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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY  
EXTENSION  
WORK

*Virginia Agricultural Extension Service*

MRS. LOUISE N. COOLEY

**Name**

HOME DEMONSTRATION

**Title**

**Agent**

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**Assistant Agent**

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**Assistant Agent**

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**Assistant Agent**



1958

SPOTSYLVANIA

**County**

SPOTSILVANIA COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT

1958

Mrs. Louise N. Cooley

Home Demonstration Agent

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NARRATIVE REPORT OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK  
IN SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

1958

I. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1958 PROGRAM

Home Demonstration Work in Spotsylvania County has proceeded along on a fairly well organized basis during the year. After having experienced the difficulties of previous years, it has really been a pleasure to work in the county under normal conditions.

Both home demonstration and 4-H clubs meet on a regular schedule, officers and committees readily accept their obligations, and assist in directing club projects and activities to a successful conclusion.

Our years work has not all been satisfactory. One of our chief difficulties has been that so many of our homemakers have sought employment away from home. This situation has put many of our club meetings on a night time schedule. Attendance at most meetings has held up, indicating an interest in the program of work. Indicative of this interest was the fact that seven of our clubs completed thirteen out of sixteen county-wide goals that were set up at the beginning of the year. Club reports, both youth and adult, show that our people are living better, eating better, and that better rural living is at a high point in Spotsylvania County.

## II. COUNTY SITUATION

Spotsylvania cannot be classified as a typical rural county. Although there are no large towns in the county proper, proximity to Fredericksburg, Richmond, Washington and numerous smaller towns are responsible for the urban trend. There seems to be a number of large farms, owned by wealthy people who live elsewhere and have farm managers, or who operate the farm on a specialized scale. The principle types of farms are dairy, general farming and livestock.

The principle sources of income to rural families, besides farming are from garment factories in Fredericksburg, the Sylvania Division of the American Viscose Corporation in Spotsylvania County near Fredericksburg, the Marine Base at Quantico and other businesses in Fredericksburg. Many of the families have non-farm homes; the live in the county, own a small home, a few acres of land where they may have a garden, a pig, a few chickens and possibly a cow. Some of the families avail themselves of these opportunities, but many purchase all of their food.

The serious drought we had during the past three years handicapped families in their farming program. Not only had their crops been a failure, but credit had become strained. A decline in livestock, poultry and crop prices also made additional hardships. This year was the first productive year in four.

Many of our county women have gotten jobs to supplement the family income, more this year than in any previous year. In many instances both the husband and wife work. Where there are children some parents arrange for some adult to have charge of them while they are at work. Many parents leave their children without supervision.

Living accommodations in the past have been in much demand in and around Fredericksburg, due to the Quantico Marine Base, and the A. P. Hill Military Reservation. Rents were high and where families had an extra room they rented it to marines and their wives. At times two or three couples were living in the same home and using kitchen privileges. This made a disrupted family living schedule, and was not conducive to wholesome family living. However, due to the severe drought in the county, family incomes needed to be supplemented. This past year, due to building developments in the military areas there was not the demand for housing accommodations. This loss of income made it even more necessary for women to find work away from home.

The county is so infested with non-farm families that there are few true agricultural communities in Spotsylvania County. Our program is planned to meet the needs of all types of families that we contact in our work. We hope to make our program so attractive and helpful that our homemakers who are working both inside and outside of the home will find it stimulating and that it satisfies their most urgent needs.

### III. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - ADULT

#### A. Organization

##### 1. Home Economics Committees

Early in the year plans were made to set up county Home Economics Committees for Health and Electrification. Since we were no longer taking Health as our Federation Program of Work, our county women felt that we needed a special committee to carry out work already underway, and to plan for future work. A committee of three were appointed to serve on this committee. During the year they stressed assistance with county clinics such as Polio, Well Baby and Pre-Natal, furnished transportation where necessary, and assisted with or secured assistance for the general operation of clinics where it was needed.

The Home Economics Committee on Better Farm and Home Lighting was most successful. They selected two families to serve as result demonstrators in the lighting program. Since we have two power suppliers in our county one home was selected from each company.

The company representatives met with the extension agents at each home and mapped out a correct wiring and lighting layout. Local dealers agreed to supply needed supplies and equipment at a reasonable cost.

When the homes had been completed an "open house" was scheduled for each home, and the public was invited to see the demonstrations. Much interest and enthusiasm was displayed by the public.

As a result of this interest two programs on "Better Lighting" were included in the home demonstration program for 1959. We hoped that many other families would adopt the slogan, "Save your sight thru better light," and really do something about it. As a result of this program 139 families reported improvements in home lighting.

#### 2. County Home Demonstration Committee

The Spotsylvania County Home Demonstration Club Committee guides and directs home demonstration work in the county. It is composed of presidents from the organized clubs in the county, a program development chairman from each club, one person from each magisterial district, and a few members at large. Two meetings are held each year. At the Spring meeting the committee checks up on the progress of the county program of work, and makes any necessary changes. They also plan for county-wide events, attendance at the District, State and National meetings, and any other special activities that may come up.

The fall meeting of the committee is for program planning and setting up goals and objectives for the year. County officers are elected at this meeting, and committees appointed for such activities as Achievement Day, District Federation Meeting, compiling of the Year Book and Senior Class Tea. The committee also plans for all money-making activities for the organization and appoints committees to take care of this.

## Brokenburg Club Entertains Class, Parents at Tea

The Brokenburg Home Demonstration Club entertained members and mothers of the 7th grade graduating class at Margo School at a tea Wednesday at the school.

A color scheme of green and white was carried out in the table decorations. Mrs. Russell Steckler, club president, welcomed guests at the door, and Mrs. Robert Mastin presided at the punch bowl.

Favors made by club members were given to the 21 graduates.

The club's next meeting will be held May 26 at the home of Mrs. H. E. Mastin at Spotsylvania.

## Art to Be Topic Of Hillcrest Club

Mrs. Alan S. Peirce will give a demonstration on art in daily living when the Hillcrest Home Demonstration Club meets at 8 p. m. Monday at the home of its president, Mrs. Kendrick B. Herndon, 114 Oak St., Courthouse Heights.

Mrs. Peirce and Mrs. L. J. Williamson, leaders in Art in Daily Living for the club, attended a recent leaders training meeting for Spotsylvania County.

## Public Talk Set On Lawn Care

A public talk on "Establishing Lawns" will be sponsored Wednesday night by the Spotsylvania Home Demonstration Clubs.

H. M. Camper Jr., of the State Agriculture Department's Warsaw experiment station, will discuss weed control and the planting and care of lawns at 7:30 p.m. in the Spotsylvania Courthouse.

## Mrs. Garnett New President Of HD Group

Mrs. John M. Garnett Jr. was elected president yesterday of the Spotsylvania County Home Demonstration Club Committee at a fall planning meeting.

Also elected to office for a two-year term was Mrs. Robert Jarvis as secretary.

During the program planning session, topics concerning consumer education were selected for work during the year.

Among them were: planning food costs, wise food shopping, low-cost main dishes, homemade versus prepared foods and economy in purchasing clothing and when and how to buy.

Chairmen for various activities were appointed including: Mrs. T. B. Coghill, chairman of the county budget committee; Mrs. Jesse Surles, chairman of senior tea; Mrs. G. W. Biscoe Jr., chairman of the yearbook committee; and Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, chairman of publicity.

## B. Project Work

### 1. Foods and Nutrition

Three foods demonstrations were included in our program of work this year, at the request of many of our homemakers. The topics chosen were: Quick Meals for Suppers and Lunches, Featuring Soups, Salads and Sandwiches, Refreshments for Teas and Special Occasions and Using the Master Mix.

Our objectives in planning our foods program were to teach our homemakers how to plan better balanced diets, and to encourage use of a wider variety of foods.

Two leader training meetings were held to train food leaders in putting on their demonstrations. As a result of this training twenty-two leaders gave 27 demonstrations and assisted with six others. Club members reported passing food information to 215 non club members.

As a follow up of food preservation work, one hundred and eighty-six club members reported the following: 9,172 quarts canned, 18,720 pounds frozen, 7,060 pounds of meat frozen or cured.

Freezing of food is taking the lead of home canning because of the improved flavor, and ease of preparation.

One hundred and seven club members reported owning home freezers. Sixteen of these were purchased this year.

## 2. Clothing

One of our monthly topics this year was Cutting Plaids, and Inside Finishes for garments. Our objectives in our clothing work were:

- (1) to acquaint homemakers with the correct method of cutting plaid material.
- (2) To teach garment construction and finishes to those interested in learning.
- (3) To have better finished garments for fairs and exhibits.

A leader training meeting was held to train leaders for clothing work. Sixteen leaders attended this meeting and gave ten demonstrations at club meetings. One hundred and seventy club members reported making eight hundred and fifty-eight garments and remodelling 1525 additional garments. They also reported giving clothing information to one hundred and sixty-two other persons.

Two clubs held clothing clinics where they actually constructed garments. At our Achievement Day Program in November, twelve club members modelled the garments they had made.

Judging for fair exhibits proved especially helpful this year. Ten of our women were trained at a judging school in Front Royal, and assisted with local and near by fairs.

## 3. Housefurnishings

Housefurnishings was of special interest to our club members this year. Two topics were chosen for our years program,

Selection and Care of Fabrics for Curtains and Draperies,  
Choosing Suitable Styles and Fixtures for Window Treatment.

Laundering of new curtain and drapery fabrics had become a real problem for our homemakers, and much interest was shown in the demonstrations on selection and care of fabrics. Local merchants loaned us exhibits and kits of fabrics and window fixtures to use for display purposes at our club meetings.

The home agent attended a meeting at Seven Corners where the state specialist in cooperation with the buyer in one of the large city department stores put on an exhibit of new fabrics for home decoration, and discussed good and bad features of each.

The home agent also attended a demonstration on laundering by a commercial company. All of this information was included in the home agents presentation of the housefurnishing program to her county women.

Club women reported one hundred and seventy-eight improvements in window treatments, and passed information to one hundred and sixty-two additional homemakers.

Our county women were also interested in housefurnishing topics as special interest meetings this year. Two meetings were held on refinishing furniture. Club members reported refinishing thirty-two pieces of furniture this year. Many of these were on display at the Fredericksburg Fair.

As a carry over of last years work on upholstering furniture club members reported sixteen pieces upholstered this year. Some of these were displayed at the Fredericksburg Fair.

Three meetings were held on rebottoming chairs and making footstools. Television popularity has given a boost to footstool making. Ten stools were made, five chairs rebottomed and three proch rockers rebottomed.

#### 4. Rural Arts

Handicraft is always a popular project in the home demonstration program. The main interest this year was centered around huck weaving, leatherwork, tooling metal, basketry and etching trays and glass ware.

The objectives for this work were:

To teach homemakers who want to do handicraft to do a job that will be artistic and one that they and their friends will appreciate because of good workmanship. Twenty special interest meetings were held. Three meetings on etching trays and five on copper tooling. Two meetings were held on glass etching, two on leatherwork, two on huck weaving and one on basketry. Five special interest meetings were reported under housefurnishings.

Craft work will be carried over into next years program with a possibility of even better results. Exhibits of handwork at the Fredericksburg Fair and our County Achievement Day were excellent.

## Mrs. Biscoe Wins 4 Top Awards In H&G Club's Flower Show

Mrs. George Biscoe of the Belmont Home Demonstration Club won four first-place awards at Tuesday's Courtland Home and Garden Club flower show.

The event, open to all home demonstration clubs in Spotsylvania County, was held at the Courtland Clubhouse in connection with National Home Demonstration Week.

Winners in the colonial arrangement category were Mrs. Biscoe, first; Mrs. Thomas Samuel Jr. of Courtland, second; and Mrs. George Weimer of Courtland, third.

For an arrangement of roses, Mrs. Biscoe also placed first; Mrs. Weimer, second; Mrs. Vergie Houser, Courtland Club, third; and Miss Elizabeth L. Morrison, daughter of a Courtland member, honorable mention.

In a composition depicting a hobby, Mrs. Samuel placed first; Mrs. Harvey Strickler of Court-

land; second; and Mrs. George Weimer, third.

In a holiday or party arrangement for children's table, Mrs. Samuel was first and Mrs. Weimer second. In the cut flowers for dining table category Mrs. Biscoe was first; Mrs. Strickler, second; and Mrs. I. L. Eubank of Courtland, third.

For a composition inspired by a book title, poem or song, Mrs. Biscoe was first; Mrs. Marion Wiltshire of Courtland, second; and Mrs. Weimer, third. Mrs. Weimer placed first; Mrs. Strickler second; and Mrs. Ashton W. White of Courtland third, for an arrangement for mantel.

Judges were Mrs. Eugene Cornwell, Mrs. John Massey and Mrs. William Morton. Mrs. Cornwell later gave an illustrated talk on flower arranging, stressing the various types of containers and accessories and proper heights, depths and materials for each arrangement.

## Courtland Club Plans Flower Show Tuesday

Ribbons will be awarded in seven classifications at the Courtland Home and Garden Club's flower show, set for Tuesday at the club house.

Members of all home demonstration clubs in Spotsylvania County have been invited to participate. Entries will be received from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the day of the show and judging will be from 1 to 2 p.m.

Categories, in which 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded, are colonial arrangements; arrangement of roses; composition depicting your hobby; arrangement for children's table (holiday or party); arrangement of cut flowers for dining table; composition inspired by book title, poem or song (title to be included); and arrangement for a mantel.

Judges will be Mrs. Eugene Cornwell, Mrs. Charles Lindgren and Mrs. John Massey. Following the judging, a program at 2 p.m. will feature a talk by Mrs. Cornwell on flower arrangement.

A social hour will close the day's events which are being held in connection with National Home Demonstration Week.

## Home Club Member Wins Certificate

Mrs. Russell Stecker was awarded a certificate for 4-H leadership at a meeting Tuesday of the Brokensburg Home Demonstration Club. She works with 4-H members at Marye Elementary School.

A demonstration, "Better Lighting in the Home," was given by Mrs. Louise Cooley, Spotsylvania Home Demonstration Agent.

Members began work on aluminum trays at the meeting which was held at the home of Mrs. Russell Howard.

#### 5. Garden, Landscaping

Club women are becoming more and more landscape conscious at they go on garden tours and trips to visit old homes. A Home Grounds Institute was included in our program of special interest meetings this year. Five meetings were held in the series, Small fruits and berries, Home gardening, Landscaping of Home Grounds, Rose Culture, and Seeding and Care of Lawns. While the attendance at these meetings was not large, those who came received valuable information and are putting it to use.

Three clubs had demonstrations on flower arrangement. Two clubs held flower shows at local schools in May and two clubs made garden tours.

Three club members served as result demonstrators on small fruits and berries, and seven members in yard improvement.

#### 6. Housing

Work in the housing field has been done with individuals. The home agent has assisted with requests on remodelling homes, installing bath rooms, and storage problems in other rooms than the kitchen. Work on the electric program was discussed under special home economics committees.

#### 7. Marketing

The Spotsylvania Home Demonstration Market is open in the Fredericksburg Community Center each Saturday morning from 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon. On special holidays such as Thanksgiving

and Christmas the market is open the day before the holiday to give homemakers an opportunity to secure freshly baked cakes, pies and bread, and fresh poultry and eggs.

The market, established during the depression, when farm finances were at a low ebb, has helped many farm people in the county solve financial problems. It offers every active home demonstration club member an opportunity to sell her surplus farm produce, baked products and handiwork, and to help supplement the farm income.

Four different homemakers sold on the market this year, selling a total of \$2,275.50. This is an average of \$568.87 per person. Sales vary greatly due to regularity in attendance, and quantity of products sold.

#### 8. Other

Health and Safety were tied in very closely with special interest committee work, and our Federation Program of Work. These are discussed under those headings.

In addition to this work our clubs continued to encourage physical check-ups, chest x-rays and some type of hospitalization policy. Club members reported one hundred and one physical check-ups, forty-two chest x-rays and one hundred and ten carried hospitalization policies.

#### G. Community and Cooperative Projects

##### 1. Federation Program of Work

Spotsylvania County chose Art in Daily Living for the Federation

Program of Work for 1958. This was the first time this had been chosen and early in December our State Rural Arts Specialist met with our county and club art chairmen to plan our program for the year. Music and Art were chosen for special emphasis, and we hoped to cultivate an appreciation of various types of music, and good paintings.

Two meetings were set up for emphasis on our Art in Daily Living program. The first one was on music appreciation and club chairmen presented a selection of recordings showing types of music and tying them in with modern trends.

In September, for our art program, color slides were presented showing some rare art objects at our Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. Much interest was shown in these pictures, and several clubs are planning to visit the museum during the coming year.

Art in Daily Living has been chosen for our next years program and we hope to become more familiar with art forms around us, birds, wild flowers, trees and shrubs.

The eleven home demonstration clubs in the county raised \$1434.64 through various money making activities, such as suppers, lunches, bake sales, square dances, rummage sales and a horse show. This money has been used to donate to worthy causes, for welfare work and other club projects.

Courtland Home Demonstration Club deserves special recognition for continuing improvements on their community building. The

building is debt free, and is quite an asset to the community. This year the group spent over \$200.00 in improving the facilities of the building. This was spent chiefly on buying a piano, and new chairs and song books. They also purchased two shares of stock in the Fredericksburg Fair. The group raised money for these projects by serving suppers to organizations, selling food at the Dog Mart in Fredericksburg and through contributions.

Belmont Home Demonstration Club deserves commendations for their community work. They purchased an electric floor polisher and sander for the use of the community. They also gave \$75.00 to their local school for reference books, and contributed \$30.00 toward a trip to Jamestown for their seventh grade pupils. One of their special projects each year is for dental care for children who cannot afford this service.

Home Demonstration Club members closed their years work by holding their Annual Achievement Day Program. Invitations were sent to County Officials, friends from other counties, and charter members of the county organization and as many ex-members as could be contacted. One hundred and fifty persons attended the program that was held in a local community house. Exhibits showing some phase of our Art in Daily Living Program were on display. This program was chosen to tie in with the Federation Program of Work. Guest speaker for the day was Mrs. S. F. Fowell, Fredericksburg Attorney, who gave an illustrated talk on her trip

## Achievement Day Set Tomorrow For Spotsylvania

Exhibits, guest speakers, a flower arranging demonstration and a fashion show will be featured Tuesday at the annual Achievement Day program of Spotsylvania County's 11 home demonstration clubs.

The program will open at 10 a.m. in Courtland Community House. Mrs. S. P. Powell, the guest speaker of the morning, will give highlights of her recent eight-week tour of France, Austria, Switzerland and Germany.

The afternoon program will include a demonstration on flower arranging by Mrs. Hobart Carter, and a fashion show in which club members will model garments made during the year.

Home demonstration club exhibits on display will feature work following the federation goal, "Art in Daily Living." Judges for both exhibits and fashions will be from Caroline and Northumberland counties. A covered-dish luncheon will be held at noon.

## Raynor Dunn Hillcrest Club's Beauty Entry

Miss Raynor Dunn of Four Mile Fork, runner-up in last year's "Miss Spotsylvania" contest, has been selected by the Hillcrest Home Demonstration Club as its entry in this year's event.

The contest, which is sponsored by Spotsylvania HD Clubs, will be held May 29.

The selection was made at a meeting Monday night of the Hillcrest Club.

A report on the recent 12th District meeting at Dahlgren was given by Mrs. G. Frank Pitts and Mrs. Louise Cooley, Spotsylvania-home agent, reported on the recent senior tea at Spotsylvania High School. Mrs. L. J. Williamson spoke on 4-H Club work at R. E. Lee School.

Projects for the coming year were outlined by Mrs. Ray Treutle, ways and means chairman.

Mrs. Williamson and Mrs. K. B. Herndon, president, will represent the club at a health forum from on May 13 at Fredericksburg Baptist Church. Mrs. Ann Gore, Spotsylvania Public Health Nurse, will be a member of the panel.

A demonstration on the selection and care of drapery material was given by Mrs. Cooley. She showed samples of materials and spoke on the advantage and disadvantage of each.

Mrs. Casey Armstrong of Four Mile Fork was a guest at the meeting. Refreshments and decorations carried out a color scheme of green, white and lavender. The meeting was held at Mrs. Pitts' home with Mrs. Howard Hulvey as co-hostess.

## HD Club Members To Be Hostesses

The Spotsylvania Junior Women's Home Demonstration Club will provide four hostesses for the annual arts and crafts exhibit opening Monday at the Fredericksburg Community Center.

At a Tuesday night meeting of the club this week members worked on tray-making and tooling of brass planters at the home of Mrs. Charles Williams. Mrs. Louise Cooley, county home demonstration agent, supervised.

around the world. An demonstration was also given on Dried Flower Arrangement.

Immediately following the program a "pot luck" lunch was served to the members and visitors.

Another event of interest was the Annual Tea given to the high school seniors in May. The senior class, their mothers, and the entire faculty of the school were invited to be guests of the home demonstration clubmembers for this annual event. The group was received in the gymnasium by the officers of the Home Demonstration Committee, who composed the receiving line.

The gymnasium was attractively decorated in the class colors, green and white. Candles, flowers and refreshments all were planned to fit into the color scheme, and altogether it made a most attractive setting. Food and decorations were furnished by the various clubs throughout the county. Music and dancing were features of the program.

#### Drives and Campaigns

The March of Dimes, Red Cross, T. B. Association, Cancer Drive, Heart Fund, Pennies for Friendship and Mental Health Clinic were all contributed to by Home Demonstration Clubs because of their worthiness and because of the interest the women have in this work. Clubs also contributed a large sum of money to our local hospital fund, and to the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. A total of \$620.50 was contributed to these



Staff Photos by William Lakeman

Miss Spotsylvania Exchanges Smiles With Flower Girl Jacqueline Williams  
Blonde Raynor Dunn, 17, Added a First to Third and Second Place Winnings

## SHE'S FUTURE TEACHER:

# Blonde, 17, Wins Title

A 17-year-old blonde beauty, twice a runner-up in contests, was crowned "Miss Spotsylvania County 1958" on her third try Thursday night.

Raynor Dunn, Spotsylvania High School senior, was picked from 32 entries to cap a three-year climb from third place to second to first in the annual pageant judging, sponsored by the county Home Demonstration Clubs.

An arm bouquet of red roses and a silver ribbon of first place went to the winner, wearing a long canary-yellow gown. She plans to enter Madison College in the fall to become a Spanish-English teacher. Formerly of Four Mile Fork, she moved this week to 208 Marge St. in Fredrickburg.

Runners-up in the judging were Edna Gerber, named maid of honor, and Charlotte Houck, as three top princesses were also picked from 18 girls in a junior division of 14- and 13-year olds: Rheba Jerrell, Doris Jean Dickinson and Diane Halsey.

Judges were Walton Mahon, who crowned the queen; Mrs. W. L. Hoy and Miss Francis Harvey, all of Bowling Green.

Mrs. Louise Cooley, county Home Agent, said attendance at the high school auditorium was the largest of the annual fund-raising pageants.

In a 4-H talent competition, a guitar-singing duo of Tom Jones and Carl Toombs was picked to represent Spotsylvania in a Blacksburg competition next month.

causes by the clubs.

Our Spotsylvania County Home Demonstration Committee held a Beauty Contest in May to raise funds for our county expenses. Three hundred dollars was cleared on this project. This money is used for leader training meetings, health work, to send delegates to the Institute of Rural Affairs and other necessary expenses.

#### Fredericksburg Fair

Home Demonstration Clubs had local fair chairmen whose duty it was to stimulate interest in the fair and get members to send exhibits. Club members assisted the superintendents in the various departments, and helped organize the exhibits. The home agent felt that the exhibits were of excellent quality. Spotsylvania women won a large number of prizes and awards. A county exhibit was put up on "Clean-up, Fix-up, Paint-up" which compared two types of homes. We won first prize on the exhibit, and received \$30 in cash.

#### Belmont Horse Show

One of the main money making events of the Belmont Home Demonstration Club was the Belmont Horse Show. This is an annual affair and quite an event in the county. Club members furnished lunch and assisted in serving the huge crowd who attend the show. Five hundred and eighty-four dollars was realized from the gate receipts and sale of lunch during the



SNL Photos by William Lakeman

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day. This money is used for health work in the community.

#### Youth Work

Home Demonstration clubs were especially active with teen age clubs this year. Feeling a need for these in their communities, two home demonstration clubs assisted with these teen age groups. One club was responsible for organizing a club in their own community. The women served as hostesses, and assisted with plans for recreation and refreshments. Eighteen club women assisted with the parties.

Home demonstration clubs are continuing their active support of 4-H club work in the county. Fifteen women served as 4-H leaders during the year. At the close of the year when winter projects closed, contests were held to select the outstanding girl of the year. Home demonstration club members served as judges, ribbons were awarded to the girls and a scholarship to Jamestown 4-H Camp was awarded to the outstanding girl in each club. Eleven scholarships were awarded to Jamestown Camp. Two girls received scholarships to the District Older Youth Camp.

Two clubs toured homes and gardens during Garden Week.

#### Harvest Day Sale and Exhibit

As part of the observance of Farm - City Week, the Fredericksburg Retail Merchants Association asked home demonstration club women in three adjacent counties to put up window exhibits of

## Homemaking Competition Highlights 'Harvest Days'

Home Demonstration Club members in Stafford, Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties will be awarded more than \$500 in prizes during Harvest Days, an annual retail sales promotion set for Thursday, Friday and Saturday by the Retail Merchants Assn.

More than 300 entries in food, needlework and crafts categories are on display this week in 28 local stores. Five crews of judges, made up of home economics experts from this area and from Culpeper and Fauquier counties, expect to complete their selection of winners by this evening.

Each of the participating firms is offering a first prize of \$8; a second prize of \$4 and third prize of \$3 for the winning items displayed in their windows. Prizes will be sent to the winning clubs.

Included in the food displays are jams, jellies, pickles, canned and pickled peaches, home-baked rolls and iced layer cakes. Needlework displays include garments for adults and children, household and clothing items using "huck" weaving, braided rugs, afghans and hooked rugs.

Also on display are footstools seated with fibre cord, reupholstered and refinished furniture, reed baskets, etched aluminum trays, packages giftwrapped for Christmas, recaned chairs and arrangements of fresh and dried flowers.

Entries are being displayed by 54 HD club members from Stafford, 59 from Spotsylvania and 47 from Caroline. The Retail Merchants Assn., which is sponsoring the contest in connection with National Farm Week to recognize farmers' contribution to the prosperity of the area, may expand the displays next year to include livestock if sufficient interest is shown.

### SPOTSZYLVANIA

Mrs. W. C. Sneed  
 Miss E. Marshall  
 Mrs. Sam Spangler  
 Mrs. Lily Haney  
 Mrs. J. M. Garnett, Jr.  
 Mrs. Willard Miller  
 Mrs. M. M. Michaliga  
 Mrs. J. L. Surles  
 Mrs. James Roone  
 Mrs. Norman Green  
 Mrs. Clifton Samuels  
 Mrs. Alan Fairce  
 Mrs. Ruf' Houck  
 Mrs. Mary Blyden  
 Mrs. G. Frank Pyle  
 Mrs. Clayton Foster  
 Mrs. Hugh Beasley  
 Mrs. Harlan Jett  
 Mrs. Murace Brown

Mrs. Evelyn Rainer  
 Mrs. E. A. Carpenter  
 Mrs. K. E. Herndon  
 Mrs. G. C. Rawlings, Sr.  
 Mrs. W. S. Lockman  
 Mrs. French Castlet  
 Mrs. Russell Howard  
 Mrs. Mary Blyden  
 Mrs. C. L. Thomas  
 Mrs. George Welmer  
 Mrs. W. B. Foster  
 Mrs. Elton Jones  
 Mrs. O. E. Rouse  
 Mrs. L. J. Williamson  
 Mrs. E. O. Mason  
 Mrs. John M. Galtrett  
 Mrs. V. G. Dickason  
 Mrs. Victoria Boutyard

Mrs. Alberta Johnson  
 Mrs. Ruby Haney  
 Mrs. Russell Speckley  
 Mrs. Marvin Sear  
 Mrs. Thomas Luck  
 Mrs. R. J. Mastin  
 Mrs. Lissy Parker  
 Mrs. W. H. Nunan  
 Mrs. Ray Tyeule  
 Mrs. T. B. Green  
 Mrs. Chas. F. Williams  
 Mrs. Maggie Partlow  
 Mrs. L. S. Pulten  
 Mrs. Virginia Payne  
 Mrs. R. G. Thompson  
 Mrs. Leslie Haney  
 Mrs. W. E. McLeod  
 Mrs. Charles Miller

various types of club work. Twenty-six categories were selected, and twenty-six merchants cooperated in the plan by furnishing prizes for the exhibits. The prize money went to the club of the winning members. About \$500 in prizes were offered, and this stimulated much interest among club members. Spotsylvania County won \$174.00 in prizes.

D. Other Activities

1. Home Demonstration Committee - Plans for using the Home Demonstration Committee to strengthen the Extension Program for 1958.

A. Goals set up by the Home Demonstration Committee:

(1) County Goals

- (a) Clubs strive to reach more people by: increasing membership, passing on information to non club members, and sponsoring an unorganized group.
- (b) Club support L-E clubs by: furnishing adequate leaders, sponsoring contests and donating camp scholarships, and furnishing transportation to county events.
- (c) Clubs carry out the Federation Program of Work as planned.
- (d) Clubs have good news publicity in local papers by trained reporters.

(2) Club Goals

- (a) Each club hold 12 regular monthly meetings and sufficient called meetings to attend to club business.
- (b) Each club should be represented at all county meetings such as: County H. D. Committee, Leader Training, Federation Program of Work.
- (d) Each club carry out the County Program of Work with well planned demonstrations and business meetings.

- (d) Each club should strive to reach more people:
  - 1. Increase membership by 10%
  - 2. Pass on information to non club members.
  - 3. Sponsor an unorganized group.
- (e) Each club start meeting and close meeting on time.
- (f) Each club should have an active 4-H leader who attends or conducts 4-H meetings and makes a report of 4-H activities to her home demonstration club each month.
- (g) Each club raise sufficient funds to meet club budget.
- (h) Each club carry out the Federation Program of Work and devote at least one meeting to it.
- (i) Each club have active fair chairman to publicize and encourage exhibits from club members at the Fredericksburg Fair.
- (j) Each club sponsor 4-H club contests and donate a scholarship to Jamestown 4-H camp for outstanding work.
- (k) Each club should be well represented at the District Meeting.
- (l) Each club should pay full expenses of one delegate to State Federation Meeting at Blacksburg or part expenses of two.
- (m) Each club should have 4 meetings without the agent to enable the agent to reach new groups.
- (n) Each club should be informed and cooperate with all local, state and national affairs such as:
  - 1. March of Dimes
  - 2. Red Cross
  - 3. Cancer, etc.
- (o) Each club should have 100% accomplishment sheets from club members turned in to Secretary at September meeting.

Recommendation: A club, to be standard, should reach thirteen out of the sixteen goals.

2. National Home Demonstration Week

National Home Demonstration Week was observed in various ways. Each club had a special observance at their May meeting, either a birthday party, honoring charter members and past presidents, an "open house" with a special speaker, or a tea, inviting another club to join them.

Fifty-two Spotsylvania County women attended the District Meeting at Dahlgren.

Twelve County women attended the State Federation Meeting at Blacksburg.

Special county-wide events in observance of National Home Demonstration Week were the Senior Tea, and the County Beauty Show to select Miss Spotsylvania County of 1958. These events are explained in Section C.

3. Our County Achievement Program and tours were also explained in Section C.

Spotsylvania County is fast becoming an urban county. Our work is closely knitted in with most city activities. Our women assist with hospital drives, in raising funds for the Mental Health Clinic, and in supporting the Nursing Home. Red Cross and T. E. Work is solicited from our county women. Many of our county people belong to city churches, and assist with their financial programs. It is difficult to separate city and country.

IV. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

	No. families
A. Problems encountered most often	
Lack of sufficient money for home improvement	3
Poor equipment	3
Poor storage facilities	3
Poor arrangement of equipment	3
Lack of cooperation on husband's part	2
Poor planning	3

B. Subject matter areas and assistance given:

	Short time goals	Long time goals	Outlook inf.	Bying inf.	Improved methods of practice	Demonstrations	Specialist assistance
Foods and Nutrition	2	1	2	2			3
Vegetable Gardening							
Clothing	3	3	1	3	2		2
Housing		3			3		3
Home Management	1	1	2	2	3		3
House Furnishings			2				2
Yard Improvement		2			1		
4-H Club					3		3

C. Work with our Farm and Home Development Program has progressed rather slowly in our county. We felt we needed to be especially careful in our selection of families to work with, and that the program should be well publicized before we started.

Our first step was to explain the program to our Board of Supervisors, and to our County Home Demonstration Committee. The executive committee of our Home Demonstration Committee agreed to serve in an advisory capacity in helping select our families.

One family that has proved interesting in the Farm and Home Development Program is composed of six members, the husband and wife, a daughter 11 years old, a son 10, a daughter 7, and a baby boy  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years old. They live on a dairy farm in a rural area of Spotsylvania County, 20 miles from a shopping center, 13 miles from church, and 15 miles from school. The school bus comes by the door, so transportation is not a problem.

In spite of the distance from church they attend twice on Sunday. All home activities are planned around church attendance on Sunday.

They bought their farm while the husband was working as farm manager for a wealthy dairy farmer in the county. The house was in very bad condition, but they are gradually improving it. It was so poorly insulated that the homemaker wore jeans and a sweater to keep warm in the kitchen during severe winter weather. The bedrooms upstairs were not usable in winter, so they all packed in downstairs to keep warm.

The bathroom is on the porch downstairs, and is fairly well insulated. They hope to have another bath upstairs when income permits.

When the dairy farm that the husband was using was sold they were forced to borrow money to build a barn, milking parlor, and cooler on the farm. This meant a tremendous outlay of money, but since the milk market was good, it was felt justified. It will be a long time before they will be debt free, but they are optimistic.

Part of the borrowed money has been spent to improve their home. The entire house is <sup>now</sup> surfaced with grey colony stone, which will make it more comfortable in winter. They hope to eventually have central heating.

The kitchen has always been a problem. It was dark, poorly arranged and inconvenient. The homemaker had a storage space, but it was not where she needed it. The kitchen seemed to be a passage way to the rest of the house which made confusion. They tore out one wall between the kitchen and porch to make it lighter and roomier. They enclosed the porch with windows, moved the home freezer into the kitchen, and they now have a family living area on the porch. They also have room for an eating area in the kitchen. A peninsula across the center of the kitchen brought stove and sink closer together. The kitchen is not perfect, but is much improved. They also turned the dining room window into a door, which took traffic out of the kitchen.

The homemaker was also helped in organizing her home laundry problems.

## Joyce Arritt Wins in 4-H Speech Contest

Miss Joyce Arritt, a member of the Spotsylvania Senior 4-H Club, was named second-place winner in the district public speaking contest for 4-H clubs held yesterday at Front Royal.

Miss Arritt, a senior at Spotsylvania High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Miller Arritt of Partlow, had as her topic, "Reach for a Star." She and the first place winner, who is from Fairfax County, will receive an all expense paid trip in June to the State 4-H Club short course in Blacksburg where they will compete in the state contest with the six other district winners.

Thirteen contestants from as many counties took part in the district competitions yesterday. Two other members of the Spotsylvania club, Miss Charlotte Houck and Edward Steckler, gave demonstrations in the electrical contest, also held.

## Winners Named In Club's Sewing, Cooking Contests

Six winners have been announced in a sewing and cooking contest sponsored by the Marye School 4-H Club yesterday at the school.

Barbara Ann Bounds was first place winner in the cooking contest, with Cheryl Howard winning second and Carolyn Durette, third. Judy Jarrell placed first in sewing with Frances Nathan placing second and Linda Aeors, third.

Judges were the following home demonstration clubwomen from Brokenburg: Mrs. H. E. Mastin, Mrs. Robert J. Mastin, Mrs. Hazel Miller and Mrs. Dorothy Pawley.

## Miss Evelyn Winn Is Beauty Entry For Courtland

Miss Evelyn Winn will represent the Courtland Home and Garden Club at the "Miss Spotsylvania" beauty contest to be sponsored next month by Spotsylvania County home demonstration clubs.

When Courtland club members met Thursday evening at their clubhouse, Mrs. Mary Nunnery, Mrs. Marion Wiltshire and Mrs. Nell Combs were welcomed as new members.

Mrs. Thomas Samuel and Mrs. Madison Bowling will be hostesses from the Courtland Club at the senior tea, which is being held Tuesday by county home demonstration clubs at Spotsylvania High School. The club gave \$5 toward tea expenses.

In other business, the club appointed a committee to plan either a home or garden tour during Home Demonstration Week, the first week in May. Another committee has been named to plan a Christmas home lighting contest for the community.

The Courtland Club recently bought 25 new folding chairs for its clubhouse. Pennies were collected for the annual "Pennies for Friendship" drive.

Fifteen members attended the District HD meeting held Thursday in Dahlgren. The club will serve dinner when the Spotsylvania Farm Bureau meets next Thursday at Robert E. Lee School.

At Thursday's meeting Mrs. Charlesworth Clark and Mrs. James Childress gave a demonstration on how to prepare and serve for teas and special occasions. The demonstration menu included cookies, punch, tea and sandwiches which were later served to the group.

While the children are small, they take a lot of the homemaker's time, especially the baby. The oldest girl has joined the 4-H club as is learning to sew. She is assuming more responsibility in the home, and is quite a help to her mother. The oldest boy, now a club member, works with his father on the farm, and can drive the tractor. As the children get older they will take more and more responsibilities. It will be an interesting family to watch as they develop. //

#### V. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - YOUTH

##### A. Organization

##### 1. County 4-H Council

Our Spotsylvania County 4-H Club Council is composed of the officers of the fifteen organized clubs in the county, plus our 4-H leaders, who serve in an advisory capacity. This group directs the 4-H activities in the county, and plans for special events, such as attendance at Jamestown 4-H Camp, Conservation Camp, trips, contests, observance of National 4-H Club Week, and other times of general interest to club members.

We usually plan for two meetings a year, one in the fall and one in the spring. At the fall meeting we reorganize our Council, set up goals and objectives for the year, and plan for special events. At the spring meeting we check up on general progress of the work, and plan for summer activities.

Our 4-H club officers are trained for their particular jobs at the fall meeting. Awards and pins for outstanding work are also given to club and county winners at this meeting. 4-H club leaders and All Stars assist with the training of the 4-H club officers.

2. The ages of our All Star members are at such a varied degree, that it has been difficult to stimulate their interest enough to organize a county chapter. From 1942 to 1952 no club members from the county were taken into the All Star Chapter. This has made such a gap in ages and interests that all attempts for a county organization have been futile. Our only hope is to build up an enthusiastic group of young All Stars as we go along, and then try to organize a county group.

Our All Star Members are very willing to serve as 4-H club leaders, to furnish transportation to county events, and to assist with training the officers at our Fall Planning Meeting.

3. Up until three years ago we held county-wide project planning meetings, but these were discontinued at the request of the leaders. They felt that the limiting of the club members to one or two projects for county-wide work caused a loss of interest on the part of the 4-H members. The leaders agreed to secure more leaders to assist with the project supervision and allow a wider variety of projects. We have found this a better solution to our problem.



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### 4-H Students To Model Skirts They Have Made

Skirts, made by members of the Good Hope School's 4-H Club, will be modeled and judged at the group's next meeting, May 13.

Judges will be Mrs. Ann Luck, Mrs. Pearl Curtis and Mrs. Edna Dickinson of the Belle Burke Home Demonstration Club. The girls will model their own skirts. Those undertaking the project were Jacqueline McGehee, Carol Brooks, Linda Duke, Leith Herer, Annie Brooks, Vicky Lee Perry and Ellen Lloyd.

At the April meeting, the girls were awarded note book covers by Mrs. Pearl Roche, club leader.

## B. Project Work

### 1. Foods and Nutrition

Forty-one girls enrolled in the Meal Planning and Preparation Project. As a result of the project we had a report of 5,270 dishes prepared during the year and 589 meals served. Two girls took Breads for a project, baking bread 143 times. Four girls took Freezing for a project and froze 316 quarts of food and 175 pounds of meat.

### 2. Clothing

Clothing is always a popular project with our girls, and this year we had 112 enrolled in Learning to Sew and eight enrolled in Clothing Construction. Our aim was to teach elementary work and correct methods to the beginners, and follow up with improved practices with older girls.

Results in the clothing program were gratifying. One hundred and twelve completed their clothing projects, making a total of forty-eight new garments and 575 other articles.

### 3. Room Improvement

Eight girls selected Room Improvement and Home Improvement. These girls took their own bedrooms for project work. These club members planned color schemes for their room, rearranged rooms to make them easier to care for, made accessories for clothes closets, and other attractive articles to bring color into their rooms. Eleven rooms were improved during this work, and thirty-eight articles were made. Six girls completed this

project, and most of these have select this project for next year.

Possibly our main success in this project was by one girl who took Home Improvement as her project. This was her eighth year in the project and with the cooperation of her family, she has done a wonderful job in developing an attractive and comfortable home, that, not only she, but every member of the family is proud of.

Starting with three tiny rooms and a kitchen the family has added to, removed partitions, dug a basement, finished a second story, installed a bath room and modern plumbing, until they now have a modern farm home of eight rooms and a bath, that they are proud to have their friends visit.

Planning improvements was done by the family as a whole, but the L-H club daughter was given the job of assisting with the remodelling and decorating. She and her father finished the hardwood floors when they were laid. She and her mother and father papered and painted the rooms as they were completed. She planned the color scheme for the home as a whole and made curtains, bedspreads, slip covers, lamp shades, upholstered furniture, rearranged furniture, hung pictures, improved storage facilities, until the home took on the livable, comfortable air that she wanted it to have. Her special problems this year were to complete the television room and her own room, and to streamline the home by removing excess accessories and useless gadgets and "nick-nacks."

Ten club women assisted the home agent with a group of retarded boys at one of the elementary schools. From January until May we met the group of nine boys, teaching crafts, and refinishing and rebottoming chairs and stools. Thirty-one pieces of furniture were refinished, ten chairs rebottomed, six stools rebottomed, and twenty-seven leather articles completed.

#### 5. Farm and Home Electric

Thirty-two girls enrolled in the Farm and Home Electric Project, but only twenty completed. This was the poorest completion for the year. We blamed this on poor meeting facilities.

The local power companies assisted with this project and gave excellent demonstrations, but club members had very little time to work on actual problems.

Twenty-nine articles were completed, such as service cords and lamps. Twenty-four improvements were reported on home lighting.

One boy and one girl received scholarships to the 4-H Electric Congress held in Richmond in August. Two other members received gold pins for outstanding work on their project.

At the close of the winter project year, contests on all projects were held, and club members exhibited the articles they had made in their projects.

Notebooks were judged with the exhibits and a scholarship to Jamestown 4-H Camp was given to the girl having the best



### Area Youngsters At 4-H Congress

Five Fredericksburg area youngsters, accompanied by their county agents, are attending the Virginia 4-H Club Electric Congress in Richmond today.

They are: James Williams and Susan Alexander of Stafford, accompanied by County Agent Richard C. Beck; Edward Stecker and Charlotte Houck of Spotsylvania, accompanied by County Agent R. W. Kash; and Johnny Andrews of Caroline, accompanied by County Agent Robert Eagar.

display of work done, and best records in her note book.

Eleven scholarships were awarded to Jamestown 4-H Camp by the local home demonstration Clubs. Two scholarships were awarded to the Senior 4-H Camp.

C. Other Activities

1. Jamestown 4-H Camp

Fifty Spotsylvania 4-H club boys and girls attended the District Camp in July. They were joined there by a group of campers from Goochland, Powhatan, Stafford Counties. The boys and girls enjoyed the fellowship of camping with the young people from other counties. Five adult leaders and the county agent from Spotsylvania attended camp with the club members and assisted with the program. The young people had the opportunity of taking in the Jamestown Festival, Common Glory, The Founders, and a tour of Yorktown Battlefield. This camping trip was really a wealth of experiences. One boy from our county was made Tribal Chief. The week proved to be a wonderful recreational and educational experience for the young people, and they returned home tired but happy from their camping trip.

Two girls and one boy attended Conservation Camp at Virginia Beach. One girl and one boy attended Older Youth Camp at Jamestown.

## 2. Short Course

Four girls and four boys attended the State 4-H Short Course at Blacksburg in June. This was the first trip for two of the girls and three boys, and it was a wonderful experience for all of them. One girl was made All Star at this Conference.

## 3. District Contests

Two girls entered the area contests held in Madison in February, but were not blue award winners.

## 4. Fredericksburg Fair

4-H club members entered numerous exhibits in all classes at the Fredericksburg Fair. The club members also assisted with preparation for the fair, such as arranging exhibits and with handing entries to the judges during the judging of exhibits.

The Spotsylvania exhibit put up by 4-H'ers won second place and a \$7.50 prize. This exhibit was on 4-H Members Reach For Wider Horizons.

## D. Young Men and Women's Work

Work with young men and women in the county has been done through individuals. We do not have any organized groups in our county. Our plans for an All Star organization and a Christmas get-together proved to be unsuccessful. Five All Stars serve as 4-H club leaders and help to promote this organization.

The home agent has assisted several young homemakers with storage, food preservation and furniture problems.

VI. SCOPE OF WORK

A.	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. H. D. Clubs or Groups	11	11	11	11	11
Membership	272	293	295	295	275
No. 4-H Clubs	10	9	9	10	9
Membership	200	200	200	186	202
No. YW Clubs	--	--	--	--	--
Membership	--	--	--	--	--
No. community clubs	--	--	--	--	--
Membership	--	--	--	--	--
No. Home Ec. Committees	--	--	1	1	2
No. General Interest Committees	--	--	1	1	--
No. Youth Committees	--	--	--	--	--
No. other organizations	1	1	1	1	--
No. Farm & Home Dev. Families	--	--	3	5	3
No. other families reached	1200	1200	500	500	500
No. different families reached	1500	1500	600	600	600

B. The home agent has taken every opportunity to publicize home demonstration work and bring it to the attention of the public and to individuals through good publicity about club events in newspapers and over the radio. Individuals and prospective club members have been contacted through home visits, assisted with various problems, and invited to attend club meetings.

Exhibits have been put up to attract public attention and increase interest.

VII. LEADERSHIP

A. Contribution of Leaders to the Program

1. Organizational

The officers of the organized home demonstration clubs in

the county are the organizational leaders. These leaders take care of all club business matters, plan for raising funds to carry on club activities, appoint committees, to carry on club work, keep records of club activities, and summarize the results of the years work. Without these organizational leaders an organized club program could not be conducted in the county.

## 2. Program Development Leaders

Program Development Leaders have not been used too effectively in Spotsylvania County. We made some progress this year, but much more work needs to be done along this line. The agent feels that a lack of understanding as to what the Program Development Leader is, and what her duties are, was the main difficulty. In several cases the wrong persons had been appointed for the job.

A training meeting for these leaders was held by the agent in May. County background facts were discussed, and whether or not our program was meeting the needs of our people. The effectiveness of the present program and previous programs was also discussed.

The leaders were asked to lead this discussion at their June meetings, and have their club members bring their problems and suggestions for next year's work at the July meetings. These suggestions were then brought to the Fall Planning Meeting. The plan did not work out too well this year, but a start has

been made. We are hoping to have these leaders function throughout next year. Seventy-five different women served as organizational leaders during the year.

### 3. Subject Matter Leaders

Our project leaders are our subject matter leaders. Directly after the fall planning meeting club presidents appoint the project leaders for each of the subject matter fields in the year's program. These leaders are then trained for their job either by the state subject matter specialists or the home agent.

This year we had ninety-two different subject matter leaders. Twenty-six training meetings were held for these leaders, and as a result of this training sixty-seven demonstrations were given to home demonstration clubs during the year without the agent's presence. Leaders assisted at twenty-six additional meetings.

### 4. Federation Program of Work Chairmen

Our Federation Program of Work chairmen assist in setting up work to be accomplished during the year, and then plan for carrying it out on a month by month basis. They have charge of distributing and tabulating all check sheets used during the year, and make a complete report of accomplishments to the County Chairman at the close of the year.

B. Growth of Leadership	No. 1957	No. 1958
1. Overall Program Leaders for County Board	6	6
2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership		

<u>Growth of H. D. Project Leadership</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>
No. organizational leaders		55	65	75	75
No. project leaders (subject matter)	181	90	95	95	92
No. Program of Work Chairmen	11	11	11	11	11
No. Program Development Leaders	11	11	11	11	12
No. result demonstrators	5	13	15	15	10
No. training meetings held by Specialists	4	2	5	3	3
No. training meetings held by District Agent		1	2	2	1
No. training meetings held by Agent	23	14	22	18	22
Attendance at all training meetings	232	294	397	275	423
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	82	46	54	63	67
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	20	47	20	20	26
Demonstrations by leaders	82	46	54	63	67
Talks and discussions by leaders		251	239	250	250

3. 4-H Club Leadership

<u>Growth of 4-H Project Leadership</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>
No. 4-H club officers				50	50
No. Adult project leaders	14	15	17	18	15
No. Junior Project leaders	14	12	12	15	11
No. training meetings by specialist	0	0	0	0	0
by agent	6	8	9	11	25
Attendance at Leader Training Meetings	62	105	63	88	259
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	12	15	27	10	15
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	26	26	27	28	25
No. demonstrations given by leaders:					
by adults	16	22	27	28	25
by juniors	19	4	20	20	15

C. Activities of An Outstanding Leader

We have had several outstanding leaders in our home demonstration program this year. Leaders have been called on, and have accepted more responsibility for conducting work than ever before.

Possibly the most outstanding leader is Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, a charter member of the first home demonstration club in the county. Mrs. Dickinson has been active as a club member for the past twenty-five years, and has served in every capacity in club, community, and county as a leader in the 4-H and Home Demonstration Work. For two years she served as president of the Virginia State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

She served as State Public Relations Chairman last year. She has been awarded a Certificate of Merit for her outstanding contributions to Agriculture.

It was through her efforts and direction that home demonstration work continued to function during the handicaps it suffered in the county several years ago. Mrs. Dickinson continued to contact club officers and direct the program of work. Where the club leaders were not trained to conduct a demonstration she personally went and gave the demonstration or secured someone else for the job.

During this past year she has not only been active in our own county in assisting with special interest activities, but she has been called upon by two neighboring counties for help on rug making. She also served as judge at a neighboring county's Achievement Day Program.

She has been particularly helpful with the 4-H program during the year, serving as leader, attending the 4-H planning meetings, judging at 4-H contests, and training 4-H club officers.

Mrs. Dickinson is never too busy to help others, and her influence has meant much to Extension Work in Spotsylvania County.

D. Possibly the most outstanding achievements from a family standpoint are those of the W. S. Dickinson family. I have

already related Mrs. Dickinson's activities in the Extension Program, and I can only add that this cooperation is apparent from every member of her family. Mr. Dickinson and both daughter and son take part in the Extension Program whenever the opportunity arises. Their cooperation in club and community work as well as county-wide and state programs have proved very helpful. The daughter is serving as State Citizenship Chairman and this year was selected President of our County Home Demonstration Committee. The son and his wife agreed to be one of our Farm and Home Electric Demonstration Families. They arranged a very interesting and telling demonstration.

È. The Belmont Home Demonstration Club deserves special recognition for its work and accomplishments this year. It accomplished every county goal set up as standard guide for the year's work. Out of the sixteen goals set up they completed all sixteen. This is quite a record because the goals are set pretty high to encourage better work.

The Belmont Club was represented at every county-wide meeting, and every leader training meeting. They conducted five club meetings without the agent. They increased their membership by securing three new members.

This club is composed of young married women who are interested in their homes and families, and anxious to try new things. The members are enthusiastic and get much enjoyment

from their club program. They are especially active in their community work. They purchased a floor sander and polisher for the use of homemakers in their community. They took clothing and food to a needy family at Christmas time. Gifts of every kind were presented and the club members felt this was a very special Christmas for the givers as well as the receivers. Their work this year also included a donation of \$30.00 to a trip for their Seventh Grade pupils, and a donation of \$75.00 for reference books for their local school.

F. Possibly, from the homemakers point of view, the most significant accomplishment this year was in our foods program.

Two leader training meetings were held to train food leaders in putting on their demonstrations. As a result of this training twenty-two leaders gave thirty-one food demonstrations and assisted with six others.

As a follow up of food preservation work, one hundred and eighty-six club members reported the following: ~~22~~ 9,175 quarts canned, 18,720 pounds frozen, 7,060 pounds of meat frozen or cured. Freezing of food is taking the lead over home canning because of the improved flavor, and ease of preparation.

Ninety-eight club members reported owning home freezers. Twenty-two of these were purchased this year.

Forty-one 4-H girls enrolled in the Meal Planning and Preparation Project. As a result of the project we had a

report of 5,270 dishes prepared during the year and 589 meals served. Two girls took Breads for a project, baking bread one hundred and forty-three times. Four girls took Freezing for a project and froze 216 quarts of food and 175 pounds of meat. One girl competed in the Frozen Food Contest, and one in Food Preparation.

VIII. The home agent feels that relationship with co-workers has been handled in a most cooperative and friendly manner. Office associates are very congenial, and an atmosphere of mutual respect for each others rights and privileges pervades at all times.

In all dealings with the public in general, other professional workers, elected representatives and commercial interests, the home agent has endeavored to cooperate in every possible way, and to maintain friendly relations. She solicits their help when needed, and offers her own help when called upon. Information regarding events of interest are publicized and credit given where it is due. In spite of handicaps of the past, a friendlier relationship exists.

IX. The home agent attended six weeks at Cornell University this summer. This course was a workshop in Human Relations and Human Development. It was most interesting and will prove very valuable in dealing with problems in Spotsylvania County.

She has joined all professional organizations, State and

National Home Demonstration Agents' Associations. She attended the district and state meetings of both organizations.

She subscribes to ten professional magazines and tries to read them all each month. Considering a busy home agent's schedule of from two to four night meetings a week this is difficult.

X. Since our offices have been put in the newly redecorated jail, we have tried to maintain it in an efficient manner. The jail is quite historic and we are proud of the old building. Our county women are planning to plant shrubbery around it which will greatly improve its appearance.

#### XI. THE LOOK AHEAD

Results of home demonstration work this year have been creditable. While we have not achieved all of the goals set up in our plan of work, we feel that work has progressed more smoothly than last year. Leaders, officers and committees have readily accepted their responsibilities, and have assisted in directing and completing a full program of work.

More members have joined our clubs. Club rolls increased by seventeen members this year. One club had three new members. Leaders are accepting responsibility in directing county activities.

Both home demonstration and 4-H club members have profited from the years program. This was planned to raise the standards of living in our county homes through teaching better methods of getting the job done. Homemakers are saving time by using

better methods in cleaning, laundry work and food preparation. They are selecting the right kind of equipment for the job. They are becoming more "health conscious" and are showing more interest in annual physical check-ups and hospitalization policies. Better nutrition practices are being used.

Altogether, with the solid foundation of Home Demonstration Work laid in Spotsylvania County and the interest shown in its accomplishments this year, the home agent feels that we are now ready to go into the year 1959 with a better understanding of work accomplished, and a brighter outlook for future progress.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

PLAN OF WORK

1958

Mrs. Louise N. Cooley

Home Demonstration Agent

Mrs. Louise N. Cooley  
Home Demonstration Agent  
Spotsylvania County

#### 1958 PLAN OF WORK

#### I. County Situation Considered in Working Out The 1958 Program

This Plan of Work is based on an appraisal of the county situation, a feeling of special needs from the homemaker's viewpoint, and a desire on the part of the home agent to achieve certain results in the year's program.

Spotsylvania cannot be classified as a typical rural county. Although there are no large towns in the county proper, proximity to Fredericksburg, Richmond, Washington and numerous smaller towns are responsible for the urban trend. There seem to be a number of large farms, owned by wealthy people who live elsewhere and have farm managers or who operate the farm on a specialized scale. The principle types of farms are dairy, general farming or livestock.

The principal sources of income to the rural families, besides farming are from garment factories in Fredericksburg, the Sylvania Division of the American Viscose Corporation in Spotsylvania County, near Fredericksburg, The Marine Base at Quantico, and other businesses in Fredericksburg. Many of the families have non-farm homes; they live in the county, own a small home, a few acres of land where they may have a garden, a pig, and a few chickens and a cow. Some of the families avail themselves of these opportunities, but many purchase all of their food.

The serious drought, we had during the past four years handicapped families in their farming program. Not only had their crops been a failure, but credit was strained. A decline in livestock, poultry, and

crop prices also made additional hardships.

Many of our county women have gotten jobs to supplement the family income, more this year than in previous years. In many instances both the husband and wife work. Where there are children some parents arrange for some adult to have charge of them while they are at work. Many parents leave their children without supervision.

Living accommodations are in much demand in and around Fredericksburg due to the Quantico Marine Base, and the A. P. Hill Military Reservation. Rents were high and where families had an extra room they rented it to marines and their wives. At times two or three couples were living in the same home and using kitchen privileges. This made a disrupted family living schedule, and was not conducive to wholesome family living. This past year, due to housing units built in the military areas there was not the demand for housing. The loss of income made it even more necessary for women to find work away from home.

The county is so infested with non-farm families that there are few true agricultural communities in Spotsylvania County.

## II. The County Extension Program - Adult

### A. Organizations

#### 1. County Home Economics Committees

County Home Economics Committees for Health and Electrification have been set up in our county. Since we are no longer taking Health as a Federation Goal in Spotsylvania County, our women feel that we need a special committee to carry on work already underway. A committee of three will plan for this work.

Electrification was used as a county campaign on "Better Lighting." A committee of men and women directed this work. We had two demonstrations farm and home exhibits for open house in our better lighting program. About one hundred and fifty persons attended the demonstrations. The committees will continue to function in 1958.

As a result of this interest two programs on "Better Lighting" are to be included in the home demonstration program for 1958. We hope many other families will adopt the slogan, "Save your sight thru better light," and really do something about it.

## 2. County Home Demonstration Club Committee

The Spotsylvania County Home Demonstration Club Committee guides and directs home demonstration work in the county. It is composed of presidents from the organized clubs in the county, a program development chairman from each club, one person from each magisterial district, and a few members at large. Two meetings are held each year. At the Spring meeting the Committee checks up on the progress of the county program of work, and makes any necessary changes. They also plan for county-wide events, attendance at the District, State and National meetings, and any other special activities that may come up.

The fall meeting of the committee is for program planning and setting up goals and objectives for the year. County officers are elected at this meeting, and committees appointed for such activities as Achievement Day, District Federation Meeting, compiling of the Year Book and the Senior Class Tea. The committee also plans for all money-making activities for the organization and appoints committees to take care of this.

B. Home Demonstration Clubs

1. Home Demonstration Committee - Plans for using the Home Demonstration Committee to strengthen the Extension Program for 1958.

A. Goals set up by the Home Demonstration Committee:

(1) County Goals

- (a) Clubs strive to reach more people by: increasing membership, passing on information to non-club members and sponsoring an unorganized group.
- (b) Club support 4-H club by: furnishing adequate leaders, sponsoring contests and donating camp scholarships, and furnishing transportation to county events.
- (c) Club carry out the Federation Goal as planned.
- (d) Clubs have good news publicity in local papers by trained reporters.

(2) Club Goals

- (a) Each club hold 12 regular meetings and sufficient called meetings to attend to club business.
- (b) Each club should be represented at all county meetings such as: County H. D. Committee, Leader Training, Federation Goal, etc.
- (c) Each club carry out the County Program of Work with well planned demonstrations and business meetings.
- (d) Each club should strive to reach more people:
  1. Increase membership by 10%.
  2. Pass on information to non-club members.
  3. Sponsor an unorganized group.
- (e) Each club start meeting and close meeting on time.
- (f) Each club should have an active 4-H leader who attends or conducts a 4-H meeting and makes a report of 4-H activities to her home demonstration club each month.
- (g) Each club raise sufficient funds to meet club budget.
- (h) Each club carry out the Federation Goal and devote at least one meeting to it.
- (i) Each club have active fair chairman to publicize and encourage exhibits from club members at the Fredericksburg Fair.

- (j) Each club sponsor 4-H club contests and donate a scholarship to Jamestown 4-H Camp for outstanding work.
- (k) Each club should be well represented at the District Meeting.
- (l) Each club should pay full expenses of one delegate to the State Federation Meeting at Blacksburg or part expenses of two.
- (m) Each club have good news publicity in local papers by trained reporters, who report club activities following club meetings.
- (n) Each club should have 4 meetings without the agent to enable agent to reach new groups.
- (o) Each club should be informed and cooperate with all local, state and national affairs such as:
  - 1. March of Dimes
  - 2. Red Cross
  - 3. Cancer, etc.
- (p) Each club should have 100% accomplishment sheets from club members turned in to Secretary at September club meeting.

Recommendation: A club, to be standard, should reach 14 out of these 17 goals.

## B. Project Work

### a. Foods

#### (1) Objectives

- (a) To assist homemakers in planning for more variety in selection of foods for suppers and luncheons.
- (b) To show how to save time by using more prepared mixes for everyday meals.
- (c) To teach homemakers how to prepare attractive foods for Teas and special occasions.

#### (2) Procedure

- (a) Have leader training meeting.
- (b) Leaders give demonstrations at club meetings.

- (c) Have check up on progress of work through club discussions.

#### B. Clothing

##### (1) Objectives

- (a) To teach homemakers correct finishes for garments.
- (b) To teach homemakers how to cut plaids when making garments.

##### (2) Procedure

- (a) To hold leader training meetings.
- (b) Leaders give demonstrations at club meetings.
- (c) Have check-up on progress of work.
- (d) To hold special interest meetings or county-wide meetings on clothing construction.
- (e) To have exhibits of work accomplished.

#### C. Housefurnishings

##### (1) Objectives

- (a) To teach homemakers how to plan for correct home lighting in both living and work areas.
- (b) To teach homemakers how to select and care for fabrics for curtains and draperies.
- (c) To teach homemakers how to choose suitable styles and fixtures for window treatments.

##### (2) Procedure

- (a) To hold leader training meetings.
- (b) Leaders give demonstrations at club meetings.
- (c) Have check-up on progress of work.
- (d) Have club members tour open house demonstrators on electrification.

#### D. Crafts

##### (1) Objectives

- (a) To teach those interested in leather work how to make attractive and useful leather articles.
- (b) To teach methods of doing copper tooling and how to make attractive and useful articles.
- (c) To teach tile decorating.
- (d) To teach braiding of rugs and how to plan and prepare material for same.

(2) Procedure

- (a) To hold training meetings in the form of workshops.
- (b) To have leaders conduct community meetings.
- (c) Agent and leaders assist in workshops.
- (d) Have exhibits of completed work.

e. Landscaping

(1) Objectives

- (a) To acquaint homemakers with correct procedure in establishing lawns, and how to care for them.
- (b) To teach correct foundation planting for home grounds.
- (c) To teach planting of roses, care, pruning and pest control.

(2) Procedure

- (a) To hold a Home Grounds Institute.
- (b) Enroll members as result demonstrators.
- (c) Check-up on plantings through club discussions and home visits.

C. Federation Program of Work

1. Art in Daily Living, Stressing Music and Art

(1) Objectives

- (a) To cultivate an appreciation for various types of music.
- (b) To cultivate an appreciation of good paintings.

(2) Procedure

- (a) To hold a planning meeting with club chairmen and state rural arts specialist.
- (b) To plan a month by month program of stressing music and art appreciation.
- (c) Club program to be directed by local goal chairman.

D. Other Activities

1. Fredericksburg Fair

(1) Objectives

- (a) To teach women to make displays of good quality.
- (b) To see that exhibits are well displayed.
- (c) To see that good prizes are offered.

(2) Procedure

- (a) To stress good quality and attractiveness of articles on display throughout the year.
- (b) Have local club exhibits if possible.
- (c) Stress points to be used in judging at fair.
- (d) Have an educational exhibit on some phase of year's work.

2. National H. D. Week

(1) Objectives

- (a) Acquaint the public with the scope and value of Home Demonstration Work.
- (b) Have home demonstration members become familiar with history of home demonstration work in their county.
- (c) Increase membership of clubs through good publicity.
- (d) Have home demonstration club members become familiar with county history.

(2) Procedure

- (a) Publicize Home Demonstration Week in local newspapers and over radio.

- (b) Have clubs prepare own club histories honoring charter members and past presidents.
- (c) Have club plan for special observance of Home Demonstration Week, at April or May meeting.
- (d) Have special broadcast with local women participating.
- (e) Have skits of historical interest presented at club meetings.

### 3. District Federation Meeting

#### (1) Objectives

- (a) Have at least forty women to attend from Spotsylvania County.
- (b) Assist Home Demonstration Committee Chairman in assembling a good report of Home Demonstration Work in the county.

#### (2) Procedure

- (a) Start early assemblance of necessary reports.
- (b) Give much publicity to the meetings.
- (c) Plan for transportation of members.

### 4. State Federation Meeting and Institute of Rural Affairs

#### (1) Objectives

- (a) Have good attendance at meeting from Spotsylvania County. Secure one delegate from each club.

#### (2) Procedure

- (a) Publicize meeting and assist in planning transportation for delegates.

### 5. Drives

- (a) March of Dimes, Red Cross, T. B. Association, Cancer Drive are all contributed to by Home Demonstration Clubs because of their worthiness, and because of the interest the women have in this work.

6. Clinics - Frank C. Pratt Mental Health Clinic

- (a) Encourage interest of county people in progress of the clinic.

7. Achievement Day

- (a) Have a county Achievement Day in the Fall with the exhibits and skits on year's work.

III. Farm and Home Development

Six families are being worked with on the Farm Home Development Program this year.

(1) Objectives

To have at least ten families in 1958. These will be selected by a committee appointed by the Home Demonstration Committee. The home agent will concentrate on better lighting, health and better storage.

IV. County Extension Program - Youth

A. 4-H Organizations

1. County 4-H Council

(1) Objectives

- (a) To hold two meetings of the 4-H Council - one in December, and one in May.
- (b) To have every club officer and leader attend the council meetings.
- (c) To award pins and other honors at the Council meetings.
- (d) To set up a county organization with full staff of officers.
- (e) To train all club officers for their particular job.

(2) Procedure

- (a) To hold a council organizational meeting and training meeting for club officers in December.

- (b) To plan for county-wide activities such as National 4-H Club Week, attendance at Short Course and 4-H Camp, etc. at this meeting.
  - (c) To hold a check-up meeting in May to see how work is progressing.
  - (d) To plan for contests and summer activities at this meeting.
- 2. Continue the 4-H planning committee to assist with 4-H Club Organization and project selection.
  - 3. Organize a County All Star group to assist with 4-H club work, and to stimulate more interest in county activities.
- B. 4-H Project Work
- 1. Clothing
    - (1) Objectives
      - (a) To teach 4-H members to do simple practices in sewing well.
      - (b) To teach them to appreciate a good job and have a desire to to good work.
      - (c) To teach them to select materials suitable for the job they are to do.
      - (d) To teach girls to lay patterns, to use patterns, and to follow instructions.
      - (e) To teach them to make necessary preparations to work before beginning to sew.
      - (f) To develop in the children an appreciation for handmade articles well done.
      - (g) To develop an appreciation of good grooming habits and the practice of same.
    - (2) Procedure
      - (a) To train leaders for clothing work.
      - (b) Agent and leaders give demonstrations.
      - (c) Give individual assistance.
      - (d) Have judging contests and award ribbons after completions of each article.
      - (e) Have county contests.

## 2. Room Improvement

### (1) Objectives

- (a) To teach girls to plan good color scheme, and how to plan for comfortable, easy-to-keep rooms.
- (b) To teach girls to consider cost when planning.
- (c) To teach them to remodel, recondition or improve and make the best use of what they already have.
- (d) To teach principles of care and arrangement of bedrooms.

### (2) Procedure

- (a) Train leaders
- (b) Leaders and agent give demonstration on seating chairs, making slip covers, making bookshelves, making bedspreads, curtains, rugs, refinishing furniture or any other thing that may prove necessary.
- (c) Make pictures of rooms and show to other girls.
- (d) Make tours to visit rooms after completion.
- (e) Have county contest.

## 3. Foods

### (1) Objectives

- (a) To teach planning of simple, inexpensive and nourishing meals.
- (b) To teach value of using home products.
- (c) To teach organization of time in meal preparation.
- (d) To teach how to give a demonstration.
- (e) To teach correct methods of canning and freezing foods.

### (2) Procedure

- (a) Train leaders.
- (b) Agent and leaders give demonstrations.

- (c) Girls give demonstrations.
- (d) Have club contests.
- (e) Have county contests.

C. Other Activities

1. Camp

- a. Spotsylvania County expects to take its quota of boys and girls to Jamestown 4-H Camp.
- b. Those first selected will be the ones who win scholarships.
- c. Next selected will be the ones whose project work and record books are up to date.

2. County Contest

- a. County Contests will be held in January
  - (1) Each club will first have a contest.
  - (2) The winners in each club will participate in a county contest.

3. Rural Life Sunday

- a. All 4-H clubs in the county plan to observe Rural Life Sunday by having a special observance for them in the Spotsylvania High School Auditorium one Sunday evening in May.

4. State Short Course

- a. We hope to have two girls and two boys from our county.

D. Young Men and Young Women

1. Senior Tea

- a. A tea will be held for all members of the Senior Class and faculty of Spotsylvania High School.
- 2. Home Demonstration Club members will continue to assist with teen-age clubs in the county.
- 3. Other work with this group will be done individually.

V. SCOPE OF WORK

A. Organization	No. in 1957	Goal for 1958
No. Home Demonstration Clubs	11	12
Membership	295	325
Number of 4-H clubs	10	10
Membership	186	215
No. Home Economics Committees	2	3
Membership	6	9
No. other organizations	1	1
Membership	10	15
No. Farm and Home Development Families	6	10

VI. PLAN FOR LEADERSHIP

A. Overall Program Leaders	No. in 1957	Goal for 1958
A. Overall Program Leaders	165	175
B. Home Demonstration:		
Number project leaders	95	100
Number Federation Goal Chairmen	11	12
No. Program Development Leaders	11	12
No. result demonstrators	15	17
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	3	7
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	16	25
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by district agent	2	2
Attendance at all training meetings	275	400
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	63	65
No. meetings leaders assisted with	20	50
Total number demonstrations given by leaders	63	65
Total number talks or discussions given by leaders	250	350

C. Describe your plans for training and using all types of leaders in carrying out the 1958 program.

- (1) Food training - by specialists and special persons.
- (2) Chair caning - by agent
- (3) Trays - by agent
- (4) Footstools - by agent
- (5) Refinishing furniture - by agent
- (6) Federation Goal Work - by specialist
- (7) Upholstering - by agent and leaders

2. Using leaders

- (1) All clubs hold at least four meetings during the year without agent present.
- (2) Leaders give demonstrations to their own clubs or secure leaders from other clubs to do it.
- (3) Strong clubs hold six meetings without the presence of the agent.
- (4) Encourage leaders to give individual assistance whenever her services are needed.

D. 4-H Club	No. in 1957	Goal for 1958
No. of 4-H club officers	50	70
No. adult project leaders	18	20
No. junior project leaders	15	15
No. Result Demonstrators	1	2
No. of meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	0	1
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by district agent	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	10	12
No. attending leader training meetings	88	90
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	10	20

4-H Club, continued	No. in 1957	Goal for 1958
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	28	30
No. meetings assisted with	41	35
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	28	35
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	20	25

E. Plans for training and using leaders in carrying out the 1958 Program

1. Training

- a. Have specialist train leaders in food preservation.
- b. Have leader training meetings for the following by agent:
  - (1) Clothing
  - (2) Room Improvement
  - (3) Foods

2. Using Leaders

- a. To have leaders give demonstrations to 4-H members.
- b. To have leaders attend all 4-H meetings and assist girls with project work at meetings.
- c. To have leaders give members individual assistance.
- d. To have leaders assist with exhibits at fair.

VII. Plans for Work with Other Agencies

To make a definite plan for working with other agencies appears to be impossible, but the agent would like to cooperate in every way possible.

1. Welfare

- a. H. D. Clubs will assist with needy families in their communities and do special relief work at Christmas.

2. Health

- a. Club members will assist with clinics or participate when called upon.

3. Home Economics

- a. The Home Agent will assist when called on.
- b. Home Economics Teachers will be invited to attend leader training meetings.

VIII. Plans for Development of Good Public Relations in County Among:

A. Co-Workers

B. General Public

C. Elected Representatives

D. Other Professional Workers

1. With all of VIII grouped together the agent will attempt to live up to the desirable characteristics of a successful home demonstration agent as are stated under XIII on page 26 of the Handbook for Virginia Agricultural Workers.

IX. Plan for Recording Progress and Evaluating Program as Planned for 1958

- A. The agent plans to check the progress of this program to evaluate it by using this plan of work, the monthly reports, checking club and county goals and making comparisons with previous work done.

X. Plans for Professional Improvement

A. Organized Study

1. Schools - The home agent hopes to attend a summer session at some college.
- a. Attended Regional Short Course in Fayetteville, Arkansas in July and August, 1949.
- b. Attended In-Service Training, V. P. I. in 1956.

B. Reading Professional Publications

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. American Home                | 9. Ladies Home Journal      |
| 2. Better Homes and Gardens     | 10. Progressive Farmer      |
| 3. The Forecast                 | 11. Southern Planter        |
| 4. Good Housekeeping            | 12. Country Gentlemen       |
| 5. The Virginia Journal         | 13. Extension Division News |
| 6. Household                    | 14. Woman's Home Companion  |
| 7. What's New in Home Economics | 15. Farm and Ranch          |
| 8. McCall's                     | 16. Farm Journal            |

C. Membership in Professional Organizations

1. Virginia Home Economics Association
2. National Home Demonstration Agents' Association
3. National Home Economics Association
4. State Home Demonstrations Agents' Association

D. Participation in programs, workshops, etc., planned by other organizations.

1. The agent will participate in all she has an opportunity to do, provided it seems wise for her to do so.

E. Planned Educational Trips

1. At present there are none.

II. Cooperation with other Extension Workers

A. Special Interest Committees

1. We hope to have two active groups in 1958.

B. Farm Home Program

1. We hope to have at least ten families in this program.

C. 4-H Work

1. All 4-H work is planned cooperatively.

XII. Greatest Problems in Carrying Out the Extension Program in Spotsylvania County

The greatest problem in conducting Extension Work in Spotsylvania County has been brought about by political friction and disruption of the work when the former agents were ousted from the county. A sympathetic feeling on the part of many of the county people toward the former agents has been most apparent. People as a whole have been most cooperative, and the agent feels that a solid foundation has been laid for an excellent program of work.

The agent is quoting her predecessor on the following:

One of the greatest problems, I suppose, is that only three communities in the county have meeting places other than in homes. There is little reason to attempt to get large groups together because of lack of space. Even the majority of homes are small. It is hard to develop a common interest in the county or in one community even, because they can't get together. Therefore, interest is lacking. The majority of the people are self-satisfied and many of the better families enjoy living in past history.

Young and old are very much in need of recreation, but there is no place for any except in the three community houses, and it seems impossible to get enough people interested in doing something about it, to make a place available.