

REPORT OF HOMEMAKERS' PROJECT - DURHAM COUNTY

April 14, 1936

For the past two weeks the ground has been too wet to plant anything in the gardens, and the Homemakers and their groups have been very busy making useful things for their families and for their homes. We now have 219 gardens started and each family wants to have a large garden, but many of them have no seed or fertilizer.

During the past two weeks, we have bleached a large number of sacks and have made bed spreads, embroidered luncheon sets, croched luncheon sets, towels, pillow cases, underwear, dresses, children coats, rag rugs, buffet sets, pot holders, and a basket.

We now have 485 families -- 345 in the city, 140 in the County. We have 7 Homemakers in the city and 3 in the county.

During the past pay period 445 homes have been visited, 56 demonstrations given, with 360 attending the demonstrations, 50 chairs and 30 sewing screens have been completed. Demonstrations were given in cutting and fitting of garments, sewing screens, putting bottoms in chairs, and bleaching sacks. Instructions were also given in making over old clothes. At each meeting we emphasized the importance of gardens.

April 6 Mrs. Rose E. Bryan, Home Demonstration Agent, gave the Homemakers a Leader School, demonstrating patterns and cutting of materials. April 7 Miss Willie N. Hunter, State Specialist in Clothing, gave a demonstration on cutting and fitting of garments, and the Homemakers were permitted to attend this meeting. April 9 Mr. W.B. Pace, County Farm Agent, gave the Homemakers a garden talk. He emphasized the importance of selecting good seed and plants, of continuous planting during summer and fall. April 9 Mrs. Estelle Nixon, Negro Home Demonstration Agent, gave the Homemakers a Demonstration in putting bottoms on chairs. Miss Bryan gave a demonstration of Home Furnishings and garments made of sacks at Umbra and Lake Michie Clubs. She also gave a lesson in "Spring Styles - Looking Forward" at the Lake Michie Club. Both of these clubs were organized as affiliated members of Home Demonstration Club. The members decided for the present to work as Homemakers Clubs and at the end of the year become regular Home Demonstration Clubs.

Some of the men in our territory have become very much interested in our work. One man has made several sewing screen frames and sent one to each of his children who live out of Durham County, another has made four or five screens and sold them, and since he had so little trouble making the screens he decided to build two garages. He said he never had tried to do that kind of work before he made the screens.

Supervisor has made 56 visits, attended 26 demonstrations, and has driven 260 miles.

Goldie Roberts