

XII. Problems in carrying out Extension Program in Northumberland County

Many problems probably exist but the main one is to sell the Home Demonstration program and the home demonstrations agent's work to the people of the county. Plans for doing this are to become better acquainted with individuals, groups, organizations in all communities and areas of the county; to administer and carry out the program of the Home Demonstration and 4-H as planned, giving as much publicity and reporting to the public of accomplishments and activities in every way possible and to carry out an active and enthusiastic demonstration program.

Plans for Professional Improvement- continued.

B. Reading Professional books and other publications.

To keep up as much as possible with the home economics journal and trade magazine such as "What's New In Home Economics", "Forecast", "Practical Home Economics", and other professional journals in adult education, communications, family relations, group dynamic, etc. Also some of the home magazines, news magazines, etc. are regularly read. Also keep up on professional books and add some to my library which seem to be most valuable and useful.

C. Membership in Professional Organizations.

National and Virginia Home Economics Association.

National and Virginia Home Agents Association.

Epsilon Sigma Phi.

National Society for the Study of Communications.

National Council Family Relations.

Adult Education Association of America.

Chamber of Commerce.

Health organizations as Heart Association, Crippled Childrens Society, Cancer Society, Polio Foundation and T. B. Association.

Previously belonged to Business and Professional Women's Club, Zonta and A.A.U.W.

D. Participation in Programs and Workshops planned by other Organizations.

Coming from an entirely different region it will be necessary for me to become acquainted with the programs, etc. of other organizations. The Agent plans to attend and participate in these if feasible and possible to work into her program of work.

E. Planned Educational Trips.

To see Virginia and the many things it offers and possibly other parts of the East Coast.

XI. Cooperative Plans for Extension Work in this county.

Are to carry out unified program working together to reach as many of the families as possible and to help them to help themselves through the 4-H, Agriculture and Home Demonstration program.

General Public- continued.

Agent. Take an active part in other organizations to which the agent belongs such as church and fraternal organizations.

C. Elected Representatives

To get to know the county officials and supervisors better and continue to send in a monthly report to the Supervisors of the Home Demonstration work. To meet the State Representatives from this district as soon as possible.

D. Commercial Interests.

To learn the retail stores lines of goods and products that they handle in order to know them as sources of materials for home demonstrations or 4-H programs. To meet and become acquainted with the manufacturing and fishing industry officials in order to be able to extend and carry out home demonstration program for homemakers whose bread winners work for these industries. By familiarizing the commercial concerns with home demonstration work and its objectives it will probably be possible to obtain demonstration materials and equipment to have yearbooks printed, etc.

E. Other Professional Workers.

To have membership in the Virginia Home Economics Association and Home Agents Association, to invite high school teachers to special interest and training meetings, to entertain and become acquainted with company home economists from equipment dealers. Also to know the other professional workers as doctors, nurses and case workers, to whom the home economics program would be of value.

- IX. Plans for recording progress and evaluation of programs as planned for 1959 will be monthly reports and annual reports. Also plan to set up file system on home visits and contacts with results or recommendations made and carried out. The regular reports of the club meetings and the year end summary sheet and 4-H and home demonstration club members. Personal observation and oral reports will also be evaluated.

X. Plans for Professional Improvement.

A. Organized study.

Would take an Extension course by correspondence if possible in home management and/or counseling if such is available.

VII. Plans for Work with other Agencies.

1. Public Schools

4-H club work required in the 5th, 6th and 7th grades throughout the county, class room teachers as sponsoring leaders. " Young Homemakers" - supply program material for them in the form of talks, demonstrations, bulletins, discussions, etc. Other high school members will be organized in out of school clubs with parents or interested adults as leaders. It is hoped that three such clubs will be in operation this year. "PTA" - the agent would supply programs and participate in programs for these groups and in other ways cooperate with them.

2. Public Health Department

Assist the department in any way possible through literature talks, demonstration, or as consultant at clinics, etc.

3. Welfare Department

Serve as consultant and assist the workers in any way possible in addition.

4. Other Health Organizations.

Such as T.B. Associations, Cancer Society, Heart Association and Blood Bank, Folio Foundation, Crippled Childrens Society, etc. Cooperate with these agencies by encouraging Home Demonstration club members to offer volunteer help and encourage the support of these programs.

VIII. Plans for Developing Good Public Relations in the County.

A. Co-Workers

To get to know the members of the families of the county agent and the secretary better. To get to know them as individuals and develop better understanding of them and to continue to work with the county agent in making the Extension program one program for the families of Northumberland county. Continue to so organize and plan work to best and most efficiently use the secretary's time, and office furniture and equipment.

B. General Public.

To continue to meet people in various parts of the county in order to continue to interest and explain to the people the Home Demonstration program and to show the work of the Home Demonstration

VI. Plan for Leadership

	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
<u>A. Over-all Program Leaders</u> (Organization leaders for county Extension Service Board)	0	0
<u>B. Home Demonstration Club Leadership</u>	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
Number organizational leaders	0	6
Number project leaders (subject matter)	0	12
No. Federation program of work chairmen	0	6
Number program development leaders	0	6
Number result demonstrators	0	4
Number of meetings at which leaders were trained by specialists	0	2
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by district agents	0	0
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	0	12
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	0	6
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	0	6
Obtain leaders first by personal request and contacts, etc and then proceed to train by agent.		
<u>E. Young Men and Young Women's Clubs</u>	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
Number club officers	0	0
Number adult leaders or sponsors	0	0

#### 4-H Activities - continued

electrical project will be encouraged to prepare and work on the project so they could possibly attend the Electrical Congress. A dress review at each school will be planned at the end of the school year and probably later as part of the Fair or Achievement program to further interest the girls in sewing and to show the public what they have done. Clubs will be encouraged to participate in Rural Life Sunday and other community activities as much as possible. There will be a week of camp at Jamestown sometime during the summer to which all members in good standing will be eligible to attend. Plans are underway to have a county wide achievement day next fall for the first time.

#### D. Young Men and Young Womens Work

The program is not in operation in the county.

#### V. Scope of Work

##### A. Organization

	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
Number of home demonstration clubs	0	6
Membership	0	100
Number of 4-H Clubs	0	13
Membership	0	200
Number of young men and women's clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number of community improvement clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number of home economics committees	0	1
Number general interest committees	0	1
Number youth committees	0	1
Number other organizations	0	0
Number farm and home development families	0	7

County Extension Program- Youth - continued.

At the present time there is no 4-H Council or project planning committees, nor honor or all star clubs. There is one senior high school club in the Callao area, this is made up of high school students and they have chosen as their club project "So You Want To Look Your Best" in addition to this they carry at least one home project. During this coming year it is hoped that local subject matter leaders will be obtained and that a 4-H club council can be organized.

B. 4-H Project Work

As this is the first Home Economics project work the boys and girls have had the class projects offered are: clothing "So You Would Like to Sew" and meal preparation for beginners. The plans for carrying out these are: meeting once a month at the club meetings with the girls and boys and giving them subject matter in the project either as demonstrations, discussions, also supply them with records and literature in carrying out their project and home visits when possible. To the Agent this is the most inadequate procedure as the time element makes giving them instructions so limited one of the objectives and procedures that is planned is to obtain local leaders among the parents, home demonstration club members, and others interested in 4-H club work. This is again going to depend upon personal contacts and selling them on the idea of local volunteer leaders. When leaders are obtained training meetings will be given to them, in this way the 4-H program will grow and become of more value to the boys and girls.

In addition to the class projects the 5th and 6th grade children can select one home project and others can select two if they wish, they can be in any field of home economics or related fields such as electricity, yard beautification, garden, health, safety, etc. It is also planned to organize more high school groups and it is hoped that from these junior leaders can also be obtained. Agents again serve as leaders and teach through home visits, correspondence, etc. Leaders are needed and plans to get them in home economics projects will continue.

C. 4-H Activities

To increase interest and to further develop the boys and girls home projects are being encouraged. To further carry out 4-H club program each club has been organized in the class room with the election of officers and planned program for each month. It is hoped and planned that members will be giving demonstrations and will participate in a county wide demonstration contest to be held in the spring and the winners then going on to the district contest. Members carrying the

#### Federation Program of Work- continued.

do for the homemakers before too detailed a Federation organization is worked out.

#### D. Other Activities

As has been mentioned before the primary objective here in the year 1959 is to build an interest and support of a Home Demonstration program, and to acquaint the people with the work of a Home Demonstration Agent. Therefore, all possible means will be used to advertise and inform the public about the work and the Home Demonstration program and the work of the Home Demonstration Agent. Special interest meeting as listed above are open meetings and will be advertised as much as possible and by every means. The work will be in unorganized communities because as of the writing of this plan of work only two home demonstration clubs are organized in the county so far this year.

Special programs will be conducted during National Home Demonstration Week in May and Achievement programs in November. It is hoped that sometime during the year at least one tour on some phase of the program can be arranged, plans also include participation in the Northern Neck Fair by the homemakers. The Home Demonstration Agent will also work with the other clubs and organizations as PTA, Community groups, Farm Bureau, Health Department, Welfare Department, Schools, as a consultant or as a participant on their programs. At this writing seems that much of the work will be personal contact as much as possible.

#### III. Farm and Home Development.

At present work is being done with five families and plans are to add two more the coming year. There is no committee on this work and the families are worked with individually and without publicity. This will be the first time they have had specific help in home economics and with the county agent and home demonstration agent plans to assist these families to make the best use of their facilities and resources for better living for themselves and their communities. Subject matter will be given by home visits, and the homemaker will be encouraged to participate in home demonstration clubs.

#### IV. County Extension Program- Youth.

##### A. Organization

At the present time the 4-H club program is a part of the curriculum of all the 5, 6 and 7 grades of the county. The class room teachers serve only as sponsoring leaders. The county agent and the home demonstration agent meet with the clubs once a month and are subject matter leaders as well as organization leaders for them.

Home Demonstration Club Program- continued.

contact such as meetings, home visits, telephone and office calls will be necessary to carry out the program. The Agent will also use a weekly radio broadcast, a monthly news letter and newspaper as much as possible to reach people. She will also use all opportunities to participate in programs of other groups and organization in order to build the Home Demonstration program.

C. Federation Program of Work.

The Federation program of work selected based upon the topics planned for the meetings has been Home and Community Beautification. The objectives for this are:

1. Make mailboxes more attractive.
2. Learn to do flower arrangements - dry and fresh.
3. Plant flowers suitable for drying.
4. Learn how to dry flowers.
5. Care for plants indoors.
6. Clean up yards and driveways.
7. Apply simple landscaping principles.
8. Propagate plants.
9. Also to carry out projects in: Milk Use and Cookery and Home lighting.
10. Become acquainted with Federation Cookbook "Recipes of Old Virginia".

Plans for carrying out these objectives was that the State Federation Program and Work Chairman would be contacted for suggestions and ideas; the Home Demonstration Agent would also plan material for the clubs and would work with the Garden clubs and the County Agent in supplying materials. Specialists help would also be obtained as much as possible, primarily through correspondence.

The committee on program planning suggested that for this year when clubs are just getting started to simplify the organization as much as possible and that the Vice-President would be chairman of the Federation program of work and program development. The main need here is to build up interest and support of the home demonstration program and what it can

Home Demonstration Club program- continued.

- |   |   |                            |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Selection of floor coverings.                                | } | Monthly meetings.          |
| 2. Arrangements of furniture to combine periods and accessories |   |                            |
| 3. Color schemes and home lighting                              |   |                            |
| 4. Recaning chairs  | } | Special interest meetings. |
| 5. Furniture refinishing  |   |                            |
| 6. Braided and hooked rugs                                      |   |                            |

Those under Home Management - all monthly club meetings.

1. Care of appliances
2. Wise use of time- short cuts to cleaning
3. Home repairs the homemaker can do, the tools she needs.

The next largest choice was in clothing and these topics were:

- |   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 1. Clothing construction workshops on cotton dresses        | } | Monthly club meetings. |
| 2. Planning an economical wardrobe to meet your way of life |   |                        |
| 3. Remodeling and altering clothes                          |   |                        |
| 4. Dress forms- Special interest meeting.                   |   |                        |

Other topics included were:

- |  |   |                           |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Seafood cooking                       | } | Special interest meetings |
| 2. Craft workshop                        |   |                           |
| 3. Holiday breads - Monthly club meeting |   |                           |

As this is the first year for Home Demonstration work in the county, it will be necessary for the Agent to do most of the meetings herself and at the same time do the organization of the Home Demonstration program. As soon as it is feasible project leaders will be trained to do some of the meetings. Likewise homemakers will be used for method demonstrations and result demonstrations. It is also felt that the first year a great deal of personal

## II. County Extension Program - Adult

### A. Overall Program

At the present time there is no Extension Service Board or Council of any kind for planning and carrying out Extension programs. The Agricultural program is planned by the use of commodity groups, and a Special Committee planned the Home Economics program for 1959. This committee is planned by the agent to be the nucleus of a county home economics committee. After more Home Demonstration Clubs are formed it is planned to organize a Home Demonstration Council or County Federation.

The objectives and goals as set up by the program planning committee were:

1. Organize 6 home demonstration clubs in the county with about 120 members.
2. Organize county federation unit when four clubs have been organized.
3. Share learning from home demonstration with others in your community.
4. Invite newcomers and non-members to your meetings.
5. Support in any way possible the Patrick Henry Hospital, making it known and understood.
6. Support community projects for better family living and health.
7. Enjoy reading as a personal satisfaction, Share books, magazines, etc.

### B. Home Demonstration Club Program

The committee which planned the program was made up of representatives from the county because of their support and interest in obtaining a Home Demonstration Agent and their interest in Home Economics programs. The members of this group were on the recommendations of the County Agent, William V. Saville. In addition to homemakers they included High School Home Economics teachers, Public Health Nurse and Superintendent of Public Welfare. This committee planned the program for 1959 and will continue to advise the Home Demonstration Agent during the year.

The major fields of work were in Home Management and Home Furnishings. Home Furnishings subjects selected were:

1959 PLAN OF WORK

Eloise L. Keller  
Home Demonstration Agent

Northumberland  
County

I. County Situation

Northumberland county lies on the coastal plain area at the eastern end of the Northern Neck Peninsula. The Potomac river forms the northern boundary with Chesapeake Bay the eastern. Lancaster, Westmoreland and Richmond counties are the other boundaries. About 49% of the county's area is in farms and there are about 751 farms averaging 83 acres per farm, the average value of land and buildings according to the 1954 census was \$9,442.00. Both value and number of farms are decreasing.

The county is generally level and cut by numerous inlets and bays and has a moderate climate.

Agriculture is still the most important economic importance to the county although more people are being employed by fishing and manufacturing. This causes a scarcity of labor in the summer and abundance of unemployed in the winter. More than two thirds of the farm income is from cash crops. Soybeans are becoming a greater crop while corn and tomatoes continue strong. Feeding livestock is becoming more important.

More than one half of the farms are classified as residential or part time farms, many of the operators report one hundred or more days of work off the farm yet many of them produce much of their own food requirements. The population is about 60% white and 40% negro, non-farm homes number about 2200.

The pattern of isolation developed over such a long period continues to a certain degree to the customs and mode of living of the people added to this is the fact that a great many new comers from the more populated areas of Washington and Baltimore are retiring and moving to this coastal area. The closest towns for shopping are Warsaw and Kilmarnock, both being about twenty miles from the county seat of Heathsville. Northumberland county is definitely rural with no incorporated towns in the county. The people are generally conservative and cautious yet friendly and trusting.