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Annual Report

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service



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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

FOR

SMYTH COUNTY

MARION VIRGINIA

BY

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COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

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IV . The County Situation As It Affects The Program

Smyth County has an area of 435 square miles with 278,400 acres of land. About forty four per cent of the total area is forested. The Jefferson National Forest embraces a large part of the mountainous areas. Hungry Mother Park, one of the most popular state parks, is just north of the county seat.

Manufacturing vies with agriculture in providing employment for Smyth people. Some industries are large. Products include hosiery, apparel, furniture, hickory handles, lumber, billiard and bowling items, sodium compounds, stone products, paving materials, and bricks.

The county is divided by mountains into three broad valleys with a population of approximately 30,000 people. Rural non farm 5565 families, urban families 11,252, according to 1950 census. There are 1626 farms averaging 105.6 acres per farm. Eight hundred forty eight of these farms have less than fifty acres; three hundred twenty nine have fifty to one hundred acres and four hundred twenty six farms have more than one hundred acres. Livestock is the largest single source of income, with crops ranking second and dairying third. Burley tobacco is the main cash crop. Smyth ranks ninth in value of livestock sold in the state. Approximately eighty one per cent of farm families are home owners. This factor makes it easier to carry out the extension program.

Emphasis in carrying out the program has been placed on better health through better nutrition, housing, clothing and management in the home. Running water in every farm home has been a long time goal with emphasis on more convenient kitchens and bath rooms.

V. Adult Work

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

Subject matter studied has been milk in the diet, salads, healthful desserts and preparation of foods that will keep in the refrigerator or freezer to save time in meal preparation.

The objectives were to improve the family's health through better meal planning, better selection and better preparation of foods. Thirty demonstrations were given by project leaders in the absence of the agent. The agent gave two leader training meetings to prepare the leaders for these meetings. Twenty five demonstrations were given by the agent and seventeen by the agent and leaders. A special interest meeting was held in June on making cheeses at home. The state dairy products specialist assisted the home agent in this all day meeting with twenty five families participating. As a result, sixty four families reported having made cheese in the home. Three families sold cottage cheese on the farm market which was established in Marion in July. The two commercial dairies in the county cooperated by furnishing milk and cream for the special cheese demonstration. Publicity was given through the local broadcasting station and newspaper articles. Emphasis was placed on milk and milk products during the month of June in celebration of National Dairy Month.

The importance of home gardens was stressed by local garden chairmen at each monthly club meeting. Timely information was mailed these leaders each month to supplement their discussions at meetings.

The importance of salads from vegetables and fruits at the July meetings helped farm families to serve attractive, more nutritional and better balanced meals as a result of fourteen demonstrations given by project leaders trained in advance by the home agent.

One hundred seventy two club members reported 18,516 quarts of vegetables canned and 3,675 quarts frozen from their home gardens. 13,048 quarts of fruit were canned with 2,420 quarts frozen by these club members. 3,300 quarts of meat were canned and 22,775 pounds frozen. These 172 reports showed that seventy five of these families had home freezers with fourteen purchased this year and fifty four purchased since 1950.

As a result of the foods program, 117 families reported they were using more milk in the diet. All but three farm families reporting had one or more cows.

The 1936 program of work shows an increased interest in foods and nutrition. This is an indication that the homemakers feel the need for doing a better job of feeding their families. The experience gained this year will serve to strengthen next year's food program.

Club members reported 369 other people reached through home visits to pass on information gained at club meetings. The home agent broadcasted once a week to discuss timely food and nutrition subjects. 2647 people were assisted with foods and nutrition during the year.

2. Clothing

The objectives were to improve techniques in the construction of better cotton dresses; to reduce the cost of the family's clothing; and to improve the homemakers' appearance through better fitted garments.

The state clothing specialist trained the home agent for a series of three demonstrations to be held in fourteen local clubs. These demonstrations were held consecutively for three months. The first demonstration consisted of body measurements, pattern and material selections for each club member. The second demonstration was on pattern adjustment, cutting and fitting of the garment. A group of three experienced leaders were asked in advance to each meeting to come prepared to show an adjusted pattern; to have the pattern laid properly on the fabric and to have a garment basted together for proper fitting. This saved time in presenting the entire demonstration. The third demonstration was on finishes for the garment which included making bound buttonholes, putting in slippers, belts, hems, etc. The club members were divided into small groups for this meeting, each group learning how to do the finish most important to them. Leaders assisted the agent.

The clothing program was climaxed with a county-wide cotton tea and achievement program during National Home Demonstration Week. Publicity was given through radio, and newspaper. Home

visits and telephone calls helped many women with their problems who were unable to attend a club meeting. The local stores cooperated with the agent in displaying suitable fabrics and sewing equipment for the project in their windows.

The results were gratifying. One hundred seventy two women reported 761 dresses made and 398 remodeled. Eighty seven women and 4-H girls modeled their dresses at the cotton tea. The women estimated many dollars saved by their home sewing. More valuable than a financial gain was the experience which they had had learning together new techniques in construction and solving fitting problems. Of course, the home agent was also proud of the dress she made and modeled at the cotton tea. Approximately one hundred fifty people attended the county-wide tea. Twenty five 4-H club girls modeled dresses on this occasion which were made by them in their 4-H clothing project. Preschool children also modeled dresses which had been made by their mothers in the home demonstration clubs.

As a result of the clothing program, the club women look better groomed; they select more appropriate and becoming clothes; and they have learned how to take the home-made look from the home constructed garment. Approximately 560 women were assisted by the program.

3. House Furnishings

The objectives for improving family living was to create more liveable and attractive homes through better arrangement of furniture, pictures and accessories, and to develop good taste in selecting house furnishings.

The agent studied materials prepared by the house furnishings specialist. She also used her own home as a result demonstration, whenever possible, to show leaders what could be accomplished on a small budget. Fourteen other homes served as result demonstrations.

The agent gave fifteen demonstrations on furniture arrangement and picture hanging. Old accessories which had been restored in last year's program were used to advantage in the demonstrations.

For each of the meetings, the hostess was asked in advance to dismantle her pictures and furniture in a room (preferably the living room) before the meeting. This gave the group and agent an opportunity to rearrange the furnishings according to better standards for more convenient and comfortable living. It was fun to see some of the so called clutter removed and have nice old accessories take their places. Emphasis was placed on arranging furniture in units for convenience and easier care according to the family's needs and interests.

Broadcasts, news articles, and home visits were made to help others who were unable to attend the demonstrations. Telephone calls, requesting information on restoring furniture and accessories, were answered by the home agent as a carry-over from last year's house furnishings program.

A new home demonstration club was organized while this program was in progress. This club wanted two consecutive meetings on house furnishings to create interest in their community and club. Their membership almost doubled at their second meeting. Color plans and window treatment have been asked for in the 1956 plan of work. Four hundred sixty one women were assisted with house furnishing problems during the year.

4. Housing

Emphasis was placed on running water in the home, installing bath rooms and more convenient kitchens. The objective was to raise the standard of living of farm families by having more convenient homes.

The home agent made personal home visits to help with remodeling problems. Broadcasts were given on different phases of housing, emphasizing water in the home and convenient kitchens. As a result, 14 bath rooms were installed this year, with 44 being added since 1950, according to reports from 172 club members. One hundred thirty two had bathrooms and 83 had central heat. Twenty seven had added central heat since 1950 and ten heating

systems were installed this year. Forty three families had purchased electric ranges since 1950. Seven were purchased in 1955. Seventy five of the club members had home freezers. Fifty four of these freezers were purchased since 1950. Fourteen were purchased this year. One hundred fifty five of these members had running water in the kitchen.

Other improvements in housing consisted of painting, laying new floors, building utility rooms, adding storm doors and windows, insulating house, repairing porches and steps, building new porches, fixing roofs, building cabinets and closets, installing hot water heaters, sanding floors, etc. One hundred one homes made some repairs out of 172 homes reporting.

5. Home Management

The objective for improving family living was to eradicate household insects and other pests in and around the home.

The state extension entomologist trained the project leaders at a county-wide meeting. These leaders were to give the demonstration in their local club. Thirteen demonstrations were given by leaders in the absence of the agent. Broadcasts and news articles were used to spread information to others.

The entomologist prepared a kit for each club with reference materials on insects and pests. This material has been available to all club members desiring help during the year. The home agent secured bulletins on household pests for individual members requesting them. D-Con, Warfarin, and Chlordane were used for eradication of roaches, ants, and rats with good results. Also, screens were added to combat flies. Breeding places were eradicated through a clean up campaign in the communities. Ninety four members reported having followed through on the program of eradication of pests and insects in and around the home.

6. Rural Arts

The club members always express a desire to work with their hands, thereby doing things that give them pleasure and at the same time add beauty to their homes. Reseating chairs and etching trays helped to satisfy their wants. Volunteer leaders held special interest meetings without the agent. The agent held two all day workshops on reseating chairs.

Two meetings were held by leaders on etching trays. Previous training had been received two years ago when the clubs took the project. Fifteen trays were etched. Eighteen chairs and footstools were resealed at the two workshops. Other individuals have material on hands to reseat chairs at home during the winter months.

7. Gardens. Poultry

(a) Gardens were reported under foods and nutrition (A-1)

(b) Poultry

The objective was to improve the home flock for increased home consumption. A poultry chairman was appointed in each club to lead timely discussions on poultry at monthly club meetings.

Subject matter material from the poultry specialist was mailed to each chairman monthly to supplement material received at a leader training meeting. A five minute talk followed by discussion was given at monthly meetings. These discussions helped farm families to do a better job of caring for and feeding their home flocks for a profit.

The average home flock consists of about twenty five hens. With better management and feeding, most families were able to supply their own family with eggs and also supplement their grocery bill by selling eggs. Others were reached with poultry information which was given monthly over the local broadcasting station by the home agent.

B. Outstanding HDC Community Projects and Community Club Improvement Work for the County

The objective was to help families solve community problems through organized efforts.

Each home demonstration club was urged to carry a community project to promote more interest among members and to help improve conditions in their respective communities. Two clubs continued the upkeep of their community cemeteries. These projects were started two years ago. Power mowers were purchased and work was volunteered by families in keeping the cemeteries in good shape. This year, these have become cooperative projects with the churches sharing in the work and expenses.

One home demonstration club is still finding their health project, started three years ago, serving a great need in their community. The club has purchased sick room equipment which is kept at the president's home. This equipment, consisting of everything from hot water bottle to a hospital bed, is almost in constant use by some one in the community. The equipment may be borrowed by any family in the community, the only stipulation being that the family return it to the center in good shape. The hospital bed was recently used by an elderly woman who had the misfortune to break her hip. A new mattress protector had to be purchased by the club this year.

Other clubs fixed baskets of canned goods and other food for the less fortunate families at Christmas time. Game parties and bake sales helped provide funds for carrying out these community projects.

The Grosedoc Community Improvement Club has been helping to meet the needs in their community for the past five years. The club is entering the contest sponsored by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce this year.

There are 102 farm families participating in the program. The major project in the club this year has been the improvement of the cemetery. The work was done by volunteer help. Seventy eight families participated working on Saturdays. Twenty two truck loads of dirt were donated and hauled. Ladies served lunch to the workers. As a result of this project, seventy three stones were reset. Each grave was marked. Fence rows were cleaned and grass planted.

A power mower was purchased with a \$300 donation. A total of \$945 has been pledged for the perpetual upkeep of the cemetery.

The club helped to organize a Boys Scout troop; raised money for the March of Dimes; organized a Junior Community Club (this club takes care of the young children while the adults have their program); treated the children at Christmas; had an exhibit at the fair and fixed baskets for the sick in the community.

The club donated \$46.00 to the Boys Scout troop to purchase a tent and \$110.00 to the cemetery fund.

The Extension garden specialist held one meeting during the year. A club member purchased recommended garden seed in bulk at wholesale prices for the club members. Approximately twenty six different kinds of vegetables were grown in most home gardens. More food was preserved as a result of the fine gardens.

Many home improvements were made. Seven new bathrooms were installed. Approximately \$3,450 was spent for home improvements and repairs. Three new homes were built, and four homes installed central heating systems. One home built a bathroom, installed central heat, remodeled kitchen adding Youngstown cabinets and sink, added running water, and purchased an electric hot water heater.

The club placed in the red award group at the area contest sponsored by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce. \$125.00 was added to their treasury as a result.

Another community project that created lots of interest was the Master Farm Family Award made to the outstanding farm family in the county. This program was sponsored jointly by the Extension Service and the Progressive Farmer magazine.

The Neal Umbargers live on a dairy farm. Their home has been remodeled during the past five years. Mrs. Umbarger is not only a successful homemaker but has served as a full time bookkeeper for the dairy enterprise.

Approximately sixty friends and neighbors of the Umburgers attended the awards celebration. The Mt. Carmel home demonstration club members helped serve refreshments for the occasion. The garden club made beautiful flower arrangements throughout the house. Neighbors told of outstanding achievements of the family. Following the program, a tour was made of the home and farm.

VI. Farm and Home Development

A. Methods Used In Selecting Families

The county board of agriculture, with representatives from the county board of supervisors, home demonstration committee, the key banker and other interested individuals met and approved the program. The selection of the families was left with the extension agents and were selected on a county-wide basis.

B. Explanation of how local leaders were acquainted with the farm and home development approach

The program was explained to the professional workers, church and civic groups and at home demonstration clubs by the extension agents. Home visits were made to interested individual families to help them get started in the program. Bench marks were set up and plans worked out for each family whereby it is hoped each family will produce the maximum in terms of economic returns and family satisfaction.

Twenty nine families are enlisted, but the program is too young yet to evaluate such progress. However, the program has brought the agents in contact with families that had not been reached by the Extension before. The home agent made home visits to advise these families on better home management, nutrition and food preservation.

VII. 4-H Club Work

A. Project Work

1. Food and Nutrition

The objective was to improve the health of rural families by teaching 4-H girls to prepare and serve attractive

nutritious meals in their homes. The project was selected at a county-wide planning meeting of adult leaders and older club girls. It was then discussed in the local clubs and a plan of work made for carrying it out.

Forty six girls were enrolled in the foods projects, including breads, meal planning and preparation, and food preservation.

The agent trained the adult leaders to train the girls in giving demonstrations at their monthly club meetings. The girls worked in pairs so as to give each member a chance to participate in the giving of a demonstration during the year. The meetings were held in the schools and in the girls' and leaders' homes. The agent trained three girls to take part in the district foods contest. Most of the girls completed their projects but only nineteen records were turned in to the agent showing 2,645 meals prepared and served, with twenty eight different dishes prepared. 497 quarts of food were canned by four members reporting, with 123 quarts and 23 pounds frozen.

Two girls won blue ribbon awards at the district contest, one in frozen foods and one in breads. A third girl came out with a white ribbon with her canning demonstration at the district contest. The blue ribbon winners will compete for state awards. These girls have given the same demonstration at home demonstration and 4-H club meetings for more experience and practice before they enter the state contests.

2. Clothing (Units I, II , and III)

The objective of these projects was to develop good techniques in clothing construction and good grooming.

These projects were selected at a county program planning meeting of older girls and adult leaders. The projects were then discussed in the local clubs and a plan of work made by each individual club. Adult project leaders assisted the agent in conducting the projects. These leaders had previous training in clothing construction in the home demonstration

program. One hundred fifty nine girls were enrolled with one hundred thirty completing. Twenty five girls modeled their dresses in the home demonstration county-wide cotton tee. One girl modeled her wool suit in the district contest and won a blue ribbon award. She will compete in the state clothing contest next spring. One girl entered the state clothing contest this year and was a red ribbon winner. One hundred twenty garments and two hundred fifty articles were made by the one hundred thirty girls completing this project. Awards for outstanding achievements were made at the county-wide achievement day program. Three girls received county medals.

3. Electricity

The objective was to improve the lighting in the homes.

The local power company's home economist worked with the home agent in carrying out this project. Girls from six local clubs were enrolled. These girls, with the adult leaders, came to the county seat for training meetings. Three of these meetings were held at which time demonstrations were given on fixing electric cords, care of electrical equipment. The third meeting was a workshop on making lamps. Thirty two lamps were made by the twenty nine girls enrolled. These consisted of pin-up lamps and table lamps. The girls and leaders discussed the project with a picnic and a tour to the dairy farm which received the Kester Farm Family award sponsored by the Progressive Farmer magazine in cooperation with the Virginia Agricultural Extension Service. Twenty four girls completed the project. The county winner received an all expense trip to the Virginia Electric Congress held in Richmond. The second winner was awarded the county medal at the annual achievement day program. The winner in this project also received the state citizenship award at the county achievement day program.

B. Other Activities

1. Camp

The objective of the 4-H camp was to develop leadership and strengthen 4-H club work in the county.

The program was to provide educational and recreational activities for one week. Members were selected to attend on the basis of good project work in their respective clubs since there was a quota assigned and the number going was limited.

A camp committee met early in the year and selected the camp directors- one farm agent and a home agent who worked out detailed duties for the camp personnel.

Seven Southwest Virginia counties cooperated in making the camp possible. A total of 300 boys and girls, adult leaders and extension agents attended. Thirty four boys and girls attended from Smyth County. Some of the clubs held bake sales and a spaghetti supper to help defray the expenses of members going to camp. Otherwise, the cost would have prohibited some boys and girls from going.

Valuable help in leadership was gained through their camp experiences. Reports were given at home demonstration meetings and county 4-H events upon their return to the county. The adult leader, in making a talk at the annual 4-H achievement program, was pleased to find that the club members were so well supervised while in camp.

2. Achievement Day

The objectives were to acquaint the public with the county 4-H program; to recognize leadership and make awards for outstanding achievements during the year.

A council meeting was held to make plans for the program. Publicity was given the program on the radio and through the county newspaper.

Approximately 225 club members, parents, leaders, and friends attended the program. Talks were given on camp, the State Short Course and the Electric Congress by club members attending these events. Highlighting the program was a talk by an 1954 International Youth Exchange Student to Holland. He illustrated remarks by showing colored slides of his experiences.

Excellent talent was displayed by different clubs in the form of songs, stunts, etc. Individual awards were made to members for their outstanding accomplishments during the year. Leadership plaques were awarded to the outstanding 4-H boy and girl in the county, and was sponsored by the County Wool Growers Association. A plaque was awarded also to the club having accomplished the most during the year. This plaque is held by the winning club until defeated by a more outstanding club. Recognition was made to adult leaders for their valuable services rendered to 4-H work in the county. A social hour followed the program at which time the hostess 4-H club served cider and cookies. The leaders assisted the committee in serving.

3. Rural Life Sunday

The objective was to develop leadership in the community. Four clubs observed rural life Sunday by taking part in church services in their communities. They attended services in a group with their adult leaders. They furnished flower arrangements for the churches on that particular Sunday. Approximately sixty members and four adult leaders took part in a rural life Sunday services.

4. Contests

The objective was to encourage better project work through competition by members. The contest regulations were explained to all club members at the start of their projects. The best records were judged on a county basis to determine the county winners. Awards were made at the county achievement program.

Four girls were trained by the agent and leaders to compete in the district contest. The training consisted of home visits, practice demonstrations at home and at 4-H and home demonstration club meetings in their communities. Three girls gave food demonstrations and one girl competed in clothing in the district contest. Three of these girls were blue ribbon winners and are making preparation to compete in the state contest in the near future. The member winning in the style dress revue contest also won the state citizenship award. This award was made at the State 4-H Short Course for outstanding leadership.

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She was also awarded a plaque by the County Wool Growers Association for her excellent leadership in her club, community, and county. Contests have done much to create interest in better club project work and to develop leadership in the county.

5. Other Special Events

Three clubs participated in community activities to make money for camp, Short Course expenses. A spaghetti supper sponsored by two clubs jointly was attended by approximately one hundred fifty people. Three bake sales and the supper netted these clubs approximately \$150.00.

A county-wide picnic was held at Hungry Mother State Park with approximately 125 members and parents in attendance. Some of the members arrived early and enjoyed a swim in the lake. Others took part in volley ball and horseshoe pitching for recreation. Following the picnic supper, an interesting program was entered into by club members, consisting of skits, talks on the camp and the Short Course and a movie of the 1954 National Club Congress.

Eleven All Stars and two parents attended the key awards banquet sponsored by the Cities Service Oil Company. This meeting has aroused interest in organizing a county All Star Chapter.

Three clubs built floats depicting 4-H club work and entered them in the Christmas celebration sponsored by the Marion Chamber of Commerce.

VIII. Young Men and Young Women's Work

There are no organized young men and young women's club in the county. However, young people have been reached through the community improvement and home demonstration clubs. Approximately fifty young people between the ages of 18 to 30 are taking part in monthly club meetings.

II. Scope of Work

| | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| No. HD Clubs or Groups | 12 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| Membership | 352 | 369 | 379 | 392 | 407 |
| No. 4-H Clubs | 11 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
| Membership | 203 | 206 | 179 | 208 | 203 |
| No. other families reached | 2585 | 2585 | 3000 | 3000 | 3050 |
| No. of different families reached | 2125 | 2150 | 2200 | 2175 | 2225 |
| No. of community clubs | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Membership | 225 | 210 | 150 | 150 | 102 |

B. Work done to increase scope of work and to publicize home demonstration work

Citizenship and international understanding chosen as the federation goal for study in fourteen home demonstration clubs has broadened the scope of home demonstration work. The members have participated in discussions on citizenship at club meetings and in radio broadcasts. The county goal chairman helped by outlining subject matter material for local leaders' use on county, state and national level at their monthly meetings. Eight clubs gave broadcasts. These created interest among citizens of the county. Telephone calls from non club members expressed the public's interest which was created by the citizenship study. Radio broadcasts and publicity through the local newspaper have certainly helped to publicize the extension program in the county.

The Farm and Home Development approach has helped to acquaint more farm families with the scope of home demonstration work. The excellent work done by local volunteer leaders has given publicity to the program. Annually, each of the home demonstration clubs publish a summary of their year's accomplishments in the county newspaper at the request of the newspaper editor. Thus the home demonstration clubs have made a place for themselves along with other civic and professional organizations in the county. A new home demonstration club was organized as a result of publicity given the program this year.

X. Organizations- how they functioned in planning and carrying out the county program

A. County Home Demonstration Committee

This committee is composed of the presidents, program development leaders and members at large from fourteen communities. Two meetings are held annually with sub committees meeting whenever the need arises.

The local clubs submitted needs and interests of their respective communities, after discussions at monthly meetings, to the county committees. These suggestions were the basis for the county-wide program of work set up.

A spring meeting of the committee was held to discuss progress made with the program as planned and changes made to complete the year's work. The county committee was represented at the state federation meeting by the president. The committee sponsored the county-wide cotton tea and urged clubs to send representatives to the district federation meeting. Forty five club members attended this meeting. Smyth County home demonstration clubs will be hostess for the 1956 district meeting. The special committee planned the yearbook and secured a local sponsor.

B. County Board of Agriculture

This board is supervised by the farm agent and the home demonstration committee has not been urged to have a representative at their meetings.

C. County 4-H Council

The county council consists of all officers and adult leaders of the local 4-H clubs. The council has held two meetings for the purpose of planning and carrying out the county-wide activities, such as camp, achievement day, and picnic.

D. County 4-H Project Planning Committee

This committee, composed of adult leaders and a representative group of 4-H girls from each local club, met in September to select the projects for 1956. Each club submitted needs and interests of their groups. These suggestions were pooled to determine the main projects for the year. These projects included clothing, foods and electricity.

XI. Leadership

A. Contributions to the Program by Volunteer Leaders

1. Organizational

These leaders served as officers of the 4-H and home demonstration clubs, conducting all business matters. They made arrangements for and publicized monthly meetings; appointed committees for carrying out the program; and were responsible for turning in records of accomplishments to the home agent.

2. Program Development

The program development leaders were responsible for collecting data relating to the needs and interests of their local communities. Discussions were led by them in the home demonstration clubs relative to program building. Reports of these discussions served as a basis for planning the county-wide program of work. Community maps, showing the roads and homes in the communities, prepared by these leaders, helped the club members to visualize the size and interests of the community when discussions were presented at club meetings.

3. Subject Matter

Home demonstration leaders gave fifty nine demonstrations in the absence of the agent and assisted with nineteen. They attended two county-wide leader training meetings given by the agent in preparation of the above demonstrations.

They assisted the secretary in collecting individual project reports of club members. They gave special reports on the radio and passed subject matter materials to non club members.

4-H leaders held fifty five meetings without the agent, reaching 982 girls. These leaders assisted the girls in giving demonstrations; helped collect records at the close of the project; and served as advisors on the county project planning committee. They also assisted the girls with special activities such as making floats, money raising projects, rural life Sunday and recreation programs.

B. Growth of Leadership

| <u>HD Club Project Leadership</u> | <u>1951</u> | <u>1952</u> | <u>1953</u> | <u>1954</u> | <u>1955</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| No. Project leaders (subject matter) | 26 | 30 | 32 | 73 | 114 |
| No. goal chairmen | 12 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 15 |
| No. Program development leaders | 6 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 14 |
| No. result demonstrators | 15 | 20 | 24 | 39 | 79 |
| No. training meetings by specialists | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| by district agents | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| by agent | 13 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 18 |
| Attendance at all training meetings | 142 | 127 | 141 | 183 | 162 |
| No. meetings without an agent | 64 | 60 | 53 | 58 | 59 |
| No. meetings leaders assisted | 8 | 21 | 35 | 37 | 19 |
| Demonstrations by leaders | 84 | 90 | 72 | 95 | 78 |
| Talks and discussions by leaders | 168 | 170 | 172 | 195 | 267 |

| <u>Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership</u> | <u>1951</u> | <u>1952</u> | <u>1953</u> | <u>1954</u> | <u>1955</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| No. club officers | 40 | 40 | 30 | 40 | 50 |
| No. adult project leaders | 14 | 15 | 13 | 17 | 16 |
| No. result demonstrations | 2 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 25 |
| No. training meetings held by specialists | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| by agent | 6 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 14 |
| by district agent | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| by member club dept. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total attendance of leader training meetings | 70 | 44 | 75 | 80 | 167 |
| No. 4-H leaders trained individually | 14 | 12 | 5 | 12 | 16 |
| No. club meetings held by leader without agent | 20 | 30 | 29 | 49 | 35 |
| No. addit. club meet. at which leaders assisted | 49 | 16 | 32 | 15 | 31 |
| No. demonstrations given by adult leaders | 69 | 46 | 45 | 45 | 55 |
| By Junior Leaders | 24 | 15 | 8 | 10 | 23 |

C. Activities and Accomplishments of Outstanding Leader

Mrs. Kennard Box, president of the Greenwood-Mt. Zion home demonstration club, has been an active leader in her community and club. She was instrumental in organizing a home demonstration club in her community and has served as president and project leader. She is a newly appointed leader for the Marion girls' 4-H club and her interest is even greater in this capacity. Her daughter is an active 4-H member and she has guided her into a clothing project. She makes most of the family's clothing and is very interested in helping the 4-H'ers with their clothing projects. She helped the girls make the cider which they served to the 225 people attending 4-H achievement day. The girls spent one Saturday making the cider at Mrs. Box's home. She worked untirely to help these girls build their 4-H float which they entered in the home coming celebration in Marion.

She held a chair reseating workshop recently in her home for her neighbors and HD members at which time seven footstools and three chairs were bottomed. She has held several special interest meetings on making lamp shades and stoking trays. She has given willingly of her time to promote the adult and 4-H programs in her community.

D. Activities and Accomplishments of An Outstanding Family

The Henry Hoofnagles have been active adult leaders in the 4-H clubs of their community. Mrs. Hoofnagle has served a leader of the Atkins girls' 4-H club since it was organized two years ago. Mr. Hoofnagle is an active leader of the Atkins boys' 4-H club. The Hoofnagles have a daughter and son in these 4-H clubs.

The clubs meet once a month at night. The boys meet on a separate night from the girls, but they plan many of their club activities together with committees from each club serving. The Hoofnagles are always ready to help plan events in the two clubs and to raise money to send members to camp, provide transportation to club meetings and county-wide events, and helping with project completions. Ninety nine per cent of their members completed their projects this

year. There are fifteen girls and twenty two boys in the clubs.

Mrs. Hoofnagle helped organize the Atkins home demonstration club and was the first president. She has since served as a project leader. She attended 4-H camp this year and helped with the handicraft classes. The family helped raise funds to send half of the 4-H members to camp. Both the Hoofnagle children have attended camp for the past two years. Mrs. Hoofnagle stated in her talk on camp activities at the 4-H achievement program that she liked having her family go to camp because the 4-H'ers were so well supervised and learned many things which they have brought back to their local clubs.

The family helped build a float for the Christmas parade sponsored by the Marion Chamber of Commerce, and helped them prepare a program for rural life Sunday for the past two years.

The entire family is active in the church and other organizations in their community.

E. Activities and Accomplishments of A Club

The Saltville home demonstration club, with a membership of twenty nine, has done outstanding work. They have four active members who are serving as leaders in two 4-H clubs sponsored by their club. The senior 4-H girls have been active under their leadership for the past three years. A junior girls' 4-H club was organized by the club this year. The adult leaders have served as project and organizational leaders and have attended monthly meetings with the girls. The girls met after school in the leaders' and girls' homes. The home demonstration club furnished transportation for the girls to county-wide events.

Sixteen members made repairs on their homes according to twenty one reports summarized by the program development leader. These repairs included installing kitchen cabinets,

storm windows, insulation, hot water heaters, refinishing floors, new porches and central heat. One member built a new kitchen and a garage.

The citizenship chairman gave a very fine broadcast over WMEV. Three other members participated in this broadcast on "What is the status of Virginia on voting, health education, income tax and crime rate?"

The club held six meetings without the agent. The project leaders gave five demonstrations without the agent.

Reports showed that the members had reached eighty six other people with information gained at a club meeting.

As a result of the clothing project, fifty two dresses were made and fifty remodeled.

Seven new members were added this year. The club has laid the ground work for organizing a new club in a nearby community.

F. Significant Achievement of Extension Work in 4-H Clubs

4-H club work was a real problem until 1953. Up until that time the clubs were all meeting in schools under very crowded conditions. It was impossible to even have a place to meet in the high schools. The members weren't accomplishing a thing except to get out of a class in school. After a conference with the county agent, it was decided to organize as many clubs out of school as possible. To date, there are four girls' clubs meeting out of school and several boys' clubs. While there is a disadvantage perhaps of the boys and girls not meeting together, there are many other advantages. The members have approximately two hours for a meeting; they get more project work accomplished; plan community activities which holds the interest of everyone; enjoy the social gathering in the members' homes, and almost 100% attend all meetings, and there are a greater number of project completions.

These clubs have at least two adult leaders who are supporting the work whole heartedly, and they are doing an excellent job of training their young people for future homemakers and good citizens in their respective communities.

XII. Appraisal of Year's Work

The year's program of work has contributed to improved family living and better homemaking in Smyth County.

The program shows greater progress being made in leadership development in both the 4-H and home demonstration work. The program has improved health conditions; inspired families to improve their homes for more comfortable living; and created better relationships among families for improved citizens.

With continued leadership, it is hoped that the 1956 program will inspire a greater number of people to participate in the extension program.