

Farm Woman Is To Play A Large Part In The Future Of American Farm System
(Continued from page one)

to the humblest farm homes with simple demonstrations of how to do the things that meant more comfortable living and better food and eager women and girls filled the meeting places in every organized county.

They learned how to garden and can; they became conscious of what constituted unsanitary conditions and improved their homes; they saved time by inducing their husbands to bring the pump into the kitchen and installed home-made sinks; they raised the height of their work tables and other equipment, and made convenient work shops for themselves and they even learned to cut, fit and make their own dresses. "Really," said Mrs. Nash of Franklin County, an enthusiastic club member, "we have to eat and wear before we do anything else and I want to learn to cook and make my clothes first." It was the nutritive value of the vegetables and other food which they were producing and how to cook them that engaged most of the housewife's time. The whole family was better fed when women added good cooking to their skills and could tickle the palates of the family by better methods of food preparation, and the home agent was a busy instructor.

Although 1912-14-16 and on through 1920-1940, farm women and girls gathered in ever-increasing community groups at regular monthly periods for home making instruction which was given in simple understandable demonstrations.

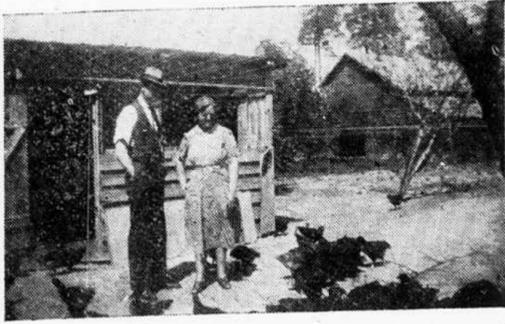
"You may doubt what you hear, you may even doubt what you see," said Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, founder of Home Demonstration Work, "but you cannot doubt what you hear, see, and are permitted to do for yourself."

And so it came to pass that the woman on the farm began to learn that not all the wealth of the farm was in the so-called cash crops; much of it lay in a planned food supply from the garden, poultry flock, dairy, meat animals, fruits, and cereals which would sustain the family in its food needs and much was to be found in her newly acquired skills and in her ability to use material that was at hand.

TENANTS INTERESTED
From the first, wife and daughter of the tenant farmer came to the club with the wife of the farm owner and today a recent study made by the Division of Home Demonstration Work in 69 counties shows that 63.2 percent of home demonstration club members come from land-owner families; 23.7 percent from tenant families and 13.1 percent from families in small villages, farm neighborhoods, or are serving the farm community in some way.

It is interesting to see the percentage of tenants to land owners and farm women leaders and home agents report assisting in addition about half as many

AN ENERGETIC FARM WOMAN



OF THIS COUNTY—One of the most energetic farm women of Columbus county is Mrs. H. H. Bullock, of Chadbourn, shown here with a part of her flock of 500 chickens. She recently sold 197 chickens 18 weeks old weighing an average of 2 1/4 pounds each, winning a second prize in a State-wide contest for poultry raising. The man in the picture is C. D. Raper, assistant farm agent.

land that should feed those who dwell upon it she saw the need for cows on every farm and joining with the Extension Dairy Division bent her efforts toward getting the farm family to select enough cows to have one fresh at all times. This was not an easy thing to do. A garden was within the reach of most farmers, and Extension agents were prepared to get response in acreage planted; the poultry flock brought in such profitable returns that it too proved not too difficult of attainment but the investment for a family cow involved an amount of money which bade the farmer pause before he made the purchase.

To inform him that milk and butter would promote the health of his family was not enough to make him invest in a cow or his wife agree to take on the extra work of milking, making butter, and other things incident upon it. They had heard all that before and both the farmer and his wife had to be shown how milk products might be turned into cash and more comforts for the home before they felt they could adventure, and plans had to be made for some kind of a market.

CREATING A FARM FAMILY ENTERPRISE
The 4-H club girl had very generally gone into poultry work along with her gardening and canning, and the family poultry flock began to prove itself an income earner, as well as an excellent source of protein food for well planned meals.

From the first, Extension poultrymen were a tower of strength to both daughters and their mothers on the farm because they came to club meetings to instruct in poultry production, and today many farm families are looking to dressed poultry for a goodly part of their living. Through excellent instruction, women as well as 4-H girls and boys were able to compete with producers who had been much longer in the

HOME AGENT SEES THE NEED
From the home agent's first experience with malnutrition in a

business and today poultry ranks as the biggest single income producer on the North Carolina organized farm women's markets.

There are two types of marketing done by organized farm women, and together they brought a gross income of \$749,925—nearly three quarters of a million dollars to farm homes in 1939.

The first type production and organized selling to merchants, institutions and individuals through shipment or personal sales grew rapidly and is growing steadily today in many North Carolina counties—last year's sales amounting to \$371,978.00.

Anson County women serve as a good example of what following instruction for standards through the years with women, men, and home and farm agents have done when they can find in such a report as I received January first 1939 showing that 9,000 turkeys from one county, all of one breed, killed and dressed by one approved method and packed for shipping by farm women, brought \$27,000 to producers in the county during the Thanksgiving and Christmas sales alone.

This type of marketing is possible with a variety of products in almost any county but it needs just the thought, good planning, and hard work that Rosalind Redfern and James Cameron, home and farm agents, gave to it in Anson to make it succeed elsewhere.

The records of C. F. Parrish, Extension Poultryman, State College, seem to show that poultry production is on its way. "There are today," says Mr. Parrish, "101,936 North Carolina farm families which have a year-round poultry supply for the table and the value of poultry, eggs, and turkey marketed with the assistance of the county agents, home agents, and Negro agents, through organized groups of farmers and farm women amounted to \$1,322,182 in 1939. A big percentage of the small home flocks are cared for by women and certainly what has already been done shows that women can do the selling for a high class market in any county."

THE FARM WOMAN'S HOME DEMONSTRATION MARKET

The second type of marketing—the farm woman's home demonstration market in 44 county seats of North Carolina furnished \$377,947 or a little more than half of the total marketing sales, with poultry and eggs heading the list, vegetables coming next and home-made cakes, meat, butter and home grown flowers following. Fruit, berries, canned products, handicrafts and other miscellaneous things rounded out the list. Home demonstration markets are all housed in towns large enough to insure good patronage and are so well thought of as a means of producing good feeling between town and county that women have little trouble in securing the backing of citizens and commissioners when a market building is being considered. Only farm women are permitted to sell and all products must be home grown or home made.

A market committee composed of sellers and at least one buyer governs the conduct of the market and a manager is elected from the selling group.

A SOCIAL MARKET
The woman's market is a social as well as an economical institution and women who sell and women who buy have come to value the friends they make on market days almost as much as the money values they receive.

No one of the 2,012 women now selling wishes to be a merchant with an every day market to attend—they are just housewives setting aside one or two mornings a week to do their part in bringing in an income and if they do not sell what they take to the market it is easy enough to bring the left overs back and serve them on the family table.

The five to twenty-five dollars per market day which a woman brings home with her makes all the difference in the comfort and appearance of her home but it takes that woman's presence and what she has to give in addition to cash to make a real home and few women wish to change the type of marketing which gives them time to be both an income earner and a home maker.

SELLERS
Sometimes the too economic economist would have one or two sellers make the sales for their neighbors thus relieving many of the 2,000 curb marketers of the need for attending each market day. But what then would become of all the fine social intercourse and the refreshment from the pleasant outing to be had each week while goods are being exchanged for cash. Why, too, should not more instead of fewer wives learn something of business procedure and marketing stand-

ards which enables them to be helpful to their farmer husband in suggesting the type of foods the buying public desires.

The main thing, I believe, in the marketing enterprise is that it is already pointing the way to more farm families for the disposal of small farm surpluses and that means a wide open road to a live-at-home program.

SHOWING INITIATIVE

What I am trying to show is that there is something happening on the North Carolina farm that manifests initiative resulting in a higher standard of living and it is coming about everywhere. Not with trumpeting and it doesn't involve everybody, but it is plainly to be seen in the homes of the poor as well as the homes of the well-to-do-farmer if one looks with the seeing eye.

You can recognize it as you travel over the county roads; the mended fences, the little home with base planting, the hog pen moved to the rear, the beginning of an out-door living room with home made seats, and tables, and sometimes newly painted buildings. There is, too, concrete evidence of emerging beauty in the long time planting plans of the larger places where neighbor helps neighbor through fall and spring exchanges of plant material and the community plans its clean-up campaigns to make a desirable neighborhood.

Conservation Of Tobacco Soils Is Major Problem

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Lee pointed out that the use of rotations with tobacco is often a "touchy" subject. "However," he adds, "tobacco, small grain and redtop grass makes a very satisfactory rotation with good control over a major portion of the period, and with no adverse effect on the tobacco plant. Rotated strips of tobacco and close-growing vegetation, such as rye

W.P.A. Executive: "If we don't figure out a way to spend one hundred and twenty million dollars, we lose our jobs."

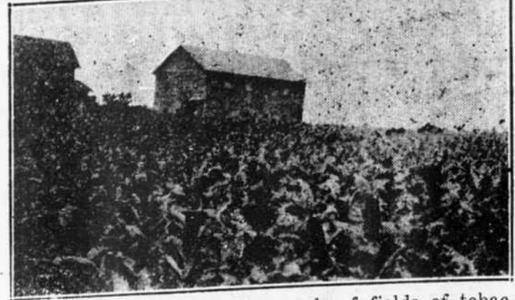
Secretary: "How about a bridge over the Mississippi—lengthwise?"

Prodigal: "Father, I've a notion to settle down and go in for raising chickens."

Father: "Better try owls. The hours will suit you better."

"By whom?" asked the man who was told that his wife was outspoken.

FINE TOBACCO FIELD



GREEN TOBACCO—Thousands of fields of tobacco such as this one were to be found in Columbus county during the past two months. Most such fields now have been stripped of the leaf.

grass and small grain, may be with requirements show the same differences," Goodman declared.

"This raises a number of pertinent questions. We have already seen how requirements can be met by growing more grain, and raising more cattle, milk cows, swine, chickens, and sheep. "But here is another way: Increase the yields per unit. On the basis of farm demonstrations conducted with county agents, it has been shown conclusively that if all farmers used improved practices the production of eggs by the present number of chick-

ens could be increased from million dozens of eggs to 47 million dozens, which would be more than enough to meet requirements.

WITHOUT INCREASE IN ACREAGE
"In like manner, without increasing the number of birds or the acreage of crops, we may increase production of meat from 354 to 635 million pounds, from 163 to 286 million gallons of corn from 46 to 73 million bushels, wheat from 5 to 9 million bushels, potatoes from 17 to 20 million bushels, and hay from 6 to 8 million tons to one-and-a-quarter million tons.

"These are out challenges, should every farmer in North Carolina be handled according to these recommendations, I believe a standard of living would be attained in this State higher and more satisfactory than its people have ever known before. The farm supply and would have more money than they have had in the past", Goodman concluded. A copy of the publication which these recommendations made is available free to interested citizens of the State who write to the Agricultural Extension at State College, Raleigh, Extension Circular No. 248.

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JACK GARRETT, Asst. Mgr.
LEO H. LOFTIS, Auctioneer

BIG 5 WAREHOUSE

Market Report

Cage Yarboro, of Big 5 Warehouse, Fairmont, returned Saturday from a visit to the Georgia Tobacco Markets.

PRICES SATISFACTORY

The prices were very satisfactory, and in most cases tobacco growers were pleased with their sales. The quality of the Ga. tobacco was found to be very good . . . All tobacco companies were on the market, buying their usual grades.



I have not been able to see all of my friends as much as I would like to, but I hope to see you at Big 5 Warehouse, in Fairmont, with your first load.

THE BIG 5 WAREHOUSE WILL BE OPENED TO RECEIVE TOBACCO THURSDAY, AUG. 15

Big 5 Warehouse

Fairmont, N. C. **CAGE YARBORO, Prop.**