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NARRATIVE REPORT OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK  
IN SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

1952

III. THE COUNTY SITUATION AS IT AFFECTED THE 1952 PROGRAM

Home demonstration work has been exceedingly difficult in Spotsylvania County during this year of 1952. In January of this year Extension work in the county was discontinued due to unforeseen difficulties. The present agents were employed in February but it was late in March before the office was reestablished at the court house and the agents and secretary could get work back on an organized basis.

During the period some of the organized home demonstration and 4-H clubs in the county, where leadership was not too active, had stopped meeting, and it was necessary to begin work anew. In the stronger clubs leaders had continued to carry on the program of work with both 4-H and home demonstration clubs. With these as a nucleus the home agent was able to reach out into other parts of the county and reorganize the work. Work was just beginning to get back on a sound basis when another calamity happened. The home agent had the misfortune to suffer an accident, and was forced to be out of the county for three months recuperating from a back injury. Leaders were again called on to rally to the aid of the county program and did so in every way. The home agent feels that any

success achieved in the 1952 home demonstration program in the county should be credited solely to the leaders in both home demonstration and 4-H clubs. Without their efforts the work would certainly be at a standstill in the county.

And now for a few highlights on the general situation in the county as it affected the 1952 program.

Spotsylvania cannot be classified as a typical rural county. Though there are no large towns in the county proper, proximity to Fredericksburg, Richmond, Washington and numerous smaller towns are responsible for the urban trend. There seem to be a number of large farms, owned by wealthy people who live elsewhere and have farm managers, or who operate the farms on a specialized scale. The principle types of farms are dairy, general farming, or livestock.

The principle sources of income to rural families, besides farming are from garment factories in Fredericksburg, the Sylvania Division of the American Viscose Corporation in Spotsylvania County near Fredericksburg, the Marine Base at Quantico, and other businesses in Fredericksburg. Many of the families have non-farm homes, they live in the county, own a small home, a few acres of land where they may have a garden, a pig, a few chickens, and possibly a cow. Some of the families avail themselves of these opportunities, but many purchase all of their food.

In many instances both the husband and wife work. Where there are children some parents arrange for some adult to have charge of them while they are at work. Many parents leave their children without supervision.

Living accommodations are in such demand in and around Fredericksburg due to the Quantico Marine Base, and the A. P. Hill Army Reservation. Rents are so high that where families have an extra room they rent them to marines and their wives. At times two or three couples are living in the same home and using kitchen privileges. This makes for a disrupted family living schedule, and is not conducive to wholesome family living.

The county is so infested with non-farm families that there are few true agricultural communities in Spotsylvania County.

#### IV. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 1952 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

In spite of handicaps and set backs during the year, the results are creditable. For four months the work was carried on entirely by local leaders. Club leaders gave one hundred and ten demonstrations to local home demonstration and 4-H clubs without the agent's assistance. This display of leadership on the part of the women has been one of the outstanding developments from the year's work. It would not have been

displayed unless there was a keen appreciation and interest in Extension Work in the county, and a realization of its worth to our rural homemakers and 4-H girls.

In planning our foods program this year it was hoped that we could raise the standard of living of Spotsylvania rural families by establishing better food habits by a study of good nutrition and better meal planning. As a result of our two months study devoted to these topics, we have a total of ninety-six families reporting that they are serving better balanced meals and using more milk in their diets.

One of our long time goals in our county program is to incorporate more recreation into family and community life. Much interest was shown in planning recreation for Christmas parties, picnics and other social events for the year.

Flaming Men for all ages was given special consideration. Our club members reported that not only had they helped plan for special club recreation but that four hundred and sixty-eight social events had been planned during the year; three hundred and twenty-one for adults and one hundred and forty-seven for children.

Improved health habits and sanitation were other problems that received special attention in our years program. A special program devoted to Civilian Defense, and planned

health programs throughout the year served to make our homemakers more "health conscious." Control of household pests, special health reports by local health chairmen on such timely topics as Tuberculosis, Cancer Control, Immunization, Control of Contagious Diseases, Rheumatic Fever and Polio all were special topics used during the year to acquaint our club women with health problems and how to combat them.

Through individual and group participation in this program we tried to spread Extension influence to every part of the county. We felt that in this way we could help our program contribute to better family living.

#### V. PROJECT WORK

##### A. Adult

1. Possibly one of the most important phases in the years work was that done in foods and nutrition. This was handled entirely by club leaders with some assistance from home economists of two local companies.

Two demonstrations were scheduled in the years program, namely, Use of More Milk in the Diet, and Better Planned Meals. The objectives of these demonstrations were:

- (1) To teach homemakers to plan simple and inexpensive well-balanced meals.
- (2) To teach the value of more milk in the diet and how

to incorporate it into everyday meals.

During the home agents absence a training meeting for foods leaders was held by the state foods and nutrition specialist. As a result of this meeting leaders held twenty-four meetings giving demonstration on meal planning and use of more milk in the diet. In two meetings the home economist with the National Dairy Council gave the demonstration.

Other food demonstrations scheduled in the year's program were Quick Refreshments, and Oven Broiler Meals. The home economist from a local power company gave the latter demonstration to two of the clubs.

One county wide meeting on Preparation of Food for Freezing was held. Twenty-two homemakers attended this meeting.

A report from one hundred and four homemakers shows the following food preserved for home use.

	canned	frozen
Tomatoes	3286 qts.	
other vegetables	13483 qts.	4116 lbs.
Fruits	13984 qts.	1852 lbs.
Beets	554 qts.	9236 lbs.
Others	<u>2905</u> qts.	
TOTAL	34,212 qts.	<u>15,204</u> lbs.

Forty-two families reported owning a home freezer. Forty-seven use a community locker.

As a result of the food and nutrition work ninety-six families reported serving better balanced meals, and seventy-two families are using more milk in their diets.

## 2. Clothing

Two demonstrations on clothing were scheduled as club choice demonstrations. Clothing selection and Clothing Construction were the two topics chosen. Thirty-six women attended these meetings and reported more careful selection of garments according to good buying practices. Thirty-five remodeled dresses and ten made coats and suits.

## 3. Home Management

Home Management demonstrations were carried on by two clubs as club choice demonstrations. Kitchen Arrangement and Improved Storage were the two scheduled demonstrations.

Twenty-eight women reported reducing time and energy in the kitchen by better arrangement of equipment and better cleaning methods. Eighteen made improvements in kitchen storage.

## 4. House Furnishings

House furnishings was a very popular topic with club members during the year. Objectives in the program were:

- (1) To teach an understanding of good lighting principles and how to carry them out in the home.
- (2) To teach the women how to convert lamps and jugs into better sight lamps.
- (3) To teach the making of inexpensive and useful lamp shades.

(4) To teach methods of rebottoning chairs and footstools.

(5) To teach the best methods of refinishing good old pieces of furniture.

Training for the house furnishings program was given by the home agent. In April a training meeting for Better Home Lighting and Making Lamps and Shades was held at the Todd's Tavern Community House. Twenty-two leaders attended this meeting and as a result held twenty-six demonstration meetings without the home agent. Many of these were all day meetings on making lamps and shades. Reports show that club members made or converted eighty-two lamps and made one hundred and sixteen lamp shades.

Ten members served as result demonstrators on improved home lighting and in two of these cases club members met before and after the improvements were made.

Five special interest group meetings were held in reseating chairs and footstools and refinishing furniture. Forty persons were in attendance at these meetings and reported refinishing forty-six pieces, and upholstering ten pieces of furniture. Nineteen chairs were rebottoned.

Winter bouquets was another popular demonstration in the furnishings program. Two leaders attended a meeting with the home agent in a nearby county to see a demonstration by the state house furnishings specialist on "Winter Arrangement."

These leaders then gave three demonstrations to the twelve organized clubs in the county. This was quite helpful especially to those who entered exhibits in the flower department at the Fredericksburg Fair.

Club members reported making thirty-three rugs as a follow up of a previous years training in rug making.

#### 5. Rural Arts

Handicraft is always a popular project in any home demonstration program. The main interest in crafts this year was centered around basketry. A training meeting was held for club leaders during the month of June. Miss Catherine Peery, rural arts specialist conducted the meeting. As a follow up leaders and the agent held all day work shops teaching the club women to make various types of baskets and trays. These baskets were exhibited at the Fredericksburg Fair and many club women won prizes. Interest in basket making is still keen, and club members are continuing to work on them.

A follow up of handicraft training of previous years shows that club members are doing leather work, textile painting, and tray making. All of these articles were displayed at the Fredericksburg Fair. It appears that craft work will be carried over into next years program, with a possibility of even better results.

#### 6. Recreation

The purpose of having recreation included in the program was to teach the women how to plan wholesome recreation for their families and communities. December was set aside as a special recreation month, for all clubs planned for a special celebration or Christmas party. Christmas parties were planned with recreation suitable for groups of all ages. Some clubs invited the entire family, others invited only the husbands.

In August the clubs planned family picnics with recreation for groups of various ages. As a result of the recreation program club members reported planning recreational activities for four hundred and sixty-eight groups. Three hundred and twenty-one of these were for adult groups and one hundred and forty-seven for children.

#### 7. Garden and Poultry.

Six groups had leaders for garden and poultry information. These leaders presented timely information at club meetings on each of these topics.

#### B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Two communities participated in the Community Improvement Program during the year. Todd's Tavern was voted the winner in the contest for 1951, and in May entertained all other competing communities at an "Open House" celebration.



Todd's Tavern Prepares for Open House

**WELCOME**  
TO  
**TODDS TAVERN**  
**COMMUNITY**

**Welcoming visitors to Todds Tavern community.**

The 1951 area community improvement contest was sponsored by the Fredericksburg Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Virginia Agricultural Extension Service with other agricultural agencies in the area cooperating. "The contest has enabled all the people in these communities to benefit from the extension service and other agencies," said George C. Rawlings, Jr., president of the JCC, who handed out \$260 in checks to the winning communities as follows:

- Todds Tavern, Spotsylvania County, first prize of \$100*
- Roseville, Stafford, second, \$75*
- Passapatanzy, King George, third, \$50*
- Hartwood, Stafford, fourth, \$25*
- Weedonville-Owens, King George, 6th, \$10*

Each of these communities had an amazing record of worth-while achievements in farming, homemaking, and community service. As an example, let's picture a trip through the top prize-winning Todds Tavern community. The officers are: Robert S. Whitlock, president; Burruss Catlett, vice president; Mrs. Richard Stewart, secretary; Louise Mitchell, treasurer; Mrs. Agnes S. Whitlock, historian; and Mrs. Lily Haney, chairman, steering committee. Likable Spotsylvania County Agent Douglas Moore, Jr., and Mrs. Whitlock showed us around the community and we saw remarkable improvements everywhere.

"There's our Goshen Baptist Church and over here is the new parsonage the folks built and paid for in 48 months!" exclaimed Mrs. Whitlock, as we came in sight of a beautiful, modern home with plenty of room, and well planned. Folks in the community did much of the work themselves. The lawn had been carefully graded and seeded. Shrubbery had been set according to a well arranged landscape plan. "Before the improvements were made, the pastor was on only a part-time basis with

only two services a month," continued Mrs. Whitlock. "Now the pastor, Rev. K. Alvin Pitt, is on a full-time basis and holds two services each Sunday. Attendance in church and Sunday school has greatly increased and the young people are taking much more interest—always have 50 to 75 youngfolks at meetings."

Big improvements have been made also at the Shady Grove Methodist Church. Two new Sunday school rooms and a choir loft were added, interior of church was painted, windows cleaned, and venetian blinds added. One member gave handrails for the porch.

Saws and hammers have been ringing and paint brushes flourishing throughout Todds Tavern community—7 new homes built, 34 painted, and many others improved. Lawns and entrances have been beautified at 36 homes, and 51 mail boxes improved. Attractive farm signs and community signs have been erected. Home Agent Louise Cooley is enthusiastic about homemaking improvements and possibilities.

Last year home-owners bought \$10,500 worth of electrical equipment and invested \$10,560 in farm machinery. F. W. Stewart put in a Grade A dairy. Now he has a nice herd of Guernsey cows, large barn with milking facilities, and a silo. Other farmers have developed several beef herds; 4-H and FFA members have won many blue ribbons and cash prizes at local fat stock shows and sales. Farm land is being improved, permanent pastures seeded, and crop yields improved.



Goshen parsonage in Todd's Tavern community—built and paid for by local folks in 4½ months. Left to right are: Mrs. K. Alvin Pitt, Mrs. Agnes S. Whitlock, and Spotsylvania County Agent Douglas L. Moore, Jr.



**TODDS TAVERN SHOWS OFF**—Agricultural Extension Service officials inspect a new kitchen in Todds Tavern's Community House at a community open house last week in which last year's winner of the Fredericksburg Community Improvement Contest played host to members of other contest communities. Some 75 persons turned out. Mrs. Lily Haney, of Todds Tavern, center, shows the kitchen to Mrs. Louise Cooley, home agent, left, and county farm agent Douglas Moore and B. L. Hummell, extension sociologist, right.

Staff Photo

A tour of the outstanding improvements was made and then the group assembled for lunch and a short afternoon program. About one hundred people attended the meeting.

Chancellor Community was organized during this year and regular monthly meetings were scheduled. Monthly contests have been sponsored by the group such as mail box improvement, improvement of entrances, and for Christmas a contest on decorations. The group is also sponsoring a community sing in December.

Courtland Home Demonstration Club deserves special recognition for having cleared the debt on their community house. Last year they purchased some war surplus buildings and furnished these at an expense of \$3700. In October of this year they paid off their final debt, and had an "open house" party and "note burning" ceremony. The house is debt free now and is quite an asset to the community. The club paid off their debt by having bingo parties, serving luncheons and suppers to organizations, selling food at the Dog Mart in Fredericksburg, and having a food concession at the Fredericksburg Fair. They sold over one thousand dollars worth of food at the fair.

The Salem and Chancellor Home Demonstration Clubs sponsored a Red Cross swimming class in the Chancellor Community. Thirty-one children received beginners' certificates after

## 31 Youngsters Get Certificates In Swim Course

### Class Displays What It Learned

Thirty-one Spotsylvania County children received beginners' certificates after completing a four-week Red Cross swimming course on Saturday with a demonstration of what they learned.

The courses were conducted under the sponsorship of the Chancellor and Salem Home Demonstration Clubs at the W. E. Sherman pond at Green Gate Farm.

Mrs. William Atkins, of Leland Road, was instructor, while arrangements were under Mrs. John Orrick, of Chancellor, chairman of the Home Demonstration Clubs' water safety committee.

Prior to the beginning of the course, Dr. Henry Bernstein, of Chancellor, gave each child participating a free physical examination. Water in the pond was tested and approved by the County Health Department.

Rain interrupted Saturday's demonstration, which was attended by many parents. But some of the children went ahead and swam in the rain.

Those receiving certificates were:

Diane Carver, Shirley Clatter-

buck, Gloria Jean Dietz, Betty McCarty, Danny Pemberton, Dwight Pemberton, Patricia Perry, Grace Powell, Joane Powell, Edward Osbourne, Carol Wallace, Harry Bishop, Dudley Brown, Roy Carpenter, Tommy Surles, Bobby Daniel, Linda Graves, Nelson May, Preston May, Yvonne May, Mervin Coners, Mary Maude Conway, Dickie Graves, Brian Hall, Barbara Kendall, Johnny Orrock, Char-

lie Orrock, Gayle Sherman, Kitty Sherman, C. W. Walker and Bernie Walker.

completing the course. Club women served as transportation committees in getting the children to the classes. Prior to the beginning of the class a local physician gave each child a thorough physical examination.

At the close of the class a Water Carnival was held and the children showed what they had learned.

Another event of interest was the annual Tea given to the High School Seniors in April. The senior class, their mothers, and the entire faculty of the school were invited to be the guests of the home demonstration club members for this annual event.

The group was received in the gymnasium by the Home Demonstration Committee who composed the receiving line.

The gymnasium had been attractively decorated in the class colors, green and white. Candles, flowers, and refreshments were all planned to fit into the color scheme, and all together it made a most attractive setting. Food and decorations were furnished by the various clubs throughout the county.

#### Federation Goal Activities:

Health was chosen as the Federation Goal for 1952 and Mrs. Ashton White was named county Health Chairman. Early in the year a county committee planned for a county-wide health program for the year. Objectives included:

1. A county-wide meeting on Civilian Defense with

Mrs. J. Blair Buck as speaker.

2. To plan a month by month program of timely health topics that will assist homemakers in planning for healthful living for themselves and family.
3. To give homemakers a working knowledge of prevalent diseases and how to prevent and care of same.

In January a county-wide meeting on Civilian Defense was held and Mrs. J. Blair Buck spoke to the group on defense measures. This information was carried back to the clubs by club members.

The county health committee planned a month by month program of timely topics, and these in turn were presented to the clubs by local health chairmen. Topics included were; polio, T. B., rheumatic fever, cancer control, contagious diseases, and hospitalization.

National Home Demonstration Week was observed by every club in the county. Special publicity was given in local papers and on the radio. Club histories were prepared and charter members and past presidents were honored. Many clubs had "open house" or teas in observance of the occasion.

Thirty-five women from Spotsylvania County attended the meeting of the District Federation in Callee on April 31st. Mrs. R. A. Carpenter, county chairman presented a summary of club work in Spotsylvania County at this meeting.



**'H-D WEEK' PLANNERS**—The executive board of Spotsylvania County's Home Demonstration Committee makes final plans for the observance of T-D Week in the county. The "week" began today, but will be marked in Spotsylvania throughout much of May. Left to right are: Mrs. Ashton White, Mrs. F. W. Flewelling, Mrs. R. A. Carpenter and Miss Jeanette Hess. Absent is Mrs. J. T. Sprint.

Staff Photo

## Home Demonstration Clubs in Area Quicken Pace of Activities in Marking 'H-D Week'

Home Demonstration Clubs in the area joined clubs through-

out the country today in beginning Home Demonstration Week with a look back at past achievements, and a longer look to the future.

Some clubs will mark the week with "open house" meetings, honoring of charter members and past presidents, reading of club histories, and renewal of efforts towards 1952 Home Demonstration goals.

H-D Federations will observe the week by holding annual district meetings, as Louisa, Callao and Nokesville.

Tuesday, District 10, which in-

cludes Orange, Albemarle, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Goochland, meets at Louisa; Wednesday, District 12, including Richmond, Westmoreland, Lancaster, Northumberland, King George, Stafford, Spotsylvania and Caroline, meets at Callao.

The third area meeting will be held Thursday at Nokesville, for District 8, comprising Madison, Rappahannock, Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier and Prince William Counties.

In Spotsylvania County, the

week is extended somewhat to include most of the month of May. It will include a county-wide Rural Life church service at Spotsylvania High School at 8 p. m. Sunday, May 18, and a tea May 14 in honor of Spotsylvania graduating seniors, their mothers, and teachers.

Thirty-five women will attend a District XII Federation meeting at Callao during the week, headed by Mrs. R. A. Carpenter, chairman of the Spotsylvania Home Demonstration Committee. At the meeting, Mrs. Carpenter will report on H-D work in Spotsylvania County from May, 1951, to May, 1952.

### RURAL LIFE SERVICE

The Rural Life service is being arranged in co-operation with the Ruritan Club and 4-H Clubs in the county, according to Home Agent Louise Cooley. In charge of arrangements is a committee of four: Mrs. B. G. Catlett, Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, Mrs. George Rawlings Sr., and Mrs. James

### Flewelling.

Arrangements for the Senior Class Tea are under the direction of a committee headed by Mrs. Mattie Harris.

In another observance, letters were written to former county home agents, and two replied. One was Miss Elizabeth Carmichael, first home agent in Spotsylvania, and now director of home economics extension at the University of Alabama. The second reply came from Miss Susan Huges, third home agent, who is now doing home economics work in the Panama Canal Zone.

### YEAR REVIEWED

Mrs. Carpenter's report of H-D activities in the county during the year will include the completion of the Courtland H-D Community House. The building was nearly paid for during the year through club programs, such as serving suppers, holding bingo parties, and other money-raising activities.

Also included will be the establishment of a Health Department in the county in March, 1951. Such a unit was the goal set by the county H-D organization five years ago.

Mrs. S. W. Dickinson of Fredericksburg RFD 1, State president of the Virginia Federation, will be guest at four District meetings during the week, Districts III, IV, V and VI.



Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, State President of the Federation, and a Spotsylvania club member was guest speaker at a number of meetings, throughout the state, during this week.

Ten women attended the Institute of Rural Affairs and the State Federation meeting at Blacksburg in July. Mrs. Dickinson presided over the federation meetings.

#### Drives and Campaigns

The March of Dimes, Red Cross, T. B. Association, Cancer Drive and CROP were all contributed to by Home Demonstration Clubs because of their worthiness and because of the interest the women have in this work. A total of \$195.00 was contributed by clubs to these causes.

#### Fredericksburg Fair

Home demonstration clubs had local fair chairman whose duty it was to stimulate interest in the fair and get members to send exhibits. Club members assisted as superintendents in the various departments, and helped organize the exhibits. While the home agent was unable to attend the fair it was reported to her that the exhibits were of excellent quality. Spotsylvania County women won a large number of prizes and awards.

#### Belmont Horse Show

One of the main money making activities of the home demonstration clubs in the county was the Belmont Horse Show.

This is an annual affair and quite an event in the county. Club members furnished lunch and assisted in serving to the huge crowd who attended the show. Three hundred and one dollars was realized from gate receipts and sale of lunch during the day.

#### Home Demonstration Market

The Spotsylvania Home Demonstration Market is open in the Fredericksburg Community House each Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. On special holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas the market is open on the day before the holiday to give homemakers an opportunity to secure freshly baked cakes, pies and breads, and fresh poultry and eggs.

The Market, established during the depression, when farm finances were at a low ebb, has helped many farm people in the county solve financial problems. It offers every active Home Demonstration Club member an opportunity to sell her surplus farm produce, baked products, and handiwork, and to help supplement the farm income.

Six different homemakers sold on the market this year, selling a total of \$4650.48. This is an average of \$775.08 per member although sales vary greatly due to regularity of attendance, and the quantity of products bought.

VI. 4-H CLUB WORK

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

Only one small group of girls took a foods project this year. Four girls enrolled in the Food for Pep project, learning how to prepare milk and vegetable dishes, salads, and plan and serve meals attractively. These girls reported planning and serving eighty-six meals during the year.

Ten girls took a food preservation project. This project was carried on during the summer months. The group met in a community house where demonstrations were given on canning and freezing foods. The club leader conducted two of these meetings. Six girls reported canning seventy-six quarts alone and helping can one hundred and twenty-five quarts. Twenty pounds were frozen alone and forty-eight packages helped with.

2. Clothing

Clothing projects were the most popular projects with 4-H club members. Twenty 4-H Club members enrolled in the Looking your Best Project, ten in Making and Remaking Garments

and one hundred and eighteen in the Learning to Sew project. Eighty nine of these girls completed their projects making sixty-two new garments, remodeling five garments, and making three hundred and ten other articles including needle cases, pin cushions, towels, baby bibs, head scarfs, shoe bags, hose cases, laundry bags, and other closet accessories. Twenty girls completed personal care and care and repair of clothing. One Spotsylvania girl won third place in the District Contest in Richmond last March.

### 3. Room Improvement

Thirty-two girls enrolled in Room Improvement projects. Twenty-six girls completed their project and reported arranging twenty-six different rooms, making or buying thirty-nine articles for room improvement, refinishing four pieces of furniture, upholstering two pieces of furniture, modernizing three lamps and making four lamp shades. One girl represented the county in the District Contest in Richmond. Much interest has been shown in the project, and many more girls are enrolling in it for the coming year.

### 4. Housekeeping

Only four girls enrolled in the Small Laundry Equipment project. These girls made improvements in home laundry equipment such as lining clothes baskets, padding and covering ironing boards, making clothes pin bags, pressing cloths and sleeve boards.



Patsy Steckler Shows Stool She Made to Brother, Ralph  
Homemaking Items Won Many Ribbons for High School Junior

Staff Photo

### 5. Electric Project

Only three girls enrolled in the electric project, but this was possibly the most interesting of all the projects. Twelve boys and three girls met one night a week during the summer months, and with the cooperation of local power company representatives twelve out of the fifteen completed their project. At the close of the project a tour of the VEPCO power plant at Pocomoke Point was made, and a picnic was held at the power company's lodge. One girl and one boy represented Spotsylvania County at the Electric Congress in Richmond in September.

### B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 1. Jamestown 4-H Camp

Forty Spotsylvania County 4-H club boys and girls attended the district camp at Jamestown in June. Three members attended the pre-weekend camp to assist in getting camp in order, and to plan for camp organization. One of the girls was elected Camp Scribe, and another was scribe for the Mataponi tribe. The week proved to be a wonderful recreational and educational experience for the young people and they returned home tired but happy from their camping experience. Two 4-H club leaders attended camp with the young people, as well as the farm and home agents. Seven girls won scholarships to camp for outstanding project work.

## 2. 4-H Short Course at Blacksburg

Two girls and one boy attended the State 4-H Short Course at Blacksburg in July. This was the first time in several years that the county had been represented, and the young people were most enthusiastic over the trip. One of our club girls was made an All-Star during the week -- the first county all-star in ten years. An unusual fact was that the girl's aunt was the last Spotsylvania County girl to be made an All-Star.

## 3. District Contests

Three county girls entered the district contests held in Richmond in March. Two girls entered in Clothing and one in Room Improvement. The girl entering the junior clothing contest won third place in the state.

## 4. County Picnic

The Farm Bureau of Spotsylvania County sponsored a picnic to which all extension organizations, Ruritan, Women's Club and other organizations in the county were invited. Recreation was planned for both young and old. A picnic basket supper, furnished by individual families was served cafeteria style. The evening closed with a Candle Lighting Service by the county 4-H club members, directed by the Spotsylvania All-Stars.

5. Fredericksburg Fair

Four-H club members entered many exhibits in all classes at the Fredericksburg Fair. While the home agent did not get to see the fair, because of illness, many people have made favourable comments on the quality of the work displayed by these club members

Patsy Steckler, one of our club members won \$50.00 in prizes at the fair. Later she was entertained by the Jaycees in Fredericksburg and awarded a sterling silver place setting for her achievements. She also exhibited and won prizes at the Atlantic Rural Exposition in Richmond.

6. Atlantic Rural Exposition

Patsy Steckler, one of our Spotsylvania girls, exhibited at the Atlantic Rural Exposition and won eight blue ribbons on her entries. This was the first time she had had any entries at the fair and she was thrilled with her winnings.

On September 23rd a bus load of 4-H'ers and leaders from the county attend the Exposition. Thirty-one 4-H members, five leaders and the county agent made the trip. The young people were much impressed with the huge exhibits, particularly the 4-H department. Naturally the Mid-way and rides were an added attraction, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the day. The leaders, too, enjoyed it (outside of the responsibility involved) but they got a great deal of satisfaction out of

the young people's enjoyment. All returned home tired but happy. I feel sure we will not have any difficulty in planning another trip next year.

#### 7. Rural Life Sunday

Rural Life Sunday was observed in Spotsylvania County on Sunday, May 8th at 8:00 p.m. About seventy club members, representing the nine organized 4-H clubs in the county, and two hundred others comprising home demonstration, Ruritan Clubs and visitors attended the service. Guest speaker was Rev. C. Ralph Arthur, Executive Secretary of the Conference Commission on Town and Country Work, Richmond, Virginia. Four-H club members took part in the service by repeating the club pledge and motto in unison. One of the adult 4-H leaders spoke on the value of the 4-H club program and what it had to offer to boys and girls.

#### VII. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN'S WORK

Work with young men and women in the county has been done either individually or with the county All-Stars. The All-Stars directed the Candle Lighting Service for the 4-H club members at the Farm Bureau picnic.

Two meetings were held in preparation for this event.

## Rural Life Service Scheduled Sunday



Staff Photo

Spotsylvania Youth Committee Planning Rural Life Service  
Left to right Mrs. G. B. Cattlett, Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, Mrs. J. W. Flewelling

A Rural Life Service will be held at 8 p.m. Sunday at Spotsylvania High School, with the Rev. Halph Arthur, of Richmond, promotional secretary of the National Methodist Rural Fellowship, as speaker.

The service, open to the public, is sponsored by Spotsylvania County's 4-H Club Leaders' Association. Co-operating in the undertaking are the county's Home Demonstration and Ruritan Clubs.

The Rev. Lee Roy Brown, pastor of Tabernacle Methodist Church, will introduce Arthur. Todd Shirley, principal of Chancellor School, will direct group singing, with Mrs. A. L. Foltz as accompanist.

Other features of the program include the invocation by Mrs. Charles Hilldrup, several selections by the Chancellor-Girls Glee Club, and others by the Baptist Men's Quartette.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY RURAL LIFE SERVICE

May 18, 1952

8:00 p.m.

SPOTSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL

Todd Shirley      Song leader  
Mrs. A. L. Feltz    Accompanist

Presiding	Hiram Zigler Spotsylvania Ruritan Club
Invocation	Mrs. Charles Hildrup Chancellor Home Demonstration Club
Group Singing	Directed by Mr. Todd Shirley
Prayer	Rev. Lee Roy Brown Pastor, Tabernacle Methodist Church
Special Music	Chancellor Girl's Glee Club
Recognition of Organizations	Mrs. C. B. Catlett Chairman, 4-H Leaders Organization
4-H Club Pledge and Motto	4-H Club Members
Special Music	Baptist Male Quartet
Introduction of Speaker	Rev. Lee Roy Brown
Sermon	Rev. C. Ralph Arthur Executive Secretary of the Conference Commission on Town and Country Work.
Group Singing	
Benediction	(Ushers are members of Spotsylvania Senior 4-H Club.)

### 1. THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

There's a church in the valley by the wildwood  
No lovelier spot in the dale;  
No place is so dear to my childhood  
As the little brown church in the dale.

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood  
To the trees where the wild flowers bloom;  
Where the parting hymn will be chanted,  
We will weep by the side of the tomb.

From the church in the valley by the wildwood,  
When day fades away into night,  
I would fain from this spot of my childhood,  
Wing my way to the mansions of light.

#### Chorus:

Come to the church in the wildwood  
Oh, come to the church in the vale  
No spot is so dear to my childhood  
As the little brown church in the vale.

### 2. BLEST BE THE TIE

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne,  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one  
Our comforts and our cares.

When we asunder part,  
It gives us inward pain,  
But we shall still be joined in heart  
And hope to meet again.

### 3. BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,  
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;  
Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping  
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,  
Fearing neither clouds nor winters chilling breeze;  
By and by the harvest and the labor ended  
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Going forth with weeping sowing for the Master  
The loss sustained our spirit often grieves  
When our weepings over He will bid us welcome;  
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.  
Cho:

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves;  
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

### 4. AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain;  
For purple mountain majesties  
Above the fruited plain  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,  
Whose stern, impassioned stress...  
A thorough-fare for freedom host  
Across the wilderness!  
America! America!  
God mend thine ev'ry flaw  
Confirm thy soul in self-control  
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream  
That sees beyond the years....  
Thine alabaster cities gleam  
Undimmed by human tears!  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!

### 5. HIGHER GROUND

I'm pressing on the upward way  
New heights I'm gaining every day  
Still praying as I onward bound  
"Lord plant my feet on higher ground"

My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay  
The same may dwell where those abound  
My prayer, my aim is higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height,  
And catch a gleam of glory bright;  
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've  
found,  
"Lord lead me on to higher ground."

#### Chorus:

Lord lift me up and let me stand  
By faith on heaven's table-land  
A higher plane than I have found  
Lord plant my feet on higher ground

## 6. I WILL SING THE WONDROUS STORY

I will sing the wondrous story, of the Christ who died for me,  
How He left his home in glory for the cross of Calvary.

I was lost but Jesus found me, found the sheep that went  
astray;  
Throw His loving arms around me, Drew me back into His way.

He will keep me till the river, rolls its waters at my feet;  
Then He'll bear me safely over, Where the loved ones I  
shall meet.

Cho. Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story, of the Christ who  
died for me; Sing it with the saints in glory,  
Gathered by the crystal sea.

## 7. HE KEEPS ME SINGING

There's within my heart a melody,  
Jesus whispers sweet and low;  
Fear not, I am with thee, peace be still  
In all of life's ebb and flow.

All my life was wrecked by sin and strife,  
Discord filled my heart with pain,  
Jesus swept across the broken strings,  
Stirred the slumbering chords again.

Soon He's coming back to welcome me,  
Far beyond the starry sky;  
I shall wing my flight to world's unknown,  
I shall reign with Him on high.

Cho. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Sweetest name I know,  
Fills my every longing, Keeps me singing as I go.

## SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY RURAL LIFE SERVICE

May 18, 1952

8:00 p.m.

### SPOTSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL

Todd Shirley Song leader  
Mrs. A. L. Poltz Accompanist

Presiding Hiram Zigler  
Spotsylvania Ruritan Club

Invocation Mrs. Charles Hilldrup  
Chancellor Home Demonstration Club

Group Singing Directed by Mr. Todd Shirley

Prayer Rev. Lee Roy Brown  
Pastor, Tabernacle Methodist Church

Special Music Chancellor Girl's Glee Club

Recognition of Organizations Mrs. G. B. Catlett  
Chairman, 4-H Leaders Organization

4-H Club Pledge and Motto 4-H Club Members

Special Music Baptist Male Quartet

Introduction of Speaker Rev. Lee Roy Brown

Sermon Rev. C. Ralph Arthur  
Executive Secretary of the Conference Commission  
on Town and Country Work.

Group Singing

Benediction

(Ushers are members of Spotsylvania  
Senior 4-H Club.)

VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. N. D. Clubs or Groups	15	13	13	12
Membership	339	350	350	262
No. 4-H Clubs	9	8	9	9
Membership	135	172	186	145
No. Y.M.W. Groups (All Stars)				5
Membership				
No. of other families reached	1276	3075	2000	2000
No. different families reached	1615	3425	2550	2500
No. Community Clubs				2
Membership				75

IX. ORGANIZATIONS

A. Home Demonstration Committee

The Spotsylvania County Home Demonstration Committee guides and directs home demonstration work in the county. It is composed of presidents from the organized clubs in the county, one person from each magisterial district, and the wives of the members of the County Board of Supervisors. Two meetings are held each year. At the Spring meeting the Committee checks up on the progress of the county program of work, and makes any necessary changes. They also plan for county-wide events, attendance at the State and National meetings, and any other special activities that may come up.

The fall meeting of the committee is for program planning and setting up goals and objectives for the coming year. County officers are elected at this meeting, and committees appointed for such activities as Achievement Day, District Federation meeting, compiling of the Year Book, Senior Class Tea and Rural Life Sunday. The committee also plans for all money-

making activities for the organization and appoints committees to take care of this.

B. County 4-H Project Planning Committee

The Spotsylvania County 4-H Leaders Organization is the project planning committee for 4-H club work. This group was organized in the Spring, and two meetings were held. This group plans for county-wide activities such as National 4-H Club Week, Rural Life Sunday, County Contests, Achievement Day and assist in 4-H Club Camp. They also assist in selecting 4-H projects for the year, and plan for adult leaders' assistance for carrying out these projects.

X. LEADERSHIP

A. Organizational

The officers of the organized home demonstration clubs in the county are the organizational leaders. These leaders take care of all club business matters, plan for raising funds to carry on club activities, appoint committees to carry on club work, keep records of club activities, and summarize the results of the years work. Without these organization leaders an organized club program could not be conducted in the county.

During the home agent's three months absence due to illness, these leaders saw that the work went on as usual. Meetings were held, records kept, and reports made on the years activities.

Leaders who will accept responsibility and carry it out are certainly an asset to any Organization.

B. Program Development Leaders.

Program Development Leaders have not been used too effectively in Spotsylvania County. We made some progress this year, but much more work needs to be done along this line. The agent feels that a lack of understanding as to what a Program Development leader is, and what her duties are was the main difficulty. In several cases the wrong person had been appointed for the job.

A training meeting for these leaders was held by the home agent in May, just prior to the spring meeting of the Home Demonstration Committee. County background facts were discussed, and whether or not our program was meeting the needs of our people. The effectiveness of the present program and previous programs was also discussed.

The leaders were asked to lead this discussion at their June meetings, and have their club members bring in their program suggestions for next year's work at their July meetings. These suggestions were then brought to the fall planning meeting. The plan did not work out too well this year, but a start was made. We are hoping to improve on it next year by having these leaders function throughout the year.

C. Subject Matter Leaders

Our project leaders are out subject matter leaders. Directly after the fall planning meeting club presidents appoint the project leaders for each of the subject matter fields in the year's program. These leaders are then trained for their job either by the subject matter specialists or the home agent.

This year we had one hundred and sixty-two different subject matter leaders. Eight training meetings were held for these leaders, and as a result of this training one hundred and ten demonstrations were given to both home demonstration and A-H Clubs during the year without the agents presence. Leaders assisted at fifty-five additional meetings.

D. Growth of Leadership

<u>Growth of H. B. Project Leadership</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. project leaders (subject matter)	93	101	105	144
No. goal chairmen	15	12	13	12
No. training meetings held by specialist	6	2	7	6
by agent	1	8	11	2
Attendance at all training meetings	128	52	171	113
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	54	49	75	78
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	27	37	32	10

<u>Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. adult project leaders	18	28	25	18
No. junior project leaders	0	0	0	2
No. training meetings held by specialist by agent	2 11	0 8	0 3	2 2
Attendance at leader training meetings	66	28	25	68
No. 4-H leaders training individually	17	6	18	18
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	108	28	22	32
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	39	35	36	45
No. demonstrations given by leaders by adults	189	52	112	32

E. Activities of an Outstanding Leader

We have had several outstanding leaders in our home demonstration program this year. Leaders have been called on, and have accepted more responsibility for conducting the work than ever before.

Possibly the most outstanding leader is Mrs. W. S. Dickinson, a charter member of the first home demonstration club in the county. Mrs. Dickinson has been an active club member for the past twenty-four years, and has served in every capacity in club, community, and county as a leader in 4-H and Home Demonstration work. She is not only a hard and energetic worker herself, but influences others to render service. She has missed very few club, district or state Home Demonstration

meetings. She has held a club office practically all of the time, and filled every office in the club, served as county and district president, and now is State President of the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

It was through her efforts and direction that home demonstration work continued to function during the handicaps it suffered in the county this year. Mrs. Dickinson continued to contact club officers and direct the program of work. Where the club leaders were not trained to conduct a demonstration she personally went and gave the demonstration or secured someone else for the job.

She has been particularly helpful with the 4-H program during the year, serving as leader, attending the 4-H Planning Meetings, and judging at 4-H contests.

Mrs. Dickinson is never too busy to help others, and her influence has meant much to Extension Work in Spotsylvania County.

#### XI. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

##### A. Health Department

Our organization worked with the Health Department by publicizing local clinics, and assisting with attendance at these clinics.

Both the county health doctor and nurse attended several home demonstration club meetings and discussed health topics.

Since the department is only one year old the club women were interesting in hearing what services were available in the county. The home agent is hoping to have our club health chairmen trained by the county health nurse for next years program.

B. The home agent has worked with other organizations when given an opportunity to do so. The home economics teacher at our county high school has been invited to attend leader training meetings. She has also been invited to club meetings, and given special assistance at a small group meeting. The home agent hopes to work more closely with other agencies in the county.

### XIII. APPRAISAL OF YEAR'S WORK

As stated at the beginning of this report, home demonstration work in Spotsylvania County has progressed under many handicaps this year. In spite of these interruptions the program went on as planned, and the results have been creditable. The success achieved has certainly been due to the efforts of both organizational and subject matter leaders.

For four months the work was carried on entirely by leaders. The display of leadership on the part of the women has been one of the most outstanding developments from the year's work. This is an indication of a keen appreciation and interest in the work, and a realization of it's value to rural homemakers and 4-H Club girls.

Work on our long time goals has continued to go forward. Progress has been made in establishing better food habits among our rural families by incorporating more milk into daily diets, and an appreciation of better planned meals.

Interest in recreation for adults and juniors has continued to thrive, and more families are planning recreational activities both for home and community.

Improvement in health habits and better sanitation deserve special recognition in the year's program. Interest in these topics proved of such value that they have again been included in the 1953 program.

Altogether, with the sound foundation of Home Demonstration work laid in Spotsylvania County, and the interest shown in its accomplishments this year, the home agent feels that we are now ready to go into the year 1953 with a better understanding of work well done under difficulties, and a brighter outlook for future progress.