

145
FAIRS

No. community fairs held in North Carolina	126
No. county fairs held in North Carolina.....	36
No. state fairs held in North Carolina.....	1

The home demonstration building at the state fair housed a beautiful exhibit of canned products from each of forty-one counties.

The demonstrations carried on in the building were in nutrition, the preparation of food, jelly making, household conveniences, ^{laundry work} arts and crafts (such as chair bottoming, rug making etc with exhibits of finished products), ^{fruit, milk, dairy work, gardening,} how to standardize products for markets, bee culture and clothing.

The live at home idea was running all through the teaching and when a variety of vegetables from the home garden were shown in one booth how to use them in a well balanced diet was demonstrated in another. The same idea was carried out in the poultry, eggs and butter shown in the poultry and dairy booths and the nutrition booth demonstrated also the food value of these products.

A market stall such as any rural people might organize was equipped and filled with all kind of table produce from the farm. Here the assistance of the division of markets was secured and green vegetables were properly arranged and placed, potatoes and eggs graded, butter put in proper cartons, and standards for all other products shown. Some statistics of successful markets were displayed on placards and two home agents were in the booth to explain and instruct. One woman who made a specialt of her orange marmalade demonstrated the excellence of her product and took orders from the public.

Carrying out the income earning features really beautiful home made rugs of soft colors were shown. Baskets, brooms, charis bottomed with shucks, knitted counterpanes, all made by club women were displayed and

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sold for satisfactory prices.

Teams of girls and boys were brought down to the state fair chaperoned by the home and farm agents and gave demonstrations in poultry judging and proper housing and feeding. These teams gave also demonstrations in seed selection, how to recognize plant diseases and the remedy, stock judging etc. Most of these contests are to be housed in the home demonstration building in 1923.

Twenty-four home agents assisted in carrying out the state fair program. Two to a booth they gave the demonstrations to big audiences each day and did much to advertise home demonstration work and what it might be worth to a county.

COMMUNITY FAIRS

One of the district agents says, "When it comes to arousing community interest and pride there is nothing which will accomplish this more thoroughly than the community fair." At these fairs all of the judging is done in the open. The people are interested in knowing why decisions are made; and as only women trained in judging are asked to act, it is not hard to give reasons. Score cards are used in all judging and as the poorer products are eliminated the audience gathers close to note the scoring from point to point. A clear explanation never fails to satisfy many an exhibitor goes back with a knowledge that brings her to the fair a prize winner next year.

The following comes from the Rowan home agent "The organization of community fairs began with a Fair Association which was composed of one man and one woman from each township. This association met four times, drew up a set of rules, divided the county up into fair districts, and decided upon locations for four community fairs. The people of these communities met and organized, worked out details, raised funds and put on very successful fairs. The exhibits were very good, both as to variety.