

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

APACHE COUNTY

ARIZONA

DECEMBER 1, 1947

to

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By
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DESCRIPTION OF COUNTY

Apache County is the extreme northeast corner of Arizona, stretching south from the Utah border approximately 255 miles, and west from the New Mexico State line approximately 50 miles. It ranges in altitude from about 5,000 to 10,700 feet. Approximately 3/4 of the County is Indian Reservation territory for the Navajo and Apache tribes.

Apache County is divided into three distinct areas: one, made up of the small towns along the Highway and the Santa Fe Railroad; one, composed of the small farming communities centered around St. Johns and Springerville; and another, based on the lumber industry consisting of McNary and Maverick, both owned and operated by the White Mountain Lumber Company. The summer population is much greater than is the winter population, due to the increased popularity of the Greer area as a summer resort.

St. Johns, the County Seat, and Springerville are the only two incorporated towns. McNary is the largest town and is the center of the County's lumbering industry. Transcontinental Highway 66 and the Santa Fe Railway cross the County about 50 miles north of St. Johns. People in the small towns scattered along these two routes shop and do their banking in Holbrook or in Gallup, New Mexico, as there is no bank in Apache County. St. Johns and Springerville serve as shopping centers for the small towns in the lower part of the County. St. Johns and Springerville have large groups of Spanish-Americans, and McNary has most of the small Negro population of the County.

Cattle and sheep are the chief agricultural products, and the majority of the sheep are Indian owned and cared for. Except in the communities along the railroad, most families raise much of their home food supply.

Health facilities are extremely limited. There is a doctor in St. Johns and one in Springerville. There is a small hospital in Springerville which handles almost entirely highway accident and maternity cases. The hospital in McNary belongs to, and is run by the Lumber Company there. Apache County has no Public Health program and no school nurses. Several communities were visited this year by the Mobile Chest X-Ray Unit maintained by the State Department of Health, and a travelling optometrist visits Springerville and St. Johns once a year. People depend on Gallup and Phoenix for a large share of their medical and dental services. There is no County Library, and recreation programs are sadly lacking.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

GENERAL ACTIVITIES:

Total days given to County.....	32
Days devoted to work with adults.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Days devoted to work with 4-H Clubs.....	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Days in office.....	22
Days in field.....	10
Home visits made.....	40
Different homes visited.....	30
Office calls.....	21
Telephone calls.....	6
Individual letters written.....	66
News articles published.....	1
Bulletins distributed.....	152
Adult method demonstrations.....	2
Attendance.....	17
4-H meetings participated in.....	3
Attendance.....	49
Other meetings of an Extension nature.....	1
Approximate attendance.....	30
Meetings not attended by HDA, held by adult leaders.....	8
Attendance.....	83
Number of 4-H Clubs.....	2
Number of volunteer leaders.....	5
4-H meetings held by local leaders.....	44
Attendance.....	326
Number of girls enrolled in 4-H Clubs.....	38

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EXTENSION ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING:

The majority of adult work done in Apache County by the Home Demonstration Agent this year has been carried through two Homemakers Clubs. One is organized in Springerville, and has ten members; and the other is made up of women from the Puerco Valley District, which includes all the small communities along the Santa Fe Railroad in northern Apache County and has 25 members. Both groups have had monthly meetings throughout the year, and the Puerco Homemaker's Club has had several special work and recreation meetings. Other contacts with women in Apache County have consisted of home visits and contacts made through 4-H Club activities. The Agent has given individual assistance on homemaking problems to several women in St. Johns and in Eagar, but has visited other communities very infrequently.

Springerville Homemaker's Club Re-organized

In January, the Agent met with members of the Springerville Homemaker's Club at their organization meeting. Only a few members were present, but they worked with the Agent in planning a program for the club to cover the coming year. Specific plans were made for club meetings which the Agent would not attend, and some leaders for these meetings were assigned. The Agent mailed a copy of this program to the officers of the club and suggested that they finish filling in places of meetings and assign additional leaders for those meetings to be carried in the Agent's absence. This was never done, but the Agent feels that the steps taken by the group in planning their program will be of help to them, not only in carrying out a successful series of club meetings this year, but in increasing the activity and thereby adding to the strength and membership of their club in the coming year.

Agent Works with Springerville Leaders

Women who had volunteered to carry the responsibility for presenting a lesson to the club met with the Agent, and she helped them plan for their meetings. Illustrative material was provided and suggestions made for getting local people, who were qualified, to assist in presentation of the meetings.

Lack of leadership and lack of women who are willing to be trained for leadership are responsible for some of the weaknesses of this organized group, and the Agent thinks that the members are beginning to realize that. Perhaps this realization will help them see the necessity for securing members who are capable and willing to take responsibility, or for taking that responsibility themselves. The program planned has been followed with only minor exceptions and has proved rather successful. However, attendance at meetings has never exceeded six.

Puerco Homemakers Group Plans Good Year's Work

The Puerco Homemakers Club, whose membership is made up of women from the small communities scattered along the Santa Fe Railroad in Northern Apache County, is a very active group and assumes a great deal of responsibility, not only for their own club meetings and activities but for the recreational activities of the Puerco Valley. In January they held a program planning meeting and, using the outlined tentative calendar of events sent them by the Agent, made plans to incorporate that part of the planned Extension program in which they were interested into their plans for the year, and to make provision for the rest of their meetings. This group has always been represented at Council meetings, both Annual meetings and planning meetings, held in Holbrook, and have taken an active part in the formation and activities of the Homemakers County Council. The personal responsibility for the success of their club, felt by almost every member, is no doubt the principal reason for their success in continuing to hold stimulating club meetings that are well attended, and that give these women information that is vital enough so that women are glad to make the 80-mile round trips that are necessary to attend meetings, in some instances.

New School Lunch Building Progressing

The Puerco Homemakers were responsible for the first attempt at a school lunch program at the Sanders School, and they have been largely responsible for its improvement and growth since. Now they have taken on the job of helping plan, furnish and finance a new building in which to house the school lunch program---a program which is participated in by over 90 percent of the children attending school at Sanders. The Agent has worked with the women in planning for the furnishings of the kitchen and for colors and other decoration throughout the building. The Agent has also helped them make plans for fund raising campaigns and has been happy to see these and other schemes worked out by the club members themselves result in the raising of a very substantial fund which will make it possible to furnish the school lunch room very attractively. This Homemakers group has rendered their area a real service through their sponsorship and support of this school lunch program.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

25 Women Attend Demonstrations on Household Pest Control

The Home Demonstration Agent presented demonstrations on the control of household pests to the two Homemakers Clubs in Apache County. These meetings were carried as a part of the program planned by the County Homemakers Council in September, and consisted of discussion of the habits of various household pests, including flies, mosquitoes, moths, ants, silverfish, cockroaches, mice and rats, and demonstrations of methods of control

of these pests. Twenty-five women attended these two meetings, together with the Agent, distributed 10 additional copies of the mimeographed circular containing the information presented at the meetings to other Apache County women during home visits.

HOUSE AND FURNISHINGS:

Meetings on Kitchen Furnishings Conducted by Local Leaders

The Agent worked with women from both the Puerco Homemakers Club and the Springerville Homemakers Club who had volunteered to present a lesson on Kitchen Furnishings to their groups. The Agent prepared and loaned illustrative material showing ways of introducing color into the kitchen, and the women added to the illustrative material with suggestions for brightening up the kitchen and making it a more cheerful place in which to work. Appropriateness and serviceability, as well as color of furnishings, were stressed at both meetings. Twenty-eight women attended these two meetings and enjoyed the presentation of this information by their own club members.

Springerville Women Learn to Care for House Plants

Using information supplied by the Home Demonstration Agent, and the talents of a local woman who has had outstanding success with house plants, the President of the Springerville Homemakers Club presented a good meeting on the care of house plants. Besides the discussions and talks which made up the principal part of the meeting, women took time to exchange "starts" of plants they had been successful in growing and made plans to continue this exchange.

4-H CLUB WORK:

ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING:

The Agent spent considerable time during January and February attempting to organize 4-H Clubs in at least four communities in Apache County, but succeeded in finding leaders in only two communities, Springerville and Chambers. Springerville has done 4-H Club work for many years, but this year they organized a Meal Planning club for the first time in several years. Parental support in Springerville has never been good, and the Agent is afraid the improvement in this condition shown at Achievement time at the end of the last club was only a temporary thing because leaders have expressed once again their disappointment in the response received from mothers whom they have contacted in regard to the 4-H Club program and its activities. In the Puerco District, a 4-H Club was established at Sanders, the first to be organized in this area.

Springerville 4-H Clubs Have Three Leaders

Twenty-seven girls enrolled in clothing and meal planning projects under the supervision of three leaders in Springerville this year. A junior leader assisted with the 1st year clothing club. The three clubs met together occasionally for recreation and business meetings, but there was little feeling of unity among the groups. All three clubs carried a meeting on Safety, and one club carried a series of two meetings. The Agent has been able to attend only one club meeting, and that was early in the club year. Some of the Springerville club leaders attended a Leader Training meeting conducted by the State Leader at the Round Valley High School, but the Agent has failed to give them much specific leader training. Two of the leaders are experienced, and have been good to help the new leader.

Sanders' Busy Beavers Hold Weekly Meeting

Organized under the direction of two women who have had no previous experience with 4-H Club work, the 11 girls enrolled in 1st year clothing projects have had an excellent beginning year. The Agent has worked with the leaders each time she has gone to this area to attend adult meetings, and both leaders have attended leader training meetings held in Holbrook and in Snowflake. The fact that these women have travelled over 160 miles in one day to attend a Leader Training meeting, and the fact that some club members live as far as thirty miles from the meeting place, indicates that distance is an obstacle that can be overcome. The Club has met weekly since its organization and has carried, in addition to its project work and related activities, a program including safety meetings, community activities which covered the planting of two trees on the school grounds and the care of them since, and active participation in a fund raising campaign sponsored by the Homemakers Club, and recreational activities. The 4-H Club Leaders and members have received support and encouragement from local residents, and the Agent looks for club work, with this excellent start, to thrive in the Puerco district.

Salado 4-H Club Holds January Program

The 4-H Club in Salado, led by Mrs. Genevieve Anderson, has had a successful year to date. In January, they conducted a program for their parents, school officials and friends. Work completed was displayed, judged, and ribbons awarded. This work included first year clothing requirements, completed by the girls, and handicraft work done by the boys. Boys had made stools, small chests and match box holders; and have learned to make simple home repairs also. Those attending the program were pleased by the interest the boys and girls had taken in their club work, and with the results shown by the articles displayed.

Mrs. Anderson, the Club Leader, is one of the teachers in a two-teacher school which serves the group of Spanish-American people living at Salado. She has used 4-H Club work as a means of interesting these children in their homes and surroundings. She has been so successful in this undertaking that regular Friday afternoon club meetings after school have sometimes been followed by Saturday morning or weekday evening meetings as well. The Agent has worked with Mrs. Anderson in preparing material for meetings on Safety, Grooming, Care of the House, Home Beautification, and Citizenship, which the boys and girls conducted after they had completed their project work. Such interest in the welfare of boys and girls as is evidenced by the long hours and hard work this leader has given to this Club is heartwarming, and the Agent is happy that she has been able to assist Mrs. Anderson in her efforts. The appreciation of parents and school officials, who are not accustomed to having such an interest shown in their boys and girls and in their homes, is more than gratifying.

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