

VIRGINIA

HALIFAX Home Demonstration Agent Annual Report 1939
County

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REPORT FILES
EXTENSION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
HALIFAX COUNTY
VIRGINIA

HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT
1939

Miss Mary Walker

Home Demonstration Agent

December 1, 1938, - November 30, 1939

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III. SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

Days in field.....	221
Days in office.....	63
Days annual leave.....	23
Days sick leave.....	0
Days leave without pay.....	0
Legal holidays taken.....	6.6
Number home visits made(adults).....	263
Number 4-H Club members visited.....	108
Total number different homes visited.....	315
Number office calls.....	217
Number telephone calls.....	85
Number news articles or stories published.....	152
Number individual letters written.....	543
Number different circular letters written.....	70
Number meetings attended.....	314
Number miles traveled.....	11,516

IV. The County and its people

Halifax County lies in the "one crop" section where the farmers concentrate on producing tobacco. This county covers 814 square miles, borders on North Carolina. The soils are about the same as other Piedmont soils. The county is triangular in shape, the southern and western boundaries are formed by straight lines and the north and eastern by streams.

Halifax County is divided into eight smooth areas or ridges and three basin like areas which was formed from remnants of ancient sea bottoms. The steepest slopes are near the streams. Elevation above sea level range from 300 feet to nearly 600 feet. The prevailing slope of the county is southeastward.

Drainage is effected through the Dan, Roanoke, Banister and Hycos rivers.

The population of Halifax County is 41,283 of which 4,841 is urban and 36,442 is rural. The density of the rural population is 44.8 persons a square mile. 54.1% of the inhabitants are native white, 0.1% foreign born and 45.7% negro.

A large portion of Halifax County is formed by tenant farmers numbering 6500, while only 4,200 of the population are full land owners. As a whole the farm owners' homes are inadequate and in only fair condition, while most of the tenant houses are small and in poor condition.

V. Financial Support of Work

The Home Demonstration work of Halifax County is financially supported by two county boards: the Board of Supervisors, composed of representative men from each of the eight magisterial districts. This board meets the first of each year and makes up a county budget setting aside the sum of \$720.00 for the support of Home Demonstration Work. The school board, composed of representative men and women from the eight magisterial districts, appropriate \$100.00 a year for the support of Home Demonstration Work. Both of these boards give approval and cooperation to this work.

VI. Women's Work

1. Organization

A. County Homemaking Board

The County Homemaking Board is composed of presidents of fifteen Home Demonstration Clubs of the county, county chairmen

of the Federation goals, the Farm Security home supervisor, the supervisor of county Welfare Work, the Health Officer, farm agent, and a vocational home economics teacher. This Board discusses the needs of the county people and means of meeting these needs. The county-wide campaign, nutrition, health, and education for soil conservation were found to be particular projects which all agencies represented could cooperate in carrying out. The Health Department has been of great service to the Home Demonstration Clubs in reaching their Health Federation goal this year. The clubs feel that they have in turn helped the Health Department in improving health conditions in the county. Having a vocational home economics teacher on the county Board has meant a better understanding between the home economics education work and the home demonstration work of the county. Much overlapping of work has been prevented, and the teachers have been very interested and helpful in the 4-H Club work. The teachers are also showing more interest in home demonstration work and attend many of the county meetings. Through the presence of the farm agent on the Board, the women have showed more interest in the soil improvement programs, and have had more joint meetings with the Men's Clubs.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee, composed of the fifteen Home Demonstration Club presidents, has as its most important function the making of a county program of work for the clubs, and the transacting of all county-wide business. The Committee this year met four times. As a part of the Homemaking Board, the committee met in January to adopt the 1939 program of work and discuss plans for carrying it out.

The following goals set up have been met: to hold two regular meetings for planning and adopting the next year's program, to send a delegate to Blacksburg, to sponsor an Achievement Day, to sponsor a Pest Control Campaign reaching 200 non-member families, give more responsibility to club officers, to encourage attendance at the pre-natal clinics, to push the live-at-home program, to extend the extension program through the organization of new groups, to reach 1000 non-members through activities of club members. Goals which have been met partially are: have club leaders give three demonstrations without the aid of the agent (five clubs failed to reach this, but two of these were the newly organized clubs), to raise the club membership from 407 to 500 (the present enrollment is only 410).

In April the entire Board met again to discuss background facts for 1940 program plans. Members of the executive committee

then presented these facts to their clubs and decided on the greatest needs in each community. At a meeting of the executive committee in June, each club president reported her club's choice for a major program. The request for some phase of Home Management was almost unanimous, and the committee voted this the major project for 1940. The need for some organized Older Youth work in the county was repeatedly brought out at this and the previous Board meetings. Older Youth work was therefore chosen for the Federation Goal to be stressed. All of the Home Demonstration Clubs, as well as the home economics teacher, farm agent, and others in the county had expressed the need for united efforts for improving county roadsides and yards. This was selected as a worthwhile county-wide campaign. Following this meeting the clubs discussed the particular phases of Home Management, which they would like to have stressed. With this information, the County Homemaking Board delegate to the Blacksburg meeting met with the State Home Management Specialist and representatives from other counties majoring in home management. County representatives also attended State Committee meetings for campaign and Federation Goal planning.

These representatives brought suggestions to the Executive Committee's planning meeting held in September, with the help of the State Home Management Specialist. The month-by-month program was made for the 6 major project demonstrations, a Federation Goal program, and a program on the county-wide campaign.

C. Home Demonstration Clubs

There are fifteen organized Home Demonstration Clubs in Halifax County. Two of these were organized this year. Each club has the following officers, elected yearly: president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, two project leaders, Federation Goal chairman, campaign chairman, and recreation chairman. The president of each club is a member of the County Homemaking Board.

D. Scope of Work

(1) According to the 1930 census, there are 3100 white homemakers in Halifax County, this number representing 53% of the homemakers in the county. 450 of these white homemakers are being reached directly by home demonstration work. Approximately 2400 others are reached indirectly.

(2) Enrollment for the past three years:

YEAR :	NO. CLUBS :	MEMBERSHIP :	NO. REACHED INDIRECTLY :
1937 :	13 :	430 :	2690 :
1938 :	13 :	407 :	2720 :
1939 :	15 :	410 :	2400 :

(3) Magisterial districts in the county, and the clubs in each.

Staunton District - 4 adult clubs and 4 4-H clubs
Meadville District - 2 adult clubs and 1 4-H club
Birch Creek District - 2 adult clubs and 1 4-H club
Red Bank District - 3 adult clubs and 1 4-H club
Banister District - 2 adult clubs and 1 4-H club
Roanoke District - 2 adult clubs and 4 4-H clubs
Mt. Carmel District - 1 4-H club
Black Walnut District - 1 4-H club

2. Project Work

A. Major: Foods

The Foods major project for 1938 was again chosen for the 1939 program. Much was accomplished in the first year's program toward encouraging the live-at-home program and improving cooking methods. This year the program stressed well-planned meals and school lunches and the esthetic phase of food preparation and serving. The following demonstrations were given in the clubs:

Meal-Planning
Well Planned School Lunches
Company Dinners
Table Service and Courtesies
Simple Refreshments
Christmas Foods and Table Settings

As a result of the meal-planning demonstration 314 members reported serving better balanced meals. 186 families report improving home-packed school lunches. Many improvements in table setting and in the attractive serving of food have been observed and reported. The improvement in the menu and serving

of simple refreshments has been demonstrated many times by the serving of refreshments at club meetings.

B. Minors

The following minor projects were selected by the clubs: canning, poultry, furniture arrangement, furniture renovating, flower gardening, consumer buying, home care of the sick.

In connection with the canning program 360 women made canning budgets in the spring. 140 club members produced and preserved foods to meet the budgets for their families. 16 pressure cookers were purchased by club members this year. More meat was canned this year. The prize-winning club booth at the County Fair demonstrated in an excellent way the correct canning methods.

Two poultry culling demonstration were given, and a poultry school was held in cooperation with the farm agent.

Much interest was shown in the demonstrations on furniture upholstering and slip-covers. One of the club booths at the County Fair was an excellent example of the results of this demonstration. Seventeen women reported improving their homes by making slip-covers.

C. Community Projects

Each Home Demonstration Club selected one or more projects to benefit their communities. Several clubs chose the sponsoring of immunization clinics, which proved very worthwhile. One club reported 110 children, both white and colored receiving toxoid at its diphtheria clinic. Another club was responsible for the immunization of 45 for diphtheria and 79 for typhoid. Another club held a pre-school clinic in the form of a party.

Six clubs improved the grounds and exterior of their community churches. General clean-ups, the planting of trees, shrubs, and grass, painting the church exterior, and improving the cemetery were improvements made. Besides the actual improvements made a fine spirit of community cooperation was encouraged by these projects.

Three clubs did something for the benefit of their schools. One beautified the school grounds, one made possible the serving of hot lunches, and one bought uniforms for the school's basketball team. The latter also gave a kitchen shower for the school home economics department.

One club made an attractive community meeting hall for all clubs and community affairs by improving and refurnishing an old Masonic Hall. Two other clubs are working on a long-time goal of building community houses with the cooperation of the men. One of these clubs had as one of its goals to encourage the organization of a men's agricultural organization in the community, and the women were very happy when this became a reality.

3. Project Leadership

A. Three leader-training meetings have been held for the major project. Two of these were conducted by the specialist one by the agent. Leaders of three clubs attended all three meetings. Leaders of five other clubs attended two meetings. One of the goals for 1940 is to have all leaders to attend all leader-training meetings. The goal set for the county was to have the leaders of each club give at least three of the demonstrations.

B. This goal was attained in ten clubs. This has done much to develop leadership ability and self-confidence in these women. Thirty-six of the major projects were given entirely or mostly by the leaders. The responsibility for thirty-seven other demonstrations was taken by the leaders.

4. Other Activities

A. Campaigns

A county chairman and a chairman from each club composed the county committee for the county-wide campaign on Pest Control. This was chosen because of repeated requests from all parts of the county for some sort of program on pest control. The campaign proved very timely as this year the insect pests and rodents seemed to be even worse than last year. The committee decided to have one program in each Home Demonstration Club devoted to a discussion of the common pests and recommended methods for controlling them. The other agencies represented on the Homemaking Board were very helpful with suggestions for the program and cooperated in carrying out the campaign. Several newspaper articles were published and two circular letters distributed. More than 300 bulletins on Pest Control were requested and distributed.

Each member was asked to help at least one non-member family in controlling pests. Reports showed that more than 300 non-members were helped in this way. 116 homes were reported screened this year, and 375 general cleanups of home grounds were made. 310 reported using effectively rotenone for bean control. In cooperation with the farm agent a termite-control meeting was held by two state extension specialists. Individual help was given two club members and several others in preventing further termite damage.

Toward the control of rats, the recommended methods were rat proofing buildings and the use of Red Squill poison. One member reported killing 360 rats. A definite rat campaign was planned with the cooperation of the Men's organizations, but this has been postponed until February, 1940. The town of South Boston did carry out a very successful rat campaign using the Red Squill.

The 4-H girls were urged to take part in the campaign. Since their major project was clothing, they did a great deal of work on moth control.

While records of definite results are difficult to obtain, the campaign has been very successful. Its educational value cannot be told in figures, but its influence will continue into the future.

B. Income Earnings

(2) One member adds to the cash income of her family by selling cheese, which she learned to make at a club demonstration. Although she is busy farm woman, who says she really enjoys her cheese-making and is very proud of her increasing number of customers. Her profits have not been very large this year but she plans to increase her sales next year. This woman also has sold home-canned fruit juices.

C. Recreation

Each Home Demonstration Club had a recreation chairman. Some clubs have recreational features at their meetings once a quarter. One club had some form of recreation at every club meeting this year. Three of the clubs had Christmas parties. Fourteen clubs held supper meetings this summer in the form of a picnic, Brunswick stew, or fish fry. Six of these clubs invited the men.

E. County Meetings

(1) **Halifax County Fair.** Thirteen Home Demonstration Clubs set up booths, each carrying out some phase of the club program. Each club was awarded \$10.00 for having a worthwhile booth. Prizes of \$25, \$20, \$15, and \$11 were awarded the four which were judged best. Points for judging were: educational value 50%, arrangement 25%, and quality of products 25%. The following subjects were effectively demonstrated by club booths:

- Canning Methods and Equipment
- Balanced Meals from the Pantry Shelves
- A Good Wayside Market
- Food for Children
- Useful Articles from the Scrap Bag
- Simple Refreshments
- Christmas Decorations
- Table Setting
- Live-at-Home
- "Before" and "After" Yard Improvement
- A Room Arranged for Home Care of the Sick
- Slip-Covers
- Outdoor Cookery

(2) The annual Achievement Day program for the Halifax County Home Demonstration Clubs was held October 28 with an attendance of 150. The State Director of Home Demonstration work made the address of the day, having as a basis for her talk the idea of better planning for more efficient and happier homes. Instead of the usual plan for club reports, all reports were given together in the form of a panel discussion on the different activities and phases of club work. The women all liked this method very much, and asked that it be used in the future. An entertaining feature of the afternoon program was an illustrated talk on "Hobbies", given by a county club member who had won national recognition for her unusual hobby. Two canning contests and a Simple Refreshments Contest were held. The number of entries was very disappointing but the quality of all exhibits entered was excellent. The lunch was served in a very efficient manner by the committee composed of club women assisted by 4-H girls. Other committees proved themselves worthy of responsibility. A club member was pianist and another, song leader.

B. Participation in Federation

A. District

The meeting of the Central District of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs was attended by ten

women from Halifax County. The group was especially impressed with the music of the Montgomery County Chorus. Two of the clubs represented have since started choruses in their own clubs with the hope that all the clubs will follow their example, and that eventually a county chorus would result. The county citizenship chairman was impressed with ideas from the citizenship report given and from Mrs Lucien Cooke's "Peace Talk". She has since been more interested in citizenship and has done more active work along that line.

B. State

Four Halifax County club women attended the joint meeting of the Institute of Rural Affairs and the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, held at Blacksburg in July. One of these was sent as a delegate by the Homemaking Board. Another was sent as a delegate from her club. The latter is a busy farm woman, the mother of eleven children, who has not spent more than a day away from home for fourteen years. The trip itself was worth a great deal to her but the meetings were also a great inspiration to her. The report which she gave her club of the meeting included a resume of all the outstanding talks, on which she had taken careful notes. All of the county representatives were impressed with the posture talk given by Miss Gardner, and all attended her posture clinic. These women have insisted that posture clinics be held in the county clubs next year, and this has been included in the Home Management program for 1940. The county representatives participated in all the social events of the week, made a tour of the campus, studied all the exhibits, and viewed the woperimental rose gardens. Halifax County was represented in the Home Management Conference, The Campaign Conference, and the Federation Goal Conference held during the week. All of the County representatives were deeply inspired, and have done much to inspire their clubs to do better.

D. Federation Goal

Health was chosen as the state goal to stress this year. Each club devoted one of its monthly programs to some Health subject. Ten clubs had the Health officer or County nurse speak on sanitation, clinics, cancer, colds and respiratory diseases, or syphilis. Other clubs put on their own health programs with material obtained from the Health Department, Tuberculosis Association, and Cancer Control Foundation.

After club discussions of the free clinics, held in the county by the Health Department, club members did much to encourage attendance in the prenatal, Tuberculosis, immunization and crippled Children's Clinics. Many club members furnished their own cars for taking those in need of treatment to the clinics.

Several clubs have held neighborhood clinics, Diphtheria immunization clinics were sponsored by two clubs, which benefited more than 100 children. A typhoid clinic, at which 79 people were immunized, was sponsored by another club. Another sponsored a pre-school clinic at which 25 children were examined, vaccinated, and given diphtheria immunization.

6. Story of Achievement of Club Carrying the Best Program

The Rodden Club has done the most outstanding work as a whole.

One point on which the club has excelled is its attendance at county and state meetings. Its leaders have been present at all club meetings, and the president has presided at all meetings except one when the vice-president took charge very efficiently. The club was represented at all Homemaking Board Meetings and the program planning meeting. It was also represented at both the District Federation meeting in Roanoke and the State meeting in Blacksburg.

The leaders gave three of the major demonstrations, and helped with all others. They also gave a very good demonstration on Consumer Buying. They realize the responsibility of their job, and are conscientious about carrying out their duties. Reports showed that a large percent of the club members have put in practice the meal planning, school lunch and table service suggestions given in the demonstrations. The refreshment committees which serve club refreshments have put in practice the "Simple Refreshments" suggestions given in that demonstration.

Rodden club members entered the three contests given at Achievement day, each of these winning some award. Members of the club also entered and won prizes on many food and handwork exhibits at the County Fair. The club set up a very creditable booth at the Fair, carrying out the idea of good and poor table setting. The two tables which they had made for this booth were donated to the school.

The club held a pre-school clinic in the form of a party, as its part in meeting the Federation Goal of Health improvement. Others in the community also received toxoid at this clinic. Splendid work was also done in the community toward pest control, the county campaign. Citizenship discussions were given at several of the regular club meetings. The club also assisted in making library books accessible to the community.

A very outstanding accomplishment of the club this year was the remodeling and furnishing of a Community Hall. An old Masonic Hall, in bad repair, was improved and furnished for

community meetings. The club plans to add dishes and silver later.

7. Story of Outstanding Achievement by Individual

Mrs E. D. Patterson has been selected for her general leadership ability, and her accomplishments as president of the Oak Level Club. She has been untiring in her efforts to make her club a wide-awake, vital thing in her community.

Mrs Patterson attended all Homemaking Board Meetings and the program planning meeting. She served as vice-president of the Board, and always took an active part in all its discussions. She attended both the District Federation Meeting and the State Federation meeting.

Much of the credit for her club's splendid enrollment and attendance is due to Mrs Patterson. She presided at all club meetings in a very efficient manner. She has encouraged recreation at club meetings, and most of the meetings this year have ended with some form of recreation. Through her suggestion the club, which holds its meetings in the Home Economics Department of the school, has worked out a "hostess" schedule. Refreshments are served at each meeting by the hostess committee for that month.

Inspired by the County Home Demonstration Club choruses which sang at the District and State meetings, Mrs Patterson has started a club chorus which meets in homes and "sings for fun".

She did much of the active work of planning and carrying out the club's Fair booth.

She was responsible for the idea of the "School Days" comedy put on by her club women. The program brought in about \$30 to the club treasury, and was such a hit in the community that a return performance was requested.

Mrs Patterson has taken more of the responsibility of club leadership than most of the other club presidents, not waiting to be told what to do. She has proved this by the initiative she has taken in the above instances. Another example was the idea of presenting a Fashion Show of house dresses made by the club members. The minor program listed for the month was "Clothing", but Mrs Patterson was responsible for the excellent Fashion Show in which 20 members participated. The agent's help was requested only in judging the dresses.

Her success as a leader is due to her ability to get along well with people, to gain and keep their respect, and to get hearty cooperation among her members, and to her perseverance and whole hearted interest in bettering her community.

VII. 4-H Club Work

1. Organization

A. County Council

The County Council has had two meetings this year and plans to have another in December. A majority of the clubs were represented at each of these meetings. The first meeting, held in February was for the purpose of adopting the year's program, and setting up county goals and making county-wide plans. At the second held in July, the 1940 major program was chosen. County goals set up by the Council which have been met this year are: have two county council meetings; sponsor a county Achievement Day; plan for the county program for 1940; and encourage more recreation. Goals which were met only partially were: have members from each club compete in all club contests; increase enrollment from 433 to 500; have each club enter exhibits at the County Fair; have at least 36 members attend the District Camp, and have 75% of members completing projects. The goal to have 12 attend the State Short Course was more than reached - the county had 14 club members and 3 leaders to attend.

The council meetings were carried on in a business-like way. A song leader was present at each meeting to teach new songs. A "Model" Club Meeting" demonstration was given at one council meeting.

The Fair committee, appointed by the president of the council, arranged the 4-H booth at the County Fair. The Achievement Day Committee with helpers appointed from all the clubs, made plans for the 4-H Achievement Day, served the lunch in a very efficient and attractive way, managed exhibits, and acted as hostesses.

There are fourteen all-girl 4-H clubs in the county. Two of the thirteen clubs of 1939 were combined to make one club, but two new clubs were organized in other communities. One of the new clubs is composed almost entirely of girls from marginal families, and were very much in need of an organization of this kind. The other new club is in a community that does not have a Home Demonstration Club, but which heartily supports the 4-H work.

The place and time of meeting has been a great problem during the school months. The majority of the girls leave home early and return too late in the afternoons to allow for a satisfactory club meeting. The school superintendent and principals have cooperated with the 4-H work and allowed the

meetings to be held during school hours. During the Spring months, ten of the clubs were forced to do this. Since the beginning of the Fall school term, one other club has been meeting very successfully at night and another is planning to arrange after-school meetings. All of the meetings held during school hours have to limit their time to one hour. During the summer months, the clubs met in homes and had at least two - usually around three-hours for their meetings. This summer schedule made it necessary for the agent and club leaders to work out a plan for division of responsibility, as most of the meetings were held in the afternoon when Home Demonstration Club meetings also meet. Because of scattered membership the attendance at many of the summer meetings was poor. The attempt is being made to have smaller "neighborhood" clubs in the future.

Another improvement being sought in Halifax County's 4-H work is in the working together of the boys and girls in club work. At present, all clubs are separate.

2. Project Work

Although clothing was selected as the major project, the Family Activities program carried out this year emphasized the girl's place in all phases of home and family living. Family teamwork, the keeping of accounts, health, hobbies and family recreation, good manners, and nutrition were stressed.

Clothing demonstrations given were:

- Style Trends
- Planning a Wardrobe
- Selection of Fabric and Design
- Use of the Pattern
- Construction Processes
- Care of Clothes

Reports showed that 123 girls kept clothing accounts for the year, 22 budgeted clothing expenditures, 267 completed at least two garments (requirement for project completion), and 345 improved in care of their clothes.

Considerable improvement has been made in 4-H canning in the county. The quality of products exhibited at the Fair was superior to those exhibited last year. One club girl has helped with the canning of about 300 quarts and has canned alone more than 75 quarts. This girl won first place on four very superior jars entered at the Fair. Four canning demonstrations were held at 4-H clubs during the summer.

a. Excelling in project work this year was Mildred Hudson. She completed 7 attractive and well-made garments, remodeled one dress, and cleaned and mended all of her clothes. She won awards on the three garments which she exhibited at the Fair. She modeled an attractive outfit in the County Correct Dress Contest, and another in the Achievement Day Fashion Show.

Mildred canned 25 quarts of food alone this year, and helped with canning 450 quarts. Her products are of very high quality, winning two blue ribbons and one red ribbon at the Fair.

Her record-book won a blue ribbon at the Fair. She has kept a personal account record for 12 months, made a clothing inventory, kept a better food score and health chart, and helped make and carry out a canning budget.

Besides these activities, she has helped with planning and furnishing her family's remodeled home. She has made or remodeled several accessories and pieces of furniture. She has also raised flowers and helped with raising 125 chickens.

3. Community Activities

A. Community Projects

One club is working toward a community recreation center and meeting hall. This is a long-time goal, but with the club hopes to get the cooperation of the Home Demonstration Club and Men's Social Club. Several clubs have done something for the benefit of the school. One of these donated magazines for the school library. Another club has helped encourage community recreation by sponsoring several community parties.

B. Recreation

Eight of the clubs held picnics this summer. One had a swimming party. Another is planning a Christmas party to which prospective members will be invited.

All of the clubs have had recreation at some of their meetings. This is impossible at the meetings held during school hours, because of the limited time.

C. Raising Money For Club Activities

One club sponsored a Baby Contest. Votes were sold in advance, and the final count was taken and prizes awarded at

a program put on by the 4-H club. The program was a very creditable performance including a Fashion Show. Proceeds amounted to \$130. Part of the money was used to send delegates to the District Camp and State Short Course. Several dollars were donated to the school library, and the remainder is being saved for a community recreation center.

The National Tobacco Festival organization offered the 4-H Clubs a percentage on the sale of tickets to the Festival Pageant. Most of the clubs added to their treasuries in this way.

One club sponsored a music program put on by radio entertainers and made about \$10. Part of this was used to send delegates to the Camp and to the Short Course. The remainder is being saved for a community project.

Another club had an ice cream party in the summer, and a Halloween party.

4. Local Leadership

Each 4-H club has an adult leader, and three of the clubs also have older club girls as leaders. The leaders are ex-officio officers of the county council. Two leader-training meetings are held for the leaders, with a specialist to plan the next year's program. The leaders are responsible for much of the summer project work as well as for helping with the minor project work. Money-making affairs, social meetings, community projects and other special club activities are left almost entirely to the leader's guidance.

B. At the beginning of the year, a number of the club leaders were teachers, but these are gradually being replaced or given assistants as the teachers do not have time during the school months to attend leader-meetings and keep up club leadership. More responsibility is being taken over by the leaders each year.

Five new leaders added this year have proven very valuable. One of these, whose club will be described below as the outstanding club for the year, had had no previous experience with 4-H work, but has proven an excellent leader. Four of the old leaders have also been very active.

B. Other Activities

A. Camps

(1) Halifax County does not have a 4-H Camp, but 4-H members from the county attend the 5-county camp at Chatham. This is held at the Hargrave Military Academy. Twenty-one girls, one leader, and two club boys attended this year from the county.

The camp was organized into two tribes with a Big Chief chosen from the entire group. Doris Robinson from this county was chosen Big Chief. Another Halifax girl was voted Chief of her tribe.

The county girls participated in all camp activities—handicraft, nature study, Vespers, and recreation.

(2) Participation in the State Short Course.

Halifax County was proud to have fourteen 4-H girls, three club leaders, one All-Star older club girl, and one student-home agent attend the State Short Course. This is the largest delegation the county has ever had. Two of the club girls entered the State Correct Dress Contest, one winning a blue ribbon. The girls and leaders decided to have some from the county attend each of the different classes offered. In this way, the county representatives were able to bring back more of the excellent suggestions given in the various courses.

B. County Meetings and Special Events.

(1) At the 4-H Movie presented in Halifax High School in March, 150 club members and their friends attended.

(2) A specialist from Blacksburg spent three days in the County giving illustrated talks on "Wildlife Conservation." This was sponsored by the 4-H Clubs who made arrangements for the entire student body of their schools to hear these talks. Much interest was developed in the subject and many bird and other wildlife projects have resulted. One girl has since taken insect-collecting as a hobby.

(3) A county Rally Day was not held. One club of 35 members which divided into three groups for the summer, decided to have a Rally Day of its own. All three groups met together for an all-day meeting. The summer's project work was exhibited and each club's accomplishments discussed. Scrubbing, games, songs, and a picnic lunch were events of the day.

(4) A County Correct Dress Contest was held in July. Eighteen club girls participated. Most of the outfits modeled were made by the girls as part of their project work. Two county winners entered the state contest.

(5) The 4-H club booth at the County Fair exhibited the following types of club work: clothing, canned products, note-books and handicraft. Thirty-three club girls entered about 100 articles. The canned products were especially good. Some very attractive outfits made by the club girls were also noteworthy.

(6) The 4-H Club Achievement Day was held November 4 in the Halifax High School. The interesting program included a talk on 4-H ideals, reports given by the club representatives, accounts of the District Camp and State Short Course, group singing and recreation, and a Fashion Show "Then and Now". The committees carried out their duties very well. A greatly anticipated event of the day was the awarding of a banner to the club which had done the most outstanding work for the year. Partly due to bad weather the attendance at this Achievement Day was poor, only about 75 members being present.

6. Achievement of Best Club

The Turbeville 4-H Club was awarded the banner this year for having done the most outstanding work. The club has the largest enrollment in the county, having a total membership of 65 for the year. Its average attendance was good, even in the summer months. This was due to the fact that the club was divided into three groups for the summer.

Mrs W. W. Wilkins, who was asked to serve as club leader at the beginning of the year, has been a splendid leader. Mrs Jack Grinstead has been very active as leader of the Calvary group of the club, as has Mrs Robert Barnes as leader of the Sutherland group. These leaders have attended all leader-training meetings and the program-planning meeting, as well as County Council meetings and Achievement Day. They take the burden of responsibility for the club programs, and have given most of the major project demonstrations.

The club had two representatives to attend the Chatham Camp and three members and one leader to attend the State Short Course. The club officers have attended all County Council Meetings. The president attended the program-planning meeting. Eight club members with some friends and parents attended the 4-H Movie "Under the 4-H Flag" held in Halifax. Twelve club members attended Achievement Day.

The club's president is also president of the County 4-H Council. She presides with a great deal of poise and self-confidence. Members of her club put on a "Model 4-H Club Meeting" demonstration at one Council meeting, and this demonstration is put in practice at the regular club meetings.

More than 50% of the club's members completed their clothing project. Some of the project work done was exceptionally good. One girl made an attractive bathing suit outfit which won first place in the County Correct Dress Contest, and was awarded a blue ribbon in the State Correct Dress Contest. Two blue ribbons and a red ribbon were awarded garments exhibited by Turberville girls at the Fair. Two attractive outfits were also modeled by the club's members in the Achievement Day Fashion Show. One 12 year old club girl won prizes on four jars of canned products exhibited at the fair.

The Calvary group of this club met twice a month during the summer and became such an active club that it was decided to continue this through the school months. The large club holds a regular meeting at school each month, and the Calvary Club has an extra meeting two weeks later on Saturday afternoon. This club has accomplished a great deal in project work, other club work, and community activities. As an extra phase of work this summer, three canning demonstrations were held. A regular program of work is being planned for the extra meetings during school months.

The club held a lawn party and a Halloween party to make money for club activities. Members also worked diligently on ticket sales for the Tobacco Festival and not only made money for the club treasury but won for one of their members the title of "Miss 4-H Club", for which club members from three counties contested.

The club officers have carried out their duties very efficiently. The program chairman has planned a program, with club members participating, at each meeting. The entire program time of the September meeting was taken for a very interesting "Hobby" program. Club members discussed various hobbies, and those members which had collecting for a hobby showed their collections. The song leader always has the music part of the program well-planned. The other officers can be depended on to do well what is expected of them.

The Turbeville Club is the club which held the Rally Day described under 5(b) above.

VIII. Older Youth

No organized work was carried on for the county's Older Youth this year, but plans are now in progress for the sponsoring of such work next year. This has been shown as the 1940 Federation Goal of the Home Demonstration Clubs of the county.

IX Progress Made During the Year

Progress has been made in broadening the work in the county, by extending organized club work to three new communities. Two Home Demonstration Clubs and two 4-H Clubs have been organized, making a total of 15 Home Demonstration Clubs and 14 4-H clubs.

As a result of the Home Demonstration Club Food Major program, 288 families reported serving better balanced meals, 186 families improving school lunches, 159 improving child feeding, 108 improving health by corrective feeding, and more than 300 families improving table setting and meal service. A canning demonstration given one of the new clubs has brought improvement in canning to the 18 club members and to many others in their community, which is composed almost entirely of marginal families has accomplished a great deal through canning demonstrations, nutrition work, and "live-at-home" education.

Much progress has been made in health work this year as shown by the clinics described under "Community Projects", by reports of Home Demonstration members showing that 800 have improved health habits this year and 220 4-H girls showing health improvement, and by reports showing that 54 Home Demonstration members and 76 4-H members have improved their posture.

Progress has been made in integrating the work of all agricultural agencies in the county. The extension organizations have taken the initiative for this very important step. Much has been accomplished in getting better cooperation among the agencies by the Homemaking Board.

4-H club work has suffered because of being forced to have club meetings during school hours for nine months each year. Some progress has been made this year by getting several clubs to meet in the homes. One meets on Saturday mornings, another Saturday afternoons, another at night, and three others after school. One other club is now planning to meet out-of-school. Much more has been accomplished in these clubs.

Another progress in 4-H work is the addition of several very active adult leaders, in place of or to assist rather inactive teacher-leaders.

X. History and Appraisal of Home Demonstration Work in County

Home Demonstration work was begun in this county in 1910 when Tomato Clubs were first started with girls and consisted mainly in teaching care of the tenth-acre plot and the canning of the products.

Miss Sadie Terry was the agent first appointed by Miss Agnes to take charge of the work in Halifax. She served six years, and married, and her sister, Miss Della Terry, followed, serving four years as agent. Miss Martha Cook followed her in 1920 and remained as agent in this county twelve years. Organized women's work was begun under Miss Cook and the first Advisory Board for the work was organized also. The work grew slowly, however, until in 1930-31 the whole county was reorganized and several new home demonstration clubs were started.

Miss Helen Alverson went to the county in 1932 as agent and did a great deal to popularize and spread the work, which had already received this impetus.

Miss Cook's work was with girls in foods and clothing chiefly, and with women in foods and kitchen improvement. The quality and amount of canning done by women and girls in this county were both notable. Home Garden Improvement campaigns were carried on by both Miss Cook and Miss Alverson and did much in this "one crop" county to improve nutritional conditions. Miss Alverson also helped a great deal in home beautification - both the inside and outside. This was done by renovation of furniture, rug making, study of furnishings and the outside by yard improvement campaigns. Also Miss Alverson helped to develop much better leadership than the county had known before, and the women began to take a county-wide interest in progressive things.

Miss Ruth Slason followed Miss Alverson in 1936 and continued the good work then going on. She improved the 4-H Club work especially. In 1938 Miss Slason married and was succeeded by Miss Mary Walker, of South Boston, the present agent. A friend of the work in the county says, "The greatest contribution made by home demonstration work is the awakening of women to a sense of responsibility, not only toward their homes and families, but toward the community and county. They have become citizens in a much broader sense."

It is strange that though the work has gone on uninterruptedly in this county longer than in any other in the state, 4-H Club members have won few honors except in canning. In 1938 the first club girl, Evelyn Walden, was made an All-Star.

XI. Plans and Goals for 1940

1. Home Demonstration Club Work

A. Hold six Home Management demonstrations in each club on the following topics:

- (1) Schedules for Housekeeping**
- (2) Posture in Housework**
- (3) Buying Brooms, Mops, and Cleaners.**
- (4) Buying Small Kitchen Equipment.**
- (5) Teamwork in the Family**
- (6) Family Recreation.**

B. Have 50 club members keeping Home Account Books.

C. Have each club sponsor some sort of community recreation meeting.

D. Hold a posture clinic in each club.

E. Organize ten or more Older Youth Clubs in the county.

F. Improve the roadsides and yards all over the county through a county-wide campaign.

G. Help more marginal families.

2. 4-H Club Work

A. Have a majority of clubs meeting out-of school.

B. Improve attendance at Summer Club meetings.

C. Have seven Food demonstrations.

D. Have demonstrations given by club members.

E. Work out schedule between agent and all leaders for division of responsibility for meetings.

F. Increase the number of members completing major project.

G. Have each club carry out a worthwhile community project.