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VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

ESSEX

COUNTY

1949

Agent Alci H. Andrew Dec. 1, 1948 - Nov. 30, 1949
Date worked from to

Assistant Agent _____
Date worked from to

Agent _____
Date worked from to

Assistant Agent _____
Date worked from to

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	1948	1949
Number Home Demonstration Clubs or Groups		
Membership		
Number 4-H Clubs		
Membership		

Number of other families reached 1948 _____, 1949 _____,

Number families reached 1948 _____, 1949 _____,

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No. project leaders and goal chairmen		
No. training meetings held by specialist		
by agent		
Attendance at all training meetings		
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present		
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted		

4. Growth of 4-H Project Leadership 1948 1949 20

No. adult project leaders		
No. training meetings held by Specialist		
by Agent		
Attendance at leader training meetings		

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1948 1949

No. 4-H leaders trained individually
No. Club meetings held by leaders without
agent present
No. Club meetings at which leaders assisted
No. demonstrations given by leaders
 by adult

	1948	1949
No. 4-H leaders trained individually		
No. Club meetings held by leaders without agent present		
No. Club meetings at which leaders assisted		
No. demonstrations given by leaders		
No. demonstrations given by adult		

X. Significance of the years work

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III. Summary of Accomplishments

Adult project work included the fields of: Foods and Nutrition, House Furnishings, Home Management, World Affairs, Rural Youth, Fair, Clothing, Yard Improvement, and Christmas Suggestions. Project work led to better nutrition, better meal planning, more efficient food preparation, production of home products more efficiently, preservation of home products, more attractive homes both interior and exterior, and more attractive furnishings, more efficient management of housework, the development of individuals and their viewpoints, greater cooperation among individuals, more attractive clothing and an economic saving. Home demonstration members estimated that they contacted as many as 811 families on phases of this program.

Other adult activities included: Federation Activities, County Home Demonstration Activities, Other County Activities, Cooperation with other Agencies, and Miscellaneous Activities.

Housing was the Federation Goal. Home Demonstration members reported many housing improvements, including all the many possible improvements, both major and minor.

Other Federation Activities include: Four women and the agent attended the Institute of Rural Affairs and State Meeting of the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, three members and the agent attended the 5th. District meeting. An Essex woman served as Vice-President of the 5th. District, all organized clubs joined the State Federation, fifteen women attended a tea for Mrs. Adrienne Boissvain of Amsterdam, Holland, four attended a tea given by the 5th. District for Miss Sylvia Slocum, retiring district agent, and club members made a study of the Federation Handbook.

County Home Demonstration activities include: the Annual Achievement Day, a printed Yearbook, contribution of canned food to Sheltering Arms Hospital, a Television Amateur Show to raise money for Jamestown 4-H Club Camp, \$107.14 given to the camp building fund, a pressure cooker gauge tester bought for use in the county, a tea for High School Junior and Senior girls and their mothers to further interest in Home Economics in college, participation in the Fair Exhibit section the running of a food booth, at the Fair, the serving of two Ruritan dinners, two Home Demonstration Committee meetings, and work at the Goodwill Center.

Other County Activities include: publicity in the newspaper and on the radio, home visits, office and telephone calls, distribution of bulletins, and the partial improvement of the Lodge grounds by the Millers-Minor Club.

Other agencies cooperated with include women's and farm organizations and charitable organizations and drives.

Miscellaneous activities were: attendance at the Farm and Home section of the State Safety Conference, and a special floor sanding demonstration.

4-H project work included the fields of: Clothing, Home Improvement, Foods, Garden, Poultry, and Rural Electrification. Project work led to the adoption of many new learning processes by club members; more clothing more economically; improved grooming; more efficient housekeeping practices; more attractive homes; improved meal planning; preparation and service; better gardens and poultry flocks; and an economic saving.

Other 4-H Activities included: State and District Events, County Events and Club Events.

State and District Events include: One club member and the agent attended the State 4-H Short Course, 6 club members and the agent attended the Jamestown 4-H Club Camp, one Home Demonstration, two 4-H members and the agent attended the dedication services of Jamestown 4-H Club Camp, and 4-H Clubs raised \$102.61 for the Camp Building Fund.

County events include exhibiting and working at the Fair.

Club events include: two softball games, one party, one picnic, and four food sales.

The scope of work was about equal to the scope of work in 1948.

The County Home Demonstration Committee functioned as a planning group for county Home Demonstration Clubs and the 4-H Council as a training organization for club officers.

Volunteer leaders served in both the Home Demonstration and the 4-H programs.

Home Demonstration leaders include organization and project leaders. Organization leaders conducted meetings, project leaders gave 14 demonstrations; and leaders held 11 meetings, not participated in by the agent, 55 reports or discussions were given by leaders.

4-H leaders include club officers, who conducted meetings, and adult leaders, who served as organizational and project leaders. These leaders gave 17 method demonstrations.

The program contributed to better homemaking, better rural living, and improved people, both adult and youth.

IV. Adult

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

The work planned in this field included four months of demonstrations at regular club meetings, two other foods demonstrations given at some clubs, and garden and poultry reports given by local chairmen at club meetings. In addition there was an agents work shop on small fruits.

The foods demonstrations given at each club were: April: Eat for Pep, Good Looks and a Long Useful Life; May: Feeding Your Weekend Guests with Ease and Grace; October: Sunday Dinner from the Oven and Refrigerator, and November: Buffet Meals. The other foods demonstrations given were: demonstrations to four clubs in June and August on Refrigerator Desserts; and demonstrations to one club and one group of veterans and their wives in December and September on Meat Canning.

In addition the agent received numerous individual requests for information regarding the various phases of food preservation, which were answered by giving the information requested.

The leaders and agent were trained by the foods specialist at leader training meetings for the April, May and November demonstrations; and the agent was trained by the specialist for the October demonstration. Garden and poultry leaders were trained by these specialists.

Of the 47 women answering questionnaires, 30 reported becoming more "nutrition conscious" because of the demonstration on Eat for Pep, Good Looks, and a Long Useful Life, and 27 reported using suggestions from the demonstration. They reported giving information from this demonstration to 99 people.

Twenty-four used suggestions from the demonstration on Feeding Your
Weekend Guests with Ease and Grace, and gave this information to 109
families.

Twenty-nine women used suggestions from the demonstration on Sunday
Dinner from the Oven and Refrigerator, and gave this information to 133
families.

Because the Buffet Meals demonstration was so recently given, there
was not as much time for the women to put it into practice; however,
nine reported using suggestions from it, and the women reported giving
information from it to 109 families.

Twenty-seven women used suggestions from the demonstration on
Refrigerator Desserts and gave this information to 81 families.

Six used suggestions from the Meat Canning demonstration and gave
the information to 42 families.

Thirty of the 47 families had gardens and gave garden information
to 142 families; 26 of them had poultry flocks and gave poultry infor-
mation to 104.

Twenty-three of the 47 women have pressure cookers, 18 rent a frozen
food locker and 6 have home freezers.

These 47 women canned 2192 quarts of fruit, 1952 quarts of vege-
tables, and 192 quarts meat and fish. They brined 44 gallons of
vegetables, and dried 26 pounds of fruit and 30 pounds vegetables
(weight after drying), they cured 8260 pounds of meats and fish,
and stored 3800 pounds of fruit and 5325 pounds of vegetables. They
froze 305 pints of fruits, 991 pints of vegetables and 3128 pounds of
meats and fish. They reported contacting 364 families on some phase of
food preservation.

The agent answered individual inquires on small fruits.

2. House Furnishings

The work planned included a months' demonstrations on the various types of Chair Seating, including caneing, flagging, and reupholstering; and the September demonstration on Flower Arrangement.

The agent was trained by the Westmoreland County home agent in chair caneing and by the house furnishings specialist in an agents' workshop on Flower Arrangement.

Of the 47 women answering questionnaires, 15 reported seating 22 chairs, five of these were caned, 13 flagged and 11 reupholstered. They gave information on chair seating to 47 people.

Twenty-three women used suggestions from the Flower Arrangement demonstration and gave information from it to 132 families.

3. Home Management

Work planned in this field included demonstrations at February Club meetings on Family Laundry and at March meetings on Selection and Care of Kitchen Knives.

The Home Management Specialist trained the leaders and the agent for these demonstrations.

Seventeen of the 47 women answering questionnaires, used suggestions from the Family Laundry demonstration. Twelve improved laundry equipment or got new laundry equipment. This includes 10 washing machines, and 9 pieces of small equipment. They gave information from the demonstration to 97 families.

Nineteen people used suggestions from the demonstration on Selection and Care of Kitchen Knives. Fourteen of them got new knives and five

sharpeners. They gave information on this to 82 families.

4. World Affairs

The work planned in this field was the demonstration given at January Club meetings on a Study of United Nations and UNESCO (United Nations Economic, Scientific, and Cultural Organization).

Eighteen women of 47 answering questionnaires reported learning more about these subjects from the demonstration and gave information to 70 families.

5. Rural Youth

To keep the Home Demonstration Clubs in close contact with 4-H Clubs, reports were given at Home Demonstration Club meetings by 4-H chairmen.

Fourteen of the 47 women reported that they had helped with 4-H work.

6. Fair

Since one of the county objectives was to participate in the local fair, the women planned a demonstration for July on Exhibiting for Fairs, to help them better select their products for entry.

The exhibit section was conducted almost entirely by the women without the presence of the agent, as it came during the week of agents' conference.

Nineteen of the 47 women answering questionnaires reported learning more about exhibiting for fairs from the demonstration on that subject.

They contacted 811 families about exhibiting at the fair, and 14 worked at the fair.

7. Clothing

The Restyling Clinic conducted by the agent in February came in this field.

The agent was trained by attending a leader training meeting conducted by the clothing specialist in King William County.

Although only ten attended the Restyling Clinic and worked on garments, there have been many individual requests to the agent for suggestions on restyling.

8. Yard Improvement

In November, Mr. Albert S. Beecher, visited 13 homes interested in becoming yard improvement demonstrators for next year.

9. Christmas Suggestions

Since the November 1948 demonstrations on Christmas Suggestions were too late last year to show many results by the last report, questions were also included in the questionnaires.

Twenty-five of the 47 women reported using Christmas Suggestions given in the meeting. They made 201 Christmas gifts and gave information on Christmas Suggestions to 136 families.

B. Other Activities

1. Federation Activities

a. Federation Goal

Housing was selected as the Federation Goal. This was a continuation of the goal of 1948.

Reports were given at club meetings by Housing Chairmen. Miss

Mary B. Settle, Home Improvement Specialist visited three homes in March and gave advice to the homemakers.

Twenty-five of the 47 people answering questionnaires reported they had improved their housing this year. Improvements included: 22 painted or papered interiors, 10 painted exteriors, 7 modernized kitchens, 5 installed running water and bathrooms, 5 sanded and finished floors, 4 improved window treatment, 3 re-finished furniture, 2 put additions to the house, two added basements, 2 did extensive screening, 2 improved storage, 2 added new furniture, and one did each of the following things: put inlaid linoleum on kitchen and bath, bought a home freezer, bought a vacuum cleaner, built a new house, bought an oil heater, fixed well, fenced, added fireplace, laid new flooring, made slip covers, bought a fan, hung pictures and improved sewage system.

Forty-seven club members reported contacting 107 families with information on housing improvement.

b. Other Federation Activities

Plans were to participate in the various Federation activities and to make a study of the Federation at the March club meetings.

One club member and the agent attended all the sessions of the Institute of Rural Affairs, and state meeting of the Federation of Home Demonstration clubs. One other woman attended 2 days sessions and participated in two of the programs. Two other women from Essex were there for short periods of time.

Three Home Demonstration members and the agent attended the meeting of the 5th. District of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

An Essex County woman served as Vice-president of the 5th. District.

All organized clubs paid dues to the State Federation.

Fifteen women attended the tea for Mrs. Adrienne Boissevain of Amsterdam, Holland. Four attended a tea given by the women of the 5th. District for Miss Sylvia Slocum, retiring district agent.

Club members made a study of the Federation Handbook in March. In most clubs the Handbook was divided into 4 sections and presented by four members. Twenty-one of the 47 women reporting said they learned more about the Federation from this study.

2. County Home Demonstration Activities

Plans were made to further Home Demonstration on a local and county level and initiate and enter into worthwhile activities.

The Annual Achievement Day was held November 30, with 200 present.

The main feature of the program was a panel discussion on the Federation Goals--Health and Housing. Following the meeting refreshments were served and the group inspected the exhibits which showed some of the year's work.

A printed yearbook was published and distributed to club members.

As has been customary each fall, home demonstration members contributed food to Sheltering Arms Hospital. One hundred jars were given.

Four ~~new~~ Clubs sponsored a Television Amateur Show to raise

money for Jamestown 4-H Club Camp. Home Demonstration Clubs contributed \$107.44 to the Camp Building Fund.

The County Home Demonstration Committee bought a pressure cooker gauge tester for use in the county.

Home Demonstration women gave a tea for high school Junior and Senior girls and their mothers. Mrs. W. A. Dryden, a graduate of Oregon State, who taught Home Economics two years in Portland, Oregon, and two years in Monksville, N. C., and now lives in Tappahannock, spoke on the Value of Home Economics Education in College. The group had tea in the Woman's Club Room.

Home Demonstration women and the agent participated in the Tappahannock Fair, whose exhibit section was quite good in both quantity and quality. Mrs. Charles W. DeShazo served as chairman of exhibits, and it is to her that much credit goes.

As a means of making money, the home demonstration committee served two Ruritan dinners, and ran a small food booth at the Fair. Mrs. J. J. Moon served as food booth chairman. For these the committee cleared \$213.21 to carry on Home Demonstration activities.

Two meetings were held of the Home Demonstration Committee. Prior to the fall planning meeting, the usual preplanning discussions were held in the clubs.

Work was done with a very poor group in a Goodwill center. These were given demonstrations within their means intellectually and financially.

Forty-seven answering questionnaires reported contacting 547 families about home demonstration work.

3. Other County Activities

As a means of reaching more people with the home demonstration program and publicizing its accomplishments, and to teach subject matter various means of publicity were used in the county. The home demonstration chairman and the agent published 64 news articles regarding home demonstration work and subject matter information. Of the 47 women answering questionnaires, 30 read the news articles. The agent gave four radio talks telling of HomeDemonstration and 4-H activities in the county. Thirty-one of the 47 women heard radio talks by the agent, and 26 heard them by other agricultural workers. The agent attended two planning meetings regarding one agricultural program on a nearby station, and one radio school conducted by Ted Hyman, radio specialist.

Home visits were used as a means of reaching others with the home demonstration program, to recreate interest among those who need it, and to carry on work with club members. The agent made 399 home visits to 162 homes.

To carry on home demonstration work, 22 office calls were made, and 365 telephone calls were transacted.

In giving information, 600 bulletins were distributed.

As payment for using the Lodge for a meeting place for part of the year, the Millers-Minor HomeDemonstration Club began improving the grounds.

4. Cooperation with other agencies

The Home Demonstration Clubs cooperated with various other agencies. These include the Woman's Club, many of whose members are also home demonstration club members; farm organizations such as Farm

Bureau and Southern States Cooperative; and the various charitable organizations and drives, including Red Cross, Tuberculosis Association, Cancer Foundation, and Essex County Aid Fund. Work with charitable drives includes; making contributions, soliciting, giving publicity. The agent judged at the Tidewater Fair.

5. Miscellaneous Activities

Three members attended the Farm and Home Section of the State Safety Conference. The agent attended the floor sanding demonstration in Lancaster County.

V. 4-H Club

A. Project Work

1. Clothing

Five girls clubs selected the So You'd Like to Sew Project, following discussions of needs and interests, and one group of boys selected the Looking Your Best project.

There were two leaders in the So You'd Like to Sew project trained by the agent. The clothing specialist trained the agent in an agents' workshop.

Demonstrations were given at club meetings, and members started work on articles and received instructions for completing them at home.

Twenty-four of the 39 girls enrolled in So You'd Like to Sew completed the project. Those who did not complete did some work, a l

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though not enough to consider the project completed. Eight different topics were studied in the various clubs, and 32 members made exhibits.

Thirty-five members equipped sewing boxes, 27 members made 29 headscarves, 5 made 5 needle cases, 14 made 23 baby bibs, 24 made 26 aprons, 2 made 2 laundry bags, 15 made 25 stuffed toys, 3 made 4 guest towels, 14 made 16 kitchen towels, 25 made 28 skirts, 8 made 8 handkerchiefs, and 2 made 2 wrist pin cushions.

The members listed 49 learning processes after study of the topics included in the program.

Only one of the nine boys enrolled in the Looking Your Best project, completed, however, the others did some work.

Eight members improved care of feet, one of teeth, eight of hands, one of posture, one of hair, and seven pressed woolens.

2. Home Improvement

One club selected the Housekeeping and one the Home Improvement project, as outlined in the manual for the first full year's work, concentrating on the dressing unit.

Demonstrations were given at club meetings and members were to put those which applied to their homes into practice.

All five of the members enrolled in the Housekeeping project completed the project. All five members cared for a room for 12 months. They did the following jobs for at least 2 months: 5 washed dishes, 5 cleaned lamps, 5 set table, 3 cared for garbage, 4 brought in fuel. They did the following to make housekeeping easier: 1 lengthened a pair of sheets, 1 made and equipped a tool box, 4 made a set of table mats, 2 put screw eyes in brushes and mops and provided a place

to hang them. All five members rearranged a room for easier care.

One member remodelled one piece of furniture, two renovated pictures, and four made other furnishings.

Thirteen of the fifteen members enrolled in the Home Improvement project completed it. Fifteen members cared for their rooms for 3 or more months, 13 made a color plan for room, 10 improved furniture arrangement, 4 improved walls and woodwork, 10 improved window treatment, 6 made or bought rugs, two made or renovated closets. Four members made, remodeled or refinished 7 pieces of furniture, 3 made, renovated or refinished 4 pieces of accessories, 2 made 5 pieces of bed linens, 5 made or bought 10 pieces of furniture, 11 made or bought 35 pieces of furniture accessories. Thirty-two different rooms were improved.

3. Foods

Two clubs selected the Meal Planning, Preparation and Service project.

There was one leader trained by the agent. Fourteen demonstrations were given by members, two by leaders and nine by agent.

Five of the 20 members enrolled completed the project; however, the others did some work.

The members in the project planned the family dinner 89 times; planned and packed the school lunch 455 times; set the table 680 times; made cake 24 times, made cookies 43 times, made milk dishes 42 times; made a salad 91 times, cooked a vegetable 92 times; and helped prepare and serve club refreshments 3 times. Club members judged food products at club meetings 34 times.

4. Garden

Eight boys and two girls in two clubs enrolled in the garden project.

Instructions were given at club meetings and members were to put practices into use at home.

Seven boys and two girls completed the garden project. Gardens were $9 \frac{3}{4}$ acres; 539 bushels were raised; \$175.15 worth was used at home; \$144.90 worth was sold; expenses were \$98.25; and profit \$521.80.

5. Poultry

Eight boys in two clubs enrolled and completed the poultry project. Instructions were given at club meetings and members were to put practices into use at home.

The boys raised 460 birds; used an estimated \$71.00 at home; sold \$68.00 worth; have on hand an estimated \$114.22 worth; had \$530.88 expenses; and made \$252.22 profit.

6. Rural Electrification

Sixteen boys in two clubs enrolled in the 1st. year Rural Electrification project.

There were two leaders in the project trained by the agent and power company representatives. Representatives of VEPCO and REA attended and assisted in a leader training meeting, and attended and conducted project work at two meetings of one club. Eight demonstrations were given by leaders and eight by the agent.

Ten boys completed the project. Sixteen studied Lesson Plan No. 2 entitled "The Place of Electricity in the Home and on the Farm." Fourteen took an inventory of electrical equipment on the farm and in the home, and fourteen listed that most needed. Twelve homes bought 9 pieces of equipment, costing \$1348.00. Twelve members improved the lighting of one room; nine converted or made or remodelled ten lamps; twelve repaired at least four service cords; eleven built a chicken brooder at school. Ten members cared for light and lamps; three for irons, two for toasters; three for vacuum cleaners; four for refrigerators; two for farm lighting; and one for other equipment.

The outstanding trip was that of the Lloyds Club to see Mr. Lee D. Butler's farm Kinloch.

B. Other Activities

1. State and District

One club member and the agent attended the State 4-H Short Course. Six members, 4 girls and 2 boys, and the agent attended Jamestown 4-H Club Camp. One Home Demonstration member and two 4-H girls attended the dedication services of Jamestown 4-H Club Camp, with the agent.

4-H Clubs contributed \$102.61 to the Jamestown 4-H Club Camp, Building fund. Four clubs participated in the Television Amateur Show to raise money for Camp.

A meeting of representatives of various organizations and other citizens was held to plan for raising money for the Jamestown 4-H Club Camp Building Fund. Mr. Guy R. Davis, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Mr. V. B. Perry, Chairman of the Building Committee, assisted with

the meeting. These plans are still being worked on and will be carried into 1950.

2. County Events

4-H members exhibited at the Fair and helped in the Food Booth run by the Home Demonstration Clubs.

3. Club Events

Two clubs had softball teams and played each other two games, one had a Christmas party, one had a picnic, and one had four food sales to raise money for camp.

VII. Scope of Work

	1948	1949
Number Home Demonstration Clubs or groups	8	8
Membership	215	215
Number 4-H Clubs	6	7
Membership	92	94

Number of other families reached 1948, 600, 1949, 600.

Total number families reached 1948, 900, 1949, 900

VIII. How the following organizations functioned in the 1949 program.

2. County Home Demonstration Committee

At the planning meeting in the fall of 1948, the county home demonstration committee set up a program calendar, using as a guide the requests from the various clubs as brought out in their pre-planning discussions the previous July. At the meeting the committee also selected the Federation Goal and planned the county objectives.

In its spring meetings, the county home demonstration committee checked on progress and made further summer plans.

The fall 1949 meeting was used as an opportunity to check on the year's work and as a planning meeting for 1950, similar to the one described above for 1949.

Between meetings of the county committee, business was carried on by the executive committee.

3. County 4-H Council

The 4-H Council met in December and organized for the year. Officers received training for their duties in their clubs and in parliamentary procedure.

LX. Activities of Volunteer Leaders

A. Home Demonstration

Organization leaders conducted club meetings. Rural Youth, Housing (Federation Goal), poultry and garden chairmen gave reports at meetings, and project leaders gave fourteen demonstrations. Eleven meetings were held by leaders, not participated in by the agent. Poultry, garden, rural youth, and housing chairmen gave 55 reports or discussions to adult groups.

B. 4-H

1. Club Officers

The clubs had the usual officers who conducted their meetings.

2. Adult Leaders

Three clubs had four adult leaders who served as organizat-

ional and project leaders. These adults were leaders in the following projects: So You'd Like to Sew (2 leaders), Meal Planning, Preparation and Service (1 leader) and Rural Electrification No. 1 (2 leaders).

The leaders gave organizational aid to their clubs and project instructions in their fields. They gave seventeen method demonstrations to their clubs.

3. Growth of Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership		
	1948	1949
No. project leaders and goal chairmen	23	23
No. training meetings held by Specialist	4	6
by agent	6	1
Attendance at all training meetings	55	64
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	16	11
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	25	40
4. Growth of 4-H Project Leadership		
	1948	1949
No. adult project leaders	5	4
No. training meetings held by Specialist	2	1
by agent	7	6
Attendance at leader training meetings	23	20
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	5	4
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present.	4	2
No. Club meetings at which leaders assisted	45	17
No. demonstrations given by leaders	40	15
by adult	40	15

X. Significance of the year's work

The program contributed to better homemaking, better rural living and improved people, both adult and youth, in a number of ways. The foods work contributed through improved nutrition, more efficient meal planning, and preparation, the garden and poultry work through production of the home food supply, the house furnishings through improved physical surroundings, and a desire for more attractive homes, the home management work through more efficient management, clothing work by giving better clothing less expensively, the yard improvement work by improved home surroundings, and the housing work by more attractive and efficient homes.

The study of United Nations gave a broader viewpoint and a concept of things large and far-reaching than those usually studied.

Participation in Federation Activities, county-wide activities, community activities, and club activities and the work of volunteer leaders made for better rural living and improved people by giving a broader viewpoint, greater ability to cooperate, and increased ability and self confidence in the individuals who participated.