

IV. OUTLOOK AND MAJOR CHANGES OR ADJUSTMENTS THAT ARE DESIRABLE FOR NEXT YEAR, BASED ON THIS YEAR'S EXPERIENCE.

The outlook for home demonstration work in North Carolina for the year 1955 is good despite the fact that it looks like we will be constantly tortured by not being able to find trained personnel. Our county vacancies are made by home agents who are resigning for marriage or to have a family. The major portion of district agents' time has been spent looking for personnel, hence little time is left for training and guiding the program. But inspite of all these headaches, we do not aplogize for home demonstration work in North Carolina.

Volunteer Leaders. Our 27,871 volunteer leaders have been and will continue to be a great strength in their communities and counties in sharing the responsibility of giving many programs. In 75% of the counties, local volunteer leaders will hold every other home demonstration meeting. These leaders have and will continue to extend their services in many other ways. They will work with individual families, with other organizations. They are fitted to help health departments, PTA's, community development activities, safety and defense programs, etc. Local leaders are Extension's greatest asset.

Analyzing Necessary. Not only is it desirable in 1955 but for every year there is a need to analyze programs and planned demonstrations for soundness and importante to people. More and more

we must limit as well as discipline ourselves and our work to only the most important programs that we can reasonably expect to do well. It's easy for Extension workers to over plan and say "yes" too often.

Long Range Planning. Another major adjustment that will be made in 1955 is in making five-to-ten-year county plans of work. Necessary adjustments will be made each year as problems are solved and goals and objectives are reached.

Based on years of experience and observation, I know that it is easy when program planning time comes around for the agents to plan more than any one, two, or three agents can do even with the help of cooperative volunteer leaders. There are two or three major changes or desirable adjustments that we will make this year doing a better job in program planning. A series of two-day workshops will be held in all six supervisory districts by Mrs. Jewell G. Fessenden, Analyst in the Division of Extension Research and Training of the Extension Service, U. S. D. A.

Protect Specialists. Of necessity, specialists will have to spend more time in study if they are to render their greatest service and give up-to-date and useful help to agents and leaders.

The impact of TV, the array of new textiles, home equipment, use and upkeep of refrigerators, washers, dryers, home freezers to say nothing of how to buy wisely many, many household needs is having a demoralizing effect on the specialists.

Just how soon we can take the pressure of field work off the specialists we don't know but we are confident that a way must be found or else we will end in defeated effort.

TV Impact. Just how long our State and county home demonstration staff can stand up under the impact of TV only time can tell. Just what adjustment can or will be made no one can predict as yet. This we know. An adjustment will have to be made. Perhaps we'll have to change our pattern of work. We'll see what the people have to say a little later on.

We know that we must continue placing a high value on the following:

- a. Food production, food conservation, food preparation and health.
- b. Adequate shelter -- furnishings and management.
- c. Clothing.
- d. Family economics and money management -- wise buying in every area of home.
- e. Family life. We must and will continue trying to train homemakers for greater competence in the above fundamental areas of work.

Farm and Home Development. Extension's new approach to helping farm families help themselves to a better way of life has fallen into our stride and all necessary personnel adjustments have been well met. Miss Pauline E. Gordon, specialist in Housing and House Furnishings, was made coordinator of the home phase of the program.