

VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

King William COUNTY
1950

Agent Mrs. Rose N. Adams
August 10, 1950 to November 30, 1950

Assistant Agent _____

Agent Miss Ruth McNeil
November 30, 1949 to May 30, 1950

Assistant Agent _____

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III. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 1950 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

The 1950 program for King William County was planned with three factors in mind which would contribute to better family living. The first of these was the consideration of the homemakers interests with reference to economy in the family clothing budget. With this in view a clothing workshop was held in which homemakers learned to make work dresses. The second factor was the need for economy of effort in meeting the family food needs. To this end, demonstrations on Short Cuts in the Kitchen were given at two of the monthly meetings and a demonstration on how to be maid and hostess in the home in serving meals was given. The third factor which was the need of family and community recreation was carried out in a demonstration at one monthly club meeting on plans for the family recreation in the home, and in the organization of two older youth groups to provide community recreation for members of the family who previously had no form of organized recreation in the community. In the 4-H Clubs work was concentrated on improving the girls own room with the final goal in mind to assist the homemaker in improving other rooms of the home. One group studied rural electrification in order to improve the use of electricity in the homes of its members since this particular neighborhood had only recently secured electricity.

In comparison with the program of 1949, the 1950 program reached out to take in some different phases of family needs. In 1949 one of the major interests was in using to best advantage the house furnishings and clothing on hand. In 1950 the proper methods to be used in constructing new clothing were stressed. Time and energy saving was studied in connection with work in the kitchen. A chair caning clinic was held to further improve house furnishings.

Some definite progress has been made in 1950 towards better family living but in some instances progress was not as great as anticipated. Due to the fact that the county had two different home agents with a period of two months without an agent, it is felt that less progress was made than had been anticipated.

IV. ADULT

A. Project Work

1. Clothing

The first five months of 1950 were devoted to learning to make the work dress. A county wide dress revue was held in May climaxing this project. Approximately twenty-five dresses were modeled. Commercially made work dresses were modeled also and a comparison of cost was cited. Four attractive dresses were made by one homemaker for approximately nine dollars and were modeled with a single commercially made cotton dress of comparable quality and style which cost about ten dollars. Since learning to make the work dress a number of work dresses have been made in addition to the dresses made while learning.

A homemaker arranged for an excellent window exhibit on the work dress in a store window, using one well made dress with labels indicating its good features.

A new club which was organized in May learned to construct the work dress during the summer months under the direction of a member of another club.

2. Home Management

Two demonstrations in the fall were devoted to short cuts in the kitchen. Club women were requested to make a drawing of their kitchens as they were arranged in order to see how many unnecessary steps were taken during meal preparation. Suggestions were given for arranging the kitchen to save time and energy and then another drawing was made to see the difference in number of steps taken. Color slides of Virginia farm kitchens emphasizing definite ways to improve kitchen arrangement, storage and improvement of kitchens were shown to each club. Discussion by the agent and the club women were held in the kitchen of the home where each meeting was held in order to show definite changes which could be made. Bulletins were distributed on request to members who wished to do some definite work in the kitchen.

3. House Furnishings

House furnishings problems and requests on the part of individual homemakers has involved a great deal of the agent's time. This has included planning, making, refinishing, upholstering, slip cover making and remodeling. Long time planning has been emphasized whenever possible.

A special interest group met for a chair caning clinic. One of the chairs was exhibited in a store window along with an upholstered one done by a member. This homemaker upholstered three chairs as a result of an upholstery clinic held a previous year.

4. Recreation in the Home

The purpose of a discussion on recreation in the home was to enable the homemaker to provide some home recreation with a minimum of expense and to contribute some form of relaxation from every day cares for the family. Homemade games were made by the home agent and exhibited at each club meeting. The

discussion was on general recreation for the family with specific suggestions as to games to play, songs to sing, ideas for party favors, how to bring cheer to shut-ins, and some more specific suggestions for celebrating Christmas.

Along the line of recreation, home demonstration clubs assisted in organizing two older youth groups. A "tacky" party was held by each youth group with home demonstration members helping with games and contributing towards refreshments. The homemade games used in home demonstration meetings were also used for the two older youth groups. Leaflets on recreation were secured by the agent for club members to use in planning recreational programs.

The Woman's Club of King William County have organized a Teen Canteen which meets at the Community House on Saturday nights. The home agent has cooperated with the Woman's Club in giving material for use in planning programs for the canteen. She also took entire charge of the program one Saturday night, planning and carrying out the games with the group. At this time a short discussion on Indian lore was held to insert an educational note into the program.

A demonstration on how to be maid and hostess in the home was held one month in order to help the homemaker in her plans for entertaining simply.

5. Food

Each club appointed a poultry leader and a garden leader who gave short talks at each meeting. Food problems have been approached through radio, news articles, home visits, bulletins and through a play presented by the Woman's Club. In the play the home agent visited a homemaker to prepare her for a discussion on "Planning the Family Food Supply" using large charts.

6. Housing

Miss Mary B. Settle, Extension Specialist, visited three homes to discuss housing improvements with homemakers. One result demonstration was set up. The homemaker made long-time plans to build closets, install a bath, and re-arrange the kitchen.

B. Other Activities

National Home Demonstration Club week was observed by exhibiting work done by club members in store windows over the county.

Approximately twenty-five dollars was realized from a cake walk and soft drinks sold at the dress revue for the benefit of the county committee treasury.

Home demonstration women exhibited articles at the Tidewater Fair and ribbons were won by some of them. Six women acted as hostesses in the Woman's and Youth Department.

An all-day Achievement Day program was held in the fall. (See attached program). Attendance was not as good as anticipated due to a number of factors. It was decided to be more practical and have future Achievement Programs in the evening.

Home demonstration women made a United Nations flag to present to the Community House. Through the chairman of the county home demonstration committee, a United States flag was secured from the local American Legion to display with the United Nations flag. Another United Nations flag was presented to the parochial school at Fort Richmond.

Approximately twelve women attended the District Federation meeting in April.

Home Demonstration clubs did not send any representatives to the Institute of Rural Affairs in the summer. It is felt that this may have been due partly to there having been no agent in the county at the time and partly to the press of other activities at the time.

The home demonstration clubs donated thirty-five dollars to the Woman's Club project on the Community Building Heating System. A total of forty-two dollars was voted to the following campaigns:

- Crop
- Cancer
- Infantile Paralysis
- Patrick Henry Hospital
- Red Cross

The new home agent was "at home" to county officials and club members in her office one of the first days she was in the county. One Home Demonstration Club sent twelve representatives to meet the new agent - the most recently organized group.

Methods which the agent has used to reach people were radio, a weekly column in the newspaper, bulletins, home visits, cooperation with other agencies in taking part in a play and assisting with the Teen Canteen.

WRNL STUDIO
October 25, 1950
By Mrs. Rose N. Adams
Home Demonstration Agent
King William County

RADIO TALK

Greetings from King William County, radio friends. Today I have for you some news of the county. Since last I talked to you from this microphone, both the 4-H Clubs and the Home Demonstration Clubs in King William County have been making plans for the new year, electing officers and generally getting their "house in order" as you might say.

4-H Clubs are starting on their new projects for the year. A group of girls in the Manquin neighborhood met last Friday at the home of Mrs. Jack Sweet and got off to a good start. Mrs. Sweet will work with the girls on their projects. The club members who are just starting out in 4-H Club work are going to take the project "So You'd Like to Sew". The older girls who have already taken this one will work on "Make and Re-Make". Both the girls and I are grateful to Mrs. Sweet for her willingness to work with them. She has two daughters who are 4-H Club members. It is planned for this group to meet on the third Friday of each month at Mrs. Sweet's to do project work.

Something which should be of great interest to all 4-H Club boys and girls in the county is the Council meeting which will be held at the home agent's office on Saturday of this week. Officers of all the 4-H Clubs in the county are members of this Council. The meeting will start at 9:30 A.M. The council will elect officers, set up new goals and generally get the program under way for the year. King William 4-H boys and girls will take part in a program on November 18th from this station on the "4-H Hour". Plans for this program will be made at the council meeting on Saturday. We surely do want to have a good program. You know the 4-H Club Hour originated from this station Saturday before last for the first time. The two programs so far have been very good. I hope that you heard

then, friends. If not, do listen each Saturday at 11:30 A.M. to the "4-H Hour" from this station. It is a fine way to keep up to date on what our boys and girls in this section of the State of Virginia are doing.

As you know, yesterday was United Nations Day. All over the country programs were held in celebration of the day. United Nations flags were presented to many groups in many places. The King William Home Demonstration Committee last week presented a United Nations flag to the Community House. This flag was made by Mrs. Melvin Carter of the Sweet Hall Club and she was assisted by Mrs. Ryland Lipscomb and Mrs. R. M. Pilcher. Mrs. Pilcher made the presentation at the Achievement Day Program.

Another United Nations flag, made by the home agent, was presented to the parochial school at Port Richmond. The students of the school held a program in observance of United Nations Day at which time this flag was displayed.

The other day I picked up a small leaflet which started me to thinking about "Breakfast". No, I wasn't hungry at the moment but before I got through, I think I could have sat right down and eaten a good hearty one. Breakfast is your key to personality. Personality, it's a magic word! To open the door to the radiant personality you want, there is a key. What kind of a key, what size and shape? It's very simple, breakfast is the key. Maybe it isn't the same size and shape as the key to the front door, but breakfast opens a much more complex and fascinating part of your life than any ordinary key. It opens the door to the inner personality that is you. The world looks brighter to you when the day starts with a good breakfast, and incidentally, you look brighter to the world, too. Personality-plus is yours when you feel well. And who can feel perky and well on an empty stomach! Last night's dinner was good, but let's not expect too much of it.

Dinner kept you going all evening and all through the night, but you still need breakfast to keep everything clicking through a busy morning.

On this subject everyone agrees --"yes", they say, "breakfast is very important." But how many of us do something about it. The first excuse for not eating breakfast is TDE. But getting right down to brass tacks, in less than fifteen minutes a breakfast of fruit, cereal, toast and milk can be on the table. A very small investment of time for such risk dividends in personality and well being!

After the time excuse has been exploded, the next excuse is "I'm not hungry in the morning." Maybe there are no hunger pangs when you first jump out of bed, but there is a hidden hunger which will gradually rear its ugly head as the morning wears on. A morning appetite is partly habit. As soon as you get into the "good breakfast" habit you'll find a wide-awake appetite craving a hearty breakfast every morning.

Give your personality a fair break, unlock the door to a buoyant spirit by beginning each day with a good tasting and good-for-you breakfast.

I'll bet Cullen Johnson eats a good breakfast, don't you, Cullen? Your voice certainly radiates a "good breakfast" tone every time I have my radio tuned to WRNL.

All this talk about breakfast and good food is enough to make your mouth water. Which reminds me, I have not had any lunch yet, so I am going right out and get some. Thank you, Mr. Johnson, for this opportunity to talk to our friends of the air waves. Don't forget "BREAKFAST", your key to personality, folks and
● goodbye for today.

V. 4-H Club

A. Project Work

1. Room Improvement

Room Improvement was carried by the majority of 4-H girls in the county. They have had help at club meetings on how to plan for improvement. Long time planning has been emphasized. Background colors, sanding of floors, the importance of using what is on hand has been emphasized and bulletins on refinishing furniture have been requested by club members.

4-H Club girls attended a training meeting at Miller and Rhoads in Richmond given by Miss Ruth Jamison, Extension specialist. A similar training meeting was conducted at the King William Community House for those who could not attend the first meeting. Due to lack of transportation many girls did not get to either meeting.

"Before" pictures were taken of girls rooms in the spring. Again in the fall, "After" pictures were taken. Due to a faulty camera, the "after" pictures were not usable but it is planned to "re-take" these at a later date.

2. Rural Electrification

The Indian 4-H Club girls carried the rural electrification project #1. Electricity had only recently been extended to the reservation so this project met a definite need of the group. Safety in the use of electricity, how to convert lamps and the repairing of cords were emphasized.

3. Food Preservation

Some individual girls were assisted with preserving foods. Several girls entered canned foods at the Tidewater Fair and received ribbons for their entries.

B. Other Activities

The 4-H Club Council met twice during the year to plan programs and set up goals.

Eight girls attended Jamestown Camp. Four girls attended the State Short Course.

Rural Life Sunday was observed with a program in a rural church.

The 4-H Skit - "Mr. P. O. Land and Mr. Rich E. Land" was presented by the 4-H Clubs at the P. T. A. Amateur Show with approximately 500 present.

The same skit was presented by the Port Richmond Club. Drawings for the skit were made by two members.

The 4-H girls and boys prepared and served a dinner for the King William Ruritan Club of 75 members and earned \$63.53 for their treasury.

The 4-H'ers sponsored a variety show with Cullen Johnson of WRNL as guest entertainer and local 4-H talent. Twenty-five dollars was realized from this show.

The 4-H Clubs donated \$50.00 to community building heating system fund.

A picnic and hayride to Moore's Lake was held for 4-H members in August.

The 4-H Club girls of the county prepared and exhibited a "School Lunch" exhibit at the Tidewater Fair, winning a blue ribbon.

The 4-H Clubs cooperated with Home Demonstration Clubs for the Achievement Day Program in showing slides of room improvement done by 4-H Club girls.



INTERDENOMINATIONAL OBSERVANCE

RURAL LIFE SUNDAY

BY

4-H CLUB MEMBERS

KING WILLIAM COUNTY

SHARON BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, MAY 14TH

3:00 P.M.

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His Holy temple;
The Lord is in His Holy temple,
Let all the earth keep silence,
Let all the earth keep silence, before Him;
Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen

THE LORD BLESS THEE AND KEEP THEE

The Lord bless thee and keep thee!
The Lord ~~make~~ His face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee
And be gracious unto thee;
The Lord lift up His countenance,
His countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace,
And give thee peace.

HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD

Hear our prayer, O Lord
Hear our prayer, O Lord
Incline Thine ear to us
And grant us Thy peace.

OBJECT OF RURAL LIFE SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

To encourage club members to affiliate with and support the churches and Sunday School, and to join with friends in praising and worshipping God.

King William 4-H boys and girls were featured on the 4-H Hour over WRNL radio station one Saturday in November. Approximately 20 boys and girls were present.

VI. OLDER YOUTH

In the spring, the Upper King William Youth Group was organized through the efforts of home demonstration club women, the home agent and Mr. W. W. Eure of the Extension service. The reason for organizing such a group was the need of older youth, 18 to 30, for organized recreation and opportunities for education and community service in the county. Officers were elected and committees appointed. No summer meetings were held. In the fall the group met and planned a "tacky party" which was held in October. Plans for recreation, education and community service are now being worked out and a yearbook is being mimeographed for members which will contain planned programs for the year. This group has an enrollment of about 25.

The Lower King William Youth Group is an outgrowth of the other youth group. Due to transportation needs the youth at the lower end of the county felt that it would better to have two groups which could operate separately most of the time and which could meet now and then cooperatively. This lower county group has planned its program for the year which promises to be of great interest. Approximately twelve members are enrolled. Efforts are being concentrated on increasing membership.

These two groups can contribute to family living by furnishing worthwhile activities for family members in the 18 to 30 age bracket, tying in with the 4-H Club age boys and girls and home demonstration club women.

VII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1948	1949	1950
Number Home Demonstration Clubs or Groups	8	9	9
Membership	176	190	161
Number 4-H Clubs	4	4	4
Membership	57	58	52
Number Older Youth Groups	0	0	2
Membership	0	0	37
Number Other Families Reached	145	120	435
Total Number Families Reached	620	635	713

VIII. FUNCTIONS OF ORGANIZATIONS1. County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee met twice this year to plan programs and to coordinate activities of the Home Demonstration Clubs in the county.

2. County 4-H Club Council

The county 4-H Club Council met twice this year to coordinate the program of the 4-H Clubs. It planned the 4-H Hour which was presented from WRNL, the 4-H picnic, and the programs for each month of the year.

IX. ACTIVITIES OF LEADERS

In 1950, home demonstration clubs had two clothing leaders and two home management leaders who gave some of the monthly demonstrations in the absence of the agent. However, it is the feeling of the new agent, that adult leaders in the county need better training and encouragement to give more demonstrations on their own. Presidents of clubs have functioned nicely and in most instances committee chairmen such as the poultry and garden leaders gave a short talk at

each monthly meeting.

Program development leaders of all home demonstration clubs attended the Program Planning meeting in the fall and entered into a lively discussion of what each club desired to have included in the new program.

There is a definite need for 4-H Club leaders in the county. Two new leaders were secured this year near the end of the project work. They will function in the 1951 program. The 4-H Club girls live in scattered areas of the county and in many cases only one or two girls can get together to do project work.

<u>GROWTH OF HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB PROJECT</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Number Projects leaders and goal chairmen	64	81	40
Number Training meetings held By Specialist	1	3	3
By Agent	28	9	6
Attendance at all training meetings	46	47	30
Number Club meetings held by leaders without agent present	19	14	16
Number Club meetings at which leaders assisted	17	6	3
<u>GROWTH OF 4-H CLUB PROJECT LEADERSHIP</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Number adult project leaders	2	2	3
Number junior project leaders	0	0	0
Number training meetings held By Specialist	0	0	3
By Agent	11	0	5
Attendance at leader training meetings	18	0	14
Number 4-H leaders trained individually	2	2	2
Number club meetings held by leaders without agent present	5	9	14

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Number club meetings at which leaders assisted	10	15	5
Number demonstrations given by leaders			
1. Adult	7	9	4
2. Junior	5	4	0

X. WORK IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

(See IV - A and B)

(Also See V - A and B)

XI. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE YEAR'S WORK

The home agent feels that the year's work has not contributed to family living as much as it should have due to the change of agents and a period between agents when no agent was in the county. However, much has been accomplished towards better homemaking, better rural living, and improved people. The home demonstration program, the older youth program and the 4-H program of King William County is definitely on the upward trend. New practices have been taught this year which are showing up in results in the homes of the county. Even though numbers of clubs and membership have not increased greatly, those already in existence have shown decided improvement and progress.