

VIRGINIA

BUCKINGHAM Home Demonstration Agent Annual Report 1940
County

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REPORT FILES
EXTENSION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY

VIRGINIA

HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

1940

Miss Blanche Howard

Home Demonstration Agent

December 1, 1939, - November 30, 1940

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III. Summary of Individual Activities

Days in field.....	200
Days in office	73
Days annual leave.....	11
Days sick leave.....	0
Days leave without pay.....	0
Legal holidays taken.....	3
Number home visits made (adult).....	500
Number 4-H club members visited.....	184
Total number different homes visited	684
Number office calls.....	247
Number telephone calls.....	75
Number news articles or stories published	35
Number individual letters written.....	207
Number different circular letters written.....	32
Number meetings attended.....	316
Number miles traveled.....	9,763
Number radio talks given.....	0

IV The County and Its People

Buckingham County, 584 square miles in area, is on the Piedmont Plateau in Central Virginia; bounded on the north by the James River, on the east by Cumberland County, on the south by Prince Edward County, on the west by Appomattox and Nelson Counties. Spears and Willis Mountain cover a very small area in the County, but the greater part of the land has typical Piedmont topography, a gently rolling upland. Most of the soil is gray loam over red clay subsoil with distinctive red loam in a few districts. There is a great deal of river low land in the northern part of the County and here a good deal of grain and forage crops are produced. Generally speaking, the land is productive, but soil erosion, due to poor farm practices and neglect after the Civil War has become a problem in many areas.

The County ranks sixteenth among the counties of the state in land area. Most of it is in lumber, which supplies the most important industry in the County. Next to the lumber resource comes the mineral resources; Buckingham slate, quarried at Arvonis, is of national importance; gold is mined on a small scale. Secondary or manufactured resources consists largely of farming. Tobacco is by far the most important farming crop and the only source of cash income. There are good opportunities for dairying, stock raising, and poultry husbandry. Apple and peach orchards are growing in importance and at present the fruit from these orchards finds a ready home market and need not be grown for export trade. Since tobacco depends so largely upon its export market, and since that market has vanished, the farmers are turning to other crops as a source of cash income.

The population of the County, 13,315, is small for so large an area. There are only twenty-two and a fraction persons per square mile. 56.4 of the population is white and the remaining 43.6 is negro. It is significant to know

that there has been a steady decline in the population since the War between the States. Most of the Farms are owned by the folks who live on them, but the older generation is conducting the farming, the sons and daughters have gone to college and then to the cities.

As before mentioned, the chief industries are lumbering, pulp and cross ties, tobacco, fruit and general farming. The average value of homes in the County is less than \$1,000. Most of the homes are frame buildings with few or no modern conveniences. However, they have been well built along simple lines of architecture which conforms to their rural setting. Some of them are beautiful and with a little remodeling, could be made into lovely homes. In this respect, rural electrification, Farm Security and soil conservation are proving of great assistance in bring modern conveniences to the farms.

V Financial Support

The Board of Supervisors of Buckingham County provides the financial support for home demonstration work in the County. This board which is the governing agency for the County in both legislative and administrative affairs is composed of six members, representing the six magisterial districts of the County. Regular meetings are held each month to conduct the governmental affairs of the County.

The county budget is submitted to the board in March of each year, at which time the appropriations for home demonstration work are made. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1940, the board appropriated \$700.00 for the County's share in support of home demonstration work.

VI Women's Work

1. Organization

a. County Homemaking Board

The county homemaking board is a coordinating unit for the home making agencies of the County and is composed of the presidents of the fifteen home demonstration clubs and of representatives from Farm Security, Child Welfare, County Health department, NYA, Home economics and the public school system. The heads of these various organizations - Farm Security, home plan supervisor, county health officer, county grade supervisor, county agricultural agent, etc., serve in an advisory capacity and attend the meetings of the board, but they do not vote upon matters brought up for legislative action. This board meets twice a year and discusses the conditions and affairs of the County. After the various advisory members have told of their findings in the County and described the needs, the board selects and passes upon a campaign goal for the County. The campaign goal for 1940 was health with particular attention to prevention of common colds. At the meeting in May, the campaign goal for 1941, "Sanitary Water Supply" was selected. A delegate from the home demonstration clubs went to the Institute of Rural Affairs at Blacksburg in the interest of this campaign goal. The health department prepared questionnaires and immediately began their survey of the water supply in the County. This progress was reported at the November meeting of the homemakers board and each agency represented was given some part in the program. However, during the summer a need and demand for a mattress campaign had been steadily growing so that the board discussed the matter and decided that it would be possible to promote both campaigns in the County during the coming year.

Such a description of the activities of the homemaking board explains it better than definition would.

b. County Home Demonstration Committee

The function of the home demonstration committee is to pass upon matters pertaining to the home demonstration clubs of the County. It plans the major projects to be undertaken by the clubs each year. It also selects a Federation goal. It sends delegates to Blacksburg in order that the local clubs may be kept informed of state wide plans and may have a broader vision of the work. It plans and executes an achievement day program. Finally it appoints committees to carry out that part of the campaign drive which was assigned to the demonstration clubs by the homemaking board. The county chairman for the campaign is often selected from the home demonstration club membership, though this is not a rule, nor a precedent. That chairman might come from any of the cooperating agencies.

At the July meeting various major projects were discussed by the homemaking committee. Since the committee is composed of the presidents of the home demonstration clubs and since various possibilities had been discussed before hand at individual club meetings, the committee was prepared to express the wishes of each club and to arrive at a majority vote. The discussion was lively, well informed, constructive and to the point. There was no trouble in arriving at the majority opinion. As a result of this majority selection, the major project for 1941 will be home management, with especial attention to keeping household accounts and to the obtaining with the greatest amount of satisfaction for the money spent.

The committee also selected libraries as a Federation goal for 1941 and a delegate was appointed to go to the state Federation of home demonstration clubs.

A delegate was also sent to confer with the home management specialist. She took with her a copy of the major project as outlined at the committee meeting to wit:

December	Setting up of accounts
January	Kitchen arrangement and improvement
February	Family work plans
March	Family fun
April	Mattress making and outdoor entertaining- fireplaces
May	Child training
June	Buymanship- foods
July	Picnics
August	General buymanship
September	Minors (a flower show is planned in addition)
October	Minor (a kitchen tour is planned as a part of the achievement day celebration)
November	Reorganization

The safe water supply campaign will be undertaken by the various clubs in addition to their project demonstrations and will be promoted whenever the home makers board deems it advisable.

c. Home Demonstration Clubs

Home demonstration clubs are organized where ten or more women may conveniently meet in a community. All women are eligible for membership since home demon-

station work is a government service, free to all. Regular meetings are usually held once a month, though in a few cases oftener; with the officers, president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer in charge of the program. The clubs also elect two project leaders who are responsible for four demonstrations in a major project. The president of the club appoints the chairman for the county campaign and for the federation goal, these are responsible for the carrying out of their programs. At the reorganization meeting plans are made for time and place of regular meetings and for the person to have charge of the program. The president of each club serves on the county homemaking board and on the home demonstration committee. It is the aim to have a club within reach of every homemaker and the attempt has been made to distribute them through out the county in definite community centers. During the past year two new clubs have been organized in communities which had hitherto been rather isolated and beyond the reach of existing demonstration clubs. A few more communities are without clubs, but they are so scattered as to population that club organization has been difficult.

d. Scope of work

The total number of homemakers in the county can only be estimated. This estimate is thirteen hundred, arrived at in the following manner-- twenty-three hundred farms and three small villages; not more than half the farms are tenanted by white families; forty-five white homes in Buckingham Villages; not more than a hundred homes in Dillwyn and a possible three hundred in Arvonia. Allowing for possible errors, a conservative estimate would be thirteen hundred or fifteen hundred homes.

There are 229 active members of home demonstration work; 500 homemakers on the mailing list, which are considered as being directly reached by home demonstration work, and conservatively reckoning 700 more being reached indirectly.

Some description of the way in which these figures were obtained is apropos. When the demonstration on upholstery had been given to the clubs a request came in from an outlying district in which there was not a demonstration club for this particular demonstration to be given to at least twenty-five home makers. Upon another occasion a woman came in from the foot of Spear Mountain requesting assistance with her poultry raising. There is no home demonstration club within ten miles of her. Her home is almost inaccessible and yet she was well acquainted with home demonstration work and knew that assistance she might obtain from it. One of the home demonstration clubs has been attempting to contact neighbors to carry some of the work to them. These neighbors have a much less financial income than the club members and are quite timid about attending club meetings so that they will always be among those reached indirectly by the work. When the demonstration on cheerful dining rooms was given it brought forth a request for some thirty individual or result demonstrations. Many of these homes were not included in regular clubs. One request in particular was from the thinly populated section where it would be difficult to organize a club of ten members because of transportation facilities. One of the women who has done outstanding work with the poultry project is not a member of the club and there is no club in her community. These incidents influenced the estimate, 700 families being reached indirectly.

2. Enrollment for past three years

Year	No. Clubs	Membership	No. reached indirectly
1938	11	246	615
1939	13	276	690
1940	15	300 (229 active)	700

3 Number of magisterial districts in the county and clubs in each

<u>District</u>	<u>Club</u>
Curdsville	Dillwyn Hickory Grove Cedar
Francisco	Andersonville New Store Chestnut Grove
James River	Beesville Mt. Vinco
Marshall	Arvonis Gold Hill-Nuckols Wealthia
Maysville	Bethlehem Buckingham
Slate River	Well Water James River

2 Project Work

a. Major

The following outline presents the major work conducted by the clubs with a sketch of the accomplishments. The demonstrations conducted by the club leaders are so indicated:

January

Streamlined Kitchens

This demonstration proved especially interesting to the club members and in instances where the deep snow prevented the club meeting, two meetings were held the following month. About half of the demonstrations were given by leaders and many home-makers contributed materials so that a composite scrap book of varieties of kitchens was exhibited at the achievement day exercises. A part of this material was used by the district agent in demonstrations on kitchens.

February

This demonstration dealt with storage space and included space for books, toys, tools, clothes, vegetables and canned goods. The demonstration showed definite results in many homes. Storage of all sorts was remodeled or built new.

March

Cheerful Dining Rooms

Many samples of drapery and slip cover material were gathered from local and surrounding stores. These samples ranged in price from ten cents a yard to \$1.25 per yard. Wall paper catalogs, rug samples and catalogs, furniture were assembled for this demonstration. The women seemed particularly pleased with this month's work and the results of the demonstration are still being shown. Many requests for advice on interior decoration were received in October when rooms were being re-furnished for the winter. As before noted, some thirty result demonstrations on interior decoration were given, many of them in homes of non club members.

April

Furniture (Leaders)

All day meetings were held and all sorts of furniture, chairs, couches, etc. were brought to the meetings to be re-upholstered or remodeled. Almost every example shown in the recent bulletin on restoring furniture compiled by the Extension Department was worked on at the meetings. Some of the most successful pieces were an old couch turned into a modern day bed, a Morris chair turned into an overstuffed chair, a small boudoir chair made from a parlor chair that was no longer presentable; a lovely walnut set of dining room chairs that was re-upholstered and a set of ten dining room chairs that was recaned.

This demonstration resulted in an exhibit of the most successfully remodeled pieces at the achievement day.

The influence of the March and April demonstrations in home improvement can hardly be estimated. One living-dining room newly ceiled in knotty pine was protected with clear shellac rubbed to a dull finish, rather than the customary painting or applying paper on a muslin base. Another living room was treated with cold water paint and new draperies made, carrying out a color scheme from the House Beautiful Magazine. The effect was restful and charming and it was achieved at one fifth the cost of the pictured room.

June

Buymanship of Furniture (Leaders)

The club women were enthusiastic over this demonstration. The leaders who gave the de-

monstration had enjoyed the specialist meeting in preparation for it. At the time there was an exhibit of model furniture which had been made in miniature with much attention to exact detail and had all the points of the best grade of cabinet making.

August

Combined major and minor.

The demonstration was minor in that it was handicrafts, major in that it was accessory of furniture. Wooden bowls were decorated and refinished. Some 150 were ordered for the initial demonstration and orders are still being sent in, since the bowls are proving popular as Christmas gifts. An exhibit of the bowls was held at the achievement day, this exhibit was competitive with first and second prizes.

b. Minors

Minor projects were selected by each club to suit its special needs. This resulted in great variety. One club devoted two demonstrations to the use and alteration of a commercial pattern; another had one demonstration on bread making; several selected cheese making; Christmas suggestions included hand work of all sorts; one club selected canning with a pressure cooker.

Thirty-eight women entered a farm flock improvement contest in 1939. A poultry specialist visited the county upon several occasions, the last being in January 1940. At that time it was discovered that several of the women had completed the work in such a satisfactory manner that they were ready for the Calendar Flock Association. One woman made such rapid strides that she was able to sell her eggs to the hatchery, in fact, she has been selling them to the hatchery all the year and had been adding much to the family income. This woman is not a club member, there being no club near her. Another member of the contest was asked to take part in the panel discussion in the poultry

department at the Lynchburg Farm Show. She has about 500 pullets and has been getting about 25 dozen eggs a day. In the course of conversation she remarked she had cleared \$600.00 on her layers during the year and that was better than many of the incomes of professions.

Several clubs decided to make corn husk mats and they experimented with the original directions. Some of them made the door mats as directed, others dyed and split the husks and braided it for table mats, treating it very much as raffia. One club that did most of the experimenting with the husks conducted a little contest in flower arrangement all during the year from May thru

November. Flowers were brought each time by the various members in whatever containers they choose, arranged for different color schemes or occasions. They remained on display during the meeting and were then judged just before the women went home. This certainly added a great deal to the monthly meetings.

Several of the clubs were interested in fall gardens and this proved to be a successful minor project. For once there was enough rain in the late season to make fall gardening profitable and many of these gardens supplied the vegetables that went into the fair exhibits. One club reproduced a painting of a market stall of vegetables and fruits at the achievement day. There was such varied things as shall bark, ground cherries, chinese lanterns for decorations, persimmons, five or six green vegetables and the usual pumpkins.

c. Community projects

No single outstanding project such as the tonsil clinic of 1939 was under taken. However, much of the campaign goal concerned members of the community. Attempts were made to prevent common colds so prevalent when children enter school. Directions for proper nutrition, regular habits and avoidance of fatigue were given and stressed. However, towards the latter part of the year

Initial steps were taken to promote a mattress making campaign. Several meetings have been held to discuss the possibilities of promoting such a campaign. At all of these meetings there was manifest the dominant idea that this campaign would be a community project rather than a campaign goal. Home demonstration clubs are assisting by finding means of transportation for those who have not any, by helping to finance the project, at least with a loan, by seeing that some of the club members accompany the applicants to the center, and by anonymously paying the nominal fee for materials and foods where the applicant is known to be in financial straits.

3. Project Leadership

a. Plan for training and use of leaders

Each home demonstration club selects two leaders to represent them. These project leaders meet with the specialist who has come to the county at the request of the home demonstration agent. Here the leaders are given instructions and material for the major demonstrations so that they may be prepared to give these demonstrations in their own clubs. Three such demonstrations were given on home improvement, being streamlined kitchens, re-upholstery, and better buymanship of furniture.

b. Results obtained

The meetings were well attended and the influence that they have had upon the leaders themselves has been of great benefit in promoting home demonstration work. The women were much more interested because they had definite responsibilities and a part in the program. Moreover, there were two trained leaders in each club community, living there and at home a good part of the time so that they could be easily contacted by their neighbors and they could bring the work much closer to the women of their communities. The

initiative and executive talent in the various clubs has appreciably
increased.

4. Other activities

a. Campaign

The county campaign goal selected for 1940 came under the heading of health and was specifically the prevention of common colds. This proves to be rather a virgin field, not much has been discovered by medical science that will prevent colds. The principal ideas brought before the people of the

communities were the building up of resistance through proper health and living habits and some attempt at preventing contagion. The latter phase of the subject needs especial stress. When considering the building up of resistance attention was paid to the proper clothing and proper posture. One of the club members accompanied the agent to Lynchburg to attend the Miss Ella Gardner's demonstration on posture and care of the feet. This club woman then assisted the agent in giving similar demonstrations to the clubs.

Results of the posture and shoe demonstrations are evident in many of the clubs. The prevention of common colds must still be studied and much work must be carried on regularly and steadily.

b. Income earnings

The one outstanding "income earnings" came from the poultry improvement contest. At least six of the contestants are steadily increasing their income by the raising of poultry and the production of eggs. Two of these have already been mentioned in this narrative, a third receives most of her income from her flock and she is seeking to extend her market for eggs as far as Washington. A fourth one has been raising bantam chickens as well as other breeds. She sells these bantams to quail and pheasant raisers.

c. Camps and short courses

The delegates who attended the state meeting of the federation of women's clubs at Blacksburg also attended the Institute of Rural Affairs which was held at the same time. These meetings proved most interesting and instructive and much of the information gleaned there was brought back to the women of the county. Particular interest was shown in some of the exhibits and several requests were received for the bulletin and demonstration on home made games.

d. Recreation

At the same time that Miss Ella Gardiner's demonstration was given on good posture, one was given on games and recreation. The latter proved most attractive to the club women. Some form of recreation was selected by the clubs for their meetings, much variety occurred in this selection. A great many of the clubs like to sing, others selected some form of handicraft. At least one club wanted folk dancing and that club held a combined 4-H and home demonstration club picnic at which all the folks, old and young, took part in the folk games and dances.

This project of some form of recreation is just beginning to capture the imagination of the women and it will probably increase in momentum through the coming year.

There was a county-wide picnic which was attended by about 100 people. Supper was served and the evening given over to games, swimming, and fishing. The women felt that the party was so enjoyable that it should be repeated, however, it may not be county-wide next time. The county is so large that no matter what site is selected, it would be too far away from some that would like to attend. For this reason a suggestion was made that a series of picnics be held in different communities, perhaps conducted by two or

three clubs, rather than fifteen.

e. County meetings, fairs, achievement day, tours

On October 22, the annual achievement day for home demonstration clubs was held in the Central High School auditorium. Dr. G. W. Spicer, from the University of Virginia made the principal address on "Citizenship" stressing the obligations as well as the privileges of individuals in a democracy. Some 150 people attended the meeting. Talks and reports were given by residents of the county. The high school choral classes, which were organized for the first time this year, gave an excellent program. The exhibit of home made games had been obtained from the Extension Department and was much enjoyed at the lunch hour. There were exhibits of remodeled furniture, fall gardens, of canned fruits and vegetables and decorated wooden bowls. The district agent announced the winners in the canning contest and in the wooden bowl contest. A plate luncheon was served by the members of the clubs in the school gymnasium.

5. Participation in Federation

a. District

The district federation meeting was held in Farnville with a registered attendance of 22 from Buckingham County. One member of the Buckingham clubs took part in the program. The interest displayed by the members in the work was most gratifying. They were especially pleased with the singing, which was done by two county choruses and they came away from the meeting with a definite desire to organize a chorus in this county. It was this that gave the incentive to most of the clubs to have some singing at every monthly meeting. They were also very much impressed with the talk on buymanship which the Assistant Director of Extension gave and when they came to make up their

plans for 1941, two demonstrations on better buymanship were included in their major project.

b. State

Four women, three of them delegates attended the state federation meeting in Blacksburg. Two clubs and the county homemaking board paid their federation dues. The delegates brought back most interesting reports, which were made not only to their own clubs, but to the homemaking board as well. Furthermore, two of the delegates are county chairmen for campaign and federation goals for the coming year, so that the attendance at the federation and information which they received there will probably continue to influence through out the coming year.

d. Work on state federation goal

The county homemaking board continued their federation goal from 1939, which was rural youth. In the first year a survey and study of conditions and problems confronting the rural youth of the county was made. This survey disclosed the need for recreational and vocational facilities.

The work was continued this year by taking up the matter with the youth council, made up of the various youth agencies of the county. This council prepared a detailed questionnaire which was sent to the young people of the county. Copy found on page

The agricultural teacher, the principals of the high schools, the NYA supervisor, 4-H agent, home demonstration agent, and the home demonstration clubs of the various communities helped to distribute these questionnaires. The colored school supervisor conducted the survey among the colored youth of the county most successfully.

These questionnaires were collected and tabulated and reports were given

at achievement day, the youth council meeting and at the county homemaking board meeting. The agricultural teacher asked that all reports coming from homes in which he works be given to him so that he might conduct some individual work with the young men during the year.

6. Story of achievement by club carrying best program

It is difficult to select one club carrying the best program. Each club has done some individual piece of work or has been outstanding for some characteristic peculiar to that club. The Buckingham Home Demonstration Club again scored more points, if it were being judged for achievement. The members, twenty-five in number, did splendid project work. They helped appreciatively with special goals. One of the county chairmen for next year was a member of this club; another member attended Miss Gardiner's demonstration on recreation and health and assisted with demonstrations in the county; members of the club won prizes for canning and for decorating bowls at the achievement day contest. This club paid its state federation dues and sent one delegate to the Institute of Rural Affairs. They were the hostesses at achievement day; they gave a supper for the Ruritan Club and as a result this is one of the few clubs having money in the treasury.

It seems fitting to mention some of the clubs which did special work. The Well Water Club had good attendance at all meetings; took the initiative in carrying out programs; paid their federation dues and inaugurated the flower arrangement contest at each meeting together with a definite ten minute program for recreation; it was one of its members who noticed an advertisement in one of the magazines on a bulletin for corn husk mats. She sent for the bulletin and instigated the demonstration on the use of corn husks.

7. Story of outstanding achievement by an individual

Two women, Mrs. Roy Outburie who is not a club woman, because there is no club near her, and Mrs. O. G. Harvey have done outstanding work in the poultry project and have made ^{it} a profitable business. If we were selecting a successful individual from the stand point of completing projects creditably one of these would be selected but from the stand point of individual influence on her community and even on her county, Mrs. George Pankey has no rival.

Mrs. Pankey is a graduate nurse, is married and living on a farm which she manages, since her husband is one of the engineers at the slate quarries and cannot pay much attention to the land. Mrs. Pankey is the leader in her club and she has the rare ability to train leaders. Her influence on the president of the club has been evident during the year. The president had latent qualities and talents, but she was timid and by encouraging her and putting her forward as well as assisting her in many ways, Mrs. Pankey has developed these latent qualities.

If anyone in the community is sick or hurt, they come to Mrs. Pankey. She is never too busy to help them, even though it may mean days of nursing without remuneration. When Tennessee people came into the community, Mrs. Pankey went to visit them and got them into the club. She had intended to take a station wagon of her club members to the Institute of Rural Affairs, but illness in the community prevented it. She is the leader of the 4-H club and she attended the Hampden-Sidney Camp together with several members of the 4-H club. Here she became very much interested in folk dances and when she returned she promoted a community picnic made up of 4-H club, home demonstration club, Sunday School and church. At this picnic a great many of the folk dances were given.

Mrs. Pankey took six of her 4-H club members to the State Fair in Richmond and helped to chaperon the county delegation. At the fair she

gave her time to the youngsters. Those from her community had not been to a fair, in fact they had not been away from home very much, so Mrs. Pankey conducted them through the various buildings, called their attention to exhibits, particularly of new or unfamiliar farm products.

Recently a contest was held in the 4-H clubs of the county in lieu of achievement day. An outline for a program was given each club in advance so that the program could be uniformly judged. These programs were carried out at a regular monthly meeting without assistance from agents and Mrs. Pankey's club won the prize, even though one of the high schools was a competitor.

VII. 4-H Club Work

1. Organization

a. County Council

The 4-H county council is made up of all the officers of the 4-H clubs, president, secretary-treasurer, reporter and song leader. Leaders are ex-officio members. The purposes of the council are four fold:

1. To unify work in the county
2. Make plan of work for the year
3. Train officers in parliamentary procedure
4. Develop members for leadership

The council meets biannually, first in the fall and then again in the spring. In the fall meeting the county council planned and adopted the following program of work for the clubs. See inserted diagram, page 21.

The program outlined was carried out with good results. Not all of the clubs were able to build a fireplace, but they wish to continue this work and since many of their mothers are interested in outdoor recreation, it being a part of their major project for the coming year, probably many more fireplaces will

be built. However, during the summer various clubs enjoyed cooking outdoor meals after the primitive methods of camp cookery; biscuits on sticks, fire built between two logs; cheese wrapped around with bacon. Two sorts of picnics were held during the summer, one with the rough camp cookery and the other after the plan of a lawn party. At the latter the girls displayed their ability at cookie making, these cookies were served with fruit punch, made from juices canned at home. The boys attended the party and took part in the games.

Two junior leaders were trained during the year and were most enthusiastic and did a great deal for their respective clubs.

Two large parties were held, one in the spring and one at Thanksgiving, which were most successful.

Twenty some boys and girls attended the State Fair.

b. 4-H clubs

Boys and girls between the ages of ten and twenty are eligible for membership in 4-H clubs. Each member must conduct a project, submit a record of the project undertaken, take part in all of the club activities when called upon.

The officers of a club are president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, reporter, song leader and club leader. The vice-president is chairman of the program committee. The 4-H club leader is an important person in the organization of the club. It is often the leader who is responsible for the success of the club.

One adult is selected for a leader to encourage and guide the members for the best interests of the club and to see that the club plans are made and carried out.

There are eight 4-H clubs in Buckingham County, all of them meeting in school for a period of forty or fifty minutes. The 4-H club agent and the

4-H FAMILY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR 4-H CLUB GIRLS
By Miss Janet Cameron and Representatives of 4-H Club Girls.

November:

Planning outdoor fireplace and organization.

December:

Christmas sweets and evening parties.

January:

Building outdoor fireplace.
Personal account sheets (3 months).

February:

Building fireplace continued
or talk (if wether does not permit out door work).

March:

Restaurant etiquette
Personal accounts
Canning plans

April:

How to read a menu.

May:

How to choose a well balanced meal for your money.
Food score sheets.

June:

Different outdoor meals.

July:

Outdoor picnic meal.

August:

Table linen.

September:

Summary and reports.

October:

Summary and reports.

STANDARDS FOR 4-H CLUB GIRLS FOR 1940

1. To attend all meetings.
2. To take part in all 4-H activities.
3. Complete two units.
4. Keep food score sheet.
5. Keep personal account sheet.
6. Make a family canning budget.
7. Learn to do well one home task and assume responsibility for it.
8. Keep a 4-H club book throughout the year.

home demonstration agent share the responsibility of preparing programs and assembling materials for the meetings. The 4-H club leader is in charge of the boys' project work, while the home demonstration agent has charge of the girls' project work. Because of the short meeting time, the home agent has been holding an extra meeting now and then to carry on the girls' 4-H project.

2. Project Work

The family activities program as undertaken by the 4-H club members of Buckingham County places the major emphasis on home and family living and provides for the intergration of certain activities in which girls participate with work in their own homes. The subject matter is arranged in short units, given in sequences best suited to the needs of the clubs in each community. The planning group selects the desired units and works them into a closely related well-rounded program based on the needs and interests of club members and their families. With this program as a basis, each club in the county will develop a program to more nearly meet the local needs. The flexibility of the plan makes it possible to better meet the needs and interests of individual club members.

The program is planned for a period of twelve months and is arranged so as to put most of the work activities in the summer months. The following program was planned for 1939 and 1940. See inclosed program.

The following are standards adopted for 4-H girls. Inserted sheet.

In addition to the outlined family activities program, one demonstration was given on poultry, one on gardens, and one on house furnishings. Since these were minors for which there were special requests, several club members conducted projects in poultry raising, flower and vegetable gardens and house furnishings. The two outstanding summer projects were the outdoor cookery meetings, one primitive camp cookery and the other summer parties. As a special home responsibility each girl undertook to prepare an ordinary meal, they might choose

which meal of the day, and a Sunday dinner.

b. 4-H health work

Especial attention was paid to posture and a few minutes devoted to some phase of the topic at regular meetings. Members were taught to rise and to be seated correctly and they were urged to keep their health scores.

Marion Nuckols at Arvonias qualified as one of the best all-round 4-H club members. She prepared her own note book most meticulously; she took part in her club activities and was one of the officers; she trained as a junior leader and she showed remarkable talent in this respect; she would put the smaller members of the club on the program and coach them so that they might take part creditably; she helped to organize some extra picnic meetings; she prepared the club exhibit of fifteen vegetables to be taken to the County Fair, which meant that she not only ascertained the exhibit from each member, but she went around the community on the day before and assembled the various exhibits. Her brother was elected as a delegate to the State Short Course at Blacksburg. There was great rivalry between the two candidates for this honor and Marion received almost as many votes as her brother. When she did not go as a delegate, she paid her own way and attended the meeting. She has now gone to Richmond to continue her schooling, but whenever she is at home she continues to take an active interest in 4-H work.

3. Community activities

a. Community projects

The major project of outdoor cookery and recreation easily became a home and community project, as evidenced by the picnic which included other clubs in the community, such as home demonstration clubs and church and by the desire on the part of many parents to build fireplaces in their back yards.

The communities as a whole are becoming interested in recreation, not all of this can be attributed to the 4-H club activities; the youth survey; the exhibit of home made games; and the home defense plans share with the 4-H clubs, but the picnicing and the folk dancing come directly from 4-H club.

4. Local Leadership

a. Plan for training and use of leaders

Difficulties of transportation made it almost impossible to have regular leaders meetings. The homemaking specialist came to the County for one leaders' meeting and the 4-H specialist came for one leaders' meeting, but both were poorly attended. Those who did attend were very much interested and they did give the demonstrations in their clubs, but much can be done along this line in the coming year. The home demonstration agent met with the specialist this fall and then contacted the leaders individually. It is encouraging to note that several new leaders have been selected who have means of transportation.

5. Other activities

(1) Describe the county camp

There was no county camp.

(2) The attendance at Hampden-Sidney was good and enthusiastic. The inspiration gained by one leader has already been described. See story of outstanding achievement by individual.

An interesting and successful program was conducted. Use of electricity, wooden bowls, electric motors, woodcraft, and rope work were among courses offered. For the recreational programs club members leaders, and all stars were divided into four tribes, points were given for promptness, dining room service, good sportsmanship, stunts, challenges, handcraft and neatness of rooms and ground. Competition was keen among the tribes. A specialist in folk dancing gave re-

gular hours to the teaching of new games, which were really old games, since they were the folk dances of our ancestors which have been almost forgotten. Vesper services were held each evening after supper and the different counties were given charge one night.

The home agent for Buckingham County had the following duties: assistant in the dining room and wooden bowls handicraft.

Buckingham County was represented at the State Short Course by only one girl; most of the 4-H club members and all of the delegates from the county were boys this time. As before described the girl almost ~~lived~~ lived with her brother and when the brother won she paid her own expenses, but her attendance had so much good effect upon her club that numbers cannot be taken into consideration in this instance. She has already been described under the story of the best project or work by an individual.

b. County meetings, special events, achievement program

A contest was held during the week of November 28, in lieu of achievement day, each club prepared a program and presented it. A prize was offered and won by the Sunnyside club. Many club members attended the fairs and entered individual exhibits.

6. Story of achievement of the best club

Here as in the case of the home demonstration clubs, it is difficult to select one best club, in fact it took much deliberation to decide the awarding of the banner and not only the girls, but the boys were taken into consideration. Sunnyside won the prize as giving the best program, Arvonnia produced one of the best leaders, Curdeville, who has had the banner for two years did the best all-round work. The boys who carried the pig projects won prizes, those who

had corn projects won prizes at the corn show; the girls were particularly enthusiastic over serving a Sunday dinner and more note books came in from this club. There is a spirit of enthusiasm about all three of these clubs which makes them rivals. Finally after scoring by points, it was decided that Curdeville club had won the banner as the best club. Competition is keen and this club may have to look to its laurels this coming year.

VIII Older Youth

Three rural youth clubs for young men and young women of seventeen years years and over were organized in Buckingham County. These clubs were organized to fill a need for a need for a broad rural recreational program in the county, not only in the familiar sports and games, but also social recreation such as parties, dances, handicraft, dramatics and creative arts. Some attention is also given to vocational guidance, particularly for one club, which was made up largely of boys and girls who needed preparation for occupations. In fact, this club will probably not continue in the coming year since all of the girls have gone into the new NYA center with the exception of a few who were still in high school or who could come to one of the other clubs just as easily as to this one.

Something should be said about this NYA center. It has recently been organized and set up in the old Buckingham High School building. Here the girls are given much more detailed instructions in homemaking than they could possibly have gotten in the youth club and in addition to that they have some means of transportation, whereas it was often difficult for them to attend their meetings which were held in the evenings.

The other two clubs are much more successful in meeting the needs of their members. Most of them have employment or are preparing for it so that that is not a problem there. They are finding a great deal of interest in recreation, in developing good manners and personalities, and in studying how they may become the most

useful citizens in their community.

Certainly if attendance and enthusiasm is any indication, the clubs are progressing well. They assisted at both of the senior 4-H parties, apparently with much enjoyment; they are able to take the initiative in the work and there is much leadership talent in the two clubs.

IX Progress made during the year

Home demonstration work seems to be growing steadily in the county. Two new clubs were organized this year and at least three other communities are considering organizing. The poultry club has been finished with thirty-eight members, but a new group is asking that a contest be held and one of these attended the poultry meeting at the Lynchburg Farm Show, she is attempting to find other members among her neighbors so that they can request a specialist during the coming year. The membership in the clubs does not increase rapidly, but it does increase steadily, which is perhaps more wholesome than otherwise. The work is being given good support generally.

X Plans and goals for 1941

1. Women's work

- a. Major project- home management
- b. Minor project- left to choice of clubs
- c. County-wide campaign- health- safe water supply (mattress making)
- d. The goal of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs is library
- e. Home demonstration clubs' plan of work
 1. Project leaders to give four demonstrations
 2. Campaign and federation chairmen to be in charge of and responsible for their respective programs.

3. Add new members to the roll
4. Pay \$3.00 federation dues
5. Send delegate to Blacksburg
6. Send delegates to district meeting
7. County-wide picnic

f. Special demonstration

One farm and home plan unit has been set up in the county and will serve as a result demonstration for home management and account keeping in particular. This unit has been set up with a typical family, mother, father and six children, who are living on a farm on which they raise general crops and cattle. They own the farm, but have bought it since their marriage. Some of the children are still in school, one girl has just finished school and intends to stay at home; two boys have finished school, both are at home, one with a position off the farm and the other his father's chief assistant. This bids fair to be a very important demonstration and part of the plans and goals of 1941.

2. Girls' work

a. Family activities program

Construction unit— foods (continued)

Other Units— special projects—poultry—gardens—canning—home improvement

b. Standards of work

1. To attend all club meetings
2. To take part in all 4-H activities
3. Complete two units
4. keep personal account sheet
5. Keep food score sheet
6. Make a family canning budget

7. Learn to do well one home task and assume responsibility for it

8. Keep a 4-H club book through out the year.

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY SOUTH SURVEY
(Ages 16 - 24 Inclusive)

Race _____ Name _____
Sex _____ Age _____ Address _____

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Parent's Name _____ | 22. List the occupation you would select if you had your choice.
1st. choice _____ |
| 2. Parent's Address _____ | 2nd choice _____ |
| 3. Parent's Occupation _____ | 23. Do you think the high school prepares you for your chosen work? _____ |
| 4. Is father living? _____ | 24. What subjects should be added to the present high school courses? _____ |
| 5. Is mother living? _____ | 25. Name the one subject that is of most value to you at present? _____ |
| 6. Number of sisters _____ | 26. Do you live on a farm? _____ |
| 7. Ages. _____ | 27. Size of farm _____ |
| 8. Number of brothers. _____ | 28. Principal crop raised. _____ |
| 9. Ages. _____ | 29. Would you like to have more agricultural information about your county? _____ |
| 10. Are you in school? _____ | 30. Have you ever been a member of the 4-H Club? _____ |
| 11. If not in school give last grade completed _____ | 31. Would you like to take Vocational Agriculture or Home Economics? _____ |
| 12. Do you plan to attend college? _____ | 32. Do you think you could profit from a rural agricultural organization? _____ |
| 13. Are you married or single? _____ | 33. Do you think there are many possibilities for a young farmer in Buckingham County? _____ |
| 14. Do you intend to remain in Buckingham County? _____ | |
| 15. Are you employed at present? _____ | |
| 16. Kind of work. _____ | |
| 17. How long have you been doing this type of work? _____ | |
| 18. Do you like your work? _____ | |
| 19. Are you satisfied with your salary? _____ | |
| 20. Are your chances of promotion good? _____ | |
| 21. Is your work permanent? _____ | |



Parlor chair made into boudoir chair