ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1958

Mecklenburg
County

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

December 1, 1957 - November 30, 1958

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

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Highlights of the 1958 Program

4-H Activities

The 4-H Club in the county is steadily improving as results of well trained and qualified 4-H leaders.

This is evident as one can see the improvements of 4-H members and project work.

The 4-H Award Program has stimulated a great deal of interest and as results more are striving for recognition, therefore a better job is being done in project work and leadership.

A demonstration and award program was held during National 4-H week at which time leaders and members were recognized for outstanding work, years of service pins also were given to leaders. Club demonstration and dress revue winners participated and county winners were selected. 4-H demonstrations were greatly improved this year as results of the club and county contests.

The clothing and food workshop held during the summer was termed quite a success as results obtained as expressed by leaders and members. A more thorough job was done on demonstrating food preparation and sewing because time was not a factor as in monthly meetings. Eight leaders and the Home Ecomonics teacher assisted members in their demonstrations. The leaders and members asked that more workshops be held, plans are being made for several to be held in the coming year.

The second annual 4-H educational trip was a success with one-hundred and sixty-seven leaders and members taking part.

With the nation's attention focus on science, the trip was planned to the Morehead Planetarium, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

B. Adult Activities

"See Your Home in a New Light," "Getting the Most out of the Electric Syster and Appliances," were the focus of attention in the most successful project of the year, Electric.

Interest and achivements in this project were most outstanding. All of the club members reported some improvements.

A great amount of interest and participation in extra activities were evident. These included the Annual Farm and Home Tour, National H. D. Week Observance, fair annual educational trip and attendance at district and state meetings.

The farm income for most families was higher this year than it has been in the past few years due to favorable weather conditions, as a result of this, request for service in home improvement reached an all time high. One new house was build by a U.S.D.A., plan and plans for others were drawn by Mr. C. D. Wheary, Rural Housing Specialist, Virginia Polytechnid, on his two visits to the county during the year.

The Weight Reduction Class conducted created a lot of interest although only twenty-four enrolled in the class. From expressions of club members and other everyone has become aware of the danger of too much weight.

The daily radio program conducted by this county and the adjoining county, Lunenburg still rank high among media of reaching more people.

The weekly news articles is still holding it out. Not many days pass that we do not hear someone say that they heard the broadcast and how they are using the information.

II. The County Situation Existing at the Time the Program was Planned

Mecklenburg County is located in Southside Virginia, in the heart of the bright tobacco belt. The area of the county is 669 square miles.

According to the 1954 Farm Census, there are 3,784 farm operators in the county compared to 4,034 reported in 1950. In the 1954 census, there are 1,880 white operator and 1,903 non-white operators compared with 1,972 white and 2,062 non-white in the 1950 census.

The total population according to the 1950 census 33,479, of this number 16,920 white, 16,564 colored (50.5% white and 49.5% Negro).

There is one area of industries in the county but a very few Negroes are employed in such, the majority depend on the farm for their living.

The chief types of agriculture in the county are tobacco, cotton, peanuts, cucumbers, grain, cattle, swine and poultry, with tobacco being the chief crop. Because of the labor required to produce tobacco little time is spent on food production and other crops.

All the family members work long hours during the spring, summer and fall months on their tobacco.

III. County Extension Program - Adult

A. Organizations

1. County Advisory Board

This is the over-all planning board for the extension program in the county. It is composed of leaders from each community and officers of the local clubs.

Four meetings were planned but only three were held, due to the farm and home tour, and the farm and home week taking place in July this meeting was canceled.

Current and outlook information are discussed at each meeting along with planning the extension program, setting up goals and demonstrations.

Those assisted in giving information this year were: Dr. J. V. Make on "Social Security for farm families," and M. K. Brown, farm and home administrator on "Financial aid for farmers," both of Virginia State College.

Activities conducted by this group were: Annual Farm and Home Tour, the Community Improvement project and sent delegates to the Farm and Home Week and the State Advisory Board. Details of these are given under other activities.

2. General Interest Committee -

The aim for this group was not carried as planned due to time element and other activities already started also due to lack of cooperation of member selected.

3. County Home Demonstration Club Committee -

This group is the over-all planning board for the Home demonstration club program and activities. Short and long-term goals are planned for home demonstration club. Two meetings were held as planned, one was devoted to program planning and the other to ways of carrying out the program and to plan special activities.

Activities carried out by the group were National H. D. Week Observance, County Fair, annual educational trip and delegates were sent to district and state meeting. Details of these will be reported under other activities.

B. Project Work

1. Clothing

A. Care and Laundering of Fabrics

This project was selected because with the new fabrics coming on the market each season the group wanted to know how to care for them so that best results could be obtained.

Demonstrations were given on laundering of various fabrics with emphasis on reading and filing labels for future use.

One news article and tow radio programs were made on this topic.

Fourteen meetings were held by leaders and agent with two-hundred and seventeen attending, of this number seventy-two reported improving thier methods of laundering.

B. Suitable Dress for the Occasion

With the increasing number of activities that the women engage in the women wanted to know what to wear and when.

Flannelgraph charts were made of basic dress and suitable accessories. Styles and fads were discussed. At a previous meeting club members were asked to come to this meeting dressed for some special occasion. Score sheets were given to each person to score themselves, The number of points each received indicated whether they were under or overdressed. This created a lot of interest and each club member reported that the meeting helped them to better dress in the future.

Newspapers and radio were other medias used.

2. Electricity

A. Improving lighting and wiring in the home

The group wanted to know how to improve their lighting, how to get more service from their electrical system and how to care for their appliances in order to get top performance and to prolong the life of same.

This project was borken down into four demonstration meetings.

1. The use of electricity is decorating for Christmas.
2. See your home in a new light - lamp and bulb selection.
3. Acquiring knowledge of meters, fuses, outlets and switches.
4. Care of Appliances.

Thirty seven leaders were trained in two meetings by representatives of the Mecklenburg "lectric Company.

A demonstration kit was set up by the extension staff that was used by leaders and members in giving demonstrations.

Two demonstrations were given to other groups.

Each club member reported some improvements were made in one or more of these areas; bulb selection, better use of electricity, a better understanding of electrical term, purchasing shade for ceiling fixtures and lamps, additional wiring, buying lamps and defusing bowls, making lamps and putting three-way switches on lamps.

3. Farm and Home Safety

Goal - Make Your Home a Haven of Safety.

The committee in selecting this project was interested in cutting down on farm and home accidents by recognizing dangerous spots and doing something about the same.

Leaders were selected and eleven meetings were held with one-hundred and eighty-five persons, each were given a safety check sheet.

Tours were made of the homes and surroundings during club meeting to point out danger spots and suggestions were made for removing these hazards.

In giving the demonstrations a safety film and charts were used on the opaque projector to point out danger areas and what could be done to improve the hazardous conditions.

Each of the one-hundred and eighty-five persons attending the meetings reported making some improvements in this area.

Two radio programs and one news article were devoted to this project.

4. Home Management

A. Kitchen Storage Space Savers

Objective: To save time, energy and improve working conditions in preparing meals.

A training meeting was conducted by Miss Mary Settle, Home Improvement Specialist, with fourteen leaders present.

Space savers items were collected by the agent and leaders. This kit was used in giving demonstrations to club groups. Charts used were borrowed from specialist.

These items were displayed in an educational booth at the county fair.

The newspapers and radio were used as other medias.

B. Simplify housecleaning

Objective: Improve method of work and to save time and energy.

Leaders and agent assembled a kit to be used in giving demonstrators to fifteen groups with one-hundred and seventy-one attending. The agent conducted eleven meetings with leaders assisting.

Leaders held four alone. The attendance was low this month due to harvesting of crops. Those attending reported adopting some housekeeping methods. Two radio programs were devoted to this point.

5. Other Projects -

Two months were devoted to club choice during these months, a variety of projects were conducted such as, food preparation, Christmas decoration, cake making, slip covers, refinishing, and upholstering of furniture. Twenty-nine meetings were held in the projects with four hundred and seventy-seven members. Eighteen conducted by agent with leaders and leaders conducted eleven.

Six slip covers were made, four chairs reseated, four chairs upholstered and four chairs refinished.

6. Weight Reduction Class

Twenty-three persons enrolled in the Weight Reduction Class, with sixteen completing a total of two hundred and thirteen pounds were lost, however it was recommended that at least two-hundred and sixty eight pounds be lost during this period. If all had continued maybe this goal would have geen reached.

This project created a great deal of interest in the county as a result a number of persons reported using information given by those enrolled, radio programs and news articles to whittle down some of their weight.

One thing we can say that a lot of people became weight conscious, but how far they will use the information is hard to sum up at this time.

Eight classes were held over a period of four months. Those assisting with this project were Miss Janet Cameron, Nutrition Specialist, Dr. Keeling, a local doctor, physical educational and home economics teachers of the two local high schools.

Pictures were taken before and after the series of classes. The last class was social for calss members and friends. Low calorie foods were served.

Certificates were given to nine members that had lost ten or more pounds.

C. Community Church Project -

The Bluestone Club conducted a beautification project at the St. Level Baptist Church.

Project: Refinishing and reseating chairs - painting church steps.

Objective: To beautify the chairs and steps at St. Level Church.

Result demonstration:

Method used -

1. Demonstration on refinish chairs at club meeting.
2. Club members completed the refinishing job.
3. A workshop was conducted on preparing chairs for paint, seating chairs and painting church steps.

This project was financed by the club at a cost of six dollars and seventy-five cents. The paint for the steps was donated by one of the club members.

Results -

Three chairs were refinished and reseated. The entrance of the church was beautiful by painting the steps.

A cooperative spirit was exhibited by the club and church members.

D. Other Activities

1. Community Improvement Project.

This project is sponsored by the stste and county advisory board to encourage better family lining through a unified community program.

Leaders were selected from the organized club in the county, the 4-H club, community and demonstration club and the girl scout leader.

There were 54 families taking part in this program.

Regular meetings are held with leaders to set up demonstration, goals and ways and means of reaching these goals.

The leaders visits these families yearly to check on progress being made.

Result

These families reported preserving and freezing 17,371 quarts and pounds of food, twenty-six major appliances bought, 76 rooms painted or papered, 69 pieces of furniture bought and refinished and 42 rooms recovered. Four water system were installed.

The community ranked fifth in the state and was awardéd ten dollars at the State Advisory Board to be used to futher their program.

This was the third year that a ten dollars award was given. The money was used to pay for the expenses of community signs.

2. National H. D. Week

The county home demonstration committee grouped the sixteen clubs in the county into five groups to conduct home demonstration week program.

This was planned so that more club members and others could attend these programs.

Five programs were held with approximately five-hundred and fifteen persons attending. The following activities were conducted: Two teas, two programs with guest speakers and another group took part in a local community center opening with a short program and assisted with serving refreshings.

Two radio programs were conducted by H. D. leaders and one by agent. One news article was published in the three county papers.

Thirty-five H. D. members attended the district meeting held in Henry County.

Two leaders gave a demonstration on "See Your Home in a New Light," at this meeting.

3. Annual Farm and Home Tour

Approximately one-hundred and fifty persons attended the annual farm and home tour sponsored. This took place over several areas of the county. The tourists visited four homes. The first farm visited was George Williams' to observe home remodeling. Plans for the remodeling were drawn by the engineering department of V.P.I. The second stop was the home of R. A. Hinton, to observe proper lighting and color scheme. Detail plans for lighting were made by Mecklenburg R.E.A., and local home agent.

The third stop was the home of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Hawthorne, for the purpose of observing a new home built by V.P.I., plan revised. The last stop was R. O. Downey's farm to observe aromatic tobacco growing and in wilting shed.

The group paused at Occaneechee Park for lunch. Iced lemonade was furnished by the extension agents.

4. County Fair

A lot of planning and emphasis are placed on educational booth for fairs, because of the large number of people that visit the fair. A lot of requests from non-club members are made because of the exhibits. Club members seem to enjoy displaying their products and the contact with other club members.

The Mecklenburg County Fair was held October 6 - 11th, with a recorded attendance. More and better products were exhibited. It appears that more and more exhibitors are beginning to recognize and exhibit good quality produce.

The improvement of the quality of the H. D. exhibits at the county fair were eveident as results of comments of those viewing same.

Eleven home demonstration clubs exhibited educational booths.

The objectives of these booths were:

1. To teach a lesson on some phase of improved family living.
2. To reach more people with the results of club work.
3. Stimulate greater interest in club work.

The booth displays were centered around current and long-time projects. Some of the themes used: Kitchen Storage space savers; raise a square meal around the home; dangers of overloaded outlets; see your home in a new light; select the right bulb; create your own Christmas desing; use drift wood to enchance home decoration; and take steps to fight poor diets.

Seven booth received blue ribbons, three red and one white. Amount realized in prizes was one-hundred and thirty seven dollars and fifty cents.

5. Annual Educational Trip

The Home Demonstration Committee decided in 1943 that each year an educational trip would be planned for club members and friends.

The purpose of these trips is to learn more about the state and surrounding areas, to stimulate interest in the extension program.

On the eleventh annual trip, seventy-five persons visited the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in Durham, North Carolina and the Morehead Planetarium, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

E. Urban Work

Chase City is the only area in the county with over 2,500 population.

No specials plans were made to work with the Home Demonstration club in this town. They work with the other clubs in the county to plan their activities however some changes are made within the clubs to meet their needs that are not common to the rural clubs.

IV. Farm and Home Development

A. Problems encountered most often:

	No. families
Low income	3
Lack of long time planning	4
Need for beautifying home surrounding	5
Fear of added responsibilities	
Improvement on house furnishings	5

B. Subject Matter Areasand Assistance Given

	Short-time Goals	Long-time Goals	Outlook Information	Buying Information	Improved Methods and Practices	Demonstrations	Specialist Assistance
Foods and Nutrition	5	5	5	5	5	2	
Vegetable Gardening	5	5	5	5	5	0	
Clothing	5	5	5	5	5	0	
Housing	5	5	5	5	5	0	
Home Management	5	5	5	5	5	0	
House Furnishings	5	5	5	5	5	3	
Yard Improvement	5	5	5	5	5	1	
4-H Club	2	2			2	1	

C. Progress Story

Mr. and Mrs. James Hawthorne, Wightman community ownes seventy-eight acres of land.

They were one of the first families selected for the farm and home development families. There are no children in the family, however Mr. Hawthorne's father lives in the home.

Short and long-time goals were set up, they were:

1. Increase food production and preservation
2. Increase income
3. Purchase labor saving equipment
4. Improve home ground
5. Build new home.

A year around garden was planned, a deep freezer and canning equipment was purchased.

A poultry demonstration was started and plans made for marketing eggs to supplement income.

Extra land was rented to increase their income from their cash crops tobacco.

The long term goal was to build a new home, however in the mean time the homegrounds were beautified and shrubbery was planted. These will be used to landscape the new home.

A new six room home, bath and half basement was build by a U.S.D.A., plan. However the plans were revised by Mr. Wheary to fit the needs of the family.

The home was lighted with the assistant of the Mecklenburg Electric Company. Recommended lamps and light fixtures were installed. This was done as a result of the electric project conducted in the county this year.

All developments inside and outside of the home are discussed with the agents before stips are taken.

V. County Extension Program - Youth

A. Organization

1. County 4-H Council

This is the overall planning committee for the 4-H project and other activities.

Four meetings were held these activities were planned and carried out by this group: Electricity was selected for the county project. A committee was selected to plan for leader traingin meetings. Plans for carrying out this project were discussed at each meeting.

4-H Leaders and officers were trained at the second meeting.

Plans were made for the following activities:

1. National 4-H Week Observance with a county-wide program. This program consisted of individual and team demonstrations and a dress revue.
2. Observance of Rural Life Sunday.
3. Annual 4-H Picnic.
4. Participation in County Fair.
5. Annual Popularity and Talent Contest
6. Attendance at state event.

Are you in the dark," was the theme of the second training meeting held for 4-H leaders in the Electric project.

Results of these are prported under special activities.

2. 4-H Leaders Council

The 4-H leaders council was reoranized with thirty-two leaders taking part. This organization had been inactive for some time. New officers were elected.

The leaders seemed quite enthusiastic about the organization. The following plans were made: The council will meet four times a year, and other times if nemessary for special demonstrations.

The meetings will be consisted of planning ways of strengthening the 4-H program, record keeping and demonstrations on current 4-H projects.

B. 4-H Project Work (County Project)

1. Electricity

This project was selected by the council at their program planning meeting. The things considered in selecting this project were: the wide range of ages groups, time allowed for meetings and the number of club members in each group.

The theme for this project, "See your Home in a New Light," This project was the most successful county-wide one ever selected. This was due to the fact that most everyone has electricity and uses it in some way each day.

Three training meeting were conducted by the Mecklenburg Electric Company, home ecomonics and agriculture specialist.

The theme of the first meeting was "See your Home in a New Light," the second one "Are you in the Dark," and the third, understanding your electrical system.

Things included in these demonstrations were: selecting bulbs and shades for lamps, setting up study and work units, repairing cords and lamps, fuses and how to replace them, understanding the electrical system, this included study of switches, outlets and meters.

Seventy leaders attended these meetings. A kit was prepared by the leaders and agent to be used in giving demonstrations to club groups.

Two hundred and sixty four enrolled with one hundred and ninety-two completing this project.

Individual Projects

2. Bread and Meal Preparation

These projects were selected by club members. Demonstrations were given by agent and leaders at meetings and in small project groups.

One training meeting and one workshop was conducted for leaders.

One hundred and twenty-one enrolled in these projects, with ninety completing. These members reported preparing 2,807 dishes and 932 meals.

3. Food Preservation (canning and freezing)

This project was selected and carried out in the way as number two.

Eighteen enrolled in this canning project with ten completing. They reported canning 1,490 quarts.

Four enrolled in freezing with four completing, they reported freezing 340 quarts and 157 pounds, of food.

4. Clothing

Same procedures as number two. One-hundred and fourty three enrolled with one hundred and eight completing. They reported making 207 articles and 318 garments.

One training meeting was held and one workshop for leaders and members.

5. Other Project enrolled in:

A. Housekeeping - four enrolled with four completing

B. Yard improvement with eight enrolled, four completing.

c. Garden - one enrolled with one completing.

C. Other Activities

1. 4-H Club Week

The county observed National 4-H Week with County-wide program and three radio braodcasts.

Theme: We Learn By Doing.

Approximately 250 parents, 4-H leaders and members were present to witness another National 4-H Club Week Program. The program consisted of individual and team demonstration in landscapping, electricity, bread making, dairy foods and climaxed with a short skit and dress revue. Recognition was given to the state and county winners for the year. Special recognition was given club leaders and clubs for achievement.

The following awards and trophies were presented. Five 4-H'ers received state awards, 20 county awards, 2 junior leadership plaque, 4 leaders received five years pins, 5 four years pins, 2 three years pins, 6 one year pins. Mrs Elizabeth Venable, Mt. Ararat Club received the leader of the year plaque, "Club of the Year," trophy went to the South Hill Club. The trophy for Miss 4-H of 1958 went to Shirley Venable, Mt. Ararat 4-H Club. The talent trophies were presented to the Chase City Club.

Awards were presented by Mr. M. C. Harding, Local Farm Agent Lunenburg County. County awards, Miss Junita Peel, Local Home Agent, Charlotte County, specials and leader awards, Mr. Ross W. Newsome, State Agent, Petersburg, Virginia.

Three radio broadcasts were made by two 4-H members and one leader. Ernestine Hardy, South Hill club and state dress revue winner, Oliver Robinson, Palmer Springs club, junior leader and was delegate to Regional Camp in 1957 and Mrs. Angeline Hardy 4-H leader, South Hill Club and was delegate to State 4-H Short Course in 1957.

2. Rural Life Sunday Program

The council recommended that group services be held rather than a county one to give more clubs members a chance to participate and that more other people would be reached.

Eight such programs were held. Programs were presented by leaders, and members with guest speakers.

3. Annual Educational Trip

One-hundred and sixty seven 4-H club members, leaders and parents visited the Planetaruim and Arboretum, University of North Carolina, July 25th on their Annual Educational Tour.

A special tour of Coker Arboretum was arranged to acquaint the children with the different kinds of trees and their uses. Detailed information about the orgin, growth factors, foilage, and linginity of plants on the campus was discussed.

A scienfific presentation of "Sea, Earth and Sky," was beautifully demonstrated and explained in the Planetarium. Lunch was served picnic style in the little theater area.

The enthusiam and interest was very high, many expressed the desire to return.

4. County Fair

The improvement of the quality of the 4-H exhibits at the county fair were evident as results of comments of those viewing same.

Enid Hepburn, Wightman Club was top winner, with twelve first prizes and four second. She received fourteen dollars in prize money.

The total amount received by 4-H club girls was sixty-six dollars and fifty cents.

5. Popularity Contest and Talent Program

This is planned and sponsored annually by the council to raise funds for the 4-H council and display talents of club members.

Approximately 300 persons attended this affair. Each club presented two numbers on the program. The talents exhibited by the club members were outstanding. The quality of the talents were quite evident as improvements over previous years.

Awards to the talent and popularity contest winners will be made along with the other county and state sinners during National 4-H Club Week.

VI. Scope of Work

A.

	1954	1955	1956	1957 & 1958	
No. H.D. Clubs or groups	16	15	14	16	16
Membership	309	311	302	323	325
No. 4-H Clubs	12	17	18	15	15
Membership	324	307	308	256	264
No. other organizations	1	1	1	1	3
No. farm and Home dev. families				5	5
No. other families reached	617	810	820	1300	970
No. different families reached	1380	1450	1500	1700	1558
No. General Interest Committees					1

B. Increase Scope of Work

Medias used to increase scope of work was, daily radio programs (Mecklenburg and Lunenburg cooperation) weekly articles in the three county papers, educational exhibits at the county fair, ciiperation with other groups and conducting result demonstration.

VII. Leadership

A. Contribution of volunteer leaders

The leaders in the county are not classed as to organizational, subject matter or program leaders. Most of them work in all of these areas when necessary.

These leaders plan places of meetings, plan county and club programs, attend county and training meetings, give instructions and demonstrations to club members. The 4-H leaders assist members in keeping records and keep parents informed about club owork.

B. Growth of Leadership

	No. 1957	No. 1958
1. Overall program leaders (organizational leaders for county extension Service board.	70	72

2. Home Demonstration Club Leadership

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. organizational leaders					
No. project leaders (subject matter)	50	52	142	136	197
No. federation program of work chairman	2	2	5	8	15
No. program development leaders	19	20	18	22	24
No. result demonstrators	54	41	42	30	33
No. training meetings by specialists	3	3	2	1	2
by dist. agent					
by agent	5	9	8	6	3
by others				1	1
Attendance at all training meetings	78	107	96	110	96
No. meetings held without an agent	37	56	59	40	32
No meetings leaders assisted	113	77	82	79	80
Demonstrations by leaders	84	73	63	84	85
Talks and discussions by leaders	16	30	63	55	57

3. Overall Youth Leaders

(Orgin. leaders for county youth council	No. 1957	No. 1958
	25	32

4. 4-H Club Leadership

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. club officers	36	51	90	60	60
No. adult project leaders	24	32	33	33	25
No. junior project leaders	23	23	24	31	16
No. result demonstrations	32	29	18	21	17
No training meetings by specialists	1	2	1	1	0
by dist. agent					
by agent	7	7	12	10	7
by members club dept.				1	0
by others			1	1	3
Total attendance at ldr. training mtg.	60	82	99	128	98
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	40	41	44	47	25
No. club mtgs. held by ldr. w/out agent	38	67	67	51	45
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	94	101	98	91	96
No. demonstrations given by adult ldrs.	59	63	40	73	71
by junior ldrs.	9	11	23	21	59

C. Activities of Outstanding Leader

Mrs. Elizabeth Venable, Mt. Ararat Home Demonstration Club and 4-H leader has done an outstanding job in working with junior and senior 4-H clubs in her community.

The junior club meets in the school. She meets with this group each month. She organized the senior groups so that they could remain in 4-H club after leaving the local school. This group meet once or twice a month for project work and recreation. These activities have been going on for atleast two years. The agents never meet with the senior group. Mrs Venable used information she receives in training meetings and at the junior club meetings to carry on the organization of the senior group.

For the past two years a member of her club have won the popularity contest. At the recent talent program her club presented a very good two act play, which shows additional efforts and interest on her part to develop youth through 4-H work.

At present the group is making candles for Christmas.

During National 4-H Week she was awarded the leader's plaque for outstanding leadership in 4-H work.

D. Activities of Outstanding Family

Mr. and Mrs. George Williams of Route 1, South Hill, Virginia, is considered the most outstnading family in the county for 1958.

There are five children in this family. Ages ranges from twelve to twenty-two.

The Williams family moved to their present home site about seven years ago. They build their home in the woods on the edge of a gulley. This site was very undesirable to look at, but the family had plans for improvements.

The house was completed and the grounds landscapped according to plans drawn by agent and specialist. This year the house was remodeled. Two additional bedrooms and bath were added. Mr. Wheary, Housing Speicalist, V.P.I., drew plans for remodeling.

In previous years the Williams family had grown a large number of strawberries. These fruits were used in the home and given to neighbors. It was suggested by the farm and home agents that these small fruits be sold for additional farm income.

At the suggestion of the extension personnel the Williams put up a sign "strawberries for sale," they realized an additional income of nearly one-hundred and fifty dollars from strawberries sold.

Plans are being made for increasing the size of this project and adding large fruits to further supplement the farm income.

E. Activities and Outstanding Accomplishment of a Club

No one club made any particular outstanding achievements. On a whole, all the clubs cooperated with the program planned by the county and club groups.

A number of clubs made contributions to various drives. The Bluestone made improvement at the church in the community. This was reported under community improvement.

Two clubs held programs to assist the school lunch progra[illegible], Palmer Springs and Whittle Grove. Lambert Chapel H. D. Club and South Hill 4-H Club donated twenty dollars each to the community center drive in South Hill.

F. Significant Achievement of Extension Work on Housing

To improve the housing condition in the county has been a long time goal.

Through organizations, radio programs and news articles emphasis have been on improve housing and the part we can play in such.

Mr. C. D. Wheary, Housing Specialist, V.P.I., visited the county and assisted two families in their housing problems, one was a remodeled job and the other a new home, both of these jobs are almost completed at this time. The annual farm and home tour was made to those homes.

As a result of these many other requests have come in for help in building or remodeling. Mr. Wheary made his second visit to the county to assist two other families.

More and more requests are coming in after much emphasis was put on housing and the result demonstrations conducted has stimulated a lot of interest.

VIII. Plans for Developing Good Public Relations in County With -

A. General Public

I plan to cooperate with all county organizations by attending meetings and rendering services to all groups.

B. Co-Workers

Work with other extension personnel in planning the county program. With all the families working on similar programs, it will seem more important and will encourage more participation.

C. Other Professional Workers

Have group meetings to discuss problems and to acquaint each other with their programs. Encourage club members to cooperate with other workers' program.

IX. Plans for Recording Progress and Evaluating Programs as Planned for 1958

Leaders will be used to help in recording the needs and achievements. Observation and studies will be made of previous practices to show the progress of the program. Tours will be conducted to show progress.

Meetings and demonstrations will be held at result demonstrations.

Have achievements days in 4-H club meetings and products will be exhibited at the county fair.

X. Plans for Professional Improvement

A. Organized Study

Agents Conference - I will attend the Annual Agent's Conference and all other workshop designed for extension agents.

B. Reading Professional Publications - A part of each Monday and other available time will be spent reading newletters, publications from U.S.A., and home magazines.

C. Membership in Professional Organization - I will retain my membership in the County Teachers Association and the Mecklenburg Professional Workers' Group and the P.T.A., in my community.

D. Participation in Programs Workshops etc., planned by other organizations. I will attend all programs and workshops that will improve my professional growth.

E. Planned Educational Trips -

To visit some historical place during the summer with the home demonstration club.

XI. Improve Office and Working Conditions -

More demonstrational equipment and materials have been provided through funds made available by the Board of Supervisors. As results kits are set up for each project to be used by leaders and members in giving demonstrations.

Two additional rooms arebeing provided for more office space, conferences and demonstration space, to be occupied December 1st.

Added Equipment -

1. portable electric cooker, venetian blinds, new typewriter.

On order - have received invoice

1. typewriter desk
2. six folding chairs
3. four straight chairs

XII. The Look Ahead

The outlook for the 4-H club program for 1959 seems brighter, due to the renewed interest shown by the county 4-H leaders council at a recent reorganization meeting.

Getting 4-H members to keep records is still a problem but much of this will be solved by the continued use of memory books and better informed parents and leaders.

We are predicting that greater accomplishments will be made in the area of home improvement because of better crop yield in 1958 due to favorable weather conditions and to a better informed public.

The result demonstrations in lighting, housing and yard improvement will be a great factor in more improvements. This is evident now as the number of requests wearare receiving at present.

The extension award program and members and leaders recognition has and will improve club work in the future, An added feature last year of this program and will be continued this year,. club and county demonstration contests and dress revue. This give more members a chance to participate on a competitive bases so more efforts will be made for improvements.