

I.

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

Southampton County

Virginia

1946

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Home Demonstration Agent

## II.

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### III. SCOPE OF WORK

#### Home Demonstration Clubs

There are seventeen home demonstration clubs in the county with a membership of 400. These members in turn carry information to many who are not reached through the regular program. The agent has received numerous requests from individuals who have heard of something we are doing in the clubs, and who desire similar help or information.

#### 4-H Clubs

During the past year the number of girls enrolled in 4H Clubs increased from thirty five to fifty four. All of the clubs, except one, were small neighborhood groups which means that the number of girls who could attend meetings is always smaller than when the clubs are organized in the schools. However, the quality of work done by the member is far superior to that done by the group in school. Two clubs were organized this month and plans are under way for another one in the near future, so it looks like there will be considerable increase in the enrollment for the coming year.

#### Special Groups

"The agent has worked with the Woman's Club in Boykins and Drewryville, giving them demonstrations on stencilling and curtains and draperies. A handicraft class was held at Ivor which also gave contact with another group not enrolled in the regular work."

#### Total Scope

Information concerning various programs and educational material has been distributed to other individuals over the county. Over 1200 leaflets on meat canning, curing meat and protecting meats from insects were distributed during the hog killing season. Prior to the opening of the Frozen Food Plant in Franklin, officials of the business were contacted and the mailing list of patrons secured. These people were contacted when demonstrations on freezing were held, also material on preparing fruits vegetables and meats was sent them prior to the demonstrations. Merchants throughout the county were contacted at the beginning of the canning season, and over 2000 bulletins were given them for distribution to their customers purchasing equipment.

It is felt that through the work of leaders, and through printed information and news articles that at least half of the farm families of the county are being reached. According to the 1945 census there are 2553 farm families in the county.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION

##### County Home Demonstration Committee.

The home demonstration committee is made up of the presidents of the seventeen clubs and three members at large. Two meetings were held during the year. The first one was held in May and was attended by twenty three women. At this time the clubs reported on the progress made in carrying out the program. Means of securing reports on work done by the members was discussed. The agent discussed the 4H Club work in the county, and the clubs cooperation in working with this group was urged. How the club members could help some family in a war torn nation was also brought to the attention of the group. Results on the outcome of these objectives will be given elsewhere in this report.

The second meeting, to plan the next year's work was held in October. Both old and new presidents were urged to attend. Twenty eight were present. Reports on the State Federation Meeting in Blacksburg were given. County needs and problems were brought to the attention of the group. New handbooks were distributed, also suggestions for the officers of the clubs to follow in conducting the meetings. The achievement tour was discussed and the schedule for the places to be visited was brought to the attention of the group.

The agent feels that there has been a decided improvement in the status of the home demonstration committee. For the first time since the agent has been in the county, each club handed in a report of their activities to the county chairwoman, without the agent having to help her get the information desired for her report. The agent feels that the county chairwoman, Mrs. Melvin, deserves the credit for much of this improvement because of her faithfulness and efforts to keep them informed of their responsibilities.

##### County 4-H Council

The County 4H Council is made of the officers of the different 4H clubs and their leaders. Three meetings were held during the year. In March the group met to decide upon county objectives, and to go over the program of work. The county objectives which were adopted were:

- (1) Have 85% of members completing project records.
- (2) Secure an adult leader for each club
- (3) Each club member to enter a project contest.
- (4) Council to sponsor a party for members completing projects.
- (5) Each club to have at least one representative to attend district camp
- (6) Sponsor a county picnic for club members and their families.

The second meeting in May was spent in working on plans for 4H Camps, and on plans for conducting the project contests. Summer meetings and special club activities were discussed and suggestions given as to how they might be carried out in the different clubs.

The third meeting in August was held just prior to the county picnic. Detailed plans for the affair was laid before the group. New officers for the coming year were elected and various committees appointed.

Reports on activities and objectives mentioned above will be given under the section on results.

#### U.S.D.A. Council

Only one meeting of the U.S.D.A. Council was held during the year. This was for the purpose of reorganization. Representatives of the AAA, Extension, Vocational Education, and Farm Security were present.

## V. LEADERSHIP

### Adult Work.

The smooth operation of the clubs should be contributed to the good club officers who directed the program. Not only have such officers conducted the business of the club in an efficient and dignified manner, but they have worked to strengthen their clubs. There was no training meeting for these leaders, but they were sent instruction sheets on how to conduct a meeting, and the duties of the officers.

Project leaders which were used to carry out the program of work were (1) handicrafts, (2) house furnishings (3) yard improvement (4) health and (5) social service.

Each year the women of Southampton County have attempted to sponsor a special interest meeting. In planning the program of work there were so many requests for some handicraft work that it was decided that this should be the special interest work. In January Miss Ruth Jamison came to the county to work with the agent in training the women who were interested in rug making and hand painting. The first day forty seven women attended, twenty eight were present the second day. Following this meeting plans were made for leaders who had attended to assist the agent in conducting community demonstration for the women who were interested. Ten such meetings were held in different sections of the county.

The first training meeting for house furnishings leaders was conducted by the home agent and was attended by eighteen leaders representing sixteen clubs. These women were trained to give the demonstration on curtains and draperies. Fourteen demonstrations on making curtains and draperies was given in the month of March.

Arrangements of furniture proved to be of especial interest to many of the women. Several means of presenting the demonstration was used, but the one which proved to be most helpful was to have the meeting in the home of a member who was willing for the leader to arrange the furniture in one room. The members enjoyed expressing their own ideas as well as seeing them put into operation. Fourteen such demonstrations were given in the month of April.

In June Miss Ruth Jamison came to the county to train the same leaders on modernizing old lamps. Following this these leaders returned to their communities and gave fifteen demonstrations showing how old kerosene lamps might be converted into electric lamps. In addition to this they showed the groups how lamps which were not satisfactory might be modernized so that it gave sufficient light. At the same time the leaders attempted to give timely information which would be useful for any person who was considering purchasing lamps or lamp shades.

In securing yard improvement leaders it was decided to select one woman in each neighborhood who was interested in improving her yard. In July the landscape specialist visited the county and worked with these leaders in planning how they might improve their yards by the proper location of walks, driveways, trees and shrubs.

Following the specialist's visit complete plans and sketches were sent these women. The agent then visited them to help them plan how to present similar information to the club women in their locality. In some cases the September meeting was held at the home of the leader. The group visited her yard, saw and discussed the plans and suggestions which had been worked out.

In the September meeting it became so noticeable that the members were not acquainted with the kinds of shrubs which were typical of their own locality that it was decided that it would be wise to help them become familiar with our own local products. The leaders secured cuttings from the kinds which are common to Southampton County, and then conducted a little contest on "Know Your Shubbery." As each shrub was identified suggestions on planting were given. At the same time, the leaders tried to point out where such shrubbery should be planted, also any difficulties that might be encountered in the cultivations of such.

During the month of November two club members who were especially talented in arranging flowers assisted the agent in conducting the demonstration on "Winter Flower Arrangements." Where it was possible to hold joint meetings of two or three clubs it was done. These meetings proved to be of great interest. Not only did the members appreciate the arrangements and practical suggestions made by these leaders, but they enjoyed meeting women in other sections of the county.

The Federation Goal which was selected for the county was health. Each club had a health chairman who worked with the Federation Goal chairman and the agent in seeking to carry out the following objectives:

- (1) Cooperate with all county health programs.
- (2) Each club member to make definite efforts throughout the year to keep herself and her family healthy.
- (3) Each club member to have a well equipped medicine cabinet in her home.
- (4) Encourage every member to carry hospitalization insurance.

Local health authorities furnished information on the work of the health department and cancer. This information was presented to the club members in April and May. Plans were worked out with the Health Department and the T.B. Association for the club members to assist with the county X-Ray Clinic.

Social Service: This year the club members decided they wanted to have a social service committee, whose duty would be to keep in touch with members and friends in the community who were ill or in trouble, and visit them and remember them with notes or letters. This thought and exercise of Christian fellowship has brought much good will to the individual clubs. These leaders have functioned quietly but well, and they deserve as much credit as any we have.

Too much credit cannot be given the leaders who have worked so faithfully to promote the extension program. They have not stinted of their time or energy as is evidenced by the fact that they gave fifty four demonstrations, made 157 talks or discussions to adult groups, contacted 1835 individuals by home visits, phone or letter. They rendered 154 days service in carrying out the program.

## 4-H Club Work

Each of the six 4H Clubs in the county had their officers and leaders who were responsible for calling all meetings, and attending to the routine and business matters of the club.

Each club had at least one junior project leader, usually one of the older girls, whose duty it was to give several demonstrations during the year, as well as to assist any of the younger members who might need help in conducting their projects. The projects where these leaders were used were clothing, housekeeping, and food preparation. The agent trained the adult leaders and they in turn trained the girls. The clothing leader gave the demonstrations on construction finishes, the junior leaders gave them on how to put in a hem and cutting and joining bias. Housekeeping leaders gave the demonstration on equipping a cleaning kit, and making a luncheon set or table mats. The junior leaders gave the demonstrations on making a bed, cleaning furniture and woodwork, and setting the table. Food leaders gave demonstrations on salads and biscuits.

The agent had the misfortune to lose two good leaders during the year, but these have been replaced. She has found that the best results with leaders are obtained when she works with them individually.

## VI. RESULTS

### Home Demonstration Club Project Work

**Foods:** While production, conservation, nutrition and food preparation were given a minor place when the program of work was planned, it does not mean that it did not receive considerable attention throughout the year. The garden and poultry leaders who had served in previous years continued to bring timely information throughout the year. One hundred and eighty one club members followed recommendations in planning for the family food supply. One hundred and eighty one members reported that they had a year round garden. These same women canned 14,680 quarts of fruit, 26,765 quarts of vegetables, and 3,820 quarts of meat.

In May a Frozen Foods Plant begun operation in Franklin. At the time it opened two demonstrations were held for the patrons of the plant. Similar demonstrations were held in four of the clubs at a later date. The plant has resulted in radical changes in the food preservation work. Those individuals who have lockers are most enthusiastic of the results. Many of them have as many as two lockers which were filled to capacity. Unfortunately, the plant is in one end of the county, and while it is the shopping center, many people feel that it is still too far to travel to be practical. Club members who had lockers reported that they froze 3,002 pounds of fruits, 4,106 pounds of vegetables and 6,211 pounds of meat.

During the month of June canning demonstrations were given in a number of the clubs. Every club had a discussion on what causes food spoilage, and how to identify such spoilage and how to prevent it. This was done by means of an exhibit of canned goods showing various types of spoilage. Much interest was manifest in this. Many of the members said, "I have noticed that so often and wondered what caused it. I certainly am glad to know the reason and how to prevent it."

Food preparation was not a part of the regular program but the agent had many requests for material of this nature. In December, leaflets on Christmas Foods was given all members. In the early summer a leaflet on pickles and relishes was distributed, followed a few weeks later on sugar saving desserts. Several of the clubs held special meetings in August at which time such demonstrations were given.

### Clothing

Although clothing was not a part of the planned program, it does not mean that none of it was done. Numerous requests regarding fabrics, styles, sources of materials and suggestions as to how clothes might be made over were constantly asked the agent. Twice during the year time was taken at a regular meeting for the agent to bring outlook information to the members.

While no attempt was made to have members keep records of the work which they had done in constructing clothing, two clubs who were especially interested, Black

Greek and Sedley, did keep records. Their report shows that they made three hundred and thirty four new garments, remodeled eighty eight, and made two hundred and ten articles for the home, such as sheets, pillow cases, towels, and luncheon sets.

Once a piece of work is started, it often continues a long time after the project has ceased to be a part of the regular program. Such has been the case with the cleaning of sewing machines. Two clinics were held in the past year, and many members report that they have realigned their own as well as a neighbors.

#### The House and House Furnishings

It seems to the agent that the home has been the prime interest of most of the members. Never has she noticed people with a keener desire to use some of their money to make their homes more convenient, livable and attractive. In spite of all the difficulties in securing materials, the agent has been amazed at the amount of work which has been done. While curtain and drapery material has been high and hard to secure, over three hundred and seventy five pairs have been made by club women. One hundred and twenty nine members planned new color schemes for one or more rooms. Three hundred and one rooms were painted or papered. Slip covers were made for one hundred and one pieces of furniture. Thirty six rugs and sixty four bed spreads were made from bed bags.

Interest in refinishing furniture seems to be going forward with as much zeal as in the past, as is evidenced by the fact that three hundred and seventeen pieces were repaired and refinished during the year. Tying springs and upholstering furniture still interests many as is indicated by the fact that five such community clinics were held during the year.

The demonstrations on arrangement of furniture and furnishings has also led to good results as evidenced by the three hundred women who reported making changes in their homes for convenience and beauty.

There is scarcely a day that the agent does not receive some request regarding remodeling or improvements to be made in the home. Sixteen women requested help regarding painting, thirty asked for help regarding remodeling, fifteen asked for help in planning for additional storage space. Forty women followed suggestions on refinishing floors. Five individuals who were building new homes requested help in planning storage, color schemes, painting, and selecting and using furnishings.

One phase of the work which has aroused as much enthusiasm and interest as any undertaken by the women has been on yard improvement. The ten leaders on yard improvement will be used as result demonstrations. By next fall we hope that the improvements made will be far enough along so results can really be noted. It is planned to include some of these places in our next tour.

More accurate results on the effectiveness of this phase of the work may be secured next year, but to date seventy nine club members have planned to make improvements in their yards. Seventy two members have already planted shrubbery, flowers or bulbs. The leaders will be used during the coming year. Each month it is planned to have them bring timely information on some phase of outdoor homemaking.

### Home Management

In January club members were helped to make a homemakers calendar. Means of saving time and energy was demonstrated and discussed. One Hundred and seventy five homemakers report that they made such a calendar, and that it has proved most helpful in helping them to accomplish more work, and in aiding them to improve on their housekeeping methods.

Last year the home management specialist visited the county and worked with the agent in setting up nine unit kitchen demonstrations. Since that time the agent has worked with five other members to set up similar demonstrations. To date seven of these kitchens have been completed. The others will be finished when materials become available, but with the scarcity of building supplies, coupled with the high cost made the agent feel that it was advisable to encourage these members to wait until later to make the improvements since they were not individuals who could afford to pay exorbitant prices for materials and equipment which they needed.

In October and November of last year the agent gave a demonstration on arranging kitchen equipment for convenience, and on kitchen storage. Since that time seventy one members have made definite improvements in their kitchens, including rearranging and grouping equipment for convenience and providing needed storage space by better utilization of cabinets and drawer space they already had.

In February emphasis was placed on the selection of equipment. Information on the selection of equipment, construction features, operation, cost, care and maintenance of such pieces of equipment as stoves, refrigerators, washing machines, sweepers, irons and ironers, water heaters and pressure saucepans was given. While most of the members have not been able to purchase the equipment they desire they have said they felt the discussions would help them to make better purchases when such equipment appears on the market.

### Home Demonstration Club Activities

For two years club members of this county have carried the same Federation Goal, Health. Last year we tried to get the members to carry hospitalization, and to equip a medicine cabinet. In checking on the results at the end of the year it was felt that too many of our members still did not carry hospitalization, so it was decided to continue the drive. It is felt that we are making substantial progress in this line as eighty members report that they took out such insurance sometime during the year.

Cancer and T. B. are diseases which take a large toll in our county, so considerable emphasis has been placed on educating the members as to symptoms, causes, and means of controlling. At the same time efforts were made to secure support of work that would help to control and that some progress has been made is evidenced by the financial support given both drives. Last year the clubs did not make a contribution to the Cancer Fund, this year they gave over twenty five dollars. The sale of T. B. seals to club members last year was less than ten dollars; this year it was over forty two.

The month of May was devoted to the Federation Goal. At that time the leaders told of the work of the Health Department. This was done to enable all to become familiar with the services which were available to our people, as well as to secure their support in furthering health work in the county. Two demonstrations were given during the month, one on making a patient comfortable was given to the clubs where the members had not had home nursing, the other on food for the sick, was given to the groups that had taken the course just mentioned.

#### District Federation Meeting

In April the clubs of the county were hostesses to the District Federation Meeting which was held in Franklin. Approximately three hundred and fifty delegates were present from eleven counties. Each club was given some responsibility for different jobs which had to be done, and they deserve much credit for the capable manner in which it was carried out. They enjoyed meeting women from other counties and in hearing what they were doing. Already they are making plans and looking forward to attending another such affair.

#### Helping Families In Europe

Another activity which grew out of a recommendation of the county committee was to adopt some family in a war torn country. To date two clubs have made contributions to organizations carrying on such work, and six clubs have packed boxes which were sent to families in France and Greece.

#### Achievement Tours.

More favorable comments have been heard regarding the Achievement Tours than any activity carried on by the clubs. Two such tours were held in the county. Three homes were visited on two different afternoons. Visits to these homes enabled the members to see how recommendations on storage, kitchen planning, color, curtains and draperies, and refinishing furniture had been put into practice. The agent feels that this is one of the most successful means for teaching and demonstrating that she has used, as so many of the members say they wish to do similar things in their own home. Seeing things in a real home setting makes a far greater impression than any demonstration given by the agent.

#### County and Club Objectives

The objectives which were selected for this county were (1) Each club member to be responsible for carrying information to at least one family in the community throughout the year. The achievement records turned in by members shows that each has averaged passing information to at least two families, while many have passed it on to as many as ten.

(2) Each club member to put into practice at least nine suggestions given at project demonstrations. Achievement records indicate that the average was ten or more.

(3) Better attendance at leader training and committee meetings. There has been a decided improvement in this in the past year. While we have not had a 100% attendance, fourteen of the clubs had leaders to attend every meeting. Attendance at committee meetings has been excellent, 100% in fact.

(4) Project leaders to give at least four creditable demonstrations during the year. Demonstrations given by the leaders averaged three and a half. These same leaders gave seventy one talks at club meetings.

(5) Each club to pay county and State Federation dues by March. This was not done by March, but all of the clubs did pay. This is the first time that we have had a 100% paying.

(6) Each club strive to have visitors attend club meetings. This has been quite evident. Most clubs asked that each member bring at least one visitor sometime during the year.

(7) Each club to have a picnic or some form of recreation during the year. Twelve of the clubs had picnics in August. Friends and neighbors were invited to attend these community get-togethers. After one such meeting, the husband of a club member stopped to talk to the agent. In the course of conversation he said, "I think this club has done more to draw this community together than anything we have had. Some way we had "sorta" drifted apart until the women folks got together and organized. Now we know far more about our neighbors, and they know more about us, and thats a good thing for everybody."

(8) When possible sponsor 4H Club or Youth groups for the community. There has been more interest in 4H Club work than in the past. All of the 4H Club sponsors which we have are home demonstration club members. One new club organized in the Bethel community was due to the members who lived there. They made a survey to determine how many youngsters of club age were in the community. Then they visited the parents, secured their interest and cooperation and got the youngsters out for an organization meeting. One club sent a girl from their neighborhood to district camp. Two other clubs have had parties for the 4H Club in their locality. These evidences of interest have done much to strengthen the clubs and to encourage members to do better work.

(9) Each club to submit complete report of years work at the September meeting. While none of the clubs had a hundred percent of their members turning in records, over half of them kept the achievement record in their year books and turned them in to the club secretary.

#### Outstanding Club

It is rather difficult to decide on one club to give a brief account of the year's work, when there have been several that have done equally as well. However the agent feels that perhaps the Black Creek Club deserves more credit than any in the county for the simple reason that they have tried so hard to keep their club

going and to carry on the work as outlined by the extension agent and leaders in the county. Unfortunately the club does not have the leadership that would help them in strengthening their ranks. Then too the community is rather isolated, one of those communities that people seem to leave alone because it is not easy to work there. Consequently the people have seemed to grow away from the rest of the folks in the county, and have not seemed to be interested in what was done elsewhere. Yet this year, they sent a leader to every training meeting, their officers attended the County committee meetings, and every special activity sponsored by the group found a representative from their club in attendance. In the summer when the question of a tour was brought up, they asked that the homes of two of their members be included. Later when it was decided to have a tour for their community they assumed the responsibility for it and arranged for the homes of three members to be visited. They have adopted a family in Greece, and have already sent several packages to them. When the achievement records for the clubs were handed in every member but one handed in a report.

That these thirteen members have tried to carry out their program and put into practice the help which they have received through their program may be evidenced by the things which they have done. For example

- 12 members planned for a year round food supply
- 13 had a garden
- 177 Quarts of meat canned
- 2031 Quarts of vegetables canned
- 1273 Quarts of fruit canned
- 42 pieces furniture refinished
- 39 rooms papered and painted
- 14 color schemes planned for different rooms
- 28 pairs of curtains and drapes
- 12 slip covers
- 6 bed spreads
- 4 rugs
- 12 trays hand painted
- 6 lamps remodeled
- 8 storage space improved
- 9 kitchen improved
- 11 yard improvements planned
- 7 planted shrubbery
- 6 took out hospitalization
- 7 medicine cabinets equipped
- 43 families to whom information was carried
- 242 new garments made
- 28 altered

All told, the agent feels that considering their many handicaps the members of this club deserve much credit for their efforts to strengthen their own club as well as to grow individually.

## Outstanding Member

Mrs. S. A. Carr of the Bethel club has been especially busy person in the past year. During this period she was helping her husband supervise the building of a home, planning the color scheme for the different rooms, reworking old furnishings such as curtains, slip covers, bed spreads, and the like so she could have them looking fresh and new when she moved in.

Old furniture had to be refinished so that it would be like new when they moved into the home. Cabinets and storage space had to be worked out in the bedrooms and kitchen for Mr. Carr planned to do this for her so they could cut down on their expenses. At the same time she helped her husband plant and cultivate a garden from which she canned over three hundred quarts of vegetables. Complete plans for landscaping the yard were made by the specialist when she visited the county. Since that time she and her husband have managed to clear off the yard, have it graded, sow grass and lay walks. Shrubs have been planted around the house and other planting will be made as she can get to it.

In addition to all this Mrs. Carr has found time to make all the clothing for her two young daughters as well as much of her own. She has attended all club meetings except two and has been instrumental in bringing four other members into the club. Not only this, but she has been an active member in her church and of the Woman's Club. Perhaps all these things should indicate why her home was chosen as one to be included in the county tour.

B-

4H Clubs

## Projects

Projects which were carried by 4H Club members were housekeeping, clothing, food preparation and canning. Twenty four members carried the housekeeping project with twenty completing satisfactorily. Eight girls took care of their room for at least four months. Twelve cared for their room daily for eight months or more. In addition to this these girls were responsible for helping their mothers clean house thoroughly at least twice a month. Four pieces of furniture were refinished, and three dressing tables made by girls who wished to improve their room as well as care for them.

In addition to taking care of their rooms the girls tried to make several articles which would enable them to take better care of their clothes and to make housekeeping easier. These included such things as laundry bags, shoe bags, pillow cases, lengthening sheets, and making luncheon sets or table mats. A total of fifty nine such articles were made. Nineteen cleaning kits were equipped and are in use in the homes today. In fact one mother says she doesn't see how she ever managed without one.

Twenty four girls carried the clothing project. All completed their work. During the winter when they were in school they hung up their clothes, washed their hose and underclothing, laundered their sweaters, pressed their skirts and dresses, and when ever possible helped with the family wash. According to reports thirty five garments were patched and darned, sixty five sweaters laundered, four hundred and seventy seven garments were laundered. Fifteen girls stored their woolen clothing according to instructions received in the spring. The construction work was done during the summer. Twenty girls equipped a sewing kit, twenty four purchased a pattern for themselves, fifty two new garments, ten accessories and nine garments were remodeled. Each girl who carried the project entered the contest.

Sixteen girls entered the food preparation project with fifteen completing. According to their records the following foods were prepared, custards forty five times, green vegetables one hundred and five times, eggs seventy five times, cakes or cookies twelve times, biscuits sixty times, cornbread forty five times, potatoes sixty eight times, meat fifty eight times, beverages fifty five times, and salads seventy eight times.

While canning was not carried as a county project, eight girls decided to carry it as an extra. Four girls completed the record as follows, helped can three hundred and twenty five quarts of fruit and eleven hundred and ninety quarts of vegetables. Forty quarts of fruit and vegetables were put up without help.

### Community Activities

Various community activities have been conducted by club members during the year. Three clubs sponsored a Rural Life Sunday in May. Parents were invited to attend the service with their children. The group sat together in a body and had a part in the service which had been planned cooperatively with local ministers. The attendance at these meetings was quite good and the parents were most complimentary.

The Guernsey Judging Contest was held in August and was of interest to parents and youngsters. The girls were encouraged to enter the contest and quite a few did so. They were trained by Mr. Rogers, the assistant county agent, and to the surprise of all were high scorers.

Community judging contests were of special interest to the girls. In most cases the exhibits were set up on the porch or lawn of a club member. Parents and friends in the neighborhood were invited to attend and see the exhibits, as well as watch the girls model the dress they had made.

The County picnic, to which parents were invited, was enjoyed by all who attended. Over a hundred were present. Swimming, games, singing, and ample refreshments helped to make the affair a gala occasion.

Thirty nine boys and girls attended the district 4H Camp at Fort Story. The group was quite proud of the leadership record set by the county as evidenced by the fact that they furnished a chief, lesser chief or scribe for each of the tribes. The group as a whole was one of the best that the agent has ever taken to camp. They entered wholeheartedly into all the activities, consequently they enjoyed it immensely and at the same time made a worthwhile contribution to camp.

In October, four girls from the county were chosen to attend the district banquet at Virginia Beach. All of those who attended were most enthusiastic and appreciative of the honor bestowed upon them.

Two of the clubs sponsored special activities to earn money with which to send a member to camp. The sale of a cake netted more than ten dollars for one club. The sale of vanilla extract was used to defray the expenses of another member, as well as to entertain the mothers of the girls.

### Outstanding Club

The club which has been the most outstanding one from all standpoints, attendance, 100% completion of records, demonstrations given by leaders, participation in club and community activities, exhibits and contest participation, was the Sunbeam Club. Credit should go to their club leader, Mrs. S. E. Porter, who has worked so hard to help the girls attain the club objectives.

### Other Work Done By Agent.

Much of the other work done by the agent has been referred to elsewhere in this report so no attempt will be made to restate it except to say that she has worked with the school officials, Farm Security, T. B. Association, Health and Welfare Departments, Woman's Clubs, Church organizations as well as business firms.

Too, mention should be made that the agent has spent considerable time in working with two assistants who were in the county training before taking over their duties in a county of their own. The agent feels that she has gained much from having these workers with her, and in turn she hopes the efforts which she made to help them to become familiar with extension work will enable them to do a better job in their own county.

The agent also feels that the two weeks spent away from the county taking refresher courses at V.P.I. has been most helpful in the county because of the additional study.

## VII. APPRAISAL

It is hard to measure the worth of any program which strives to help people help themselves, for often it is a long time before the results of such are apparent. Yet is the agent's feeling that the work in this county is making a definite contribution to the counties richest resource, good homes. All that had been attempted has been done with that in mind. To help women plan and create homes that are more convenient, attractive and liveable, to build healthier families, to train youngsters in a normal, wholesome way of life, to help women assume responsibility for programs affecting the welfare of the citizens of the county, and to help them recognize and appreciate the natural beauties of their homes and surroundings, cannot be measured in dollars and cents, but it is an investment in the future that will pay rich dividends for time to come.

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