

# ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

## COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

### *Virginia Agricultural Extension Service*

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1959

Lancaster \_\_\_\_\_

**County**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Highlights of Year's Work .....	I
I. County Situation.....	1-3
II. County Extension Program - Adult .....	3
A. Organization .....	3
1. County Advisory Board.....	3
2. County Home Demonstration Club Committee.....	3-4
B. Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas.....	4
1. Money Management.....	4-5
2. Clothing Construction.....	5-8
3. House Furnishings.....	8-10
4. Textile Painting (Special Interest Group Activity)...	10
C. Other Activities.....	10
1. Community Improvement Work.....	10-11
2. National Home Demonstration Week.....	11-12
3. District Home Demonstration Group Meeting.....	12
4. Achievement Day.....	13
5. Home Demonstration Picnic.....	13
6. Garden Lovers Short Course.....	13
D. Urban Work.....	14
E. Farm and Home Development.....	14-15
III. County Extension Program - Youth .....	15
A. Organization.....	15
1. County h-H Council.....	15-16
2. Project Planning Committee.....	16
B. h-H Project Work.....	16
1. Make or Remake Your Clothing.....	16
2. So You'd Like to Sew.....	16-17

	PAGE
<b>g.</b> Individual Health.....	17
<b>h.</b> Money Management.....	17-18
<b>C.</b> Other Activities.....	18
1. National h-H Club Week.....	18
2. Achievement Day.....	18
3. State h-H Short Course.....	18-19
4. State Wildlife and Conservation Conference.....	19
5. h-H Picnic.....	19
<b>IV.</b> Scope of Work.....	19
A. Chart.....	19-20
B. Scope of Work (report).....	20
<b>V.</b> Leadership.....	20
A. Growth of Leadership.....	20
1. Overall program leaders.....	20
2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership (chart).....	20
3. h-H Club Leadership (chart).....	21
B. Club Accomplishments.....	21
<b>VI.</b> For Special Consideration .....	22
A. Significant Achievement of Extension Work.....	22
B. Public Relationship.....	22-23
C. Professional Improvement.....	23
<b>VII.</b> The Look Ahead.....	23

### Highlights of Year's Work

In evaluating the 1959 program of work, the most contributions made to family living seem to have been made in the areas of clothing and house furnishings. These subjects matter areas were in keeping with the county goal- To improve the standard of living among rural families. More different families were reached in these areas than in any other. Families more readily accepted and put into practice the information given them along these lines. Both areas of work contributed to better family living because they offered better ways of using what was on hand and of selecting and buying goods on the market. As a result of the year's work, family members more readily undertake jobs in and around the home that previously were done by other persons.

Emphasis in the clothing project was placed on construction; however, some work was done on buying. Homemakers not only learned to develop skills in sewing, but to better recognize quality in clothes. A clothing project was carried out by 140 4-H club members also.

In house furnishings, emphasis was placed on house lighting, color scheme, furniture arrangement, and window treatment. Families improved their homes to add beauty, comfort, and safety.

The accomplishments made in these areas were made as a result of using the various teaching methods mentioned throughout this report.

## I. County Situation

At the time of program planning, the county planning committee considered the conditions that existed in the county, including size of county; topography; population trends; types of agriculture; industry; and facilities available which might affect the program.

Lancaster County has an area of 153 square miles (land area 142 square miles, and water area 11 square miles). It is a low and level region with wide tidal inlets and bays. Over three-fifths of the land is wooded. There are three incorporated towns: Kilsarnock with a population of 689 and an area of 1.04 square miles; White Stone with a population of 432 and an area of .87 square miles; and Irvington with a population of 575 and an area of 1 square mile. The county has three magisterial districts: Mantua, White Chapel, and White Stone.

The total population of the county in 1950 was 8,640. The negro population is 3,562: 2,463 non-farm residents and 1,009 farm residents. This figure shows a decline in population since 1940; however, statistics indicate that the county's population will increase in future years. There are 685 non-farm women and 317 farm women available for membership in home demonstration clubs.

Two-thirds of all Lancaster's farms, many of them quite small, are operated on a part-time basis by persons employed in manufacturing or fishing. There are 149 Negro farm operators (1954 Census), a decline from the 253 operators in 1950. The greater part of farm income is from poultry and eggs and field crops. In recent years soybeans have become an important field crop. Livestock, especially hogs, and vegetables are two other leading sources of farm income.

Lancaster's principle industries are manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and commercial fisheries. Fish, crabs, and oysters are packed or canned or frozen in numerous processing plants which employ both men and women. One establishment manufactures fish oil and stock and poultry feeds prepared from fish scrap. There are canneries to process the tomatoes which are widely grown in the Northern Neck. Boatbuilding and repairing and the manufacture of fishing industry machinery are other important enterprises.

In 1958, a public high school was constructed in the center of the county which makes a convenient place to hold county-wide meetings. Six elementary schools are located in the county.

Recreational activities in Lancaster County are usually sponsored by the schools, churches, h-m clubs, scouts, and numerous civic and social organizations. A two-county recreation center is expected to be built next year which will be available for use by Lancaster people.

The county has a Public Health Department with a full time public health nurse, a sanitarian and several physicians to serve the people.

The preceding facts along with other information obtained from the people were considered at the time of program planning. Prior to program planning, a survey was made by sending out questionnaires from the agents' office. A summary of the findings of the survey gave a general picture of the existing conditions throughout the county and of the needs and interests of the people. Some of the significant problems encountered by the people were: a need for more money, lack of transportation facilities, over crowded homes, and poor selection of adult and children's clothes. The majority of club members indicated a desire for better knowledge of clothing construction for profit and enjoyment. After a discussion period during the planning meeting the planning committee selected three major areas of emphasis for the 1959 program of work: Money Management, Clothing Construction, and Home Furnishings.

The sources of information used to secure the facts about the county were County data assembled from U. S. Census reports, Virginia Farm Family Living Outlook, Annual Report of Northern Neck Health District, and Economic Data of Lancaster County by the Division of Planning and Economic Development.

## II. County Extension Program - Adult

### A. Organization

The County Advisory Board and the county home demonstration club committee functioned in developing the county home economics extension program.

#### 1. County Advisory Board

The County Advisory Board is composed of 37 representatives from the home demonstration clubs, special interest groups, youth organizations, professional workers and vocational home economic workers in the county. In keeping with its objectives, the Advisory Board sponsored the Community Improvement Work Project, and the County Achievement Day; sent delegates to the State Advisory Board and cooperated with the same; cooperated with the home demonstration club committee in sending delegates to the district home demonstration meeting, and sponsored the Farm and Home Development Program. The activities were held with the intention of strengthening the extension program.

#### 2. County Home Demonstration Club Committee

The county home demonstration club committee is composed of 35 members who represent the home demonstration clubs in the county. This committee cooperated with the Advisory Board in sponsoring the achievement day, sent delegates to the district home demonstration meeting, assisted the agent in planning the year's program of work, including monthly demonstration topics and special programs such as the dress review, christmas party, and programs in observance of National Home Demonstration Week. The committee also supported h-H activities.

No further work has been done in setting up a home economics council,

general interest committee, or home economics committees; however, much of the work that could be carried out through committee work is being done by program development leaders in each community. These leaders report their findings in club meetings and at the county planning meeting.

#### B. Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas

The county program of work includes three subject matter areas: Money Management, Clothing Construction, and House Furnishings; special interest groups in Table Service and Textile Finishing; and several county wide programs and activities.

##### 1. Money Management

Families with low-medium incomes found it difficult to meet the financial needs of the members of the family with the amount of money they had. Since it was more difficult to raise the family's income in terms of salaries and wages, the planning committee felt that a better knowledge of how to manage the money on hand was more applicable for immediate results. In previous years many bread-winners in the family were employed by fishing concerns. Due to modernized mechanization, many of these employees were not needed or were employed on a part time basis which resulted in less income for the family.

The objective of this project was to help the families plan their finances to meet present and future needs. General discussions were held on budgeting and ways of stretching the dollar. Homemakers were to learn the importance of making and following a budget and how to make one. Special emphasis was placed on the clothing dollar since clothing was included in the program. Families were expected to have a general idea of the percent of money that should be spent for certain items and to work out some workable plan for spending the family's money.

This line of work was carried out through club work. Since time was not

allowed in the program to work on the entire area of Money Management, certain homemakers were asked to keep a record of their family expenditures for one area, such as food, clothing, automobile expense, etc., for one month. These results were then compared with the expenditures of successful families with similar incomes of a state survey. To further explain the work, flip charts, slide films, and printed material were used to give demonstrations in club meetings. Newspaper articles on various subjects were published throughout the year to help families live more economically. All of the demonstrations were conducted by the agent with the assistance of leaders. The agent received training from Miss. Amelia Fuller, Extension Farm and Home Unit Specialist, before giving the demonstrations.

As a result of the Money Management Project, approximately 170 people were reached. This project was also one of the older 4-H club projects for 1959. After keeping a record of family expenditures as indicated above, many homemakers were surprised at their spending habits. A definite effort was put forth to work out a spending plan with the entire family, to resist heavy installment buying, to use good judgement in selecting and buying clothes, and to produce as much home grown foods as possible to meet family needs.

## 2. Clothing Construction

The high cost of living, desire to be well dressed, poor buying habits, especially of children's clothing, and interest in learning to sew led the group to select clothing construction as one of the subject matter areas.

The objectives set up at the time of program planning were: to teach families the fundamental steps involved in making a garment, to teach families how to be well dressed at all times, and to teach homemakers the economical value of making clothes. It was felt that these objectives could best be carried out by dividing the area into four monthly topics, namely: Pattern

and Fabric Selection; Pattern Alteration; Use of Various Neck, Sleeve, and Seam Finishes; and a Dress Review after garments were completed.

In working with club members on this project, it was learned that several club members had not had any noteworthy experience in making a garment; therefore, it was necessary to teach some of the elementary methods of clothing construction. Each home demonstration club met twice a month for all-day meetings instead of the regular once-a-month meeting. The clothing leaders and the agent gave demonstrations on different clothing constructions methods both before each new phase of construction was attempted and as problems arose from the group as they worked. In other words, most of the results were obtained by the learn-as-you-go process. These demonstrations included such points as threading and using the machine and attachments, covering belts and buckles, making buttonholes, putting in hems, and pressing together with the specific topics set up for each month. A total of 10 clothing leaders assisted with the project work. The leaders were selected by each club because of their previous sewing experience. A leader training meeting was conducted by the local home agent prior to the beginning of the project. Although the leaders helped a great deal with the project work, the club members and the leaders felt that they were not strong enough to give the type of assistance required in the all day workshops in the absence of the agent. This made it necessary for the agent to attend all meetings relating to this line of work. It consumed much of the agent's time; however some of this time was compensated for by having the h-H leaders to conduct h-d club meetings in the absence of the agent. It was also necessary to hold some of the meetings at night. Cooperation was given by the high school and the home economics teacher in permitting the clubs to use the home economics department and facilities for some of the meetings.

The attitudes of the homemakers were favorable towards this type of work. They showed enthusiasm throughout the project work. At first, a few of the participants felt that they were too old to learn but after some influence, they tried. By simple instructions and close supervision, these homemakers were surprised at their work. This proved very beneficial since some of these older homemakers began to make garments for their children and grandchildren while the young homemakers worked away from home.

The dress review that was held at Brockvale High School at the end of the project and in connection with National Home Demonstration Week was a booster to the home demonstration program. Only thirty garments were modeled; however, a total of approximately 80 garments were made as a result of the project. Many were not complete at the time of the dress review. Several of the homemakers who started in the project found employment which caused slower work on the garment since they were not available to attend club meetings. Here, leaders could have been of more help in passing their information to these working women. On a whole, the garments were quite satisfactory. The cost of the homemade garments versus the ready-made showed a considerable saving. The simple cotton dresses modeled ranged in prices from \$1.20 to \$5.70.

Several of the homemakers who saw or heard of the dress review expressed their interest in learning to sew. A few became club members. Others received information through home visits, circular letters, bulletins, and information gained from leaders and club members. Another outcome was a special interest group in clothing construction. The four members of the group were women who had special problems in purchasing garments that would fit properly. At the time the group first met, the members were unable to do any type of sewing or altering. After three months of training, each can construct a simple garment with little or no assistance. In the process of learning, each member made her supply of summer and fall street dresses.

In my estimation this clothing construction project was more far reaching than what was expected when the objectives were set up. It also helped to broaden the home demonstration program and to increase interest in its work.

### 3. House Furnishings

Problems, needs and interests arise in some phase of home improvement work each year. This year house furnishings was a major area of emphasis. The objectives of this project were: to teach families the basic principles involved in selecting and using furniture, and to teach homemakers to make the best use of furnishings on hand for comfort and attractiveness. These broad objectives stemmed from the following situation existing at the time of program planning. Most homes had electric lights, but many were inadequately lighted or the lights were not used properly. Homemakers encountered problems in the selection of furniture, colors for the home, accessories for the home, best type of window treatment, and how to arrange furniture for more convenience, comfort, and attractiveness. From these situations Lights for Better Living, Beauty in the Home (Use of color and accessories), Window Styling and Furniture Arrangements were the topics selected for four months of work. The people were to learn to appreciate beautiful homes and how to improve their homes in keeping with the four topics above.

A leader training meeting was held on "Better Lights for Better Living" for 23 leaders and interested persons. This demonstration was conducted by Mrs. Virginia Casey, Home Adviser of the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative, in the newly built modern kitchen of the electric company in Warsaw, Virginia. Mrs. Casey used the kitchen as an example of a well planned kitchen in terms of equipment, appliances, color scheme, floor finish, and arrangement as well as one of good home lighting. The following points were emphasized concerning

how lighting: importance of proper lighting, type and size of light bulbs to use for various purposes in the home, effect of colored light bulbs, and type of lamp and lamp shade to use for different purposes. Leaflets entitled "Let's See About Home Lighting" and "Are You In the Dark" were distributed to each person present and enough were given to the county for wide distribution.

Leaders and the agent gave the demonstrations in club meetings with emphasis on the right lamps and lamp shades. The agent also gave this demonstration to a community group of approximately 35 young men and women.

Miss Ruth Jamison, Extension Home Furnishings Specialist, conducted an agent training meeting in "Window Styling" and "Furniture Arrangement". The agent in return conducted a leader training meeting and trained leaders individually in these subjects.

The information was presented in club meetings through demonstrations; discussions; movies; by using material such as curtains, draperies, curtain rods, etc. as illustrative material; and by using exhibits borrowed from commercial concerns that design exhibits for this purpose. The new furniture arrangements made in giving demonstrations were liked by most club members. A few disliked the new arrangements. One way of stimulating interest and participation of the club members was to mention some current interesting information found in magazines relating directly or indirectly to the subject. Club members also brought clippings and/or pictures they had found. One article in particular that created much interest was "Man's Best Investment - His Wife", found in The American Home, January 1959. This article showed the value of the average housewife's service in the home in terms of cash money.

As a result of this project, approximately 250 persons were influenced to make some home improvement. Many small improvements were made immediately, such as using the proper light bulbs in lamps and ceiling fixtures, putting blocks under lamps for added height, using proper lamp shades, re-arranging

furniture, eliminating several small unimportant accessories, etc.

Result demonstrations were selected in this area of work. Several home improvements were made, but they were not very outstanding in comparison to the improvements made by the average club member.

#### h. Textile Painting ( Special Interest Group Activity)

Objective: To give homemakers an opportunity to use their skills and creative ability to design and make stenciled articles for the home.

Two community groups were interested in textile painting at the time of program planning. One additional group became interested as the work progressed. These homemakers felt that work in textile painting would add interest to everyday household duties and would also be profitable. First a leader training meeting was conducted by Miss. Catherine Perry, Extension Rural Arts Specialist. Leaders gave the demonstrations to their prospective groups. One leader also gave the demonstration as part of the Annual Achievement Program. Older 4-H Club members and other high school students did some work in textile painting. Many witnessed the demonstration by Miss Perry, since it was held in the high school.

#### G. Other Activities

##### 1. Community Improvement Work

The objectives of the community improvement work project are: to encourage home ownership; to assist farm families in becoming self supported; to encourage farmers to cooperate with all government agencies designed to enable them to make a better living from the soil; to encourage home comfort, community and home beautification; and to encourage all boys and girls of 4-H club age to join the club.

The community improvement work has been conducted in the Corretoman Community for six years. There are 40 families participating in the project. The neighborhood leaders assist the agent in getting the information to the

families and in checking on progress made in the community.

Since its beginning in 1954, several farm and home improvements have been made. This year some of the accomplishments were: 3 families painted their houses, 14 families improved their driveways, 27 families improved the interior of their homes by painting, papering, and renovating, 11 families painted 7 floors and covered 11, 6 families improved porches, 21 families have a year round garden, and 26 families preserved food by canning, freezing, or storage.

## 2. National Home Demonstration Week

Lancaster County Home Demonstration Clubs observed National Home Demonstration Week by sponsoring three county-wide programs. The purpose of these programs was to carry out the objectives of the week as set up by the National Committee with a special effort to reach new people and increase club membership.

Prior to National H. D. Week, each local club decided on ways to try to get more club members. Club members talked with their neighbors and friends about the programs that were to be held in observance of the Week and invited them to attend. Copies of the programs were sent to people in unorganized communities. Newspaper articles told of the county's plans for the week and announcements were made in public meetings.

The State's theme "The Homemaker's Role in these Changing Times," was used by the county as its theme for the week. This theme was the subject of the speech made by Mrs. Sadie R. Reams, Local Home Agent in Westmoreland County, who was the guest speaker of the first program in Calvary Baptist Church, Kilsarneck, Virginia. Other features of the program were a solo by Mrs. Ruth Beane, H. D. club member, and a piano selection by Miss. Barbara Churchill, a music instructor in the county. The purpose of National H. D. Week was given by the Local Home Agent. Mrs. Margaret Galloway was Mistress of Ceremonies.

The second program was a panel discussion, composed of seven members, which was held at Hartswell Baptist Church- Ottoman, Virginia. Mrs. Gladys Wilson presided and introduced the moderator of the panel, Mrs. Ernestyne Jeffries, Local Home Agent in Northumberland County. Mrs. Jeffries then introduced the panel members: The topics discussed were as follows: Health: Mrs. Tossie Diamond, Local nurse; Safety: Miss Jacqueline Nelson, Mathematics instructor; Christian Values: Rev. Tolbert, Pastor of Sharon Baptist Church; Juvenile Delinquency: Mrs. Rebecca Churchill, elementary school teacher; Citizenship: Mr. Luther Wilson, local businessman; and Use of Modern Conveniences in the Home; Mrs. Florice Curry, home economics teacher of Northumberland County. The local home agent explained what home demonstration work is and what is offered through its program.

The week's observance climaxed with a dress review which was held at Brookvale High School. 30 garments were modeled by H. D. club members. The agent was narrator for the dress review. Mrs. Gwendolyn Morris, a former local home agent of Lancaster County, gave a short but interesting talk encouraging homemakers to keep up with the changing times. The local home agent gave a report of the county's accomplishments in home demonstration work since its beginning in 1946 and of future goals.

As a result of the week's activities, evidence indicated that the effort manifested to carry out these programs was worthwhile. One home demonstration club was organized with seven members, and one special interest group was formed with four members.

### 3. District Home Demonstration Group Meeting

Four H. D. Club members and the agent attended the District Home Demonstration Meeting in Fluvanna County. Two of these leaders gave our county's report and a demonstration on "Safety", one of the county goals.

#### 4. Achievement Day

The Fourth Annual Achievement Day, sponsored by the County Advisory Board, was held at 7:30 P.M. on October 22. The 4-H Clubs, New Homemakers of America, and New Farmers of America cooperated and participated in the program. The 4-H clubs were represented by the pledge, reports of the State 4-H Short Course and the Wildlife Conservation Conference, and a demonstration on "Table Setting". The NHA's presented a skit to tell of their summer experiences at camp and state meetings. The NFA's gave a most interesting report of their summer activities and accomplishments. Home demonstration reports of accomplishments gave a complete summation of the year's project work and other activities. The program included demonstrations by home demonstration club members on Textile Painting and "Color Planning Your Home", a telephone conversation designed to encourage a non club member to join a H. D. Club, and an information quiz contest to explain the Extension program and to give the highlights of our home demonstration program since its beginning in 1946. Individual exhibits were a main feature of the program. The exhibits were in the areas of food, clothing, arts and crafts, garden products, horticulture, flower arrangements and others.

#### 5. Home Demonstration Picnic

Fifty-five H.D. club members, representing seven H.D. clubs, attended a county wide picnic at Buckroe Beach, Virginia. This recreational activity was a part of the County Extension program in connection with the objective "To Provide wholesome recreation for its members".

#### 6. Garden Lovers Short Course

Mrs. Mary Butler, Farm and Home Development family member, and the agent attended the Garden Lovers Short Course at Virginia State College. The experience was very helpful and interesting.

There are no urban centers in Lancaster County.

#### E. Farm and Home Development

Farm and Home Development work is conducted in this county with three families. Two of these families have participated in the program since 1955. One family was added in 1958. All of the families own their homes and farms, and two families rent additional land for farming. All of the families have children in school; two have children who are 4-H club members. This year the most significant problems were in the areas of clothing, food preservation, water systems and yard beautification. The agent worked with the families to help them solve these problems mostly through home visits. Other ways of giving assistance was to secure Specialist help on water systems, through personal letters, bulletins, 4-H club work, and H.D. club work.

#### Progress Story

Mr. and Mrs. Cephas Butler of Lancaster, Virginia have benefited from the farm and home development approach since July, 1958. This couple, father 33 and mother 30, have three children: Jacqueline 11, Roberta 8, and Cephas Jr. 4. Both Mr. and Mrs. Butler have completed high school. Since their early marriage, Mrs. Butler has been a full time homemaker. The entire family is in good health. They are active in community activities, however, Mrs. Butler seems to take the lead. She is active in the County P T A, School league, church, Sunday School, civic and fraternal organizations, as a H.D. club member and as a 4-H leader. This year Mrs. Butler attended the State Garden Lovers Short Course, State Advisory Board meeting, and the District H.D. Group meeting.

The Butler's have lived on their present farm for 8 years with 64 acres under cultivation. They rent approximately 150 additional acres of land for

farming. They own practically all pieces of farm machinery except a hay baler and corn picker. This year they purchased a new tractor and corn planter. They have about 1/2 acre of land reserved for the vegetable garden and raise hogs for family use and to sell. Mr. Butler supplements the farm income by working as a barber on week-ends and as a truck driver when work is slack on the farm.

The family's major goals are to purchase a deep freezer, add a back porch, install running water and a bath, and educate the children. Other goals are to feed and clothe the family properly and to provide wholesome recreation for the family members.

Their first major concern was to install running water and bath. Because the family had to purchase a new tractor and corn planter, which they did not include in their plans, action was delayed on installing the water system. Nevertheless, plans were carried out to help the family make decisions toward their goal. Miss Mary Settle, Extension Home Improvement Specialist, was called in to help the family plan for the bath. The agent also assisted the family with clothing, meal planning, food preservation, yard beautification, and gardening.

Finance seems to be the major factor in keeping the family from progressing at the rate they would like to. Good understanding, cooperation, and a desire for improvement make for the success of the family.

### III. County Extension Program - Youth

#### A. Organization

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

The County 4-H Council is composed of 32 4-H club members (officers), adult leaders and junior leaders. The council sent representatives to the State 4-H Short Course and State Wildlife Conservation Conference, observed 4-H Club Week, participated in the H.B. Achievement program, sponsored a

county wide h-H picnic, and trained officers in parliamentary procedure.

## 2. Project Planning Committee

This committee is composed of h-H adult leaders, junior leaders, and a few additional persons working with the h-H program. The committee studied the needs and in terests of club members, assisted with h-H projects and helped to plan the h-H project work.

### B. h-H Project Work

#### 1. Make or Remake Your Clothing

This clothing project was selected by the planning committee for older h-H club members. The club members were to learn to select, buy, make, and/ or remake clothes, to use clothing money wisely, to care for clothes properly.

The club met in the high school home economics department for five months. All other meetings were held in the communities since the schedule was changed when they moved to the new school. Demonstrations were given on How to take body measurements, Pattern and fabric selection, Pattern Alteration and use, How to make neck, sleeve, and seam finishes, How to make buttoholes, belts, and cover buckles, and Storing clothes seasonally. Adult leaders and junior leaders assisted with the project work and with special programs. Home visits, bulletins, letters, and exhibits were other ways of getting information to club members. Parents cooperated by providing material for club members to work with and by providing a place for them to hold community club meetings. Only 50% of the members completed this project time. Part of this was due to the fact that many could not attend meetings regularly after they met in the communities. This project will be continued another year.

#### 2. So You's Like to Sew

Many of the younger h-H girls weredelighted to participate in a sewing project. It was the first step in sewing for many of them. Through project work these members were to learn some of the basic fundamentals of sewing, and to have an opportunity to gain confidence in themselves by making simple

articles. Equipping a sewing box was their first assignment. They made the pincushion to go in the sewing box. Other articles made were a handkerchief, stuffed toy, laundry bag, and towel. Demonstrations were the most frequently used method of introducing a new step in sewing. Much individual assistance was needed in order for the members to complete their projects on time. Adult leaders and some parents worked closely with the members along this line. Information was given through demonstrations, exhibits, samples, printed material, home visits, and through contact at public meetings and on the street. Club members were constantly seeking information relating to project work. Many of the projects were exhibited at the Achievement day program. 73 out of 111 members or 66% of the members completed their project on time; however, each member learned something from taking the project. This project will be continued another year.

### 3. Individual Health

108 boys were enrolled in this project. Their objectives were to learn what good health is, to learn how to care for the person properly, and to build healthy habits for keeping well and happy. Each member was to make a scrapbook containing pictures, printed material, and write ups pertaining to each of the topics they studied in the project. They worked on the following topics: Eat the right food, Take care of your teeth, Get enough sleep and rest, Improve the posture, Protect the eyesight, and Skin care. Motion Picture slides, posters, and current articles on health were used as illustrative material. 82% of the members satisfactorily completed their project on time. Teachers and parents indicated that this project was very helpful. Many of the teachers requested that a health project be offered at the time of program planning, and they worked closely with the project work.

### 4. Money Management

This project was selected by older h-m club members in connection with the H.D. money management project. The overall goal was to help families

make wise decisions on the use of money, and to learn how to spend money to the best advantage of the individual, thus helping him to be a better buyer. To achieve these objectives, club members were to keep a record of all money received and spent for a designated time. Then by making a budget and following it, improvement was made in spending habits. The majority of the members did not complete their records, but they did enough to help them improve their spending habits. Each member participated in the discussions on money management.

### C. Other Activities

#### 1. National h-H Club Week

In observance of National h-H club week, the County h-H Council sponsored a h-H program with a h-H popularity contest as the main feature.

Miss. Deserie Jones, representing the h-H clubs of New Lancaster School won the "Miss h-H of 1959" title over four competitors. Mrs. Tossie Diamond, h-H club leader, crowned the winner and presented her with her title bearing ribbon and a gift.

Other features of the program were a report of accomplishments of the 1958 program of work, goals for 1959, and the presentation of awards. Four h-H club members were presented county awards for outstanding project work. They were: Geraldine Fisher, Bread; Lou Ethel Washington, Meal Preparation; Virginia Woods, Make or Remake Your Clothing; and Dianne Scott, Room Improvement.

#### 2. Achievement Day

The h-H clubs participated in the home demonstration achievement program as reported on II, C, No.4.

#### 3. State h-H Short Course

Three h-H club members represented the county at the State h-H Short

Course at Virginia State College. They attended classes in good grooming, music appreciation, and child care, and reported the same after returning to the county.

4. State Wildlife and Conservation Conference

The h-W clubs of the county were represented at the State h-W Wildlife and Conservation Conference at Virginia State College. Two delegates were in attendance.

5. h-W Picnic

The h-W clubs of the county held a county wide picnic at Churchill's Beach, White Stone, Virginia. h-W club leaders were instrumental in planning for and conducting the activities of the day, including transportation to and from the picnic.

Prior to the picnic, the agent and h-W leaders discussed the activities for the day. Leaders readily assumed responsibility in carrying them out. h-W club members depended on leaders for help. It all added up to a most enjoyable and successful day. The h-W leaders served home-made cookies to all h-W club members as a part of their refreshments. The activities of the day included dancing, quiet and active games, wiener roasting, and swimming. Local school busses, trucks and cars transported approximately 300 h-W'ers, parents, and friends who attended the picnic.

IV. Scope of Work

A.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. H.D. Clubs	6	7 <sup>8</sup>	7	7	8
Membership	108	137	137	146	151
No. H.D. Groups (unorganized)					1
Membership					4
No. h-W Clubs	7	7	7	7	7
Membership	182	181	257	267	251
No. Y N W Clubs					
Membership					
No. Community Clubs	1	1	1	1	1
Membership	29	29	29	40	37

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. Home Ec. Committees	-	-	-	-	-
No. General Interest Committees	-	-	-	-	-
No. Youth Committees	-	-	-	-	-
No. Other Organizations	-	-	-	-	-
No. Farm and Home Dev. Families	2	2	2	3	3
No. Other Families Reached	103	123	137	227	195
No. Different families reached	247	251	269	230	250

## B. Scope of Work

One of the objectives of the clubs is to increase club membership. Club members invited non-club members to club meetings and H.D. sponsored activities. H.D. guidebooks were distributed to some non club members, newspaper articles were published regularly. Many of the families in un-organized communities or who were unable to attend club meetings were sent bulletins, other printed material, and personal letters. Home visits and telephone calls were made to get information to non-club members.

## V. Leadership

### A. Growth of leadership

#### 1. Overall program leaders

	1957	1958	1959
a. County Advisory Board	37	37	37
b. Youth Council	32	32	32
c. Home Economics Council	-	-	-

#### 2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. Organizational leaders	42	49	49	49	56
No. Project leaders (sub. matter)	58	51	51	47	45
No. Federation program of work Ch.	6	7	7	7	8
No. Program Development leaders	6	7	7	7	8
No. Result Demonstrators	15	13	16	12	12
No. Training meetings by Specialist	2	1	7	3	2
No. Training meetings by Dist. agent	-	2	-	-	-
No. Training meetings by agent	19	17	14	5	6
No. Training meetings by others	-	1	1	-	1
Attendance at all training meetings	65	71	74	71	61
No. meetings held without agent	16	53	34	13	6
No. meetings leaders assisted	28	99	87	21	35
Demonstrations by leaders	62	63	41	15	19
Talks and Misc. sessions by leaders	62	232	237	91	95

### 3. h-H Club Leadership

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. Club Officers	35	35	35	42	42
No. Adult project leaders	12	12	12	12	14
No. Junior project leaders	10	10	17	14	11
No. Result demonstrators	1	1	4	4	2
No. training meetings by specialists					
No. Training meetings by dist. agent					
No. Training meetings by agent	16	13	12	11	9
No. Training meetings by <i>Member Club Dept.</i>	-	1	-	1	-
No. Training meetings by others					
Total attendance atldr. tr. meeting	43	42	37	73	40
No. h-H Leaders trained individually	18	9	19	6	9
No. Club meetings held by leaders	12	31	16	10	13
without agent					
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	29	29	24	9	12
No. Demonstrations given by adult ldrs.	26	47	34	16	20
No. Demonstrations given by Jr. Leaders		13	7	2	11

### B. Club Accomplishments

In evaluating the year's work, the Weems Home Demonstration Club seems to stand out for its leadership activities, participation, cooperation and accomplishments. There are 25 members in the club. The club has representatives on the County Advisory Board and County Home Demonstration Club Committee. It participated in National H. D. Week observance, Achievement Day Program, attended county planning meeting, district meetings, h-H Council meetings, leader training meetings, and others. The club has result demonstrators in home grounds beautification and home improvements. Approximately 75% of the members have served as leaders in some way, but three are known for their outstanding services. Two of these outstanding leaders are h-H leaders also. They use information received in leader training training meetings to give demonstrations and talks in club meetings. Since the leaders are very active in community activities, they pass information gained from Extension work to many persons who are not members of home demonstration clubs. Leaders from the Weems club have assisted other families with meal planning and preparation food preservation, sewing, house improvements, yard beautification, gardening and other phases of Extension work. The club is now in the process of organizing a community to further beautify the community.

## VI. For Special Consideration

### A. Significant Achievement of Extension Work

The house improvement program is a long time goal and has been in the program for three years. This phase of work was selected because homemakers desired to have more attractive and comfortable homes. Low incomes made it necessary to make improvements on a budget. Homemakers needed to learn how to work more efficiently. It was discovered that most families did not have enough basic information on such subjects as color planning, window treatment, floor covering, and furniture arrangement to plan the home for beauty and comfort. The long time goal selected was to improve the standard of living among rural families by teaching them to appreciate more attractive, comfortable and practical homes and to be economical in obtaining the same. Surveys made at the time of program planning indicated many of the problems and interests of homemakers. These problems were considered in setting up the program. Demonstrations were selected for each area of emphasis. The demonstrations were given in H. D. Club meetings, special interest groups meetings, workshops, and at public meetings. Leaders assisted with giving the demonstrations and in leading discussions. Extension specialists conducted both leader and agent training meetings. Flip charts, posters, film, pictures, exhibits, and bulletins were used as illustrative material in meetings. Result demonstrators were set up in each club community.

As a result of the home improvement program, approximately 300 families were assisted to make some recommended change. The kitchen was the first room in the home to be improved. Here, as well as other rooms in the house, noted improvements were made, in improving storage space, window treatment, color schemes, floor finishes and care, lighting, and others. Many 4-H club members helped their families to make improvements.

### B. Public Relationship

The agent cooperated with other professional workers, churches, and

schools in the county. The agent participated in church, school and community programs and activities whenever time availed itself. The general public was invited to attend the county extension sponsored activities. Respect was given to all elected representatives.

#### C. Professional Improvement

The agent improved herself professionally by reading professional books and magazines, by attending extension conferences and workshops, and by attending the county teachers meeting occasionally.

#### VII. The Look Ahead

Many homes and farm improvements have been made as a result of the 1959 program. Club members were very cooperative in carrying out all extension activities. Many individuals get a better understanding of the extension program by the publicity that was given to its work. Much effort was put forth to increase the number of clubs and club membership. As a result the number of clubs increased by one, and club membership increased by five after deducting dropouts.

The home economics extension program can be improved in the years ahead by setting up more county committees, by having more leaders participate in making home visits to give information, to have more result demonstrators, and by having county wide tours. One of the county's goals for next year is to get more younger homemakers to become active in extension work. The home demonstration program needs to be broader to get more families to adopt recommended practice to improving family living.