

SUMMARY OF WORK

The agent worked 256½ days. One hundred-forty three(143) days to adults, ninety-one(91) days devoted to 4-H Club work and twenty-three(23) days to older youth.

Projects, demonstrations, A. C. P., improved practices, soil and water conservation, forest management, educational programs through program planning and office work, make up the major portion of the Extension program in Amelia County.

There were 499 farm and home visits made to adults, 4-H members and older youth work. 654 farm people called at the Extension for information concerning their problems; 927 telephone calls made for special information by farmers.

An estimated number of 2429 farm people attended adult community clubs, tours, adult and 4-H training meetings, Rural Life Sunday program, County Advisory Board and County Fair. All other meetings that the agent held or participated in during the year were attended by 3,190 persons.

increased opportunities to advance in higher learning and better chances to stay on farms because these farms would be large enough and equipped with the type of machinery to support and encourage youth to stay there and build even a larger operation.

Since we know that these changing conditions are facing 4-H youth even to a greater extent each year, we are trying to change our program to meet their needs.

grain crops 22, hay and other forage, pasture and range 5, vegetables 2 and tobacco 26.

In arranging to sell and selling, 5 persons were assisted in hay and other forage, pasture and range.

4-H CLUB WORK

Since we have been able to recognize the changing pattern in rural and urban living, it has caused us to make a different approach in our 4-H Club program of work.

We once placed an unusual amount of time in project work for the purpose of developing skills and the know how in our practices whether it be a feeding or health practice in livestock or a seed-fertilizer or culture practice in crop production.

However, since we know that 80% of these 4-H boys and girls will be of necessity forced to go into other fields for a livelihood because of small farms, small allotments and limited income for the larger families therefore, it is important to spend some time teaching these boys and girls how to live and get along with other people and the importance of holding a job.

How to win friends and influence people through our personality and attitude, one of the greatest needs of youth today, is to learn the art of saving and investing.

We can realize more clearly as each year passes if adults had been exposed to more training in thrift and encouraged how to save and invest and protect their income, many boys and girls would have had

The following were assisted through the control of injurious insects:

18 in grain crops, 8 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 28 in tobacco, 38 in vegetables and 9 in flowers and ornamental shrubs.

The following were assisted through the control of diseases:

14 in grain crops, 6 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 28 in tobacco, 15 in vegetables and 5 in flowers and ornamental shrubs.

Through harvesting, storing and curing, 36 persons were assisted through grain crops, 5 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 6 in tobacco, 24 in vegetables.

Through efficient work methods, 16 persons were assisted in grain crops, 4 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 8 in tobacco, 16 in vegetables and 2 in flowers and ornamental shrubs.

The number of farmers and other individuals assisted with any phase of farm marketing are:

11 in grain crops, 15 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 32 in tobacco and 2 in vegetables.

In preparation for market, 22 were assisted in grain crops, 5 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 24 in tobacco and 1 in flowers and ornamental shrubs.

The following farmers were assisted in commodity outlook and market information:

CROPS—Production and Farm Marketing

Total number of personal contacts made individually or through meetings and letters are:

1442 in grain crops, 1262 in Hay and other forage, pasture and range, 1588 in tobacco, 1213 in vegetables and 219 in flowers, ornamental shrubs.

The total number of different farmers and other individuals assisted directly or indirectly to adopt recommended practices are:

88 in grain crops, 52 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 83 in tobacco, 114 in vegetables and 28 in flowers, ornamental shrubs.

The estimated number of farmers and other individuals assisted with any phase of production are:

76 in grain crops, 37 in hay and other forage, pasture, range, 54 in tobacco, 89 in vegetables and 16 in flowers, ornamental shrubs.

Through the use of improved varieties and strains, 48 persons were assisted in grain crops, 27 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 15 in tobacco, 68 in vegetables and 11 in flowers, ornamental shrubs.

Through the use of fertilizers, 42 persons were assisted in grain crops, 22 in hay and other forage, pasture and range, 19 in tobacco, 54 in vegetables and 15 in flowers and ornamental shrubs.

Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson's plan of work called for improving the herd of milk cattle, complete pressure water systems, screening front porch and erecting another tobacco barn. The water system for both kitchen and complete bathroom was completed; also, the tobacco barn was erected. Included in plans for future consideration will be yard improvement, family food supply and soil and water conservation.

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Perkinson's farm and home plans consisted of building a rat proof cinder block smoke house and a feed storage barn and the installation of a complete water system for home, poultry house and livestock pens.

Mr. and Mrs. Ortha Stokes worked out limited plans for this year. Because of finance, they set up two objectives: the screening of the back porch and running water for the kitchen. These two objectives were completed along with another hog pasture. Their future plans include family food supply, yard improvement, crops and rotation, farm building and livestock improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer J. Thompkins, Sr. had made a start toward the objectives set up in their program of work before he was stricken with a long period of illness. Homer, Jr., a son about 21 years of age, has taken over the farm operation for his father. With the help of his mother, the local farm agent and his uncle, he is doing a good job. The Thompkins completed the new hen house for her laying flock and sells eggs to help pay for the bathroom that has been installed during the year.

PASTURE AND BAY

In carrying out an efficient program in livestock farming, it appears that good pastures will continue to be our cheapest source of feed for farm animals. Although the needs for better pastures increase each year, farmers are slow in facing up to their increasing needs for a better livestock program.

Goals

1. Providing feed programs through demonstrations to show the desired effects that good pasture will have on livestock.
2. To show cultural methods through seeding demonstrations.
3. To show the proper value of the analysis of fertilizer through demonstrations.
4. To conduct summer and winter pastures to show that the climate is suitable the year round for profitable grazing.
5. To supervise all established practices that are carried out through extension information in order to get an accurate account or true picture of the thing that is being demonstrated.

Meetings are held from January through March each year to give the various agencies an opportunity to talk with the farm people concerning their problems.

FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jackson have worked on their lawn, porch and water system projects. They have completed front porch and lawn projects but water system will not be completed before 1960.

Conrad and Milton Harris
Route 1
Amelia, Virginia

seeded 5 acres of oats, three bushels per acre and 10 lbs. of orchard grass fertilizer 2-12-12 400 lbs. per acre and will add clover in March 1960.

Lawson Archer
Route 3
Amelia, Virginia

seeded 3 acres of barley, 2 bushels per acre and added 6 lbs. of orchard grass, 6 lbs. of rye grass per acre and 2 lbs. of clover per acre 3 tons of lime per acre and 800 lbs. of fertilizer per acre 5-10-10

On November 16th a meeting was held at Bethia Baptist Church for the purpose of organizing the new community into the Farm and Home Improvement Program.

Our State Agent was present to outline the work in detail in order that this group might get a clear conception of what would be expected of each family if this program of work was to succeed.

Mr. Newsome also pointed out various crops and projects that should be considered for additional income to raise the living standard of each family, and placing them in a better position financially to carry out a farm and home program of work as it should be done. He also emphasized when the standard of living is raised, it means better communities, churches, schools and citizens. Mr. Newsome gave this group some very valuable information on the importance of protecting the family's income and investments through insurance.

The State Agent stressed the importance of proper land use in order to obtain the best results from our croplands. Soil testing will help you to do more efficient farming through a better knowledge of your soil.

Pot flowers and needle work were exhibited on an extensive basis. Two hundred farm men, women, 4-H Club members and N. F. A. boys entered exhibits at the Fair. There was a large display in every department that gave ample competition for each exhibitor.

Four hundred and seven dollars were awarded in prize money and twenty-two prizes were awarded by our local merchants.

The Fair did not fail in its objective of trying to bring better quality to the attention of our farm people. An estimated number of 850 people visited the exhibit houses.

November

The seasons for the past ten years in this section of the state have had such an extreme variation and because of these extreme conditions, good crops have been lost by long periods of hot weather and fall grain crops have been planted extremely late because the soil could not be followed in time for recommended planting.

The Local Farm Agent has spent a number of days through August and September and even into October trying to get some winter pastures started.

Mr. F. B. Tyler, William Royal and C. W. Giles did not get their winter pastures planted as they had planned because of the shortage of labor in getting their tobacco graded for market. Conrad and Milton Harris and Lawson Archer were successful in getting pastures started.

In his proclamation, Governor Almond pointed out that noteworthy progress had been made in conservation of natural resources. Through organized soil conservation districts aided by agricultural agents, industry and many interested organizations, more than 42,000 landowners in Virginia have developed soil and water conservation plans for their farms. Countless others have applied one or more conservation measures, Governor Almond said.

I urge each agricultural agency, each organization and the people of the state to continue their wholehearted support of this program and join the Virginia Association of Soil Conservation Districts, the sponsors, in the observance of this week.

Amelia County Fair

The County Fair activity is one county event that reaches a large number of people in a competitive way.

However, the outlook for the kind of educational fair exhibits that a county should be in position to demonstrate to the public is rapidly fading into the past unless several counties consolidate to give the quality and quantity of exhibits to meet the requirements of the future demands and standards.

On October 16 and 17th, the members of the Amelia County Fair Association held its annual activity by exhibiting farm products, poultry, swine, cattle, rabbits, canned and frozen fruits, vegetables and meats of all descriptions. Eggs, butter, cakes, pies and bread making were also entered on a large scale.

Fishlife

In Virginia, we have three types of fishes: those classed as strictly fresh water fish, the so-called anadromous fish that comes into fresh water to spawn and marine or ocean fishes. Here we shall be concerned with only the first two.

Our inland game fishes include the brook and rainbow trout, largemouth and smallmouth and spotted bass, the white and the black crappie, rock bass, white bass, the blue gill and all other sunfishes and the walleye.

Non-game inland fish includes such important forms as pickerel, yellow perch, white perch, channel catfish, carp, sucker, the minnows and others. Legally, they are not game fish although many are fun to catch and are good eating.

Ocean fish which enter fresh water to spawn are called anadromous fish and include such species as striped bass (rockfish), shad and herring. They are important commercial as well as sport fish.

Things You Can Do To Help Save Soil

1. Read and learn about the care of soil
2. Watch the soil as you travel the highways
 - a. What kind of erosion do you see
 - b. What causes the erosion that you see
3. Plant a few trees on eroded land
4. Stop a gully by putting brush in it
5. Invite your County Agent or Soil Conservationist to talk to your class on soil and water conservation
6. Take a field trip to learn about soil and water conservation
7. Make a report to your class on what you saw on the field trip

It is impossible to determine the exact value of birds and mammals and other forms of wildlife in the control rodents, insects and pests; but, we know from experience that this control is present. Many mammals keep a strong check on destructive forms of animal life; birds destroy weed seed and keep serious insect damage in check.

Wildlife furnished man healthful recreation. Some of this comes in the form of hunting and fishing. Other forms are photography, bird watching or simply studying nature. Hunting and fishing are big businesses in Virginia rated at \$100,000,000 a year.

Types Of Wildlife

Wild animals and birds which are generally classed as farmland inhabitants include the cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, weasel, fox, quail, dove, song and insectivorous birds. Though some of these, such as the squirrel, are also found in forests. We can say they are more closely associated with farms.

Forest wildlife includes the deer, elk, (only a few in Virginia) black bear, wild turkey, ruffed grouse, certain song and insectivorous birds.

Marsh wildlife includes the muskrat, mink, otter, raccoon, ducks and geese, rails, wading birds, shore birds and the like.

Miscellaneous wildlife includes the hawk, owl, vulture, opossum, woodchuck, etc. Other wild animals with a backbone are the snakes, turtles and frogs. Fishes, though they have backbone, should be included in another group.

Walnut is a hard, strong wood that works easily and takes a beautiful finish. It is used for furniture and gum stocks.

The oaks are classed into two groups—the white oaks and the red oaks. The oaks are found in every county in the state. They are favorites for furniture and flooring and wherever great strength is called for.

What Is Wildlife?

In the broad sense, wildlife means all forms of animal life not domesticated by man. In the more restricted sense, wildlife includes wild animals and birds and also the lower cold-blooded forms of vertebrate animals such as fish, reptiles and amphibians.

Importance Of Wildlife Resources

Native wild animals are an American heritage. They made possible the founding of many early settlements. Many of the early explorations and discoveries which opened up North America were made by trappers and pioneers seeking furs for the foreign trade. Wild animals such as the American bison or buffalo were used as food for man during the westward expansion of our country. In the early days, man depended on the food and hides of animals for his existence.

Although meat hunting of wild animals has largely passed out of the picture in America, wildlife still is used as food by many hunters and fishermen.

Though no longer as important as it used to be, wild animals still provide many furs. The chief wild fur are muskrat and mink. Virginia's annual fur harvest is valued at \$1,000,000.

Forests are not like most natural resources. Forests, if properly managed and protected from fire, will keep on producing while coal, oil, gas and other mineral resources can only be used once.

Trees Of Virginia And Their Uses

Few states have as great a variety of native trees as Virginia. The state has several climatic zones because of its length north and south and because of the difference in elevation from sea level in the east to 5,000 feet high peaks in the mountainous west. It is these climatic differences that make it possible for so many kinds of trees to grow in Virginia. There are more than a dozen different kinds of oaks; several different kinds of pine and hickory, a variety of maples, gums and elm and many trees that are native to the cold climate of Canada and the tropical climate of the Florida swamps.

Among the pines, the more useful are loblolly pines found in the Tidewater area; shortleaf pine and Virginia pine in Piedmont and western Virginia and white pine throughout the mountains. Pines often occur in pure stands and are usually the first to decay in abandoned fields. Loblolly, shortleaf and Virginia pine are used for lumber and in the manufacture of pulp for making paper.

Poplar grows throughout the state. This tree, along with gum, is in great demand for berry boxes, plywood and other products that call for wood in the form of veneer.

Hickory is one of the toughest woods known and is the choice for axe and hammer handles and other products needing a tough, strong wood.

There are insects, worms and diseases in the forest. Some of these are helpful to the trees and some destroy them. All living creatures have a place in the forest and unless man upsets the balance of nature with fire or by careless timber cutting, the forests of Virginia will always be an interesting and exciting place to visit.

Importance Of Virginia's Forests

The forests cover over 60 percent (15,000,000 acres) of the land area in the state. Wood from this forest land supplies the raw material for one of the largest and most important industries, the wood using industry. One out of every four persons who works for a living works for the wood using industry. These people make pulp and paper, wooden furniture, ex celstior, railroad ties, lumber and many other products.

Trees are the best crop to raise on steep mountain land to prevent erosion. Forests, with their heavy mat of leaves and brush, help to soak up heavy rainfall and let it sink slowly into the soil. This water is then slowly released through springs and streams rather than rushing off in the form of a flood. The water from a well-cared for forest is pure and clean. This is the kind of water people need for home and industrial use and for swimming and fishing.

Thousands of people go to the forest for relaxation; some like to hunt or fish while others enjoy picnicking, hiking or camping. The forests give the landowner an income that amounts to millions of dollars every year. They provide him with fuel for his home, fence posts and lumber for building and repairing.

Pollution occurs when careless disposal of human sewage and factory wastes, along with excess storm water affects the purity of water in streams so as to make it unsuitable for its legitimate uses. Sewage must be treated and factory wastes must be treated or otherwise handled before being put into streams so as to maintain satisfactory water quality.

Sometimes water gets in our way, too, on roads, on airport runways and even in low lying farm land. Then it is necessary to provide drains to carry it away.

We started previously with floods. At the opposite end of the picture are droughts when there is not enough rain. You see the results in dried and burned crops, dry wells and the dust bowls of some parts of the country. To save crops, irrigation can be used in many places and is being used more and more each year.

On The Farm—What Can You Do?

1. Construct storage tank
2. Build stock pond
3. Protect well and springs from pollution
4. Cap flowing wells when not in use

What Is A Forest?

A forest is more than a group of trees. It is a community of plants and animals living together. In addition to big trees and little trees, there are bushes, ferns, flowers and mosses. There are squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, mice, bear, deer, birds and many other animals large and small.

How Does It Get To You?

If you live on a farm you know the answer to this. For those in towns or cities, it is not quite so easy to see. A great deal of work is done that most of us never see. The water must be collected (from springs, wells or streams) then pumped to a filter plant to be purified to make it safe to drink. Then it is usually pumped into a reservoir from which it runs through pipes to every part of the city so each of us can have running water right in our own home. You can see, then, that many persons work every day of the year just to make sure that we have pure clean water whenever we want it.

Water Problems

Nearly everyone knows something about floods from personal experience. What is not so generally known is that great floods have occurred in the past even before man's arrival. In many cases, certain floods have been aggravated by man's carelessness but we cannot hope to prevent all floods just by being more careful or by changing our ways of doing things. We can reduce the size of some floods by proper conservation measures.

Erosion and sedimentation are problems often associated with floods. Most of us have seen gullies in fields. What you may not know is that unless something is done about it, the gullies will continue to get bigger and to destroy more and more land. But this isn't all—the soil that is washed away fills up reservoirs and often covers up and destroys growing crops.

From earliest times fish has been an important food and even now is the only meat available to many people. Much seafood is taken each year from the seas and fresh waters.

Water -- Where Does It Come From?

The oceans and seas are the great reservoirs from which all of our water comes. The ancients believed that this water ran underground and somehow worked itself up into the hills to form springs and rivers. They were right at least to the extent that our water does come from the oceans, but we know that it is evaporated and passes into the air as vapor which condenses into clouds.

These clouds move about constantly and under certain conditions will drop some of their moisture as rain, snow, hail or sleet. Some falls right back into the sea but quite a lot falls on land and supplies us with the water we use every day. Some of the water which falls on the land seeps into the ground. If we dig or drill a well, we can pump this water out. Sometimes it is possible to find water under pressure and it will produce a flowing well.

Some of the water in the ground finds its way to a lower level where it reaches the surface as a spring. A large amount of water also runs off over the land during a rain or when snow melts. This, together with the springs, we call surface water. It collects at the bottoms of hills to form streams which later run into the ocean to start all over again as clouds.

Water -- What It Is, What It Does

This may sound like a strange question. You are probably saying, "Everyone knows what water is"; but, do we really know? To most of us it probably means what comes out when we open the faucet or what sometimes requires us to put on overshoes and carry an umbrella.

To begin with, water is the very substance of life itself. Except for the air we breathe and the food we eat, there is nothing more necessary than water. People have known to live for as long as a month without food, but without water, the average person cannot live for more than a few days.

It is by far the most useful of all material used for cleaning. Purely on the basis of bathing alone, it is used more than any other fluid.

We are accustomed to think of roads on land as highways; but, rivers and oceans are highways too. In fact, they served for transportation long before our roads were built as can be seen by the number and size of the cities located on their shores.

Water has also been used for power long before oil, gas and coal and still furnishes a large part of our electricity through the giant mill is not much used any more.

Water is much used for both heating and cooling. In the form of steam, it not only heats but is used to run machinery as well. In cooling, it is used to air condition buildings as well as to make ice and other products.

What is Soil?

Soil is a mixture of disintegrated rock and decomposed plant and animal remains. Soil begins when wind, rain, glaciers and other natural causes break off small pieces of rock. This process is called weathering. The weathered rock is called the parent material of the soil. All kinds of weather, rain and sunshine, heat and cold work all the time to change the parent material into soil. The steepness and the shape of the land also affect the soil. The shape of the land, the hills, valleys, streams and plains is called topography. It takes a long time, thousands of years, for the weathered rock to change into soil. The kind of rock or parent material, the climate, the weather, the topography and the period of time, all affect the kind of soil we have.

Importance of Soil

Did you ever stop to think how much soil means to you? All life depends on the soil. There are also a lot of living things in the soil. In fact, there are more living things in the soil than there are on top. These millions of worms, snails, centipedes, bacteria and other organisms live on the food, water and air in the soil. They also help to prepare the minerals for use by plants. Plants use these minerals to grow tall and produce more food for our chickens, cows, wildlife and ourselves. We get food, our clothing and our shelter from the soil. Without the soil we could not live.



In dealing with 4-H boys and girls who are in school for the purpose of increasing their knowledge, we found it would be important to give them the entire story on conservation of our Natural Resources in Virginia. Therefore, we made mimeograph copies for the 4-H members to read and learn the Natural Resources of their state in order to have a clearer conception of their value in our conservation program and to our livelihood as well.

Various 4-H Club members will discuss specific topics on Natural Resources during the year from this mimeograph information given them on Natural Resources.

The 4-H Story On Conservation

The story of Natural Resources and Conservation was told to 4-H boys and girls as follows:

The spotlight of the week of October 11th through the 17th in Virginia is the wise use and conservation of land and water, forest and wildlife.

Natural Resources Conservation Week was proclaimed by Governor J. Lindsay Almond, Jr. October 11-17 and this county along with other state agencies and extension workers have observed this week as proclaimed by our governor.

Meetings were held with community adult groups and 4-H Club groups to carry a message on the conservation of our Natural Resources. These are some of the things that were discussed during Natural Resources Conservation Week:

soil samples in order that they will have a better knowledge of the proper use of the soil, water and their relationship to crops that should be grown on the land to bring the most money and greatest protection to the land from erosion and other damages.

Before we can plan the best use of land, we need to know certain things about it.

1. Is the land level or sloping?
2. Is the soil deep or shallow, sandy or clayey, wet or well-drained?
3. Is the soil naturally fertile?
4. Is it stoney and hard to work?

To protect and make the best use of soil, we must stop erosion.

October

Conservation Week In Virginia

If this entire report on the Conservation of the Natural Resources in Virginia was read by adults, it would not be interesting to them because they do not feel that the amount of time spent in reading information of this type would meet their needs.

Therefore, we find that it is necessary to point out in a conscious manner the things that would meet their needs in discussions pertaining to conservation. This subject was approached from the standpoint of a soil fertility program and soil testing for more efficient farming through the proper land use. Soil record sheets and soil boxes were made available at each community meeting following the discussion on conservation of resources.

5. Increases the activity of bacteria, both nitrogen fixing bacteria on the roots of legumes and the free living soil bacteria that aid in decomposing organic matter and releasing nitrogen.
6. Promotes granulation of the soil.

September

The Activity and Planning Committee of the County Fair Association met in the Courthouse Building on the night of September 9th. The purpose of this group is to plan and outline the county's activities in such an effective way that the interest of the people might be kept at a high level and some educational values received through participating in these activities.

On September 18th, a group of farm people, including 4-H boys, N.F.A. boys and adult men and women, met at Russell Grove High School in the Agricultural Building for the purpose of receiving information on the best methods of grading flue-cured tobacco in order to receive the top dollar value from this crop.

Dr. Jones E. Jeffries conducted this tobacco grading demonstration in a very helpful and interesting manner that brought many favorable comments from our farm people. They left with the satisfaction that a better grading job can be done by them for future sales.

Fifty-three farm people were present to take advantage of this demonstration.

Amelia County extension workers held a planning meeting on September 28 for the most extensive drive among farm people for taking

have been produced, we have found it necessary to outline and stress the necessity for proper housing of corn crops from the weather and the protection of corn and other grain crops from insects during the long winter months.

It has been a pressing need for winter grazing in our section of the state for the past ten years since livestock production has greatly increased. For this reason, we realize the importance of encouraging farm people to plant winter pastures in order to establish a better feeding program for livestock in this county and to reduce the possibility of being compelled to spend needed finance that could be used wisely for other things needed during our long winter months.

- Preparation of seed bed, fertilizer, liming and seeding were discussed as very important practices in order to secure and maintain a good winter pasture. Liming, when needed, plays such an important part in our pasture program that we stress the necessity for taking a Soil Sample and point out some of the reasons for liming such as:
1. The principal reason for liming is to increase plant growth. Lime has the following effects on soil:
 2. Counteracts or neutralizes soil acidity, reducing the solubility of aluminum, manganese and other substances which may be toxic to plants.
 3. Supplies calcium and magnesium which are essential for growth of higher plants as well as of micro-organisms.
 4. Increase availability of phosphorus, molybdenum and certain other elements in acid soils.

This county, like so many other counties, is desperately in need of rain at this season of the year. However, farm people are taking advantage of this dry season to help each other save the grain crops and destroy the excessive weed crops while the weather is in their behalf.

Members of the 4-H Clubs are looking forward with great joy to attend the State 4-H Short Course at Virginia State College from June 29th to July 3rd.

July

On the 14th, 15th and 16th of July, the Local Farm Agent served as instructor and consultant at the Garden Lover's Short Course at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia.

The 17th of July was spent in Annual Farm Tour and Demonstrations in the Mannboro and Manassa Hill Communities. Mr. M. T. Carter and Dr. W. L. Watson served as consultants and judges of the progress made in various projects during 1959. Eighty-seven farm people joined the group on the tour of projects. In the afternoon, the farm Planning Committee served dinner for the entire group.

The consultants discussed with the group things that had been observed during the tour giving credit for projects that have been improved and pointing out methods that can be used for continued improvement.

August

This year marked the production of a good corn crop in Amelia County. Since, we realize the importance of saving crops after they

entrance to church grounds were relocated and parking areas mapped out for future arrangement of parking cars.

On Saturday, May 23, the Amelia County Agricultural Advisory Board gave a Spring Social at Scott's Center for the enjoyment of farm people and for the benefit of the Advisory Board activities. A pig was raffled off at this activity and brought the sum of \$63.00.

June

On the night of June 4th in the Bethia Community, the Farm and Home group met to discuss their financial problem and also to report on how much has been done in accomplishing the objectives that were set up for the year of 1959. Various methods and mediums were discussed by which farm people might use to increase their farm income to help carry to completion objectives outlined in this year's program of work.

On Friday, June 19th, a group of farmers from the Chula and Rocky Hill Communities met and discussed last minute responsibilities of storing a part of their wheat. It has been the custom each year to harvest and haul directly from the grain fields because debts had to be paid from the sale of this commodity.

Because of the low price this season, twelve of the farm families of the two communities mentioned above, decided to sell only half of the crop now and store the other portion on the farms. One storage building was erected on the farm of Mr. Godfrey Perkinson in the Rocky Hill Community and he will have space for all of his grain and will help two other families with storage space. Three others will purchase on vans that are not in use for storage houses.

On the 18th and 19th of April, the Local Farm Agent met with the Yard Beautification Committee of Bethia Church and continued work on our yard project there. Grounds were made level during the month of March, 1959 and fertilizer, lime and seeds were applied. During April, walks, layout and fence were erected around the church ground to protect grass.

May

On May 1, 1959 in the Jetersville Community, the Agent checked 4-H Club boys' yard improvement projects and worked out additional plans for home ground beautification. A pest control program was worked out with an adult, Mrs. James Delaney, in protecting her yard trees against insects in the same community.

In the Promise Land Community on May 4, 1959, where three new houses are being erected, the agent gave information to three families on how to develop a successful lawn and arrangement of shrubbery.

On Sunday, May 10th, six 4-H Clubs observed National Rural Life Sunday by giving a program at the Mt. Herman Presbyterian Church in the Chula Community. Eight 4-H Club leaders were responsible for the success of this program that was enjoyed by a large group from eleven communities in the county encouraging the 4-H members with their presence and support in raising finance for the 4-H State Short Course. Fifty-nine dollars were given for this purpose.

In the Scott's Fork Community on Saturday, May 16th, the agent is still giving help in church ground improvement to the Bethia Church Beautification Committee. Walks were outlined and laid off and new

On the night of March 5th, the Big Oak, Patrick, Rocky Hill and Bethia committees met at Bethia Church for the purpose of discussing Home Yard Beautification and Church Ground Beautification.

Information in the form of an outline was given to this group in order to make it simple to follow. Members of this group met Friday the 27th and Saturday the 28th on the Bethia Church grounds and hauled in soil, filled low places, plowed and leveled grounds. They also put out lime, fertilizer and seed to grass. They put up a temporary fence around the grounds in order to give the grass a chance to grow. Ample parking space was outlined.

April

On April 7th, a yard beautification project that was started last year by two 4-H Club girls, was visited by the local farm agent and more information was given as to the things that can be improved this season as the year and plans were made on other things that will be done in the fall season.

Planning meetings are being held in the three districts of this county with leaders on improvement of livestock and disease control.

On April 9th, a meeting of this nature was held with leadership groups in the Fairville and St. James Committees. It has been our experience that many dollars are lost because of an incomplete feeding program and the lack of disease control in cattle, swine and poultry.

A program of yard beautification has been stressed for several years for our homes. However, we are giving some time in setting up plans for our church grounds to be improved.

projects started during the month of February. The Home Improvement Committee reported that six families started the home improvement project—two in kitchen improvement and four in bedroom improvement. Mrs. Annette Perkinson, who has been a teacher in the public school system of this county for 35 years, is chairman of this committee. She has worked with Extension Agents for 25 years and has been an unusual good influence for extension services.

The Garden Committee leader is the Mother of the Local Home Agent of Loudenburg County and has worked on various committees of this county for the past 10 years for improvement of extension projects. She reports 18 members have promised to plant at least three new vegetables this year that they haven't planted in previous years.

March

On the afternoon of March 10, 1959, the Amelia County Garden Committee met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jackson in the Mannboro Community. Mr. B. A. Perry, the Garden Instructor from Virginia State College, conducted the meeting. Mr. Perry gave an outline of the important factors to be considered in having a good family garden and thirty minutes were allotted for questions to be asked by members of the committee. The members of this group did not lost any time in asking the things they wanted to know.

The Farm Community Club met on the night of March 10th at 8 p.m. and the County Committee on Garden Clubs met with this community group in order to discuss information on gardening that they received from Mr. Perry in the afternoon meeting.

in liming your soil. For instance, test run on Dummore silt loam using 8 tons per acre, indicate that the pH climbed from 5.92 the first year after lime was applied and reached 6.65 the fourth year after the liming application. Lime is relatively long lasting and is a good investment in permanent soil productivity.

February

Small Grain Top Dressed

Mr. James Johnson of the Rocky Hill Community has top dressed his 10 acres of wheat and 16 acres of barley with 200 lbs. of nitrate of soda per acre during this month; and, Mr. W. E. Harris of the same community has top dressed his 6 acres of oats and 7 acres of barley with 200 lbs. of A and L per acre. Mr. Lawson Archer of the Chula Community has top dressed his 13 acres of wheat, 7 acres of barley and 4 acres of oats with 200 lbs. of nitrate of soda per acre.

Lawson Archer of the Chula Community and Homer Thompkins, Jr. of the Mannboro Community have applied for Federal cost-sharing for 6 acres each of additional hog pasture of ladino clover-orchard grass for rotational grazing. Both farmers have 4 acres of ladino clover-orchard grass already established for grazing; however, since the number of hogs have been increased, more pasture acres are needed. The family cows also graze in the same pastures; that, is why orchard grass is added to the pasture mixture for hogs.

The five Advisory Board Committees met Wednesday night, February 25th in the Amelia County Courthouse Building to make their reports on

January - 1939

County Advisory Board Activities

On the 12th of January, 1939 in the Amelia County Courthouse, thirty-eight members making up the various committees of the County Advisory Board met for the purpose of discussing their program of work for Amelia County with the general body of the Advisory Board in order that all might have the knowledge of the entire county program of work and pledge support in carrying it to completion. Committees were as follows:

1. Agronomy
2. Livestock
3. Poultry
4. Garden
5. Home Improvement
6. Yard Beautification

Project to Help New Owners Improve

On January 26, 1939, Dr. W. L. Watson, a specialist from Virginia State College, came to Amelia County to offer assistance to two new property owners who wanted help in landscaping and yard beautification. Dr. Watson spent the day in outlining and making maps and giving information to be followed. Mr. and Mrs. Junius Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Scott were grateful for this assistance from the state level.

A Good Investment?
Here's One That Will Bring
You A Good Return!!!!!!!!!!!!

Recent tests at the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station in Blacksburg show us that you can get a good return for your investment

WHAT'S YOUR BEST FEED BUY? Here is a thumb rule to use when buying. With corn \$1 per bushel, figure a bushel of oats at 51¢ for dairy, 48¢ for beef and hogs; grain sorghum is worth \$1.79 per CWT for dairy, \$1.65 for beef and \$1.61 for hogs.

SELL STOCKER-FEEDER CATTLE you are not planning to carry over winter. Further price gains next 30 days will be slim and your cattle could easily lose weight on frost-bitten pastures.

FERTILIZER AND SEED supplies aren't expected to change too much in price—buy now if its to your advantage tax wise. New certified varieties of legume seed should be purchased soon. They are always in limited supply.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM NEWLY STARTED BEEF HERDS

1. Breeding herd size should about triple in 10 years—allowing for culling (old age, poor type, disease and reproductive failure).
2. Expect about 10 to 12% of the heifers to be non-breeders.
3. Only about 65% of heifers grown out to breeding age should be expected to have 2 or more calves.
4. Average calving interval will be more than one year, unless a definite planned breeding and calving season is followed.

AUTOMATIC WATERERS will pay off for laying hens. For a 300-bird flock you can expect to get 5,000 more eggs per year using automatic waterers than from watering by hand.

for reasoning that the lack of information on Marketing and Outlook was a disadvantage to farmers because too often they planted the wrong crops and were raising the wrong livestock when the markets were demanding other farm products that were bringing higher farm income.

This places an unusual responsibility on Extension Agents in trying to keep farmers up-to-date with information on Marketing, Sound Future Outlook and Management.

These things stated below have been stressed during the month of December, 1958.

Outlook and Management Tips

There are fast changes taking place all around us. One of the most important is the increase in livestock production—will make up a bigger part of farm income in this area in the future.

For the past several months, hog and sheep producers have been shaping up for expansion. Fall pig crop should be 14 to 15% over last year. Sheep and lamb numbers likely to be jumped another million or more this year. IS EXPANSION SOUND? The answer is yes in most cases. Growth in sheep numbers hasn't been keeping up with our population in the past few years. Cattle will be one of the best ways to use up the increased grain and forage production. Build up hogs only if it improves efficiency—otherwise, put it off a year or so.

POOR QUALITY ROUGHAGE in some areas points up need for increasing grain and supplement to dairy cows. Both are fairly cheap and milk is near the peak price for the year.

in order that assignments can be made to those who will assume the responsibility for carrying them to completion. Selection of demonstrations, appointing committees for special phases of the farm program and making a plan of work that will meet the needs of farm people are the main objectives.

The responsibility of major projects was assumed by the following committees:

1. Agronomy Committee
2. Livestock Committee
3. Demonstration Committee
4. Community Farm Clubs
5. 4-H Leader Council
6. 4-H Junior Council
7. 4-H Awards Group

YEAR'S ACTIVITIES
(By Months)

These are some of the year's activities that have been done through Advisory Board, community clubs and field meetings with the various committees and groups working together for the common good for all.

December - 1958

Doctor John R. Hutchinson said a few years ago that in many cases more important things go on outside a farmer's fence line than it does on the inside. Keeping this statement in mind, it stands

growing dairy and livestock enterprises. In 1944 the sale of crops accounted for 52.0 percent of the value of all farm products sold. This percentage had dropped to 32.8 in 1949 with sales of livestock and livestock products increasing from 44.9 percent in 1944 to 61.9 percent in 1949. Most of this increase can be attributed to sales from dairy products. In addition to the agricultural production from the land, the county leans heavily on the production of lumber and forest products. Nearly three-fourths of the county area is in lumber plants, and in recent years pulpwood production has become important placing the county among the ten highest in Virginia for this forest product.

Amelia is the county seat and hub of the county's activities.

Since there are no large urban centers in the county, very little of the agricultural production is marketed locally. The county's total population is 7,908 with 3,945 or 49% being Negroes. There are 1,098 farms—643 white and 455 non-white.

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

In order to give full participation to our farm people, it is necessary to channel our activities through organizations. The County Advisory Board takes the lead in distributing the responsibilities among other organizations throughout the county. This board having representation from all communities in the county can make better contacts and reach more farm people. The members meet two or three times during each year. The program of work is broken down in various ways

COUNTY SITUATION

Amelia County is located in the Piedmont Plateau of Virginia. Its land area totals about 234,000 acres of which 69 percent was in farms in 1950. The agricultural production of the county was accomplished on 1,098 farms in 1956, averaging 147.3 acres each in size with land and buildings valued at \$5,923.00.

The topography of the farm lands is mostly gently rolling. The elevation varies from 2,000 to 5,000 feet. The county is bounded on the north by the Appomattox River with water shed being in this direction. Soils are made up mostly of clay and gray loam, with red clay most common on higher plains. The last killing frost of the spring usually falls around April 10th with the first killing frost of the fall occurring about October 20th. The growing season between these two dates averages 192 days. The average annual rainfall is about 42 inches. The summer months are the months of highest rainfall with June, July and August each averaging close to 4.5 inches. Temperatures during January average around 39 degrees, while in July they average around 78 degrees.

Agriculture is the main industry of the county; and, for a long period, this was centered around tobacco production. Tobacco is still a leading crop but dairying and livestock raising have become outstandingly important in recent years. Income from dairy products alone now surpasses that from all field crops. There has always been a paralleled increase in the production of grain and hay to sustain the

3. To anticipate and recognize state agricultural problems and to acquaint the college of agriculture with such problems needing research attention.
4. To assist farm people to organize themselves into effective groups to meet their problems.

"That Cooperative Extension Work shall consist of the giving to persons not attending said colleges in the several communities and imparting to such persons information on said subjects through field demonstrations, publications and otherwise; and this work shall be carried on in such manner as may be mutually agreed upon by the Secretary of Agriculture and the State Agricultural College or Colleges receiving the benefit of this act".

The act is clear and definite by providing for the giving of instruction and practical demonstrations. The act sets forth the work of the County Farm and Home Demonstration Agents as strictly educational. It contemplated a broad and comprehensive work that covers all farm and home problems, including economic production, economic marketing and the development of better home, community and social conditions.

FOREWORD

The Virginia Agricultural Extension Service is a public educational service for rural people irrespective of color, creed or economic status. It is a cooperative educational organization sponsored by the Federal, State and County Governments. The purpose of the organization is to carry to the farms and homes in Virginia information from the U. S. Departments of Agriculture, Land Grant Colleges and Experiment stations in a usable form that will aid in improving the standard of living of farm people within our commonwealth.

In 1914 the General Assembly of Virginia enacted laws providing for extension in cooperation with the Federal Smith Lever Act. It is known as the Appropriation Act of 1914 (Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, 1914 chapter 333, page 700). Required funds were appropriated to offset the federal funds and county boards of supervisors were authorized to appropriate for salaries and other costs of county demonstration agents. There have been few amendments to this act, but the original act remains the same.

Some of the responsibilities of the Extension Service are defined in Section II of the Smith Lever Act as follows:

1. To assist farm people in recognizing and analyzing their problems.
2. To adopt and extend information and research results from state and federal experimental work to all Virginia rural families.

INTRODUCTION (cont'd)

Most of the young people we work with today through 4-H Club work will not become farmers. Therefore, a broad educational background with sound guidance and wholesome influence is important to equip these young people for this new pattern of living.

As extension workers, we must adapt our programs and activities to meet this pattern of living. People, communities, homemaking and industries have changed and to a very great extent will continue to change. As professional workers, our minds must be kept ever alert to meet these changing conditions. The effectiveness of any county extension program in these changing times will depend to a great extent on the agent's attitude to accept changes and the number of well-trained leaders who are willing to help share the responsibilities. People's needs and desires are greater than they were a few years ago and because of the changing situations, we must demonstrate our ability to meet the needs of our people.

Many changes are constantly taking place in our areas of work. We need to place greater emphasis on conserving our natural resources. The future welfare, the success and happiness of all the people depend on the evaluation and conservation of our natural resources. Urban and rural people should be reached with an educational program that will emphasize the importance and the compelling need for the conservation of natural resources if we are to continue to live and enjoy prosperity.

INTRODUCTORY

Because of the changing pattern of rural and urban living in Virginia and the problems arising from these changes in terms of adjustments in Agricultural Extension programs, the Extension Agent will be compelled to change his subject matter contents, areas of emphasis, method of teaching and program development. Extension Agents are aware of the changing patterns in agriculture, homemaking and 4-H Club work in Virginia.

Farming has emerged as a profession. The farmer's knowledge of his business must, of necessity, compare with the same kind of efficiency and dignity as any other successful business or professional man. With rapid advances in science and technology, new knowledge is the most important and necessary commodity of this present age in agriculture. The farmer has become a new man with a different outlook on life. His duties and concept as a citizen have changed. He must share ideas and responsibilities with urban people now living in the rural community.

The life of the homemaker has changed also. We have many communities composed to a large extent of part-time and non-farm families. A large number of these women work away from home. Some of these women are employed as teachers; many work in factories and some are domestic workers. These women are looking for leadership and assistance in homemaking that would make them more efficient for the dual role of job and family living.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

John L. Mckam
Name

Local Farm
Title

Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1959

Amelia

County

Trying to maintain the interest and holding older 4-H members has been the area in which ground has been lost rather than gains made.

Suggestions for improvement are to try to evaluate methods, time, and results accurately without bias, continue to use what has worked and look for new ideas for more effectively meeting needs of Amelia County families.

C. Professional Improvement

Trip to National 4-H Club Congress:

There aren't any adjectives in my vocabulary to express how much my trip to the National 4-H Club Congress meant to me. I don't feel anyone could go to the Club Congress and not come back a better person. I do appreciate the privilege of attending so very much and hope that I shall be able to make a much better contribution to the 4-H Club Program in my county and in the state.

Subject matter and general sessions at Annual Extension helped Agent very much. The Agent feels she needs more help in this area.

VII. THE LOOK AHEAD

The most significant achievement in 1959 is the number of requests in all subject matter fields for help from families not previously reached and far more assistance in more areas of family living by families already enrolled.

Over a period of years, Home Demonstration work has gained value and importance in the eyes of county people. The Agent feels that all families in the County (the exception is low income families who do not participate in any community or county activities) recognize the Extension Service as a reliable source of information on family living and home economics subject matter.

c. Elected Representatives:

Showed to such representatives the Agent's appreciation for their cooperation, kept Board of Supervisors informed on developments in the Extension Program in the county. Invited officials to Home Demonstration events and 4-H events.

d. Commercial Interest:

Cooperate whenever possible. Try to keep better informed as to purpose of program, invite to special activities, provide Extension bulletins pertaining to their business, give public recognition of commercial supporters of Extension program.

Agent and Garden Specialist visited all dealers selling vegetable seed at time they were making their 1960 seed order.

e. Other Professional Workers:

Had conference with the Home Economics teacher and County nurse trying to arrive at an understanding on how to best correlate our work. Invited them to meetings of joint interest.

Gave to other professional workers in the County materials of extension nature when requested. Invited professional workers to special interest meetings and overall county planning.

Results of the program are seen not only in homes but in the completed Community Building, one new church and work with three other churches in remodeling.

Methods used in addition to personal visits by Housing Specialists and Agents are tours, news articles, fair booth, and bulletin boards.

The quality of work done by both Housing Specialists, Miss Mary Settle and Mr. C. D. Wheary, in Amelia County is outstanding. The results of the work in Housing has also been one of the most successful public relations methods used. Indications are that requests for help in this field will increase.

More progress has been made with Farm and Home Development families on the home side of family living than in any other subject matter field.

B. Progress in Public Relations

a. General Public :

The general public has responded very favorably to special projects and tours, by attendance, requests for follow up material.

The Agent is pleased with the evidences of interest and support of the Extension Home Economics Program.

b. Co-workers:

Kept in constant touch with county co-workers and informed of their plans and program.

and helping for four years with the Rural Life Sunday program for four churches given by our club.

I have participated in another phase of promoting 4-H by helping with a survey finding people interested in organizing a community club in another part of the county."

Gail received three honors in 1959 which she felt were largely the result of her 4-H training in leadership.

1. Gail Lush of Amelia was crowned Queen of the Six County 4-H Parade in Crewe in May by Congressman, Watkins M. Abbitt. (Honor secured by having most outstanding Achievement Records in the six counties.)
2. D.A.R. Citizenship Award from Amelia County.
3. All Star from Amelia County.

VI. A. Special Consideration

Housing:

The Housing Program in Amelia County has been one of the most satisfying and rewarding phases of work the Agent has ever undertaken. In 1959, 14 families have received individual help in remodeling or building new homes. This program is typical of any year since 1954. Requests for bulletins and related problems as kinds of paints, etc. occur almost daily. More and more local people are realizing help is available.

The physical results as well as the attitudes and satisfactions of families who have been worked with are rewarding.

served as a Junior leader and during that time have helped primarily with food projects, recreation and activities of 4-H.

As a Junior leader in Food Project I have helped 15 girls in my local club. However I have done some county work also. One way I help in a county wide work is to aid out agents and leaders in all day food instruction meeting. (5 club and 1 county meeting, one was televised on WREX on February 28th.)

I also help the girls with their records, urge them to participate in the County Contest, give publicity to the county fair, speak individually to the girls about entering an exhibit, and give demonstrations.

An interesting experience was planning a program on good nutrition for a school assembly for the Amelia High School on May 20, 1958. I was chairman of a committee of 4-Hers that planned this program. We gave the results of a county survey on the eating habits in Amelia and then presented a skit depicting the results of poor and good nutrition. There were two families - the No Pep family and the Vimvigor family.

I have helped several years with the County Share The Fun Program. This year I was in complete charge.

Another Junior leader and I were in charge this year of the Honor Club Tapping on April 3, 1959

I have helped promote 4-H in the community by helping plan and narrate a F.T.A. program given by our club on 4-H work,

B. Leadership Story

The Agent feels the outstanding achievement of the Amelia County Home Demonstration Program has been in the training and contribution of local leaders - adult and juniors.

The junior and adult program is organized so that a high percentage of local people have an opportunity to develop and use individual talent and potentialities.

County Home Demonstration and 4-H Club leadership has developed until the number of home demonstration members who will not accept some club office because of lack of self confidence or leadership training is very small. A larger number of organizations with smaller membership has provided great opportunity for individual growth in leadership. Gail Lush is the most outstanding example of a 4-H member in Amelia growth in leadership. The Agent has taken the following information from Gail's Achievement Record to tell her story:

"Leadership is a must in modern American life and where can one find a better opportunity for development of this ability than in 4-H work. Participation in the 4-H Club program has given me training in parliamentary procedure, presiding over meetings, planning programs of all types, preparing booths and floats, giving demonstrations, serving on committees, planning and appearing on radio and TV, and in many other fields of leadership. For four years I have

V. LEADERSHIP

A. Growth of Leadership

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
1. Overall program leaders			
County Agricultural Exten. Service Board	15	28	48
2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership			

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
No. organizational leaders	61	61	66	68	68
No. prj. leaders (subj. Matter)	91	87	109	88	74
No. fed. Prog. of wk. chairman	15	17	18	15	15
No. program dev. leaders	13	13	14	13	13
No. result demonstrators	16	12	12	16	15
No. training meet. by spec.	2	4	2	3	4
No. training meet. by Dist. Agt.	2	0	0	0	1
No. training meet. by agent	10	6	9	17	20
No. training meet by others			1	1	2
Attendance at all training meet.			178	181	250
No. Meet. held without agent	71	67	61	56	72
Demonstrations by leaders	87	90	97	89	92
Talks & discussions by leaders	194	338	112	146	162
3. 4-H Club Leadership	<u>1958</u>		<u>1959</u>		
Overall Youth Leaders	12		9		
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
No. club officers	56	78	82	65	52
No. adult project leaders	24	24	26	24	26
No. junior project leaders		7	13	13	12
No. result demonstrations	4	2	4	0	0
No. training mt. by specialists	1	0	0	0	1
No. training mt. by Dis. Agt.	0	0	0	0	0
No. training mt. by Agent	17	25	27	25	30
No. training mt. by members club department	1	1	2	2	1
No. training mt. by others	1	2	2	2	0
Total attendance at Ld.Tr.Mt.	195	384	212	272	301
No. 4-H Leaders trained indiv.	5	6	8	7	6
No. club mtgs. held by leader without agent	32	36	27	33	32
No. additional club meetings at which ldrs. assisted	57	101	86	59	46
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	47	41	52	27	33
No. demonstrations given by Jr. leaders	31	61	47	41	49

B. Efforts to increase scope of Home Demonstration Work:

These efforts have paid good dividends in 1939. This does not show up in increased membership but results are largely among families working with limited time and non-members.

1. The use of key county leaders not already being used in organized program on Home Economics Nutrition Committee and General Interest Lighting Committee. The committees have used school children and other civic organizations as a means of getting information on lighting and nutrition into more homes in the county.

2. Better use of bulletin rack to distribute bulletins. Exhibits at Fairs.

3. Placing more emphasis on Home Demonstration Members carrying information to non-members by making this one of the pin requirements for two years.

4. Organized groups making special effort to reach non-members in special interest programs.

5. Better Publicity. - The County Reporter for Home Demonstration work in Amelia, Mrs. J. B. Mason, has done an outstanding job with publicity in three papers, The Farmville Herald, Blackstone Courier and Richmond News Leader.

6. Special interest programs, tours.

7. Letters, visits to families Agent knew had definite interest.

keep records, develop skill and poise in the 4-H club girl. Six 1959 winners entered District Contest April 12 in Faraville, two first place winners, all girls received ribbons. Gail Lush and Carol Ann Williams won blue ribbons in State Contests. Ann Gordon Jenkins won a \$50. warbond in Health.

9. Camp and Short Course - 12 4-H Club members attended State Short Course. 40 Amelia County 4-H members between the ages of 10 and 14 left for Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach, on Monday, July 6. They were under the leadership of Mrs. W. G. Hanford, Mrs. C. F. Hardy, and Extension Agents. 4 club members and 1 leader attended Conservation Camp. These trips meant much to club members and contributed to over-all enthusiasm and support of 4-H work.

10. Fairs - Amelia 4-H clubs put up 4 educational booths at County Fair representing all 4-H clubs. 2 blue, 2 red. Number of individual junior exhibits improved in quantity and quality over 1958.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

A.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. H.D. Clubs or groups	13	13	14	13	13
Membership	292	297	286	253	257
No. 4-H Clubs	9	13	13	12	12
Membership	141	173	182	155	153
No. Home Ec. Committees	0	1	1	1	3
No. General Int. Committees	0	0	1	2	2
No. Youth Committees	0	0	1	1	1
No. Farm & Home Dev. Families	32	32	54	102	100
No. Other families reached	350	350	350	350	350
No. Different families reached	750	750	650	650	675

participated in 6 County Share The Fun Program. 2 acts were included in County Share The Fun, 25 club members participating.

4. County Public Speaking Contests and Awards Program was held April with 17 4-H Club members entering contest. The speakers were outstanding. Senior winner - Ann Gordon Jenkins who entered District contest.

5. Amelia County participated in 6 County Parade by putting 3 floats in the parade. Gail Lush was selected Queen on the basis of her outstanding record.

6. A movie studio had nothing on the G. B. Lush home on Wednesday, February 18, when nine girls in the Mattoax 4-H club gave a food demonstration which appeared on TV February 28th, between 8:30 and 9 a.m. on station WQEX, Petersburg.

Four adult leaders, boys, and parents were on hand for supper.

7. Rural Life Sunday - Rural Life Sunday observances were held in 4 communities. Agent appointed committee in each area composed of 4-H leaders from churches in area and gave leaders material to use. Extension Agents gave special help to committee where needed.

8. Contests - Purpose of contests was to stimulate more interest in good quality club work and recognize members who are doing a good job, to evaluate 4-H club work, give recognition to outstanding club girls, and teach how to

The quality of work done by girls enrolled was good; Junior Leaders did good work, weakness is that a larger number of girls were not reached with project instructions. Amelia County Winner entered District Contest in Bread, Dairy Foods, Meal Preparation, Dress Review, and Public Speaking. Gail Lush was a District Winner and won a Blue Ribbon in the State Meal Preparation Contest and Carol Ann Williams a Blue in Share the Fun Contest.

<u>Summary</u>	Enrolled	Completed
Looking Your Best	30	26
Clothing II	12	11
Bread	11	11
Food Preservation	4	4
Meal Preparation	65	49
Home Improvement	9	7
Leadership	12	12

The Agent has been trying to improve quality of project work, even though the number of girls has not increased. See Leadership Story Question V - B. - Page 32

C. Other Activities

1. 4-H Clubs served county wide Pancake Supper and dance for County Council.
2. The 4-H Clubs sponsored a Christmas Dance for benefit of Community Building and 4-H County Council on December 27.
3. March was a red letter month for 4-H. Amelia County 4-H clubs held the County Share The Fun Program; winners

and an interesting flower border. The last stop was at the Irving Morris Home where a well planned yard and farmstead was shown with attractive grounds around the farm buildings. A picnic supper was planned at 6:30 at the Morris' with each person bringing his own. The County Council provided plates, forks and a beverage. Following the supper a 30 minute program for tapping new members of the Amelia 4-H Honor Club and the recognition and honoring of the volunteer leaders was held. 26 leaders were recognized and 8 Honor Club members were tapped.

Ann Smith participated in the District Home Grounds Beautification Contest.

The project was successful in the amount of interest created and public support gained from County people. 125 enrolled - girls - completed 109.

Other projects:

Project instruction was given individually and in neighborhood groups by leaders in Food Preparation, Bread, Outdoor Cookery, Food Preservation, Clothing I, II, and III, Home Improvement and Home Management.

Agent was responsible for training leaders, helping adult and junior leaders plan meeting and demonstration, secure project instructions, records, and illustrative material. There are 4 organized groups in Food Projects, 3 in Clothing. Other work was done by leaders helping 1-3 club members. Two special interest meetings were held on Outdoor Cookery.

January - Improving Rural Mail Boxes - Earl Booser

Ideas for Farm Signs - club member

Making Entrances Attractive - club member

4-H Memory Books - Mary Williams

February - How to Prune Shrubs - Earl Booser with club member assisting.

Recommendations for fertilizing lawns - Booser

Contest demonstrations by 4-H members - arranged by Mary Williams.

March - Insect Control - Earl Booser - Movie from V.P.I.

Contest demonstrations by 4-H members - Williams

April - Planting Annual Flowers - Earl Booser and club members & Mary Williams

May - Collecting and Pressing Flowers - both Agents

June - The Amelia County 4-H Council held a Yard Improvement Tour on Monday afternoon, June 15, at 3 p.m. as a climax for the county-wide project in Home Grounds Beautification. All 4-H and Home Demonstration Club members were invited to participate. 85 club members and parents attended. The group assembled in front of Amelia Court House and went from there to see the boxwood garden at the home of Mrs. Ollie Boyles. For the second stop, a short demonstration on how to make a landscape plan for a new home was given at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Hiram A. Holmes which was in the process of construction. A landscape Specialist from V.P.I. gave this demonstration. The third stop was at Mr. & Mrs. William Stengel's to show a well-landscaped yard

meetings to be held. A worship service was planned for Sunday morning. The week end was not given over entirely to work and worship though, members enjoyed sports, swimming, and dancing for recreation.

All Honor Club members have been active Junior Leaders in 1959. Gail Lush and DeWitt Whittington were taken into All Stars at Short Course.

4. County 4-H Project Planning Committee

The Amelia County 4-H Clubs held their project planning meeting in July to plan 1960 program. This committee selected Safety as a club project to be carried by all Amelia 4-H Clubs during 1960.

B. 4-H Project Work

1. County Project - Home Grounds Beautification selected by Project Planning Committee for all clubs. Plans will be adapted to meet needs of local clubs. Home Agent plans to use Jr. and adult leaders in adapting and carrying out plans.

Monthly Demonstrations:

November - How To Take A Soil Sample - Earl Booser and club member.

How To Mulch Flowers & Shrubs - club member.

Identification Contest - Mary Williams

December - Outdoor Lighting for the Lawn - Earl Booser

Christmas Party & decorations - Mary Williams

the County and club leaders; 58 members. In 1959, the County Council planned special events for the county such as the Six-County 4-H Parade, County Share the Fun Program, Rural Life Sunday, prepared educational booths for County Fair, sponsored 2 events for the County Community Building, Rescue Squad and County Council Fund, planned for 1959 National 4-H Week, Public Speaking and Awards Program and County Contests. The Council approved plans for Yard Improvement Project Instruction, planned County tour to yards, and a Leader Recognition Program. The Council also provided camp scholarship to Junior Winner in County event, and sponsored an officers training meeting.

3. Honor Club and All Stars

All Stars tapped 8 new Honor Club members at County Recognition Program June 15th.

Members of the Amelia County 4-H Honor Club met Friday morning, July 3, in the Conference Room at Union Bank and Trust Company, Amelia, to plan for the workshop on Junior Leadership to be held at Virginia Beach, July 11 and 12. Officers of the club for the coming year are: Becky Morris, President; Hannah Cassel, Vice President; Bonnie Lush, Secretary; Jimmy Paul, Treasurer and Reporter. Mrs. Wiley Paul, Mrs. Irving Morris, and Jimmy Hamner, an All Star, were invited to serve as sponsors of the club. While at the beach, the 11 members planned their year's activities and programs for each of the quarterly

national average. Moreover, this production was accomplished without a single dollar being spent for labor. The family's goal for the near future is to produce 300,000 pounds of milk per year. He thinks he can accomplish this by improving the quality of the cows and the quality of the roughage.

This farm is in the Farm and Home Development Program which is a special Extension sponsored program in a few counties, Amelia being one of the counties.

Both Mr. & Mrs. Thornton are college graduates and both taught school in Powhatan before their marriage. They have two attractive children; Jay 7½, and Carolyn Lee 4½. Ethelene Thornton is President of the Winterham Home Demonstration Club and is proud of her husband's accomplishments. She assists in the farming operation by keeping all records and books for her husband.

III. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - YOUTH

A. Organization

1. County Youth Council and County Youth Committee and Amelia Extension Agents have been studying ways and means of strengthening Youth Program for past three years. Amelia County has 4-H County Council, Advisory Planning Committee, and Honor Club.

2. County 4-H Council

Amelia County had an active 4-H County Council for the past year. Two meetings were held, January 13th and July. The membership is made up of all officers of all 4-H Clubs in

Limitations of time and money make it necessary for them to take an active interest only in those activities which are directly connected with farming and the home, namely Home Demonstration Club, and the F.T.A. They attend the Baptist Church. As time goes on, they hope to be much more active in community clubs.

Mr. G. D. Rice, Extension Agricultural Engineer, selected the site and located the milking parlor and pole barn for the tramp shed. He furnished plans and made suggestions for the future lay-out. Then during the following eight months Thornton erected a 52 x 70 foot pole barn, a three stall elevated milking parlor with overhead feed storage and adjoining milk room. Thornton did all the construction work by himself.

Efficiency is the keynote of this operation and is centered about the milking parlor, pipeline milkers, bulk tank, and automatic feeders were installed in the beginning. Average milking time is about one hour and fifteen minutes for 25 cows, the milking time being determined by the time it takes the cows to eat their grain. Thornton says, "With pipeline milkers and automatic feeders the operator can give his undivided attention to the job of milking".

Last year with a herd of 25 cows, Grade Holsteins and registered Guernseys, Thornton's records show that he produced 270,000 pounds of milk with an average butterfat test of 4%. This rate of production is more than double the

his business from nothing into a going concern in three years.

In 1955 he was living in Powhatan and operating a dairy farm with his father when he decided that he's like to have a farm of his own. He desired a modern, efficient dairy operation and a comfortable, modern home which were not to be found for sale in this area within his financial means.

In August of 1955 he purchased 203 acres of land, 120 open, with no buildings and no improved land. The first consideration was to select a site for his home and farm buildings. That winter he started construction on a six room, ranch style home. The family moved to Amelia County in the fall of 1956.

The Thorntons share a mutual interest in making their home a better place to live in. Planning ahead plays a big part in the lives of the Thorntons. With the help of V. P. I. Specialists and the Amelia H.D. Agent Mrs. Thornton has worked out long range plans for landscaping and home furnishings. Each year a certain amount of money is set aside for these projects. Because they have a plan this money can be used to greater advantage.

Mrs. Thornton has had help from the Agent in doing many jobs around the house to make it more livable. She has made drapes for several rooms, reupholstered a sofa, and framed and hung pictures.

Home Agent is trying to keep program together and to fill requests from families. Recommendations of Farm and Home Development Committee were used to determine program emphasis. Problems listed by Committee and agents in working with families:

1. Unrecognized needs in family living.
2. Lack of thorough planning.
3. Too many families do not know the extent of help available through this method.

Objectives recommended by Committee:

1. Help families analyze needs and conditions. Many have unrecognized needs.
2. Complete food plan - family evaluation - live at home program.
 - a. foods - nutrition - home production and preservation.
3. Explain program available to any family - one person in each area to contact family and Agents.
4. Emphasize to family the opportunities of 4-H Clubs and other organizations offer young people.
5. Help families see complete financial picture - investigate possible supplementary incomes.
 - a. Record keeping and financial goals.

Story of Family: - John W. Thoraton family.

Few young men are going into farming today and fewer still are going into it in the way John Wilson Thoraton of Amelia County has. He is a dairy farmer who has literally developed

4. Tours:

Two other tours added interest and enthusiasm to the 1959 Home Demonstration Program.

April - A tour of Richmond by chartered bus was planned for Wednesday, April 1, by the Jetersville H.D. Club. Both old and new Richmond were visited. 41 members attended. Members of other H.D. Clubs were invited to join in the trip to the Fine Foods Bakery, the state capital, Confederate Museum, St. John's Church, and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

November - 55 H.D. members from Amelia County went to WRVA's Studio Party November 6th. Pictures of old homes from the County were the H.D. Feature for the day. Following the Studio Party the group was conducted on a tour of the T.V. Studio, Virginia Museum and John Marshall House.

D. Farm and Home Development (Farm and Home Management).

In 1959 100 families received assistance through the Farm and Home Development approach. There are 20 complete units. Home Agent - 19, Agricultural Agent - 61. These families were selected by a committee of local leaders from the Board of Agriculture. In 1959 the Agents continued to work with these families plus other families who need and will accept assistance in Farm and Home Management. Letters were sent each month to Farm and Home Development Families.

a buffet dinner and illustrated talk on homes of historical interest by Mrs. William Jefferson and Judge Valentine W. Southall. 8 pictures were used on TV program.

2. Community Project:

A second outstanding community project for Amelia County Home Demonstration Clubs in 1959 was work done toward completing payments county community building, in addition to supporting projects planned by the Board of Directors. The Amelia Home Demonstration Clubs donated food and served a buffet dinner to 350 persons in June to raise money to complete community building kitchen. Dinner and dance netted \$600. Landscape Specialist from V.P.I. worked with committee and Home Agent in planning grounds. Members and Agent feel very proud of the completed building.

3. County Fair:

Twelve of the thirteen Home Demonstration Clubs put up educational booths at the County Fair - 6 blue and 6 red ribbons. The Agent was very pleased with the quality of these booths. Each booth was on a different topic of work study during the fair year - October 1958-1959. A great deal of interest was shown in the quality and number of exhibits. Home Demonstration Clubs also supplied leadership for superintendents in open classes.

and 1 church of historical interest in Amelia County on May 8th in observance of Home Demonstration Week. Judge Valentine Southall acted as tour guide and prepared historical sketch of each place visited; Grub Hill (St. John's) Episcopal Church, Dykeland, Redmoor, The Wigwag, Haw Branch, and Woodland.

Exhibit at County Fair: The Amelia Senior Home Demonstration Club sponsored a Blue-Ribbon educational booth at the Amelia County Fair, held October 8-10, 1959, featuring 101 pictures of old homes and buildings situated in the County, with a map pin-pointed to show the location of each dwelling and building. Subsequently, these pictures were moved to the Union Bank & Trust Company, Amelia, Virginia, and displayed in the lobby of said institution. The pictures, representing many miles of travel and many hours of work, were the result of the combined energies and endeavors of Miss Selma Hindle and Mrs. William Jefferson, co-chairmen of the project, Miss Hindle furnishing the transportation and Mrs. Jefferson doing the photographing.

Year Book: The 1960 Amelia County Year Book Committee requested that Valentine W. Southall prepare a "Capsule" history of Amelia County which will be printed on the first two pages of the new Home Demonstration Year Book.

Achievement Program: County Home Demonstration Achievement and Awards Program to be held on November 20th will feature

C. Other Activities

1. Amelia Historical Project (including Home Demonstration Week, Achievement Day, and TV Program on Channel 12, Nov. 6th. In 1959, the Amelia County Home Demonstration Committee began work on a countywide project; first, to stimulate awareness and interest of citizens of Amelia County in the history of the county and second, the taking and preservation of photographs of all old buildings in the County, and the obtaining of, insofar as possible, interesting facts about the construction, past ownership, and history of said building. In addition thereto, the adopted project includes the collection of old photographs, as outright gifts or for the purpose of reproduction, of old structures which have already passed out of existence. The ultimate goal of this project is to preserve these photographs and the information collected in some safe place where they will readily be available to those interested therein. Advisors for the projects working with the County Home Demonstration Committee are: Valentine W. Southall, Mrs. Francis Wright, and W. F. Bradley, Associate Extension Editor. Mr. Bradley took difficult pictures and slides and advised club committees how to improve pictures. His interest and assistance made project possible. Club projects in 1959 were:
May - National Home Demonstration Week Observance:
88 Home Demonstration members and friends toured 5 homes

C. Results:

The Health and Safety Program has started many families to think of the importance of Safety and Home Preparedness for emergencies.

Work on the Rescue Squad has been outstanding. Six clubs had a representative of the Amelia County Rescue Squad demonstrate to them the equipment used by the Rescue Squad. Home Demonstration Clubs have given money and supplies to the Squad.

Polio shot clinics are held each Monday in the Health Department. Statistics show many persons in Amelia County have not had polio immunization.

Amelia County High School does have driver education course (with under wheel instruction) in the 1959-60 session.

100% of Home Demonstration members answering questionnaire report making changes to make home safer.

Agent is glad program will be continued in 1960 as so many areas have just been touched.

interesting and well received in clubs. 60% of Home Demonstration members answering questionnaire report using information from the demonstration.

5. Federation Program of Work - Health and Safety

A. Why Selected and purpose of project:

1. To stimulate more interest in Amelia County on the importance of family health - first aid, sound mental health program for family, and to make Amelia County families Safety conscious.
2. Points to be stressed: Safety is every family's responsibility; foods for health; lighting for health, community first aid courses; sponsor adult polio clinic for third year; mass T.B. Xrays.

B. Methods:

1. The following program was followed in all Home Demonstration Clubs. Two County planning and training meetings for 13 club chairmen and county chairmen were held April 23rd and September 30th.
May - polio shots and cancer information.
June - the rescue squad.
July - plans for first aid courses in communities.
August & September - driver education.
October & November - home preparedness for Civil Defense and emergencies.

2. Method demonstration in 13 clubs. February - Painting - exterior & interior - leaders; March - Good Lighting - House Furnishing Leaders; April - Workshop - Modernizing lamps and shades - House Furnishing Leaders.

3. Two leader training meetings for leaders by Specialist for February, March and April.

4. Special work with 14 families requesting help for problems in Housing.

5. Home visits, to families with projects underway.

6. News article, give publicity on help available in Housing.

7. Bulletin, very important to fill requests.

8. Fair Booths on Bulbs for Every Hood; Housing Helps on Storage.

c. Results:

See Question VI - A for Housing Report Page 34.

The Home Agent has been disappointed in the lack of response to the lighting. For most families in Amelia County good lighting is an unrecognized need. The 6 result demonstrations are outstanding. Leaders and Power Company Home Economist gave lighting demonstration in clubs and community. This is a long time program and it is hoped later years will show more favorable results. Thirty-three persons attended the demonstration on paints and floor finishes and care. Miss Mary Settle, housing Specialist from V.P.I., conducted the meeting. These demonstrations on interior paints were

4. Housing & Home Furnishings

A. Why selected and purpose of project:

1. To stimulate a desire for more comfortable houses, special emphasis on running water and storage and lighting. Major emphasis has been given to permanent home improvements for past 5 years.
2. To continue result demonstrations which are underway in Amelia County and work with interested families requesting help. Use 6 demonstrations in lighting as methods of teaching on different occasions.

B. Methods:

1. Work on goals set up by General Interest Lighting Committee in February.

Needs listed by Committee:

1. Good lighting is unrecognized need of Amelia County.
2. How to reach families in county.
3. To teach what is good light.

Objectives:

1. Create an awareness and importance of good lighting to Amelia County families.
2. Committee to make contacts with local merchants to stock approved fixtures and portable lamps.

Goals for 1959:

Educational program to wake Amelia County people up as to the need for improving lighting - personal need of each family. 100 families apply information to improve lighting.

4. Bulletin for requests - very important.
5. Six news articles.
6. County wide tour to emphasize Yard Improvement, Housing, and Home Management Practices in May.
7. Continue work with seven result demonstrations. Work with individual families done by Assistant County Agent working with Farm and Home Development Families.
8. Fair Booche - Shrubs for Continuous Beauty - Truxillo Home Demonstration Club.

c. Results:

Work in stimulating pride in the appearance of home grounds has been gratifying in 1959. The County Extension Service is a recognized source of information on all types of needs and problems on Home Ground Beautification. Requests for assistance from local families on these problems occur almost daily. An estimated 300 white families have used assistance in Yard Improvement in 1959. There are also excellent public relations between Garden Club, dealers and Extension Service, all of which are promoting Home Ground Beautification.

Most outstanding accomplishment was that the 1959 County 4-H project was Home Grounds Beautification. Question III, B.

Page 24. This is story of outstanding subject matter project.

Many homemakers with greatest time problem are working or tied down to the point that she doesn't get to programs to help her. Other homemakers with time or money problems do not recognize problems as ones they can actually find help in solving.

3. Yard Improvement

a. Why selected and purpose of project:

1. To stimulate interest in value of well planned and well kept home grounds.
2. To help families requesting assistance in planning home grounds.
3. To teach all ^{interested} Home Demonstration members principles of planning flower borders for continuous bloom and flower arrangements - church or dried.

b. Methods:

1. One special interest meeting by L. B. Wilkins on vegetable gardens.
2. Mr. L. B. Wilkins, Vegetable Specialist, and the Home Agent visited 6 local dealers who sell vegetable seed. The purpose of this visit was to help dealers to choose recommended varieties before placing their 1960 seed order.
3. Two method demonstrations in all 13 Home Demonstration Clubs by Agent in May - Planning Flower Border for Continuous Bloom.
June - Flower Arrangement (dried or church) - all given by local leaders.



6. Help three families on kitchen, two on laundry unit.

Continue work on 11 result demonstrations under way.

7. Fair Booths.

8. Special interest group on records and family finances in August.

9. Special interest meeting in August on Buying of Family Clothes.

c. Results:

Major results in improved Management are reflected in the awareness of Amelia County families of the need for help in record keeping, re-evaluating of family goals and standards, and help on buying practically every phase of consumer goods for family needs. Work with individual families and special interest meetings are discussed under Farm and Home Development, Section D, page 18

The number of families (club members and non-members are about equal) requesting information on how to buy equipment is gratifying.

One tangible result is requests from county homemakers asking for help in improving management practices year after year.

Failures or weakness of program has been Agent not following with detailed help to individual families except in Farm and Home Development Families. So many homemakers do not know enough about family finances to be able to see complete financial picture.

2. To help Amelia County Homemakers realize the importance of family financial planning and create an interest in devoting time to this phase of homemaking.
3. To teach basic needs to consider in buying equipment.
4. To continue working for interest in convenient kitchens, laundry centers and running water for all families in Amelia County.
5. To try to give homemakers more help and methods in evaluating the job of homemaking.

Agent's Goal - To try new methods to give Amelia County homemakers more insight of the importance and need for analyzing and improving management practices in homemaking.

b. Methods:

1. One method demonstration in all thirteen clubs - Leaders gave 7, Agent 6.

July - Buying Laundry Equipment.

January - Special Interest Meeting - Preparing Income Tax Returns and Changes in Social Security Laws.

2. One leader training meeting for Home Management Leaders in June by Specialist.
3. Do individual work with families under Farm and Home Development. Emphasize records, family planning - long and short term, time study, monthly newsletter.
4. 4 news articles.
5. Bulletins - very important - most used method.

Never did the Home Agent feel she would be able to say that the most successful demonstration she gave in a year would be on Nutrition. This was true in September 1959. Food For Good Health was the topic of the demonstration given by the Agent to all 13 clubs. This demonstration highlighted posters showing the different nutrients needed for good health. The Agent used actual foods in making up the different food groups. Club members then participated by being certain nutrients (example - Vitamine C) and assembling foods containing this nutrient. The results of this demonstration was very satisfying, as so many of the club members expressed a real interest in the demonstration. Idea for demonstration given Agent by Mrs. Mary Thompson, Food Specialist. New methods used in the County that have proved effective were: Newsletters plugging bulletins, extensive use of Bulletin Racks, exhibit of bulletins at grocery stores and Fair. All Home Demonstration Club members reporting indicate they have used food information and given information to 175 additional families.

The Amelia County Health Department has done excellent work in Nutrition, especially in the schools.

More non-club members have asked for help in Food, as well as other fields of work in 1959, than in any previous year.

2. Home Management

A. Why selected and purpose of project:

1. All topics to be studied in 1959 program will emphasize better management of homemaker's time, energy and money as related to program topic.

4. Bulletins to be used as follow-up for all method demonstrations in food and special requests.
5. One radio program devoted to food and nutrition for 3 months. Feature local people on three programs. Program discontinued in April by radio station.
6. Club members carry information to other people following each demonstration. This is pin requirement and was one of most successful methods used for past two years, in all subject matter fields.
7. Fair booths.
 1. Yeast Bread & Variations - Hamshoro Home Demonstration Club.
 2. Food Fare featuring Basic 4 Foods - Mattoon Home Demonstration Club.
8. News article - one to feature food leaders and nutrition committee program.
9. June - Special Interest Meeting on "Outdoor Cookery" for 27 members.
10. Newsletter - plugging bulletins and meeting.

C. Results:

The Agent feels the 1959 Nutrition and Food Preparation and Preservation Program was most successful. Results of the long-time Nutrition Program are evident in the increased county interest in Nutritional Projects, Food Preservation and Preparation to save food value. It is difficult to gain adequate figures to verify the results, but the Agent is confident 400 white families used information gained in the food program in 1959.

B. Subject Matter

1. Nutrition and Food Preparation

a. Why selected and purpose of project:

1. To work on goal of Amelia County Nutrition Committee and to stimulate an interest for all people in Amelia County in the importance of good nutrition and to make available to families requesting help, information on planning meals for good health.
2. To fill all requests on how families can plan to make maximum use of home produced and conserved foods.
3. To give information to all Home Demonstration Clubs on Christmas Food Suggestions, Planning Well-Balanced, Interesting Meals, Using Yeast Breads & variations and Meat Carving.

b. Methods:

1. Detailed planning by County Nutrition Committee in February of ways to reach and interest more Amelia County families in basic 7 information.
2. One leader training meeting by specialist for twenty-six food leaders to train leaders in September.
3. Three method demonstrations, for all 13 Home Demonstration Clubs.
September - Menu Planning for Good Nutrition - Agent
October - Bread - Yeast Bread & Variations.
November - Meat Carving.

A. Organizations

County Agricultural Extension Service Board

All Extension Agents in Amalia County invited representatives of the Lighting Committee, Home Economics Committee on Nutrition, General Interest Committee on Farm & Home Development, Youth Committee, five Agricultural Committees, and County Home Demonstration Committee to a meeting to organize County Agricultural Extension Service Board, on October 1, 1959. The group did not organize at this time but decided to study problems and needs.

1. Nutrition Committee - Established October 1956 - 6 members
5 meetings - Mrs. E. R. Jackson, Chairman.
2. Youth Committee - Established 1957 - 3 members - enlarged - some activities combined with 4-H County Council - met 8 times.
3. Housing - First work on Lighting - organized January 1958 - 9 members - Mr. J. G. Dickerson, Chairman - 4 meetings.
4. Farm & Home Development - organized 1958 - met 3 times - 6 members.
5. County Home Demonstration Committee - meets twice a year - 18 members - Mrs. H. E. Harlow, Chairman.

Each committee worked with County needs with long and short term goals in their subject matter fields. (Complete details in long Time Extension Program Amalia County.) The total Home Economics and 4-H programs in 1959 have been based on County needs required by the different committees and methods used were recommendations of the committees for 1959. Details in Section B.

There are not any incorporated towns or industry other than sawmills and a milk receiving plant. Amelia has recently ranked among Virginia's ten highest pulpwood producing counties. Local business depends on farm families.

Education:

Median years completed - Male 6.9; Female 7.5. One consolidated high school, 2 small schools for white; same for colored.

Farm ownership - full owners - (1954 census) 673; part owners - 185; all tenants - 102.

Electricity is available to any family in Amelia County who can pay for it. Telephone coverage is good; two communities lack phone service.

Health & Safety:

Amelia County has three doctors - 1 at Hambers and 2 at Amelia Court House, a dentist four days per week. There is no public water supply or disposal system.

Recreation:

Amelia has one drive-in theater, one athletic field with lights, one Golf Club & swimming pool and club house (available only to members), one county community building, gym, rooms, kitchen facilities, space for dances and 4 rural community buildings, church recreation facilities, driving distance of Farmville, Cross, Blackstone, Richmond, Petersburg.

II. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - ADULT

I. COUNTY SITUATION

General Information About People:

Amelia County which was a tobacco county is recognized as a county with a diversified agriculture, outstanding in milk production, increased numbers of improved beef cattle as well as producing 4 types of tobacco, a number of excellent poultry flocks, hogs and an increasing number of sheep.

In 1955 the total population of Amelia County was 7,908. The area of the county is 366 square miles or 234,240 acres.

Forestry products account for 5.3% of the income of the county.

In 1944 the sale of crops accounted for 32.0 per cent of the value of all farm products sold. It dropped to 32.8 per cent in 1955. At the same time livestock and livestock products sales went from 44.9 per cent in 1944 to 61.9 per cent in 1955. Most of this increase can be attributed to the sales from dairy products.

Marketing of most products is to the cities of Farmville, Cross, Blackstone, Richmond, Petersburg, and Norfolk.

In 1945 we had 1227 farms. In 1955 we had 963 farms, a reduction of 264 farms in 10 years while the total land in farms increased by 3,000 acres. The average size of farms increased from 130.1 acres in 1940 to 153.2 acres in 1955. Amelia County has 583 white farm families and 196 non-rural families, 435 non-white farm families.

Friday, November 18, 1939



Amelia Horseman

By J. G. DICKERSON

CONGRATULATIONS - LADIES

Our congratulations go to the ladies of the Amelia County Home Demonstration Clubs, who recently appeared on a Richmond Television program. You were excellent representatives of Amelia County, and we hasten to send our compliments. Anyone who saw that program can not help having a good opinion of the county, with such a wonderful group of our ladies representing us.

We were struck with the poise of our ladies, few of whom appeared to be nervous. They appeared to be at home on the program, and made these old husbands, who were sitting close by their television sets, proud to be numbered among the husbands of the wives who contributed much to the occasion.

HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK—GENERALLY

Of all the public funds expended for service to rural people, we have always felt that the dollar that went into Home Demonstration work probably returned the most for money spent. This agency has done much good through the years to modernize the home, improve living conditions, to lift the living standards of the people, and to bring happiness to countless homes, some of which at least might well be living in the "horse and buggy days." Where there is a well ordered, well kept, attractive home there is a happy family. Home Demonstration work has brought many ago-

and better ideas into the average home. It has brought hope where there was none before it has led the way in building better homes, to better times, and better understanding among all of us.

There is a fine spirit of fellowship among our Amelia Clubs. They have taught us to save steps, to do old jobs in a new and better way; to share our ideas and experience for the betterment of all. And they enable the members to get together, to know and understand each other better, which of course means for better citizenship, and better living.

The Home Demonstration Clubs have taught us better ways to keep house, new and better ways to prepare and serve food. And while we are on the subject of food, ladies, don't forget this old wife liked to eat, and we have never failed to demonstrate that fact when we had an opportunity to join your organization around the festive board.

Amelia county has been fortunate in her Home Demonstration Agents through the years and, we must add, these agents have been most fortunate in the progressive, interested and intelligent women who have entered into and supported the work of these agents.

The first time this old scribe ever appeared before the Board of Supervisors in this county was many, many years ago. Being our first experience we were nervous, but a young man starting out in life, but convinced that a Home Demonstration agent would be a useful and effective agency for our county, we summoned the courage to recommend the appointment of Miss Marion Lawrence, our first agent, and a good one, too. We have never regretted going on record favoring a Home Demonstration Agent.

Achievements Are Praised By Banker

Special to The News Leader
AMELIA, Nov. 24.—Dedication on home demonstration work probably return the most for money spent, an Amelia banker has said here.

"They have done much to modernize the home," J. Gordon Dickerson, executive vice president of the Union Bank and Trust Co., Amelia, said some 85 persons attending achievement day for Amelia county home demonstration members.

The clubs also have improved living conditions, lifted the standard of living and brought happiness to countless homes in rural communities, he added.

Mr. J. G. Dickerson is Executive Vice President of the Union Bank and Trust Company. He has a weekly column in the Blackstone Courier-Record. These articles were published after Agent had completed Narrative Report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIVESTOCK DISEASE SPECIALIST
FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 1958 to NOVEMBER 30, 1959

Phases of Work: Livestock Disease and Parasite Control

Personnel Involved: S. L. Kalison, D.V.M.

Percentage of Time Devoted to Project: 100%