

- (4) Provide teaching material for youth and adults.
- (5) Continue working with Industry on the Pilot forest already established by the visitations and tours.
- d) Plan and conduct a forestry tour.
- e) Explain the A.C.P forestry program at group meetings, offer assistance to private landowners, try to reach 40 adults. Follow by visits to observe the basic practices applied by other private landowners. Assist in any reasonable way.
- f) When services are offered by Agent doing forestry work, he will try to be more efficient in planning and conducting programs.
- g) Always preach fire control at all group meetings and radio addresses.

- (5) Nine individuals on the committee have been contacted for program planning.
 - (6) Invite Specialists to committee meeting for planning.
- b) Work with Civic Clubs
- (1) Work closely with civic clubs in promoting forestry.
 - (2) Plan a forestry program with each of the seven Ruritan clubs.
 - (3) Have the Presidents or forestry conservation chairmen from the Ruritan clubs, Lt. Governor, and Extension Forestry Committee meet and plan a forestry program for the county.
 - (4) Sponsor a youth's forestry club contest. Conduct the demonstrations on recommended practices.
 - (5) Survey the different communities for contestants in a forestry club. Key people and schools will be contacted for prospective contestants for the contest.
 - (6) Contestants will be assigned to the different Ruritan Clubs in their respective communities.
 - (7) Provide teaching material for youth and adults. Mimeograph material on selecting areas, poisoning and thinning will be mailed and passed out to individuals. Distribute 700 sheets of literature on forestry.
 - (8) Have each Ruritan Club invite the contestants with the best quality of work to a dinner meeting for some type recognition.
 - (9) Have forestry included in the program of County and District meetings.
 - (10) Each Ruritan club will be asked to buy tree planters for boys in their respective communities.
- c) Work with Industry
- (1) Cooperate and offer assistance in any reasonable way to Industry and private landowners in promoting public relations and educational programs.
 - (2) Have Industry address the forestry club on public relations, with private landowners.
 - (3) Ask Industry to provide material for educational work and demonstrations.

Following are forestry needs in Isle of Wight County:

- a) An educational program for the private landowner and youth.
- b) Plant more pines on suitable areas.
- c) Convert scrubby hardwoods to a desirable species, such as loblolly pines.
- d) Motivate the private landowner to create interest.
- e) A better understanding of the basic forestry practices.
- f) Closer relationship with V.P.I. technicians.
- g) Control forest fires.
- h) More tree planters are needed.
- i) Provide a better public relations program.
- j) Improvement on the ability to communicate.

2. Goals for 1960

- a) Have 500,000 trees planted in the county this year.
- b) Increase the number of contestants from 30 to 40 in the forestry club contest.
- c) Have 25 individuals plant open areas, spot plant, poison, and have a thinning operation.
- d) Increase demonstrations conducted from 12 to 15. Have 30 acres of scrubby hardwood deadened.
- e) Be more flexible in attitude as an Extension worker in finding more ways to interest landowners in applying good forestry practices.

3. Extension Methods

- a) Planning
 - (1) Have a forestry committee for program planning.
 - (2) Select key men in the different communities that are forestry minded and have them serve on a forestry committee for planning the program.
 - (3) A meeting will be held in March for program planning.
 - (4) Try to have 100 percent at the planning group meeting.

- c) Have a better knowledge of how to use electricity more efficiently on the farm.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Have at least one boy to give an electric demonstration.
 - b) Have at least one boy enter records for district and state competition in the electric project.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Hold a county workshop for the 4-H electric project members.
 - b) Conduct at least one electric tour.

OTHER PROJECTS

Other projects which will receive special emphasis during 1960 are tree planting, crop projects, tree identification, wildlife and safety.

D. Forestry

1. Situation and Needs

Isle of Wight County has 79,796 acres of woodland. There are 54,299 acres in cropland. The total farm land is 139,327 acres.

Present stands consist of pine and hardwood mixtures, pure pine and scrubby hardwood mixture with merchantable hardwood. The wetter sites consist of merchantable gum and cypress. There is no economical practice for the wet conditions.

There is very little demand for the low quality scrubby hardwoods; wood using industries have a surplus on their own lands and are not interested in buying from the private landowner. There is a definite need for converting this scrubby growth to a pure pine stand which is our fast-growing, most desirable species.

The number of farms is on the decrease. Because of the capital involved, industry usually gets the first opportunity at buying land when it is offered for sale. This tendency will decrease the private ownership of our forest land.

Share croppers and tennant farmers of which we have a reasonable number, show very little interest in forestry conservation. Forestry practices on the home farm among tennant farmers and ownership has made very little progress.

Forestry is costly and a long-time program. This discourages the private landowner because of the time involved before returns will be available.

Thirteen 4-H club boys are feeding steers for the 1960 Junior Baby Beef Show and Sale. One boy is feeding a beef heifer for the Richmond Heifer Show.

The following are needs which should be corrected in order to make the baby beef project in Isle of Wight County more successful:

- a) More careful selection of steers to be fed by club members.
 - b) A larger number of potential buyers attending the show and sale.
 - c) A better external parasite control program.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Keep the show at the present size.
 - b) Have all calves to grade choice or above.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Hold a junior baby beef show and sale.
 - b) Print feed and management suggestions and see that each club member has a copy of these suggestions.
 - c) Help members and parents select the calves to be fed.
 - d) Hold a county wide fitting and showmanship clinic.
 - e) Work with individual members on training their steer for the show.

FARM AND HOME ELECTRIC

1. Situation and Needs

The electric project has been quite popular in Isle of Wight County for the past few years. There is a total of 54 boys enrolled in this project for 1960.

One Senior club, consisting of 16 members, are enrolled in the Unit II Electric project. This group will attend regular monthly project meetings which will be held at power supply offices in the county. A Junior club, consisting of 38 members, will attend one or two county-wide workshops.

Some of the needs of the electric project are:

- a) More electric workshops
- b) Use the correct size of wire, fuses, etc. for the farm and home.

- g) Have committees and specialists to help in carrying out the overall 4-H program.

INDIVIDUAL 4-H PROJECT - MARKET HOGS AND BREEDING GILTS

1. Situation and Needs

There are nine boys feeding a total of 34 hogs for the Junior Market Hog Show and Sale. Four of these boys are in the Smithfield area, two in the Carrsville area, and two in the Isle of Wight area, and one in the Windsor area.

Five boys in the Isle of Wight area have received gilts from the Sears Purebred Gilt chain. All of the gilts have been bred and one has farrowed.

Below are the needs for the hog projects.

- a) More careful feeding and management of both market and breeding hogs.
- b) More careful selection of breeding animals.
- c) Breed gilts at the correct time.
- d) Selecting market hogs of the correct size to put on feed.

2. Goals for 1960

- a) Have all five boys with gilts to build approved farrowing pen or stall.
- b) Try to get all five of the Sears Gilt bred on time.

3. Extension Methods

- a) Hold a Junior Market Hog Show and Sale.
- b) Print feeding and management suggestions and give them to each member carrying either market or breeding hog projects.
- c) Help individual boys with fitting their hogs for the show.
- d) Help boys select pigs.

BABY BEEF

1. Situation and Needs

The baby beef project is one of the most popular 4-H projects in Isle of Wight County. The project has been conducted in this county for twelve years and is becoming more popular each year.

Organized boys clubs are located at the following locations: Carrsville - one junior club; Windsor - one junior club; Isle of Wight - one junior and one senior club; Smithfield - one senior club; one combined boys and girls club at Bartlett and Bethany.

There is a total of five organizational leaders, six project leaders and four junior leaders working with these clubs.

A nine member Youth Committee was organized in Isle of Wight County in 1955. The committee is composed of five men and four women from six different areas in the county. The purpose of this committee is to help determine the needs and the problems of youth in the county and to propose a plan of action in meeting these needs.

The needs of 4-H club work in the county are as follows:

- a) More 4-H organizational and project leaders.
 - b) A more careful selection of projects by members.
 - c) Inform more people about the purpose and objectives of the 4-H club program.
 - d) More 4-H boys participating in demonstration and achievement contests.
 - e) Increase 4-H enrollment.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Increase overall membership by at least 10 percent.
 - b) Secure three additional organizational leaders.
 - c) Have at least 80 percent project completion.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Conduct workshops for several projects.
 - b) Select and coach a county livestock judging team.
 - c) Hold county 4-H Achievement Program.
 - d) Hold special project shows and sales.
 - e) Provide recreational program for individual clubs and county groups.
 - f) Observe National 4-H Club celebration.

- c) Elimination of low producers
 - d) More calfhood vaccinations.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Reduce the number of Mastitus cows on dairy farms 40 percent.
 - b) Increase summer supplemental pasture to 300 acres.
 - c) Have 35 percent of heifers vaccinated.
 - d) Increase average production per cow from 604 pounds a month to 625 pounds a month.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Send out monthly circular letter in connection with the Mastitus control program.
 - b) Distribute Mastitus control barn charts to all dairymen in the county.
 - c) Advise farmers that even though the state discontinued paying for calfhood vaccination, it is still a good practice.
 - d) Send letter and write news articles on summer pasture.
 - e) Work with DHIA and encourage non-members to keep records.
 - f) Send letters to farmers giving information on vaccination of heifer calves.
 - g) Advise and encourage farmers to breed cows to freshen during base period and cull low producers.
 - h) Much of the dairy work will be done by individual contacts, dairy meetings and dairy committees.

C. 4-H Club Work

PROGRAM IN GENERAL

1. Situation and Needs

Isle of Wight County had a total white population of 1,463 farm and non-farm boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 20 in 1955. The total 4-H club enrollment (boys and girls) is approximately 240. One hundred twenty-one are enrolled in agricultural projects supervised by the assistant county agent.

3. Extension Methods

- a) Send circular letters to all sheep growers and publish news articles concerning lamb pool sales, sheep shearing, and advantages resulting from castrating lambs.
- b) Conduct lamb castrating and docking demonstrations.
- c) Send letter to all sheep growers with reference to management, including castrating and docking and feeding recommendations.
- d) Send letter to sheep growers advising change in system of marketing.
- e) Make plans for and conduct the lamb pool sales.
- f) Get a custom sheep shearer in the county to shear sheep.

DAIRYING

1. Situation and Needs

We have 6,500 acres of improved pasture and 500 acres of summer pasture. There are too many cows leaving the dairy herd because of low production. According to the 1954 census the number of dairy cows in the county two years old is 1,512 with an estimate of 2,300 of breeding age. The average size of the herd in the county is about 50 cows according to a dairy survey. It is estimated that 317 cows were bred artificially during 1955. Twenty-four percent of heifers were vaccinated for brucellosis according to the 1955 records.

In 1958, the brucellosis test program was completed. The county received a certificate for having been declared Modified Certified Brucellosis-Free.

More than ever the importance of efficiency and good management is the principle ingredient in farm profits and success. Volume also is becoming more important. This is evident by more small farmers going out of business or doing off the farm work and renting additional land and the like. A specific evidence of this county is that three of our sixteen dairymen have gone out of business.

In January, 1958 the average production per cow was 604.7 pounds in the grade A herds in the county.

In order to make the dairying program a success, the following needs should be corrected:

- a) Need to have disease control program.
- b) Adequate summer pasture.

- c) Advise farmers to watch the market and try to buy and sell to an advantage.
- d) Contact beef producers who have cattle on feed.
- e) Try to get them to sell cattle through the Richmond Fat Stock Sale.
- f) Let farmers know grading service is available. Encourage beef producers to have cattle graded before marketing and sell on grade.
- g) Advise and encourage farmers to start out with only the amount of steers that their farm roughage and grain supply will finish out.
- h) Advise them to carry over or through the year no more steers than the pasture will support including supplementary pastures.
- i) Control parasites. Most of this work will be done through individual contacts.

SHEEP

1. Situation and Needs

There were 277 sheep and lambs in the county in 1945, 522 in 1950, and 707 in 1954. In 1958 there were approximately 910 head.

The percentage of profit per head of sheep is very high. However, we feel that sheep numbers are limited.

Sheep production needs of the county farmers are as follows:

- a) Improve marketing program.
- b) Shearing
- c) Parasite control
- d) Better management of lambs.

2. Goals for 1960

- a) Increase sheep numbers in the county to about 900 head.
- b) Increase quality of lambs sold by 30 percent.
- c) Raise 50 additional lambs this year.
- d) Have 80 percent of the sheep sheared.
- e) Have 75 percent of the lambs sold on grade.

or more.

- (6) Encourage farmers to provide disinfectant for visitors to step in before going into hog houses and lots.
- (7) Give farmers advantages and disadvantages of pig parlors through visits, letters and tours.
- (8) Encourage farmers to purchase meat-type pure bred boars and cull and select meat-type gilts.
- (9) Encourage parasite control.
- (10) Publicize the fact that the Extension office has building plans and other leaflets, bulletins, and mimeographs.
- (11) Publish a news article on hog pasture management.

BEEF CATTLE

1. Situation and Needs

In 1940 there were 302 head of beef cattle, in 1945 there were 597 head, in 1950 there were 565 head and in 1955 there were 1,648 head.

The county is better equipped to produce steers than to attempt to maintain large numbers of cow herds. We have grain and peanut hay in abundance which is a natural for producing steers.

The present needs of beef cattle growers in the county are:

- a) Better markets
- b) Better use of feed on the farm
- c) Better management

2. Goals for 1960

- a) Have 1,000 steers fed out in 1960.
- b) Have ten farmers improve the beef cattle management program on their farm.
- c) Do not increase beef cow numbers.

3. Extension Methods

- a) Have a beef cattle marketing school for county beef cattle farmers.
- b) Advise farmers of the places and dates of feeder calf sales.

entire meeting will be directed to crop management discussion.

- (2) Swine Specialist, Roie M. Godsey, and Assistant Swine Specialist, John Henry Carter, will discuss swine management practices, feeding and commercial gilt selection at a county-wide meeting March 1.
 - (3) Representatives of meat packers, State Department of Agriculture graders, Extension Specialist, and farmers will cooperate in conducting a hog show in March.
 - (4) The Tidewater Sales Company, State Department of Agriculture representative, Extension Specialist, meat packer representative, pure bred hog breeders and farmers are cooperating to plan a barrow show.
 - (5) Cooperation with veterinarians in controlling diseases.
- c) Demonstrations

Demonstrations will include the following:

- (1) A live hog and carcass grading demonstration
 - (2) Showing a new and economical farrowing house construction
 - (3) Converting an available building is often more economical than a new construction. Farrowing and feeding facilities converted from old building will be demonstrated.
 - (4) Feed formulas and balancing rations.
 - (5) Have two method demonstration meetings with farmers with reference to feeding hogs.
- d) Publicity
- (1) The hog tour will be publicized by circular letters and news articles.
 - (2) Write a circular letter and news article in connection with the county wide hog growers meeting at which Extension Specialist, Roie Godsey and John Henry Carter will speak.
 - (3) The barrow show will be announced at meetings and through a circular letter and news articles.
 - (4) Publicity to the feeder pig sales.
 - (5) As an aid to sanitation practices, give publicity to the state disinfectant machine available to farmers in groups ^{of 5}

Following is a list of needs to make the hog program a success:

- a) A better feeding program
 - b) Need for more desirable (meat type) replacement stock.
 - c) More pigs raised per litter.
 - d) Better managed hog pastures for sows.
 - e) Need for necessary and improved buildings, equipment and water supply.
 - f) Need for improved handling and management for market.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Increase the number of head produced for market by 500.
 - b) Have 20 farmers disinfect their premises with a power sprayer.
 - c) Have 70 percent of the farmers to understand the grading system of selling.
 - d) Have 75 farmers improve their feeding and management practices.
 - e) Have more meat type animals, 85 percent of the hogs graded fall in the U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2 grade.
 - f) Improve the quality and method of marketing feeder pigs.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Planning
 - (1) Two replacements were added to the Livestock committee.
 - (2) Livestock projects were discussed with key people and members of the livestock committee before the planning meeting.
 - (3) The planning meeting was very interesting. The members behaved in a business-like manner and did a good job on planning projects and selecting times, places, and persons for the demonstrations.
 - (4) Specialists were invited to the meetings.
 - b) Cooperation with Other People
 - (1) The Association of Virginia Peanut and Hog Growers, Inc. and the Extension will have a joint meeting. Almost the

The following are small grain needs in the county:

- a) Proper varieties
 - b) Use of correct fertilizer analysis and rate of application
2. Goals for 1960
- a) No increase in acreage is recommended. About 2,000 acres seems to be adequate at this time.
 - b) Maintain average yields of about 50 bushels for oats and about 35 bushels for barley.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Send out a circular letter giving recommended varieties.
 - b) Publish news articles on proper methods of fertilization.
 - c) Send information on proper fertilizer recommendations for grains to dealers.

B. Livestock

HOGS

1. Situation and Needs

The number of hogs and pigs sold alive in Isle of Wight County in 1945 was 22,503 head, in 1950 25,433 head and in 1955 31,759 head. The value of hogs sold increased from \$157,982 in 1940 to \$876,053 in 1950 and to \$1,241,129 in 1955. On January 1, 1959 the State Department of Agriculture estimated 47,000 head in the county.

There is approximately a 35,000 hog crop produced twice annually in Isle of Wight County. The packers are buying locally produced hogs on the U.S. grade basis. Hogs weighing from 180-240 pounds are graded U.S. No. 1, U.S. No. 2, U.S. No. 3 and medium. U.S. No. 1 premium has now dropped from 75¢ to 50¢. The No. 2 hog is sold at the base price. U.S. No. 3 hogs are sold at a 50¢ discount (50¢ lower than the base or No. 2 premium). Hogs weighing under 180 pounds are discounted as light weights. Those weighing over 240 pounds are discounted as heavy hogs.

In 1958 a survey was conducted to determine the interest of a feeder pig market. The agent devoted quite a bit of time to the educational work with reference to the advantages and other facts pertaining to establishing a feeder pig market. Such a market was established during the year for Isle of Wight County and five adjoining counties. The first sale was held October, 1958.

about ten times in 15 years. In 1954 the acreage had increased to 3,012 and the yield per acre decreased to 16.0.

The soybean yield had not increased a great deal until 1956. Because of the use of new varieties, some farmers have yields up to 30 bushels per acre. In 1958 some yields exceeded 30 bushels. The county acreage is now estimated at 4,300 with an acreage yield of 17.5 bushels per acre.

The Soybean needs in the county are as follows:

- a) Higher yield varieties should be used by more farmers.
 - b) Need to plant at correct time.
 - c) Plant seed quantities for proper spacing.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) We believe some additional land should go into soybeans. Have 100 additional acres of soybeans planted in the county this year.
 - b) Increase soybean yields three bushels per acre.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Have eight demonstrations of the new variety, Hood and Hill.
 - b) Send circular letters to growers on varieties.
 - c) Encourage farmers to plant as soon after May 20 as practical, inoculate seed if needed and space properly and to not plant seed too thick, through circular letters and news articles.
 - d) Harvest before beans shatter.
 - e) Publish a news article and distribute bulletins on soybean culture.

SMALL GRAIN

1. Situation and Needs

Small grain acreage in Isle of Wight County in 1930 was seven acres with a yield of 16.5 bushels per acre, oats and rye. The acreage and yield has increased mostly in oats and barley. In 1955 the acreage had increased to 1,796 acres and the average yield had increased to 26.3 bushels per acre. Oats and barley make up the largest number of acres in small grain crops.

PASTURE

1. Situation and Needs

Improved pasture acreage in Isle of Wight County in 1947 was 600 acres. In 1949 the pasture acreage was 5,169. The acreage has increased continuously to 1953. In 1953 the acreage of improved pasture was 8,500. Pasture acreage has declined each year until 1955, and then it increased to 10,272 acres. At the present, pasture acreage is approximately 6,500.

The problems in pasture seem to stem around the fact that pasture forage was lacking during the summer and that pastures were grazed too close because of lack of rotation in the pasture system. This is particularly true during dry spells or dry summers.

Some pasture needs in the county are:

- a) Better management.
- b) Adequate supplementary pasture.

2. Goals for 1960

- a) Maintain present permanent pasture.
- b) Provide supplemental pasture. Plan to have 300 acres. Have 6,000 acres of winter pasture.
- c) Better management on 50 farms.

3. Extension Methods

- a) Use of soil samples
- b) Give pasture lime and fertilizer recommendations based on soil sample results.
- c) Send out circular letter on pasture management.
- d) Send out a circular letter on seed and fertilizer recommendations.
- e) Have several demonstrations.

SOYBEANS

1. Situation and Needs

Soybean acreage in Isle of Wight County in 1940 was 367 acres with a yield of 21 bushels per acre. The acreage has increased

b) Cooperation with Other Groups

- (1) W. W. Lewis, Extension Agronomist from V.P.I., will furnish corn hybrid performance records.
- (2) Seed dealers will post these recommended lists and handle the best of these varieties.
- (3) A fertilizer company will sponsor the 100 Bushel Corn Club contest, furnishing prizes and giving a banquet for contestants.
- (4) Have a corn meeting with dealers and farmers.
- (5) Cooperate with other agencies and dealers with soil sampling and fertilizer and lime recommendations.

c) Demonstrations

Demonstrations are planned to include the following:

- (1) Economic corn production
- (2) High yield corn production
- (3) 100 Bushel Corn Club
- (4) The use of correct fertilizer material based on soil samples.

d) Publicity

- (1) A circular letter will be sent to all farmers giving results of corn performance at the research stations.
- (2) A news article will be published giving corn recommendations.
- (3) Corn performance results will be furnished all seed dealers.
- (4) General fertilizer recommendations will be mailed to all farmers.
- (5) A circular letter and news article will announce the 100 Bushel Corn Club contest.
- (6) A circular and news article will be published encouraging farmers to use soil sample results.
- (7) Publicity will be given with reference to chemical weed control, proper spacing and cultivation.

20,305 with a yield of 29.4 bushels per acre. There were 21,561 acres with a yield of 43.0 bushels per acre in 1950. In 1955 the acreage had increased to 24,708 and the yield per acre had increased to 47.5.

Because of the low corn yields in 1957, livestock numbers were not increased and are believed to be slightly decreased. We hope to increase livestock numbers in 1960. Corn prices have remained fairly constant for the past few years. The low yields have had no effect on the prices due to adequate supply elsewhere.

In 1957, 190 farmers put 2,283.4 acres in the soil bank. In 1958, 164 farmers signed contracts for 2,268.3 acres which used up all the allotted money (\$104,261.80). One hundred forty more farmers were on the waiting list. The soil bank program will not be in effect again in 1960. The farmers voted out corn acreage allotment in the county in 1959. There will be a price support for 1960 of \$1.23 base rate for number two corn.

Needs of the corn farmer for which work will be concentrated in 1960 are:

- a) More economical corn production
 - b) High yields
 - c) Use of soil sample analysis
 - d) Use of correct analysis and rates of fertilizer.
 - e) Proper spacing and cultivation
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Produce corn more economically
 - b) Have a 65 bushel corn yield on 75 percent of the farm and maintain the same acreage.
 - c) Give 150 fertilizer recommendations based on soil sample results.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Planning

The Agronomy committee met early in the year and planned the committee programs for 1960. The committee reviewed past accomplishments and made suggestions for projects and demonstrations. They suggested methods and publicity in carrying out programs.

- (2) Sting Nematodes
 - (3) Peanut vine silage
 - (4) Plantings of certified seed varieties of Virginia 56-R and Georgia 119-20
 - (5) Correct application and placement of fertilizer and lime.
 - (6) Correct methods of applying land plaster
 - (7) Use of chemicals in weed control
 - (8) Mechanical harvesting and drying of peanuts
 - (9) Use of Aldrin for control of southern corn rootworm and thrips.
- d) Publicity

Publicity through circular letters and/or news articles will be used.

- (1) Stem rot control
- (2) Nematode control
- (3) Chemical weed control
- (4) Use of Aldrin for controlling southern corn rootworm and thrips
- (5) Value of soil sample analysis, that shipping boxes and cartons are available, and that recommendations will be given, based on soil sample results.
- (6) The correct analysis and method of applying fertilizer materials
- (7) The value of using certified seed
- (8) Recommended Varieties
- (9) Importance of seed germination tests
- (10) Importance of studying tags before buying seed

CORN

1. Situation and Needs

Corn acreage in Isle of Wight County in 1930 was 16,548 acres with a yield of 25.1 bushels per acre. In 1940 the acreage was

peanut seed certification, and sources with reference to certified and registered seed stock. Furnish newspaper offices with information about certified seed. Send letters to certified seed growers, giving them information about new certified rules and sources of seed stock, both old and new.

- (2) Mr. S. Womack Lee, Manager, Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association and Thomas D. Odom, Secretary, Suffolk Peanut Company, Inc. have certified peanut seed stock for growers. The certified seed available from these sources are Virginia 56-R, runner, and Georgia 119-20, bunch.
- (3) The Association of Virginia Peanut and Hog Growers, Inc. cooperated by publishing articles of importance to farmers for the Agent. The Agent serves as ex-officio member on their Board of Directors.
- (4) Extension Specialists from V.P.I. who will assist with stem rot control demonstrations are, Easley S. Smith, Associate Extension Agricultural Engineer, Robert Pristou, Associate Extension Plant Pathologist, and A. H. Kates, Associate Extension Weed Specialist.
- (5) Research workers at the Tidewater Research Station are working with a few farmers having so called "Hidden Damage" of peanuts. Research workers are trying to determine the cause and control of this damage.
- (6) John C. Butler, a farmer, will cooperate by allowing farmers to visit his, the oldest and longest peanut drying unit in this area. Mr. Butler has agreed to let Mr. A. J. Lambert, Associate Extension Agricultural Engineer, make copy drawings of his unit for general distribution.
- (7) Mr. Gus Kirchof with the Shell Oil Company will furnish pesticides for peanut pest control demonstrations.
- (8) The Virginia State Department of Agriculture will furnish shipping bags and make germination tests for farmers.
- (9) The Peanut Soil Conservation District will endeavor to make surveys for drainage of peanut land in order that the tile trenching machine may complete it's work before planting time.

c) Demonstrations

Demonstrations are planned to include the following:

- (1) Control of stem rot

- c) Control diseases, insects and weeds. Of the diseases stem rot is most important. Important insects to control are rootworm, thrip, nematodes and corn earworms.
 - d) Use of proper varieties for soil types.
2. Goals for 1960
- a) Have one hundred farmers to demonstrate correct plowing and cultivation for stem rot control.
 - b) Give fertilizer recommendations to five hundred farmers based on soil sample results.
 - c) Have one additional farmer to get established in mechanical harvesting and drying.
 - d) Get 1,000 acres treated with chemical weed control to aid in the control of stem rot.
 - e) Expand the use of Virginia 56-R and Georgia 119-20 varieties.
 - f) Continue the use of aldrin on the acres of peanuts where southern corn rootworm is expected to be a problem.
 - g) Increase the average peanut yield 50 pounds per acre.
3. Extension Methods
- a) Planning
 - (1) Use the Agronomy committee for planning the peanut program.
 - (2) The Agronomy committee met early in the year to discuss needed projects to be conducted this year, and to plan programs. The committee suggested that we should concentrate on these needs this year.
 - (3) Program planning was discussed with five members of the committee individually.
 - (4) Specialists will be contacted in planning projects.
 - (5) The committee decided on demonstrations, where they would be, and how to publicize them.
 - (6) Select key people to assist with the projects.
 - b) Cooperation with Other People
 - (1) Write J. R. Whately, Secretary of Virginia Crop Improvement Association, Inc. for regulations with reference to

A. Agronomy

PEANUTS

1. Situation and Needs

Peanut acreage in Isle of Wight County in 1940 was 20,604 acres with a yield of 1,297 pounds per acre. The yields have increased continuously. In 1955 the acreage had decreased because of quotas to 15,378 and the yield had increased to 1,827 pounds per acre.

Because peanut acreage is controlled by quotas and farmers are permitted to plant only their acreage allotment, improvements, practices and goals will have to come from changes other than increased acreages. The 1959 county acreage allotment was 16,215 acres. The 1960 allotment is 16,207. National support price is \$201.24 per ton.

The 1958 harvest season was one of the best we have experienced with highest ever harvested yields. Weather during the harvest season was just about perfect for harvesting.

Many farmers have experienced considerable damage due to stem rot for a number of years. Now that a control has been found we hope to continue to work in controlling this fungus.

Nematode infestation seems to be on the increase.

We have a new peanut variety, Virginia 56-R, released to growers in 1957, which has shown promise of being used quite extensively by farmers in that it produces a high percent of extra large and also a high yield.

In 1960 the certified bunch variety, Georgia 119-20, was released to farmers.

There is some interest and desire for information with reference to mechanical harvesting and drying of peanuts.

In order to control peanut leafhoppers it had become necessary to use five percent DDT dust in 1958. The use of five percent DDT on peanut vines made them unsuitable for livestock feed. In this county where peanut vines are used extensively for cattle and cow feed, the law prohibiting the use of hay treated with five percent DDT was economically important as we have over 5,000 head of cattle, most of which are fed some peanut vine hay.

The following are needs of peanut farmers in the county:

- a) More economical production of peanuts.
- b) Use soil sample analysis to determine fertilizer and lime needs in order to use only the fertilizer material and at the rates needed.

Other important sources of farm income are milk, grains, poultry, and cattle. Watermelons are also grown on many farms, and Isle of Wight, according to the 1954 Census, is the leading county in the State in the production of this crop. Average yields per acre of corn and peanuts are both considerably above the State averages.

Smithfield is the principal town and is an important meat packing center, where hams, bacon and sausage are processed in large quantities.

Approximately 60 percent of the county's area is wooded, and farms contain about 71,000 acres of woodland. Lumber and pulpwood are important products.

The county seat is located at the community and post office of Isle of Wight."

The fact that only about one percent of the A.S.C. payments to encourage conservation was used in forestry improvement helps to show how little work has been done in improving farm forests in the county. Since three-fifths (60%) of the total county area is forested, there is great opportunity for work by a county extension forestry committee. Of the 205,440 acres, 135,760 acres are farm land, leaving about 44,108 acres (approximately 36 percent of the wooded land) in commercial forest or wood using industries. Approximately 25,572 acres consists of business concerns, corporations, non farm home developments and towns. This acreage is increasing yearly.

Crop yields are high compared with other counties. Peanuts afford the highest crop yields. However, average crop yields are too far below the yields of many of our farmers in the high yielding bracket. This presents a challenge for members of the county extension agronomy committee.

Livestock producers have not by any means reached their potential. This is particularly true with such problems as raising more pigs per litter and balancing feed rations and gaining a better balance between crops and livestock, livestock markets and better type minerals.

V. Major Activities

There were meetings of the major committees to make plans for 1960. At these meetings the agent gave a report on major accomplishments during 1959 to the committee at the beginning of the meeting. Next the long-time plan was reviewed, then the committee selected the important needs and problems that should be worked on this year and considered changes in situation. The committees outlined in general terms how the work will be carried out. The agent uses this to develop his yearly plan of work.

- B. Finding out the problems and needs of the people.
- C. Setting objectives or determining where they want to go.
- D. Developing methods of attaining objectives - what, how, when, where activities will be carried out.
- E. Evaluating the program periodically.

By following through on this procedure, the interest of the people is aroused and their support is more readily obtained.

A long time program development plan has been projected for Isle of Wight County. Committees have been set up for principle commodity groups. The committees have a membership of three or multiples of three. A rotational system has been adopted where one of the old members will retire each year and one third of the committee will be new members. This system of one third retiring has not been strictly followed because of members retiring or resigning for reasons as health, work load and discontinued farming actively.

The groups assisting in program development are commodity groups of the County Agricultural Extension Service Board, namely; forestry, livestock, agronomy, and dairying. These committees have met and suggested activities and projects to be conducted for the year 1960.

IV. General County Problems, Needs and Opportunities

The U.S.D.A. and State Department Division of Statistics made the following summary with reference to Isle of Wight County: "Isle of Wight County is located in the southern part of the Coastal Plain. In 1954, land in farms totaled 135,760 acres, 66 percent of the county's land area of 205,440 acres. According to the 1954 Census of Agriculture, there were 1,003 farms which averaged 135.4 acres in size and \$22,398 in value of land and buildings. Land in farms has been declining slowly in recent years. Number of farms has dropped rapidly, and the present number is 44 percent less than the peak of 1,779 enumerated in 1920.

The land is mostly level and is often swampy along the streams. Elevations vary from about sea level to 100 feet. The frost-free growing season averages about 190 days, extending from around April 15 to October 22. Annual precipitation averages almost 48 inches.

Isle of Wight is one of the leading agricultural counties in the State, and is especially noted for it's hams, peanuts and watermelons. This county ranks second among all peanut producing counties in the State, and in 1949 was the tenth largest peanut producing county in the United States. Peanuts account for nearly 60 percent of the cash farm income. Hogs are second with about 19 percent of the total.

important. Planning is now necessary in the farm business. Controlling insects and diseases often is the difference between a profit or loss. More than ever the importance of efficiency and good management is the principal ingredient in farm profits and success. Volume also is becoming more important. This is evident by more small farmers going out of business, or doing off the farm work, or renting additional acreage or farms. A specific evidence of this fact is that three of our sixteen dairymen have recently gone out of business and a fourth is planning a disposal sale early this year.

Twenty years ago farmers did not grow enough corn to feed their livestock. About ten years ago the situation reversed to the extent that farmers were producing more than enough corn for livestock and having corn to sell. Approximately half the corn produced in the county is being sold at the present time. Therefore, for a number of years corn has been somewhat of a cash crop. The acreage reserve section of the Soil Bank program has been discontinued. Much of the acreage going into the reserve was corn. The released acreage is going into soybeans, watermelons, and grain. Farmers are decreasing corn acreage because of lower prices and dry summers, and turning their thoughts to other crops, such as, grain sorghum, small grain, soybeans and vegetables, especially watermelons. County farmers are becoming more cautious about the use of fertilizer and the importance of using soil sample results.

Methods of marketing hogs have changed from selling on a strictly weight basis to a grade merit or meat basis.

The general situation of county farmers appears to be worse economically.

III. Development of the County Extension Program

A county program as related to agricultural extension work may be defined as a plan of procedure or a plan of action to help agents in working more effectively with the people of the county. It is a method whereby county extension employees may better accomplish the purpose of Extension Work "to help people help themselves." The county extension program should include all of the important phases of agriculture and home economics both with adults and with youth.

County Extension programs to be most effective must be developed with the people,

Effective program planning with the people involves the following steps:

- A. Analyzing the situation, which is nothing more than determining where people are.

With three-fifths of the total county area forested, sawmills and wood products are important. In the southwest corner of the county is a large pulp and paper mill. There are also several plants for shelling, cleaning and grading peanuts.

Along the Pagan River and the James River men engage in fishing and oystering. Battery Park and Rescue are shipping points for the water freight and harbors for fishing boats.

According to the 1950 Census the median income for Isle of Wight County families was \$2,181, however, 45 percent of the families had incomes of less than \$2,000.

The county has access to rail and water transportation and has a good highway system. U.S. Highways 460, 258, 58, and 17 and State Highway 10 pass through the county.

During the 1958-59 school terms, the county operated 11 schools, four for the whites and seven for Negroes. Elementary schools are located at Carrsville, Windsor, Isle of Wight Courthouse, and Smithfield. Median school years completed is 6.9.

Communities in the county include Rushmere, Smithfield, Pagan Pine (suburb of Smithfield), Benns Church, Rescue, Carrollton, Battery Park, Longview, Isle of Wight, Orbit, Walters, Zuni, Carrsville, Windsor, and Airport area (near Franklin). Windsor and Smithfield are the main county shopping areas, but the people do their major buying in Franklin, Suffolk, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Newport News and Richmond.

The recreational activities are mainly under the sponsorship of the public schools, local churches, 4-H clubs and civic organizations. Fishing, hunting and boating areas are plentiful and ocean beaches are within easy driving distance. The nearby cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth afford a variety of entertainment in professional sports, concerts, theatrical productions and points of interest.

The people participate actively in church, civic, rural, homemaking and commodity groups. The Extension Service (in agriculture and home economics) office is located in the post office building in Smithfield. It's personnel, the county agent, assistant county agent, home demonstration agent and the office secretary, work with the county farmers, homemakers and young people. The people are reached with an educational program through home demonstration clubs, 4-H clubs, commodity groups and other organizations and through individual contacts and mass media (including news articles, bulletins, general meetings, demonstrations, etc.).

II. Changes in the Situation

Overall prices of farm products are lower. Farm expenses remain high, some at a more or less fixed price, others higher and profits are less. Management and economics are becoming increasingly more

Contents of Plan

I. Brief Description of County

Isle of Wight County is located in the Tidewater area of Virginia, a few miles down and across the James River from Jamestown, first English settlement in America. The county was settled on April 19, 1619 by an Englishman named Christopher Lawne, who brought with him 100 land hungry colonists. The Indians had called the area Warrasquoacke. Lawne changed the name to Lawne's Plantation. In 1634 the London Company gave it the title of Isle of Wight, making it one of the eight original shires of Virginia.

Still standing in Isle of Wight County, about four miles from Smithfield, is St. Luke's Episcopal Church (sometimes called "The Old Brick Church") which was erected in 1632. The Courthouse in Smithfield dates from 1752. The largest portion of the population is descended from the early English settlers and many of the county residents are lovers of tradition and cherish with pride the old buildings, records and relics. Isle of Wight County people are proud of their long history, and on the one hand, hold tightly to tradition, while at the same time, they are amazingly progressive.

The population of the county has been at a standstill for many years. The first U.S. Census reported 9,028 in 1790 and the total county population rose to 14,906 in 1950. Only 48 percent of the population is white. Thirty-seven percent of the population is rural farm and 62 percent is rural non-farm.

There are 721 white farm operators and 282 Negro farm operators. The U. S. Census for 1954 shows that the average size of farms is 135.4 acres and that 33 farms had 500 acres or more. The county has a total area of 314 square miles.

The area income, amounting to about six to eight million dollars yearly, is derived chiefly from field crops (peanuts, corn and soybeans) and from livestock and livestock products (chiefly hogs). Isle of Wight County is an important peanut-growing county in Virginia and in the nation, and the peanut-fed hogs raised on her farms provide the nationally known "Smithfield Hams." There are approximately 16,215 acres of peanuts and 35,000 hog crop produced twice annually in Isle of Wight County.

Next to agriculture, manufacturing employs the largest number of people. Smithfield, the principal town, is a meat-packing center where several plants produce hams, bacon, sausage, lard, and other meat products. The plants do an estimated combined volume annually of around 25 million dollars. Isle of Wight County has approximately 127,000 acres of commercial forests exclusive of public reserve and other non-commercial forest land. About two-thirds of the timber is softwood and one-third hardwood.

PLAN OF WORK
ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY

1960

W. H. Grizzard, County Agent

B. S. Stump, Assistant County Agent

G. W. Nichols, Assistant County Agent
(Part-time)