

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1959

HALIFAX _____

County

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COMMUNITY 4-H CLUBS

The Agents have been working for years in trying to create more interest in Community 4-H Clubs. Up until 1959 there were only three community clubs in Halifax County with the Agents attending most of the meetings. These clubs have local leaders but they felt insecure in working with these groups and insisted on the agents being present. With two new groups being organized in 1959 the Agents talked with these leaders and assured them that they would work with the leaders each month before the club meetings and that the leaders would be responsible for the club meetings. The 4-H Club members now look to leaders rather than Agents in their local groups. All future 4-H Clubs organized will be organized on this basis. The Agents feel that the leaders are more enthusiastic when they have full responsibility for the 4-H Club meeting.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CLUBS

Community Improvement Clubs have played a major role in 1959 in better family living for Halifax County. These clubs took as their main objective a Live-At-Home Program for 1959. These farm families have made a concentrated effort to raise more of their food supply and to do more diversified farming. These clubs have helped to pull communities together and create more community spirit. The groups now enjoy their educational program each month with some

social activities and they work together very nicely on money-making activities. These families feel that their community is the best community to live in.

I. County Situation As It Affected The Program Planned

Halifax is the fourth largest county in the state of Virginia, having an area of 814 square miles. It borders on the North Carolina line in the south-central part of the state. There are approximately 4,751 farms in the county that average 85.5 acres each in size. The topography is hilly to gentle rolling. The farms are well watered by one or more of the three rivers and other numerous streams which flow through or arise in the county. The soil types are many and varied. Much of the soil is light in color and sandy in nature therefore, making it well suited to the production of high quality flue-cured tobacco. One-half or more of the soils are heavy clay or clay loams that are adapted to the production of grain, hay, pasture and general farming. Three railroads traverse the county making rail facilities convenient to most localities. An excellent network of hard surfaced highways serve all sections of the county. South Boston, the largest town with a population of 6,057, is located five miles south of Halifax, the County Seat, which is in the center of the county.

There are two hospitals located in the county that are well-staffed to take care of the health and medical needs of the county. The County Health Department has a doctor, a sanitation officer and four nurses to work with the under privileged people in the area.

Halifax County has one State Park that has recreation facilities available to the general public. There are eight swimming pools in the county in which people may purchase stock. There are four theaters in the county and the Halifax County High School offers recreation programs from time to time.

In marketing tobacco, which is the main money crop, there are twelve warehouses and there is a livestock market located in South Boston where farm families market livestock twice each week and from time to time special sales are conducted by farm organizations, such as Feeder Calf Sales and Lamb Sales.

II. County Extension Program - Adult

A. Organizations

1. County Agricultural Extension Service Board

County Agricultural Extension Service Board has the responsibility of the Extension Program in the County. It is composed of farm men and women, chairman of the Home Demonstration Committee, chairman from each Home Economics Committee, commodity groups, and business men and women. This group decides on the program for the year, they listen to committee reports and accept, revise or reject the program set up by the group. This group recognizes the needs of the County and tries to set up a program to help meet these needs.

2. Home Economics Council

Home Economics Council is composed of chairmen from each of the Home Economics Committees and the chairman of the Home

Demonstration Committee. The purpose of this group is to tie the entire Home Economics Program together. The committee members in the council get an over-all picture of the program and it is in the council that duplications and corrections are made. This group assumes the responsibility for the Home Economics Program.

3. General Interest and Home Economics Committees

General Interest and Home Economics Committees play an important role in helping to set up the Extension Program for the year. Youth, Nutrition, Home Lighting, Garden, Poultry, and Consumer Information are the committees that functioned in 1959. One person from each magisterial district in the county was asked to serve on each committee. These groups met, reviewed five-year program, noted accomplishments and failures, set goals for the coming year and methods to be followed in trying to reach goals.

4. County Home Demonstration Club Committee

County Home Demonstration Club Committee is composed of club presidents, and program of work chairmen. This group governs the local clubs and brings together the program of work for the year.

B. Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas

1. Nutrition and Foods

Foods and nutrition are always of interest to homemakers as this phase of homemaking consumes a large portion of her time. The nutritional health of the family rest on the shoulders.

of the homemaker. Halifax women wanted to know more about adequate diets and methods of providing adequate diets in the minimum amount of time. Some homemakers needed to know what was necessary for an adequate diet and methods of preparation to save food value. Many homemakers work outside of the home, therefore, they have little time for meal preparation. After a discussion in club meetings, the Foods and Nutrition Committee Meeting and County Home Demonstration Club Committee Meeting, it was decided to present two special interest meetings for all who would like to attend, one on Meat Cookery and the other on Desserts. The Home Demonstration Clubs studied Minerals and Vitamins - Their Source and Function, Freezing Fruits and Vegetables, Meals From Your Freezer and Quick Meals. The women wanted to learn the best methods of preparing food to conserve food value, to use their time as efficiently as possible and how to plan adequate meals for the family. This project was carried on through monthly demonstrations, leader training meetings, special interest meetings, survey, Agents giving demonstrations and the Home Economists of Virginia Electric and Power Company holding two special interest meetings for the women. News articles were written and radio talks were given on foods work.

The program was started with a survey to see what homemakers were eating. This helped to create interest and the homemaker found out where she was falling short of an adequate diet. The

Agents feel that homemakers are doing a better job on meal planning and food preparation and that home freezers are being used to a better advantage. It is felt that some homemakers are planning the use of their time more wisely. More time and work needs to be spent in time management not only in the foods area but with the entire process of homemaking. More homemakers have learned the importance of using correct methods in freezing and preparing food.

2. House Furnishings

Hallifax County women are always interested in house furnishings and expressed a desire to continue some home lighting work that had been started in previous years. Most homemakers had specific problems in providing adequate light in the different rooms in the home. In addition to home lighting they also expressed a need for information on window treatment. There are many homes in Halifax County that have odd size windows that need special attention. These women also wanted to know something about the new materials available to be used for windows. When the Home Demonstration Club and the Home Lighting Committees met they decided to include two months work in the 1959 program on Home Lighting and one month on Window Treatment. The Home Demonstration Clubs had for their January demonstration Kitchen and Bathroom Lighting, February demonstration Living Room and Bedroom Lighting and the June Demonstration Window Treatment.

The Home Economists for Virginia Electric and Power

Company and Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative were most cooperative in working with the Agents to help bring information on Home Lighting to our club members. The club members learned how to select light bulbs for different tasks, lamp shades, the correct height of lamps and the placement of lamps. Mrs. T. C. Howell, a member of the Home Lighting Committee, set up a good study area in the Turbeville School. This exhibit will remain throughout the year and at each P.T.A. Meeting, parents are reminded of the exhibit and Mrs. Howell makes a short talk on the importance of adequate lighting. Other members of the Home Lighting Committee are working with individuals in their communities on providing better home lighting.

All club members were exposed to a demonstration in June on Window Treatment. At this meeting as far as possible the Agents assisted individuals with specific window problems. This group was shown new materials and their care was discussed. New ideas were given on treating problem windows. So much interest was shown in the Window Treatment Demonstration that the women requested a Special Interest Meeting on paints. This demonstration was to help carry out typing your window treatment into the color scheme of your room. A local paint store cooperated by furnishing the paint for a home. The homemaker and her family applied the paint according to the directions and followed the information on window treatment. She opened her home to the general public in April for them to see what

had been done. The Agents had made slides of the home before improvements had been made. On the afternoon that "open house" was held the slides were shown on how the home looked before it was redecorated. The homemakers felt that this was a very worthwhile meeting and gave them a good idea on what could be done with a very small amount of money.

As a result of house furnishings work done, homemakers have had the opportunity of observing good lighting practices, window treatment and interior decorating. These homemakers felt that they had gained necessary information to know what to look for in purchasing this material for their own homes.

3. Safety

The people of Halifax County had it brought to their attention that the farm and home accident rate in Halifax County was at an all time high. The Home Demonstration Club members felt that it was so important that they selected Safety for their program of work and they set aside one monthly demonstration to study safety habits. When this program was presented to the Board of Agriculture, the board felt that each phase of the program recommended should stress safety in their work each year. The people wanted to know how to improve work habits to promote better safety in the home and on the farm, what to do when accidents occur, and what facilities were available to local people when accidents occur. Many of the

clubs had a representative of the life saving crew to come out and talk to their group. Miss Amelis Fuller of V.P.I. trained the Home Demonstration Club leaders on developing safety habits. All clubs had one monthly meeting on safety and at each meeting during the year the program of work chairman discussed some phase of safety. Eight Home Demonstration Clubs had booths at the County Fair on some phase of safety. They felt that by using a fair booth on safety they could reach and influence people in developing good safety habits that could not be reached otherwise. Safety material was made available to all club members and additional copies for friends and neighbors, news articles, and radio talks were given on safety.

As a result of these activities, people have been made conscious of the many things that they can do in the home and on the farm to cut down on the large number of accidents in the county. They are developing better work methods to help prevent accidents and they are trying to influence the youth to develop good safety habits.

4. Clothing

With responsibility of clothing the family falling on the shoulders of the homemaker, the women of the county felt a need for knowing more about the materials on the market and how to care for them. The Home Demonstration Club Committee and the Consumer Information Program Projection Group requested that meetings be set up to meet the needs of this group. It was decided that one month

during the Home Demonstration Club year would be devoted to Materials, Their Finishes and Care, and that this information would be placed in the bulletin racks in all communities in the county and that a leader training meeting would be held to train the leaders that would go back into their communities and help others.

As a result of these meetings, the women realized the importance of reading and keeping labels on materials that are purchased since you can no longer feel a piece of material and tell what it is made of, that the finish applied also influence the care required of the material. The women were made conscious of the fact that the care given the material determines the service to be expected and that there are chemicals on the market to help the homemaker take better care of different materials. Local merchants are reporting that some people are refusing to buy materials that do not have labels.

5. Rural Arts

Women are always interested in including something in the year's work that they can actually do in the meeting. This year the Home Demonstration Committee selected Textile Painting as one of the demonstrations for the year. These meetings consisted of more than just textile painting. It also included information on color schemes, the blending of colors and the use of color in the home. Many of these women assisted with Bible Schools and Camps and felt that the information gained through these meetings was very helpful

to them. The 4-H Club leaders, who are Home Demonstration Club members, used this information in working with their groups. Some of the clubs held all day meetings in which people in the community who were not club members were invited in to participate.

6. Subject Matter Story - Home Lighting

Home Lighting has been one of the most important phases of the adult program that has been undertaken in Halifax County recently. There was not a lamp for sale in Halifax County that met the standards of good lighting for a seeing task. It was a rare occasion to find a home that had a lamp that would meet these standards. Homemakers and merchants had never heard of the all white bulb. The largest bulb in many homes was a 60 watt bulb. Seeing tasks were performed by this size bulb. When the Agents and Electric Suppliers began to publicise information on home lighting, people in the county were made conscious of the poor light they were trying to work by. The Home Demonstration Club members were the first to recognize the need for making a change. In 1957, they requested that four months be spent on home lighting. These people wanted to know what watt bulb to use for different tasks, how to diffuse light, placement of lamps, height of lamps and finding a source of supply. At the beginning of 1958 the Home Demonstration Club Committee felt that the 1957 program had been most worthwhile and wanted people other than club members to know the home lighting story. At their request a Home Lighting Committee functioned in 1958 and 1959 with one leader

from each magisterial district working in her community to improve home lighting. This program has continued to grow in the county. Meetings have been held for dealers by the Electric Suppliers and the Extension Service so that they might know what the homemaker wanted to be able to purchase locally. Five homes were lighted properly and opened to the public and at each home a person was available to explain the lighting that existed. Two months in 1958 were devoted to Home Lighting by the Home Demonstration Clubs. The interest in home lighting was also carried over to the youth program in the county and a 4-H workshop was held at which time 4-H Club members and adults came in and assembled lamps that met the standards of good lighting for seeing tasks. A request has been made for a repeat on this workshop in 1960. Through the radio, newspapers and personal contacts by the Agents and homemakers more families in Halifax County now knew what to look for in buying lamps, bulbs, and shades. Mrs. T. C. Howell of the Turbeville Community has set up a lighting exhibit in a local school for the children and parents to observe. Any equipment that is not available through one of the local stores is now made available through the Electric Suppliers. This program is expected to continue to grow in Halifax County.

C. Other Activities

1. Community Improvement Clubs

There are five Community Improvement Club in Halifax

County that was organized to reach additional people that were not being reached through the Extension Service. These clubs have been organized for three years and are sponsored by the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce puts up \$600.00 as prize money for this group. One of the main objectives of this group, since it is composed of the entire family, is to stress the importance of more diversified farming in Halifax County. Since it has been strictly a tobacco county, it is very difficult to get farm families to recognize the importance of more diversified farming. These groups meet once a month and have an educational program for the entire family. They have an overall county group to meet once each year to review the progress for the past year and make recommendations for the coming year.

2. Home Demonstration Community Projects

Most Home Demonstration Clubs select a community project to work on each year. The Clever Home Demonstration Club has done more than any other club in the county in cemetery and highway beautification. The Home Demonstration Club and Woman's Club worked together on this project and each year they had specific jobs to be done. Just before Memorial Day, each year the entire community turns out to clean and beautify the town's cemetery. Shrubs and trees are planted along the streets and highways by this group.

The Mt. Laurel Home Demonstration Club built a

community house about 10 years ago. Each year they select certain projects that they will attempt in improving the community house and grounds. This building serves the entire community for a large number of recreational, educational and money-making activities. It is a meeting place for many of the social activities in the community. It has been very instrumental in drawing the community closer together. In 1959 they completed plans for landscaping the area.

The Paces and Sutherlin Home Demonstration Clubs are very conscious of the needy families in the community and each year they take a special offering at Christmas for a needy family instead of exchanging gifts among themselves. During the year from time to time they will make donations of money, clothing and food to certain families in the area. There are three blind children from one community that are now attending a school for the blind and their clothing needs are met by the Sutherlin Club members.

3. National Home Demonstration Club Week

The Home Demonstration Clubs celebrated National Home Demonstration Club Week by having special radio programs, news articles, attending District Meeting and a Flower Show. All club members who attended the District Meeting held in Farmville felt that it was a very interesting meeting and Halifax County had two club members to appear on the program. The Sutherlin Home Demonstration Club holds a Flower show each year during Home Demonstration

Club Week in the Home of Mrs. O. R. Hackworth. This is one of the highlights in our program each year. Through the work that these club members have done they have become very efficient in growing and arranging flowers. They have national judges to judge their show each year and it is attended by people not only from Halifax County but surrounding counties.

4. Fairs

The Home Demonstration Clubs of Halifax County have used the local fair as their achievement program to show others what they have done during the year. Fourteen of the clubs had fair booths, stressing the importance of some phase of the year's program. The Fair Association also helps to make this a money-making activity for club members by providing \$65.00 for the first place winner, \$55.00 for second place winner, \$45.00 for third place winner, \$40.00 for fourth place winner, \$35.00 for fifth place winner and all others \$15.00 each. In addition to having booths, many club members entered individual exhibits.

D. Urban work

There is no urban work in Halifax County.

E. Farm and Home Development

The County and Home Agents worked with 30 families on farm and home management. One of the big problems in working with this group is getting families to recognize their needs, getting

families to plan together, work together and helping them with time and money management problems. The Agents worked very closely with these families, assisting them in keeping good records and encouraging them to use the family record book supplied by the Extension Service. The Agents tried to assist families in recognizing their needs and this is done through personal contacts and discussions with the family. One of the best ways that the Agents have found in getting families to plan together is for both Agents to visit the family together and the County Agent go over the farm plans in the presence of the homemaker as well as the farmer and then for the Home Agent to discuss the home situation with both members of the family. Some families have worked very nicely on time management problems and a few of the homemakers have kept a time schedule. One of the problems that the Agents have worked with on money management is to help farm families see how much money that they are now spending for food and supplies that could be grown at home and wherever it is practical for farm families to produce as much of their food needs at home as possible.

Progress Story - The Reese Wooding family has continued to make the most outstanding progress in the farm and home management program. They always have been cooperative and progressive. The family consist of Mr. and Mrs. Wooding, Jane Lee, who is in the third grade in school, and Judy, who is in the first grade in

school. This family lives on a dairy farm. Mr. Wooding's Mother and sister and her husband lives on this farm with the sister's husband working away from home. Mr. Wooding has complete charge of this farm. Mr. and Mrs. Wooding both have a high school education. They are highly respected in the community, participating in most community activities and have an average income. The family is covered by some life insurance and hospitalization.

Goals

1. To provide additional living area.
2. To improve home grounds.
3. To add home furnishings.
4. To provide more home grown products for family use.

Plans For Reaching Goals

1. To produce more food at home by having a good spring and fall garden. Raise a meat supply as far as possible.
2. To expand dairy operation.
3. To seek employment outside of the home.

Action Taken By Family To Achieve Goals

Assistance was given by the Agents in helping the homemaker to select a sewing machine so that she might make some of the clothing for the family that she had been buying ready made. This homemaker has developed into a very good seamstress. The Agent

and homemaker have made plans for an addition to the home which will include a large living room and a second bathroom for the home. The construction will not probably begin before the summer of 1960. This family is producing more of the home food supply by having the family garden produce over a longer period of time each year. They have included small fruits and berries to supply the family. Mrs. Wooding accepts part-time employment from time to time to supplement the family income. Flowers and shrubs have been planted around this home but due to the extremely dry weather in 1959 it will be necessary for her to replace some of the shrubs next year. This is a young couple, I would say in their early thirties who are very cooperative and enthusiastic. The Agents find this family very easy to work with.

III. County Extension Program - Youth

A. Organizations

1. County Youth Committee

This committee is composed of 4-H Club leaders, parents and club members to help plan and direct the youth work of the county. This group meets in January to set up the goals for the year, and discuss how these goals are to be accomplished. The chairman of this committee is a member of the Board of Agriculture.

2. Project Planning Committee

This group is composed of parents, leaders and 4-H Club members, representing the different districts in the county.

The purpose of this group is to plan the monthly demonstrations for 4-H Club work. In April of each year the Agents discuss the in-school projects that will be offered the next year. Club members are asked to discuss these projects with their parents and then in May they are asked to vote on the project that they would like to see as the in-school project for the next year. During the summer months this project committee meets with the Agents and decide on the monthly demonstrations that will be given during the year. They also determine what will go into the 4-H Yearbook.

3. Honor Club

Halifax County has a very active Honor Club with approximately 65 members that help direct the 4-H program. This group works with special events such as celebrating National 4-H Week, 4-H Achievement Records, 4-H Awards and Recognition Banquet, and in helping club members to complete records. All of the junior leaders come from this group. This group also sponsors the Share-the-Fun program in the county and a county-wide picnic for 4-H Club members and their families. The Honor Club tries to secure an outstanding speaker for the picnic and Awards Banquet to help sell 4-H Club work to the families of club members.

4. All Stars

Halifax County has an All Star Chapter and they usually meet twice during the year. They help to strengthen the Extension

program as serving as junior leaders, sponsoring the Public Speaking Contest and they encourage and help club members in completing records. Since most of the All Stars are in college or away from home, they usually have one meeting in December to select their All Stars for the next year and then they usually hold one meeting during the summer months.

B. 4-H Project Work

1. Safety

Each club member has the opportunity of voting for the project that they want taught as an in-school project. Safety received the highest number of votes. The Project Planning Committee met during the summer and set up the monthly demonstrations on Safety. The Agents prepared the material for each month and after presenting the demonstrations, the club members were asked to go home and check on the hazards discussed at the meeting. The club members gave demonstrations on safety at each meeting. The vice-president served as program chairman and most of the clubs had two or three demonstrations at each meeting. State Troopers added a great deal of interest to the safety program by attending meetings with the Agents and giving demonstrations at 4-H Club Camp. The Hallifax County Rescue Squad attended 4-H Day that was held in June and gave a demonstration on the services available through the Rescue Squad. The Agents also used a quiz board with safety questions in

club meetings which added a great deal of interest. It is felt that as a result of these meetings that 4-H Club members and parents have been made more safety conscious. Their boys and girls now know which side of the road to ride their bicycles on, signals that need to be given and they have corrected hazards found around the home and on the farm. Most club members were quite concerned about the hazards involved in loading and unloading school buses, and the State Troopers stressed rules and regulations that club members should follow.

2. Foods and Nutrition

The purpose of this project was to stimulate club members to take an active part in meal preparation, bread making and food preservation in the home with special emphasis on learning skills necessary to do a good job and to learn food facts on nutritional value. Demonstrations were given by Agents and club members. There were radio programs and news articles to help club members secure information that they needed. To stimulate interest, Sears Roebuck sponsored a Garden and Canning Contest, county medals were given in the projects to help create interest and the older girls competed in preparing achievement records. Adult leaders reported that most girls are interested in food preparation but it presents quite a problem to get nutritional information across to 4-H Club girls. Leaders and Agents have tried to stress the importance of nutritional

value by using cardboard cut-outs of different foods. Halifax County had a girl to place second in both the Sears Area Canning and Garden Contests. A great deal of interest has been shown in foods work with several clubs preparing food for the mental retarded school in the county and sick people in the community. It is hoped that more girls have learned the importance in three good meals a day and that they are now eating a good breakfast before going to school. Some club members have asked for calorie charts as they are interested in eating more low calorie foods. Club members have been quite interested in the cost of prepared mixes and home made mixes. They have also had the opportunity to see slides on Meat Cookery which helped them to learn different ways of preparing meats to conserve food values.

3. Clothing

The purpose of this project was to create a desire in 4-H members to want to learn to make garments and how to care for them. They needed to develop skills in clothing construction. Demonstrations were given by Agents, leaders and members, work with individual families, letters to parents, mimeographed materials and work with project groups. The club members seem to have enjoyed clothing construction more this year than in previous years. The Agents feel that the reason for this was that there are more leaders now helping with clothing groups and each little girl receives more

individual attention. There were more clothing felt exhibits this year than usual as a result of this work, and it seems that the young club members particularly have shown more interest in earning for their clothes properly. Some of the community clubs have made articles in clothing to be given to underprivileged children in the county.

4. Home Management

Home Management played an important role in the 4-H program during the year. This group of girls were interested in learning some of the skills necessary in housekeeping, and it was felt that these projects would also create a desire in the young club members to assume some of the responsibilities in homemaking. There were demonstrations by club members, leaders and Agents, letters to parents, radio programs and news articles, mimeographed material and work with individual families. From 4-H records turned in, it seems that these little girls have done an excellent job on trying out new detergents, spot removers, starches and water softeners in doing the family wash. Some girls reported that they are now sitting by iron rather than standing and most of the girls are now taking care of their own room and in many instances the entire home.

C. Other Activities

1. Short Course

Halifax County had eight girls to attend Short Course

this past year. They felt honored by having Hudson Reese, a club member from Halifax County, serving as president of the 1959 Short Course. The boys and girls found it very helpful by participating in demonstrations, contests, class activities and the recreational program provided by the Short Course. In addition to having the Short Course President from Halifax County, two club members were made All Stars and two club members were declared state winners and attended 4-H Club Congress held in Chicago. Short Course is appreciated by the boys and girls in Halifax County and they feel that it serves as a training period to help them to be better club members and to help other club members.

2. District Contest

After holding a county contest, county winners participated in the district contest with the girls being represented in all the contests opened to girls. These girls won six blue, three red and one white ribbon. District Contest helps 4-H Club members to see what other girls are doing and it inspires the girls on to greater achievements.

3. 4-H Club Camp

Camp plays an important role in adding interest to the youth program in the county. It provides an excellent opportunity for club members to make new friends, to learn new skills and for many it is their first week away from home. This camp was well

attended this year with eighty-five club members from Halifax County participating. It is not only beneficial to the club member but it helps the Agents to know more about these boys and girls. The Big Chief of the camp was Didi Peace of Halifax County. This camp provides a wonderful opportunity for club members to work, play and worship together.

4. Conservation Camp

This camp offers an excellent opportunity for older club members to receive leadership training and to learn conservation practices. Four club members from Halifax County had the opportunity of attending. This experience not only helped the club members in better conservation practices but club members enjoyed working and playing together.

5. County Fair

The County Fair offers the boys and girls an excellent opportunity of showing others what they have accomplished in project work during the year. It helps the club members to know what to look for in picking top exhibits. This is another activity that adds interest to the youth program in the county.

6. Danville Fair

The Calvary, County Line-Rodden, and Greenwood Trail A-H Clubs participated in the Danville Fair this year. In past years only one club has participated. This activity provides an opportunity

for club members to see area exhibits and they make a little money to carry on the activities in their local club.

7. Rural Life Sunday

Rural Life Services help to create interest in club work and to let the public know more about the work. The Calvary and County Line 4-H Clubs participated in Rural Life Services and the ministers in these areas have been most cooperative. It is a program that the boys and girls look forward to participating in each year. The Agents would like to see this program used by all clubs in the county.

8. Awards and Recognition Banquet

The Bank of Halifax sponsors the 4-H Awards and Recognition Banquet each year and it is usually held in the Halifax County High School. This is one of the highlights of the 4-H program each year. It serves as one of the best incentives to encourage 4-H members to complete and turn in good records. Each county winner was invited to attend with one of their parents. The Board of Supervisors, Superintendent of the School Board, and Bank Directors were invited to attend. This offers a wonderful opportunity to solicit the parents help and interest in club work. In selecting a speaker for this occasion, the Honor Club tries to secure a person who can do a good selling job on 4-H Club Work.

IV. Scope Of Work

A. Chart

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
<u>No. H. D. Clubs</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>465</u>
<u>No. H.D. Groups (unorganized)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>No. A-H Clubs</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>803</u>	<u>854</u>
<u>No. YMW Clubs</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>No. Community Clubs</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>194</u>
<u>No. Home Ec. Committees</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>No. General Interest Committees</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>No. Youth Committees</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>No. Other Organizations</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>No. Farm & Home Dev. Families</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>No. Other Families Reached</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>1550</u>	<u>1600</u>	<u>1600</u>	<u>1600</u>
<u>No. Different Families Reached</u>	<u>1400</u>	<u>1450</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>

B. What Was Done To Increase Scope Of Work

Program Projection work has probably done more to sequant the public with Extension work than any other activity during

1959. There were six active committees and they represented all of the magisterial districts in the county. This work has been going on for three years but leaders are just beginning to assume responsibilities in their communities. A local newspaper cooperated with the Board of Agriculture by presenting each week the report from a committee and the picture of the chairman of the committee. The Agents tried to get pictures of the leaders who were carrying out a certain project in their communities and were given publicity to the local papers. The Farm and Home Development families seem to be progressing very nicely with some of them doing very outstanding work. These families work with the Extension Service in a very cooperative manner. There were five community improvement clubs in the county in 1959, sponsored by the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce. These groups have been organized for three years. They continue to involve people who are not already involved in the Extension Service.

There were 14 educational booths at the Halifax County Fair with the main emphasis placed on Safety. All Home Demonstration Club members are encouraged to take additional material to give to neighbors and friends. In working with all of these groups, the Agents encouraged them to pass information on to others. News articles are written, radio talks given, telephone calls and bulletin racks in local stores help the Agents to get

information to families not participating in organized Home
Demonstration Clubs.

V. Leadership

A. Growth of Leadership

1. Overall Program Leaders

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
a. County Agricultural Extension Service Board	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>
b. Youth Council	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
c. Home Economics Council	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership

Chart on following page -

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
<u>No. organizational leaders</u>	76	88	88	88	92
<u>No. project leaders(subject matter)</u>	34	44	44	44	46
<u>No. Federation program of work chairmen</u>	19	22	22	22	23
<u>No. program development leaders</u>	19	22	22	22	23
<u>No. result demonstrators</u>	6	7	8	10	12
<u>No. training meetings by specialists</u>	4	2	4	1	3
<u>No. training meetings by district agents</u>	0	1	1	1	1
<u>No. training meetings by agents</u>	1	3	2	2	3
<u>No. training meetings by others</u>	0	2	0	3	2
<u>Attendance at all training meetings</u>	131	136	112	160	121
<u>No. meetings held without an agent</u>	94	87	96	90	92
<u>No. meetings leaders assisted</u>	92	81	86	78	71
<u>Demonstrations by leaders</u>	94	79	96	92	92
<u>Talks and discussions by leaders</u>	515	410	394	400	377

3. A-H Club Leadership

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
<u>No. Club Officers</u>	156	156	156	156	168
<u>No. adult project leaders</u>	6	9	11	8	14
<u>No. junior project leaders</u>	4	8	9	4	8
<u>No. result demonstrators</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>No. training meetings by specialists</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>No. training meetings by district agents</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>No. training meetings by agent</u>	0	6	4	4	1
<u>No. training meetings by members club agent</u>	0	0	0	0	1
<u>No. training meetings by others</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Total attendance at leader training meetings</u>	0	14	12	31	24
<u>No. A-H leaders trained individually</u>	6	17	21	12	16
<u>No. club mtgs. held by leaders without agent</u>	32	37	44	30	43
<u>No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted</u>	17	16	23	26	41
<u>No. demonstrations given by adult leaders</u>	30	33	37	35	43
<u>No. demonstrations given by junior leaders</u>	70	84	91	43	48

B. Progress Story

The T. K. McDowell family three years ago was not conscious of the fact that the Extension Service had an office located in Halifax County. This family is composed of Mr. and Mrs. McDowell, Patricia, who is in the eighth grade, Kent, who is in the fourth grade, Betsy, who is five years and Thomas, Jr., who is three years old. Mrs. McDowell had never shown any interest in Home Demonstration work until after the County Line Community Improvement Club was organized and her daughter, Patricia, joined the 4-H Club. The first year that Patricia was in club work, neither her mother or father took any interest in club work. It seems when she failed to win a prize on her pickle she exhibited at the County Fair the first year, she dropped out of club work for a few months. She is president of the club and her mother and father are adult leaders. Mrs. McDowell is a member of the Home Demonstration Club and the entire family attends the County Line Community Improvement Club regularly. Mr. McDowell served as President of this group in 1959. The Extension Service cannot account for their sudden interest in the work unless it was due to the fact that they had not been approached by the Extension Service and did not know what was available through the county office. This family is now recognized as one of the outstanding families in the community, in church work and community affairs. The Extension Service feels that they supplied

the spark that was necessary to help these people realize the many things that they could do for themselves and how they might be of service to their community.

VI. A. For Special Consideration - Significant 4-H Achievement

The three community clubs previously organized depended on the Agents to attend most of the meetings. Agents received word that when they did not meet with the club, the 4-H meeting was just a social hour or did not meet at all. With other communities expressing a desire to organize the Agents just couldn't take on additional night meetings. Agents were not real sure how to secure or use leaders. Several office conferences were held, the matter thoroughly discussed and the Agents involved were assigned certain people to contact. An outline was made as to what the Agents would cover in talking with prospective leaders. Two of the clubs were sure they could not exist unless the Agents attended most of the meetings, but the Agents persuaded them to try. There are now five community clubs operating in the county entirely under adult leadership. Two Agents, one County and one Home Agent are responsible for working with the leaders each month before the regular meeting. This helps the leader to have a feeling of security and they know the Agents are always ready to help them.

B. Public Relations

1. County Workers

In 1959 the Professional Workers' Council was organized with the Agricultural Teachers, Farmers' Home Administration, Chatham Production Credit, Soil Conservation, A.S.C. Office and Extension service participating. In one of the first meeting held, each agency described their duties and the chairman expressed the need for all agencies to work more closely together and to be of service to each other. The Home Agent is vice-president of this organization and one of the Assistant County Agents is secretary-treasurer. A copy of the bulletins received in the Extension Office is sent to all professional workers. This group meets on the first Wednesday afternoon in each month and to date has been very successful.

2. Co-workers

A staff meeting is held each Monday morning in the County Office Building so that each Agent might familiarize the other Agents in the office with work being done during the week. A Secretary maintains a master schedule of meetings by the entire office. Problems that arise concerning office procedures and field work are discussed at those meetings.

3. General Public

The Extension Agents try to practice good public relations in all activities. They realize that good public relations comes first before you reach a family with educational information. The Agents have seven radio programs each week and three local

newspapers to help acquaint the public with the Extension Service activities and opportunities.

4. Elected Representatives

The Agents know the elected representatives in the county and try to keep informed on developments on the local, state and national level but do not express their views or enter into any discussion of a political nature. These representatives are familiar with the County Extension Service and frequently ask for help in specific subject matter areas.

5. Commercial Interests

The Agents cooperate on educational phases of work but they do not endorse any particular product for any commercial firm. The commercial firms in the county are most cooperative with the Extension Service.

C. Professional Improvement

The Home Agent attended National Home Demonstration Agents' Meeting in 1959 and found it to be very helpful. Very outstanding speakers were secured on public relations, communications and the job of the Home Demonstration Agent. The Home Agent also attended a Singer Sewing Class that was held in Roanoke on July 8 and 9. The Home Agents participated in Agents' Training Meetings during the year that were arranged on district basis and they also participated in Agents' Conference that was held for one week at VPI

during the summer. In the office the Agents have the opportunity of reading and referring to professional books and publications such as: What's New In Home Economist, The Journal of Home Economist, Practical Home Economist, The Farm Journal, Southern Planter, Country Gentlemen, Good Housekeeping, Forecast For Home Economist, Agricultural Leaders Digest, Extension Home, A-H Club Letter and the National A-H Club News.

VII. The Look Ahead

The 1959 Extension program was planned to reach additional families that was not already being reached by the Extension Service. This was done through Home Demonstration Clubs, A-H Clubs, Community Improvement Clubs, Program Projection Groups, Farm and Home Development, radio, newspapers and personal visits. The Agents feel that some progress was made along this line but additional work needs to be done. One of the big problems is getting leaders to assume more responsibility. There are so many homemakers in Halifax County who are employed outside of the home, that attendance at organized meetings continues to drop. The Agents feel that there are several important methods of improving the program in the county. There should be more Special Interest Meetings and leaders taking care of more of the Home Demonstration Club meetings. Leaders in the Program Projection Group need to assume more responsibility in their respective communities. The Agents notice an increase along this line

in 1959 but feel that in some areas there is a lot of room for improvement. More Community 4-H Clubs are needed in Halifax County and plans are being made to organize several more clubs. When the Board of Agriculture meets in February the Agents hope to lead this group in assigning specific duties for the leaders. Perhaps the reason they have not assumed more responsibility in the past was due to the fact that they did not know what to do and that the Agents had not assisted them as much as they should have. With ten 4-H Adult Leaders attending the Adult Leaders' Conference at Natural Bridge, the Agents hope to have two or three new community clubs organized in 1960. In 1958 Halifax County had only one leader to attend the conference. The five Community Clubs already organized are doing excellent work and many communities are looking at these clubs and finding out that more work, and better work is carried on through the community 4-H Clubs than in the in-school clubs. There are more recreational opportunities for community groups which is badly needed in Halifax County.