

The community fair is increasing in popularity and is proving to be a valuable teaching agency in this State. Last year 43 home agents sent exhibits to the State Fair and the exhibits made by the division proved to be one of the popular features.

In encampments, the home agents held 25 for the boys and girls and four for women. The encampment for club women was a new feature that will be encouraged because of the success attending the four held last year. It is felt that the club encampments have done more for the young people in a county than anything that has been done by the agents. The boys and girls attending these encampments receive a certain amount of instruction and enjoy a whole lot of play. Such training does much to mould character, develop initiative and train for leadership. A definite schedule of work and play is carried out at each encampment.

In addition to these set activities, the home agents have also devoted much time and energy to attending picnics and other rural activities about over the counties. They have succeeded in reaching the great mass of farm women of North Carolina, and the results are being shown in better homes wherever their influence has reached.

Since there are only six home demonstration agents at work with negro women, practically all of the statistics given for this work are included in the report given for the white agents.

BOYS' AGRICULTURAL CLUBS

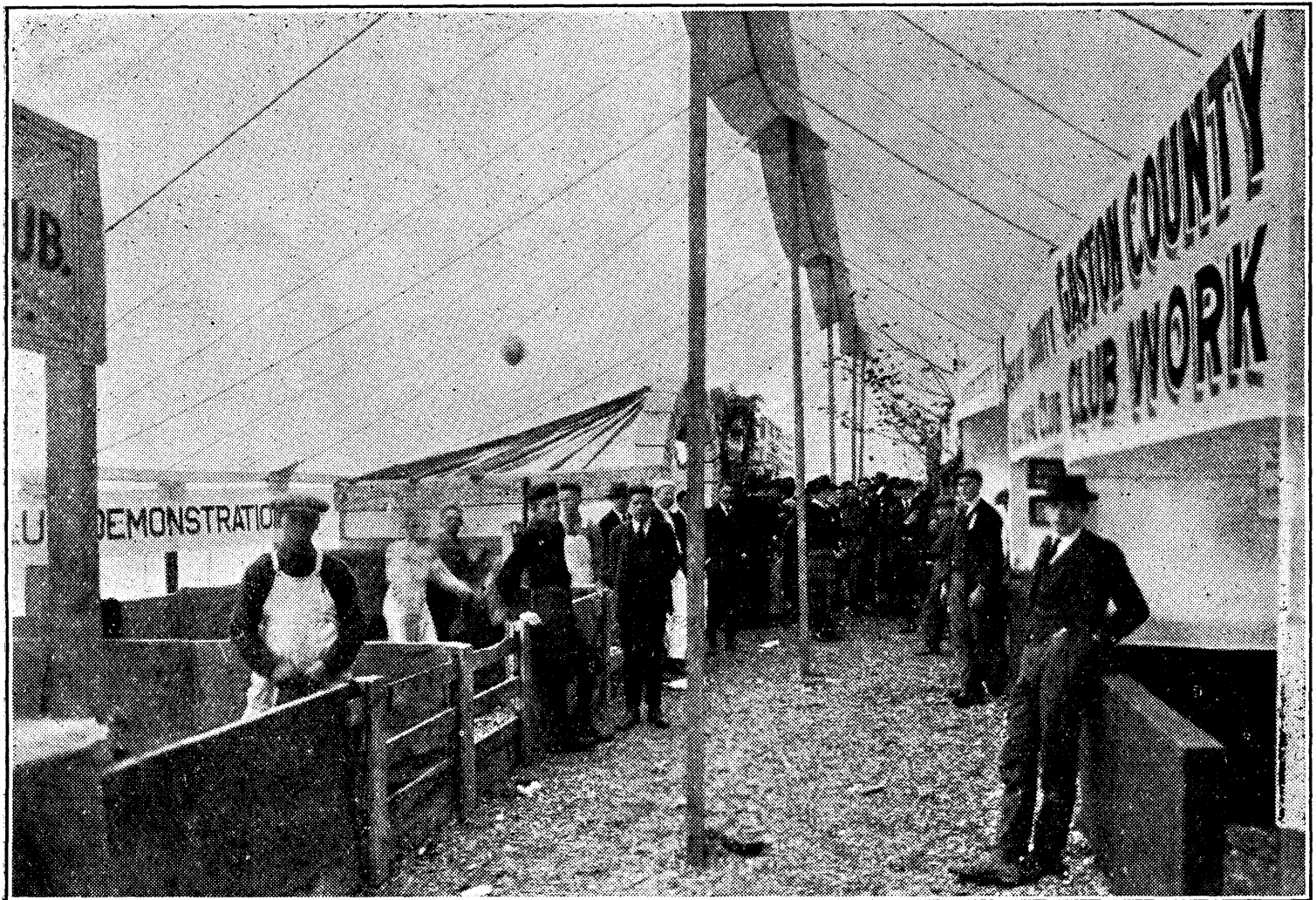
Sixty of the 78 county and assistant county agents report club activities as a part of their program of work during the year. This work with the young people is a definite part of the county agent's duties. The boys and girls of a community are organized in the same club and the work generally is conducted jointly by the home and farm agents, the agricultural work being handled by the farm agents and the home economics work handled by the home agents. No club work is attempted in counties which do not have agents employed.

Records show that there were a total of 792 club members enrolled in crop work such as corn, small grain, cotton, Irish potatoes, and other crops, and that 448 of these members completed the work. In livestock clubs, including activities with dairy and beef cattle, swine, sheep and poultry, there were 2,012 club members enrolled, with 1,077 completing their work and making a report. This is a grand total in organized agricultural club work of 2,804 members, with 1,525 completing. Poultry continued to lead in numbers and in popularity.

In crop clubs, probably best results were secured in cotton. This work was stimulated by an offer of \$750 in cash from the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce. Nearly all of the boys made good average yields, and one boy, Robert Johnson, of Four Oaks, produced over 1,000 pounds of lint cotton on an acre. Claud Sigmon, of Newton, produced more than 1,100 pounds of lint cotton on one acre. This yield is the highest except one so far reported by a cotton club member in the entire South.

With Irish potatoes, the club boys and girls reported an average yield of 163.3 bushels per acre.

In the livestock clubs, work with dairy calves is growing in popularity and importance. Business men and breeders have given encouragement to this work and are helping to finance it. The work began in Catawba County in 1921 and has since spread to other counties. The beef cattle club work was especially popular in the mountain section of the State, particularly in Buncombe County. In poultry club work, the members of the boys' and girls' organized clubs in a single county won a total net profit of more than \$1,200 in premiums for birds exhibited from their flocks. Five poultry club members won premiums at the Madison Square Garden poultry show last year.



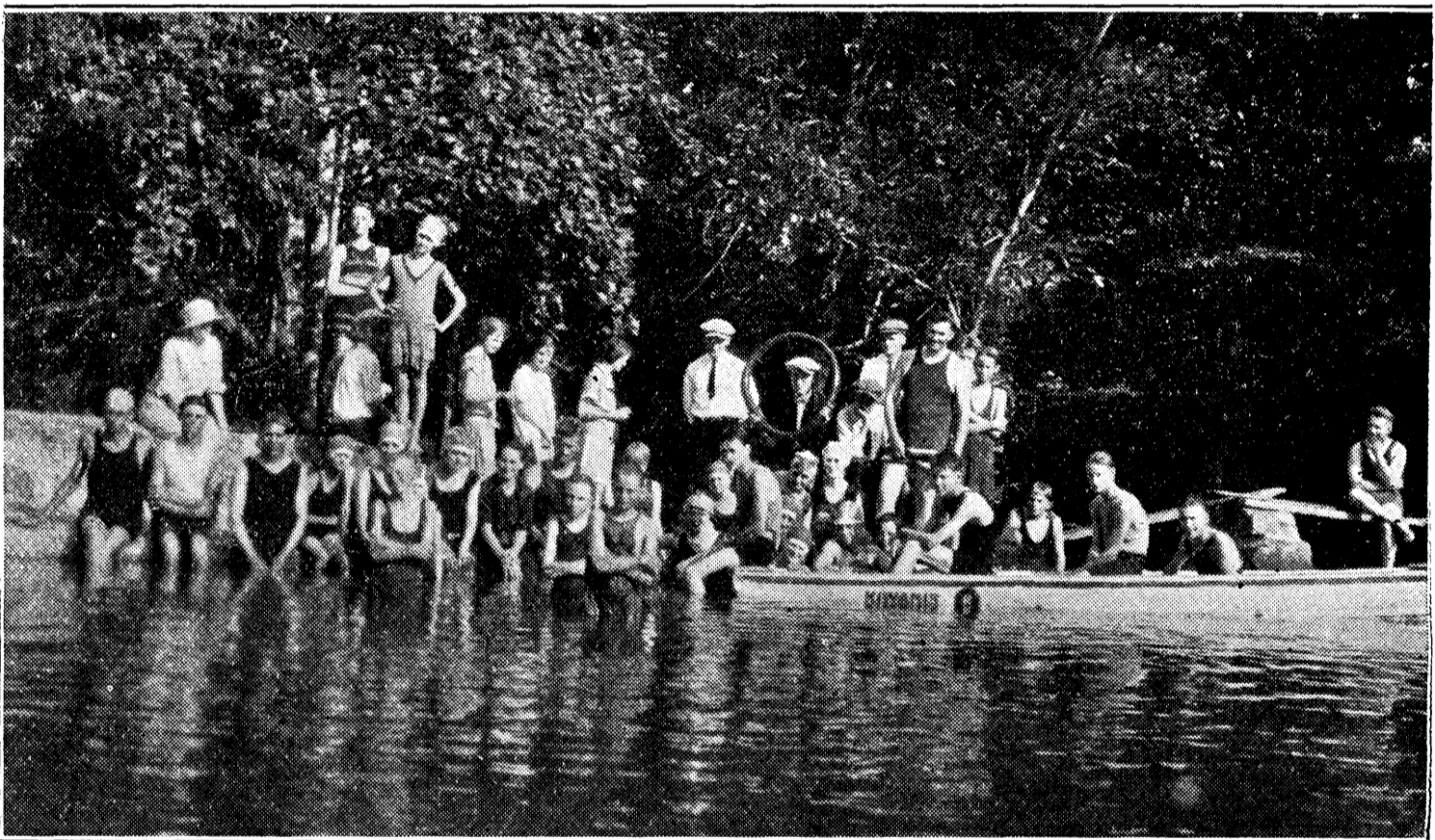
Club boys prove their training at the North Carolina State Fair.

Club members are enrolled usually between December 1 and March 1. Where as many as ten members in the same community apply for membership, they are called together by the agent for a meeting and regular officers elected. Generally one adult leader is appointed for each group. The agents find that in addition to attending the regular meetings of the organized clubs, they must also make personal visits to the club members.

Club encampments and tours are becoming increasingly popular among the club members. During the year, 3,090 club members from 33 counties attended such encampments. These were held jointly for boys and girls, with a program planned in advance, with some joint work for both groups. As a rule, the encampments last for four days and three nights. The encampment is one of the biggest social and educational features in agricultural club work. The vacation, the change and the inspiration which a

week away from home under good environment and in close touch with able instructors gives the average country boy and girl a new opportunity and a new viewpoint.

The club members have been aided in their work by making exhibits at fairs and taking part in demonstrations and contests sponsored by the fairs. The agricultural club contests held in connection with the State Fair last year were one of the popular features of this event. The leading club members were selected by the county agent under an elimination plan, after which district contests were held and the winning teams sent to the State Fair to compete for State prizes. The boys were entertained by the college during their stay in Raleigh.



It is not all work at the club encampments. This is a view of an encampment held in Vance County last summer.

Negro Boys' Club Work.—Among the Negroes, the records show that 178 well organized clubs carried on extension work under the direction of the negro local agents. Of these, 124 were for boys and had a membership of 2,518 boys. Of that number, 1,557 completed the work. The records show that there are 61 negro boys who have been in this junior club work for four or more years. The negro agents trained 11 judging or demonstration teams and were the cause of 215 former club members entering college during the year. Five club encampments were held for negro boys and girls, at which there were 143 boys and 190 girls.

In crop clubs, 335 boys were enrolled in corn club work and 189 completed their work and made reports; 642 grew wheat as a project, with 529 completing. There were also a few negro boys enrolled in soybean clubs and in peanuts and velvet beans; 31 members grew Irish potatoes; 24, sweet potatoes; 158 grew cotton, and 20 grew tobacco.