who wishes to promote some phase of the 4-H Club work. This is one of the best medians of reaching the people with the County 4-H program.

We feel that this is one of the most significant phases of this program since each 4-H Club sponsors a project such as: Clean-Up Campaign, Farm and Home Safety Campaigns in each community. It appears that 4-H members are more interested in such group projects and activities.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The Extension service has co-operated with other Federal, State and Local agencies in the County. The Local Farm Agent has invited the professional workers of these agencies to group meetings to explain their programs and to aid the families with their problems. During the recent months a great deal of time has been spent with the educational program in connection with Civil Defense. Three meetings were held with 110 persons present, discussions were conducted and information given the families. We have conducted meetings in co-operation with the ASC Commitee. The farmers were aided in the selection of farm practices that will suit his farm, also informed on the corn, barley and wheat programs. More than 350 individuals have been given information on filing income tax returns.

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Here each club member places on the show three bushels of sweet potatoes to be judged and sold at the end of the show. This year to increase the possibility for a better quality product we urged all members to bed certified seed or purchase slips from farmers who used certified seed for their beds. Twenty-five bushels of certified seeds were purchases and bedded by 4-H members. Five members took part in the show and sale and received above market prices for their potatoes. The lack of storage on the farm is a problem for consideration in order to expand this project.

RURAL LIFE SUNDAY

The observance of Rural Life Sunday, in some communities, "Youth Emphasis Sunday," has become a part of the program planning in many of the churches in the County. This is especially true in communities where 4-H Clubs are organized. One good example of the type of program held is that of Bowling Green area at Bethel Baptist Chruch. Here the 4-H Club members provided flowers for the Church services, they take an active part in the services such as, ushers, choir members, and collecting the church offering. This Church has a youth period during which a special sermon is given for the young folks. This period is given to the Local Agent or any member of the group

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John Community. At that time four families in the county had water under pressure.

We began with a discussion of the possibilities in community group meetings, we planned with the families many of the things that could be done by them such as, securing a permit from the Health Department, making lists of materials needed and the part of the work they could do themselves. This was usually done during the winter months when the families had more spare time. We next conducted demonstrations in various communities installing these systems with the aid of leaders and older 4-H Club boys. This year 8 homes and one church conducted such demonstrations. As a result at present about 90 of the new homes built have water under pressure and bath and about 50 per cent of the homes and ten churches in the County.

4-H SWEET POTATO PROJECTS

The objective of these projects in our 4-H Club Program has been to teach the 4-H Club members the practices dealing with the production, harvesting and preservation of the project. For the past four years we have added the showing and sale phase to the sweet potato projects. The Annual State Sweet Potato Show and Sale, usually held in Richmond in December, is participated in by about 20 Counties.

The annual tour of the Thomas Poultry Farm and Hatchery was held this year with 16 farmers and 10 club members present. The purpose of the tour was to let the cash crop farmers such as tobacco, and corn see the possibility of a livestock or poultry project to supplement their rarm income. These farmers are becoming more concerned as commodity quota decrease and labor costs increase, also the Federal Grain Programs will give these farmers more time for other enterprises.

Mr. Thomas gave the group some background information which followed a pattern of a small beginning (200 layers) 24 years ago. He increased to 2500 layers at one period and also a 30,000 capacity hatchery. Changes have caused adjustments to be necessary. He no longer operates the hatchery since the small producer is disappearing. He has also switched from egg to broiler type layers and sells hatching eggs the year round. He imphasized that it is important to have a project sufficient in size, start with good foundation stock and practice good management.

RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

The first water system demonstration was conducted in Caroline County during 1943 in the St.

located in various communities in the County where their neighbors are getting some of the highest yields. These demonstrators agreed to carry out our fertilization recommendations on .5 of his crop and sell the demonstration plot separately. The recommendations were based on the soil test and history of fomer practices. Field meetings were held at the demonstrations which showed a marked difference on the portion receiving our recommendations. We secured a record of pounds sold and the value from the demonstrations after the sale of the tobacco. In each case the value on the demonstration plots were from 1/3 to 1/2 more. We plan to place more emphasis on plant bed preparation next year.

POULTRY PRODUCTION

One of the long-time objectives of the Extension Program is to increase the farm income on all of the farms. One approach toward this objective is the improvement of the quality and quantity of poultry laying flocks on the arms. The first step in the educational program was to teach the farmers to recognize top quality laying hens along with the value of a good feeding and sanitation program. One of the teaching methods used is the annual tour of the H. M. Thomas Poultry Farm held in Dawn Community.

TOBACCO PRODUCTION

The average yield of Suncured Tobacco in the County four years ago was 1272 pounds per acre, this year it was 1382. Yields ranged from 400 pounds to 2200 pounds. Our long-time objective in the Extension Program is to increase the income from tobacco on all of the farms in the County.

Since this crop is on the allotment basis this increase must come through incrsase yeilds per acre. The farmers could increase their income $50 to $200 per acre through improved fertilization practices. In an attempt to awaken the farmers and create some interest in this problem we sent each grower a circular letter stating these facts. We obtained soil samples from the pltos where the farmer grew his crop this year, to study and make recommendations. The farmers received circulars on the preparation of the plant bed. We held special interest meetings in the communities in order to get as much information as possible to the farmers.

We conducted five tobacco fertilization demonstrations. These demonstrations were selected from a list of farmers whose market cards showed very low yields according to pounds sold in 1960. They were

the wheat producers in the county have signed intentions to participate in the wheat reserve program. Most of these growers will net more money than by seeding the wheat crop. Also, the improved practice will benefit his farm.

WINTER COVERS AND PASTURES

Our emphasis in the County Extension Program is shifting from winter pastures to cover crops. The horse or mule and cow on every farm is no longer the picture, and many of the farms have no livestock at all. Since nearly all of these farmers are producers of such crops as tobacco, corn, soybeans and truck crops we have stressed a cover crop for these acres. We have placed further emphasis on permanent pastures on farms with livestock. Special interest meetings have been held, pasture seeding and fertilization demonstrations have been held, five 4-H club members seeded a total of seven acres of pastures this year. Ten farmers received cost-share aid in seeding pastures. As a result of these efforts the acreage of permanent pastures in the county has increased from 1954 acres to 3181 acres in five years.

installing of rest rooms in the church. This, too, was done by the families.

The following are some of the home improvements made:

1. Four new homes completed
2. Two homes installed water under pressure
3. Four homes have been painted
4. Two farmers conducted tobacco fertilization demonstrations
5. Two 4-H members will take part in the State Sweet Potato Show and Sale
6. Three homes added storage space

SMALL GRAINS INCREASE FARM INCOME

The number of farms growing small grains in the County is on the decrease. Our objective in the Extension Program is to increase the income of the farms growing small grains. Major emphasis was placed on increased yields and quality of grains. Special interest meetings were held. Varietial and fertizational demonstrations were conducted. One phase, the production of certified seed, has aided our program. Under an agreement the farmers are furnished seed and fertilizer by seed companies who in turn buy the seed produced by the farmer. The producer is paid a premium price for all seed grain produced. About one half of

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State Extension Service in improving agriculture and the level of living among farmers in Virginia.

The objectives of the program are:

1. To strengthen farm and home demonstration work, 4-H work, YMW program and Community Clubs
2. To teach better farm management and farming practices
3. To improve family living and home surroundings
4. To create a more informed and active community leadership
5. To develop better communities by strengthening the economic, educational and social activities

There are many areas of improvement that may be covered by all of the families. We held small group meetings with five or six families. Leader training meetings were held for the over-all and special committees. Other educational activities included tours and project demonstrations. The 4-H members conducted projects relating to home improvements and food for the family.

A number of farmsand homes as well as community improvements can be pointed out in Sparta Community this year. The improvement committee was reorganized and enlarged this year. The community club selected and conducted a community project which was the improvement of the parking area and surroundings of the community church. The labor and equipment needed was contributed by the families. A second project was the

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These problems are the basis for the long-time objectives of the Extension Program in the County. The following pages of this report will treat the major projects as outlined in our County Plan of Work for 1961. Much of the technical information and methods used in meeting these problems are a result of the participation of the families, leaders and Local Farm Agents in activities outside of the County. Special reference is made to the following:

1. Annual Conference of Farm and Home Agents at Virginia State College
2. Annual Farm and Home Week
3. Annual meeting of State Advisory Board
4. 4-H Short Course
5. 4-H Wild Life Camp
6. Conferences with and visits by Supervising Agents and Specialists

We have attempted to make the 4-H projects a part of the Farm and Home Program and the results are reported under major projects.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Community Improvement Program

One of the most outstanding phases of the Extension Program in the County is the State Community Improvement work in Sparta Community. This program is sponsored by the Negro State Advisory Board of Virginia. The purpose of the program is to co-operate with the

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States Highway No. 17 and the R. F. and P. Railroad provide easy transportation of our produce to Richmond, Fredericksburg, Washington, Baltimore and other market channels within a short period of time.

The major soil types in the county are: Kempsville, Atlee, Rumford Fine Sandy Loam and Caroline Fine Sandy Loam.

The major crops are corn, tobacco, small grains, hay and truck crops.

The major livestock are: hogs, dairy cattle, and poultry.

These varied soil types and climate lend to diversified farming.

Such county industries as Railroading, Lumbering, Canneries, vegetable storage houses offer employment, as well as, markets for much of the farm produce. The number of people finding employment in nearby Fredericksburg and Richmond is increasing.

Some major agricultural problems in the county Are:

1. Acid soils low in fertility
2. Low crop yields per acre
3. Too few well established permanent pastures
4. Poor quality livestock and poultry on the farm
5. Too few livestock and poultry on the farm
6. Poor forestry management
7. Low Farm income
8. Too few families with water under pressure
9. Too few well planned house surroundings
10. Too few acres of permanent hay

the objectives of the plan for 1961 were as follows:

1. To increase the number of members completing club projects
2. To have each club observe rural life Sunday at a community church
3. To send the county quota of delegates to the Wild Life and 4-H Club Conferences
4. To have each club to take part in the community group activities

Community 4-H Clubs

There are eight organized Community 4-H Clubs in the County, with a membership of 250 (100 boys and 150 girls). The clubs hold monthly meetings in such places as homes of members, schools, masonic hall and churches. The meetings are supervised by the local leader, sponsor or agent, and consist of program planning, project instructions and recreation. Membership cards are used to enroll members and by taking the cards home many more of the parents get a better understanding of the 4-H Club Program.

TYPE OF AGRICULTURE

Caroline County lies in Northeastern Virginia. United States Highway No. 1 divides the County into two regions; the west of the highway is Northern Piedmont, while east of the highway is Eastern Virginia. United States Highway No. 301 bisects the County: North and South. These two highways, along with United

Community and Neighborhood Leaders

There are more than 240 voluntary adults and older youth local leaders and committeemen who assisted the extension agent with organization, planning and conducting of extension work in the County. They take great pride in keeping the families informed and promoting various activities in their neighborhood. These leaders are kept informed through leader training meetings, circular letters and personal visits by the agent or other leaders. These leaders have rendered invaluable service to other county agencies such as:

1. Co-operating with the following county-wide organizational efforts, drives and programs.

   a. March of Dimes
   b. American Red Cross
   c. Cancer Fund
   d. Heart Fund
   e. T. B. Association
   f. County Rescue Squads
   g. Conduct Adult and 4-H Club Meetings
   h. Assist Red Cross in securing Blood Donors

Junior Council

The County Junior Council is the formal over-all planning organization for 4-H Club work. Its membership consists of all of the officers and organizational leaders of community 4-H Clubs. About two county-wide meetings are held each year for the purpose of organization program planning and officer training. Some of

the following activities this year:

1. Represented in the State Advisory Program
2. Selected and conducted one demonstration Community Improvement Project
3. Sponsored the Permanent Pasture Program
4. Co-operated with the educational part of the Corn Feed Program
5. Co-operated with other county-wide activities sponsored by other county agencies such as fund raising and various drives

Annually the board meets about three times for planning and progress reports of its committees.

Community Farm Clubs

About one half of the rural families are identified with community organizations known as Community Farm Clubs. The clubs are formal organizations which hold special interest meetings for information and solutions to farm problems. At these meetings such activities are conducted as method demonstrations, problem discussions, and group activities. One of the clubs is a demonstration community with a plan of work set up by the State Advisory Board. Some of the activities of these clubs are as follows:

1. Held educational meetings on:
   a. Corn Feed Program
   b. Wheat and Barley Program
   c. Civil Defense Program
2. Conducted field meetings and county tours
3. Co-operative buying

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COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

There are a number of County Organizations which co-operate in promoting the Extension Program. The organizations listed below are directly responsible for setting up various phases of the County Extension Program, as well as, using its resources to analyze and aid in the solution of county problems.

1. County Advisory Board
2. Community Farm Clubs
3. Community and Neighborhood Leaders
4. Community 4-H Clubs
5. 4-H Junior Council

The following is a description of the organizations and some of their activities in carrying out the Extension Program.

County Advisory Board

The over-all Extension Planning Body is the County Advisory Board. This is a formal organization. Its membership consists of two men and a woman from each of the organized community farm clubs, community leaders from unorganized communities and county professional workers. This board conducted

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FOREWORD

This is a narrative report covering some of the major Agricultural Extension Activities for 1961 in Caroline County, Virginia. This report is made by the Local Farm Agent, and shows the following:

A. County Extension Organizations

B. Problems of the families

C. Some major extension activities and results

D. Some changes and adjustments in Agriculture

We have planned our County Extension Program in such a manner as to reach as far as possible all of the families in the county with information based on their major problems. The results reported were obtained through co-operation of families, leaders, extension services and other agencies designed to aid rural people.

The Farm Agent acknowledges assistance rendered by the State Agricultural Colleges, United States Department of Agriculture Experiment Stations, and other State and Federal Agencies designed to raise the level of living among people.

J. N. Johnson
Local Farm Agent

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

J. M. JOHNSON
Name

LOCAL FARM AGENT
Title

Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

1961

CAROLINE
County