

Virginia

Agricultural Extension Service



ANNUAL REPORT  
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK  
1952

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agent

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asst. agent

*Nottoway*  
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county

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### III. COUNTY SITUATION AND HOW IT AFFECTED THE 1952 PROGRAM

Mottoway County has a diversified type of agriculture with tobacco as the principal money crop. There is quite a trend toward dairying and beef cattle which is probably second, with poultry next. With nearly two thirds of the total county area in forests, wood products mean much in the county's economy.

A large portion of the income in the county comes from the various industries which are located in Blackstone, Crewe, and Burkeville. Products include flour, rayon, hosiery, children's dresses, lumber, veneer, cut stone, and fertilizer. Camp Pickett, which covers one sixth of the county area has caused changes in the county economy as well as the way of living. Many of the women have taken jobs at Camp Pickett, which means they have less time for participation in organizations, such as the home demonstration clubs. Farm labor is scarce, high, and un dependable. Many of the men have taken jobs at camp and are still trying to run the farms with the help of the farm women. The average farm wife is doing more work on the farm than she did before Camp Pickett was reactivated. This means she has less time and energy for housework and outside activities.

Due to the influx of Army personnel the housing facilities are very crowded. Nearly every home which had a spare room has opened its doors to accommodate the military people and their families. This over-crowding of the small communities and higher wages have led to higher prices of food, clothing, and rents in this area.

Another factor affecting the family in Mottoway County this year has been the closing down of the Locker Plant in Crewe and the ones in adjoining counties which were patronized by Mottoway residents. These were closed in July and no plans for reopening have been made.

The dry weather this summer lowered the usual garden production. This with the closing of the locker plant accounts for the fact that the average family conserved less food for winter use than usual.

### IV. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 1952 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

The 1952 program has contributed to better family living in a number of ways.

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The greater part of the years work was devoted to the house furnishings phase. Of the 162 club members reporting 154 reported making improvements in the color schemes, 114 improved window decorations, and 150 lamp shades were made. These improvements made according to good art principles add to the beauty and comfort of the home and promote family pride and health.

Through the clothing and food preservation projects the women had the opportunity to gain more knowledge and practice of improved work methods in the home. Seventy-five reported using gardening ideas and 158 used the food preservation methods recommended. By using these practices not only was the family nutrition improved but the homemaker had more time to devote to the children and to family recreation.

The leadership program has continued to grow. In 1952, 164 volunteer leaders gave or assisted with 55 demonstrations and 159 talks or discussions for the adult program. Seven adult h-H leaders gave 69 demonstrations and 17 talks or discussions. In 1951, 208 women served as leaders and gave a total of 54 demonstrations and 118 talks or discussions for the adult program. Six adult leaders gave 32 demonstrations and talks for the h-H program.

This growth of leadership on the part of the home demonstration club members not only developed the leaders but gave the agent more time for strengthening the county Extension Program through home visits to non-club members and to work with h-H club projects and special interest groups.

This educational program has been carried to homemakers and rural girls by the following methods:

1. County organizations
2. Radio and news articles
3. Home and office visits
4. Bulletins and exhibits
5. Special interest meetings
6. Result demonstrations

V. Adult Work

- A. Project Work
1. House Furnishings

To help the women make their homes more attractive and comfortable, four demonstrations were given on making lampshades, color schemes, window treatment, and selection and use of table linens.

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a. Objectives

The four months devoted to house furnishings provided the homemaker the opportunity to learn how to make their homes more attractive following the art principles and making use of materials on hand, and to set standards of good taste in house furnishings.

The lampshade making was a follow up from the 1951 program on good lighting in an effort to further improve the home lighting.

- The demonstration on table linens was included to help the women with the selection and care of linens and to encourage the use of table linens and to set standards of table appointments.

b. Procedure

In preparation for the lampshade demonstrations Miss Ruth Jamison, Extension House Furnishings Specialist, trained 16 leaders in how to make parchment lampshades. These leaders gave the demonstration for 138 members in 9 clubs. Miss Kessler, Southside Electric Home Economist, gave the demonstration for the Woodland Club which was not represented at the training meeting. The agent gave the demonstration for the Agnew Club with 16 present. She assisted the leaders with 5 of the other demonstrations.

The demonstration on "Color Schemes" was given by the home agent for 11 clubs with 170 club members present. Illustrative materials showing how to build a color scheme for the spare house were used.

The 16 house furnishings leaders, trained by Miss Jamison gave demonstrations on "Window Treatment" and "Table Linen Selection" for 8 clubs, using loan kits from Sears Roebuck to illustrate the various types of materials used for these purposes. The home agent gave the demonstration for 3 clubs which were not represented at the training meeting.

c. Results

The 162 club members reporting made a total of 450 parchment lampshades. It is estimated that 25 non-club members made shades with the help of club members. Not only did they learn the actual process of making lampshades but also that clean white shades give a

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better light than colored and dirty ones. In order to maintain maximum comfort and eye health, yet following good art principles, the correct amount and kind of light for various jobs was stressed. The women took pride in this project because it was one they could do with their hands and turn out a good product whether they had any artistic talent, or not.

News articles and radio programs telling how to care for the parchment shades were given.

One hundred and fifty-four members reported making improvements in their color scheme in one or more rooms. Many of the members have analyzed their color schemes according to the principles of good color combinations and are making plans for improvements they will make when the necessary money or materials are available. Since home decorations is not something the average housewife makes changes in each year actual improvements resulting from the program may be considered a long range project. Improvements made by club members will influence non-club members who visit in the improved home. No attempt has been made to measure the extent of this influence.

The Blackstone Club put up blue ribbon educational booth illustrating the points stressed in color scheme selection.

Window decoration changes and improvements were made by 114 club members in one or more rooms. This is another project that will show more results after a period of time when the homemaker feels she has the money or materials to make the necessary changes in her window treatment to make them more attractive and functional. Ease of cleaning, durability, beauty, and harmony with furnishings were the main points stressed in this demonstration.

From the number of requests for further information about the less expensive material for curtains and draperies it is estimated that about one-fourth of the club members will make or buy curtains or draperies in the next year.

Much interest was shown in the demonstrations on table linens in which emphasis was put on the selection of appropriate linens for various occasions, correct use, and proper care of linens. Harmony of linens,

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china, crystal, and silver were very effectively illustrated. It is estimated that 30% of those present have made improvements either in the selection, care, or use of table linens.

The Woodland Club put up a very good educational booth at the Farmer's Day which brought out the principles taught in this demonstration.

## 2. Foods and Nutrition

As more homemakers work outside the home the time available for meal preparation is curtailed. Since frozen foods are quick and easy to prepare one month's program was devoted to the "Freezing of Fruits and Vegetables". A special interest demonstration on "Meat Packaging and Freezing" was given at the request of many who raise their own meat and have home freezers or locker space. One month's demonstration was devoted to "Jam and Jelly Making" which came as a request from the younger club members. "Meal Planning" was the subject for one demonstration considering those who have to take packed lunches each day.

### a. Objectives

To improve the health and happiness of the people of Nettoway County through better nutrition by proper methods of conserving fruits, vegetables, and meats for year round consumption and by planning wholesome meals for all the family.

To assist the rural people in making better use of home freezers or locker space and to teach the correct use of the proper packaging materials.

To develop pride and skill in making jams and jellies.

### b. Procedure

One demonstration in each club was given by Miss Kessler, R.F.A. Home Economist, for 194 club members, on "Planning Wholesome Meals for all the Family" taking into consideration those who take a packed lunch as well as those who eat at home. The program included a discussion of planning balanced meals and a demonstration showing variety in packed lunches with suggestions for various combinations for sandwich fillings. Illustrative materials provided club members included the "Basic 7 Food charts," "Break or Lunch" leaflet, and "Family Fare."

A special interest meeting on the "Proper Preparation and Packaging of Meats for the Freezer" was given last December by Mrs. Mary Thompson, Extension Nutrition Specialist, for 23 women.

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The agent gave a demonstration for each club on the "Freezing of Fruits and Vegetables" for a total of 125 members. The mistakes most often found in this county in freezing foods is insufficient chilling before packaging and improper use of packaging materials. These two points were stressed in the demonstration. The agent was trained for this demonstration by Miss Janet Cameron, Extension Nutrition Specialist. Approximately 225 3 1/2 liters on "Freezing Fruits and Vegetables" were distributed. Several news articles and radio programs were devoted to this subject during the gardening season.

Twelve leaders were trained from 7 clubs to give the demonstration on "Jam and Jelly Making". These leaders gave the demonstration to their clubs in July. Mrs. Sarah Baldwin, V.F.P.Co., Home Economist, gave the demonstrations for the 4 clubs not present for the training. Approximately 175 Farmer's Bulletin No. 1800 "Homemade Jellies, Jams and Preserves" were distributed.

c. Results

The demonstration on Meal Planning was given this month so it is too soon to be able to measure the results very accurately. However, the members showed a great deal of interest in the subject and seemed very glad to have the different ideas for the lunch box. Approximately one-third of the club members pack lunches regularly for one or more members of the family.

As a result of the special interest meeting on "Meat Freezing" the women are now using moisture, vapor-proof packaging materials and are handling them correctly. Some did not see the necessity for special wrapping materials when freezing foods before this demonstration. The manager of the locker plant reported that the home wrapped meats coming into the plant showed much improvement in packaging methods. More meat was reported frozen this year than last which would indicate more confidence in obtaining a satisfactory product as well as more meat raised for home preservation.

One outstanding result of the demonstration on "Freezing Fruits and Vegetables" was brought to the attention of the home agent when so many women indicated to her that their products had improved in flavor, color and texture, due to the fact that they have learned to properly chill the foods before packaging. This under chilling was a common error found during last years freezing season.

Some have also made corrections in the handling of the packaging materials which have resulted in improved frozen products.

It is believed that these results are a direct result from the demonstration program in the clubs and the news articles and radio programs relating to this subject.

The 162 members who turned in food preservation records indicated that 49 have home freezers and 50 made use of the locker plant. A total of 2815 pounds of fruit and 3060 pounds of vegetables were frozen this year.

The demonstration on "Jam and Jelly Making" was of most interest to the younger homemakers who needed more information in order to develop the self confidence they needed to undertake this project. They have expressed appreciation to the leaders who gave the demonstrations for instructing them in the method and practices used in making good quality jelly and jams.

The more experienced home makers learned some new ideas and practices which enables them to do the job easier or quicker than before.

3. Gardening

One month was devoted to a discussion of good gardening procedures and varieties to plant for freezing.

a. Objectives

To encourage more families to raise a vegetable garden

To make available information of the best varieties of fruits and vegetables to plant for freezing.

b. Procedure

Fourteen leaders representing 9 clubs were trained by Mr. L. C. Beamer, Extension Horticulturist. These leaders gave talks to their clubs on good gardening practices and discussed the best varieties of fruits and vegetables for freezing. Lists of recommended varieties were given to each member.

Timely gardening topics for both spring and fall gardens were given over the radio and in the newspapers.

c. Results

Of the 162 reports received, 75 reported they had used the gardening ideas. However, due to an unusually dry spell at the time of the growing season the production was very low this year. This was evident in the report of the amount of food the average family canned and froze which was lower than last year. It is reasonable to assume that the information given this year will be applied to the vegetable gardens next year.

4. Rural Arts

Two months of the demonstration program were devoted to textile painting using stencils.

a. Objectives

To provide the opportunity for the club members to develop skills and techniques in stenciling.

To stimulate the creative mind.

To develop an appreciation for good workmanship, materials, and tools.

To develop pride in producing something beautiful with the hands.

b. Procedure

Miss Peery, Rural Arts Specialist, trained 18 leaders from 9 clubs in the methods and techniques of textile painting. Two months of the club program were given to this subject. At the first meeting the leaders gave one and two-color demonstrations showing how to use the various tools. A discussion to set standards of good stenciling followed using examples of some pieces that had been painted.

The second meeting was an all-day meeting at which time each member present painted something of her own designing. The leaders, assisted by the home agent, gave 9 demonstrations for the Fairview and Union Clubs who did not send leaders to the training meeting. *the agent gave the demonstration.*

c. Results

A total of 184 club members received the instruction on textile painting. The 162 members reporting have already stenciled 255 articles. There has been a

great deal of interest shown in this project because the women like to do things with their hands. There is a tendency to overlook good art principles of color and design in the hurry to get an article finished. In these meetings each woman was encouraged to create her own design and cut the stencil. By doing this she learned to appreciate the skill necessary to handle the tools and developed more pride in the finished product. Several clubs are planning to carry this project over to the next years program and use the December club choice month to stencil Christmas gifts. Principles of design and good color combinations were emphasized throughout the 2 months devoted to this topic.

The workmanship on the articles stenciled was of very good quality. They were encouraged to make useful articles which they did.

#### 5. Clothing

Two special interest house dress clinics were held in the county with 25 women participating.

##### a. Objective

To assist the women in construction methods and techniques.

To develop skill in fitting a garment.

To learn the features of a good house dress.

##### b. Procedure

Two clinics, one in Blackstone and the other one in Crewe, were organized for those interested in constructing a house dress. The initial meeting was a lecture and demonstration on the design of a good house dress, measuring for size, and materials. Following the first meetings a series of all-day work meetings were held and the dresses actually constructed under the supervision of a home agent.

##### c. Results

A total of 25 women attended the two clinics and made house dresses according to recommended designs. Those participating expressed an understanding of the reasons for using certain methods and techniques as a result of the clinic. Methods used on house dresses can be applied in other construction problems. Club members reported making a total of 952 garments, during the year.

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B. Other Activities

1. An Outstanding Family

Mrs. K. T. Simonton, a member of the Union Home Demonstration club is a good example of one of the outstanding club women in Nettoway County. Mrs. Simonton has been a club member for about 10 years and is very enthusiastic about each activity. She has held various offices in her club including President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Project Leader.

Mr. & Mrs. Simonton, both officers in the Bellefonte Grange, have 2 children, Nancy and Wayne. Nancy has been a 4-H member for 2 years and with her parents' encouragement has done good project work and has taken part in the other activities undertaken by her club.

Mrs. Simonton attends the home demonstration meeting regularly and takes an active part. This year she served as a crafts leader for her club and gave the demonstration on textile painting. She takes an active part in all club and community activities. She participated in the house dress clinic and brought a non-club member with her.

In the county organization last year she served on the Yearbook Committee as chairman. At the Fall meeting of the county Home Demonstration Committee she was elected chairman for the next 2 years. She met with the Executive Committee and the Yearbook Committee to make plans for the 1953 program.

Mrs. Simonton attended the District Federation meeting in Dimwiddle last Spring and also the State meeting in Blacksburg held prior to the Institute of Rural Affairs.

Her report shows that she passed on information to 24 people during the year and brought 6 visitors to club meetings. Her continued interest in home demonstration work has encouraged other women in her community to join and participate in the work. She is dependable and always ready to do any job she can when called upon.

2. Participation of the Fairview Club in Community Projects

The Fairview Club is a good illustration of a group wholeheartedly participating in Community activities. They have undertaken a number of projects this past year and each has been successful due to the splendid cooperation of each member. They work together as well as any group in the county.

At two different times during the year they have furnished 20 dozen home made cookies to the Camp Pickett Hospital which were served to the boys by Grey Ladies. They have sent club members down to the hospital to help with parties for the patients.

The leader for the Burkeville h-H Club is a member of the Fairview Home Demonstration Club and has the full support of the Home Demonstration Club in carrying out special h-H club activities with the children.

This club has been represented at all county wide planning meetings and all but one training meeting during the year. They sent delegates to the District, State, and National Federation of Home Demonstration Club meetings this year.

In the Burkeville community the Home Demonstration club is highly respected because they always help out in all community projects such as cooperating with the P.T.A. providing programs for the Woman's Club and Garden Club on subjects learned through Extension, and serving suppers for civic organizations. They also have 3 socials during the year for the entire families.

The Fairview Club put up an educational booth at the Blackstone Farmers Day in September on which they won a red ribbon. The subject was furniture refinishing in which they are very interested.

The secret of the success of this club lies in the fact that no matter what they undertake each member cooperates by doing cheerfully whatever task she is asked to do.

### 3. Community Improvement Work

The community improvements made in the County during the past year have been mainly on the home grounds of the club members. This resulted from the activities of the Federation Goal project. One hundred and eighty-six homesteaders reported making some improvements in the home grounds either in foundation plantings, mail box improvement, or screening with shrubbery. These yard improvements would naturally improve the community as a whole.

The Blackstone Club made improvements in the kitchen at the Blackstone U.S.O. This kitchen is used by military personnel and various community organizations. It had no equipment and no storage facilities. A committee from the club made plans for shelves and other storage and

work areas necessary to the usefulness of the kitchen. With the cooperation of the manager of the U.S.O. these units were built in. The home demonstration club members had a kitchen shower and each member brought in utensils and dishes with which to furnish the kitchen. They plan to continue to work with this project until it is completely furnished not only with utensils but curtains and cup towels.

#### 4. Federation Goal Activities

For the second year the Federation Goal has been "Home and Community Beautification" with the aim to make Nottoway homes more attractive and to promote pride in the appearance of the community. The objectives for the year were to continue to work for more farm entrance markers, work to control roadside dumping, and to have 10 minute federation goal discussions at 10 meetings.

The county goal chairman worked up some information on suggested topics such as Christmas door decorations, pruning, rose culture, outdoor eating area, iris, and centerpieces for the dining table and sent to each chairman to help her with the 10 minute discussions. This was very successful in the clubs with an average of 8 discussions held in each club during the year.

In regard to the control of roadside dumping not much was accomplished on this this year. Members of the Board of Supervisors were approached but so far have taken no action.

The club goal chairmen encouraged their members to put up the mail box markers which was the main point stressed in the 1951 program. It was reported that 18 mailboxes were improved this year.

#### 5. County Objectives

The county objectives as drawn up by the executive officers of the county Home Demonstration Committee were as follows:

1. Each club send representative to the Institute of Rural Affairs.
2. Each club be well represented at District Federation meetings.
3. Each club be represented at all county and leader training meetings and leaders give demonstrations at at least 4 meetings.

4. Pay county and Federation dues by January 31.
5. Each club member contribute to Pennies for Friendship Fund and send to county treasurer by January 31.
6. Increase club membership by taking information to non-club members.
7. Encourage non-club members to attend special interest meetings.
8. Each member complete some phase of the Federation Goal.
9. Each club have 10 minute Federation discussion at ten meetings.
10. Each member learn the Homemakers' Creed.
11. Each club cooperate with the 4-H club program.

The goals were not specific in the wording and therefore hard to evaluate. But according to the club reports the members did work on the goals and a great deal was accomplished.

1. Five clubs were represented at the Institute of Rural Affairs.
2. Each club was represented at the District Meeting with a total of 35 from the county.
3. Two clubs, Blackstone and Nottoway, were represented at all county and leader training meetings. Five clubs were represented at all but one meeting. Each club had leaders give at least 4 demonstrations during the year.
4. All clubs paid the county and Federation dues by January 31.
5. Each member contributed to the "Pennies for Friendship".
6. Club membership was not increased but 162 members reported they carried information to non-club members 705 times. New members were added this year but the total did not increase because so many who are working were put on the inactive roll.

2. Non-club members were encouraged to attend special interest meetings through radio news articles and special invitation. However, only 3 non-club members participated in the 2 special meetings.
8. Each member reporting had made some improvement as a result of the Federation Goal.
9. Each club averaged 8 ten minute discussions.
10. Approximately 5% of the members know the Homemakers' Creed.
11. Six of the clubs furnished h-h leaders. Each club has provided transportation for h-h members at sometime during the year.

#### 6. Result Demonstrations

There are 5 kitchen improvement result demonstrations and 5 yard improvement result demonstrations being conducted in Mottoway County. Each was started two or more years ago.

One kitchen Mrs. Dick Forrester's, is still in the process of being built. Her plans were drawn up 2 years ago but due to illness in the family no money was available for this project. However, they do plan to carry out the plans when they can afford it.

One kitchen listed as a result demonstration burned during the year so is of no value as a result demonstration now.

The kitchen in the Methodist parsonage in Burkeville was carried as a result demonstration but when the pastor moved last winter the plans were discontinued.

Mrs. Mylan Gracey, whose kitchen was remodeled last year, reported that 85 women have visited her kitchen this year and 8 of them have used ideas learned on their visit. Mrs. Bowerson's kitchen remodeling was completed early this year but since it is such an expensive kitchen and so far above the reach of the average income family the home agent does not feel that it has much value as a result demonstration.

The yard demonstrations are of more value as result demonstrations than the kitchens in the opinion of the home agent. Mrs. L. E. Williamson, with the advice and plans of Mrs. Albert Beecher, Assistant Extension Horticulturist, has started the landscaping around her new home by making off the various areas, such as driveway and burning, clothline,

sitting, and outdoor eating. The lawn was graded and seeded and a few foundation plantings set out. She reports that 65 people have looked at her plans and visited her home.

Mrs. C. H. Schmidt, Mrs. J. F. Farmer, Mrs. Fred Dillmuth, and Mrs. Herbert Hayton have each followed recommendations from the Extension specialist in making improvements in their home grounds. The improvements which involved pruning, moving or removing plantings, locating drives and turning areas, were completed in the Spring. They reported a total of 125 people visited their home grounds and indicated an interest in the improvements made.

There is much interest in yard improvement and it is believed that several new result demonstration on this will be started next year.

#### VI. 4-H Club Work

##### A. Project Work

##### 1. Clothing and Textiles

##### a. Objectives

To improve the general appearance of the club girl.

To teach the basic fundamentals of clothing construction.

To develop an appreciation of good workmanship and pride in a job well done.

For the club member to be able to use good taste and judgment in the selection of pattern and material, or a ready made garment.

##### b. Procedure

Monthly project meetings with 5 girls were held by a leader to teach the "So You'd Like to Sew" project. This group met 7 times for instruction. Finished products were judged and ribbons awarded at the completion of each article.

Project meetings were held by a club leader for 3 girls who were advanced enough to take the "Make or Remake" project. The leader held 6 meetings with these girls and instructed them in making a fitted garment. The finished garments were judged and the county dress review winner selected.

These leaders worked under the guidance and training of the home agent.

Our "Looking Your Best" project groups had 9 meetings each in order to teach personal grooming and care of the clothes. Records were checked each month by the agent. A leader worked with one of these groups and gave 4 demonstrations after being trained by the agent.

c. Results

All 5 girls taking the "So You'd Like to Sew" project completed their work and made a total of 8 garments and 15 other articles. These girls practiced the basic methods of clothing construction and 4 of them mastered the art of using a thimble. In making the simple one and two piece articles they developed coordination as well as pride of workmanship. By having each group of articles judged as they completed them their interest was maintained and they also learned what constitutes a well-made article.

Of the 3 girls taking the "Make or Break" project only 2 completed. They made a total of 12 garments and remodeled 6. These girls practiced recommended methods and techniques in working toward the standards of workmanship set by the agent and leader. Ann Gracey was selected as the Dress Review Winner in the county. She placed in the Blue Award group in the District Competition.

The 4 clubs taking "Looking Your Best" did an unusually good job with this. They were the younger club members whose clubs meet during school hours. The teachers and a number of the girls' mothers remarked to the agent that they noticed the girls were taking more pride in their personal appearance since taking this project.

2. Foods and Nutrition

a. Objectives

To teach the club girls the fundamentals of meal planning, preparation and service and to give them the opportunity to practice at home.

To provide the opportunity for the girls to prepare and give foods demonstrations for the club and other groups.

To develop self-confidence and poise through the demonstration.

To set standards of food preparation and food handling.

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To teach the basic fundamentals of food preservation by canning or freezing.

b. Procedure

Four project groups with 39 girls enrolled held monthly meetings on the "Meal Planning, Preparation, and Service" project, under the leadership of the local leader and agent, Miss Janet Cameron, Extension Food Specialist, trained 5 leaders by using the J.I.T. method. This method was used to teach the girls and proved most successful. This gave the club members an opportunity to give a demonstration at each meeting.

One project group of 4 girls carried the "Breadmaking" project under the supervision of the club leader who was trained by the agent. All 4 girls completed this project. The J.I.T. method was used in this project instruction. The Club members seemed to enjoy this way of learning.

Each club held a food preparation contest and selected winners in the group over 14 and also in the group under 14. The club winners participated in the county contest and Betty Culliton won first place in the senior group on Dairy Foods. Lois Norton was first in Food Preparation. The winner of the junior group in Food Preparation was Barbara Jones, with Terry Walker second, and Rebecca Grady, third.

Each contest, club and county, was judged using the score cards used in the District Contests, and ribbons were awarded.

The Club leaders conducting these projects have done an excellent job. The instruction they have given the girls included meal planning, table service and manners, how to measure accurately, and how to follow a recipe.

Three food preservation project groups were organized with 15 members enrolled. The leaders for these groups were trained by the home agent. Methods and techniques of canning and freezing were taught by the J.I.T. method.

c. Results

Of the 39 enrolled in "Meal Planning, Preparation, and Service" only 15 turned in completed records. At the time of the club contests in February all records were up-to-date but it is hard to keep the girls interested in record keeping. They often times do the work required but fail to write it down before they forget it.

Leaders noted much development of poise and self-confidence as a result of the demonstrations, the girls gave. The girls expressed much interest in the club and county contest.

The "Breadmaking" project group, under the leadership of Mrs. Paul Cassell, held monthly meetings and acquired much knowledge and experience in handling breads. At each meeting they gave demonstrations and judged the products made. Ann Thomas was the county winner in this project. Each one enrolled completed this project.

Of the 15 enrolled in the 3 food preservation project groups, 12 completed. To give the instruction for this project the leaders who were trained by the home agent held 3 project meetings and gave demonstrations on materials and canning and freezing fruits and vegetables. Each girl practiced at the project meeting and then did the amount required at home according to recommended methods.

The girls were very proud of their results. Each one entered some of her canning in the 4-H achievements exhibits. The judge commented on the unusual good quality of the products. Barbara Jones of Burkeville was named the county winner in the Canning project. Patricia Ritchie was the county winner in freezing.

### 3. Safety

#### a. Objectives

To encourage the study and practice of safety measures to help prevent farm and home accidents.

#### b. Procedure

To enroll each club boy and girl in the "Farm and Home Safety Project".

To have club members participate in a county-wide safety meeting that will be sponsored by the Granges.

To show the clubs a safety movie entitled "A Stitch in Time."

To conduct club and county contest on completion of the Safety project.

#### c. Results

Enrolled in the Safety project were 99 girls who were club members by January 31. No new members were enrolled after January 31 in this project. Of the ones enrolled, 74 turned in completed records.

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Seven Bellefonte h-H members took part in the skit on safety at the county-wide Safety Sale sponsored by the subordinate Granges. Some 125 people were present for this meeting. This skit was recorded and used over the two local radio stations, W.S.V.S. and W.K.L.V.

In January the club meetings were devoted to a safety movie entitled "A Stitch in Time." Records were checked at each club meeting to encourage the members to keep their work up-to-date. This comparison of club members work helped to stimulate the interest in this project. From the completed reports listing the various accident hazards removed it would be reasonable to assume that the people in the county are more safety conscious as a result of the work of the h-H members. No statistics are available to check the accident rate in the county this year against the rate in previous years.

#### B. Other h-H Activities

##### 1. Camps

Nottoway h-H club members were represented at 3 camps this summer. Six girls attended h-H Short Course at V.P.I. Mrs. W. B. Arnold, leader, attended this meeting with the group. Because of outstanding h-H records of leadership and project work Peggy Dewe was taken into the Virginia All-Star Chapter.

Twenty-one girls from Nottoway County attended District h-H Camp at Camp Farver, Virginia Beach. Serving as leaders for the group were Mrs. W. H. Kirchmier and Miss Betty Lou Spain.

Three girls attended the State Conservation Camp and participated in the weeks program relating to the use and conservation of our natural resources.

Since the county has a quota of those who can attend these District and State camps, the basis of selecting the ones who will go is a means of strengthening the over all county h-H program. Records must be up-to-date and the boy or girl must have a good record of attendance and interest in club work. The permission to attend camp is an award for good club work.

Following each of these trips several of those attending appeared on radio broadcasts to give the highlights of the event.

## 2. National h-H Club Week

A very successful National h-H Club Week program was carried out. Plans for this event were made at the February County Council meeting.

The Booster Night program on Saturday, March 1, at the Bellefonte Grange Hall was quite a success with about 125 h-H members, leaders and parents present (inspite of a flu epidemic). Club members, assisted by the County Agent, led the group in games, songs, and folk dancing for about an hour. Mr. Herbert Stead, Assistant County Agent, made awards to 4 winners of the h-H Story Contest. The Honor Club conducted a candlelighting recognition ceremony for 8 new members. The charge was given by the Home Agent. Attractive refreshments were made and served by the girls.

Each club sponsored a money making activity during National h-H Club Week, the proceeds to go to the National h-H Foundation and Camp Parra. Some of the projects were bake sales, box suppers and selling everyday cards. Approximately \$150.00 was raised.

Twenty-seven club members from 4 clubs submitted their stories for the h-H Story Contest which were judged by members from the newspaper staff. We had hoped for greater participation in this contest but one reason no more were turned in was the time limit. They only had 2 weeks from the time the contest was announced until the stories were due in the office. The medals awarded to the winners had "h-H Story" engraved on the front along with the h-H emblem. The winners were Margaret Matthew, Iron Ridge Club; Billy Dixon, Southside Club; Shirley Snead, Trump Club; and Jimmy Dunn, Burkeville, Club.

Three window displays were put up in Burkeville, Crewe and Blackstone. The two billboards announcing club week caused a great deal of interest in the county along with the newspapers editions. The two local newspapers printed special h-H editions. The h-H supplement to the Courier Record was sponsored by 12 business men. One thousand three hundred and fifty reprints of this supplement were made to be distributed to all h-H members in the county and to be given to the sponsors to distribute.

Each club participated in special h-H radio programs over W.S.V.S., Crewe; and W.K.L.V., Blackstone. W.S.V.S. gave us a 15 minute program at 3:45 P.M. March 3 through 7. The theme for the week was the h-H's, one H emphasized each day. The Honor club had the program the last day

representing the Fifth H. Three programs were conducted over W.K.L.V. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:15 P.M. A total of 400 h-H members and leaders were interviewed on these programs.

3. Rural Life Sunday

Seven clubs observed Rural Life Sunday with a county-wide vesper program held on the Court House lawn. Plans for this event were made and carried out by the County Council. Several h-H members took part on the program. Mr. R.C. Vaughan, Presbyterian minister from Crewe, was the guest speaker using as his topic "The Power of Faith." Approximately 175 club members, leaders, parents and friends attended this program.

4. Contest

Club and county contests were held in each of the homemaking projects carried by the clubs this year. In the foods projects, demonstrations and records were judged to select the winners. In the other projects exhibits and/or records were judged.

County winners were:

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Food Preparation | Lois Norton      |
| Dairy Foods      | Betty Culliton   |
| Dress Revue      | Ann Gracey       |
| Breadmaking      | Ann Thomas       |
| Canning          | Barbara Jones    |
| Freezing         | Patricia Ritchie |

5. Achievement Displays

The h-H achievement exhibits of project work were displayed for 3 days in connection with the Harvest Festival which was sponsored by the Southside Grange and the Crewe Kiwanis Club. This event was held in October in the Crewe Community Center. Exhibits were judged by Miss Helen Griffin, Brunswick Home Agent. Ribbons and prize money were awarded. There were 83 entries in the girls divisions on canning, clothing, and baking. The exhibits showed improvement in quality over last years exhibits.

6. Community Activities

During the year each club has had some special activity other than the regular club meetings and county-wide events.

These special activities consisted of money-making projects, socials and recreation meetings. They were planned and carried out by the club members with the assistance of leaders.

VII. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN'S WORK

No older youth work is done in this county

VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1949	1950	1951	1952
No. H.B. Clubs or Groups	11	11	11	11
Membership	217	256	250	211
No. H-H Clubs	4	5	7	7
Membership	41	79	90	109
No. Y.M. Groups	1	0	0	0
Membership	18			
No. of other families reached	180	220	500	750
No. of different families reached	750	800	1155	1250
No. community clubs	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0

I. FUNCTION OF ORGANIZATIONS

A. County Board of Agriculture

The Nottoway County Board of Agriculture which is composed of Agriculture and Community life Committees is the agricultural planning group in the County. The Committees met in the fall to review the previous years accomplishments for this years work. From the committee recommendations a plan of work is incorporated and adopted by the Board. A progress check meeting was held in the spring to evaluate the progress made and suggest revision for the remainder of the year. The home agent works closely with 4 of these committees: Health, Youth, Home Improvement, and Community Improvement.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee is the planning body for all Home Demonstration Clubs in the county. This committee, which meets semi-annually, is composed of the president and program development chairman from each club.

In the fall of 1951, the committee met to draw up the 1952 demonstration program, special interest activities and other special county-wide activities.

The spring meeting was devoted to making plans for National Home Demonstration Week and the Achievement program. The first half of the years program was evaluated and recommendations made for carrying out the rest of the years work.

The Committee sponsored the County Yearbook, a tour to Williamburg, and the Home Demonstration Exhibits for the Blackstone Farmer's Day.

#### County 4-H Project Planning Committee

The 4-H project Planning Committee, composed of one or two older girls and the adult leaders from each club, met in May to plan the girls' project work that would start in September. Miss Lucille Graves, Associate State 4-H Club Agent, helped with the plans made by the 14 girls representing 6 clubs.

#### D. County 4-H Club Council

The County 4-H Council, composed of all the officers of the 7 clubs, meets quarterly to make plans for county-wide activities. This year the Council held 3 business meetings and 1 recreational meeting.

The fall meeting was devoted to election of officers and making up the Plan of Work. Officers for the year were: Ann Thomas, president; Billy Fisher, vice-president; Peggy Dews, secretary; Lynn Dews, treasurer; Leslie Beatty, reporter; and Peggy Sutphin and Billy Coburn, Song Leaders.

The Council goals for 1951 were:

1. Each club have 100% project completion.
2. Have a 4-H achievement day.
3. Observe 4-H week with each club participating.
4. Sponsor a county-wide picnic.
5. Sponsor a county-wide game night.
6. Sponsor a county-wide Rural Life Sunday program.
7. Have the "National 4-H Club News" in each club.
8. Each club set up objectives for reaching county goals.

Each goal was fulfilled during the year except the first one. Eighty-one percent of the girls completed 75% of the projects.

The February meeting with 26 members representing 5 clubs, made plans for National 4-H Club Week. The plans were carried out through the various committees appointed.

In April Plans for Rural Life Sunday and the county 4-H Picnic were made. Six clubs were represented by 20 members. The county picnic in August with 65 club members present was the recreational meeting sponsored by the council.

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The November meeting was devoted to an officers training period. Officers were elected and a committee appointed to make recommendations for the 1953 Plan of Work.

The h-H Council is a very active organization and the members take the initiative in making their plans with very few suggestions from the agents. The leaders and agents act in an advisory capacity at these meetings.

E. The County h-H Honor Club.

The County h-H Honor Club, which meets quarterly, is composed of club members 14 years old or older who have been in club work 3 years and show an interest in continuing. The club was organized in March 1951, with 18 members.

The goals which were set up last fall were:

1. to serve as junior leaders for the local clubs,
2. to be responsible for the recreation program at each club meeting,
3. to assist with publicity of h-H activities
4. to assist with Achievement Day.

They carried out these goals very well during the year.

The January meeting was devoted to voting on new members from the qualified list. Fourteen members and 2 leaders were present. Eight new members were tapped at the Booster Night program during National h-H Club Week. They were initiated at the regular meeting in April.

The Honor Club sponsored a county-wide recreation meeting in June inviting all h-H club members. Approximately 60 members attended this event. The games were led by Billy Fisher and Billy Coburn.

The July meeting consisted of a weekend camp at Camp Farrar with 15 members and 3 leaders attending. This was a recreation weekend. At the business meeting officers for the coming year were elected to take over in October.

In October the Plan of Work was drawn up. The following goals were set up by the group:

1. Help to get 100% record completion.
2. Spend one weekend at Camp Farrar.
3. Sponsor one county-wide activity not conflicting with the County Council activities.
4. Have one money making project.
5. Promote publicity in h-H through newspaper, posters, and radio.

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The Honor Club is an influential h-H organization. It has stimulated club members on to better work and has helped to hold other club members.

## I. LEADERSHIP

### A. Contributions of leaders

#### 1. Organizational

The 55 home demonstration club officers have been responsible for conducting the business part of each regular club meeting as well as meeting with various planning committees. The president or vice-president who attends the county home Demonstration Committee meetings carries back to the club the information on county wide activities, and the various recommendations of activities for each club to carry out.

#### 2. The Program Development

The program development leaders are selected to lead in developing a program of work based on the needs and interests of the community and county. These leaders, working through their clubs and with the County Committee, are the ones who bring the viewpoints of the club members together and set up the county program. The program development leaders work is a continuous job which she carries out through club discussions, talking with individuals, home visits, and observation throughout the year.

#### 3. Subject Matter

The work of the Home Demonstration subject matter leaders has been outstanding this year in the opinion of the home agent. Each club had 1 Federation Goal chairman, 1 garden leader, 2 foods leaders and 2 rural arts leaders. These 88 project leaders gave a total of 54 talks and demonstrations in the absence of the agent. They assisted with 19 other demonstrations. They had a very good record of attendance at leader training meetings which were conducted either by a specialist or the agent.

The h-H subject matter leaders have been a great help in putting over an effective project program. Without them the work would have been of very little benefit to the girls. Seven women served as active h-H leaders and 4 teachers served as club sponsors. These leaders gave a total of 60 demonstrations or talks without the agent present and assisted with 21 demonstrations.

B. Growth of Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership

Growth of H. D. Club Project Leadership	1949	1950	1951	1952
No. project leaders (subject matter)	78	78	94	88
No. goal chairmen	10	10	10	11
No. training meetings held by Specialist	5	3	5	7
by Agent	6	3	4	5
Attendance at all training meetings	123	99	96	129
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	20	30	41	54
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	26	3	40	40
<b>Growth of H-H Club Project Leadership</b>				
No. adult project leaders	6	7	7	7
No. junior project leaders	3	6	6	4
No. training meetings held by Specialist	2	1	2	3
by agent	8	6	4	5
Attendance at leader training meetings	25	26	27	35
No. H-H leaders trained individually	17	5	5	7
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	8	15	20	43
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	13	16	28	21
No. demonstrations given by leaders	13	18	46	74
by adults	11	10	32	60
by juniors	2	8	14	14

Activities of An Outstanding Leader

One of the outstanding leaders in both home demonstration and H-H club work this year is Mrs. Paul Cassell. In home demonstration work Mrs. Cassell was president of the Blackstone Club for the past two years and also served as a house furnishings leader. Under her leadership the interest in club work has increased among the members of her club. The membership has grown from about 15 to 25 active members.

Mrs. Cassell was vice-chairman of the County Committee and was very active in county work as the chairman had illness in her family and was unable to take a very active part. She served on various planning committees such as the tour, county objectives, and achievement plans. She was the county delegate to the Institute of Rural Affairs in 1951 and attended the District meetings for the past few years. This fall she attended the National Home Demonstration Council Meeting in Raleigh, N. C.

Mrs. Cassell has served as a 4-H leader for 4 years and is doing an outstanding job with the Iron Bridge Club. This past year she worked with all the girls on the "Meal Planning, Preparation, and Service" project giving 4 of the monthly demonstrations. In addition to the regular monthly club meetings she had 2 special project groups which met once a month in her home. The "Breadmaking" project with 4 girls, and the "Make or Bake" project with 5 girls were under her guidance. One of her girls was the county dress revue winner and placed in the Blue Award group in the district. It was Mrs. Cassell's interest and constant supervision that encouraged these girls in their project work.

Not only does she do project work but she also assists with special activities of the club such as bake sales, club picnics and parties, and entertaining the Honor Club or Council. She assisted the 4-H members in putting up a Safety Booth at the Blackstone Farmers' Day.

The Iron Bridge Club has grown so much in the past year that they formed a junior and a senior club this fall. Mrs. Cassell is serving as the leader for the senior group and is assisting the junior club leader in getting started as this is her first experience as a 4-H leader.

Mrs. Cassell is not a dominating leader but it seems to be her genuine interest in young people and enthusiasm for 4-H club work that makes people have confidence in her. The club girls are always dropping by her home for advice on many things other than 4-H work. She is a true friend to each club member.

#### XI. Cooperation with Other Agencies

The Extension workers and home demonstration club members cooperated with the Health Department by encouraging participation in the T.B. Chest X-Ray program. Club members assisted with transportation to and from the clinic and in registering the participants. Publicity through radio and press were given on the county health projects.

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The home agent assisted the Welfare Department in locating homes for foster care of children.

The W.E.A. home economist and the home agent worked together to promote the education of the rural people of the county with the use of electricity on the farm and in the home and with the proper preparation and packaging of foods for the home freezer or locker plant.

Extension Agents cooperated with the 3 Granges by supplying materials for programs and in leading recreation for the groups.

As a means of reaching people the Extension Agents have the full cooperation of 2 local radio stations and 2 local newspapers. The home agent has a regular weekly column in the Blackstone "Courier Record" and the Crew Chronicle". Four fifths of the homes in the county are reached by one or the other of these papers. The agent has a 15 minute radio program every other week over W.K.L.V. in crew. The radio station estimates that approximately 45% of the rural population in Nettoway County listen to this Extension broadcast. Several times the home agent has been on the county agent's regular weekly broadcast over W.K.L.V. in Blackstone.

## XII.

### EVALUATION OF THE YEAR'S WORK

The 1952 home demonstration program contributed to better homemaking and better rural living through method demonstrations, radio and news articles, bulletins, personal contact by the agent, and information passed on to non-club members. The house furnishings phase of the program helped approximately 65% of the club members to improve the efficiency or appearance of the homes. It is expected that more will apply the principles learned in the next two or three years, when they make changes in the home.

One outstanding feature of the 1952 program has been the activity of the volunteer leaders. Not only did this participation as leaders help to develop the women, but it left the agent free to do other Extension work. This year 164 leaders gave 214 talks or demonstrations for the adult program and 7 h-h leaders gave 86 talks or discussions.

Interest in h-h work was strengthened among club members and county people through the outstanding National h-h club Week program and publicity. The Club and County contests helped to maintain interest in project work. There are more girls enrolled in club work this year than last and the older members have not dropped out. The Honor Club and County Council activities have played a large part in holding the interest. Both of these organizations are very successful in planning and carrying out special h-h activities.

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The project work of the girls is improving in quality. This year 81% of the girls completed 75% of the projects. This is an increase of 9% in project completions over last year. The project records show growth in knowledge and development of ability. The project leaders have been invaluable in carrying out a successful project program.

The program in general has helped both the youth and adults in the county by improving methods of homemaking, developing leadership, and furnishing various educational and recreational programs.

It is hard to measure accurately the significance of the years work since it is just a link in the chain of education for rural people to encourage better family living. However, since the program was carried by more leaders to more people, it is felt that the 1952 link is a strong one.