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Iowa State College

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GIRLS’ 4-H CLUBS

Club Work Is Glorifying the Iowa Farm Girl

Florence Forbes

National Club Congress.

Chicago! and the National Club Congress is the goal for which the 4-H club girl turns her thoughts at this time of the year. This year each state was limited to a delegation of fifty members. So the 25 girls who were chosen because of meritable records in the respective activities to represent Iowa, feel not a little happy that they have stuck to the line this last year.

Arriving in Chicago December first, there has been no end to the new experiences. These experiences are indelibly impressed upon the minds of the girls so that those who did not quite come up to the mark will share in the stories when the girls return.

First of all there are the new acquaintances, new sights and perhaps most impressive of all is the appreciation that “I am a member of the largest youth organization in the country and I’m glad I live on a farm.”

Sunday was memorable in that the girls attended church in the Chicago Temple. To step abruptly from a busy thoroughfare into the quiet recesses of a lovely church was a brand new experience.

The big thrill and an invitation highly appreciated was the invitation to call on Governor Hammond in his suite at the Palmer House.

Beginning Sunday there has been little time for notes home, a few hours to snatch a little sleep after educational trips, luncheons and banquets planned by the National Committee and commercial companies.

A new innovation! Think of it, a National Club Party and a cosmopolitan one, too, Wednesday evening, Dec. 5, on the 19th floor of the La Salle Hotel. All the delegates came bedecked in costumes made from newspapers to bath towels, not to say anything about sectional and National costumes of different parts of the country. If you did not learn to know girls and boys from all over the United States, you were to blame.

Last but not least are the contests.

The contestants placed and gave reasons on the following classes: Clothing, Bread, Canned Products and Home Furnishing articles. Iowa walked off with the lion’s share of the awards. Esther Everett and Alma McCurdy of Mahaska county placing first in the Clothing Judging. Esther Friesth and Agnes Klevos of Humbolt first in Bread Judging and Evelyn Kidd of Dickinson county second high individual in Home Furnishing Judging. Esther Everett and Esther Friesth are freshmen at Iowa State College.

Our next big honor came when the blue ribbon was placed on the unit from a girl’s room. This exhibit was a dressing table made by Evelyn Kidd of Dickinson county. Iowa has taken first place in this class for five years when the first entry was made. With a window treatment Iowa placed second. The curtains made of Osnaburg and trimmed with a bit of bright cretonne came from Beissie Wheelock’s room of Grundy county.

In the canning entries, Iowa placed second on entry of 4 jars of meat, fifth on four jars of canned fruit.

Iowa 4-H girls know their meats because two girls placed in the high six out of 58 contestants. Lillian Wiggers of Muscatine County tied with a West Virginia girl for third high individual.

Velma Larson, Shelby county, placed sixth in the Style Revue.

So you are proud of Iowa 4-H family are you not?

We are sure that every mother, leader and club member would burst with pride if she could have watched her representatives at a distance. Their spirit and attitude have been 100 percent and they promised to take back much to you.

Miss Beulah Rodgers, former 4-H club member is now assisting with the 4-H club work of South Dakota. Beulah attended her first 4-H Club Congress in 1922 as a member of the Iowa Canning Team. This year she assisted in chaperoning the South Dakota group of girls.

Other friends of Iowa 4-H club girls seen at the Congress were Miss Pauline Reynolds and Miss Cecile Manikowske.

New Editor

Miss Eleanor Baur, formerly home furnishing specialist of the Agricultural Extension Department at Ames, is now editor of the Girls’ 4-H Club page of Wallace’s Farmer. If you are not already familiar with this page, we want to urge every 4-H girl and leader to know this attractive page. It is full of good things. Ask Miss Baur about the club contest.

We miss Josephine Wiley, but give her our best wishes for her new work with Better Homes and Gardens.
Another step in the history of Iowa 4-H Club experiences. As we look back over our own page it behooves us to look closely to "check up" to find just what has been our record. Have we gleaned from the club, with all of its opportunities, our share, determined by what we have put into it?

In a few days practically every county will have had its organization meeting, where new plans for 1929 have been made, and in a short time each club will have a copy of the new project.

Many counties are planning or have held an annual club banquet, which is the climax of the year's activities. Here is the opportunity to meet again members from the far corners of the county, to renew acquaintances, to entertain our fathers and mothers, and others interested in our organization. Also, acquaint those in our communities who are not familiar with our work with 4-H club activities.

Notable among these have been Adair, Dallas, Mitchell, Keokuk and Allamakee county banquets. Adair county had Charles Hearst, state Farm Bureau president, as one of the speakers. Dallas county had an excellent music memory contest in connection with the banquet. Keokuk county had the distinction of having Governor hammill as a guest. Allamakee county, perhaps, has the distinction of having the largest attendance of 400, as well as an interesting, enthusiastic program.

There are many other features we might mention to show that our year has been an unusually interesting, profitable and inspirational one. There is much to tuck away in our memory boxes.

Let us mention that, without one exception, every county has as one 1929 aim to increase the 4-H club membership. Look about you, is every rural girl in your community enrolled in a 4-H Home Economics Club?

Scott County Banquet

Scott County 4-H club leaders, committee members and county club officers tried out some of the ideas they learned in the foods project on Art of Table Setting and Serving, when they had a banquet at the Y. W. C. A., October 22, with Miss Arnquist as a guest.

Esther Everett

Again Iowa is extra proud of it's entry of a complete outfit of clothing for a club girl at the National Club Congress. And again we are proud of the quality of workmanship, and spirit of Esther Everett, Mahaska county. Esther's garments and accessories placed second in a large class. Lovely colors, appropriate underclothing, shoes and hosiery, "just right" accessories and excellent workmanship made this exhibit stand out as an evidence of a diligent application of those fundamental things taught in the 4-H clothing program.

The dress is made of old blue wool crepe, with a blouse and hat of blue silk crepe with a pattern containing accents of orange and other values of blue. The purse and beads add just the right finish.

Esther Everett is a freshman at Iowa State College and her exhibit was on display at the Home Economics buildings.

Prize Winning Poem

Soon after the Department of the American Homes was established in the General Federation, Mrs. Maggie W. Barry, the chairman of the department, offered a prize of $25 for the best poem that should be written on the American Home. The contest was conducted by the Division of Literature of the Department of Fine Arts. The prize winning poem follows. It was written by Mrs. Fermier, a member of the Campus Study Club of the A. and M. College, College Station, Texas.

The Ladder

By Norah Barnhart Fermier

Whenev'r I have started to climb
The steep ladder of Achievement,
I have been held back
By persuasive human fingers.

Sometimes they were rosy with babyhood,
And again they were the veined hands
Of my old father,
Who wanted me to write him a letter.

Sometimes they were silken-soft fingers
Of my neighbor, playing bridge,
And often they were the muscular hands of my husband,
Who wanted me to cook his dinner.

Sometimes they were grubby little hands
Full of marbles,
Or little girl hands
Strewing paper dolls.

And so I have not been able
To climb that steep ladder,
But I lie at the foot of it as Jacob did,
A stone for a pillow,
Not sleeping, but watching
With tear-filled, wistful eyes,
The angels that pass up and down.

I wonder how long it was till Jacob knew
His name was Israel?
(Israel—Soldier of God.)

—Christian Science Monitor.

"Opportunity occasionally meets a man half way, but she seldom comes after him in an automobile."—Selected.

"A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market."—Lamb.