Who's There and Where

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MISS LYDIA BIGELOW IN Y. W. C. A. WORK

Collapsible bathtubs and life in a shack hold no terrors for Miss Lyda Bigelow, an Iowa State woman who has been doing noteworthy relief work in France, Serbia, and who is now the only relief worker which the Y. W. C. A. has sent to Greece for six months.

Before the war Miss Bigelow was a teacher of physical geography in Seattle public schools. But in the fall of 1917 she went to France in construction and relief work under the Red Cross. For one and a half years she worked in Southern France caring for war ridden refugees. Her work was so successful that in 1918 just before Christmas, she was sent under the auspices of the Balkan Commission to Serbia, to serve with the Red Cross there. In recognition of the splendid work she did there, the work of the Y. W. C. A. was decorated by the Serbian government.

After completing a year of relief work in New York, she returned to Cincinnati and began to study at Columbia and do social service work in New York City. In 1920 she worked under the National Board of the Y. W. C. A.

The following year she was sent by the Y. W. C. A. back to France. But this time to do immigration work, having charge of the immigrant women of the second class. Her work consisted of watching the ports with three offices at Brussels, Paris, and Versailles.

Last Christmas, Miss Bigelow was called to London in a conference at Y. W. C. A. headquarters. There she was asked to go to Greece in relief work for six months and the only representative sent by the Y. W. C. A. So early in January she sailed for Constantinople and thence to Piraeus where she is now studying in alleviating the suffering of the thousands of refugees.

VIOLET PAMMEL IN FOODS WORK

Helping to run a two million dollar a year business is the work of Violet Pammel, who is Assistant Superintendent of Food Service at Washington, D. C. Deborah Pammel, an Iowa State Graduate, is assisting Violet in this work. Their dining rooms, put up during the war, are in the Capitol building, and they feed 2,000 women employed by the government twice daily. Although this service is not run for profit they turned into the treasury over $20,000 last year.

Violet is secretary of the Ames Alumni association at Washington. She recently gave a dinner for several P. E. O. friends, entertaining the president of the supreme board, chapter of P. E. O. Mrs. Hughes, the organizer; Mrs. E. D. Bell; Senator Brookhart’s life; and four other women.

REBA EDWARDS WRITES FROM HAWAII

"Home economics," writes Reba Edwards, who is teaching at Waikiki Hawaii, "is entirely undeveloped here. In fact, it has been in schools only six years. The equipment is miserable with cooking and sewing in the same room, and no individual equipment for cooking. Then I have to supervise getting enough flour for the 150 children that takes most of the time. At first I thought that I had run against a stone wall but I am getting more used to it now.

Reba has for her pupils, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, and Hawaiians with the Japanese outnumbering the others. Nearly all of my girls, of all nationalities, come to school barefoot. Fortunately they all speak English, although Reba says:

In talking with the Japanese and Chinese an extensive vocabulary is superficial. When you go to buy anything you point at the article and say ‘How much?’ If you want it, all you need say is, ‘I take it.’ The phrase over here is the limit. It is a mixture of English, Japanese, and Hawaiian. The kids say ‘I no like,’ ‘me no like,’ one word seems to express several different ideas depending on the situation.

Cottages are furnished for the teachers. Reba lives with a girl from Pennsylvania, one from Washington, and one from Omaha. They do their own work taking turns each week.

Can you imagine the pleasure of living in surroundings like these? ‘The scenery around us is typically Hawaiian. In our front yard is a row of Royal Palms and we look out on a majestic mountain, thirty miles away, in which the famous extinct crater is found. There are also mountains back of us and between them a beautiful valley in which are banana groves, and koa groves. Growing wild are cactus, four o’clocks, wandering jew and lantana.’

Although teachers usually stay in Hawaii but one year, Reba plans to teach another year, and expects to spend her summer in Honolulu.

DORIS PAMMEL CHIEF DIETICIAN

A recent visitor to Ames was Doris Pammel who is chief dietitian at Fort Baird, New Mexico, one of the largest tuberculosis hospitals for war veterans in the country. Doris, with the aid of twelve assistant dietitians feeds 500 patients daily.

Doris finds her health much improved and she enjoys her work. She does not live in the hospital but has her own little cottage and a maid. She rides horseback a great deal, and often spends week-ends at a shack which the dietitians own in the mountains.

CARRIE PLUNKETT PUBLISHES BULLETIN

Carrie Plunkett, one of our last year staff members and a member of Theta Sigma Phi, who is teaching at the University of Arkansas, at Fayetteville, writes:

“My duties here, with twenty hours of teaching and all the buying for the food department, naturally take up my time. I have written a bulletin on family meals, that is now in the hands of the publishers. Outside of that I’ve done nothing in the journalistic line.”

We think that is quite a good deal. Evidently Carrie is making good for Imogene Crutcher, in a letter to Miss Viola Bell, says, “Miss Plunkett Is instructor of foods at Arkansas. All the girls are very fond of her, and I think she is quite a booster since two of her girls expect to enter Ames next fall.”

Imogene, who left school at the end of the fall quarter on account of illness, is hoping to return this spring.

OUR FRENCH GIRLS

Andre Dumont and Yvonne Manin, who graduated from the Iowa State in 1921, are now working in France. Andre, who went to Paris, studying playground and recreational work, now has charge of a playground in Soissons. Yvonne is studying at the University in Paris. After leaving the states she did research work in anti-tubercular cures at Pasteur Institute. Here at school she majored in bacteriology under Dean R. E. Buchanan.

ODGEN CLASS VISITS IOWA STATE

Miss Jeanette Schleifer, ’22, who is teaching at Ogden this year, brought her home economics class to visit the Iowa State campus yesterday.

PORTERS WILL GO TO CHINA

Hazel Kintzley Porter, ’20, will accompany her husband, Professor R. H. Porter, to Pekin, China, in August, where Mr. Porter will be connected with the University of Pekin as plant pathologist.

Miss Ruth Pohlman, ’22, is teaching foods in the Clinton high school.

Miss Ilva Fishel, ’21, is teaching second year of home economics at Belle Plaine, Iowa.

Nellie Grant, ’08, of Rolfe, Ia., has been teaching in Los Angeles schools, and has had great success in handling foreign children.

Josephine Plattenburg, a ’22 graduate, is specializing in costume designing at the School of Fine and Applied Arts in New York City.