DAVIS

LIVING COSTS OF 187 ALABAMA FARM HOMES

(As estimated from a study of surveys made by four county home demonstration agents, January, 1924)

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LIVING COSTS OF 187 ALABAMA FARM HOMES

(As estimated from a study of surveys made by four county home demonstration agents, January 1924).

How the Survey Was Made

In the fall of 1923, Dr. C. B. Smith, of the United States Department of Agriculture, wrote to the Extension Directors in a limited number of States, of the possibility of securing the services of Dr. E.L. Kirkpatrick, of the Department of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture, in assisting the State Home Demonstration Service in making a survey of living costs in a limited number of farm homes.

Hardly realizing what the scope of this survey was, or what it might mean to the Extension Service, but with an appreciation of the value of the work which had been done in Livingston County, New York, by Dr. Kirkpatrick, the offer of cooperation was most gratefully accepted, and the following plans made for making the survey:

Following the annual meeting of agents in December 1923, each district agent requested one of her best trained home demonstration agents to remain over for a two-day course in survey making, with Dr. Kirkpatrick as instructor.

One hundred and ninety-two surveys were made by these agents as follows:

40 by Miss Ruth Whorton (Lee County)

52 by Miss Charlotte Busey (Pike County)

50 by Miss Gladys McCain (Coosa County)

50 by Miss Evelyn Peyton (Madison County)

These surveys were made in January 1924 and immediately sent in to Dr. Kirkpatrick, who found 187 of them satisfactory.

During the latter part of June 1924, Dr. Kirkpatrick made a preliminary report of the work at the National Home Economics Association, illustrating the report with charts made by the United States Department of Agriculture, and in September 1924 Dr. Kirkpatrick sent to the Alabama Extension Service copies of a mimeographed report, a copy of which is attached.

In April 1924, at the Alabama Conference of Social Work, Miss Ruth Whorton, of Lee County, made a report of the Lee County Survey. Dr. Joseph K. Hart, of the Russell-Sage Foundation, after listening to Miss Whorton's report, stated;

"It is such work as Miss Whorton has reported that makes it possible to envisage the life of the people for whom we are working."

He also stated that he believed extension agents were "laying foundations of civilization in this daily work of improving the home life of the people on the farms."

In handling the material on its way from the county home demonstration agents to Dr. Kirkpatrick, and in seeing the results of the making of the survey in the increased efficiency of the home demonstration agents, the State Home Demonstration Agent realized the necessity for doing first-hand work in getting more complete data from the schedules than it was possible for Dr. Kirkpatrick to do at his office. Dr. Benjamin Andrews, of Teachers' College, Columbia University, offered, in the summer session of 1924 a six-point research course for graduate students, which included an opportunity to use available survey material and at the same time to study research methods and methods of utilizing data secured from surveys and similar investigational work. Dr. Kirkpatrick loaned the Alabama schedules to the State Home Demonstration Agent for the 6 weeks she was at Columbia. During this time, she made tabulations; studied trends in expenditures in relation to income, studied reports of similar work which had been done in other States, and in other countries, and made plans for the utilization of

the survey data in making plans for Alabama home economics extension work in 1925. This experience gave her faith in the data secured and made her appreciate the value of similar surveys as a basis for program making in future years.

As a result of the work done by the State Home Demonstration Agent, a plan was worked out with Dr. Kirkpatrick to make a survey of ten farm homes in each county in Alabama in which a home demonstration agent was employed.

During the time the State Home Demonstration Agent was working with the surveys in New York, she planned in a general way the home-making program for the annual meeting of Alabama farm and extension people which was held the last of December 1924, at which time the program for standardizing Alabama farm homes was made. A copy of this program is attached.

The tabulations made by the State Home Demonstration Agent and by Miss Pearl Jones, a former home demonstration agent in Alabama, and a few of those made by Dr. Kirkpatrick, are included in this report.

The Counties Selected

The counties were selected with the idea that each should represent a different type of agriculture and of economic conditions in the State and should be located in four sections of the State. They were as follows:

Coosa County - the value of land per acre and the average value of crops made as represented by the 1920 census, were both among the lowest in the State. The only railroad in the county is a short one across one corner.

Lee County - the county in which the Alabama Polytechnic Institute is located, which is fairly typical of the Black Belt, and in

which the expenditures for living costs were found to be greater than in any other of the counties surveyed.

Madison County - a North Alabama county in which economic conditions are about on a par with those of Lee County, in which the roads are excellent, the climate more invigorating, the farms smaller, and the number of white population per square mile, greater. The average living costs for white families was somewhat less than that in Lee.

Pike County - a county typical of Southern Alabama in which the county roads are fairly good. The plantation system still prevails in this county and living conditions are not unlike those of Lee County.

Division of Farm Families by Income Groups

Dr. Kirkpatrick found that the average total expenditures for; rent, furniture and furnishings, operating expenses of the home and clothing, maintenance of health, advancement and food for the family of the 187 families in which the surveys were completed, fell into five income groups as follows:

	Number of families	Percent of total
Group A less than $1000	57	30.5
" B $1000 to $1499	57	30.5
" C $1500 to $1999	36	19.2
" D $2000 to $2499	18	9.6
" E $2500 to $2999	5	2.7
" F $3000 and over	14	7.5

Because of the small number in groups E and F, the State Home Demonstration Agent combined these two groups, having group E with 19 families, making 10.2% of the total number.

The above table gives the gross income which includes all products, food, fuel, etc., furnished by the farm, and all materials bought with cash from the farm income.

The home demonstration agent in conference with the operator and his wife, made the estimate of the money value of the furnished products using the average cost price in the nearest local market.

The following table indicates the portion of the income for each group which was furnished by the farm and the amount of cash spent:

	Income	Furnished by farm	Purchased
A	Less than $1000	$507	$306.20
B	$1000 to $1499	$699.50	$543.30
C	$1500 to $1999	$824.70	$888.20
D	$2000 to $2499	$1072.30	$1152.70
E	$2500 and over	$1348.20	$2171.70

The 114 families in groups A and B make up 60% of the farm families on the farms of white people in the State.

The living standards of this 60% of the farm families, which have on an average $424.75 per year in cash to spend for all living expenditures, is evidently a living standard comparable to the standard of the group referred to By Dr. Andrews in his book, "Economics of the Household", as living on the "poverty level." Of the farm families in group E, the survey indicates that they have not only the comforts of life, but many of them have luxuries in the home and their children have educational advantages. Alabama has an extraordinarily high percentage of farm families with an income of $2500 and over as is indicated by the following table:

	Selected areas in Alabama, 1923		Selected areas of Iowa, 1923		Selected areas of Kentucky, 1920		Selected areas of Texas, 1920	
	Number of families	Percent of total	Number of families	Percent of total	Number of families	Percent of total	Number of families	Percent of total
Total	187		451		208		278	
A	57	30.5	36	7.9	17	8.2	59	21.2
B	57	30.5	174	38.6	59	28.3	99	35.6
C	36	19.2	137	30.4	55	26.4	74	26.6
D	18	9.6	64	14.2	38	18.3	33	11.9
E	19	10	40	8.9	39	18.8	13	4.7

It is noted from the above table that 60% of Alabama farm people are in the two lower income groups, while in these same income groups in Iowa, there are 46.5 percent; in Kentucky, 36.5 percent, and in Texas, the State most nearly approaching Alabama, in living standards, 56.8 per cent of the farm people are in the two lowest income groups.

In contrast to this report, we find that in the highest income group, there are 10 per cent of Alabama's people, while in Iowa there are only 8.9 per cent and in Texas, only 4.7 per cent; in Kentucky, 18.8 per cent of the farm people have an income of $2500 or more.

On the following page, we find a table showing the average expenditure by items in the different groups. This table includes all materials purchased and furnished, but does not show the separation of furnished and purchased, with the exception of the item food.

AVERAGE EXPENDITURE FOR 187 FAMILIES

		No. families
Group A	Total expenditure less than $1000	57
" B	" " $1000 to $1499	57
" C	" " $1500 to $1999	36
" D	" " $2000 to $2499	19
" E	" " $2500 plus	19

Average Expenditure

Group:	Value of furniture:	Food		:Total:	
		:Furnished:	Purchased	:food :	Clothing
A	$373	399.7	87.3	487	90.6
B	518.5	552.7	120.6	673	155.7
C	590.5	652.8	196.9	849	247.8
D	831.8	853.4	201.8	1055	322.2
E	1185.7	89	264.6	12465	1103.9

Group:	Rent	Furniture & Equipment	Operating expenses	Health	Advancement
A	68.2	20.7	88	18.9	17.9
B	108.3	33.3	144.5	42.4	34.7
C	130.3	58.5	187.9	51.8	95.6
D	164.7	49.4	252.9	73.5	142.7
E	338.9	115	439.6	164	385.8

Group	Personal	Savings	Total furnished by farm	Total purchased per farm	Total per family
A	18.6	3.3	507	306.2	813.2
B	29.2	19.4	699.5	534.3	1233.8
C	50.7	40.8	824.7	888.2	1713
D	54.3	108.9	1072.3	1152.7	2225
E	95.5	172.8	1348.8	2171.7	3520

Group:	Household	No. in family		No. rooms	
A	3.9	3.7	100	4.4	100
B	4.6	4.4	118.8	5.3	120.4
C	4.9	4.7	127.7	5.3	120.4
D	6.5	5.7	154	6.8	154
E	7.2	6.3	170	7.2	163

Distribution of average expenditures among the different groups of articles and proportion of total family living furnished by the farm by increase in size of total expenditure.

	Total Expenditure Group						
	Below $1000	$1000 $1499	$1500 $1999	$2000 $2499	$2500 $2999	$3,000 & over	All incomes
Number of families	57	57	36	18	5	14	187
Average size of family	3.7	4.4	4.7	5.7	5.8	6.9	4.7
" " " household	3.9	4.6	4.9	6.5	7.0	7.4	5.0
" of total expenditures	813.2	1233.8	1713.0	2225.0	2941.8	4199.4	1558.3
Proportion of total for food, (pct).	59.9	54.6	49.6	47.4	40.6	31.9	48.1
Clothing (pct).	11.1	12.6	14.5	14.5	14.4	16.5	13.9
Rent "	8.4	8.8	7.6	7.4	9.2	9.0	8.5
Furniture and furnishings (pct)	2.6	2.7	3.4	2.2	2.4	3.9	3.0
Operating expense, pct.	10.8	11.7	11.0	11.4	11.8	12.9	11.6
Maintenance of health	2.3	3.4	3.0	3.3	7.3	2.9	3.2
Advancement	2.2	2.8	5.6	6.4	5.6	14.6	6.3
Personal	2.3	2.4	2.9	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.6
Insurance, life, health	.4	1.0	2.4	4.9	5.4	4.6	2.7
Unclassified				.1	.7		.1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Proportion of living furnished	62.3	56.7	48.1	48.2	44.2	34.3	49.5
" " " purchased	37.7	43.3	51.9	51.8	55.8	65.7	50.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Variations in Living Standards

According to Winslow, the factors which influence expenditure of income are:

Amount
Regularity and Source
Number, age, sex and special requirements of the family needs and opportunities for expenditure.

In these studies, no investigation was made as to the amount of family income which was spent in farming operations.

The cotton farmer usually has the greater part of his income paid in the fall and out of this, he pays his debts which have accumulated during the year. There are other sources of income, such as the sale of dairy and poultry products, vegetables and fruits, and other farm produce, which is gathered and sold intermittently during the year. A large number of the farms have a regular income from dairy and poultry products.

The farm income in Alabama is generally irregular and uncertain and in the case of the 60% of the families who fall in the two lowest income groups, a large percentage of the purchases are made "on time." This limits the purchaser to the goods available at the country stores, or the stores in his vicinity in which credit may be obtained.

The needs for the family and the opportunities for spending money for recreation are limited and the existing standards in clothing, home furnishing and equipment are low.

Because of unlimited sunlight, air, space and the long season of warm weather, the cost of housing, is less than in other sections of the country.

There was a wide divergance of living standards in the five income groups and the following is a report of the various items in the living standards of groups A and E:

A Comparison of Items in Living Standards of Groups A and E

	Group A	Group E
Size of family	3.7	6.3
Number of rooms in home	4.4	7.2
Value of furniture in home	$313.00	$1185.70
Value of home	$680.20	$3380.90
Size of farm	80.9 acres	
Percentage of families having no ice in summer	91.3	
Cost of clothing purchased by family	$90.60	$1103.90
Furniture and equipment bought 1923	$20.70	$115.00
Operating expenses of home	$88.00	$439.60
Expenditures for health	$18.90	$164.00
Expenditures for advancement	$17.90	$358.80
Personal expenditures	$18.60	$ 95.55
Savings	$ 3.30	$172.80
Number of homes having running water	None	33-1/3%
Percentage of homes having lighting systems	None	33-1/3%
" " " telephones	None	50%
" " food expenditures which were made for fruits and vegetables	2%	32%

Items indicating living standards of group E

Average amount spent for church during the year per family	$66.10
" " " " magazines and papers " "	$16.48
" " " " attending movies " "	$11.65
" " " " for soap and other cleaning products	$17.82
Percent of families having their laundry done away from home	61%
" " " who had paid work for other house work	73%

THE EDUCATION OF FARM PEOPLE OF 192 ALABAMA FARM HOMES AS REPORTED IN A SURVEY MADE IN 1923.

It was found through the survey that the average ages of the families were as follows:

Husbands.....45.4

Wives.....41.1

Sons.....12.8

Daughters.....11.7

It was found that the average size of the families was 4.6. There were 583 children. The following is a tabulated report of the ages and education of the parents and children who were living on the 192 farms in 1923:

Number	Age	Grades of schools completed	Those who have attended college	
			Number	Per Cent
190 mothers	41.1	6.4	11	5.7
192 fathers	45.4	6.3	12	6.3
(Report of age and education of children)				
197 children	over 20	8.6	17	8
29 "	" 19	8.6	3	10
27 "	" 18	9.8	6	22
25 "	" 17	8.7	4	16
28 "	" 16	7.7		
18 "	" 15	7.8		
25 "	" 14	6.3		
23 "	" 13	6		
26 "	" 12	5.5		
23 "	" 11	4.6		
35 "	" 10	5.3		
19 "	" 9	3		
17 "	" 8	2.2		
11 "	" 7	1.4		
9 "	" 6	1		

71 children of pre school age.

SUMMARY

There were 583 children, 197 of whom were over 20 years old. These men and women had completed 8.6 grades which is 2.3 more than the number of grades completed by the father, and 2.2 more than the number of grades completed by the mother.

The above indicates that the present generation has completed at least two grades more on an average than their parents.

The boys and girls of 18 years of age have on an average completed 9.8 grades and since some of these are still in college, evidently they will have at least 1.2 grades more of attendance at school than have their brothers and sisters of 19.

The 17 year old boys and girls have completed 8.7 grades or 1 grade more than their 18 year old brothers and sisters.

The above indicates clearly that farm people are making progress in educational standards.

The median of the education of men and women over 20 years of age (but this is exclusive of the parents known as the operators), is 8 grades.

READING OF FARM FAMILIES AS INDICATED BY MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS SUBSCRIBED FOR.

Of the 187 farm families who reported on the living costs of 1923, 10.7 (twenty) reported taking neither a magazine nor a newspaper.

Of the 167 families who subscribed for newspapers and magazines, it was found that:

The average spent per family for newspapers was $6.50.

The average number of newspapers taken was 1.2.

The newspapers taken were the leading papers in the locality and in the State.

The average amount spent for magazines per family was $2.70.

The average number of magazines taken per family was 1.9. While there are some of the leading magazines listed, the larger number of magazines read are those which can be procured for less than $1.50 a year.

Of the 167 families who subscribed for magazines and newspapers, only 104 gave the names of the newspapers and magazines which were subscribed for. The following is a list of these magazines with the number of families reading each magazine:

Farm Papers

Total number subscribed for.....91

Name of paper	County		
	Madison	Lee	Pike
Farm Progress	2		
Farm and Ranch	2		
Progressive Farmer	12	16	4
Southern Ruralist	4	9	2
Southern Agriculturist	4	1	
Farm Life	2	4	3
Country Gentleman	3		1
Farm Journal	2		
Successful Farming	2		
Poultry Paper	1		
Southern Poultry Journal		2	2
Southern Poultry Item			1

Sheet #14
(Reading of farm families)

Name of paper	County		
	Madison	Lee	Pike
Reliable Poultry Journal		1	
Southern Cultivator		3	
Dairy Farmer		4	
Community Builder	2		
Farm and Fireside	1		
Farm and Home		1	
Total	37	41	13

Local Daily

Total number subscribed for.....87

Name of paper	County		
	Lee	Madison	Pike
Huntsville Daily Times		34	
Huntsville Banner		1	
Troy Herald			7
Troy Messenger		1	7
Opelika Daily News	36		
Morning Star		1	
Total	36	37	14

Woman's Magazine

Total number subscribed for.....42

Name of paper	County		
	Madison	Lee	Pike
Home Wife	2		
Woman's World	1		
Woman's Home Companion	3	1	
Ladies' Home Journal	3	3	
Gentlewoman	2		1
McCall's	7	5	
Household Guest	3	1	

Sheet # 15
(Reading of farm families)

Name of paper _____ County _____

	Madison	Lee	Pike
Delineator	2	1	
American Needle Woman	1		
Modern Priscilla	1		
Good Housekeeping		3	
Household Magazine		1	
Household Journal		1	
Total	25	16	1

General

Total number subscribed for.....25

Name of paper _____ County _____

	Lee	Madison	Pike
American	1	1	1
Literary Digest	8	2	
Health and Home		1	
Cosmopolitan		1	
American		2	
People's Home Journal		1	
Saturday Evening Post		3	
Holland's	1	1	
People's Magazine		1	
Pathfinder		1	
Total	10	14	1

State Daily

Total number subscribed for.....20

Name of paper _____ County _____

	Madison	Lee	Pike
Birmingham Age-Herald	2	1	
Montgomery Journal		5	2
Montgomery Advertiser		6	4
Total	2	12	6

Sheet #16
(Reading of farm families)

Out-of-State Newspapers

Total number subscribed for.....20

Name of paper	County		
	Madison	Lee	Pike
Chattanooga Daily Times	1		
Atlanta Tri-Weekly	6	2	1
Commercial Appeal	1		
Nashville Banner	2		
Atlanta Journal		3	1
Columbus Ledger		2	
Dallas News	1		
Total	11	7	2

Religious Papers

Total number subscribed for.....19

Name of paper	County		
	Pike	Lee	Madison
Gospel papers			1
Alabama Baptist			3
Christian Advocate			5
Presby. Advance			1
Alabama Advocate		6	
Primitive Baptist		1	
Gospel Banner		1	
Christian Herald		1	
		9	10

Miscellaneous

Total number subscribed for.....18

Name of paper	County		
	Madison	Lee	Pike
Comfort		4	
Everyday Life	1		
Illustrated Comp.	1		

Sheet #17
(Reading of farm families)

Name of paper	County		
	Madison:	Lee :	Pike
Foreign Home	1	:	:
Home Circle	3	:	:
World's Comrades	2	:	:
Royal Service	1	:	:
Medical Journal	1	:	:
Alabama Times		: 1	:
Home Life		:	: 1
Miscellaneous		: 2	:
Total	10	: 7	: 1

Child's Magazine

Name of paper	County
	Lee
Every Child's Magazine	1
Youth's Companion	2
Total	3

SUMMARY

Summarizing the above reports, we find:

Number families represented.....104
Total number of copies of magazines and newspapers read....325
No. families reading local daily.....87 or 83.7%
" " " farm papers .....91 or 87.5%
" " " women's Magazines.....42 or 40.4%
" " " general magazines and papers.....25 or 24.03%
" " " State dailies.....20 or 19.2%
" " " out-of-State newspapers.....20 or 19.2%
" " " religious papers.....19 or 18.3%
" " " miscellaneous papers and magazines....18 or 17.3%
" " " children's magazines.....3 or 2.8%

Average number magazines per family.....1.9
" " newspapers " " 1.2
" spent for magazines $2.70
" " " newspapers $6.50

Farm Women and Field Work

The average farm woman has full time work if she gives her family and home adequate attention and does the work necessary in managing the poultry, the home dairy, and the garden; yet 32.8% of the home-makers on the farms in Alabama work in the fields on an average of 141.4 days per year.

The number of women who work in the field decreases as the income increases as is indicated by the following table:

County	No. families reporting	Women working in field Number	Percentage	No. days worked
Lee	40	3	7.5	36
Madison	50	11	21.0	800
Pike	52	19	38.0	1465
Coosa	50	32	64.0	7892

No. women working in the field -- 65

No. days the 65 women worked in field - 10193

Average No. days worked in field per year by 65 women- 141.4

Analysis of Time of Home-maker and Operator

Average number hours work per day :

In Summer :
Operator -14 hours-40 minutes
Home-maker-15 hours- 4 minutes

In W imter:
Operator- 12 hours- 20 minutes
Home-maker-13 hours- 6 minutes

Home-makers work :

Average number hours per day in garden - 1 hour- 36 minutes
Average number hours per day with poultry-1 hour- 15 minutes(during hatching season)
Average number hours per day with poultry- 35 minutes(remainder of year)
Average number hours per day with milk - 1 hour - 18 minutes
Average number hours per day with farm chores- 54 minutes

Time spent eating, reading and resting:

Number hours at meals:
Home-maker - 1 hour - 24 minutes
Operator - 1 hour- 24 minutes

Number hours reading and resting:
In Summer:
Day - Operator- 46 minutes
Home-maker- 1 hour- 6 minutes
Evening-Operator- 30 minutes
Home-maker -45 minutes

In Winter:
Day - Operator- 1 hour - 2 minutes
Home-maker- 1 hour- 30 minutes
Evening-Operatpr - 1 hour
Home-maker- 1 hour - 30 minutes

Home-makers visits and community activities:

Hours per week visits in Summer - 1 hour - 30 minutes
Hours per week visits in Winter - 1 hour - 1 minute
Hours per week spent in community activities- 40 minutes
19 or 9.89 percent home-makers had a vacation of 1½ days and
8 or 4.16 percent operators had a vacation of 1½ days.

RECREATION

For women, as indicated by expenditure for house work.

Group	Laundry sent out	No. weeks	Cost	Cost of other work
A	14%	15	14.95	3.60
B	56	36	11.65	27.85
C	88	36	15.34	11.42
D	66	36.9	25.89	31.34
E	61	37	35.30	47.30

For the family, as indicated by percentage taking vacations and percentage attending concerts, movies and fairs and the average amount spent.

Group	Vacation
A	5.2
B	19
C	16
D	11
E	44

Group:	Concerts		Other entertainments		Moving pictures	
	Attendance	Amount	Attendance	Amount	Attendance	Amount
	%	Av.Amt	%	Av.amt		
A	8.7	2.70	29.8	1.60	7	4.32
B	17	2.10	29	2.85	17	2.49
C	33-1/3	3.88			47.2	9.55
D	27	4.20			61	5.80
E	44	8.12			88	11.65

Attendance at Fairs

Group	Percentage attending	Amount spent
A	33-1/3	3.45
B	50.8	4.27
C	80.5	7.62
D	83	13.26
E	88	11.08

The House

Estimating the value of the house on the basis of Dr. Kirkpatrick's statistics, we find that it varies in price from $680.00 on an average for the families in Group A to $3389.00 on an average in Group E.

The value of the house for the average family has been found to be $1333 which indicates that the standard of the farmer's house in Alabama is low, as compared with other States and other sections of the country.

6.9% of the Alabama farm homes have running water, although 34% of the women answering the questionnaire sent out by the Alabama Extension Service in 1923, desired running water above any other improvement in their farm home.

The Agricultural Engineering Division has estimated that 11½ two-gallon buckets of water are used per day in the average farm home and are drawn from a well 30 feet deep and are carried 61 feet. This work is estimated to consume 1 hour of the farm woman's time and in a year to have taken 46 of her working days. In carrying the water, she has walked 100 miles. The above work is equivalent to unloading 22 cars of coal, each 30 tons capacity.

8% of the farm homes have a central lighting system. 13% of the farm homes have sanitary toilets and 65% have toilets which are not sanitary, while 22% have no toilets.

Automobiles

The automobile is a means of furnishing recreation for the family as well as serving the farm in various farming operations.

There is a question as to the wisdom of owning and operating an automobile when the amount spent for living costs does not exceed $500.

53.2 percent of the families said that they had had automobiles. The average cost of upkeep for a year was $223.29. They used on an average of 284 gallons of gasoline per year or 23 gallons per month.

Evidently the farm family of limited income who own automobiles run them economically and certainly the women in the family object to the idea of giving up the automobile.

The following table gives the number of families owning automobiles, cost of operating and the number of gallons of gas used :

County	Families owning automobiles Number	Percentage	Cost of operating car	Number gallons gas used.
Coosa	18	36.0	2637.45	6008
Pike	27	51.9	4987.06	6747
Madison	27	54.	8005.40	6295
Lee	30	75.	7145.24	9961

Total families owning automobiles -102 or 53.2 percent of total

T otal cost of operating cars - $22,775.15

Total number gallons gas used - 29011

Average cost of operating car - $223.29

Average no. gallons used a year - 284

Ice

In Alabama, the long hot season makes a supply of ice, or some method of refrigeration essential for comfortable living standards. The families who must do without ice suffer real hardships. The following table which shows the very small percentage of families using ice, indicates in a measure the lack of comfort in the majority of farm homes:

Group							
A	8.7%	using	$1.48	worth	of	ice	during summer
B	28%	"	$2.15	"	"	"	"
C	47.2%	"	$5.82	"	"	"	"
D	44%	"	$5.80	"	"	"	"
E	6%	"	$12.90	"	"	"	"

Telephones

21.8 per cent of the families have a telephone.

The 42 families spend on an average $10.61 per year, of $.88 per month for their telephone.

The Family and Community

The following table shows the percentage of families in each group who contribute to the church and the average amount contributed by the families of each group. The amount contributed per family per Sunday varies from 15¢ in group A to $1.27 per family per Sunday in Group E, and in no single group does the amount given for church equal one-tenth of the income. The amount contributed indicates that the large majority of Alabama farm people of the lowest incomes contribute regularly and fairly liberally to the churches. 100% of families of larger incomes report church contributions, but they do not give any larger proportion of their incomes.

Group	Church	
	Number	Amount
A	70.1	7.81 - 10 (plus)
B	77	11.10
C	96	16.90
D	94	28.94 (50¢ plus)
E	100	66.10 ($1.00 plus)

The Farm Bureau

From observation one would believe that the more successful farmers were the Farm Bureau members and this study indicates that in group A none of the farmers were members of the Farm Bureau and the percentage in other groups was as follows:

Group B.....12%
" C.....19%
" D.....50%
" E.....55%

Furnishings of the Farm Home

While in two-thirds of the homes, we may find little of inspiration and help for the families, in at least one-third of the homes we find beauty and art and music. For instance, forty families in 1923 bought musical instruments during the year, the average value of which was $144.06. The attached table indicates the trend in furnishings as shown by the average amount spent for furniture and furnishings per year. We find the following statistics of interest:

Average amount spent for furniture per year per family	$44.45
" " " " pictures " " " "	1.39
" " " " floor coverings " " " "	4.56
" " " " curtains " " " "	2.06
" " " " window shades " " " "	2.14
" " " " bedding " " " "	15.16
" " " " household linen " "	8.42
" " " " trunks " " " "	4.22
" " " " tableware " " " "	5.20
" " " " kitchen utensils " "	2.94
" " " " canning equipment " "	1.26
" " " " electrical equipment "	2.07
" " " " stoves, lamps, etc. " "	12.56
" " " " sewing equipment " "	7.38
" " " " laundry " "	.53
" " " " cleaning " " " "	1.32

Table Showing Furnishings and Equipment of Farm Home

County	Cost of operating auto	Families reporting none: No.	Families reporting none: %	Gal. Gas used	Cost of telephones	Families having none: No.	Families having none: %
Coosa	2637.45	32	16	6008	31.00	44	23
Pike	4987.06	25	13	6747	56.70	40	22
Lee	7145.24	10	5	9961	125.48	26	13
Madison	8005.40	23	12	6295	232.70	38	19
	22775.15	90	46.8	29011	445.88	148	78.2

	Amt. spent on musical instruments	Families reporting none: No.	Families reporting none: %	Amt. spent for furniture	Pictures	Floor coverings
Coosa	5572.62	22	11.9	7400.30	133.00	339.00
Pike	80.25	48	29	262.65	44.00	185.75
Lee	32.70	36	18	351.00	70.70	224.00
Madison	77.00	46	23.9	521.00	20.00	127.50
	5762.60	1.55	79%	8535.00	267.70	876.25

	Curtains	Window shades	Bedding	Household linen
Coosa	212.50	319.00	2551.00	553.75
Pike	39.45	45.60	151.70	398.45
Lee	121.75	15.25	125.00	460.00
Madison	23.00	32.00	85.00	185.05
	396.70	411.85	2912.70	1597.25

102 families averaged $223.28 per year on operating autos.

53.2% of the people owned cars

The 102 autos used on an average of 284 gallons of gas per year.
" " " " " " " " 23 " " " " month.

21.8% families owned telephones.
42 families averaged $10.61 per year for telephones, or 88¢ per month.

40 families bought musical instruments during the year. The average amount spent for musical instruments was $144.06 per year per family.

	Trunks	Table ware	Kitchen utensils	Canning equipment	Electrical equipment
Coosa	552.00	648.00	331.00	15.00	375.00
Pike	23.50	103.90	64.78	78.55	1.00
Lee	59.00	132.30	117.50	98.80	8.00
Madison	174.75	115.50	58.25	51.10	5.75
	809.25	999.70	571.53	243.45	389.75

County	Stoves	Sewing equipment	Laundry equipment	Cleaning equipment
Coosa	1595.50	1140.00	12.00	4.25
Pike	447.30	1.00	3.00	63.15
Lee	59.65	1.75	4.25	64.15
Madison	311.00	276.00	83.75	122.75
	2413.95	1418.75	103.00	254.30

Food Habits

The survey statistics indicate that farm families have a better standard for food than for other items included in living standards.

This in part is a result of the work done by the Extension Service during the past 15 years and no doubt the statistics on this item which were made by estimating the amount of produce furnished and the value at an average market price, are more likely to be in error than are any other figures.

Because of the likelihood of mistakes in estimating we are not publishing the statistics on food until we receive the surveys made in January 1925 which we will use as a check.

Attached find tables giving the reported amount of the foods most generally used by the farm family and an estimated week's diet.

In order to have a basis for estimating the adequacy of the diet as reported, Miss Certie Reynolds, Nutrition Specialist of the Alabama Extension Service, made an estimation of the amount of food required for the average family for a week and the following table gives this estimated adequate diet and the diet as reported by the survey statistics :

Week's Food Supply for Farm Family of Average Size

	As Estimated for an adequate diet by the Nutrition Specialist		As Estimated to have been used by the average family from survey data (60% of the families fall below the average)	
Cereals	Flour 12 lbs @ .06 - .75		15 lbs @ .06 - .912	
	Corn meal 5 " @ .03½ - .17½		11¼ lbs @ .03½ - .402	
	Oat meal and other breakfast cereals 1 lb @ .15 - .15			.056
	Rice and grits 3 lbs @ .08 - .24			.045
			Bread	.11
			Crackers	.076
		1.31		1.60
Potatoes	Irish 1 pk @ $2.00 per bu	.50	.163 bu @ 2.00 -	.326
	Sweet ½ pk @ 1.40 per bu	.175	.357 bu @ 1.40	.508
		.675		.834
Dried beans, peas, legumes 2 lbs @ .10		.20		
Fruits				
Fresh or canned 3 qts @ .20 -	.60		Fresh	.504
Dried 2 lbs @ .20 -	.40		Canned	.02
			Dried	.038
		1.20		.552
Vegetables				
Leaf or pod				
Greens, string beans, English peas. okra 2 pks @ .30 -	.60			
Cabbage 5 lbs @ .08 -	.40			
Root - Turnips, carrots, parsnips, beets 6 lbs @ .05 -	.30			
Others -Tomatoes, cucumbers, squash etc 4 lbs @ .10 -	.40		Vegetables - 1,403	
			Canned	.05
Total		1.70		1.453

Sheet # 30

Meats				
Beef	4 lbs @ .30 - 1.20		1.56 lbs @ .30	-.468
Chicken, fish	4 lbs @ .25 - 1.00		3.92 lbs @ .25	-.98
Porks roast	4 lbs @ .25 - 1.00		14.72 lbs @ .15	-2.21
Fats for seasoning	2lbs @ .15	.30	Canned Fish	.05
Total lbs	14	Cost $3.50	23.84 lbs	3.808
Sweets				
Sugar	2 lbs @ .10 - .20			.36
Syrup honey	2 lbs @ .20 - .40			.21
		.60		.57
Fats				
Lard	2 lbs @ .15 - .30		Included under pork	
Butter	2 lbs @ .40 - .80		.4 lbs @ .40	1.60
Milk	14 qts @ .15	-2.10	25.2 qt @ 15¢	3.780
Eggs	2 doz @ .30 - .60		2.75 doz@ 30¢	.823
Coffee	½ lb @ .30 - .15		.1 lb @ .25¢	.253
Tea	¼ lb @.60 - .15		36% of families used tea	.028
Extras- flavorings, rising agents etc about		.15	Baking Powder	.032
			Soda	.015
			Salt	.043
			Cocoa	.046
Total per week		13.497	Total per week	15.296
Total per day		1.928	Total per day	2.192

SUMMARY OF FOOD FACTS.

Name of food	Unit	% families using	Amount per Year Fur.	Pur.	Total	Amount per Week Fur.	Pur.	Total	Average Price	Price.
	money									
Syrup	value	100	8.06	3.23	8.06	.15	.06	.15		.21
Butter	lbs	99	209		209	4		4	40¢	1.60
Vegt.										
other										
than	money									
potatoes	value	99	$74.62	1.24	73.47	1.40	.023	1.403		1.40
Sugar	lbs	98		19.5	19.50			.36		.36
Flour	lbs	98.4		793.6	793.6		15.2	15.2	6¢ per lb	.912
Corn										
meal	lbs	97.9	607.7	11.6	619.3	9.7	.18	9.88	@ .034	.402
Poultry	lbs	97.4	205.7	1.2	206.9	3.9	.02	3.92	@ 25	.98
Whole										
milk	qts	97.4	1328		1328	25.2		25.2	@ .15	3.78
	money									
Salt	value	96		2.25	2.25		.043	.043		.043
Pork	lbs	96.8	800.5	6.6	807.1	14.6	.12	14.72	@ .15	2.21
Eggs	doz	96.5	133.2	.58	133.78	2.56	.011	2.571	@ .32	.823
Fruits	money									
	value	96.4	$15.55	10.89	26.44	.299	.205	.504		.504
	money									
Soda	value	95		.82	.82.		.015	.015		.015
Irish										
Potatoes	bu	94.8	8.08	.45	8.53	.155	.008	.163	@$2.00	.326
Sweet										
Potatoes	bu	93.8	18.59	.22	18.81	.357	.005	.357	@ 1.40	.508
Canned	money									
fish	value	91		2.61	2.61		.05	.05		.05
	money									
Coffee	value	90.2		13.16	13.16		.253	.253		.253
Baking	money									
Powder	value	82		1.67	1.67		.032	.032		.032
Meats										
other										
than										
pork &										
poultry	lbs	82.3	35.7	46.2	81.9	.68	.88	1.56	@ .15	.468
	money									
Bread	value	79		5.88	5.88		.111	.111		.111
Rice	lbs	66		2.21	2.21		.045	.045		.045
Cocoa	money									

SUMMARY OF FOOD FACTS.

Name of food	Unit	% families using	Amount per Year Fur.	Pur.	Total	Amount per Week Fur.	Pur.	Total	Average Price	Price.
	money									
Syrup	value	100	8.06	3.23	8.06	.15	.06	.15		.21
Butter	lbs	99	209		209	4		4	40¢	1.60
Vegt.										
Other										
than	money									
Potatoes	value	99	$74.62	1.24	73.47	1.40	.023	1.403		1.40
Sugar	lbs	98		19.5	19.50			.36		.36
Flour	lbs	98.4		793.6	793.6		15.2	15.2	6¢ per lb	.912
Corn										
Meal	lbs	97.9	607.7	11.6	619.3	9.7	.18	9.88	@ .034	.402
Poultry	lbs	97.4	205.7	1.2	206.9	3.9	.02	3.92	@ 25	.98
Whole										
milk	qts	97.4	1328		1328	25.2		25.2	@ .15	3.78
	money									
Salt	value	96		2.25	2.25		.043	.043		.043
Pork	lbs	96.8	800.5	6.6	807.1	14.6	.12	14.72	@ .15	2.21
Eggs	doz	96.5	133.2	.58	133.78	2.56	.011	2.571	@ .32	.823
Fruits	money									
	value	96.4	$15.55	10.89	26.44	.299	.205	.504		.504
	money									
Soda	value	95		.82	.82.		.015	.015		.015
Irish										
Potatoes	bu	94.8	8.08	.45	8.53	.155	.008	.163	@$2.00	.326
Sweet										
Potatoes	bu	93.8	18.59	.22	18.81	.357	.005	.357	@ 1.40	.508
Canned	money									
fish	value	91		2.61	2.61		.05	.05		.05
	money									
Coffee	value	90.2		13.16	13.16		.253	.253		.253
Baking	money									
Powder	value	82		1.67	1.67		.032	.032		.032
Meats										
other										
than										
pork &										
poultry	lbs	82.3	35.7	46.2	81.9	.68	.88	1.56	@ .15	.468
	money									
Bread	value	79		5.88	5.88		.111	.111		.111
Rice	lbs	66		2.21	2.21		.045	.045		.045
Cocoa	money									
	value	58		2.406	2.406		.046	.046		.046
	money									
Crackers	value	54		3.96	.076		.076	.076		.076
Cereal	money									
products	value	54		4.94	4.94		.056	.056		.056
Canned	money									
fruits	value	50		1.06	1.06		.02	.02		.02
Canned	money									
Vegt	value	43		2.83	2.83		.05	.05		.05
Dried	money									
fruit	value	42		1.97	1.97		.038	.038		.038
	money									
Tea	value	36		1.50	1.50		.028	.028		.028

Total 15.~~896~~ .3 F S

Per day 2.192

Vegetables in the Diet

In Group A, the amount spent for vegetables and fruits per year, which included the value of the vegetables and fruits produced on the farm, was $51.02, while in Group E, the amount was $187.59.

The value of fruits and vegetables per individual ranged from $13.50 a year, or $.037 per day per individual in Group A, to $21.93 per individual a year, or $.06 per day per individual in Group E.

The A Group had an income corresponding to the so-called "poverty group" in New York. The minimum grocery order reported in 1922 by the Association for Improving the Conditions of the Poor in New York, was as follows:

Fresh fruits .....41¢

Green or root vegetables..77¢

Legumes.....22¢

Total amount $1.40 per week or $20¢ per day, which is 4¢ per day per individual.

Evidently the amount of fruits and vegetables consumed by 30% of Alabama farm families whose income falls in the minimum income group, is very much the same as that given to the families who live on charity in New York. Although the Alabama families have gardening space available and surplus time and energy, and could with a minimum expenditure of money have an adequate supply of fruits and vegetables in their daily diet.

The following table shows the comparison of vegetables and fruits used by the individuals in Group A and those in Group E and shows that those in Group E spent 37% of their total food expenditure for fruits and vegetables, while the families in Group A spent only 12% of their food expenditure for fruits and vegetables.

	Group A	Group E
Cost of vegetables furnished by farm per day	.126	.33
Cost of vegetables purchased by farm per day	.024	.099
	15¢	.429
Cost of fruit furnished by farm per day	.0019	.008
Cost of fruit purchased by farm per day	.0095	.85
	.0114	.858
Total vegetables and fruit (ar 12% of the total food expenditure)	.1614	1.287 (or 37% of the total food expenditure).

Tea, Coffee and Tobacco

Coffee:

Coffee is the beverage universally used by the farm family and they average about a lb. per week for all families in Group A and from 2 to 3 lb. per week in the families of Group E. The difference in price indicates that the families in Group E use a more expensive quality of coffee. The amount spent for coffee in Group A was $10.75 peryear and in Group E, the average amount was $23.83 a year.

The increase in the amount of coffee used is not in proportion to the increase in income and since the proportion of vegetables and fruits and milk increases as the income increases, one judges that this increase lessens the amount of coffee consumed per individual in the farm family.

Tea:

Less than 2% of the families in Group A purchased tea through the year and the families who purchased tea averaged only $2.00 a year for the tea which they consumed. 21% in Group B and 62% in Group E purchased tea which averaged $4.36 per family, but taken as a whole, only 36% of the families purchased tea at all during the year and the amount purchased was on the average $1.50 per family.

Tobacco:

22% of thefamilies reported no tobacco bought. The total amount spent for tobacco by the 187 farm families was $2911.90 or $19.54 per year per family, who reported tobacco.

The amount spent on tobacco did not increase in proportion to the income and we again conclude that the varied diet of the farm families with larger incomes, tends to lessen the amount of tobacco consumed.

Summary

Taken as a whole, the survey indicates that the average value of food per family per week is from $10.00 to $17.00 per family or about 25¢ to 35¢ per individual per day. If the amount of pork and all starchy foods were decreased and milk, fruits, vegetables and poultry products increased, the diet would more nearly meet the requirements of feeding standards as set up by unquestioned authorities on feeding the human family.

Utilization of the Data from the Survey

The real purpose of the study of the living costs of these families is to secure facts to use as a basis for making an Extension program by the State Extension Service.

This has been done particularly well by the Clothing Specialist and the statistics which she compiled on clothing are attached with the program for clothing made out by the Farm Woman's Committee and the clothing budget for a farm woman who has $50.00 a year clothing allowance.

We had not before realized the limited amount of money available for clothing for farm women and children and the clothing program has been re-organized in order to meet this very certain need.

It is believed that other organizations such as Federated Women's Clubs, League of Women Voters, State Board of Health and the Farm Bureau will find the material available of service to them. Notices which have been given in the press, carrying reports of this work, are attached.

The study has indicated a need for setting up living standards for Alabama farm people. Dr. Shelby Harrison, of the Russell-Sage Foundation, has said "that the survey is a means of recognizing changing conditions and since change means new problems, it is a means of finding out the facts of the community life, in order to work out programs for improvement on a fact basis, or to define it more briefly - a survey is a fact basis for use in working for improvement in our community life."

P R O G R A M

Conference of Alabama Bankers on "The Agricultural and Farm Home Program for Alabama".

Ulay W. Black, Chairman, Agricultural Committee, Alabama Bankers Association, presiding.

Auburn, Alabama, January 23, 1925.
(Beginning at 9:30 A.M.)

1. Objects of this Conference - - - - The Chairman.

2. Greetings - - - - Dr. Spright Dowell, President Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala.

3. The Banker's Interest in the Farmer - - - - M. A. Vincentelli, President, Alabama Bankers Association, Montgomery.

4. The Farm Mortgage in Alabama - - - - F. W. Gist, Agricultural Statistician, Auburn, Ala.

5. The Farmer's Interest in Banking - - - - A. E. Bing, of the N. C. Agricultural Credit Corporation, Raleigh, N. C.

6. The Agricultural and Farm Home Program for Alabama:

   (a) Safe Farming - - L. N. Duncan, Director, Alabama Extension Service, Auburn.

   (b) Organization and Cooperating of Farmers - - Edward A. O'Neal, President, Alabama Farm Bureau, Montgomery.

   (c) The Standard Farm Home - - Miss Agnes Ellen Harris, Dean of Women at Auburn. **(Newspaper clipping attached)**

7. Address - - - - D. H. Otis, Director, Agricultural Commission, American Bankers Association, Madison, Wisconsin.

8. Round-table Discussion - - - - Led by Allen Northington, General Manager, Alabama Farm Buréau Cotton Association.

9. Adoption of Report or Recommendations.

10. Tour of Experiment Station, - - - - Led by Prof. M. J. Funchess, Dean and Director, Auburn.

STARTLING STATISTICS ON FARM WOMEN GIVEN BANKERS BY AUBURN AUTHORITY

Miss Harris Says Helpmates Do Equivalent in Work of Unloading 22 Cars of Coal in 46 Working Days

AUBURN, ALA., Jan. 14.—Special to The Advertiser.—With memories fresh with facts about the Alabama farm home as told them by Miss Agnes Ellen Harris, dean of women and state home demonstration agent, Alabama bankers have returned to their homes after their conference here Friday.

So impressed were they with what Miss Harris said that they termed it "the meat of the meeting." This term was coined by Ulay W. Black, chairman, and endorsed by the 55 bankers present from 42 counties. Mr. Black called the meeting as chairman of the agricultural committee of the Alabama Bankers association.

Miss Harris told the bankers of a cost of living survey conducted by the home demonstration agents in cooperation with the United States department of agriculture in which it was found that 60 per cent of the Alabama farm families have an average of only $424.75 to spend annually for all living expenses. After making this statement, she said:

"Consider for a moment the problem of paying the operating expenses of the home, necessary expenses in maintaining the health of the family and in clothing, educating and caring for the personal expenditures and saving of a family of four on an average of $35 per month.

"Besides this amount of cash, the farm furnishes a large proportion of the food eaten by the family and in many cases all of the fuel used in the home. By an expenditure of time and effort, better living standards may be established which will add considerably to the increased efficiency of the family and will result in an increased income."

Thirty per cent of the farm families were found to have a cash income of approximately $1,000 per annum and 10 per cent have an income of $2,500 and over. Such families are able to educate their children and have comforts of life.

The value of the average farm home in Alabama is $1,300. The survey revealed that only 6.9 per cent have running water although 34 per cent of the farm women who answered the questionnaire said that they desired running water above any other home improvement.

Cost of Dresses Low

The department of agricultural engineering at Auburn has estimated that 11 1-2 two-gallon buckets of water are used per day in the average farm home and are drawn from a well 30 feet deep. This water is carried 61 feet. The work is estimated to consume one hour daily of the farm woman's time and to take a total of 46 of her working days. In carrying this water she has walked 100 miles and has done the work equivalent to unloading 22 cars of coal, each of 30 ton capacity. Certainly for the sake of the farm woman and for her far greater contribution in the home as a result of less physical work and strain, should farmers be encouraged to provide running water for their homes.

The survey disclosed that fact that the average farm family dressed on a minimum clothing budget. The average farm woman had $50 per year for her clothes. The farmer spent more for his clothes than did his wife, and the average boy on the farm spent more on his clothing than did his sister.

It was found that the average father and mother on the farm have completed an average of 6.2 grades and 6.3 grades and there is a very hopeful sign in the statistics which show that the children of these parents over 20 had completed on an average of eight grades and the children of 19 have a still higher average of nine grades. One is concerned, however, when the papers carry the statement that county schools can have only a four months' session for eight months of the year and the growing child in the most formative stages of its life is dependent entirely on the mental inspiration and development available from contact with its family and with the reading material found in the home.

Read Few Papers

As to magazines and newspapers, we found that 10 per cent of our farm people have neither magazines nor newspapers in their homes and the remaining 90 per cent have on an average of 1.2 newspapers and 1.9 magazines. The average cost of the two magazines is $2.70 a year, which indicates the quality of the magazines.

Eighty-seven per cent took farm papers; 83 per cent took the daily newspapers of their town or county; 40 per cent took women's magazines; 25 per cent general magazines; 19.2 per cent state dailies; 18.3 per cent religious magazines; and three per cent children's magazines.

In connection with this survey, Miss Harris explained the "standard farm home" as defined by a committee of farm women which met with the home demonstration agents and agricultural engineers here late in December. The report of this committee contains recommendations in detail as to what a standard farm house should be and what the food, clothing, reading, recreation, and other social life should be to make it a "standard farm home."

Miss Harris concluded with the statement: "Every farm home should be economically sound, mechanically convenient, physically wholesome, mentally stimulating, artistically satisfying, spiritually inspiring and founded upon mutual affection and respect."

REPORT OF CLOTHING COMMITTEE

The Clothing Committee of the Standard Farm Home, working with the regular Clothing Committee, begs to submit the following report:

After a careful study of the expenditures for clothing tabulated in the surveys of last year, it was decided to plan a minimum wardrobe for the farm wife on the basis of $50.00, the average expenditure of 186 wives.

This wardrobe is submitted with number of garments and approximate cost affixed. Suggestions for kind and quality of material are added.

It is suggested:

(1) That this minimum budget be used as the basis for discussion on the selection of the wife's wardrobe.

(2) That at least ten women in each county try to plan their wardrobes along these lines.

For assistance in this project, sheets are appended for the woman's convenience, and she is asked to make an inventory of her present wardrobe and enter thruout the year the number and cost of all garments purchased.

It is suggested that the ten women keeping this information, be the same ten who answer the questions in the 1924 survey to be taken in January, and that they report to the agent and the clothing specialist at the end of the year.

Respectfully submitted by the members of
the Clothing Committee (sub) of the
Standard Farm Home Committee.

Mrs. J. M. Horne (Calhoun)
Mrs. Chas. C. Nance (Lawrence)
Mrs. E. N. McCall (Escambia)
Mrs. Margie Mash (Crenshaw)

(Assisted by the Clothing Committee)

WARDROBE FOR FARM WIFE
(based on $50.00 a year)

ITEM	Wardrobe needed by farm wife: No.	Wardrobe needed by farm wife: Cost	Expenditure 1st year: No.	1st year: Cost	2nd year: No.	2nd year: Cost	3rd yr.: No.	3rd yr.: Cost	Made or purchased
Aprons*	4	$1.00	3	.75¢	3	.75¢		.75¢	M
House Dresses	3	3.75	2	2.50	2	2.50	2	2.50	M
Afternoon D'ses (cotton)	1	2.50	1	2.50	1	".50	1	2.50	M
Wool dress	1	10.00	1	10.00			1	10.00	M
Coats	1	25.00			1	25.00			P
Sweater or work coat*	1	2.50	1	2.50					M or P
Hat(winter)	1	5.00	1	5.00			1	5.00	M
Hat(summer)	1	2.50	1	2.50	1	2.50	1	2.50	M
Underwear(sum')	3	1.50	3	1.50	3	1.50	3	1.50	M or P
Slips(summer)	3	1.50	1	.50	1	.50	1	.50	M
Union Suits (winter)	3	3.00	3	3.00			3	3.00	P
Slips(winter)	1	1.25	1	1.25			1	1.25	M
Corset	1	3.50	1	3.50					P
Brassieres*	3	.37½	2	.25	2	.25	2	.25	M
Nightgowns	3	1.80	1	.60	1	.60	1	.60	M
Kimona(warm)	1	1.50					1	1.50	M
Stockings(field)	4	.50	4	.50	4	.50	4	.50	P
Stocings (lisle)	2	1.00	2	1.00	2	1.00	2	1.00	P
Stockings(silk)	1	1.50	1	1.50	1	1.50	1	1.50	P
Shoes(everyday)	2	6.50	1	3.25	2	6.50	1	3.25	P
Shoes(dress)	1	4.00	1	4.00			1	4.00	P
Shoe repair	3	1.50	1	.50	2	1.00	1	.50	M
Rubbers	1	1.00	1	1.00			1	1.00	P
Gloves	1	1.00			1	1.00			P
Miscellaneous		3.00		3.00		3.00		3.00	
TOTAL		$86.67		$50.35		$50.60		$46.60	

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
in
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
State of Alabama.

Alabama.Polytechnic Institute
State Board of Agriculture and
United States Department of
Agriculture cooperating

Extension Service
County Agency Work

MATERIAL SUITABLE FOR GARMENTS LISTEDU UNDER
WARDROBE NEEDS.

(The starred garments are ones which the committee suggest may be made of material on hand, and thus not entered into the budget as money expended)

APRONS: Make the butcher aprons 1 yard of ladθlassie cloth, percale, gingham at 25¢ a yard; also of flour sacks at no cost.

HOUSE DRESSES:

4 yards of lad-lassie cloth, percale, gingham at 25¢ a yard. Trim with rick-rack, bias folds of the material, contrasting material, buttons, etc.

AFTERNOON DRESS OF COTTON:

4 yards of tissue gingham, voile, gingham, suiting, Indian head, poplin at 50¢ a yard.

(The committee decided to omit the silk dress, as a good silk is too expensive for this budget, and the afernoon dress can answer the same purpose).

WOOL DRESS:

Serge, gabardine, wool crepe, flannel at $2.00 a yard.

(The committee suggests that the farm wife do not purchase separate waist and skirts, as these are not becoming to her. A suit is not suitable in her wardrobe, as the coat to the suit does not look well with her dresses, and she cannot afford both a suit and a coat.)

COAT:

The farm woman should buy a coat worth at least $25.00. To get the service in wear and appearance which she should from such an expenditure, she should select a coat without a fur collar, or of a rough material like tweed, cut on very simple lines.

EXTRA WRAP FOR GARDENING? MILKING? ETC.:

This may be a sweater at $2.50 (minimum). It would be better to make a jacket of an old dress, or coat.

HATS:

Velvet for winter hats is not cheap. If a good quality cannot be bough, get velveteen.
Silk should be of good quality; taffeta at $2.00 to $2.50 a yard.
Cheap frames do not pay; frames which hold their shape cost from 50¢ up.

SUMMER UNDERWEAR:

This should consist of either knitted union suits at 50¢ each, or sets of either envelop chemise, or shirt and bloomers. Those garments can be made of unbleached domestic at 17¢ a yard, or bleached at 20¢, trimmed with rick-rack, or bias bindings or facings.

SLIP OR PETTICOAT:

UNBLeached or bleached domestic at 20¢, 2½ yds.

WINTER UNDERWEAR:

Knitted unionsuits with long sleeves and legs, at $1.00.

WINTER SLIP OR PETTICOAT:

Of sateen at 50¢ a yard, or of an old serge or wool jersey dress with a sateen camisole top.

NIGHTGOWNS:

Pajama check or long-cloth at 25¢ a yard, unbleached domestic or bleached at 20¢. Three yards.

BRASSIERES:

These can be made from the scraps left from the undergarments.
Straps made of the material will wear better than tape.
Hooks and eyes bought on tape will save time.

KIMONA:

Every farm woman needs a warm kimona for cold nights in case of illness or care for the baby. It should be of flannellette at 50¢ a yard made with the fleece side in. If a wool kimona can be bought, albatross at about $1.25 a yard makes a light warm covering. 3 yds.

STOCKINGS:

If a woman works in the field, she will find the Georgia Knit most satisfactory. They are two pair for 25¢. Lisle stockings at 50¢ and silk at $1.50 should be at least half fashioned.

SHOES:

The farm woman should have two pairs of working shoes and one pair of dress shoes. She should pay enough so that the shoe will wear well, hold its shape, and be of good material. Keep dress shoew in shoe trees.

SHOE REPAIRING:

This can be done at home. If a pair of shoes will not stand half soling and re-heeling, they should never have been bought. Shoes should be half soled before the sole is worn completely through to save the shoe and the stockings. Heels should be built up with rubber heels before they are run over.

MISCELLANEOUS:

This includes handkerchiefs, garters, handbags, umbrellas, gasoline for cleaning, etc.

The wool dress and coat should be thoroughly cleaned at least once a year.

CLOTHING INVENTORY FOR FARM WOMAN

Item	Garments on hand	Garments purchased 1925	
	No.	No.	Cost
Aprons			
House dresses			
Afternoon dresses (Cotton)			
Wool dress			
Coat			
Sweater or work coat			
Hat (winter)			
Hat (summar)			
Underwear (summer)			
Summer slips			
Winter unionsuits			
Winter slips			
Corset			
Brassieres			
Nightgowns			
Kimonos (warm)			
Stockings (field)			
Stockings (lisle)			
Stockings (silk)			
Shoes (everyday)			
Shoes (dress)			
Shoe repair			
Rubbers			
Gloves			
Miscellaneous			
TOTAL			

Clothing _____ Name _____

ITEM	WIFE			GIRLS								
	Age			Age			Age			Age		
	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost
Apron or rompers												
Cotton or linen dresses												
Silk dresses												
Wool dresses												
Waists												
Skirts												
Hats												
Suits												
Sweaters												
Coats												
Corsets												
Teddies												
Bloomers												
Slips or petticoats												
Union suits, winter												
Union suits, summer												
Kimona or bathrobe												
Silk stockings												
Cotton stockings												
Shoes												
Shoe repair												
Rubbers												
Handkerchiefs												
Garters												
Gloves												
Dry cleaning												
Sewing												
TOTAL												

Sheet #45

Clothing _____ Name _____

ITEM	HUSBAND			BOYS								
	Age			Age			Age			Age		
	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost	No. on Hand	No. Purchased	Cost
Hats												
Caps												
Sweaters												
Raincoats												
Overcoats												
Suits												
Extra Tr.												
Overalls												
Blouses												
Work Shirts												
Dress Shirts												
Collars												
Ties												
Belts												
Suspenders												
Garters												
Handkerchiefs												
Night Shirts												
U. wear; summer												
U. wear; winter												
Socks												
Shoes												
Shoe repair												
Rubber boots												
Gloves												
Dry Cleaning												
Pressing												
TOTAL												

Sheet #46

THE DIGEST (December, 1924)

REVEALED BY THE CLOTHING SURVEY

By Josephine F. Eddy

Last year Dr. E. L. Kirkpatrick of the Bureau of Rural Economics, asked that Alabama be one of the states to make a living cost survey to determine the standard of living in this State for home demonstration agents. One home demonstration agent in each district, was asked to remain after the annual meeting and discuss the survey with Dr. Kirkpatrick.

Miss Peyton of Madison, Miss McCain of Coosa, Miss Whorton of Lee, and Miss Busey of Pike spent the month of January visiting families in their counties and finding out their expenditures for the year 1922-1923. As a result of this work, we have data from 187 Alabama families including all classes and sizes of farmers and farms.

This survey revealed some very interesting facts in regard to living conditions. It enabled us to make a detailed study of the expenditure for clothing per family.

The average annual expenditure per family was $286.70, being 13.9 per cent of the total expenditure. This is lower than that for Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky families where a similar survey was made.

The average individual expenditures were rather startling. Members of the family spent:

The wife	$50.00
The husband	52.90
Girls over 24	71.00
Boys over 24	101.20
Girls 19-24	73.20
Boys 19-24	92.20
Girls 15-18	70.10
Boys 15-18	57.70
Girls 12-14	48.60
Boys 12-14	32.90
Girls 6-11	28.90
Boys 6-11	26.10

The largest single expenditure by a farm woman was $361.00, the lowest $2.50. There was only one expenditure over $300, but three women had spent under $2.75. Eighteen women had spent over $100 for their year's supply of clothing, but 55 women spent less than $25.

We are not especially interested in those women who spent over $100 as we know that they can have what they need, although it may not be of the very best quality, or a large number. But it is hard to imagine what a woman can purchase for less than $2.75 even if she makes all her clothes. The cost of cotton material is not low and yet it is our cheapest material.

The woman who spent $2.50, bought a pair of shoes. One woman who spent only $2.65, bought 2 dresses at $1.00 each, 2 pairs of stockings for 15c each, and 2 handkerchiefs. Her daughter of 20 spent $14.25 as follows: 1 apron at 50c, 4 dresses at $1.00 each, 1 sweater at $3.00, 4 pairs of stockings at 25c each, 1 pair of shoes at $3.25. But the woman who bought herself a pair of shoes only spent $27.00 for her 11-year old daughter.

You will say that this is out of proportion, as it is, but $27.00 gives the child a meagre wardrobe at best.

Studying the figures in detail after counting the number of garments purchased gives one much food for thought. Of the 186 farm women who furnished data, 95 percent bought shoes for an average of $4.10 a pair with an average of only 2.2 pairs per woman. Can you think of two pairs of $4.00 shoes giving good service for a whole year? Could they last for more than a year? If not, what is the other 5 percent doing for shoes?

The item of wraps is a more serious one. Alabama is not such a warm state that women can go the whole year without a wrap of any kind. Yet only 34 percent purchased sweaters which averaged $4.22 each. Only 16 percent bought coats at an average cost of $26.81, and 11 percent bought suits at an average cost of $20.00. This looks as if there was over a "wrap around," but 87 women or 41 percent purchased no wrap whatever. Of course these women probably had some sort of sweater or coat left from the year before, and how well does a $26.00 coat or a $20.00 suit look the second year. Many paid less than the average cost!

The matter of underwear is serious for both men and women, as the average is only a little over 2 garments per person purchasing, and the number purchasing ran as low as 50 percent for summer and 25 percent for winter. What are the others doing for underwear? You know that if you purchase only 2 suits a year you must buy every year, and surely a family does not have enough meal sacks to clothe the entire family in underwear!

We wish to suggest a standard wardrobe for a family below which one loses self-respect, and we hope to use these figures to help us with our list. But we need to know how many garments a person has in one's wardrobe as well as how many one purchases. The cost of a garment is not alone its initial price but that price considered in comparison with the life and appearance of the garment.

MISCELLANEOUS

County	Baking Powder		Families Using None	
	Furnished	Purchased	Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	8.30	6	1.2
Madison	0	161.25	2	4
Pike	0	45.76	14	2.6
Lee	0	43.21	16	4
Total	0	258.52	38	

Amount purchased per family per year $1.67
Amount purchased per family per week .032
82 per cent of the families use baking powder.

County	Soda		Families Using None	
	Furnished	Purchased	Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	23.25	1	2
Madison	0	63.62	1	2
Pike	0	29.05	5	9.6
Lee	0	35.00	2	5
Total	0	150.92	9	

Amount purchased per family per year .82
Amount purchased per family per week .015
95 per cent of the families use soda.

County	Salt		Families Using None	
	Furnished	Purchased	Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	52.40	0	0
Madison	0	71.75	3	6
Pike	0	133.88	3	5.7
Lee	0	159.16	1	2.5
Total	0	417.19	7	

Amount purchased per family per year $2.25
Amount purchased per family per week .043
96 per cent of the families use salt.

BEVERAGES

County	Coffee Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	188.00	17	3.4
Madison	0	1054.25	-	-
Pike	0	549.41	-	-
Lee	0	486.01	2	5
Total	0	2277.67	19	9.8

Amount purchased per family per year $13.16
Amount purchased per family per week .253
90.2 per cent of the families used coffee

County	Tea Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	5.25	45	9
Madison	0	42.80	38	7.6
Pike	0	13.20	16	3.7
Lee	0	45.60	22	5.5
Total	0	106.85	121	

Amount purchased per family per year $1.50
Amount purchased per family per week .028
36 per cent of the families used tea

EGGS

County	Eggs Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	8057	-	2	4
Madison	4401	104	2	4
Pike	5267	-	3	5.7
Lee	6931	4	0	0
Total	24656	108	7	

Amount furnished per family per year 133.2 dozens
Amount furnished per family per week 2.56 dozens
Amount purchased per family per year .55 dozens
Amount purchased per family per week .01 dozen
Eggs used per family per week 2.57 dozens

FATS.

County	Butter Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	12,675	6,337.50	1	2
Madison	8,928	4,113.08	2	4
Pike	10,524	4,426.80	0	0
Lee	8,022	4,009.00	0	0
Total	40,149.00	18,886.38	3	1.5

Average number of pounds of butter used per family per year 209
Average number of pounds of butter used per family per week 4
Number of families reporting none used 2
Value of butter made per family per year $88.09
Value of butter made per family per week 1.69
99 per cent of the families have butter.

MILK

County	Whole Milk Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	44566	0	1	2
Madison	135408	0	1	2
Pike	38878	0	2	3.8
Lee	29510	0	1	2.5
Total	248362	0	5	2.6

Average per family per year 1328.1 quarts
Average per family per day 3.6 quarts
Average per family per week 25.2 quarts
97.4 per cent of the families use whole milk.

County	Cream Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	--	0	-	-
Madison			-	-
Pike	208	0	-	-
Lee	702	0	-	-

4 families furnished 208 quarts
8 families furnished 702 quarts.

SWEETS

County	Sugar Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Families Using None Per Cent.
Coosa	0	368.00	1	2
Madison	0	1362.40	2	.4
Pike	0	837.36	1	1.9
Lee	10205	1089.60	0	0
Total	10205	3657.36	4	2

Amount of sugar used per family per year 19.5 lbs.
Value of sugar used per family per year $19.05
Value of sugar used per family per week .36
98 per cent of the families used sugar.

County	Syrup Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None None	Families Using None Per Cent.
Coosa	633.25	12.00	15	3
Madison	254.75	138.80	15	3
Pike	101.10	507.06	4	7.6
Lee	559.00	43.30	2	5
Total	1,548.10	701.16	36	1.8

Value of syrup made per family per year $8.06
Value of syrup made per family per week .15
Amount used per family per year 22½ gallons
Amount bought per family per year 6.4 gallons
Value of cane syrup bought per family per year $3.23
Value of cane syrup bought per family per week .06
Value of Karo bought per family per year .42
100 per cent of the families use syrup

County	Chicken Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	5886	0	3	6
Madison	15654	222	0	0
Pike	8898	0	2	3.8
Lee	8039	0	0	0
Total	38477	222	5	2.6

Amount furnished per family per year 205.7 lbs.
Amount purchased per family per year 1.2 lbs
Amount furnished per family per week 3.9 lbs
Amount bought per family per week .02 lbs
Total used 3.92 lbs per week per family.
1.5 per cent of the families used chicken

Value of canned fish bought per family per year $2.61
Value of canned fish bought per family per week .05
91 per cent of the families buy canned fish.

County	Other Meats Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent
Coosa	2660	0	25	5
Madison	1270	2906	6	1.2
Pike	234	1709	2	4
Lee	1506	2687	1	2
Total	5670	7302	34	1.7

Amount furnished per family per year 35.7
Amount furnished per family per week .68
Amount bought per family per year 46.2
Amount bought per family per week .88
82.2 per cent of the families used other meats.
17.8 per cent of the families used only pork and poultry.

FRUITS

County	Fresh Fruits Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number Fur.	Pur.	Using None.
Coosa	605.19	247.65	6	5	3
Madison	920.22	606.13	3	1	0
Pike	212.44	514.60	10	5	5
Lee	952.72	602.88	0	0	0
Total	2690.57	1971.26	19	11	8

9.8 per cent of the families furnished no fruit
5.6 per cent of the families purchased no fruit
4.1 per cent of the families had no fruit furnished nor purchased.
Amount furnished per family per week .299¢
Amount bought per family per week .205¢
Total fruit per family per week .504
$2.20 spent per month for fruit
7.3¢ per day spent for fruit
41 per cent of the fruit was bought.
Value of canned fruits bought per family per year $1.06
Value of canned fruits bought per family per week .02
50 per cent of the families buy canned fruit
Value of dried fruits bought per family per year $1.97
Value of dried fruits bought per family per week .038
42 per cent of the families buy dried fruit.

MEATS

County	Pork Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	27125	0	1	2
Madison	45240	100	1	2
Pike	43872	780	4	7.6
Lee	32730	357	0	0
Total	148967	1237	6	3.1

Amount furnished per family per year 800.5 lbs.
Amount furnished per family per week 14.6 lbs.
Amount purchased per family per year 6.6 lbs.
Amount purchased per family per week .12 lbs.
5 per cent of the families bought pork

County	Sweet Potatoes Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	1177	10	1	2
Madison	619	15	4	8
Pike	629	0	5	9.6
Lee	922	16	2	5
Total	3347	41	12	6.2

Bushels furnished per family per year 18.81
Bushels furnished per family per week .357
Bushels bought per family per week .005
Bushels consumed per family per week .362

County	Irish Potatoes Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	267	0	5	1
Madison	666	15½	0	0
Pike	207	20	4	7.6
Lee	333	49	1	2.5
Total	1473	84½	10	5.4

Bushels furnished per family per year 8.08
Bushels furnished per family per week .155
Bushels bought per family per year .45
Bushels bought per family per week .008

County	Vegetables other than Potatoes Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	3072.08	0	2	4
Madison	4255.17	119.43	0	0
Pike	3503.86	21.00	0	0
Lee	2796.71	86.84	0	0
Total	14327.82	227.27	2	1.4

Amount furnished per family per week $1.38
Amount purchased per family per week .023
Total per family per week 1.403

County	Crackers Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	$17.75	45	80
Madison	0	105.60	27	54
Pike	0	136.45	8	16
Lee	0	152.71	8	16
Total	0	412.51	88	46

Average amount spent per family per year for crackers $3.96
Average amount spent per family per week for crackers .076
54 per cent of the families bought crackers

County	Rice Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent
Coosa	0	$9.70	42	84
Madison	0	44.33	15	30
Pike	0	149.20	4	7.7
Lee	0	77.93	4	10
Total	0	281.16	65	44

Average amount spent per family per year for rice $2.21
Average amount spent per family per week for rice .043
66 per cent of the families bought rice.

County	Other cereal preparations Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent
Coosa	0	$20.47	45	90
Madison	0	148.09	13	26
Pike	0	129.62	22	42
Lee	0	211.09	9	22.5
Total	0	509.27	89	45

Average amount spent per family per year for cereals products $ 4.94
Average amount spent per family per week for cereals products .056
54 per cent of the families bought cereal products.

Tables Indicating Food Habits of Farm Families.

CEREALS.

County	Flour Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	34212	0	0
Madison	0	45028	1	2
Pike	0	35610	2	4
Lee	0	35153	0	0
Total	0	150003	3	1.5

Amount purchased per family per year 793.6
Amount purchased oer family per week 15.2
98.5 per cent of the families used flour.

County	Corn Meal Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	33552	144	0	0
Madison	30615	1218	2	4
Pike	26476	0	2	4
Lee	23213	484	0	0
Total	114256	1846	4	5.2

Amount furnished per family per year 607.7
Amount furnished per family per week 11.6
Amount purchased per family per year 9.7
Amount purchased per family per week .18
94.8 per cent of the families used corn meal.

County	Bread Furnished	Purchased	Families Using None. Number	Per Cent.
Coosa	0	$26.60	43	86
Madison	0	338.78	5	10
Pike	0	147.12	5	10.4
Lee	0	276.10	3	7.5
Total	0	788.60	58	30.2

69.8 per cent of the families bought bread.
Average amount spent per family per year for bread $5.88
Average amount spent per family per week for bread .11

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STANDARD HOMES

We, the Committee on the Standard Home for Alabama people, submit the following report:

(1) We are not unmindful of the importance of the income as a factor in improving living standards but we have not considered any income projects since these are being reported on by other committees in this conference.

(2) From a study of living costs of 187 farm families of 1924, made cooperatively by the U. S. Department of Agricultural Economics and the Alabama Extension Service, and from more than eight hundred answers made by farm women to a questionnaire sent out by the Alabama Extension Service, the following facts have been found:

a. That the value of the average Alabama farm home is estimated at about $1300.00. This is less than the value of the average farm home in the majority of the other States.

b. That only 6.9 percent of Alabama farm homes have running water, although 34 percent of the women answering the questionnaire desired running water above any other improvement. The Agricultural Engineering Division has estimated that 11½ two-gallon buckets of water are used per day in the average farm home and are drawn from a well 30 feet deep and carried 61 feet. This work is estimated to consume one hour of the farm woman's time and in a year to have taken 46 of her working days. In carrying the water she has walked 100 miles. The above work is equivalent to unloading twenty-two cars of coal, each of 30 tons capacity.

c. That only eight percent of the farm homes have a central lighting system.

d. That approximately 13 percent of the farm homes have sanitary toilets. Sixty-five percent have toilets which are not sanitary and 22 percent have no toilets.

e. That the average number of grades completed by the farmer is 5.2; by the farm mother, 6.3.

f. That ten percent of our farm families take no magazines or papers.

Since the above statistics indicate that there is a need for a State-wide improvement in farm home living standards, and since the place of the farm home in agricultural life and in the building of citizenship has been recognized by all people who have given this subject consideration, and:

Since agricultural progress will be no greater than the progress made in the development of farm home life, be it resolved:

That this conference go on record as endorsing the plan of having farm people in every community make a study of farm homes and farm home life and use the facts found as the basis for a program of work which will bring up to standard a larger percentage of homes and will offer suggestions and assistance for further improving the home life of those families who have attained an approved living standard.

And be it resolved further that the following standards for Alabama homes and home life be adopted:

HEALTH

FOODS

HOUSING

CLOTHING

FURNISHING

EDUCATION

RECREATION

HEALTH COMMITTEE

We, the Committee on Health for the Standard Farm Home, recommend:

(1) A physical examination for every member of the family once a year and a dental examination every six months.

(2) Sanitary equipment in every farm home, every outside opening in the house screened with a 16-mesh screen and an efficient sewerage disposal system or sanitary toilet.

(3) All quarters for live stock be kept thoroughly cleaned as an aid in destroying the deadly fly.

(4) All breeding places for mosquitoes be drained or oiled and also that every family cooperate with the State and County Board of Health to attain this end.

(5) That all rules for personal hygiene by the State Board of Health be carried out.

(6) Cooperate with health authorities against all contagious or communicable diseases.

(7) Have plenty of fresh air in every bed room every night.

Mrs. Grace M. Hough, Chairman

W. S. Fain

Mrs. H. B. Tompkins

Mrs. J. E. Cameron

J. W. Sartain

Ida Brunson

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE FARM HOUSE

After making a job analysis of the uses of a farm home, the committee recommends the following minimum standards for the farm house be adopted by and incorporated in all plans of the Extension Service in constructing and remodeling farm homes:

(1) Standard of construction

The farm house shall:

a. Have solid foundation of brick, concrete or stone. This foundation shall be continuous around the house to insure comfortable floors but shall have suitable openings for ventilation to give protection against dry rot.

b. All chimmies and wiring shall be constructed according to the fire underwriters' code.

c. All roofs shall be fire-resisting material.

d. All outside walls shall be protected by storm sheeting and building paper under the weatherboard.

e. All exterior woodwork shall be given two coats of good grade paint or be protected from decay by refined creosote oil and all beams or sills exposed to dampness shall be creosoted.

f. All windows shall be double lining with balanced weights and screened into removable screens covering both sashes.

g. All doors shall be properly screened.

h. All other sanitary arrangements recommended by the committee on health shall be included.

i. The construction shall be such as to make it possible to properly light and ventilate each room.

j. All floors and walls shall be constructed or covered so as to be easily cleaned.

(2) Plan of house

a. The house shall consist of:

1. Bathroom
2. Kitchen
3. Place for eating other than in the kitchen.
4. Screened porch or other work room.
5. Sleeping quarters to accommodate the size of th family.

6. A place for the social life of the family.
7. Storage facilities.

(1) The bathroom shall be located connecting with the hall to give privacy of access.

(2) The kitchen shall be as small as possible with sink and running water and shall be equipped to save steps.

(3) The screened porch or work place shall have arrangements for such work as preparing vegetables, canning, caring for milk,etc.

(4) The place for eating outside of the kitchen may be a breakfast alcove, dining room, a screened porch and shall be directly connecting with the kitchen.

(5) The sleeping quarters shall correspond with the size of the family. In the average family, there shall be one bed room for the parents, one room for boys, one room for girls and one spare room or concealed bed in the living room. Particular attention should be given to the lighting and ventilation of bed rooms.

(6) The place for the social life of the family shall consist of one living room, and living porch. The living room shall have an open fireplace.

(7) The storage facilities shall consist of one closet for each bed room, a linen closet or other facility for storing goods. A cellar for storage of home-grown vegetables and easy access shall be provided for the attic. Arrangements for laundry work shall be in a room other than the kitchen, preferably in the basement or outside building.

According to this standard, the house must have at least three rooms, a bed room, kitchen and combined living and dining room with a bathroom and two porches.

(3) Attractiveness

To be a satisfactory home, it must be attractive in appearance and all construction shall keep this in view as well as planning for the comfort and convenience of the family.

The committee also recommends that attention be called to certain built-in conveniences as additions to the standard farm home, such as:

Medicine cabinet
Built-in ironing board
Laundry shoot
Wood-box on rollers
Broom closet
Window boxes
Bookcases

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. John S. Morris, Chairman
J. B. Mitchell
Mrs. Louis Whatley
Mrs. F. L. Brown
Mrs. B. C. Scharnagel
Mrs. John Finley

Advisory Committee: Mr. M. L. Nichols, Mr. T.B.Chambers } Agr.Engineering Division, Auburn,Ala.
Miss Greta Gray, Bureau of Home Economics U.S.D.A. (Washington,D.C.)

FURNITURE AND HOUSE FURNISHINGS COMMITTEE

We, the Committee on Furniture and House Furnishings, for the Standard Farm Home, recommend the following:

(1) That the standard farm home shall have only such furnishings as are useful or ornamental.

(2) That the floors and walls shall be covered or finished in such a way that they will be attractive and easily cleaned.

(3) That the furniture shall harmonize with the floors and walls and that the farm families be encouraged to make part of their furniture wherever possible.

(4) That all working surfaces shall be made the proper height of the person who uses them most.

(5) That every home shall have a few good pictures.

(6) That ample storage space shall be provided for clothing, equipment and household supplies.

(7) That as many labor-saving devices and as much labor-saving equipment be provided as possible.

(8) That each home shall be furnished in a way that will meet the needs of the individuals making up the home.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha McCall, Chairman
Miss Sarah King
Mrs. A. W. Meadows
Mrs. M. A. Haynes
Mrs. A. L. Nabors

FOODS

We, the sub-committee on foods for the Standard Farm Home, recommend the following:

(1) Vegetables and fruits

a. That each family serve leafy vegetables at least four times a week.

b. That one fresh fruit or raw vegetable be served each day.

(2) Milk

a. That the family serve a quart of milk a day for each growing child, and at least a pint a day for every other individual.

(3) Meat

a. That each family serve meat, fish or eggs daily and the committee urges that meat be served only once a day.

Pearl B. Crawford, Chairman
Mr. Williamson
Mr. Goldsmith
Mr. Gresham
Mrs. Phillips
Mrs. Dozier

REPORT OF CLOTHING COMMITTEE

The Clothing Committee of the Standard Farm Home, working with the regular Clothing Committee, begs to submit the following report:

After a careful study of the expenditures for clothing tabulated in the surveys of last year, it was decided to plan a minimum wardrobe for the farm wife on the basis of $50.00, the average expenditure of 186 wives.

This wardrobe is submitted with number of garments and approximate cost affixed. Suggestions for kind and quality of material are added.

It is suggested:

(1) That this minimum budget be used as the basis for discussion on the selection of the wife's wardrobe.

(2) That at least ten women in each county try to plan their wardrobes along these lines.

For assistance in this project, sheets are appended for the woman's convenience, and she is asked to make an inventory of her present wardrobe and enter throughout the year the number and cost of all garments purchased.

It is suggested that the ten women keeping this information, be the same ten who answer the questions in the 1924 survey to be taken in January, and that they report to the agent and the clothing specialist at the end of the year.

Respectfully submitted by the members of
the Clothing Sub-Committee of the Standard
Farm Home Committee:

Mrs. J. M. Horne (Calhoun)
Mrs. Chas. C. Nance (Lawrence)
Mrs. E. N. McCall (Escambia)
Mrs. Margie Mash (Crenshaw)
(Assisted by the Clothing Committee)

We, the Sub-Committee on Education, since studying statistics made from the survey of 187 farm homes in Alabama, in which it was found that the average number of grades which had been completed by the farmers of Alabama was not more than six, and that only fifteen of the 187 farmers had had a college education, be it resolved that this committee recommends:

(a) That all farm boys and girls complete the high school course.

(b) That all farm boys and girls be given a college education whenever possible.

(c) That in each farm home there may be made available and read by the members of the farm family, the following literature:

1 county paper
1 standard daily paper
1 standard farm magazine
1 women's magazine
1 child's magazine
1 religious magazine or paper of their choice

(d) That the home life be such that every individual in the family will have a maximum development physically, mentally, morally and spiritually.

Respectfully submitted:

Mrs. Mabel Feagin, Chairman
C. C. Miller, Secretary.
Mrs. N. H. Brown
Mrs. Dora Tyndall
Mrs. W. S. Fair
Mrs. H. W. McCafferty
Mrs. J. W. Sartain
Mr. J. S. Kernachan
Mr. W. D. Wood

RECREATION

We, the Committee on Recreation, for the Standard Farm Home, recommend that the home be a social center in which instrumental and vocal music, reading habits, radio, pleasant conversation at meals, games in the home, outside sports, and social gatherings be encouraged and made important factors.

Stella Harms, Chairman
Mrs. M. F. Skehan
Mrs. Cliffie Ray
Mrs. J. E. Witherington
Miss Margaret Ambrose
Mrs. E. A. Ray

HOME GROUNDS

The committee recommends that there be an attractive home setting in harmony with the house. This includes the planting of grasses, shrubbery, flowers, and other plants which not only beautify the surroundings, but eliminate the labor of constant yard sweeping.

Respectfully submitted by the twenty farm men and women and the 10 extension workers whose names appear on sub-committees.

Agnes Ellen Harris, Chairman.