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ANNUAL REPORT

County Extension Work

1953



Mrs. Margaret J. Butler

Agent

NOTTOWAY
COUNTY

Asst. Agent

NARRATIVE REPORT

of the

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK

in

NOTTOWAY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

1953

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Home Demonstration Agent

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111. COUNTY SITUATION

Hottoway County has a diversified type of agriculture with tobacco as the principle money crop. There is quite a trend toward dairying and beef cattle which is probably second, with poultry next. With nearly two thirds of the total county area in forests, wood products mean much in the county's economy.

A large portion of the income in the county comes from the various industries which are located in Blackstone, Crease, and Burkeville. Products include flour, rayon, hosiery, children's dresses, lumber, veneer, cut stone, and fertilizer. Camp Pickett, which covers one sixth of the county area has caused changes in the county economy as well as the way of living. Many of the women have taken jobs at Camp Pickett, which means they have less time and energy for participation in organizations, such as the home demonstration clubs. Due to the fact that so many of the men have also gone to work at Pickett where the wages are high and the hours good, farm labor is scarce, high, and un dependable. There are a good many part time farmers in this county who are running their farms with a great deal of help on the part of the farm wife. The average farm wife is doing more work on the farm than she did before Camp Pickett was reactivated.

Up until mid-summer of this year housing facilities were very crowded but this situation has been relieved with the opening of 2 housing developments on the Army Post. Prices of rent, food, and clothing are somewhat higher in this area due to the higher wages paid the employees at Camp Pickett. This consolidation in the Blackstone area of the transient population has caused a very crowded situation in the Blackstone school system.

The frozen food locker plants in this area have been closed leaving the county people with no facilities for slaughtering and processing frozen foods.

The summer drought has caused a considerable loss in the farm crop this fall.

112. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 1953 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

The 1953 home demonstration program has contributed to better family living in a number of ways. The entire program was built on a need for improved practices and methods that would result in better time and energy management. The lessons on "Broiler Meals" and "Furniture Arrangement" are specific examples of how conservation of time and energy in two phases of the homemakers job were illustrated. The use of the broiler in meal preparation is a quick and easy method of preparing a whole meal. Reports from the club members before this demonstration showed that 75% of the members had broilers but only one-third of that number used them very often and even then they used the broiler mainly for making toast and broiling steaks, which was a rare occasion.

Since this demonstration 50% of those who have broilers use them at least once a week for preparing meats or whole meals.

Proper furniture arrangement in the house can mean easier and quicker housecleaning as well as more attractive and liveable homes. Statistics to show the effect of this program are not available at this time as this was done in November and not enough time has elapsed to show results.

The desire to make better use of materials on hand and to keep up with new commodities on the market were the reasons for including programs on What to Know About Fabrics Before Buying, Use Of Sewing Machine Attachments, and Salads From Home Grown Foods. Nine meetings on Fabrics were conducted by leaders with 108 present. Two special interest meetings on the use of sewing machine attachments were conducted by a representative of the Singer Company with 34 present. One club has had a special meeting on attachments since the county wide meetings in order that they might receive more individual help. Eleven meetings on Salads were held with a total attendance of 180. Sixty-five per cent of the members reported using the salad suggestions often.

V. ADULT WORK

A - Project Work

1. House Furnishings

At the program planning meeting the club members planned 3 months of their program to be devoted to house furnishings with 2 meetings on Hooked Rugs and one on Living Room Furniture Arrangement. They were interested in making their homes more attractive and liveable by making use of what they already had.

a- Objectives

The objectives were to assist families in making their homes more attractive and comfortable and to set standards of good taste in house furnishings design and arrangement, to help homemakers make the best use of what they already have, and to teach wise spending on house furnishings in order to get the most value for money spent.

b- Procedure

In preparation for the two months devoted to "Fabrics, Design and Color in Hooked Rugs" and "Methods of Construction" Miss Catherine Peery, Extension Rural Art Specialist, trained 18 leaders from 10 clubs. The leaders took the information to their clubs and assisted those who wanted to make a hooked rug in getting their design ready. Each member was encouraged to make their own design and color combinations according to good art principles. Each rug was not to be less than 5'X7' in size.

The home agent gave 10 demonstrations on "Living Room Furniture Arrangement" using as the basis for her discussion Extension Circular 508, "Furniture Arrangement." As a means of illustrating the basic principles of furniture arrangement a flannelgraph was used.

Before and after pictures of various arrangement problems were shown and discussed. Comfort of the family and ease of cleaning can be obtained by good arrangement. In 5 clubs at the end of the discussion the members present arranged the furniture applying the information given during the demonstration.

c-Results

As a result of the lessons on Hooked Rugs 15 rugs have been started. The members making these rugs are using the art principles taught by the leaders. They are using discarded woolen materials they dyed to get the desired colors, therefore they are making use of material already on hand.

In the light of the experience with teaching hooked rug making it is believed that work of this type could be more effectively done through special interest meetings rather than in each club as a monthly demonstration. The women did not realize how much work was involved in making a hooked rug when they put it in the program. The agent also did not know. When the procedure was outlined to them only a few were still interested enough or thought they could meet the standards of a well designed and constructed rug. The majority of members were not interested and thus lost interest during these two months with the feeling they were not getting anything out of the meetings.

It is difficult to determine the results on the "Living Room Furniture Arrangement" lesson as this was given in November and it is too soon to notice results yet. Attendance at club meetings during this month was high with 85% of the members present. Interest in the subject was keen and a good many questions were asked. The agent has been requested to visit 15 homes which seem to have special problems in the furniture arrangement. It would be reasonable to assume that about 50% of the members present will make at least one or more changes to improve their room and analyze to see how well they have applied the principles of furniture arrangement.

2- Foods and Nutrition

During the program planning discussions the members discovered that many of them had broilers on their stoves but only a few used them because they did not know how to prepare anything in them but toast and on rare occasions, steaks. They also wanted to know how to use some of the home grown foods to make more interesting and appetizing salads that would not have to coax their families to eat. The requests in this line of work were probably the result of a demonstration in last years work on "Planning Wholesome Meals for All the Family."

a- Objectives

The objectives in including these 2 foods demonstrations were:

To improve the health and happiness of the people through better nutrition.

To assist the homemakers in making the best use of equipment they already have.

To save time, energy and food value in meal preparation.

To make wise use of home grown foods in order to obtain variety in the meals, and to make them more attractive to the family members.

b- Procedure

Eighteen leaders from 10 clubs were trained by Miss Janet Cameron, Extension Food and Nutrition Specialist, to give demonstrations on "Salads from Home Grown Foods" and "Broiler Meals." These leaders gave a total of 20 demonstrations during the 2 months devoted to foods using the methods and information learned at the training meeting. For general distribution to club members they used two leaflets prepared by the specialist entitled "Quick Broiler Meals" and "Salads as a Source of Vitamin C."

At various times during the year the home agent gave timely information on gardening, food preparation hints, and food preservation suggestions on the regular Extension radio program and in the regular Farm and Home newspaper column in the 2 local papers. These suggestions would enable the homemaker to conserve time, energy, and food value in meal preparation as well as to add interest and variety to the meals. The fact that Vitamin C is the greatest nutritional lack in foods eaten by Virginia families was stressed in club meetings and on radio and news articles.

c- Results

The homemakers are now making better use of their broilers as a result of these demonstrations. Seventy-five per cent of the members have broilers. Only 1/3 of that number used them very often before but now 50% report using the broilers at least once a week to prepare meats or whole meals. Some of the members did not even know they had a broiler until they saw the demonstrations. Others had never used them because no one had shown them how and they were afraid they would ruin the food if they experimented. Thirty-five members have requested copies of the leaflet on broiler meals to pass on to friends who are not club members. Frequent use of the broiler is a means of saving time and energy as well as food value in food preparation.

Seventy-eight per cent of the members reported using the suggestions on salad making often. Use of citrus fruits and tomatoes often in the diet gives the people a better chance to get the necessary amount of Vitamin C daily.

3- Clothing and Textiles

The majority of the homemakers in Nottoway County buy their

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clothing ready made yet often have to have alterations made which adds quite a bit to the cost of the garment. There are so many new blends and finishes on fabrics today that it is often difficult to know what to expect from a fabric and how to care for it. The ones who have a sewing machine said they had a box full of attachments but did not know how to use them.

a- Objectives

The planning committee included in the years program 2 monthly programs, "What to Know About Fabrics Before Buying" and "Fitting and Alterations of Ready-Made Garments." Two special interest meetings on "Use of Sewing Machine Attachments" and "Hat Cleaning and Restyling" were also included.

The objectives were to provide adequate, comfortable and attractive clothes for the family on the amount of money available.

To help homemakers know the new fabrics on the market and how to use and care for them in order to get the most wear out of them.

To keep the women informed on new fashion and style trends.

To help the homemaker learn how to make needed adjustments in ready made garments to give a good fit.

To provide the opportunity to learn how to use the sewing machine attachments.

b- Procedure

The Extension Clothing Specialist trained 14 leaders from 7 clubs on "Alterations and Fitting of Ready-Made Garments" and "What to Know About Fabrics Before Buying." The home agent trained 4 leaders from 2 clubs. The leaders gave 18 demonstrations in the 2 months devoted to these topics.

In giving the demonstration on Fitting and Alterations members were asked to wear dresses that needed fitting. The leader used this as a basis for illustrating the methods of fitting. The U S D A bulletin "Fitting Dresses" was used as a source of information and was made available to those who wanted it. Two hundred were distributed.

For the program on Fabrics the leaders collected samples of materials made of the various fibers and blends and with different finishes on them. These were discussed and passed around so each one could see and feel the difference in them.

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How to care for each one was also discussed. All members were urged to read labels and ask questions of clerks if they did not know what the labels meant.

Special interest meetings on the use of sewing machine attachments were conducted by a representative of the Singer Sewing Machine Company.

The home agent conducted a hat cleaning and restyling clinic. Methods of cleaning and pressing were demonstrated and styling according to shape and size of face and style trends. Each one attending cleaned and restyled a hat. The agent was trained by the Extension Clothing Specialist to give this instruction.

c- Results

After the lessons on Fitting and Alterations 25% of the members reported using the information to alter one or more garments. In many cases the leader who gave the demonstrations was called in to assist the homemaker with her particular problem.

The women were particularly interested in how to care for the new fabrics made of blends or with different types of finishes. It is hard to evaluate the results of this program but it is believed that the main improvement will be that the women will ask the clerks questions concerning the content of fabric, type of finish, and how to care for it.

The thirty-four who attended the 2 demonstrations on sewing machine attachments were very interested in learning to use them in order to do a quicker, easier or more attractive construction job. It is believed that the majority of those present have used the instructions given for at least one of the attachments. One club has asked for another demonstration in order that they might get more individual help.

In the opinion of the agent a meeting on attachments would be more effective if a whole day were devoted to it instead of half a day. In a longer period with not more than 12 or 15 members each one could have the opportunity to actually use each attachment demonstrated. A machine for each 2 people would also be more effective.

The hat cleaning and restyling clinic was interesting and effective for the 4 who attended. They cleaned and restyled 8 felt hats and made something they would enjoy wearing out of something they would probably have discarded.

b- Home Management

The homemakers expressed a desire to learn to make some of the

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simple repairs around the home that they usually had to wait so long to get their husbands to do.

a- Objectives

The objective was to assist the homemakers in learning to make simple repairs around the home.

b- Procedure

A leader training meeting conducted by Mr. Don Kite, Extension Agricultural Engineer, was held with 17 leaders present. These leaders gave 10 demonstrations including how to sharpen knives and scissors, how to repair a leaking faucet and flush tank, how to patch plaster, put in a window pane, put up shelves and make other simple repairs around the house.

c- Results

The club attendance at these meetings was 209 which was 93% of the total enrollment. The leaders reported that the members showed a very keen interest in the demonstration and seemed proud of the fact they could now do some of the things their husbands never seemed to get around to doing for them. It gave them a feeling of pride and independence. Since this was one of the last lessons this month statistics on how many made repairs are not available yet. The effects of this instruction will be noticed more during the coming year.

5-Health

Since Hottoway County is in a military area the women are interested in home nursing and first aid with particular emphasis on atomic treatment.

a-Objectives

The main thing this lesson was to do was to stimulate an interest in Civil Defense work by focusing attention on the home nursing and first aid phase of the program.

b- Procedure

The services of a worker trained in Civil Defense were not available at the time desired so the county Health Department cooperated by sending one of the County Health Nurses to each home demonstration club to explain the Civil Defense set up and show how the homemakers might participate in the program. They particularly emphasized the home nursing phase.

In order to inform the public on services available in the county the nurses explained the works of the Health Department.

c- Results

As yet no definite steps toward an active Civil Defense program in the county have been made. Nothing will be done until the Board of Supervisors appoints a County Coordinator. The Board has been requested to do this. One group has requested a Red Cross First Aid Course and a qualified instructor has been secured for them with the cooperation of the State Police.

Several groups have requested the Red Cross Home Nursing Course but first it is necessary to have qualified instructors. The County Red Cross Chapter is making arrangements to have an Instructors Course taught. These trained teachers will then conduct classes in the various communities.

d- Other Activities

1- An Outstanding Family

One of the many outstanding families in Nottoway is the Gracey family who live on a dairy farm near Blackstone. Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Gracey and their 3 girls are all active in Extension sponsored organizations as well as other organizations that promote community improvement such as the Grange, Writan Club, P. T. A. and church work.

Mrs. Gracey, a member and house furnishing leader in the Blackstone Home Demonstration Club, is also a leader for the Iron Bridge h-H Club. As a home demonstration member she is actively interested in whatever the club undertakes. For two years she has served as a house furnishings leader and has given one demonstration and assisted with two others. She has served as a h-H leader for almost a year and is keenly interested in helping the children any way she can. Two of her own daughters, Jane and Rebecca, are in the Jr. Club with which she helps. She assisted the club to carry out a very successful Christmas wreath project last December. She helps them plan and carry out any club activities they decide to have and arranges transportation for the members to the county-wide h-H events.

Mr. Gracey is Chairman of the Agronomy Committee of the Board of Agriculture and also Chairman of the Nottoway County Pasture Club. He holds an office in both the Grange and Writan Clubs. Mr. Gracey has done as much or more to promote h-H Club work than any other parent in the county.

The oldest daughter, Ann, is president of the Iron Bridge Senior h-H Club and the h-H County Council. She is also vice-president of the County Honor Club. Ann does a nice job of leadership and is genuinely interested in promoting h-H Club work. She has won the county Dress Revue for the second year. Last year she also represented the District in the State Contest.

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The two younger girls, Rebecca and Jane, ages 10 and 11, are members of the Iron Bridge Jr. Club. Jane is club secretary this year. They are both doing outstanding project work. Jane won the county Junior Dress Revue and Rebecca won the County Junior Food Preparation Contest.

The whole family entered exhibits in the Farmers Day this fall and won a number of ribbons. Their total prizes amounted to approximately \$60.00

The Graceys have a spirit of family pride and cooperation that is hard to beat. Each one is sincerely interested in the work of the other and each one does his part to help with the family chores. They can always be depended to do anything they are called on to do.

2- Community Improvement Work

Community improvement projects of beautifying public grounds were conducted by 3 clubs. The Agner Club in Burkeville in cooperation with the highway department planted grass and bulbs in a triangle plot at the intersection of highways 360 and 460 in the center of town. The Indian Oak Club has started work on cleaning up a wayside area about 1 mile out of Creve. The plan is to use this area as a picnic spot. The highway department has agreed to put up a picnic table and trash can and keep the area cleaned once it is established. The Southside Grange set out foundation plantings around the Agricultural Building at Nettoway Court-house. The members donated the plants and fertilizer and did the work themselves.

3- Federation Goal Activities

The Federation Goal, "Home and Community Beautification," was carried for the third year by each club in the county. The aim was to make the homes in the county more attractive and to promote pride in the appearance of the community.

Each club had ten minute discussions at 6 meetings with the emphasis on improving their home grounds by pruning, planting foundation shrubs or removing unnecessary plantings. One hundred members reported improving grounds by putting in foundation plantings or improving what they had.

The County project was to work in cooperation with the Board of Supervisors and Highway Department to control roadside dumping in the rural areas of the county.

The County Goal Chairman secured the interest of the Board and the Highway Department. They agreed to do what they could if the people in the various communities would report their complaints directly to the Board. As a result 4 "No Dumping" signs were put up by the highway department.

It is the opinion of the agent that more extensive work in this would have been done had it not been for the prolonged illness and death of the County Goal Chairman.

4- County Objectives

The County Club Goals were set up by the Executive Committee of the County Home Demonstration Committee. The Goals and results are as follows:

Each club send a delegate to the District Federation Meeting.

Each of the 11 clubs were represented with a total attendance of 86 from the county.

Each club be represented at all county and leader training meetings and leaders give demonstrations at at least 4 meetings.

Four clubs were represented at all 7 county meetings and 4 other were represented at all but one.

Nine clubs had leaders give at least 4 demonstrations.

Pay county and Federation dues by January 31. All clubs did this.

Each club contribute to Pennies for Friendship. All clubs did this.

Increase club membership by taking information to at least one non-club member.

148 members reporting passing on information 430 times. Ten clubs showed an increase in membership.

Each member know the Homemaker's Creed. Only 145 members report that they can recite the Creed.

Maintain 75% attendance at each club meeting. Nine clubs have maintained 75% of its active membership at each meeting.

5- Result Demonstrations

There are two result demonstrations on yard improvement. Mrs. L. W. Williamson is still carrying plans recommended by the Extension Landscape Specialist in 1952. This year the lawn was graded and seeded and cement walkways laid. The laundry area was also established. New trees have also been planted.

Mrs. C. B. Schaubach is following plans on landscaping an duplex home recently completed. The lawn has been graded and walkways laid. Both homemakers report that over 100 people have visited each of these demonstrations.

Three kitchen result demonstrations have been carried this year. Mrs. Howard Wainwright has completed the remodeling and rearranging of her kitchen equipment for more convenience, efficiency and comfort. She reports that 150 people have visited her kitchen to see the changes she has made.

Mrs. Dick Forrester is slowly carrying out the recommendations of the Extension Housing Specialists. Financial difficulties have made it necessary to delay in carrying out the plans completely. This year the windows have been put in and the sink with running water has been installed. Their plans called for putting in a bathroom also and this has been done. Mrs. Forrester reports showing this progress to about 80 people.

Mrs. Tommy Mottley added on a new wing to her house, that has a bathroom, dining room, kitchen and screened in porch. She followed plans drawn up by the Extension Housing Specialist and other suggestions made by the agent. She is very proud of the great improvement this makes in the convenience of her home and reports showing about 75 people what has been done. The plans have not been completely carried out yet.

6- National Home Demonstration Week

Home Demonstration Clubs have brought their work to the public through special publicity during National Home Demonstration Week. Plans for observing this week in Nottoway County were made by a committee from the County Home Demonstration Committee with Mrs. Garland Jones as chairman. They submitted the following recommendations to each club.

1. Be represented on a radio program.
2. Have at least one news article in the local papers.
3. Encourage attendance at the District II Federation Meeting.
4. Encourage attendance at the county-wide Spring Luncheon, May 13.

During National Club Week 4 radio programs featuring 22 club members from 10 clubs were broadcast, 3 over W.S.V.S. in Crewe, and 1 over W.K.L.V. in Blackstone. They told what their club had accomplished in the past year and what being a club member has meant to them. A news article from each of the 11 clubs was printed in the 2 local papers.

Attendance at the District Meeting from this county was 86, representing each club in the county.

The county-wide Spring Luncheon was held Wednesday, May 13, with 40 club members from 9 clubs present. The main feature of the program was the set of slides "What Is Home Demonstration Work." This event was planned so that club members could get to know better the members from other clubs in the county.

7- Achievement Day

Nottoway Home Demonstration Club members observed Achievement Day with a tour to 6 places in the county where improvements have been made according to plans and advice of the Extension Service personnel.

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Fifty different people went on the tour. The stops included Mrs. Howard Wainwright's result demonstration kitchen which has been improved for convenience, efficiency and comfort. The group stopped at St. Marks church to see the remodeled sanctuary and new Sunday School rooms. The next home was Mrs. L. E. Williamson's farm home built by V. P. I. plan No. 57-12A. The home grounds is a result demonstration in the process of being developed.

The group had a picnic lunch at the Crews Community Center at which time the Home Agent gave a summary of the years accomplishments.

After lunch the women visited Mrs. C. B. Schaubach's duplex home where planning was for best utilization of space in the home. The landscaping of this building is a result demonstration with Extension plans being followed. Mrs. Marion Boswell has provided an unusually nice recreation area for her 2 boys both indoors and outdoors, the basement of the house has been planned with fireplace, shuffleboard, and other indoor games. The outdoor area includes a sand box, swing, sliding board, seesaw and a bunk house converted from a chicken house. Mrs. Wheeler Schmidt has added on a family recreation room for the piano, TV, sewing machine and indoor games.

At each stop on the tour the homemaker told of the improvements they had made, why they were planned as they were and the approximate cost.

8- Farmer's Day

The Retail Merchants Association of Blackstone sponsored a 2 day Farmer's Day program at which time home demonstration and 4-H Club members made educational exhibits of the work done in the past year. Seven Home Demonstration Clubs put up educational booths showing some phase of the 1953 program. These were judged and ribbons and prizes awarded accordingly. The Union and Wellville Club won blue awards, St. Marks won the red, and Hottoway, Indian Oak, Woodland and Agnew the white award.

Home Demonstration Club members entered 225 individual exhibits in canning, clothing, hand work and baked goods. These entries were also judged and prizes awarded.

This was the second year such an exhibit day had been held and great improvement in the quality of the exhibits was noticed. The judges remarked that "on a whole the exhibits were top quality." The club members have a better understanding of what an educational exhibit is and how to put up more effective displays. There is still room for improvement, particularly in use of posters and general arrangement of the booths.

It is estimated that 1000 people visited the exhibits during the 2 day event.

VI. 4-H CLUB WORK

A- Project Work

1- Room Improvement

The 4-H girls expressed a desire to learn how they might improve their own bedrooms.

a- Objectives

To assist the 4-H Members to make the best use of existing furnishings.

To help the girls realize their needs and to make plans for improvements.

To acquire skill in making simple furnishings.

b- Procedure

Six groups with a total of 71 girls enrolled in the Home Improvement Unit I - "Your Room, Pep It Up." Four project leaders were trained by the Extension House Furnishings Specialist to conduct demonstrations with 3 of the groups. These trained leaders gave 8 demonstrations. The home agent gave the instruction for the 3 clubs that did not have leaders.

The demonstrations included planning color schemes, how to make a shoe rack, how to frame a picture, how to make a bed and how to make a dustless dustcloth. After each demonstration the club members were asked to do the same thing at home. In two groups the boys and girls were both enrolled in this project and the County Agent assisted with the instruction.

In each club the members brought in the pictures they framed and judged them. Ribbons were given for the best ones.

c- Results

According to records turned in 68% of those enrolled completed the project. Of those completing 95% showed they cared for their room regularly for at least 4 months. This included making the bed, hanging up clothes and weekly cleaning. Forty-five per cent framed a picture for their room and 74% either made or bought a shoe bag or rack.

From comments made by mother's of these girls it is believed the girls have developed pride in the appearance of their rooms and are anxious to show other the things they have made themselves.

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2- Clothing

All girls seem to have a strong desire to learn to do things with their hands and many want to learn to sew.

a- Objectives

To teach the basic fundamentals of clothing construction, and to develop an appreciation of good workmanship and pride in a job well done.

b- Procedure

Monthly project demonstrations were given the 35 members enrolled in "So You'd Like to Sew" by the home agent. The articles the girls were taught to make were needlecases, tray cloths, aprons, and shirts. On the completion of each article they were brought in and each girl given the opportunity to judge them. Blue, red and white ribbons were awarded each time articles were judged.

Five girls carried the "Make or Remake" project under the supervision of the club leader, Mrs. P. B. Cassell. When the garments were finished they competed in a Dress Revue Contest and Ann Gracey was selected as county winner.

c- Results

Twenty-five of the girls enrolled in the "So You'd Like to Sew" project turned in completed records. Each one reported learning many of the basic fundamentals of sewing such as how to pull a thread, baste, straighten fabric by pulling a thread and how to hem. Some progress was made on using the thimble but the majority do not use one unless constantly reminded.

By judging each other's completed articles they learned to observe and appreciate good workmanship. Each time they would try a little harder to improve. Much improvement was noticed through the year and it is believed much of it was due to the fact that they understood what was expected of them after each judging.

The "Make or Remake" girls who are all in their third or fourth year of clothing construction have showed a great deal of progress in the quality of work they are doing now. The inside finishes have improved so that the garment looks as neat on the inside as they do on the outside.

They made a total of 26 new garments and remodeled 10.

Two of these advanced sewing girls have helped younger sisters and club members who are just beginners.

3- Food Preservation

It was found that many of the girls were called on at home to assist with the canning and freezing so they decided to take food preservation as a project in order to be able to do a better job at home.

a- Objectives

Teach the basic fundamentals of food preservation by canning or freezing.

To set standards of work in food handling.

To develop self-confidence and poise through the demonstration.

b- Procedure

Two food preservation project groups were conducted in the county with a total enrollment of 12. Each group had 3 meetings at which time basic instructions in canning and freezing and making the family food preservation plan were given. After the demonstrations each girl canned one jar and packaged one container each of fruit and vegetable under the supervision of the agent and leader. One leader assisted each group.

c- Results

All 12 girls enrolled completed the project and reported canning alone a total of 182 jars and assisted with 960 jars. They packaged 515 packages for the freezer and assisted with 812 more.

Each girl gave at least one demonstration on canning or freezing. In the county contest Barbara Jones was selected as the Canning winner and Patricia Ritchie as the winner in Frozen Foods.

B- Other Activities

1- Camps

Nottoway 4-H members were represented at District Camp, State Conservation Camp and State 4-H Short Course. The county quota for each of these was filled by members who met the requirements of project work, interest and leadership. The privilege of attending was an award for good 4-H work all during the year.

Thirty-nine boys and girls attended the District Camp held at Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach, for one week in July. The program was composed of athletics, handicraft, swimming, vespers and evening programs. The camp was organized on the early Colonial system of government with 4 colonies, each with a Lieutenant Governor and Secretary under the rule of a governor and secretary of the Commonwealth. Four from Nottoway were elected to serve as

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Fourteen h-h club members attended the State h-h Short Course which was held at V. P. I. for one week in June. These club members attended and participated in classes, demonstration contests, vespers, evening programs and planned group recreation. One of the boys from Nottoway was nominated for 3rd Vice-President of the Short Course but was defeated in the election.

During the week the State All-Star Chapter tapped new members, two of which were from this county, Betty Culliton and Billy Fisher.

There were 5 members to attend State Conservation Camp held at Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach, in July. They participated in the program which related to the conservation of our natural resources.

2- Rural Life Sunday

Sponsored by the h-h County Council, a Rural Life Sunday program was held Sunday, May 17, on the Courthouse lawn with 93 h-h members and friends attending. "Life Can be Beautiful" was the theme of the message given by Reverend J. W. Mast, pastor of the Crenshaw Methodist Church, Blackstone. Billy Fisher, County Council President, presided over the service. Other club members participating were Ann Gracey, who gave the scripture reading; Ann Thomas and Wayne Bishop, song leaders; Meade Boswell, prayer; and Billy Coburn, poem.

3- National h-h Club Week

National h-h Club Week plans as made by the Nottoway h-h County Council at their January meeting were very successfully carried out during the week of March 7-15.

A county-wide "h-h Round-Up" party for club members, parents and leaders sponsored by business concerns of the three towns, Blackstone, Crewe, and Burkeville, climaxed the weeks events on Friday night, March 13, in the Crewe Y. M. C. A. gym. Some 200 boys and girls and their parents enjoyed the evenings program which included games, dancing, Honor Club Tapping and awarding of the 1952 medals for outstanding project work.

Billy Fisher, president of the County Council, presided at the program. Mr. J. N. Flippen, Mayor of Crewe, welcomed the group to the town of Crewe; Mr. Howard Martin, of Burkeville, and Mr. Coleman Hamlett, President of Blackstone Retail Merchants Association, spoke in behalf of the businessmen of their communities.

The Nottoway Honor Club candlelighting tapping service for new members was conducted by Robert Thomas, vice-president of the Honor Club. The Honor Club is composed of h-h members who are 14 years old or older and who have been in club work at least 3 years and have outstanding records on leadership, project work, character and co-operation in club activities. Those tapped for membership were Charlotte Lucy, Glenn Hurt, Patricia Ritchie, and Frankie Davis of the Iron Bridge Br. Club; Ann Clay and James Bradford of the Bellefonte Club; Barbara Jones of the Southside Club.

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The County Agent gave a challenge to the new members to render service to the clubs of their county, and challenged the other h-H members to strive for membership in the Honor Club by working harder on project work and participating in all h-H activities.

Award for outstanding h-H project work completed in 1952 were presented by the home demonstration agent, and county agent. Medals were awarded to the following club members: Patsy Williamson, Nancy Lee Williamson, Safety; Ann White Thomas, Bread; Barbara Jones, Canning and Food Preparation; Patricia Ritchie, Frozen Foods; Ann Gracey, Dress Revue; and Betty Culliton, Achievement.

Also James Daniels and Buddy Naugle, Safety; Billy Thompson, Achievement; Billy Fisher, Leadership; Coleman Allen, Poultry; Leslie Beatty, Tractor Maintenance; Wayne Bishop, Garden; Billy Foote, Dairy Achievement; Charles Rodgers, Meat Animal; Billy Coburn, Field Crops; and Charles Hooper, Farm and Home Electrification.

Following the awards a safety film entitled "We Drivers" was shown after which the group enjoyed refreshments and dancing to the music of the Smith Family.

A county-wide publicity program was undertaken to let the people know what h-H'ers are doing in Nottoway. Special editions of both local papers featuring h-H club work came out on March 6. Extra copies of the Courier Record edition were donated so that every h-H club member in the county could have a copy.

A letter from the Extension Agents was sent to the parents pointing out the need for parents interest and encouragement in their children's club work, for the children getting the support of their parents do the best work. The parents were also invited to the county Round-Up Party.

There were eleven 15 minute h-H radio programs conducted over stations W. S. V. S., Crewe, and W. K. L. V., Blackstone, during club week.

As a result of a campaign to get the "National h-H Club News" magazine circulated in Nottoway County there were 30 some subscriptions ordered. Each club member subscribing to the magazine also received a h-H sign which reads "h-H Club Member Lives Here."

Each club was responsible for putting up a poster in some public building announcing National Club Week. Eight such posters were put up.

Mr. Ed Silverman, a member of the Courier Record staff in Blackstone, contributed the painting of a large billboard located on h60 between Nottoway and Blackstone which was up over three weeks, announcing National h-H Club Week.

b- Contests

In March, five 1952 county winners in the homemaking projects competed for District Awards. Two of these were named District winners and competed for State awards in June. They were Ann Gracey, Dress Revue and Barbara Jones, Canning. Others competing were Betty Culliton, Dairy Foods; Lois Norton, Food Preparation who won blue awards and Patricia Ritchie who won a white award in Frozen Foods.

In November county contests were held to select the 1953 county winners in the homemaking projects. They were judged on records and demonstrations. The results of these contests were:

Food Preparation	Lois Norton, 1st, Sr. group Rebecca Gracey, 1st, Jr. group
Canning	Barbara Jones, 1st
Frozen Foods	Patricia Ritchie, 1st
Dairy Foods	Betty Culliton, 1st
Dress Revue	Ann Gracey, 1st, Sr. group Peggy Sutphin, 2nd, Sr. group Margaret Matthes, 3rd, Sr. group Jane Gracey, 1st, Jr. group Martha Dixon, 2nd, Jr. group
Room Improvement	Violet Abernathy, 1st, Sr. group Charlotte Williamson, 2nd, Sr. group Joyce Williams, 3rd, Sr. group Patsy Williamson, 1st, Jr. group Lelia Mayton, 2nd, Jr. group

The first place winners in each contest will enter the District Contest in December.

5- Achievement Day

A county-wide b-H Achievement Day with approximately 114 b-H members, parents and friends present was held on November 21, at the Crewe Y. M. C. A. gym.

The guest speaker was Richard Martin, 1952 I F F E delegate to France who gave an illustrated talk on his b- months on this project. Club presidents gave reports on the work their club had done during the past year.

County medals were awarded by Mr. W. C. Coleburn for outstanding club work to the following girls:

Leadership	Ann Gracey
Achievement	Lois Norton

Dress Revue	Peggy Sutphin and Jane Gracey
Clothing	Frieda Boykins
Room Improvement	Patsy Williamson

6- Community Activities

During the year each club has had some special activity other than regular club meetings and county-wide events. These included money making projects, socials and recreational meetings. These were planned and carried out by the club members with the assistance of club leaders.

VII. YOUNG MEN AND WOMENS WORK

There is no special organization for older youth in this county. However, the home agent has assisted 30 young women in home demonstration clubs and non-club members who would be in this age group.

VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. HD Clubs or Groups	11	11	11	11	11
Membership	247	256	250	211	225
No. H-M Clubs	4	5	7	7	8
Membership (Girls)	41	79	90	109	115
No. YM Group	1	0	0	0	0
Membership	48	0	0	0	0
No. other families reached	150	220	500	750	1,275
No. of different families reached	750	800	1155	1250	1664
No. Community clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0

IX. FUNCTION OF ORGANIZATIONS

A- County Board of Agriculture

The Nettoway County Board of Agriculture which is composed of 9 committees in the agricultural planning group in the county. The committees met last fall to review the past years work and to make recommendations for the 1953 program. Some of the recommendations are incorporated in a plan of work. The home agent work with 4 of these committees: Youth, Health, Home Improvement and Community Improvement.

B- County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee is the planning body for all Home Demonstration Clubs in the county. This committee, which meets semi-annually, is composed of the president and program development chairman from each club.

In the fall of 1952 the committee met to draw up the 1953 demonstration program, special interest activities and other special county-wide activities.

The spring meeting was devoted to making plans for National Home Demonstration Week and the Achievement program. The first half of the years program was evaluated and recommendations made for carrying out the rest of the years work. The Committee sponsored the County Yearbook, and Achievement Tour, and the Home Demonstration exhibits for the Blackstone, Farmer's Day.

C- County h-H Project Planning Committee

The h-H project planning committee, composed of 2 girls from each club and the club leaders, met in May with 7 clubs represented by 12 girls and 3 leaders. The group discussed the recommendations of projects from each club and selected the ones that would be offered in the fall. They reported back to their own club what was decided at the planning meeting.

D- County h-H Club Council

The County h-H Council, composed of all officers of the 8 clubs, met 3 times during the year to make plans for county-wide activities.

The fall meeting was devoted to the election of officers and making up the Plan of Work. Officers for the year were: Billy Fisher, president; Billy Thompson, vice-president; Ann Thomas, secretary; Lyndal Lewis, treasurer; Peggy Sutphin, reporter; Jean Clay and Wayne Bishop, song leaders.

The Council goals were:

1. Each club have 100% of members complete projects.
2. Each club participate in National h-H Club Week Activities
3. Have a county-wide Rural Life Sunday program.
4. Have a county-wide h-H picnic in August.
5. Each club have members enter their projects in the county h-H exhibit day in October.
6. Have a county h-H Achievement program in November
7. Each club set up objectives for reaching county goals.
8. Each club put on a drive to get "National h-H Club News" subscriptions among their members.

Each goal was fulfilled except the first. Seventy-five per cent of the projects were completed.

The January meeting was devoted to making plans for National h-H Club Week Activities. The plans were carried out through various committees.

In April plans were made for Rural Life Sunday and the county picnic.

The Council is a very active organization. The members take the initiative in planning and following through on these plans with the agents and leaders serving in an advisory capacity only.

B- County I-H Honor Club

The Honor Club meets quarterly for a business and social meeting. The goals are set up in the fall following election of officers. The 1953 goals were:

1. Help to get 100% of record completions.
2. Spend one weekend at Camp Farrar.
3. Sponsor one county-wide activity not confliction with council activities.
4. Have one money making activity.
5. Promote publicity through newspapers and radio.

All objectives were met except the second one. The group was unable to make reservations at the time they wanted to go. On the first goal the Honor Club members helped get in records even though 100% were not turned in.

In September the program of work was outlined for 1954. In October members were trained to make lamps. They will serve as junior leaders when the lamp making project is done in the local clubs.

X. LEADERSHIP

A- Contributions of Volunteer Leaders

1- Organizational

The 55 home demonstration club officers have been responsible for conducting the business part of each regular club meeting as well as meeting with various planning committees. The president or vice-president who attends the county Home Demonstration Committee meetings carries back to the club the information on county-wide activities, and the various recommendations of activities for each club to carry out.

2- Program Development

The program development leaders are elected to lead in developing a program of work based on the needs and interests of the community and county. These leaders, working through their clubs and with the County Committee, are the ones who bring the viewpoints of the club members together and set up the county program. The program development leaders work is a continuous job which she carries out through club discussions, talking with individuals, home visits and observation throughout the year.

3- Subject Matter

The home demonstration subject matter leaders have taken a very active part in the years work. Each club had 1 Federation Goal Chairman, 2 foods; 2 clothing and 2 house furnishings leaders. These leaders held a total of 64 meetings. They had a very good record of attendance at training meetings with 76 attending the 5 subject matter trainings.

The h-N subject matter leaders have been a great help in putting over an effective project program. Without them the work would have been of very little benefit to the girls. Five women served as active h-N leaders and 6 girls were active junior leaders. These leaders gave a total of 73 demonstrations and assisted at 28 other meetings.

Growth of Leadership Over a 4 Year Period.

HO Club Project Leadership	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. project leaders (subject matter)	78	78	94	88	77
No. goal chairmen	10	10	10	11	11
No. training meetings held by Specialist	5	3	4	7	4
by Agent	6	3	4	5	1
Attendance at all training meetings	123	94	96	129	76
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	20	30	41	54	64
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	36	32	40	40	44
Growth of h-N Club Project Leadership					
No. active project leaders	6	11	7	7	5
No. junior project leaders	3	6	6	4	6
No. training meetings held by Specialist	2	1	2	3	0
by Agent	8	6	4	5	5
Attendance at leader training meeting	25	26	27	35	22
No. h-N leaders trained individually	17	5	5	7	4
No. club meetings held by leader with agent present	8	15	20	43	30
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	13	16	28	21	28
No demonstrations given by leaders	13	18	16	74	73
by adults	11	10	32	60	58
by juniors	2	8	14	14	15

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C- Activities and Accomplishments of An Outstanding Leader

One of the outstanding leaders in both home demonstration and home work is Mrs. Lawrence Rodgers of Blackstone. In the Home Demonstration club Mrs. Rodgers has served as president of the Blackstone club for the past year. She has worked well with the other officers and has conducted the meetings in a very businesslike manner.

She has served as one of the adult leaders of the Iron Bridge Jr. L-H club for one year. She is very interested in helping the young people in the community. Mrs. Rodgers volunteered to help the Jr. Club when the Iron Bridge club was divided last fall because it had grown so large.

Interest in the club has been stimulated because of her keen interest. One of the first projects the club undertook on her suggestion was a Christmas wreath project to make money last December. She helped the club members sew running cedar, holly and pine cones on cardboard frames to make very attractive wreaths. The club made about \$90.00 on this one project.

Mrs. Rodgers, with Mrs. Gracey who is also a leader for this L-H club, has assisted the club in other activities such as a Christmas party, club picnic and in seeing that they were represented at all county-wide activities.

She has assisted with the Room Care project and the Safety projects the club has carried. She gave 2 demonstrations without the agent and assisted with 2 more on Room Care. A club safety tour was made out to the Rodgers farm where the members looked for and corrected safety hazards.

Mrs. Rodgers understands children and they like her so they all work together to accomplish whatever they set out to do.

11. WORK IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The Extension workers and home demonstration club members cooperated with the Health Department by encouraging participation in the Chest X-ray program. Club members assisted in visiting homes before the clinic and with transportation to and from the mobile unit. Publicity through radio, press and circular letters went out from the Extension Office.

The Health Department assisted the Home Demonstration Clubs by sending one of the County Nurses to each club in September to talk on the Civil Defense program and services offered to the county by the Health Department.

The R. E. A. and V E P C O home economists worked with the home agent to promote the education of the use of electricity in the homes. Demonstrations on good lighting were given to several L-H clubs in connection with the room improvement project.

Extension Agents cooperated with the 3 granges by supplying materials for programs.

As a means of reaching people the agent had the full cooperation of 2 local radio stations and 2 local weekly newspapers. The home and county agents have a regular "Farm and Home Front" Column in the "Courier Record" and the "Crows Chronicle". Four-fifths of the homes in the county are reached by one of these papers. The home agent has a 15 minute radio program every other week over W. S. V. S. in Crows. The radio station estimates that approximately 4/5 of the rural population of Hottoway County listen to this broadcast. The home agent estimates that 50% of the club members have TV sets and do not listen to the radio as regularly as they used to.

XII. EVALUATION OF THE YEARS WORK

The 1953 Extension program contributed to better homemaking and better rural living through method demonstrations, radio and news articles, bulletins, personal contact by the agent and information passed on by club members.

More interest was shown in the foods and clothing phases of the program than in any other. It is the opinion of the agent that the members learned more from the "Broiler Meal" demonstrations than any other. Prior to this lesson only 1/3 said they used their broilers because they did not know how. Now 2/3 use the broiler at least once a week for meats or whole meals. Frequent use of the broiler is a time and food value saver. Seventy-eight per cent report using the salad subscriptions which should mean more families are getting their vitamin C daily requirement more often.

The volunteer leaders continue to keep up the good record of leadership. The 77 subject matter leaders gave 64 demonstrations without the agent present and assisted with 44 others. In 1952 88 leaders gave 54 demonstrations alone and assisted with 40.

Not only did the participation of the leaders aid other members but it helped to develop the women and left the agent free to answer other requests.

The outstanding National h-h Club Week program strengthened interest among club members and county people. Business men are ready to support all h-h activities and this year sponsored a county-wide h-h party and prizes for the exhibits at Farmer's Day.

Participation in contests helped to maintain interest in club work. The Honor Club and Council activities have played a large part in holding the interest of club members.

Seventy-five per cent of the projects were completed again this year. This is an increase over the 75% last year because of the increase in enrollment.

The Extension program as a whole has helped both the youth and adults in the county by improving methods, developing leadership and furnishing various educational and recreational programs.