

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1963

Stafford

County

I. INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT THE
EXTENSION PROGRAM

A. Work with Planning Committees

Planning committees assisted with all phases of the Extension Home Economics program. The agent and these committees cooperated in outlining subject matter demonstrations, in planning special interest activities and other special events. The committees played a major part in planning the 1964 Extension Home Economics program.

Local leadership assistance in agriculture programs is very vital. In some committee and commodity groups leadership has developed to a greater extent than in others. Planning committees assisted in outlining the program and activities in 1963.

In the 4-H program Junior Leaders and Club Officers, as well as Adult Leaders are utilized. They set up the yearbook, and the objectives and programs which are of a county-wide nature. Leaders assist the county Extension staff in the work with local clubs. Some clubs are fortunate in having the use of more leaders than others.

B. Contributions made by Local Leaders

Local leaders played an important part in carrying out the 1963 program. Each of the eleven home demonstration clubs had seven leaders who functioned in the following areas: organization, program planning, subject matter, program development, 4-H project leader, and Federation Program of Work.

Other leaders planned and helped carry out special events such as Clothing Construction Achievement program, county-wide meeting on Federation Program of work, planning and executing educational exhibits representing phases of the county program, and planning and participating in radio programs that emphasized and explained Extension home economics work.

Agriculture committees, RAD and other leaders have assisted in setting up goals and objectives of respective groups. Leaders involved in marketing activities (such as Wool Pool and Calf Association) have contributed by making necessary arrangements, have worked up the rules and regulations, and have devoted the necessary time to promoting and carrying through such activities. The county planning group (RAD) has been aggressive in promoting county-wide projects such as the Potomac Creek Watershed and Stafford County Soil survey which are now underway.

C. Work in Leader Training

Leaders were trained individually and in group meetings. These leaders received training in the areas mentioned in section B. Leaders were selected in various ways: call for volunteers, direct solicitation, and by appointment. The leaders were trained by the agent, by various specialists and by local professional people.

Committee members were selected on the basis of special abilities and interests and on willingness to serve. These committee members received training and orientation from the agent concerned.

D. General Appraisal of Leadership in the County

Home Demonstration leadership has been strengthened, both as

to quality of work and willingness to serve.

4-H leadership shows improvement but is still not adequate. More work needs to be done in this area. There has been some increase in the number of volunteer adult leaders but more are needed.

Agriculture leadership seems to follow special interest lines. Considerable help from local leaders, not agriculturally oriented, was utilized on county-wide activities. Among these were some county officials, civic leaders, as well as farm organization leaders.

II. PROJECT AREA

A. Agricultural Production, Management and Natural Resource Development

1. Phase: Agronomy - Land Conversion

(a) Why selected for major emphasis

The agronomy committee along with other agriculture committee and individual leaders feel that an interpretation of conservation needs survey points up desirability of land conversion; namely: conversion of cropland to pasture and permanent hays. This would help eliminate some of the marginal cropland, help increase the livestock potential and economy.

(b) Objective

To increase acreage and production of quality pasture, hay and forage crops and thereby increase the net income from certain livestock and dairy enterprises.

(c) Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

- (1) Professional agricultural workers (SCS, ASC, Tri-County Soil Conservation District) and supply dealers were contacted to assist in promoting land-use conversions. Several of these groups set up similar objectives toward land-use adjustment.

A conservation tour emphasizing land-use was held jointly with the Tri-County Soil Conservation District and the ACP. Three farms were visited by the group at which time the establishment of pastures and forage crops, pasture improvement and tree planting were spotlighted. Also, water management and drainage were discussed. The tour was publicized through circular letters and the press and some twenty people participated in it.

Four radio programs were used to promote good land-use and news releases were used at appropriate times during the year.

Intensive planning and work on a county-wide basis were the means of gaining acceptance and support of the Soils Survey and Potomac Creek Watershed development projects. Both projects are jointly sponsored by the Tri-County Soil Conservation District and the County Board of Supervisors. Information gained from the soil survey will be most helpful in getting land conversion. The Soil Scientist has worked with the Extension Agent and with landowners on land suitability. The agent has

assisted in farm planning particularly on farms located in the watershed area. Desired adjustments were incorporated in many of these plans. The planning commission was approached in regard to land-use in the county. The agent worked with three farmers enrolled in the IBM Farm Management Program in relation to land conversion.

Due to the nature of this program considerable time was involved in making individual contacts and farm visits to outline what we hoped to achieve.

Evaluation - Two programs, the Soils Survey and the Potomac Creek Watershed, were started during 1963. Both claim excellent county-wide support. Individuals are fairly receptive to land-use changes. Continued efforts must be put forth over several years to get the desired objective accomplished. Considerable land is going out of agriculture production because of increased demand for sub-division type developments. This type of development may exceed expectations and have a great bearing on the land-use pattern.

2. Phase: Livestock - Sheep Production

(a) Why Emphasized

According to a recent survey Stafford has 565 sheep on 33 farms. Although sheep represent a small portion of the total livestock economy it is felt that by emphasizing sheep production other farmers will become more interested

in sheep production.

The sheep committee feels by emphasizing sheep production and problems involved farmers will look upon sheep production as a more favorable secondary source of income.

(b) Objective

To obtain better practices in sheep production thereby increasing income and interest in this phase of livestock production.

(c) Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

The sheep committee met early in the year and after surveying the local situation they outlined the program for the year.

All sheep producers in the county were visited in regard to the Sheep Scabies Eradication Program. Seven suspect flocks were reported but all checked out negative in the final inspection by the veterinarian. The agent took advantage of this opportunity to discuss sheep production and outline recommended production practices. Parasite control, tick-lice, and foot rot control were emphasized. Only one flock was infected with foot rot. The agent outlined a control program with this producer. Lice infestations were found on a number of flocks. Several flock owners used control method recommended.

Through circular letters, news releases and radio sheep producers were kept informed on the Scabies program, economy and marketing situation. Prospective producers were contacted in regard to sheep enterprises. Four new

flock owners were listed.

The agent worked with five boys in the 4-H Sheep Chain. These boys were given instruction in production, management and shearing. Garland Shackelford was declared state winner in the 4-H Sheep Shearing Contest.

The Wool Pool and other Marketing Programs will be reported in the Marketing project section.

Evaluation - Although the sheep committee and the agent take every opportunity to promote sheep progress along these lines seems to be slow. Poor fences and dog troubles are often obstacles. The drought situation this year made any livestock expansion inadvisable.

3. Other areas in Agricultural Production, Management and Natural Resource Development in which the County Agent Worked

(a) Beef Production

Beef producers culled very severely because of feed shortages. This should result in improved breeding stock. Continued stress was placed on greater efficiency and looking for companion enterprises because of the economic situation. Three county herds are on the BCIA Program. Eleven marketed calves through organized sales and six consigned to the Fredericksburg Slaughter Cattle Sales.

(b) Dairying

The Stafford dairy program continues to be coordinated very closely with Spotsylvania County because of the same D.H.I.A., Artificial Breeding Association and marketing associations.

Mastitis control circulars and calendars were distributed to fifteen dairymen. The goat dairy operation has been expanded. Two dairymen are enrolled in the D.H.I.A. and participate in the D.H.I.A. Clinic. Dairymen have been leaders in adopting quality forage program recommendations. One dairy set-up increased the use of corn silage in the forage program. This operator is highly pleased with the results and plans to further increase the use of silage. The agent worked closely with one dairyman on the economics of converting from barnyard milk to grade A production.

(c) Swine Production

Swine production remained rather stationary in 1963. Some who normally conduct market hog operations sold feeder pigs due to feed shortages.

Commercial producers are making considerable progress in good management. Small home swine enterprises are lagging in this respect.

Five 4-H boys participated in the purebred Yorkshire Swine Chain. Two 4-H boys submitted Swine Achievement Records. Ten 4-H'ers exhibited in the Junior Swine Show. A Stafford boy showed the Grand Champion Pen of Three and another the Reserve Champion Single in the Fredericksburg Area Show. This agent worked closely with the pig chain and market hog 4-H project members.

(d) Crop Production

Crop yields for the year were poor. Drought conditions cut yields to less than one-half of normal.

Working through dealers and key farmers is an effective way to get additional emphasis and assistance in promoting good agronomy recommendations.

Activities included: Chemical Weed Control in Corn, Soil Sampling, Insect and Disease Control, Materials Handling, Distribution of Recommended Varieties information, and radio and news releases on timely crop production practices. Quality corn silage and forage production was also emphasized.

(e) Insect and Disease Control

A program was held on Insect Control in Forage Crops. The agents received a considerable number of calls in this area of work. Household, yard and lawn insects create concern and the Extension Agents are often asked to furnish information on identification and control. This work is primarily on an individual basis.

The radio and press were used to give timely information and to point out preventive measures before the problem arises.

Alfalfa weevil problems were encountered. The fall heptachlor treatment was not effective in several cases. Weevil control information was presented in circular letters, in meetings, to dealers and through the radio and press.

(f) Horticulture: Small Fruits, Lawns and Landscaping

The following printed information was mailed each month: Landscape Notes to 30 people, the Garden Letters to 105 people

and the Florist's Notes to 6 people.

A pruning demonstration and small fruits care program was held in the Garrisonville area in the spring with some fifteen people attending. The agents worked closely with producers on insect and disease control.

Considerable information is sought by county home owners on lawn seeding and lawn care. Radio, the press, and the H. D. Newsletter are used to cover timely topics. Home visits are made as required.

(g) Poultry Production

There has been little change in the poultry situation for the past several years. There is no commercial broiler production and some ten commercial egg producers.

Monthly newsletters were mailed to some 40 poultrymen and 4-H poultry project members. The county agent and poultry specialist visited several producers in regard to management and feeding. One new cage laying operation was started.

One 4-H member exhibited in the poultry department at the Atlantic Rural Exposition and several exhibited in the Fredericksburg Agricultural Fair.

Disease control and adequate markets are the problems which need additional attention.

(h) Farm Management

Five farms are enrolled in the V.P.I. Electronic Farm Accounting System (2 poultry; 1 cash crop and swine; and 2 general cow-calf operations). The agent, with the assistance

of the area Farm Management-Assistant Agent, worked closely with these farmers. Four farmers attended a three-day Farm Management School in Warrenton. The course was well received by those attending.

Considerable progress was made in getting more accurate and meaningful information into the farm records.

Several other farmers were assisted in farm management. Specialists, along with the agent and other agencies, helped develop farmers' plans.

The County Agent is a member of the Tri-County Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors and as a result is asked to assist with the SCS Farm Conservation Plans. Special emphasis was placed on publicizing (radio and press) to motivate farmers and land-owners located in the Potomac Creek Watershed to consider more conservation planning.

B. Marketing and Utilization of Agricultural Products

1. Phase: Beef and Sheep Marketing, Year 1963

(a) Why selected for major emphasis

Marketing cattle and sheep to the best possible advantage means greater profit to producers. Some six beef producers in Stafford consigned to the organized feeder calf sale, seven producers to the Fat Cattle Sales and 33 sheep producers consigned 5,000 pounds of wool to the Fredericksburg Wool Pool. Approximately twenty boys sold

45 hogs and eleven steers in the Junior Livestock Show and Sale.

The remaining 300 cattle producers and several sheep producers could increase income by marketing livestock to better advantage. Feeder calf producers received about 4¢ per pound above the regular market price and wool producers about 15¢ per pound above the local market.

(b) The Program Objective

To encourage participation of livestock producers in improved marketing in order to increase farm income.

(c) Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

The Extension Service worked very closely with marketing organizations of commodities concerned: Fredericksburg Feeder Calf Sale Association, Inc.; Fredericksburg Wool Pool; Tidewater Beef Cattle Association (the sponsor of fat cattle sales); the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce (Junior Livestock Show and Sale); and commodity committees concerned. As a result producers were better informed early in the year on the requirements, however, no increase in participation resulted. This may be attributed to the fact that a number of prospective consignors were compelled to market early because of the feed shortage.

Marketing organizations were assisted in setting up rules and regulations. These were discussed with the membership at annual meetings.

A tour was taken of feeder calf consignors pointing out management practices to help with quality feeder calf production.

Sheep producers were informed by circular letter, radio, the press, personal contacts, and farm visits of lamb and wool marketing recommendations along with the market outlook.

Sources of purebred breeding stock were publicized. Top producers are very conscious of the need for good breeding stock and have made selections accordingly. Small herd owners have a problem in this area.

Consignors of livestock to organized sales (calf, fat cattle, and the Junior Show) were encouraged to be present to see the animals graded.

A set of slides on "Preventing Losses When Handling Livestock" were used in a meeting of the Junior Livestock Club. A discussion period followed the showing of the slides.

The radio and press were used to give outlook information on economy of quality livestock production.

Farm visits were made to discuss livestock marketing. Particular efforts were made to contact all new livestock producers to acquaint them with marketing facilities.

(2) Phase: Consumer Education, Year 1963

(a) Why selected for Major Emphasis

Consumer goods are constantly changing with regard to quality performance and cost. Families wish up-to-date

information on these matters.

(b) The Program Objective

To furnish consumers with the best available information on laundry appliances, furniture selection, food buying and supplies.

(c) Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

Consumer information was made available to the public on a number of subjects. These subjects included laundry equipment and supplies, food buying, furniture selection, selecting and buying family clothing.

Emphasis was given to this phase because of requests from consumers. The objectives were to assist consumers in acquiring needed information and to help them interpret and apply this information.

The program was carried out through radio programs, demonstrations, use of Extension publications and other materials, news releases and group discussions.

According to an informal survey the people are using the information and are becoming better shoppers.

(3) Other areas in which the Agent Worked in the Field of Marketing and Utilization of Agricultural Products

(a) Milk Marketing

The Extension Service served as liaison between the dairy producers and marketing associations to develop top markets. Milk plants and their fieldmen have been invited to participate in dairy activities and they are very willing to cooperate.

(b) Poultry Marketing

This is somewhat of a problem area. Most of the eggs are sold directly to the consumer or through huckster outlets. Small producers and producers with surplus eggs have had difficulty in locating good market outlets. Most of the work in this field has been directly with the producer with emphasis on better quality eggs and produce.

(c) Livestock Marketing

The Fredericksburg area is fortunate in having a local auction market and a manager who is cooperative in organized and special market programs. He and his personnel do an outstanding job in organizing, promoting and selling livestock in the Fat Cattle Sales, the Feeder Calf Sale and the Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Details of these activities have been reported under other sections of this report.

Purebred sales, the wool pool and other marketing activities were promoted in the appropriate commodity groups, through the radio and press.

C. Extension Home Economics

1. Phase: House Furnishings (Window Treatment)

a. Why it received major emphasis

Homemakers requested help in selecting drapery fabrics and ready-made curtains, help in appropriate window treatment, and help in selecting drapery hardware.

b. Objectives

- (1) To provide homemakers knowledge in appropriate window treatment.
- (2) To teach skills in selecting fabric and ready-made curtains.
- (3) To teach skills in selecting drapery hardware.

c. Progress to date

Homemakers received the requested instruction. The demonstration method was used, working with actual situations and samples of fabric, equipment and supplies. Extension educational materials were given to all who wanted them. Other information was given in the monthly newsletters.

d. Results Achieved

An informal survey showed that homemakers were willing to adopt recommended practices. A small number have already made practical application of information gained, many others have plans for using the information in the coming months.

One club group arranged an educational exhibit at a local fair showing the correct method of window treatment. This teaching tool reached hundreds of people not otherwise contacted.

2. Phase: Home Improvement

a. Why it received major emphasis

Homemakers recognized a need for improving storage areas in bedrooms and bathrooms.

b. Objectives

- (1) To give homemakers the help they requested.
- (2) To help them work out practical plans for improving existing storage areas and for creating new storage areas that would serve the family's needs.

c. Progress to date

Homemakers received requested information but due to the short time since the program was conducted have not completed any storage improvements. A large number of them are making plans for improvements and have requested additional help from the agent.

Methods used included demonstrations, use of Extension publications, and home visits.

d. Results Achieved

Homemakers plan to adopt recommended practices.

Definite results have been achieved due to programs conducted in the past several years. Forty-five women reported improvement in kitchen storage areas. Thirty-three made use of the program on Interior Paints and Painting by painting bedrooms, kitchens, halls and bathrooms. Others painted garages and house exteriors. Five reported laying new floor coverings. One built a new home using suggestions made by the agent.

3. Phase: Clothing

a. Why it Received Major Emphasis

To meet the requests of an increasing number of women

and teenage girls. More people are making their own or their family's clothing, so the requests for instruction in clothing construction are increasing. Participants in clothing construction programs see this as an opportunity to learn how to handle new fabrics, how to make satisfactory choices of fabrics and patterns, to develop skills, to stretch the family clothing dollar, and to satisfy their creative urge.

b. Objectives

- (1) To provide women and girls with knowledge and skills in all steps of clothing construction and finishing techniques to give a professional appearance.
- (2) Assist in the appropriate selection of fabrics, colors, designs and patterns.
- (3) To help with planning for family clothing needs.

c. Progress to date

- (1) Demonstrations were given to H. D. Club women and workshop participants on the following finishing techniques: Setting in zippers, setting in collars, hems for various styles and fabrics. Those receiving the information reported they had used it and that they were achieving much better results.
- (2) One cotton garment workshop and five tailoring workshops were conducted. The cotton garment workshop members were teenage girls who represented a new audience. Sixteen girls completed the course. The

tailoring workshop members were adults. Thirty-three of these represented a new audience.

All of the workshops were preceded by discussion sessions on the selection of fabrics, colors, designs and patterns, plus other types of preparation for clothing construction. Samples of supplies and equipment needed were displayed at the discussion sessions.

- (3) Demonstrations were given on each step in construction. Members participated by making garments. Cost comparison studies were made. Extension publications were used.

d. Results Achieved

A total of 124 tailored garments and 628 other garments were made.

The participants reported that they had adopted recommended practices in making these garments. They reported satisfaction with results, money saved and pride of accomplishment.

They desire to continue the program in 1964.

4. Phase: Food and Nutrition (Long Range Program)

a. Why it Received Major Emphasis

Homemakers are interested in overcoming certain dietary deficiencies in family meals and in getting more variety in their meals. In the case of some, a desire to improve their food preparation skills was expressed.

b. Objectives

- (1) To help homemakers correct dietary deficiencies, not only for themselves but for all family members.
- (2) To help homemakers in their efforts to get greater variety in meals.
- (3) To help them improve their preparation skills.
- (4) To help them spend their food dollars wisely.

c. Progress to date

- (1) The consumption of milk and milk products was emphasized. This program was scheduled too late in the year to permit a progress report here.
- (2) The use of seafoods in family meals received emphasis, accompanied by demonstrations on preparation techniques, educational materials on their food value and their comparatively economical cost per serving.

d. Methods Used

Demonstrations on preparation, distribution of educational materials on food values and daily requirements, distribution of recipes, articles in monthly newsletters, and group discussions on cost comparisons and dietary needs.

e. Results Achieved

An informal study showed that the majority of homemakers have improved their preparation techniques, have served an average of one seafood dish per week, and have achieved greater variety in family meals. They have been

able to maintain a reasonable balance between money spent for food and that spent for other products.

5. Other Areas in which the Agent Worked in the Field of Extension Home Economics

a. Accomplishments

- (1) Homemakers continue to make use of past programs in Home Grounds Improvement, and this year planted new shrubs and bulbs and seeded lawns.
- (2) Seventy-one members had annual health check-ups including the Pap smear test. The county H.D. women participated in the Conquer Uterine Cancer program as outlined by the State H. D. Federation. Four of the eleven clubs were recognized for 75% participation or over in the "Conquer Cancer" program. Others took the Medical Self Help Course and First Aid Course. Still others made cancer bandages, shirts for nursing homes, and gave blood.
- (3) A program on Creative Needlework which was designed to relate directly to House Furnishings has resulted in attractive and worthwhile articles for the home. Chair seats, wall hangings, sofa pillows and bed spreads were made using needlepoint or crewel embroidery. The women made good choices of designs and colors and achieved useful and attractive articles as well as satisfying their creative urge.

This phase of the program was a continuation of work started in 1962.

(4) Consumer education was incorporated in all programs conducted in 1963. The women were urged to read labels, make cost comparisons, study pros and cons of products, before making purchases.

A special interest meeting on Choosing Laundry Supplies and Detergents was conducted. This was made available to all interested persons and was attended by both H. D. and non-H. D. women. These women stated that the information given was very helpful.

Articles on consumer problems have been used in monthly newsletters (sent to all on mailing list). Consumer information on a wide variety of subjects has been given in radio programs.

D. 4-H and Other Extension Youth Programs

1. Phase: 4-H Junior Livestock Club

a. Why Emphasized

The Extension Agent had been working with almost 500 4-H boys and girls in seventeen organized 4-H clubs. All of these groups met at school during school hours. Most of the clubs selected group projects and received instruction during the project phase of the regular meeting. Some of the 4-H members had expressed a desire to receive instruction in livestock projects. These members were scattered throughout existing clubs. The lack of time and leadership to give the instruction presented

a real challenge.

b. The Program Objective

To provide an opportunity for club members who are especially interested in livestock production to get additional instruction and to concentrate on certain activities that would be of primary interest to them. It was felt that this could best be accomplished through the organization of a Junior Livestock Club.

c. Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

A Junior Livestock Club was organized with elected officers. This group selected two adult leaders to set up regular meeting schedule. The group planned its own programs which included: Keeping Records; Feeding Livestock; Fitting and Showing Demonstrations; Field Scoring Tour; Livestock Judging, etc. Key livestock breeders in the area were asked to assist with these programs. Club members were given an opportunity to assist in the planning phase of the April Junior Livestock Show and Sale.

Results were significant. The 4-H Livestock Club sponsored a get-together of all area exhibitors (50) in the Fredericksburg Jr. Livestock Show. Club members played a big part in promoting the sale and contacting prospective buyers. Plans were formulated for a pre-sale banquet. Field scoring awards were presented at this event. Each exhibitor was encouraged to invite several prospective buyers (business men) to the banquet. Some 135 attended. These included 4-H members, FFA exhibitors, parents

and business men. The Livestock Show and Sale was highly successful as a result of this close planning and coordination of the Junior Livestock Club and the Fredericksburg Area Chamber of Commerce's Agricultural Committee. Thirty-two calves were sold for an average of 40¢ and seventy-four swine for an average of 27¢.

The involvement of more club members and parents was noted than in any previous similar event.

2. Phase: 4-H Leadership Development

a. Why it received Major Emphasis

There is a shortage of project leaders in the county, both adult and junior. The tenure of adult leaders is comparatively short.

b. Objectives

- (1) To recruit and train additional adult and junior project leaders.
- (2) To get leaders to assume organizational responsibilities.

c. Progress to date

More interest in leadership is being exhibited by both adults and juniors. Five additional adult leaders have been recruited and given some training. Two adult leaders have assumed organizational responsibilities.

More juniors are assuming project leadership.

d. Results

The increase in leadership is resulting in better informed 4-H members, in easing the work load for the Extension Agents, and in involving more people in the Extension

Program.

E. Community and Public Affairs

1. Phase: Rural Area Development

a. Why selected for Major Emphasis

The rural income of Stafford County is \$1,270 below the county average (\$3,831). The number of farms has decreased by 272 in a five year period (1954-59). Many of the county's people in the labor force must find, and are finding, employment outside the county. The demands for schools, water, soils, recreation and financial support is getting greater with limited sources of revenue. There appears to be a need for taking a closer look at the total resources for pursuit of possible economic development. There has been a 40% increase in population in the past ten years.

There appears to be a need for committees to supplement over-all county-wide development and planning group to seek solutions to existing problems and identify additional problems.

b. The program objective

To continue to work closely with the planning and development group and organize the necessary sub-committees for the purpose of analyzing various phases of the county situation and determining the existing problems and possible solutions.

c. Activities, Methods Used and Results Achieved

The nature of projects undertaken, of necessity, take

more than one year to show completion. However, definite progress has been made on several phases of the projects undertaken.

(1) Soil Survey

State officials met with the County Board of Supervisors regarding arrangements for a survey of the county. An agreement was reached and the soil scientist began working in Stafford County on the Soils Survey on August 15. It is anticipated that the survey will take three years. A meeting was held with the Stafford County Planning and Development Commission to further outline procedures in making the survey. Suggestions were sought in respect to areas where the soils information will be of the greatest benefit. The scientist will be available to assist with any problem areas in which the commission indicates help is needed. The final report will be most valuable to planning and development groups as well as to individuals in developing orderly and sound courses of action.

(2) Potomac Creek Watershed

This project, which is being co-sponsored by the county, is for the purpose of flood control and water storage impoundment. After approval by the State Committee continued efforts were exerted to speed up the project. The survey of the watershed was started on September 1st by the Survey Party. This phase is expected to take some nine months. In the meanwhile,

the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission are continuing to secure necessary land easements and options and developing long-range usage plans. These include possible municipal water supply, recreation facilities and land use.

The County Agent has worked very closely with the Planning Commission, the Tri-County Soil Conservation District, the Stafford County Board of Supervisors, the Soil Conservation Service and other agricultural agencies in promoting and coordinating these projects.

The completion of these projects should be a contributing factor in the economic development of resources in the county.

(3) Zoning and Planning

The Planning Commission has completed several phases of its initial study. Several ordinances have been enacted. More detailed plans in land-use are expected as basic information is studied and interpreted. Here, the agent has helped with educational activities in familiarizing civic groups and others as to the problems, the needs, etc. in the field.

Summary: Close working relations are necessary in the RAD approach with many groups and individuals. More progress has been made in working with groups already organized rather than forming additional committees or groups. The Stafford Extension Service has been recognized

for its contributions and help to county leaders and people in the projects which are outlined above.

III. SUCCESS STORY - A Special Interest Activity

Special interest work in the field of Clothing Construction has had far-reaching consequences in the county this year. Many new people have been reached. Participants in the program have achieved better than average results. They have realized well-made garments for themselves as well as for family members, their knowledge of fabrics is greatly increased, and they have been able to save money thus relieving the strain on the family clothing budget. They have realized garments that suit their individual needs with regard to fabric, color, style and fit.

The program and its accomplishments has received excellent publicity through the press, achievement programs, educational exhibits, and "word of mouth". It has proved to be a valuable tool in publicizing the Extension Home Economics Program and has resulted, in some cases, in interest and participation in other phases of the program.

Interest is sufficient to justify a long range program on Clothing Construction.

The clothing committee is responsible to a large degree for the development and success of this program. These women have worked with the agent in shaping the program and in conducting it. They helped determine needs and interests and served as instructors in the various workshops as well as on an individual basis.

IV. GENERAL APPRAISAL OF THE PAST YEAR

Definite progress was made in the over-all Extension Program. Many new people were reached, especially through special interest activities. Recommended practices were adopted by a good percentage of the people, according to informal surveys. Many others have plans for using information gained through Extension-sponsored programs.

One gratifying fact revealed through informal survey is that some of the people have developed their own long-range improvement programs based on help and information given by the agents in the past several years.

The program was well received in the county. Due to the good publicity it received many urban people became interested and participated in various activities. There is no formally organized program for urban people. Their requests are handled individually and through special interest activities. Many programs benefit both urban and Stafford County residents.

There is a continuing need for 4-H adult leaders though some progress has been made. In areas where leaders are functioning the 4-H members do a good job. Others need the same kind of support.

Progress has been made, but the agents recognize that there is a need to involve larger audiences in the total Extension program..