

GIRLS' 4-H CLUB WORK IN TEXAS



Issued by
The Extension Service
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and
The United States Department of Agriculture
H. H. Williamson, Director, College Station, Texas

Girls' 4-H Club Work In Texas

By Onah Jacks, State Girls' Club Agent

Thousands of Texas 4-H club girls are paying their way at home by providing for the family table "garden fresh" vegetables, poultry and eggs and fresh fruit. They have row on row of neatly labeled tin cans and shiny glass jars of food put away carefully against the day when the fresh supply is low or inconvenient to serve. With these organized pantries and the meal plans and tested recipes that 4-H club girls have arranged, company dinner can be prepared on short notice and everyday meals are good, even on wash days.

Clothing and good grooming claim the interest of every girl though not all 4-H club girls are developing clothing demonstrations. Many of them take over the responsibility not only of their own clothing problems but also of planning, selecting and caring for the clothing of the family.

Through home improvement demonstrations 4-H club girls add comfort to their homes with good bedding, lightweight covers, restful wall and floor finishes, good lights, screens, cool grassy lawns and shade trees; time is stretched with orderly study, reading, and writing centers for themselves and others in the family and by efficient storage of food and clothing.

Fun comes in for its inning through adding to the recreation equipment of the home, improving the house and yard so entertaining friends is easy, making new friends and learning to get along well with people.

In these and other ways over 30,000 Texas 4-H club girls in more than 1,700 clubs are adding to the measure of health, security and happiness of their families.

There is Planning

Doris Ann O'Donnel, bedroom demonstrator, Burnet county, is studying and planning her work with the help of her sister, Eleanor, and the county home demonstration agent.



Study

Blanche Fuchs, Travis county, is learning how to prune shrubs.



Work

Helen Bowen, Falls county, is using scrap lumber and old car springs in making an upholstered chair.





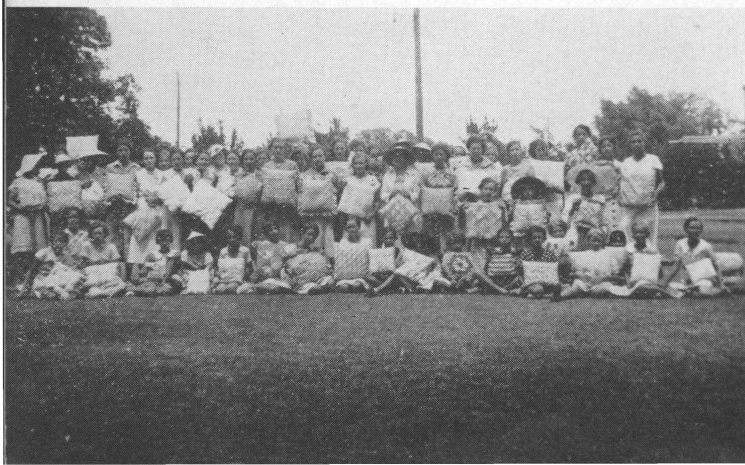
Louise Held, Jefferson county, had her aunt's help in mattress making.

There are Difficulties



Starrville 4-H club girls of Smith county made quilts.

but Encouragement



Brown county girls made pillows.

It looks like "three-deep" in Smith county.



A Little Fun Makes Healthier and Happier Girls

The girls of the Shady Grove 4-H club in Nacogdoches county picnic together after a regular meeting.





Then Comes Achievement

Celia Garcia, Brooks county, is proud of the 4-H pantry she has made for her family.



Nina Ruth Higdon, Cameron county, is a poultry demonstrator.

The family and friends gather to inspect and approve the yard demonstration at the home of Mrs. Chas. Lampert, Wharton county.



Laura Oehler, 4-H club girl of Kerr county, is sure that her family has balanced meals. The menu for dinner includes sausage, beets, beans, peaches for dessert, and pickles for relish.



One Gains Confidence by Performing Simple Tasks

Five Oehler sisters, Kerr county, enjoy working together in their cooperative garden.



GIRLS' 4-H CLUB WORK is a part of a great national plan for improvement of American agriculture and home life. It belongs to the home demonstration division of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics, established by the Smith-Lever Law of 1914, and further provided for in the Capper Ketcham Act of 1928 and the Jones-Bankhead Law of 1935. The purpose of Extension work with men, women, boys and girls is to aid in diffusing among the people useful and practical information on subjects related to agriculture and home economics and to encourage the immediate use of that information. Girls' 4-H club work, being a part of Extension work should be so related to the work with women, men, and boys that it reinforces the whole Extension program in the community and county. The United States Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the county cooperate in financing the work.

The name "4-H" was developed along with the four-leaf clover symbol to represent the development of "head, hand, heart, and health."

County home demonstration agents, representing the Extension Service of A. and M. College have direct supervision of the work in the county. Girls between ten and twenty years of age, living in the country or in a town of less than 2,500 in counties having home demonstration agents, are eligible to do girls' 4-H club work. Usually a club of ten or more girls is organized in the general manner of any other organization. A woman in the community agrees to be a sponsor for the club, meeting with them, and helping in whatever ways seem necessary and best to promote the purposes of the club, always being careful to develop and not suppress the initiative of the girls. The particular activities vary with the county, though all clubs in a given county carry out the county-wide program of work. This program of work is decided upon by the agent, with the advice of the sponsors of the clubs, or the county home demonstration council, or sometimes of a county organization of the girls themselves. According to the plans made by the home demonstration division of the A. and M. College of Texas, each county doing girls' work

concentrates on two phases of subject matter or two demonstrations per year. One of these demonstrations must be some phase of food production, either gardening, raising poultry, or making an orchard—and preserving and serving the products grown. The other demonstration may be either yard improvement, clothing, or interior home improvement. Each club has two demonstrators, one to demonstrate each phase of work carried. The county home demonstration agent helps these two girls individually to plan and develop their work to such a point that their accomplishments afford proper examples for the other girls in the club to follow. The other club members are spoken of as cooperators.

The agent helps cooperators in a group at the club meetings—not individually as she does the demonstrators. They attempt to carry out each year in their own homes some part of the work outlined for the demonstration; they keep up with the work of the demonstrator as nearly as they can, so that at the end of two or three years, each cooperator has established the essentials of the demonstration in her home. As the demonstrator establishes her demonstration she is really a teacher for the rest of the club, teaching them to make in their own homes the kinds of improvement she has made with the agent's help. Through the club and its various activities the demonstrator spreads the information she has learned in her demonstration and she encourages other girls to apply the same information in their homes.

Girls' 4-H club work is a means of learning by doing. Its purpose is not merely to teach something but to help somebody to do something useful. It is meant not simply to help the individual but by helping the individual to help the whole club—the whole community.

While the purpose of girls' 4-H club work is to help people learn and use practical information related to agriculture and home economics the ultimate result of successful 4-H club work is the development of girls who are happy individuals, sympathetic and capable home members and worthy citizens.



Corn and grapejuice pay cash to Wionona Schultz, Bastrop county, who has standardized these products for market.

*There is Satisfaction
in Work Well Done*



Orchard work in the springtime means more to Vera Mae Schauer of Harris county now that she has an orchard of her own.

Lucile Wessels of Cameron county, tells her club members to dust the hens before setting them and thereby save the little chicks.



Helping and Working With Others

On the fourth of July 4-H girls of Kerr county joined the parade to show some of the things they are learning.



Develops a Cooperative Spirit

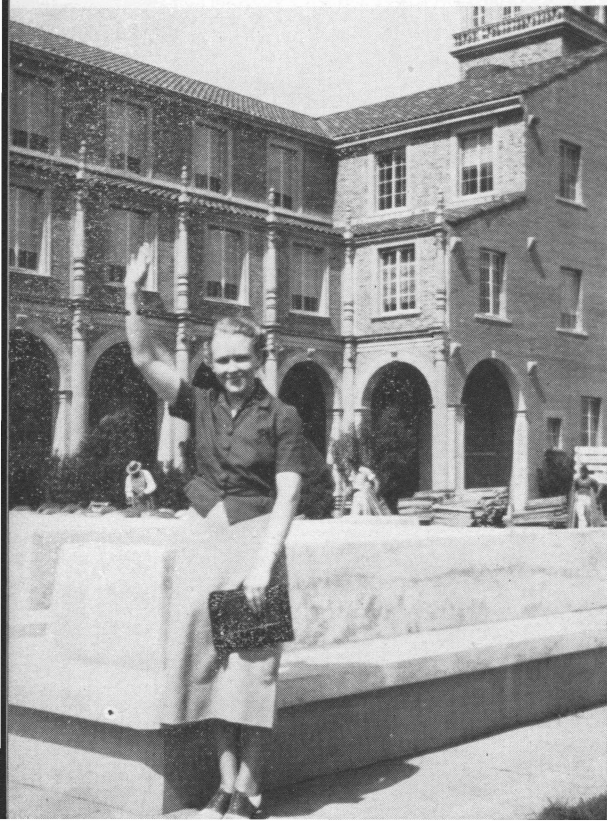
Some of the canning judges at the Tom Green county 4-H girls club encampment got together.





Helen Johnson and Kathryn Shaw, Parker county, were chosen as a committee to write the club history. Here they are at work.

Successful 4-H Club Work Makes Happy Individuals



Louise Weil, Hale county, student at Texas Technological College, Lubbock, was the 1936 winner of the Texas home demonstration association college scholarship.

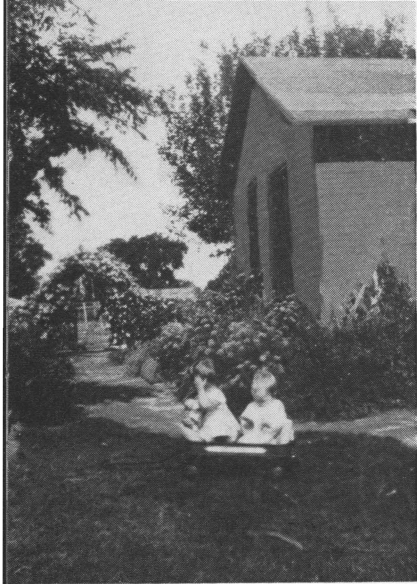
Bowie county 4-H club girls celebrate the occasion of finishing their dresses.



Celebrations Crown Achievements

Winona Schultz, Bastrop county, an outstanding 4-H club girl, was called to Chicago to discuss her demonstration over NBC. Walter Britton of Groom, Carson county, was the club boy who was asked to broadcast with her. Their county agricultural and home demonstration agents accompanied them.



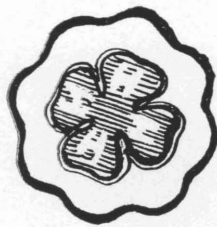


The two babies of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stauffer beside their home in Wheeler county. The landscaped yard shows that much work has been done to beautify their home.

A Capable Home Member is a Useful Citizen

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stauffer and one of their children are shown below. Mrs. Stauffer, formerly Edith Reneau, the 4-H club winner of the 1927 trip to the National Camp at Washington, D. C., now has a home and this fine family pictured on the page, and is active in home demonstration work.





Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating.
Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.
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