and awards given in a contest sponsored by the Richmond County Ruritan Club.

Electric Project

Two workshops were held during the summer for members wanting to take the Electric project. These workshops were sponsored and instructed by the representatives of the two power suppliers in Warsaw. One boy entered the District Electric Demonstration Contest and was a winner, but was unable to attend Short Course to compete for State honors.

Forestry

Ten 4-H club members planted trees this year as a project and three of the awards in the County Contest went to 4-H club members. One boy entered an Educational Forestry exhibit at the Northern Neck Fair which won first place among the Educational exhibits and created quite a bit of favorable comment.

During the early spring a demonstration was given to all interested 4-H club members in planting seedlings and killing of undesirable hardwoods.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Participation of 4-H Club members in all club activities is constantly stressed. The majority of these activities were the results of goals set up by the County Council.

Rural Life Sunday

A special meeting was called by the 4-H Club Council to discuss plans for Rural Life Sunday. 4-H members of the different churches in the county contacted their ministers and made plans for special services.

4-H Short Course

Three girls, Vanelia Oakley, Barbara Gray, and Patsy Bowen, and two boys, Evans Lewis and Francis Gray, attended the 4-H Short Course at Blacksburg along with Robert F. Hutchinson, Ass't. County Agent. Barbara Gray was taken into the All Star organization. Evans Lewis participated in the State Tractor Driving Contest.

4-H District Camp

Richmond County had 31 boys and girls, leaders and Agents to attend the Jamestown 4-H Camp. This years camp was considered one of the best we have had by all who attended. Special classes in Nature

judging contests conducted by Extension Agents and Specialists who held numerous night training meetings. As a result of these contests and meetings a team was taken to Richmond to participate in the Dairy Judging Contest of the District.

During the summer a demonstration was held on the Fitting and Showing of Dairy Animals, with the help of the Extension Specialist. 4-H club members in the county exhibited their animals at the Northern Neck Fair and came away with numerous prizes.

Swine

There is also a 4-H Pig Chain in the county sponsored by the Seare-Roebeck Foundation. All of the pigs in this chain are registered Hampshires. Ten purebred gilts and two boars have been placed with club members during the past year.

4-H club members contributed to the promotion of the first Feeder Pig Sale in this area by consigning pigs which they owned.

Tractor Maintenance

During the winter a Tractor Maintenance School was held at night at the two high schools in the county. This project was sponsored and taught by the Farm Machinery dealers and Oil Distributors of the area. Two former 4-H club members served as leaders in this project and did an excellent job. Classes were offered in both the A and B Units of the Tractor Maintenance Program. 34 boys enrolled in the two courses with about 30 completing. The classes were followed by a County Tractor Driving Contest for both Junior and Senior members. Awards were given in both the Junior and Senior division for driving ability, perfect attendance in the course, and outstanding record books. The winners of the junior and senior contest participated in the District Tractor Driving Contest held in Richmond, at which time the Senior winner was again awarded first place and later went to Blacksburg to compete in the State Contest.

Safety

This project was taken as a group project by the two Senior clubs in the county. During the year instruction and demonstrations were given in water, electric, firearms, household, farmstead, and automobile safety. Public workers in the county gave much of the instruction in this project and made the members safety conscious.

Wildlife - Song and Game Birds

This project was taken by the Warsaw and Farnham Junior and Intermediate 4-H clubs. It served to teach the members Wildlife Conservation and Bird Identification. Approximately 25 4-H club

10. To have at least one recreational activity in each club during the year.
11. To have County Council pay half the expenses of one boy and one girl to State 4-H Short Course.
12. To encourage prospective members to join a 4-H club.
13. To have group 4-H singing at each club meeting and other special 4-H activities.
14. To have County 4-H Boundary Road Signs placed on all highways leading into the County.

Methods

To accomplish the goals of the 4-H program in the County, the following methods were used:

- a. Regular home visits by the Extension Agents and leaders helped a great deal in the success of the over-all 4-H program.
- b. News articles, radio talks, and correspondence were all used as educational media to reach our goals.
- c. Local leaders and Extension Specialists were used at club meetings, contests, and demonstrations to present the instructional phase of the 4-H project.
- d. Members of the Adult Advisory Committee acted as project leaders and held monthly meetings to improve the 4-H program and to discuss new ideas.
- e. Both professional and lay workers of the county were used as leaders in presenting instruction to 4-H members.
- f. The 4-H County Council met whenever necessary to train Officers and develop leaders and to correlate the county 4-H program.
- g. District 4-H Camp, Short Course, and District Contests contributed to the development of leadership.

PROJECTS

Dairy

There is a very active Dairy Chain in the county sponsored by The Northern Neck State Bank and local dairymen in the county. This chain consists of registered animals, and it's overall purpose is to establish high producing and better quality dairy animals throughout the county. Four dairy animals have been placed with 4-H club members this year making a total of 38 heifers placed since the Chain was begun a number of years ago. Before receiving a heifer a member must demonstrate his ability and be approved by the County Extension Agents and the Advisory Committee. Once he receives the animal, the first registered heifer calf produced is in turn given to another qualified 4-H club member.

Special training meetings were held during the spring to train members in Dairy Judging. These meetings consisted of three actual

4-H CLUB WORKOrganization

Richmond County has ~~six~~ 4-H clubs with an enrollment of approximately 217 members. These clubs meet once a month in the two county High Schools. The club year begins at the beginning of the school year following a pre-school planning meeting of the 4-H County Council. During the regular club meetings the primary emphasis is placed on group projects. These projects are given careful selection by the 4-H Council in order to appeal to various age and interest groups.

Many outside sources of information are brought in to help carry out these projects with the overall supervision from the County Extension Agents and local leaders. Each club member is encouraged to carry at least one individual project in addition to the group projects. Instruction in the individual project is accomplished largely through contests, demonstrations, training meetings, and visits by the local leaders and Extension personnel.

There is a 4-H Club County Council made up of the officers of the eight 4-H Clubs in the county. The purpose of this Council is to correlate and plan the activities of all clubs and advise and aid the Extension personnel and local leaders in carrying out the 4-H program.

Richmond County has a 4-H Adult Advisory Committee which has been of utmost importance in carrying out the 4-H program. This committee is made up of ladies and men from each community within the county and serve as both project and club leaders. In addition to this committee there are a number of other adult project leaders in the County.

GOALS

The annual goals set up this year by the County 4-H Council and approved by the Extension Agents and the Adult Committee, are as follows:

1. To observe Special National 4-H events as 4-H Club Week, Rural Life Sunday, National 4-H Achievement Day, etc.
2. To have county "Share-the-fun" Program with at least one entrant from each club.
3. To have at least 25 members attend District Camp with each club represented.
4. To make available 4-H member signs.
5. To have 80% completion of record books.
6. To have an educational 4-H exhibit at the Northern Neck Fair.
7. To have at least 5 members from each club to exhibit at the Northern Neck Fair.
8. To have adult organizational and project leaders in each club.
9. To have County Council President and a member from each 4-H club attend the Adult Advisory Committee meetings.

Several landowners have bulldozed areas and will plant this fall.

First and Second prize money will be awarded to the winners in each of the practices. It is most gratifying to the Agent that two of the first place winners were 4-H club boys.

Landowners have become very conscious of their woodlands and are intensely interested in reforestation. To the best of the Agent's knowledge, all woodland owners in the county are having their timber cruised by a disinterested party or the State Forest Service before selling it. The State Forest Service and the Chesapeake Corporation foresters have been most helpful with their on-the-job service to our woodland owners. The Forestry committee has been helpful in putting the program across.

SOYBEANS

Soybeans are one of our main money crops and are the largest in acreage - almost 40% of the cultivated area of the county is planted to this crop. The County's average yield is about 17 bushels per acre. We believe this is true because approximately 30% of the crop is planted after small grains.

Our goal this year was to increase the average yield by 2 bu. per acre.

Our local Experiment Station has found that soybeans make the highest yield when planted May 20-30th. Therefore, we are urging our farmers to plant as near this date as is possible to do so, and to discontinue planting after June 30th. Many farmers are planting on the recommended dates, but we still have some who plant as late as July 15th.

We also urged our farmers to plant only the best varieties such as Ogden, Lee, Dorman, and S-100. Ogden and Lee are the bulk of the crop grown. There is a real need for a good medium early soybean - one that could be harvested in time for small grains to be planted on the same land at the proper planting date.

Controlling weeds in soybeans is a problem, and to help control them we are urging our farmers to make plantings only on fresh well prepared seedbeds. If this is done, in most instances the soybeans will get an early start on the weeds and can be cultivated in time to control them. Also we are urging our farmers to do a good job of controlling weeds in their corn crops to help keep the land free of weed seed.

In the early part of the summer the Agent assisted in organizing the Tappahannock Feeder Pig Association. This Association is a non-profit organization, and embraces the 9 counties of the Tappahannock Livestock Market trading area. The Agent also assisted in holding the first State Graded Feeder Pig Sale of the area on Oct. 28th. A total of 744 pigs were sold. Eleven Richmond County farmers consigned 190 pigs, and were well pleased with the \$17.35 average price received. It is the aim of the Association to conduct sales as often as sufficient pigs are available.

The Agent has also urged farmers to use hogs to clean up after corn pickers and combines, and many farmers are doing so this year.

Much attention has also been given to the saving of more pigs per litter. A good many farrowing houses and pig brooders have been constructed. Several producers are using iron shots to strengthen weak pigs and are also giving their brood sows more attention at farrowing time.

Several tours were made with interested farmers to observe hog feeding operations and farrowing equipment. Two farmers have erected Pig Parlors and have them in operation. Several are feeding hogs for the first time.

FORESTRY

Richmond County has approximately 76,200 acres of forest, and of this area the Forest Service estimates the species as follows: 10,000 acres of pure pine, 500 acres 50% pine, and 61,200 acres less than 50% pine - mostly hard and off woods. They further state that we have 16% less pine than we had in 1940, and that hardwoods and off woods are rapidly taking over some of the good pine land. There are very few tracts of good saw timber in the county.

The Forestry Committee set up the following goals for 1958:

1. Get 20 woodland owners to seek the help of a qualified forester in developing a management and reforestation plan for his woodland.
2. Urge landowners to retire submarginal land to trees under the Soil Bank program.
3. Urge all timber owners to seek the advice of a qualified forester before harvesting their timber.
4. Encouraging 4-H boys to carry reforestation projects.
5. To get 400 acres of land reforested to approved species of trees.

A Forestry Contest was conducted again this year with 26 landowners participating and carrying out the following practices:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Bulldozing for natural reseeding | - 4 acres |
| 2. Spot planting and killing | - 83 " |
| 3. Release of desirable stands | - 93 " |
| 4. Bulldozing and planting | - 45.1 " |
| 5. Open field planting | - 5 " |

Noxious weeds, such as Horsenettle, burdock, bulbous buttercup, garlic, and Mare's tail are a problem in many of our pastures, and several of the farmers are spraying with chemicals to eradicate them under the direction of the Agent. Demonstrations conducted in 1956 and 1957 provided the needed information and created much interest in the control of the above weeds.

LIVESTOCK - Better Quality Program

The Livestock Committee has developed the following program for 1958:

1. To improve the quality of the Livestock in the County.
2. To help develop a sound marketing program.
3. To urge farmers to utilize livestock to prevent waste of forage and grain on the farm.

While there has been some improvement in the quality of our livestock, there is still much needed improvement to be made. The commercial dairymen have improved their herds considerably by purchasing good quality cows at dispersal sales and by a rigid culling program; also some artificial heifers from our artificial breeding program are coming into production and in most cases are better than their dams.

We were not able to keep the Richmond-Westmoreland Artificial Breeding Association in operation, and so it was dissolved in May. However, through a working agreement with one of our largest dairymen, we are able to get some of our better cows and the 4-H club heifers bred artificially.

A year-round program on the control of insects and parasites has gotten many of our producers, both beef and dairy, on a good control program.

The Beef Bull Exchange program is in operation. Bulls were exchanged on three farms and five were purchased. The Agent assisted in culling four beef herds, and helped to locate twenty females that were added to three herds.

All producers selling their calves through the Feeder Calf Sale creep-fed their calves for approximately two months with excellent results. They averaged about one grade higher and were much heavier in weight than in past years. Our last large beef herd has been gotten on the correct breeding schedule, and will have calves eligible for the coming year's Feeder Calf Sale from a breeding standpoint.

The Livestock Committee and the Agent feel that our small farmers could increase their income by producing Feeder Pigs for sale, and much emphasis has been placed on this phase of our livestock program. The Agent assisted 12 farmers in purchasing 13 bred gilts and 15 open gilts of breeding age of the Yorkshire and Hampshire breeds. Eight registered boars of breeding age were purchased of the Hampshire, Yorkshire and Duroc breed. The number of sows in the county has been doubled over that of a year ago.

We have long preached that the best cultivation a corn crop could receive is the one before the crop is planted and each year the Agent has seen an improvement in the seedbed preparation.

Weed control in corn has become very important and the Agent instructed many farmers in spraying for the first time. Good control was gotten on all weeds except cocklebur. The Agent is of the opinion that this weed germinated after the spraying was done.

The Agent wrote circular letters, newspaper articles, made radio talks, and gave out bulletins on corn production.

Due to the cold wet spring weather the Agent spent considerable time in the field helping to determine the cause of poor corn stands. Insects, cold weather, and fertilizer damage were the principal causes.

PASTURES - 12-Month Grazing Program

The Agricultural Census shows that we have approximately 3500 cattle. We estimate that we have about 6800 acres of pasture land, of which 1800 acres could be classified as good, 1100 acres classified as fair, and the balance of 3900 acres as "exercise ground". We feel that we should have at least 6000 acres of good pasture land in the county. The SCS believes that, according to good "land use", about 25% of the open land in the county should be in grass. Therefore, we have set this as our long-time objective. Another long-time objective is to get livestock producers to provide supplemental winter and summer grazing for their cattle.

A Pasture Contest, based on a 12-month grazing program, was sponsored by the Agronomy Committee and the Northern Neck State Bank. A good 12-month grazing program has been established by all of our commercial dairymen. Several beef cattlemen are doing a good job of providing grass for their cattle. However, we have not gotten the participation in the contest that we should have and the Agent will recommend that the contest not be conducted in 1959.

Farmers with improved permanent pastures are doing a creditable job of management. Rotational grazing and clipping recommendations are being followed. Yearly topdressings are a must for maximum grazing and maintenance. This is being done by a large majority of the farmers.

23 farmers seeded 169 acres of Pearl Millet for supplemental summer grazing. 76 have seeded approximately 700 acres of small grain, rye grass and crimson clover for winter grazing. 82 acres of permanent pasture (grass and legumes) were seeded, and four Ladino clover pastures were established for brood sows. 66 acres of old permanent pastures were renovated.

One late summer nitrogen topdressing demonstration on Bermuda grass was carried out with fair results on the H. P. Delano Dairy farm. 60 lbs. of nitrogen was applied per acre.

CORN

Corn is one of our major crops in acreage and income, and we feel that the average acreage yield of corn can be increased. The Agronomy Committee set as their long-time objective to increase the average yield of 45 bu. to 55 bu. by 1960. The goal for this year was to increase the yield by 3 bu. per acre by using the following methods:

1. To conduct 100 bu. Corn Contest and to recognize the winner as Corn King for 1958. The Northern Neck State Bank will furnish the Trophy.
2. To get farmers to plant good high yielding hybrids.
3. To get local seedsmen to carry the recommended hybrids.
4. To urge farmers to properly prepare land before planting.
5. To get farmers to seed Crimson Clover and small grains in late row planted soybeans, and on lespedeza sods to provide nitrogen and organic matter for corn.
6. To get farmers to have soil analyzed and to fertilize according to soil analysis for maximum yields.
7. To urge farmers to treat seed corn for soil insects.

The Committee organized the 100 Bu. Corn Club with 29 farmers enrolled. There was an excellent corn growing season this year and yields range from 75 bushels to 142 bushels per acre. The average yield per acre for all participants was 112 bu. The County average yield is estimated to be around 55 bu. per acre.

The leading hybrids planted were: Pioneer 312A, Pioneer 309, Pioneer 338, Funk's G134, Funk's G91, SS Pocahontas, VPI 426 and 646.

During the winter the Agent contacted all the seedsmen in this area and secured their cooperation in stocking only the recommended hybrids for this area.

Through radio, newspaper articles, and circular letters we urged all farmers to have their soil tested so that a better job of fertilizing for maximum production could be done. Fertilizer salesmen and committee members cooperated in this endeavor and many soil samples were brought in. The Agent made fertilizer recommendations for a large number of farmers.

Several farmers applied broadcast 400 lbs. of 0-20-20 before planting, 200 lbs. of 5-10-10 in the row at planting time, and sidedressed with 40-50 lbs. of liquid nitrogen. They made some of the highest yields in the county.

We also urged all farmers to treat their seed corn with a good seed corn protectant to help prevent injury by soil borne insects. We secured the help of the seed corn suppliers in urging their customers to use the same and a large number followed our recommendations with good results.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION

The County Agricultural Board held its overall planning meeting in early February. Slight changes were made in the time schedule of the present Long-time objectives, and soybeans were added as one of the major objectives. Commodity Committees were appraised and suggestions were made as to the committees needed and as to the future members.

The County Agricultural Board is composed of the following representatives: Chairmen of the County ASC Committee
 County H. D. Committee
 Adult 4-H Advisory Committee
 County Board of Supervisors
 Commodity Committees
 President of 4-H County Council
 One Agricultural Instructor
 County SCS Conservationist
 Key Banker and one Minister
 Local FHA worker
 Key farmers
 Superintendent of Schools
 District Forester
 Superintendent of Experiment Station

Immediately after the Agricultural Board's meeting the Commodity Committees met and determined their goals for the year. During the year there were also several meetings of the Commodity Committees to evaluate the progress being made and to offer suggestions on how to reach the goals. The Commodity Committees are: Agronomy, Forestry, Livestock and 4-H Club.

The final meeting of the year is usually held in February of the coming year. It is a Dinner meeting to which all committee members, contest winners, and Extension friends are invited. Winners of the various contests, including 4-H club winners are recognized, and awards are presented them by the various chairmen in charge of their respective project contest. A brief summary of the Extension year's work is given by the various department chairmen. The Northern Neck State Bank is the sponsor of this meeting.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

The County Agricultural Board requested that major emphasis be given the following projects for 1958:

1. Increased Corn yields
2. Pastures - 12 month grazing program
3. A better quality Livestock program
4. Forestry
5. 4-H Club work
6. Soybeans
7. Older Youth Work

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

The total area of Richmond County is 122,880 acres. The 1955 Census gives 59.2% or 72,751 acres in farms - of this acreage about 25,000 acres are cropland. 2600 acres are in pasture, leaving approximately 23,400 acres for crops. Total open land in pasture is 6,486 acres.

The 1955 census gives the total value of farm products sold as \$1,125,000.00. This amount is broken down as follows:

- \$648,000.00 from field crops, chiefly soybeans, wheat and corn.
- 70,000.00 from tomatoes
- 115,000.00 from poultry and poultry products - chiefly eggs
- 114,000.00 from livestock and livestock products
- 118,000.00 from milk and cream
- 60,000.00 from hogs

According to the 1955 Census we grow about 6900 acres of corn, approximately 6000 acres of small grains, 8300 acres of soybeans, and 700 acres of tomatoes. The Census also gives us 3352 cattle on 443 farms.

During a normal season our average crop yields are approximately as follows:

- Corn - 45 bu.
- Wheat - 23 "
- Soybeans - 17 "

The overall soybean average is very low due to the acreage planted after small grains are harvested.

The income from forest products - lumber (stumpage) and pulpwood brought in approximately \$600,000.00 in 1954. Our forests are a very important source of income to our people.

The big problem is to increase the income of our small farmers as 74% of them are cultivating 50 acres or less, and 80% have a gross farm income of \$2500.00 and less.

Six major religious bodies are found in the county, with the Baptists leading in membership. Others follow in the order given: Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Christian and Catholic. Six white ministers are located in the county. There are 15 white and six colored churches in the county.

The offices of the following agencies assisting farmers are located at Warsaw: Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, A.S.C., and the Farmers Home Administration.

Warsaw is the home of The Tidewater Telephone Company, the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative, a branch of the Virginia Electric & Power Co., and a branch of Levi Strauss Co. They employ approximately 450 people - about 75% are women.

There are several smaller businesses employing from three to ten persons.

The Annual payroll in Warsaw is approximately 2½ million dollars, which is about twice the gross value of all farm products sold by Richmond County farmers excluding wood products.

RICHMOND COUNTY

General Information

This County, with a land area of 203 sq. miles or 122,880 acres, and a water area of 11 sq. miles, lies in the Coastal Plain on the narrow peninsula between the Rappahannock and the Potomac Rivers, has long been known as the "Northern Neck" of Virginia. It is 55 miles N.E. of Richmond, and the same distance S.E. of Fredericksburg. There are no railroads. Good roads prevail throughout the county. Shipping of all commodities is done by truck transportation.

Altitudes run from sea level to no more than 170 feet. Normal precipitation is about 42 inches annually. There are no mineral deposits of commercial importance. Approximately 75% of the area is in forest. The soil types are principally sassafras, Kempsville, Woodstown, Fallington and Mattapek. The 1950 Census gave the population of the County as 6,180, and as being approximately 35% negro. The population is listed as being about 50% rural farm and 50% rural non-farm. The County seat is Warsaw, which is the largest and only incorporated town in the County. It has a population of 435.

The chief industry has always been agriculture. There are 675 farms in the county, 142 of them being non-white. The average size farm is 107 acres. Field crops; corn, wheat and soybeans, bring in the greatest part of the farm income. Poultry and eggs are important, there are 7 Grade "A" dairy farms in the county. A Creamery at Warsaw provides a local market for cream and milk which is trucked to Fredericksburg for processing. Oystering, commercial fishing, and wood products also bring in part of the total income.

The entire area has access to electricity, being served by the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative and the Virginia Electric & Power Company. Better than 95% of the farm have electricity. Telephone service is provided by the Tidewater Telephone Company. Approximately 1/3 of the farms have telephone service, and about 46% of the homes have running water. All of the above utilities have headquarters in Warsaw.

There are no public parks or playgrounds in the county. The playgrounds and athletic fields of the public schools are available for community use. Recreational activities are sponsored by the Civic Clubs, churches, schools, 4-H clubs, and other organizations.

There are three High Schools in the County - 2 white and 1 negro. The white schools are crowded. There are 3 negro Elementary schools. The total 1957-58 enrollment for white students is 796 and the negro enrollment is 594.

The Health Department staff consists of one Health Officer, one Nurse, and one Sanitation Officer, working on a 4-county basis. There is also a County Welfare office. We have located in the county 2 medical doctors, 1 dentist and 8 registered nurses.

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 - e. Soybeans
 - f. 4-H Club Work
 - g. Older Youth Work
 - Minor Projects:
 - a. Weed Control
 - b. Home Gardens
 - c. Tomato Quality Program
 - d. Poultry
 - e. Farm & Home Management
- V. Summary

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

W. A. Farner
Name
Society Agent
Title

Robert L. Hutchinson
Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1958

Richmond
County