CONFERENCE SUMMARY

by Doretta Hoffman*

Outstanding leaders have given inspirational, informative, and enlightening talks at this conference. Members of the conference have for the most part been in attendance at most or all of the sessions. There is little reason, therefore, to re-state what has already been so ably stated.

Certain key words that have impressed me are perhaps of more value in highlighting the excellent presentations than any other method of summarization. I have arbitrarily selected key words that to me represent a summary of the conference. They are listed below with short explanations of their meaning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Words</th>
<th>Brief Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problems</td>
<td>Many problems have come to the attention of those who have had experience in higher education and home economics in other countries of the world. Problems merely set the stage for solutions...and innumerable problems call for ingenious solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress</td>
<td>Evidence has been presented in many of the presentations that progress has been made in spite of all the problems facing representatives of universities and of government. The future holds unlimited possibilities for further progress and unusual advances are being made and will continue to be made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>The key to success and progress lies, without question, in education. Over and over again in the talks the outstanding hope for the future lies in education. The importance of education cannot be over emphasized as it is the best and only way to cause progress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Many leaders are in complete agreement that a sound program for the future for all countries of the world and for the contribution that home economics can make is by a sound program of research. In this way, choice can be made as to which</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dr. Hoffman is dean, College of Home Economics, Kansas State University.
problems can be solved in a progressive way without the trial and error approach that is costly in terms of money, time, and human effort.

Understanding

Over and over again the need for better understanding was stressed at the conference. Without understanding of the social, economic, and cultural forces in the countries in which home economists are at work, there can be little progress. Understanding of the importance of the human beings and the factors that affect them is essential to a program of education and research in home economics.

Humanism

There is no more important element in our efforts than the humanistic attitude of the professional home economist. The overwhelming importance of humanism is essential as the core of the program in working with others.

Language

Knowledge of the language of the people as an important factor in success of assistance to developing programs was stressed again and again by contributors to the conference. Members who attended the conference could hardly leave without a renewed interest in going home to learn another language.

Ingenuity

Herein lies the answer to programs that have the highest possibility for success. Translation of principles that are known to situations that are heretofore unknown demands the highest level of ingenuity. But home economists are known to possess this trait in large measure.

Bold Approach

These two key words exemplify the future for world wide development of home economics and higher education. The words were taken from the presentation of one of the program participants and summarize the potential for the future in the best possible way.