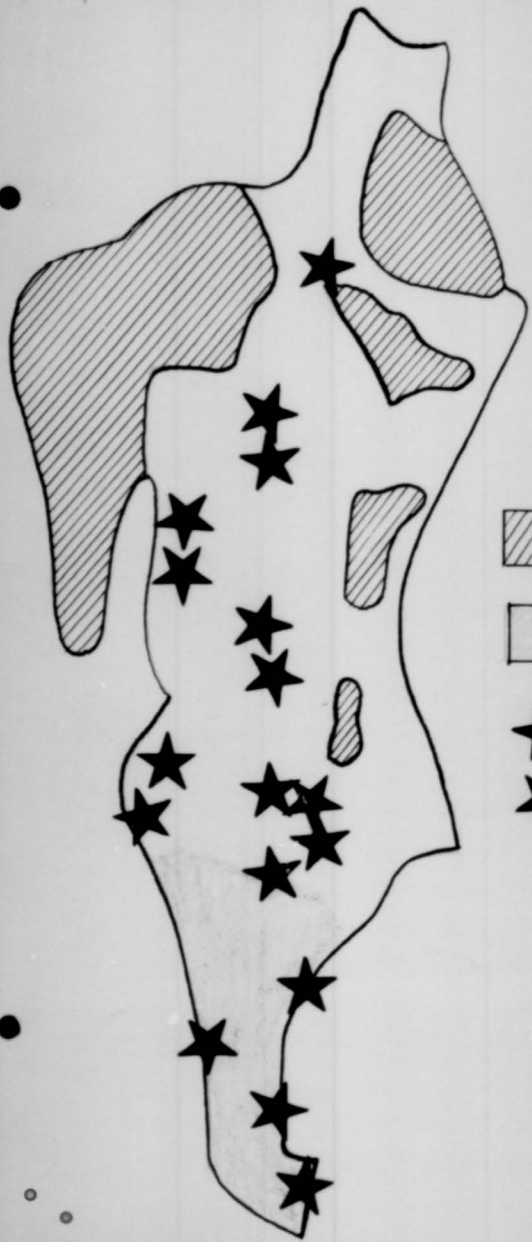






ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
OF
HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT
Mrs. Mary G. Stowall
FOR
WARWICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA
1948

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Warwick County, Virginia
 Area..... 71 sq. miles
 Farm Land..... 24.4%
 Number of farms..... 303
 White..... 229
 Negro..... 74



-  Land reserved for federal use, etc.
-  Suburban area adjacent to Newport News
-  Home Demonstration Clubs
2 new ones
-  4-H clubs
1 new one

I. Scope of Work

- A. Home Demonstration Clubs 12
Membership 130
Other women reached by home demonstration club members 400
- B. 4-H Clubs: Number 4 Membership 48
- C. Older Youth Groups: None
- D. Number reached through other groups by agent 100 1
- E. Number families reached through neighborhood leaders _____
- F. Other methods used to reach families: Office calls, telephone, press, home visits, county-wide meetings, radio 150
- G. Estimate total number families reached 1058
Number farm families in county 302

II. Adult Work

A. Home Demonstration Club Program

1. Project work. The work for the year 1948 was planned at a program planning meeting in September. This was preceded by a presentation at previous club meetings of county facts and situations. The present president and one other representative of each club (usually the in-coming president) presented the requests of their club. Clothing construction, house furnishings and food units were the three main projects agreed upon. Need for help in sewing was felt because of the high cost of ready-made clothing, and help in selecting textiles because of the new types on the market today. With the modern trend of using more color in the home, this was a popular choice. Since more paints and colors have become available, the housewives are anxious to try them out. After determining the new background color of the room, they would naturally think of changing furniture around, and so came the request for furniture arrangement.

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The women requested something to give variety in foods. Evidently they thought they were getting into a rut in planning the daily meals. So they chose breakfasts and salads as two items to work on.

Clothing: This unit was started with textile study, with 130 women attending the demonstrations. The average woman still is at the mercy of the salesgirl who often does not know fabrics either. So the different types of textile fibers were briefly described and simple tests demonstrated which the housewife would use at home to identify materials. A collection of fabrics was used for a guessing contest, the results showing the women that appearance is not all that matters. Care and cleaning of types of textiles was also stressed. Remarks heard later showed that women were trying out some of the tests. Two club lessons spent on construction of clothing consisted of demonstrations and discussion of types of seams, hems, facing, etc. Also, home-made sewing helps such as a sleeve roll, tailor's ham, skirt marker, gauges, etc. The home agent then spent one day with a group from each club who wished further help in actual construction. The whole group worked on one of the members' cotton dress -- seeing the pattern fitted, material cut, basted, sewed and the first fitting completed. Results of these meetings were very encouraging -- not only did some learn everything from the beginning, but many noticed little things the home agent would do to save time, material or add to the appearance. No advanced work was given, but left for future projects. One woman wanted a paper dress form made, so a group met with her to see it done. The Singer Sewing Machine Company arranged for a lesson on machine attachments. Two representatives from each club were chosen to attend. This was held one afternoon at the Singer

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Shop, with the women learning the use of the binder, gatherer and hammers. A sewing machine clinic was held in April with a specialist from Blacksburg in charge. Fifteen women brought in machines which were taken apart, oiled and put together again. A later check-up showed that all were working better and the women surprised that cleaning made such a difference. A re-modelling clinic was scheduled with a specialist for October. Due to her illness, she was unable to be present, but the home agent and leader worked with about thirty who came. Problems were mostly those of skirt and coat lengths.

Food: The breakfast demonstration was done by the leaders who had attended the training meeting. Waffles and their variations were stressed. Also was included the problem of adequate breakfasts especially for children. Variety in summer salads was given the next meeting with 120 in attendance at the various clubs. This demonstration stressed the needs of fruits and vegetables, together with the minerals and vitamins. After giving each one a calorie chart, comparisons of different foods were made. Reports came in of waffle irons being dusted off and all kinds of variations made. The salad recipes were passed on to others and the jellied egg salad was particularly popular. A food spoilage clinic was held in June with a specialist in charge. Jars of canned food were brought in which showed signs of spoilage and used as a basis for the discussion. The home agent had assembled a good display of canning equipment. This program was in the morning and in the afternoon a demonstration of preparation of foods for freezing was given at the local freezer locker plant. Both of these meetings offered an opportunity for women to get first-hand advice about any food preservation problems they might have.

House Furnishings: In the study of color in the home, the home agent stressed the need of choosing some object or textile from which to plan the color scheme. A picture was shown, from which a living room scheme was developed. A swatch of drapery material was given each one and then a room planned around it. Commercial exhibits of rugs and wall paper were shown. This demonstration was often referred to as the one best liked. Later, when making a home visit, the housewife showed the agent her newly decorated living room and pointed out that she had planned to paint her walls gray but the green she finally used was just what was needed to bring out the design in her drapes and that she had learned that a demonstration club meeting. She plans to make a slip cover soon to complete the decoration of the room.

Furniture Arrangement: This was given by the leaders and consisted of rearranging the hostess' living room furniture in accordance with principles given them at the training meeting. The furniture was in the center of the room when the members arrived, which was rather a startling procedure and created interest from the start.

Health: One program was devoted to health. The county nurse attended these meetings with the home agent and stressed the value of immunizations, work of the county health nurses, clinics, etc. Also, the value of a yearly physical check-up. There is much misunderstanding about the health clinics, for the women believe them to be for only welfare cases. Achievement reports showed that 38 were taking advantage of the clinics, and 68 reported having a health check-up. Not a good percentage, but emphasis on both of these items should be given. The club members were also urged to attend the free county chest X-ray clinics.

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Christmas Ideas: This meeting included suggestions brought in by the members: a discussion of suitable children's toys and making of toy dogs. These cost 35 cents would cost at least a dollar in the stores. At least 60 were made at the meetings and more later. Usually two or three women worked on one dog because of limited time.

2. Federation Goal: Since youth problems seem to be ever present, the county home demonstration executive committee suggest this goal which the home demonstration committee adopted. Since the county is both suburban and rural, the same problems would not be present, so each club chose its own project. Three clubs in the rural end of the county chose to work with the civic league in securing a community house, material for which had been given the county from Fort Eastis. The clubs raised their goal of \$300 by having a supper, dance, and a lawn party. Volunteer help from the men in the community was pledged to erect the building, but this has not materialized, and the project is at a standstill. The building is badly needed for there is no large places where groups may meet. Two other clubs combined in a similar project in their community. The organization of the men in this locality is also different, but more progress has been made. The clubs have raised \$200 by giving a game party, dance, and plant sales. Another club supervised the playground in the vicinity, having specially planned programs. They are also sponsoring tap dancing classes for the children at their community house. One club found that their children were having to walk on the highway because the nearest approach to the school was over a vacant lot privately owned and which the owner would not give permission to be used by the children. By soliciting the community,

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enough money was raised to buy this lot and it has been presented to the county, which has made a gravel path there. Another group, before becoming a home demonstration club, had erected a bus shelter for the children in that community. This had become very dilapidated. As their project, they undertook to repair it, but the land was sold and with no other location possible, it was voted to abandon the project and give the money to the county cooperative welfare fund. The results of the goals carried speak for themselves. In addition to the community welfare, the projects have served to help the women become better acquainted and thus has helped the club itself.

3. Other Activities: Other activities were a part of the year's work and can be divided into those pertaining to home demonstration work and those of the communities.

Home Demonstration Activities: About \$20 was turned in from the clubs for the "Seeds for Peace" project. The general opinion was that it was a good idea to help the European countries help themselves. Several clubs directed their secretaries to write to their delegates in Richmond urging them to favor legislation for enrichment of flour. A few clubs contributed to the Cancer Drive. One club contributed to the "Save the Children" project. One club in a housing development sponsored a flower show in September. Prizes were solicited and given for the best all-round, miniature, children's and pitcher arrangements.

District Federation Meeting: This was held at Williamsburg and about sixty Warwick County women attended. The previous day they had made 200 small corsages as their share of the program. That proved an interesting project in itself, for a florist worked with them and they learned many things about corsage making.

Rural Life Sunday: The home agent asked the three local ministers in the rural end of the county if they would like to have a united Sunday evening service for observance of "Rural Life Sunday". The service was well attended -- 300 -- and the collection of about one hundred dollars given to the local church whose building had recently burned. This was a service for both the clubs and h-M clubs. A union Christmas service is now being planned.

Institute of Rural Affairs: Nine women from the county attended -- an increase from five last year. Meeting of particular interest were the business sessions, flower arrangement, landscaping and the electrical equipment exhibit. For club members new in the Home Demonstration work, it is a pleasant experience to meet others from various parts of the State and compare activities.

Corn Shuck Mat Demonstration: One rural club held a barn party when they were shown how to make corn-shuck mats by one of the members. Besides actually making mats, the women enjoyed the novel experience and wished for more like it. These mats cost only the heavy cord, needle and the time, and sell for about \$4 in the colonial antique shops.

Achievement Day: This was in the form of a luncheon in Newport News, with 112 present. Between the courses informal reports of clubs were given and three clubs put on skits. One showed three club members reviewing the past year's activities over the tea cups and waiting for another friend who was bringing over a visitor. The visitor proved to be her paper dress form which we had made for her. Another club gave a demonstration of hooked rugs and corn-shuck mats. Another club showed the members dressed like the children they supervised at the playground. A group of women wore cotton dresses which they had

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made, as "The Cotton Parade". One club president with a lovely voice sang three Spanish solos. Miss Maude E. Wallace, Assistant Director of Extension Work in Virginia, was guest speaker and used as her theme "Future for Extension Work". Mrs. C. M. Ware, retiring county home demonstration chairman presided as toastmistress. One demonstration club was hostess for the occasion, making the favors, corsages, and fixing the decorations.

Year Book: The year book for 1949 will be ready for the December meetings. It will follow the general form of the previous year -- enough advertisements to finance the book with a little left over for the county committee treasury.

Community Activities: Assistance at the Cooperative welfare building has been given by almost every group. They do any work assigned them, as sorting clothing, darning, wrapping Christmas presents, etc. This gives the women an idea of the extent of the work; it is a service badly needed and something which is of no expense to themselves, except time. Since they are at the county building center, an effort is made to have them conducted through the county buildings to see where part of their taxes are spent. The Health Department needed T. B. examination capes and one club made two dozen. The clubs served as information centers during the county's clean-up drive in the spring. The clubs were called upon to furnish some help with the seafood luncheon served the visiting delegates of the League of Virginia Counties convention. This consisted of preparing and serving the seafood under the direction of a chef. Many compliments were received and the women learned new recipes.

4. Leadership:

a. Organization: The home agent held an officers meeting in January to talk over items of general interest to all the clubs.

These included: duties of officers, publicity, federation goal possibilities, welfare projects, membership goals, etc. A similar meeting will be held again in January. It served very nicely as a "get-together" meeting and much was accomplished. The majority of the officers have done good work. This year most of them retire and it has been difficult in some clubs to find women who were willing to serve as officers. They like to come to meetings but dislike to assume any responsibility. In order to strengthen the leadership phase, the home agent has sent a monthly letter to the presidents concerning business to be taken up at the next meeting. They like this and if the letter is late, as it was once or twice, they inquire about it. It gives them the feeling that they do not conduct the meeting "all by themselves". These letters save the time of the agent and all are sure of being notified of the same items.

b. Project leaders: Two meetings were held during the year without the home agent -- the project leaders taking over. These were volunteers, which was a good plan for the first year. For next year, the president will appoint leaders and be guided by abilities shown this year. The home agent stressed the leaders' responsibility since she would not be present at the meeting. The leader-training meeting with the foods specialist was for "breakfast variations", with emphasis on waffle variations, oatmeal and eggs. Also discussion of adequate breakfasts. All but one club was represented. A waffle luncheon followed the demonstration and a general get-together was enjoyed. The leader-training meeting with the house-furnishings specialist was in July. A hot day, but the location was a lovely home on the river. All furnishings were removed from the living room and arrangement demonstration was given. A picnic lunch on the lawn

followed and then a demonstration of color in the home. All clubs were represented and more interest was shown in this meeting than any others. Reports turned in to the home agent of the meetings conducted by the leaders proved that they could "rise to the occasion". In 1949 there will be three leader training meetings. Two with specialists from Blacksburg and one on flower arrangement given by a member of the local garden club.

Federation Goal: Each club had a federation goal chairman who was in charge of what youth activities project had been decided upon and which have been mentioned previously. In two communities a youth survey was made, resulting in one case in playground supervision being undertaken and in another case of a 4-H Club being formed this fall. In clubs where there were 4-H members represented, they were invited to whatever August recreation was planned.

Subject Matter: These leaders have not been too active. Some reports have been well worked out. An example of this would be the home equipment chairman in one club, a Mrs. Veltri, who would visit home equipment store, pick out one item and know it so well that she could give the high-points of it at the club meeting in a very few minutes. Two garden leaders were particularly good -- having prepared notes on current garden activities of special interest to their groups. The main excuse of the leaders seems to be that they do not have time to look up material -- in spite of the fact that for some it is furnished, like the garden and poultry.

B. Other Means of Reaching People.

1. Board of Agriculture. There seems to be no County Board.
2. County Wide Meetings: Two meetings were open to the public both for educational and publicity purposes, and attended by women on the whole

peninsula.

a. Slip Covers: This demonstration was given by the Singer Sewing Machine Company and over sixty attended. Four chairs were worked on and as they were different types, they served as excellent illustrations. One day is not sufficient time to finish a slip-cover but as chairs and material could not be left over-night at the meeting place, follow-up work was done by the home agent when necessary. From questions asked later and reports, the day was well spent. One woman said that it paid her to attend just to see how the cording foot on the machine worked. She had never seen one before. The home agent has seen about twenty covers being worked on at members' homes and doubtless there are many others. More work on this is asked for again this year, but will probably be conducted in small groups.

b. Rug Making: This hooked-rug demonstration was given by two club members who have been making rugs for years and have many lovely ones. This meeting proved more popular than expected and over fifty attended, from various parts of the peninsula. Different types of materials were shown which could be used for rugs and proper method of cutting the strips. Also the different kinds of hooks available. One woman donated a roll of burlap which was sold very reasonably to any present who wished to start rugs. Actual demonstrations were given and the audience given a chance to ask questions and try out the process. Other types of hand-made rugs were brought in by members: crocheted, knit and ties, and the techniques explained. Unfortunately, the woman receiving a door prize of a stamped piece of burlap ready to be worked on was not interested in it herself and commented, to the disgust of the others, that she had always considered making rugs rather a dirty job.

3. Home Visits: The home agent regrets that time is limited for this means of reaching people, for a better knowledge of home conditions

may be gained this way. New 4-H club members' homes are usually visited and as far as possible, new HHC members also. All calls for information have been met by a home visit as far as possible. Clothing construction problems are a large proportion of the requests. Many of these are sleeve difficulties, where the woman has not used the right size shoulder pad and has not distributed the top fullness correctly. By spending only a short time and actually working with the woman, the dress loses that "home-made" look. Another illustration of a profitable home visit was where a housewife mistook non-acid fruits for non-acid foods. She had canned figs by the open kettle process and then had been told by a neighbor that the fruit would surely develop botulinis poisoning. The home agent visited her, explained the difference, and since she did not have either a hot-bath or a pressure cooker and was curious how the pressure canner worked, the home agent demonstrated with her own cooker and canned nine pints of figs. Another home visit resulted in getting two women with a hobby of house plants together to compare notes. Several home visits have been made to a home beautification project which the extension specialist had started. The first step was to enclose the farm house grounds so that cows would not eat up the planted shrubbery or root up the grass. A plank fence has been put in, shrubbery started and a new porch floor has been delayed because of lack of cement. The home agent was called in to help a woman decide on material for re-upholstering her davenport.

4. Extension Library: One club in the rural end of the county has secured an extension library. In addition to its being of value to the members, it should help in publicity of the home demonstration work in the community. The "librarian" is a girl in her early twenties, crippled as the result of an accident. This will give her an active interest, also.

5. Radio: The home agent was asked to be on the 6 A.M. farm program once a week. Five talks were prepared and given. One of these was in the form of an interview with a woman whom the home agent had taught to make cheese. This woman explained the process she used, her home-made equipment and the money-value of the cheese she had made. When daylight-savings time started in May, this program would be at 5 A.M. in the local area. Since there would not be enough of an audience at that hour to justify the time spent in preparing script and getting into Newport News, radio programs were discontinued.
6. Press: Home demonstration notices appear in the Sunday issue of the largest peninsula paper. The home agent sends these in, but the vice-presidents are responsible for any club meeting write-ups. The paper is very glad to get any "active" news but does not much care for subject matter material, due to lack of space. Pictures are generously taken when asked for. There is a county paper which is also glad for any items sent in. This publicity is worth-while, for I have often met women who tell me they read about the home demonstration program and know what is going on. The home agent cooperated with the assistant editor of the Extension News from Blacksburg by arranging a tour for her through the Mennonite Colony. Her article appeared in the local papers, other state papers, and the Extension News.

II. Work With Youth

A. 4-H Club

1. a. County Council: The county council in Warwick County is part of a tri-county council which includes York and Elisabeth City counties. This was formed when the tri-county agent was the only extension worker in these counties. During the past year, there were two meetings held, when election of officers, plans for Rally Day and Achievement Day were made. Since those two events are the only items in common, no other

business is transacted. No programs of work have been set up since the ages and interests of the clubs all vary. Attendance is only fair, since the meetings are in Newport News on a Saturday morning and transportation is a problem. The plans resulting from the discussion at the meeting for Rally Day were carried out and the day worth while. The recent meeting for election of officers resulted in all but two of the officers being from Warwick County. Plans suggested for Achievement Day were itemized and to be carried out.

b. Typical 4-H Club: The Kiwanis Club, the first organized in the county may be taken as an example of our clubs, except that it has mixed ages, whereas the others have been formed with age groups. This club, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Newport News is composed of thirteen girls ages 10-15. This club meets after school in the homes. It has two meetings a month, since the girls and leaders thought that interest could be kept up better in that way. The leader during the winter was a former home agent and preferred to take the project meeting, so the home agent attended the other meeting for outside activities. The girls chose a housekeeping project and studied table settings, selecting pretty patterns of silverware, centerpieces and glassware and made place mats. Then they studied the care of their bedrooms, learned the proper way of making a bed, dusting and floor care. In this project, too, were included a safety survey and check-up for accidents. Outside activities included: packing a friendship box for a girl in Norway; visiting a rabbitry and dairy farm and visiting a Norwegian woman who talked to them about customs in Norway. A roller skating party was planned by the girls during Christmas vacation. Two girls from this club attended the State Short Course and five attended 4-H camp. The Kiwanis Club paid for the Short Course tuition. In the summer the club

carried a sewing project together with craft work. Articles made were hemstitched towels, intricate toy dogs, aprons, knotted belts and articles made from felt. Three girls carried a canning project, with two completing. One of these represented the county in a district contest, although unable to place because of being under 14. A summer vesper service following a family picnic was planned and carried out by the girls. For Rally Day they planned their own part on the program. For achievement day they are planning to present the candlelight ceremony, read the letter of "thank-you" from the Norwegian girl who received the friendship box and give a report of the State Short Course.

2. Project Work:

a. The projects this year were limited by the agent's time and the ability of the leaders. All clubs used the housekeeping project during the winter since it seemed ideal for the amount of time available. During the summer simple sewing projects and canning were used. Meetings during the summer are apt to be unsatisfactory due to vacations, visitors and the weather. Transportation is a big problem and the home agent's car served in this capacity until the leaders were able to help out. The home agent started some of the girls on craft work and they, in turn taught others. For the canning project, latest information was given the mothers and the home agent checked on methods used. The gardens dried up and some girls could not finish. The projects chosen for the winter were partly determined by the girls and partly by the leaders and home agent according to the facilities available. Two clubs are taking food projects, one care of clothing, another "So you want to Sew", and the fifth club has Room Improvement. Since all of these clubs meet in the homes, the food projects are held in the kitchens of two leaders who do not seem to mind the trouble. Craft is being carried on at the

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extra meeting a month and enjoyed by all. At present, toys are being made for Christmas.

3. Other Activities: Since the clubs were carrying housekeeping projects, it seemed appropriate to include a safety and accident check-up in the homes. The members were given a check-sheet of items of possible danger. National 4-H Week was observed by three clubs. Two arranged a joint program for the local civic league. The leaders and home agent explained the 4-H program. One boy who had rabbits for a project showed two, one a thoroughbred and the other not. He explained the difference in size, discussed different breeds, feeding, etc. A girl explained a garden project she had carried, showing a profit of nine dollars on tomatoes she had grown and sold. The club had secured a speaker, who was an F.B.I. man. He spoke on juvenile crime prevention. The Kiwanis Club 4-H president attended the home demonstration meeting in that locality and explained their project work and other activities of the club.

Rally Day was held at Yorktown in June with all the clubs of the two counties represented. Swimming, a ball game, contests and stunts were the program of the day, with a picnic lunch at noon. Prizes were awarded for the best stunts and winner of the contests. There were about 150 members and friends in attendance.

4-H Short Course: Since no member had attended the short course at Blacksburg, the home agent was very anxious for some to attend this year. ~~Two~~ boys, ^{two} one girl, one leader and the home agent went. Since this is for members over 14, it was one way to show them that club work is for older girls and boys as well as for the younger ones. The all-star ceremony was very impressive and a fitting climax for the whole week. The discussion groups were a new feature for them and they wished to

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try them out at home. Seeing the buildings and exhibits at the Agricultural college was an education in itself and will long be remembered.

4-H Camp: Eleven members attended 4-H camp in August. There was a nice group present during the week, not too crowded. With division into the four tribes there was good-natured rivalry in contests, sports, etc. Craft consisted of stools, book-ends and boxes. There were the usual tours to Williamsburg and the "Common Glory". The food was particularly well planned and cooked this year. Camp is looked forward to by many of the members and serves as an incentive for further work. No girl is allowed to go unless she has been active in her club duties. Three different clubs attended for a one-day camp and the home demonstration clubs paid for the noon meal for these girls. This served to create interest and they all want to go back next year. Many of our club members are from low-income families and cannot afford to go for the whole week, hence the one day was a real treat.

Four: During the last week in August, girls from three groups with their leaders, went on a tour of some establishments in Newport News. The first one visited was a bakery where the girls were shown bread-making from the raw ingredients to the packaging process and also treated to doughnuts. They then visited the newspaper office where they saw the paper being prepared for publication. Then to the library to see a shell collection, then to the forsen locker plant where the girls saw the lockers swing into place, the freezing apparatus, the sacking rocas and were treated to ice cream sandwiches. A picnic lunch in the park followed. Next came a visit to the veterinary hospital where the doctor explained care of pets in hot weather and answered questions the girls asked. Then they went to a soft drink bottling plant where they watched the complete process and were given a sample. The last stop

was a model dairy where they watched the use of milking machines. It was a busy but interesting day and showed that h-H Club members can learn by seeing as well as doing.

Program: Two clubs gave a program at the opening assembly of their school. The summers' project work was described, camp life was reviewed; one girl showed some canned peaches and told how she did it; two girls gave a humorous skit; one girl described their tour into Newport News and they all sang h-H songs. This was well given and was nice publicity for the h-H Clubs.

County Picnic: On October 2 there was a roller skating party for all h-H Clubs in the county, followed by a picnic at the country home of one of the leaders. This served to get the members acquainted with each other and start off the winter's activities. Sixty were present and wished for another such event soon.

Hayride: The leaders and members of one club planned a hayride in July. They went to the park in Yorktown, played games the committee had prepared and had a picnic lunch.

Halloween parties: Three clubs planned Halloween parties since there was no big one at the school this year. The girls planned the decorations, refreshments and games. One club invited guests but the others limited to only members.

Christmas Caroling: One club planned a caroling party, with a man in the community offering the use of his truck for transportation. After singing for several shut-ins, the group was invited to one of the homes for refreshments.

Debate: One of the clubs formed a debating team for the question: Resolved: That more aid should be given European countries. The winning side then debated a team from a club in York County and won.

The final winning teams all turned out to be affirmative, so the winners gave their speeches again at the Rally Day picnic and the prize awarded.

Friendship Box: One club packed a box for a girl in Holland and a letter was received in return. They plan to send another one this year. Mention has been made of the box sent to Norway.

New Club Formed: In one community where there was no organization for young teen-agers, the home demonstration members voted to sponsor a 4-H Club. In September invitations were sent to the mothers of children who would be interested in such a club and the home agent met with them and explained the set-up. Two women are acting as leaders. The girls meet twice a month at the leaders' homes. The agent meets them for one meeting at which project work is done, and the other meeting is for craft or a continuation of the project work. There are eleven girls who are actively interested. A few more who had started in, were only interested in the social activities, so the leaders have limited those to members only and feel that they can accomplish more with the smaller group. They are taking the "So You Want to Sew" project, have finished their towels and are now working on aprons. They are preparing a play for the tri-county achievement day.

Achievement Day: Due to a conflict in dates with York County, the annual achievement day will not be held in November as planned, but in December. Plans made at the tri-county council meeting are for each club to prepare a report of the year's activities and a short program not exceeding ten minutes. This will be held in Warwick County this year, since it has been held in York County the past two years.

Leadership: There have been two leader-training meetings held during the year. In June the meeting was for planning the summer's activities

and explaining the work to some of the new ones. In September an all day meeting was held at the home of one of the leaders when some craft work was demonstrated, plans made for the county picnic and the annual achievement day. A county chairman was elected and general club problems discussed. There are now two leaders for each club, making ten in all. All are interested and willing to give generously of their time. This is quite a change from the situation last year. The leaders realize the problems of the home agent and as they work with the children more, are willing to assume more responsibility. No junior leaders have been used, since most of the groups have now been reorganized into the same age groups. However, as the members show ability, one will be chosen to help check records, etc.

B. Honor Club:

Last year the county agent issued several honor club certificates but no organization was formed. This he wishes to do this year. As yet, there are few in this county who could qualify for the honor club.

C. Older Youth:

With the promise of a community house in the rural end of the county, plans were tentatively made for such an organization. But since the house has not been completed, no further action has been taken.

~~IV~~ Cooperation with Other Agencies:

Mention has already been made of cooperation with the cooperative welfare work and the county health department. The home agent also attends the administrative meetings of the county. The home agent and the two home economics teachers at the county high school have become acquainted and find it beneficial for both. The home agent has given information and illustrative material to the teachers and gave a demonstration on making a paper dress form for them. The home agent also judged a canning contest for them. The teachers have permitted the home

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agent to have h-H meetings in the home economics class rooms. The teachers will cooperate if a tea for the high school girls is planned in the spring. The home agent has loaned illustrative material for women's clubs and has assisted the project supervisor at a housing development with a baby show.

V. Evaluation of the 1948 Home Demonstration Program.

- A. County Conditions: In 1948 the county has still been affected by a shifting of population. This factor has influenced the development of the year's program in that twenty-one active members have moved away from their communities. However, ten of our new members are those moving into the communities and are a great asset. Because of the high cost of living, many women are finding employment to ease the family budget. Thirteen of our active members are now working outside the home and unable to continue club activities. These factors are particularly critical when these women were ones depended upon for responsibilities. So one of the problems at present is to replace and find other leaders. There is always the tendency to overwork those who are willing and able.
- B. Leadership Development: Mention has been made of the meeting of all club officers to talk over problems common to them all and sending of monthly president's letters listing the club agenda. The home agent feels that the time spent on these two items was well worth it in results. Several women have surprised their fellow-members and home agent by their new-found abilities. One woman in particular never went outside the home to take part in meetings, but has taken over the devotional chairmanship and although she claims she becomes panicky, one would never know it. One foreign-born woman so thoroughly enjoys the meetings that sometimes it is difficult to keep her from talking too much. Another woman has taken over h-H club work and the agent has been able to turn more responsibility over to her. There are

now ten h-H club leaders with only six last year.

C. Membership in the home demonstration clubs has grown and would be larger if we had not lost through moving or working, as has been explained. Two clubs have grown to the capacity of the homes and the question of dividing must come from the members, as too often an arbitrary division ruins both groups. A few clubs which were weak are still weak and probably will continue to be. A few interested women serve as the backbone for these clubs but they are too isolated to combine well with other groups. Two new clubs were formed by their own request. One had seen accounts of the home demonstration work in the local newspaper and the other group was started by the sister of a member in one of the most active groups. Four of the clubs meet at night because care of young children interferes with day meetings. All clubs were represented at the Achievement Day luncheon, which is much better than last year.

D. Developments of the Year: There is a better understanding of home demonstration work throughout the county, which is only natural after the second year of activities and publicity. The preceding year made the following contributions:

- (1) Introduction of extension work in the county.
- (2) Organization of home demonstration groups.

With that much accomplished, the important contributions for 1948 would be:

- (1) Carrying out a program as planned at the yearly program development meeting. The preceding year had been on a month-by-month basis which made it extremely difficult for the home agent and had little unity.
- (2) Use of leaders and their attendance at leader-training meetings.

- (3) Formation of two new clubs without any help from the home agent.
- (4) Understanding of what home demonstration work can mean to the woman and her community.

Using these items as a basis for the 1949 program, the following should be expected:

- (1) More use of present leaders and development of others as they acquire confidence.
- (2) Expansion through new members of present clubs, or possible new clubs.
- (3) More results from the meetings which may be passed on or exhibited.