

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 Boozer and club member.

How To Mulch Flowers & Shrubs - club member.

Identification Contest - Mary Williams

December - Outdoor Lighting for the Lawn - Earl Boozer

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.

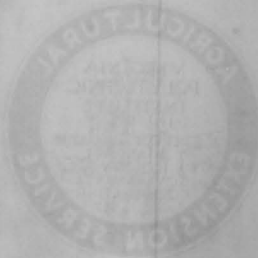
3. Yard Improvement

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 - Hamshere 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.

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY LIVING

The two areas making the most outstanding contributions to family living are in Nutrition and Food Preparation and the place of the Home Demonstration Club to the family and community.

County families have indicated that Food and Nutrition Program has improved diets by teaching what foods are necessary for good health, producing and preserving food at home, food buying, and more attractive meals and service.

The Home Demonstration Club is the only common interest of all families in the majority communities in Amelia County.

An outstanding contribution in 1959 is that the clubs have promoted mutual interest of families in the nine communities, provided a means and source of help in family living problems to approximately 50% of white homes in the county and developed and utilized local leadership.

The public of Amelia County recognizes the Home Demonstration Clubs as a strong organization carrying out the three purposes listed above.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

Mary T. Williams

Name

Home Demonstration

Title

Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1959

Amelia

County