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VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

CHARLOTTE

COUNTY

1950

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III. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 1950 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

I feel that one of the greatest contributions of the 1950 Program to Better Family Living has been through the activities conducted in carrying out the federation goal, Art in Daily Living.

The improvement of home and community grounds has long been felt as a need and for that reason has been chosen as a long time goal.

Prior to 1949 very little had been done in the way of landscaping except in isolated instances. During 1949 six home and community projects were started. Mr. Smith visited these projects and outlined a plan for development.

During 1950 Mr. Beecher visited the county three times. One entire community - Eureka - was surveyed and each home was given a suggested list of improvements. The six community projects grew to twelve. At the churches and community houses, yards were leveled, walks and drives laid off and graveled, undesirable trees removed, and objectionable fences taken down, grass has been seeded, and lawns established. Mr. Beecher's last visit was to answer their requests for help in selecting and planting shrubbery.

The same can be said of the homes. Home owners have been directed to think about removing objectionable features, about putting up gutters and underpinning their homes, about setting trees or removing undesirable ones and about establishing lawns. In answer to a questionnaire 34 report having planted shrubs or perennials, 26 have planted trees or removed objectionable trees, 8 have seeded lawns, 2 have laid

- walks, 7 have purchased a lawn mower for the first time, 10 have improved driveways and entrances and 26 have painted or otherwise improved their mail boxes. Not every club member reported. However continued requests for assistance substantiate the fact that Charlotte County families are becoming more interested in making their homes and communities more attractive.

Another highlight of the year, and we feel, one of our most successful projects was the tailoring class taught in March and April. Fifteen ladies took part in this special interest class. Fourteen of the fifteen completed and at the conclusion they held a fashion show with twelve of the members modeling their garments.

These ladies feel that they not only increased their skills in sewing, but they learned to judge quality in material and quality and workmanship in a ready made garment. They feel that the knowledge gained will enable them to be better dressed at a saving to the family budget.

While Housing was not one of the goals selected, running water in the home has been recognized as one of the great needs of this county, and is a long time goal. An effort to demonstrate the value of this convenience has been made through news articles and radio talks, in personal interviews, and through tours and visits to farm unit demonstrations and others who have had water put in their homes. It is therefore gratifying that 22 families report putting water in their homes during the year. Perhaps the figure should be even higher. These were all old homes.

Progress has been made in leadership with L-H Club work. Five organized groups with a membership of 20 were conducted by adult leaders during the summer. Three leaders sent in reports after each meeting and at the conclusion of the project wrote a very helpful summary. Leaders also trained club members for the area contests while the agent was out of the state and took them to Farmville to enter the contest. The fact that four of the five girls won first in the area and the fifth won second proves the effectiveness of their training.

Leaders have been invaluable in taking exhibit material to the Farm Show. One of the leaders also took the garden contestants to Lynchburg for the Sears-Roebuck garden and canning awards.

In H. D. Club activities leaders gave a total of 46 demonstrations during the year. They gave 39 without the agent as compared to 36 in 1949.

IV. ADULT

A. Project Work

1. Clothing

For some time there had been a request for help in Tailoring from a group of ladies who said that they made their own and their children's clothes, but felt that there was much to be gained by learning to do the job professionally. Accordingly, upon the recommendation of the clothing specialist a series of four demonstrations on the Cotton House Dress was given as a prerequisite. The first of these, Choosing

Pattern, Line and Design to Suit the Individual Figure, was the November 1949 demonstration. There followed in sequence Adjusting Pattern to Body Measurement, December; Construction and Fitting, January; Finishes and Closures, February.

Two training meetings were conducted by the agent for the 16 Clothing Leaders with an attendance of 28. These leaders then gave 24 demonstration in their respective clubs.

Samples of materials were secured from local stores, an exhibit of U.S.D.A. recommended patterns was arranged, an exhibit was borrowed from a large mail order house on work garments, an additional exhibit of work dresses was borrowed from a local store, construction charts, U.S.D.A. bulletins on construction, models of closures and finishes were prepared to show each step of procedure and exhibits of sewing and tailoring aids were prepared to be used in this series of demonstrations.

Following this series, two classes in Tailoring were conducted, one in March and one in April in which 13 club members and 2 non-club members took part. As a climax to this series a fashion show was held in May with 12 of the 15 members modeling the garments which they had made.

I feel that this project was very successful. Not only did these ladies learn the techniques necessary in constructing an attractive and well made garment at a substantial saving to the family budget, but they learned to look for quality in the selection of materials, and to judge quality style, and workmanship in a ready made garment. In their own words they feel that they will shop more intelligently and be better

judges of value, because of this experience.

The 65 ladies reporting stated that they had made 52 cotton dresses and 28 aprons using patterns especially chosen for convenience and comfort. This apparent lack of interest may be explained by two reasons, the first is that the demand for this topic came from a minority group whose primary interest was Tailoring, and second, because of the difficulty in securing the recommended U.S.D.A. patterns, which were not carried locally and of which we found many of the numbers had been discontinued.

However, it had its value, and even the lady who didn't sew and was not interested in learning, learned how to select a comfortable and suitable garment for house work and learned how to judge value in a ready to wear garment.

2. Foods

All homemakers are interested in new and different ways to prepare foods for their families and Charlotte County is no exception. According to plans, six demonstrations were given namely, The Master Mix, Preparation of Fruits and Vegetables for Freezing, Uses of Corn Meal, Yeast Breads, Pies and Pastries, and Cakes and Icings.

Three leaders' training meetings were held by Extension Food Specialists with a total attendance of 44 at which the 20 food leaders gave 39 of the 72 demonstrations.

A former club member gave 3 demonstration on cake decorations.

Of particular interest were the demonstrations on bread making.

It is generally assumed that anyone who can cook can make bread, but these

ladies insist that the methods and recipes used in the demonstrations have enabled them to make better bread and to prepare more tempting meals for their families. They declare that the Master Mix is one of the greatest time savers that they have ever known. Twenty three members report that they learned to make yeast breads during these demonstrations, 31 state that they use the corn meal recipes regularly and 27 state that they use the Master Mix regularly. These figures were taken from 65 reports.

With more families buying home freezers, there is a growing interest in information for the preparation of frozen foods. One demonstration in the Wylliesburg community was attended by 58 club members. Twelve members report processing 4596 packages of fruits vegetables and chicken according to recommended methods.

In addition to information given in the scheduled demonstrations, timely information is given in radio programs and the weekly newspaper on methods of preparing foods for freezing in season and on curing and storing meats.

U.S.D.A. bulletins, circular letters, and home visits are further means of getting timely information to the homemaker.

Five demonstrations on foods have been planned for next year which is evidence of continued interest and need for information. These deal with meal planning and using electricity in addition to the more conventional food demonstrations.

3. House Furnishings

A request was made again for Selection and Hanging Pictures,

a topic that was quite popular when it was chosen two years before. Accordingly, a leaders' training meeting was held by the House Furnishings Specialist with 11 of the 13 house furnishings leaders in attendance. Following this meeting these leaders gave 6 demonstrations in their own clubs. The questionnaire reveals that 28 members have rearranged and hung their pictures according to recommended principles. This demonstration has further served to stimulate interest in choosing better pictures and accessories for the home. Furthermore it gave emphasis to the County Federation goal, Art in Everyday Living.

Members of the Saxs Club felt a need for more information on Table Setting and Service. The leaders invited Mrs. W. W. Paulette, a local Home Economics teacher to present this demonstration, which she did most effectively.

A. Handicraft and Miscellaneous

a. Chairseating

September was left open for club choice, most of which were handicrafts of various kinds. Aspen, Lebanon, and Madisonville chose chairseating. Madisonville held an all day meeting and the fourteen ladies present seated 9 stools and 3 chairs. A total of 21 chairs and stools were reseated at the 3 meetings.

b. Trays

The special interest meeting on etched and hammered trays conducted by Miss Peery, Rural Arts Specialist, in 1949 was one of the most popular demonstrations that has been conducted here. Five of the twelve clubs have selected Tray making as club choice and another has

it on their program for 1950-51. This was the choice of the Mt. Harmony, Eureka and Midway Clubs. A group of children at Aspen School made hammered trays for Christmas gifts under the direction of the H. D. Club leaders. Members that have had this training report 112 completed trays during the two years, 48 in 1949, 62 in 1950.

c. Flower Arrangement

Red Oak selected Flower Arrangement for club choice because of their special interest in this topic. This, too, was in furtherance of the Federation Goal. Accordingly, Mrs. B. B. Shackelford, one of the club leaders, arranged for a demonstration by Mrs. Slagel, president of the Clarkville Garden Club. The members feel that this was one of their most interesting demonstrations for the year.

d. Textile Painting

Bethel Club members requested a demonstration on Textile Painting, a handicraft which has been popular with other clubs. Mrs. R. C. Harvey, a leader, was trained by the agent and gave this demonstration at her club. Club members throughout the county report having stencilled 86 articles.

e. Miscellaneous

The Cullen Club members who are particularly interested in reading took this opportunity to invite Mrs. Ruth Eggleston, County Librarian, to give a book review. They, too, felt that this would stimulate more interest in good literature, one of the goals under Art in Everyday Living.

Midway Club members found the demonstration on Covering Buttons

very practical. Many of these ladies do their own sewing and live too far from town to get work of this kind done conveniently. They also find that they can save money by performing this service for themselves.

5. Housing

With building material more plentiful interest continues in building new homes and remodeling homes that lacked modern conveniences. Approximately 8 days have been spent in making home visits and advising with homemakers as to changes that they wished to make. Miss Mary B. Settle, Extension Housing Specialist, spent one day in the county in which she did extensive planning with two families who were considering remodeling their homes.

Sixty five members reported 1 new home built, 6 remodeled, 13 installed water, 7 built sanitary toilets, 23 repaired screens, 14 rearranged or improved their kitchens, 9 built closets, 18 painted, papered, or otherwise improved rooms other than kitchens, 5 sanded floors, 3 laid new floors.

6. House Furnishings

Approximately 20 days have been given to house furnishings. This includes personal help in choosing paint, paper, and floor coverings, instructions in measuring for and making draperies, curtains and slip covers, training leaders and demonstrations.

Nine radio talks have been prepared and given on Housefurnishings.

Miss Ruth Jamison, House Furnishings Specialist, spent two days in the county holding leaders' training meetings, and gave valuable assistance in several home visits in helping to develop long time plans.

She gave much needed personal help as to wall and floor finishes and other problems that existed.

Three families report refinishing 4 pieces of furniture, sanding 5 floors, covering 3 sofas and 5 chairs. I feel that this is a very conservative estimate and that much more has been done that has not been reported.

7. Poultry and Garden

Each club has a poultry and garden leader whose duty is to bring timely information to their fellow members on these topics. One leaders' training meeting was held in January, conducted by Extension Specialists. Handbooks are supplied each leader with an outline for suggested topics appropriate for each month. The newest U.S.D.A. bulletins and State College material is included in these hand books.

Timely material is presented by the agent over the radio, through circular letters and in news articles relating to these topics.

8. Recreation

The clubs reserve July for recreation. Ten of the clubs held picnics at nearby lakes to which their families and friends were invited. These events were all well attended.

The Oakview Club each year holds a Christmas party in conjunction with their December meeting. Contests are arranged and gifts exchanged.

The Bethel-Phenix Club gave a buffet supper for club members and their families in December. Mrs. R. C. Barvey and Mrs. J. E. Gilliam, recreational leaders, planned games and contests for an evening of fun. This was a very successful and enjoyable evening and was attended 100%

by members and their families.

Members of the Eureka Club recently gave a supper for all who had contributed or helped in any way with building the Community House.

At their November meeting the Eureka H. D. Club members volunteered to serve as hostesses and agreed to open the community house one night a week for games and organized recreation for people in the community. Homemade games and play equipment will be constructed by members of the Eureka Grange.

E. Other Activities

1. Art in Daily Living Chosen as Federation Goal in 1950

As a result of a growing interest in improving their homes and community projects within their areas, the County Federation selected Art in Daily Living as their federation goal.

At their fall planning meeting the Federation set up these goals:

- a. To set up four landscape result demonstrations withing the county, namely, one church, one community house, one old home, one newly built home.
- b. To improve entrances and driveways.

A committe composed of Mrs. George T. Willson, Federation Goal Chairman, Mrs. E. E. Jones, County Federation President, and the H. D. Agent met and worked out other objectives as follows:

- a. A study of the basic art principles. This discussion to be prepared in brief by the Federation Goal Chairman and presented by the club chairman in a 10 minute discussion each month.

- b. Secure the loan of an Art Collection for Home Demonstration Week.
- c. Stimulate more interest in music by organizing community choral groups.
- d. Stimulate interest in dramatics by presenting a local talent performance.

It was suggested that each club choose one, 4 or 5.

Mrs. Willson, the Goal President, gave an interesting discussion on Art at the Eureka and Lebanon Clubs, but it was very evident that the time element would not be sufficient to accomplish the desired objectives in teaching the art principles, so that particular objective was dropped.

In two communities members took part in community sponsored plays, however these were not club projects.

An effort to organize a choral group was made by three interested communities, but they were unable to secure a director, so it seemed advisable to abandon that as a goal.

However, we feel that some very worthwhile things have been accomplished under Federation Goal Activities. Twelve result demonstration projects were set up instead of the 4 originally planned. These are described in detail under Result Demonstrations.

In cooperation with this project, Mr. Albert Beecher, Assistant Horticulturist, has spent $4\frac{1}{2}$ days in the county and has given valuable assistance. In addition to making around home visits he has conducted two group meetings, one each in the Eureka and Wylliestburg communities with an approximate attendance of 60. At these meetings he showed interesting

slides of home ground improvement and discussed the principles of planning.

Local help has also been available through Major John D. Guthrie, who has given at least 3 days assistance in planning 3 home and two community projects.

County wide reports indicate that 34 families have planted shrubs and perennials; 26 have planted trees or removed undesirable ones; 10 have improved driveways; 8 report seeding lawns; 26 improved mail boxes and 7 purchased lawn mowers.

Other Federation Goal Activities include the loan of an Art Collection for Home Demonstration Week. This was displayed at the District Meeting, in the high school library for two days, and in the county library for two weeks. The county librarian, Mrs. Ruth Eggleston made necessary arrangements to secure the loan of the pictures, borrowed them and returned them.

Each club had a demonstration on Selection and Hanging Pictures. One club arranged for a demonstration on Flower Arrangement, one club made a study of the state flower and song, one club program was devoted to a book review in the interest of developing an appreciation for better books.

Wylliesburg and Oakview are particularly interested in Home Ground Improvement. Supplied with illustrative material from the County Extension office, Mrs. Carter Atkins, a leader in the Oakview Club, gave a very interesting discussion on Home Ground Improvement to members of the Oakview Club and also to the Wylliesburg Club during the month open for club choice. Community church improvement projects are being sponsored

by both of these clubs as well as several individual Home Ground Improvement projects.

Club members feel that it will take several years to carry out their plans for their community projects. Interest is still growing in home improvement projects. It was therefore decided to continue the work started which is outlined under the new goal, Home and Community Beautification. This goal was unanimously chosen for 1951.

2. H. D. Club Members Active in Countywide Activities

a. District and State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs

The district meeting was held at Charlotte Court House on May 2 with approximately 100 members from the 12 clubs in the county in attendance. The committees carried out their duties creditably. The 12 clubs cooperated in serving a box lunch to the 600 visitors.

Eight delegates represented the county at the State Federation Meeting and Institute of Rural Affairs. One delegate was sent by the County Federation with all expenses paid. These delegates brought back interesting reports of the meeting.

b. Achievement Day

It was the unanimous wish of the group that Achievement Day be observed again this year with a tour to visit home ground and community improvement projects.

Accordingly, a school bus was loaned by the county school board and eight members filled their cars with delegates and made a 65 mile trip on October 19th. The homes of Mrs. Owen Shock and Mrs. Leslie Ramsey were visited. These represented two entirely different arrangements of well

established plantings and lawn treatments. The Eureka Church and Community House was another stop to inspect the recently completed community house and to observe the development of the plans for driveways, and the newly established lawn. These buildings are treated as a unit and form a very attractive community center. Another stop was made at the Oakview Church and cemetery to observe the improved appearance since removing the woven wire fence, seeding grass and laying off driveways, and at Bethel Church to see the cemetery improvement project there. The noon-day stop was in Midway Community and a visit to the new church, which is a tribute to the efforts of its members. Plans for improving the grounds have been made with the Midway Club as sponsor. After a picnic lunch in the churchyard, the group proceeded to historic Red Hill where a soil conservation demonstration had been held the week before. A visit to Staunton Hill, the home of David K. E. Bruce, completed the tour. The last two stops afforded an opportunity to acquaint the members with two of the historic estates in the county and was, we felt, in keeping with our federation goal.

a. Fairs

Around 10 days were spent in assisting with the Farnville Five County Fair and the Charlotte County Fair.

Mrs. J. S. Marshall of Madisonville and Mrs. E. B. Parsons of Oakview, members of the board of directors of the Farnville Five County Fair gave valuable assistance in collecting and entering exhibits and assisting the judges. Each of these ladies gave around 3 days assisting with the fair. A committee from the Oakview Club acted as hostesses

during one day.

Both the Madisenville and Oakview Clubs entered educational exhibits which won first and second places. Individual exhibitors made a creditable showing.

d. Library

Through the cooperation of the Home Agent and County Librarian around 1800 books were circulated through the library chairman of each of the 12 clubs. Four clubs, Aspen, Saxe, Midway, and Red Oak sponsored book deposit stations where around 50 to 75 books are kept and circulated in communities farthest from the library. These books are exchanged from time to time and are available to any home in the community which desires better reading.

Sixty-five members alone report reading 245 books.

e. Community Houses

The Madison District Community house is under construction. This project has been retarded due to lack of coordination between the three sponsoring groups.

The Red Oak Home Demonstration Club has \$300 in the bank to be used toward the erection of a club house. Several offers of land have been made. It is probable, however, that it will be several years before this project is completed.

Two community houses have been completed and are in regular use. These are Saxe and Eureka. The Grange holds regular meetings there and it is used for Sunday School Classes and for local social affairs.

At their November meeting, H. D. Club members volunteered to serve as hostesses one night each week and to open the house for games and for organized play for the young people in the community.

f. Telephones

The Wylliesburg and Red Oak Community have secured phone service, thereby doubling the number of rural phones in the county.

The Eureka Grange and H. D. Club are uniting their efforts to get phone service, which is expected to be established within the year.

g. Home Unit Demonstrations

There were originally 3 farm and home unit demonstrations in Charlotte County. Of these, Mrs. C. B. Robertson has completed her plans with the exception of some home ground improvements. The agent has given suggestions for shrubbery plantings along the driveway and to screen the back yard.

Mrs. W. V. Purcell was given assistance in selecting paper for her bedrooms. She has also followed instructions for removing paint and refinishing a sideboard.

Mrs. J. S. Marshall plans to paint her house and refinish floors.

h. Result Demonstrations

Result demonstration projects on home ground and community improvement have grown during the year from the 4 originally planned to 12. Ten of the 12 clubs sponsored such a project during the year. They are as follows:

Antioch Church yard, sponsored by Red Oak Club. Trees were removed, yard graded, club paying \$50.00 towards cost. Cement walk laid, drive and parkway gravelled, lawn seeded in grass, plans for shrubbery to be set this fall.

Hebron Church, sponsored by Wylliesburg Club, undesirable trees removed, yard graded, grass seeded, walks laid and driveways built, shrubbery reset.

Lebanon Church, sponsored by Lebanon Club, undesirable trees removed, yard levelled, grass seeded, walk build, parking space and drives laid off.

Saxe Community House, sponsored by Saxe Club, yard graded, drives and parking area laid off, shrubs set.

Eureka Community House and Church, sponsored by Eureka Club - Yard leveled, gullies filled, undesirable trees removed, lawn seeded, drives built and parking area to serve both buildings gravelled. Plans have been made for shrubs to be set at both buildings.

Oakview Churchward and Cemetery, sponsored by Oakview Club - gullies filled, fence removed, parking space planned for, cemetery seeded in grass.

Bethel Church, sponsored by Bethel-Phenix Club - Plans have recently been made for needed improvements.

Midway Church, plans have been made for driveways and parking area, however this had to be delayed until the removal of the old building.

Gullen Club, sponsored the home of Mrs. H. A. Saylor, a newly built home, shrubs, planted, yard seeded to grass, plans for further

improvements have been made.

Oakview Club also sponsored the home of Mrs. Gordon Langford another newly built home. Plans were made for shade trees and shrubbery to be planted.

Eureka sponsored also the home of Mrs. George T. Willson, Coal Chairman. This was an old home from which all trees and shrubbery had been removed. Complete plans were made. A driveway has been built, trees and shrubs set.

The home of Mrs. M. T. Mason, a newly built home, has been chosen and plans made for the necessary plantings. During the past year Mrs. Mason got her lawn established and driveway built. She plans to set some shrubbery this fall.

A survey was made of the Eureka Community. Each home was checked for improvements. Some improvements have been made such as yards levelled, grass sown, and driveways improved.

4. Community Meetings

Five communities hold monthly meetings pertaining to problems of local interest. These meetings are held in local schools. These communities are: Aspen, Bethel, Madisonville, Wyliesburg and Phenix.

Technical assistance on problems pertaining to farming and homemaking is given by representatives of the extension service and vocational agriculture and home economics. The home agent meets with the Aspen and Bethel groups each month and presents timely information through discussions, supplying subject matter bulletins, movies and slides. Around 60 people are reached in this way each month.

1. Radio

Twenty radio programs have been presented over W.F.L.C. in Farnville. H. D. Club members have taken part in 5 of them, 4-H Club members took part in 2 and one was put on entirely by the Federation President.

Timely information is presented dealing both with club activities and with subject matter.

This program was originally participated in by County and Assistant Agents each in turn. Under a recent arrangement the home agent is responsible for one program each week. While this requires considerable time, we feel that it is a valuable means of reaching people other than club members. From comments made here and there it is apparent that our listeners are increasing.

A one day training school for agents in this area was recently conducted by Ted Hyman, Associate Extension Editor. This in addition to the training given by Dr. Frank Jeter at University of Arkansas have proven very helpful.

2. Press

Information relating to home demonstration work and to club activities appear at intervals in the local and state papers. A regular column appears in the Charlotte Gazette, which has a circulation of 1500 copies, and in the Union Star which covers the northern section of the county. Special feature articles are sent to the Farnville Herald which has a coverage of five counties.

The attached copy is typical.

1. Circular Letters

Circular letters covering information of a timely nature are sent to all farm families in the county. These are pertaining to such subjects as pest control, meat curing and matters of county wide interest.

2. Home Visits

In 1950 the home agent travelled 10,344 miles in the discharge of her duties. She visited 109 different homes and made a total of 369 visits in the interest of extension work. These visits were a means of guiding homemakers in solving management problems and those directly related to the home. New skills were learned and practices were taught.

3. Office and Phone Calls

In 1950 the home agent received 55 office and 125 phone calls which were other means of reaching people and of giving specific information on such problems as food preservation, home management and related subjects.

V. 4-H CLUB

A. Project Work

1. So You Want to Sew was carried by 102 girls as a winter project with 96 girls completing the required four articles. Each of these girls outfitted a work box. Each was taught to use a thimble and to do simple hand stitching, and plain stitching on machine. A total of 535 articles was made which included pin cushions, needle cases, headscarves, handkerchiefs, pot holders, aprons and stuffed toys.

Each club had a junior leader and one club had an adult leader who met with them and assisted the agent with the demonstration. Five demonstrations were given. Mothers of club members cooperated in helping

with their project work out of school hours.

2. Clothing I Grooming and Care of Clothing

Forty three high school girls took Clothing I - Grooming with 34 completing. Care of hair, skin, nails, posture, and incidental repairs to clothing were the topics used for demonstrations.

Due to staggering the time for the club meeting in order to have a suitable meeting place accounts for irregular attendance and low percentage of completions.

3. Clothing II - Make and Remake

Twenty girls took Clothing Unit II - Make or Remake. They reported 39 garments made. These girls represent both high school and grade school groups who took clothing as a year around project.

Charlotte County girls won first place in Clothing Achievement and Girls' Dress Revue in the area contest held in Farmville in August. A number of girls entered clothing exhibits at the county and local fairs. Eight girls entered the Girls' Dress Revue at the Farmville Five County Fair with second and third place winners. They also participated in the Dress Revue at the Charlotte County Fair in which 40 girls, all 4-H and Home Economics members, took part.

4. Room Care and Improvement

Sixty two girls took Room Care and Improvement with 55 completing. Five girls carried it as summer projects. These girls personally cared for their individual rooms for periods ranging from 3 to 12 months. They reported 269 jobs completed and 5 articles made. Two members, Martha Stokes Robertson and Bettie Carol Harvey are continuing this as a year

around project. This project has been selected by Senior club members at Drakes Branch and Wyllkesburg for 1950-51.

5. Food Preservation

Forty five girls took canning as a summer project and two took frozen foods. Thirty three girls completed. Their records show 1013 quarts canned alone, 500 pounds prepared for freezing and they assisted with canning and preparation of 4168 quarts of fruit and vegetables.

Through this project girls were taught correct procedures in preparation of foods for canning and for freezing. They learned to select and to judge the quality of the product. This project will be a means of assisting the family in better balanced meals by providing a variety of vegetables and fruits to supplement their diet. Two girls entered the area contest at Farmville and won first on canning and second on frozen foods.

These girls entered exhibits at the county fair, the Farmville Five County Fair, and the Lynchburg Farm Show.

Ann Metcalf does outstanding work in Food Preservation.

Anne Metcalf, a member of the Randolph-Henry High School 4-H Club, has done outstanding work in Food Preservation. She was county winner in Canning this year winning the county medal. She entered the area contest at Farmville in competition with girls from 5 other counties, and placed first, receiving the blue award.

Ann's records show that she canned 150 quarts alone and assisted with canning 500 quarts. She entered exhibits at the County Fair, the

Farmville Five County Fair, the Lynchburg Farm Show and the Sears-Roebuck Contest in Lynchburg, winning many blue ribbons and \$52.00 cash as well as a \$5.00 award on her garden.

During her four years of club membership, Ann has completed 16 projects. She has twice been a Sears-Roebuck Garden Contest member winning a first and a second place. She has taken canning each year.

Ann is a lover of the outdoors and feels that her most successful projects have been her Garden, Canning and Dairy Calf.

Her exhibits at local fairs have won for her many ribbons and a total cash award of \$165.00.

6. Food Preparation

Thirty six girls carried food preparation as a summer project working under the direction of their mothers and local leaders.

The purpose of this project was to teach girls the basic steps in the preparation of vegetables, milk and egg dishes and simple desserts, and how to set the table correctly. At the completion of this project it is hoped that a club member will be able, with the exception of bread, to prepare and serve a simple meal.

There were 3 organized groups of 11 girls who did outstanding work. These girls met regularly in the homes of the leaders.

Records indicate that these girls prepared a total of 572 individual foods and planned and prepared 181 meals, and set the table 1187 times.

These girls are intensely interested in learning to cook. In keeping with this project five clubs selected "Food for Pop" as a winter

project.

Parents and leaders have both given encouraging reports of their interest in the project. Two mothers stated that their little daughters, both under twelve years of age, had taken the responsibility of preparing simple desserts for the family during the summer months.

7. Home Vegetable Garden

Nine girls took Vegetable Gardens as summer projects. Six completed and competed in the Sears-Roebuck awards.

These gardens were visited four times by the home agent and twice by the garden specialist. The purpose of this project was to demonstrate the value of a year around garden to their families, to provide greater variety in meals, to show through records kept, the monetary value of a garden and to teach through actual experience the basic principles in making and caring for a garden.

Records which were kept on the 6 gardens show a value of \$853.10 with a net profit of \$732.31. Prizes in the amount of \$131.75 were won on the gardens themselves and on fresh and canned vegetables exhibits. Lola Childress of Phenix, a member of the Randolph-Henry High School Jr. Club was county and first place sweepstakes garden winner in the Sears-Roebuck Contest with a score of 96.5.

B. Other Activities

1. Fairs and Achievement Day

Thirty eight girls made a total of 184 exhibits at the Charlotte County Fair and Achievement Day and won \$123.25. The garden contestants won \$66.00 in the Sears-Roebuck contest. Figures are not

available on amounts won at the Warville Five County Fair and the Lynchburg Farm Show, as leaders or exhibitors entered their own exhibits and it has been difficult to get a statement of the exact amounts won.

2. State Short Course and Camp

Twenty six girls represented ten of the eleven L-H Clubs at district camp at Holliday Lake the week of June 17-24. A H. D. Club member and a former L-H Club member went as leaders and rendered valuable assistance as instructors in handicraft and as councillors.

Three girls attended Conservation Camp and five members and two All Stars attended State Short Course. Two of the girls, Elisabeth Wilson and Jeanne Crouch, took special instructions in song and game leadership which will be of great help in assisting with recreational programs in the county.

3. Radio

The Keyville L-H Club celebrated L-H Club Week by putting on a program on station W.F.L.C. Twelve members took part on the program.

4. Recreation

Six of the 10 clubs had picnics during May. Keyville and Aspen L-H Clubs had a Valentine party.

The Randolph-Henry Clubs had three parties during the year at which group singing and dancing were the popular forms of entertainment. The last party was given L-H Club members who were in the graduating class by the L-H boys.

Three of the clubs, Charlotte Elementary, Wyliesburg, and Madisonville secured a movie which they showed to make money for their

clubs. This netted them \$49.00.

5. 4-H Club Week

4-H Club Week was observed in Charlotte County with a radio program over W.F.L.C. in which 12 members of the Keysville Club took part.

Through the cooperation of the editors of the Charlotte Gazette, a special 4-H edition was published, featuring pictures and articles relating to outstanding 4-H Club members and leaders. Advertisers recognized 4-H Club work with a complimentary line.

The local merchants cooperated in helping to arrange two window displays, one at Keysville and one at Brakes Branch. The boys' exhibit at Keysville featured tractor maintenance and the girls' displayed clothing, canning and handicraft exhibits. I enclose a picture to illustrate.

6. 4-H County Council

On November 18th, 33 club members, all officers in 12 of the 13 Charlotte County 4-H Clubs, met and organized a County Council.

The County extension personnel, assisted by W. A. Turner, Associate Boys' Club Agent, gave group instructions in officer training.

Following this the members met as a group and elected officers and set up goals for their organization. Goals selected were:

1. Each member to learn the club pledge, song, colors, emblem and motto.
2. Members to strive for 80% completion of projects and records.
3. Members will cooperate 100% in exhibiting at the County Fair and Achievement Day.
4. Each club to select a project, community differences to be considered in the project to be chosen.

VI. OLDER YOUTH

There is no existing organization of Older Youth as such within the county, however there are approximately 30 young women between the ages of 18 and 30 who are active members of the H. D. Clubs throughout the county. Of this number one is vice president of the County Federation, one is president of her club and nine others are project leaders. These young women are interested and enthusiastic and have done a great deal to attract other members to their clubs.

VII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1948	1949	1950
Number Home Demonstration Clubs	12	13	12
Membership	192	254	267
Number L-S Clubs	10	10	11
Membership	179	196	237
Number Older Youth Groups	0	0	0
Membership (in Adult Group)			30

VIII. FUNCTIONS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN 1950 PROGRAM

1. County Board of Agriculture

The County Board of Agriculture and community leader system in Charlotte County is used as a means of reaching all farm families. In 1950 the services rendered by these committeemen and leaders were: taking pertinent information and distributing material within their neighborhood and communities; holding special meetings for educational information and assisting in conducting the monthly community groups in the seven communities organized. Through these means the home demonstration program reached 500 additional families.

2. County Home Demonstration Committee

The Home Demonstration Committee is an overall organization which conducts business and matters relating to the 12 clubs in the county. It is composed of the club presidents, county federation goal chairman and the immediate and past president.

This committee meets twice a year, in the spring and in the fall. At the spring meeting, the calendar of work is reviewed and pertinent changes made; progress is reported on the development of the program; plans are made for Achievement Day; delegates are elected to the State Federation Meeting and incoming Federation officers are elected.

At the fall meeting the calendar is made up, federation goal selected, new presidents are trained, and final plans for Achievement Day are completed and other matters of business are discussed.

3. County 4-H Club Council

No County 4-H Council had existed until November 18th at which

time 33 representatives from 12 of the 13 clubs in the county met, elected officers and set up goals for the year 1950-51. This is described in detail under V - B - Other 4-H Club Activities.

4. County Chapter 4-H All Stars

At present there are five club members who have been taken into the All Stars within the last 3 years. However, all of these boys and girls are attending college except Edward Colley, who is president of his 4-H Club and of the County Council. These boys and girls are willing to serve, but the fact that they are in the county such a short time during the year handicaps their activities.

IX. LEADERSHIP

The four types of leaders in adult work are the club officers, project leaders, Federation Goal Chairmen and community and neighborhood leaders.

There are 36 officers, including the presidents, vice presidents, and secretary-treasurers. The Home Demonstration Committee is an overall organization taking care of the business of the home demonstration clubs in the county. The membership is made up of the club presidents, county federation goal chairman and immediate past president.

This committee met in the spring to check on the progress of the year's program and to begin plans for next year's program, and again in the fall to prepare a calendar of work and to attend to other matters of business.

Background facts were presented to lay a foundation for program planning to be done in the fall. Plans were made for the District Federation

Meeting which was to be held at Charlotte Court House. Committee chairmen were appointed and other matters of business discussed.

At the fall meeting each club reported its requests and the calendar of work was made up. The federation goal was selected, new presidents were trained, plans were made for the Achievement Day Tour, for making United Nations Flags and other business attended to.

The subject matter leaders present subject matter material to the club members. This group is composed of garden and poultry leaders, and librarians.

The project leaders attend subject matter training meetings conducted by extension specialists and by the agent and hold or assist with demonstrations in improved homemaking practices.

There have been 12 leaders' training meetings held during the year with an attendance of 98 as compared with 12 meetings and an attendance of 118 last year.

These leaders have given 36 demonstration alone, 30 without the agent being present. They assisted in giving 38 other demonstrations as compared with 66 last year, 36 at which the agent was not present.

The Oakview H. D. Club prides itself on the fact that the leaders have given nine demonstrations alone, the agent assisted in giving two others. The Eureka and Bethel-Phenix foods leaders have given all of their food demonstrations.

The Bethel-Phenix Club has developed in leadership and increased in membership. Their leaders have given 10 of the 11 demonstrations this year. Their members have increased from 12 to 22.

The foods leaders, Mrs. Charles Berkley and Mrs. Harry Lee Clay, mother and daughter, work as a team, attending the training meetings and giving the demonstrations together. They have contributed a great deal in interest and enthusiasm to the clubs. Their home is a favorite meeting place for social events, as Mrs. Clay is a young peoples leader in the Phenix Presbyterian Church and often gives parties for the teen age group to which her own son and daughter belong.

Their home was the scene of a Christmas party in December to which all club members and their families were invited.

On the night of the party every club member and her family was present except the husband of one member who was ill. Committees planned the buffet supper and an evening of entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. Clay and Mrs. Berkley invited club members and their families for the H. D. Club picnic in July, again the committees did an excellent piece of work and this was a most enjoyable occasion.

<u>Growth of Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership</u>			
	1948	1949	1950
No. Project leaders and goal chairmen	52	65	76
No. Training meetings held	By Specialist	7	12
	By Agent		2
		2	2
Attendance at all training meetings	108	106	98
No. Club meetings held by leaders without agent present	4	36	36
No Club meetings at which leaders assisted	40	30	38

<u>Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
No. Adult project leaders	12	14	21
No. junior project leaders	0	1	9
No. training meetings held			
By Specialist	0	0	0
By Agent	0	2	5
Attendance at leader training meetings	0	3	5
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	15	4	7
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	3	3	12
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	5	9	8
No demonstrations given			
By leaders	8	14	12
By adult	8	12	12
By junior	0	2	0

X ● WORK IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

● 1. County Fair Association

● It is estimated that the county fair reached at least 1200 families. Every school in the county cooperated by sending classroom exhibits. School children attended as a regular school day. Catalogues and publicity captioned, "Charlotte County School and Agricultural Achievement Day", bore evidence of the combined efforts of the two groups working in harmony with each other. The 1400 school children who attended were another means of attracting many parents and friends who were privileged to see their project and school work exhibited.

● We consider this one of the best means of informing the public of what boys and girls are accomplishing in their project work. It is an excellent way to acquaint the public with the program of 4-H work and the quality of the projects carried.

● At least 5 days were spent in making contacts relative to the

county fair and 8 days were spent in working with the Farmville Five County Fair.

2. Southside Electric Cooperative and V.E.P.CO.

Southside Electric Cooperative and V.E.P.CO. have both been very cooperative in furnishing technical assistance when called upon. Representatives of these companies met in conference with the county extension personnel and Associate Extension Electrical Engineer in November to work out a plan for conducting the L-H Electric Project. These companies have offered their services and will rotate in conducting demonstrations in connection with the L-H Electric Project.

3. County Health Department

The County Health Department has always cooperated whole heartedly with the home demonstration club program. They have never failed to answer any call for assistance and are ready and willing to be of service at all times. Miss Frances Barringer, Public Health Nurse, spent one day at Holliday Lake District L-H Camp in June and presented a program on Health Education and Safety. She also prepared an exhibit for the county fair. She has, each year, loaned demonstration material for L-H Club use and has supplied the clubs with bulletins pertaining to health and sanitation.

4. County Tuberculous Association

The home agent has always cooperated with the County Tuberculous Association in securing leaders from among the H. D. Club members in assisting with the mass chest X-ray and in encouraging members to assist with the Seal Sale. Club members respond whole heartedly to this drive.

Two clubs, Madisonville and Bethel bought T. B. Bonds.

The agent prepared and presented a radio program over W.F.L.O. relating to the Stamp Sale and Chest X-ray. A program was also presented at Randolph-Henry High School during the drive.

5. Ruritan and Dairymen's Association

The home agent has contacted key club members and helped them arrange and serve dinners each month to the Ruritans and twice a year to the Dairymen's Association.

6. Library

Through the cooperation of the home agent and the county librarian about 1800 books have been circulated among the home demonstration club members. Four clubs have set up deposit stations of 50 to 80 books each. These are Aspen, Midway, Red Oak and Saxe. Other clubs distribute the books through a club librarian.

7. Vocational Home Economics

The home agent cooperated with the home economic department of the consolidated high school. Facilities of the home economics department are made available for leaders' training meetings on foods, which are always held there.

The agent and teachers cooperate in putting on the County Achievement Day and fair and in exhibiting at the Farmville Five County Fair.

8. County School Board

The county school board cooperates with the home demonstration agent by allowing the use of the High School Auditorium and other facilities

for the District Federation Meeting. A school bus and driver furnished transportation for a large group on Achievement Day.

9. County Red Cross Chapter

Members of the board of the County Red Cross have made their building available for meetings and demonstrations of the County Federation of H. D. Clubs. All of the classes in tailoring were held there. The cooperation of this group is invaluable in holding meetings of this kind.

10. The March of Dimes

Each H. D. Club was asked to participate in the March of Dimes. A chairman was appointed in each club to receive contributions which in turn were forwarded to the county chairman.

11. The Virginia Farm Electrification Council

Approximately two days were spent in securing information for the range field studies in interviews preparatory to conducting these studies and in completing the information requested.

XI. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE YEAR'S WORK

I feel that the club activities carried out under the Federation Goal, Art in Daily Living, have stimulated club members to a desire to improve their own homes. It has also carried over into the communities. As a result plans are being carried out to improve the surrounds of nine churches and community centers.

Visible results, as described under club and individual activities, are evident, and interest seems to be increasing as evidenced by requests from individuals for assistance. I feel that this has been a means

of developing community pride and cooperation as well as increasing the material value of the property.

It has been gratifying to note the interest in home improvement in regards to the installation of bathrooms, water systems and modern electrical equipment. With electricity available to practically every rural family in the county, we find that farmers and homemakers are availing themselves of labor saving equipment as fast as their means will justify. This places upon us, as professional workers a responsibility in conducting an educational program as to the selection and care of this equipment as well as the use.

The continued leadership activity has been gratifying. I feel more keenly than ever the need for well trained leaders as the program becomes more complex. The opportunity afforded me in a study of Uses of Groups in Extension Work, while at the University of Arkansas last summer, helped me to see the part that leaders can play in the development of a community and our obligation as professional people to give leadership a chance to develop.

I have been pleased with the activities of 4-H leaders during the past year. While I realize that the need is in no way met, yet their influence has meant a great deal in improving the quality of the work done in summer projects and I feel that these will be a means of securing others yet, as time goes on.

There were 5 summer groups with 18 members that met regularly with adult leaders. These leaders, who had been previously trained by the agent, gave 12 demonstrations on Food Preservation and Food Preparation,

and held 12 meetings without the agent.

They reported regularly after holding meetings and collected records. This is in comparison to 3 adult leaders in 1949 and 3 meetings without the agent.

Adult leaders for 1950 numbered 21 in comparison to 14 in 1949.

During the agents absence from the county, the leaders trained the girls who were entering the area contest and arranged for their transportation. They also assisted by collecting exhibits for local fairs, taking exhibits to the Lynchburg Farm Show and by taking 4-H garden club members to Lynchburg to receive their awards.

In spite of the fact that two local textile mills recently established within and near the county, have drawn heavily on our active club membership, it is gratifying that new members and leaders have taken their place and that only one club has become inactive as a result. Club membership of the year is 267 in comparison with 254 at the end of 1949.

I feel that the tailoring school was one of the most successful of the year's special activities, one which not only benefitted the members, but which also drew favorable publicity for the extension program.

Of county wide activities, I feel that the committee work in arranging for the District Meeting deserves special mention.

Special mention should also be made of the contribution of the handbook chairmen, Mrs. Carter Atkins of the Oakview Club and Mrs. O. M. Watts of the Eureka Club who edited the County's first handbook.

I feel that the 4-H program has made progress in membership as well as in leadership. It increased in membership from 197 to 237

and in number of clubs from 11 to 13.

Of the five contestants, who entered the area contest, four were first and one second place winners as compared to one second and two third place winners the year before indicated improvement in quality of work and records submitted. In addition a Charlotte County girl won first sweepstakes in Lynchburg area in the Sears Garden Contest.

We feel that the organization of the 4-H Council will do much to strengthen 4-H Club work in the county and that this is another indication of growth of the 4-H organization.

It is evident that the program has reached more people this year than last. The home agent now has a weekly radio program as compared with one every three weeks here to fore. News articles are sent regularly to the three papers that have circulation within the county. Comments from radio listeners and others would indicate that the extension effort has been more far reaching than it has in the past.

In looking back over the year's program I feel that much has been done, yet much remains to be done. With the continued cooperation of local leadership and the council and guidance from extension personnel, I feel that extension work in Charlotte County will make even greater progress during the year that lies ahead.