

"Now I wasn't satisfied. I wanted to have better chickens than Mama but how was I to do it? Now just listen. The best of luck came to me. Miss Keller, our Home Agent, got Mr. Oliver to come to our school and talk to us about poultry. He told the very things that I had been wanting to know and gave me a new case of chicken fever, and believe me, I was so carried away that I gave Mr. Phillips, our Farm Demonstrator, an order for three settings of pure bred Rhode Island Red eggs at \$2 per setting.

"I selected three gentle hens and had them ready to receive the eggs when they came. I let the eggs set for 48 hours before I put them under these hens. These eggs were as precious as if they were gold and I gave my hens the best of attention and everything went just right until six days before I expected the eggs to hatch. Don't you think a bad little cousin of mine came to our home and scared my old hen off of the nest, threw the eggs on the ground, and broke them! Talking about getting mad, I was so hot it was dangerous for me to go near the fire.

"My other hens hatched 28 chickens out of 30 eggs. Now they were the sweetest little things that you ever saw. I had two of Mr. Oliver's kind of coops with the floor covered with sand ready to receive my chicks. I followed Mr. Oliver's and Mr. Phillips' advice in feeding and caring for my baby chicks. I first fed them mashed boiled eggs, shell and all. They soon learned me and would get in my lap and on my shoulder when I fed them. One died with the roup and one with full crop. The remaining 26 grew almost like magic. I carried a pen of them to Oakboro and New London Community Fairs and they won first prize at each fair.

"Mr. Phillips sold four cockerels at \$1.50 each. This paid for my eggs. I still have 13 pullets and 9 cockerels. They are the pride of our farm and it is a pleasure to care for them.

"My poultry is so much better than Mama's that she wants me to stock the farm.

"May I add that I will soon have a poultry house built and I intend for my poultry to have the best of attention, and I believe they will think enough of their little mistress to send her through school.

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MARKETS

Club women and girls have been successful in marketing poultry, poultry products, butter, canned goods, baskets, rugs, etc. Curb markets for the sale of club products have been opened in Washington and Elizabeth City and are operated each Saturday. In Anson County a commodity exchange was instituted for the benefit of town and country women. 200 women sell products on the open market and 57 sell through the parcel post. Dressed poultry amounting to \$2,119 was sold by post. The fowls were dressed properly for market, wrapped in muslin, and shipped in paper cartons. The rural postman delivered the package to the post-office and in the shortest time possible these perishables were delivered to the purchaser. Fifteen women shipped enough poultry to Raleigh between November 1 and March to bring from \$1200 to \$1500.

Anson club women sold also 4220 pounds of jam to the State College and 5000 cans of vegetables to merchants, reserving 13,000 cans for home use.

Northampton reports one club girl who supplies a millinery store with baby caps and another who bakes bread twice a week and supplies a small village.

Sampson reports the marketing of butter to special customers because of its standard pack and its good quality. "I am trying," says the agent, "to

get the merchants to co-operate with us by referring to me for instruction women who bring poor butter for sale."

The market for canned products has continued good since an early reputation for putting up standard packs was earned by club members. Always the demand for club products is more than the supply and particularly has this been the case in 1921 when drought cut short the vegetables and fruits. Reports show sold from 7 counties 76,156 containers of fruits and vegetables and 1295 quarts of jellies, jams, etc. Seven counties report 2697 quarts of fruit juices, syrups, etc. sold.

The aggregate of 1,251,002 pounds of cured meat, lard, etc., is reported sold and 572,532 pounds of home-made butter has been marketed by club members.

The report of poultry and poultry products sold will be found in the report of the poultry specialist.

BEAUTIFICATION OF THE FARMSTEAD

The beautification of the farmstead has been undertaken as a project in many home demonstration clubs. Directions are given for base plantings after simple plans have been discussed for individual cases. In several instances blue prints of home grounds were furnished by the U. S. Division of Horticulture and Pomological Investigation and in others by landscape designers who were interested in the work. The use of native trees, shrubs, and plants was demonstrated and before blue prints were given the owner of the home agreed to carry out plans and follow directions that his place might serve as a demonstration center for the community.

At club meetings a plant exchange was established at the proper seasons and plants, seed, shrubs, and trees were transferred from one farm to another. The Anson home agent says: "In March I gave lectures on beautifying the home grounds and had each club member bring plants to exchange with her neighbor at meetings. This was carried on for six weeks and I never visited a place that I did not bring back some growing plant or shrub to give to some one who needed it."

The following comes from the agent of Gaston County, a county of a hundred cotton mills:

"All spring we had been talking beautification of premises and growing gardens. As soon as the weather permitted, work began in earnest. Many of the mills furnished seeds and bulbs to any and all of their employees who would plant and take care of them. The local paper carried notes on the subject and as a result more than one weary tourist will remember bright spots along the way. The results were often not in keeping with landscape gardening but at any rate the places looked much better than weeds or bare ground would have looked. In many of the newer mill villages woods dirt had to be carried for more than half a mile before anything could be induced to grow."

FAIRS

A fair can be made the best kind of community school and the demonstration agents have not been slow in grasping this fact. A product properly grown, properly graded, and properly exhibited speaks very loudly in favor of good methods when the judge awards the blue ribbon and publicly explains the reasons. A live demonstration of how to bake in an oil stove gives an added interest to the display of biscuits which have scored because of proper baking and to have a demonstrator actually make a dress