

# Rural Homemakers Plan Programs

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## Leaders Decide on Extension Work To Be Undertaken During the Year

By Jean M. Stewart

What are some of the homemaking problems in your home, in the homes of your community? Would you like help with some of these problems? Are there some of these problems you would like to talk over with your neighbors?

These and similar questions were asked and answered in group meetings in most of the agricultural communities of Arizona this fall. The rural women of Arizona were busy planning the 1950 home demonstration program, which will be adapted locally and carried out in all community groups wishing to take part in the county home demonstration extension program.

### Consider Problems

The problems and interests expressed in these local group meetings were summarized by the club officers and presented by them at a county home demonstration program-planning day. Here they were pooled and thoroughly discussed. Finally a few emerged as recommendations for consideration for the 1950 program.

The question "What are some of the homemaking problems in your community?" was asked at each of the

program-planning meetings in Graham, Pinal, and Yuma counties. Small groups of 4 to 5 women discussed the question for five minutes, then a spokesman for each group presented the problems agreed upon. Some of these were:

Adapting the home we have to our needs.

Scheduling our time, meals, children.  
Better planned outdoor recreation areas.

Wise spending of money by children.  
Stretching the family budget.

A study of ways to reduce overlapping organizations in the area.

Buymanship of textiles.

Vegetable cookery for health.

School lunches.

Selection of movies suitable for community showings.

Lack of shade and moisture.

Sewage disposal.

How to get along with bad water.

Rural beautification.

Remodeling and redecorating of homes.

Community centers — canning, quilting, community sewing, leader meetings.

Following the county program-planning day in each county, a so-called "sifting" committee met with the home demonstration agent and from the recommendations made, selected a program which seemed the most desirable and "right" in relation to local, state, and national problems. Now, knowing what the county program is, with it before them, local planning committees of homemaker groups,

← Executive committee of the Kennilworth Club, which makes up their local planning committee. Left to right are: Mrs. William Horn, vice-president; Mrs. J. G. Davis, reporter; Mrs. Herbert Hannah, president; Mrs. F. E. Jones, delegate. Also assisting in the planning work was Mrs. Cecil England, secretary-treasurer. All of these women live in the Coolidge area in Pinal County.

church groups, womens' clubs, PTA's, etc., are developing programs in readiness for the new club year.

As they plan for the year they know that they cannot accomplish in one year all the things that seem desirable. So they choose one, two, or three things and turn their combined energies towards completing them.

Every individual in the group is given a place in the program once or twice a year. Responsibilities for the program and the meetings are divided among the members. The club program is enriched with material from local services. The local doctor, or merchant, attorney or banker, superintendent of schools, or other business and professional men and women are of valuable service to the group.

### Home Demonstration Agent Helps

Assisting these rural farm leaders in each county is the home demonstration agent. With the county agent, she shares in the programs for agriculture, homemaking and 4-H club work. She is a graduate home economist. She has behind her the resources of research and teaching of the Land Grant college at the University of Arizona, regional research laboratories and the United States Department of Agriculture. She is well equipped to help with problems in homemaking. For further information call or write your own home demonstration agent in care of the county extension office.

—Jean M. Stewart is State Home Demonstration Leader for the Extension Service.

