1924

With the Iowa State Home Economics Association

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Recommended Citation
Ferguson, Fred (1924) "With the Iowa State Home Economics Association," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 4 : No. 10 , Article 5.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol4/iss10/5

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FARM women in 95 counties made valuable contributions to "Iowa's Cultural Program" during 1923-24. One well organized Home Project was conducted in each of the 95 counties. This is a substantial growth, from 25 counties in 1922 to 65 in 1923 to 95 in 1924, to 99 in 1925.

A well organized project means one in which all organized townships take part, in 100% of counties all townships are organized as follows: Township project leader, publicity chairman, and a cooperator in each school district. This group of women constitute a township committee that functions as an active committee for project work. The July 1st records report 140 townships organized in this way, and 1000 of this number that actually function as an active committee.

One of the vital points in the results reported by these committees is the activity of local leaders trained thru project work.

One thousand local leaders report at least one follow-up meeting a month for five months. This makes a total of 35,000 meetings held by local leaders who have received their instruction in the training school.

These local leaders report that they have met an average of 19 women at each meeting, a total of 650,000 for the state of Iowa. The Iowa farm women look upon this as a part of their job to reach every woman in the State of Iowa and they are steadily reaching their goal.

The factors which determine high standards of homes are: adequate income, health education, recreation, appreciation of the beautiful, religious life, community work, furnishings, and social responsibility. These objectives and the methods of reaching them have been explained in the following summary:

1. Adequate Income.

The income depends not only upon the real economy used in spending it, but upon the real economy used in earning it. Please note that economy means "Wise Spending." The Home Management Proyect in 14 counties has stressed economy of time, money and energy. The women report that it has been of direct value to them, thru study of expenditure of home accounts, thru the keeping of home accounts, and the saving of time.

To the Teachers of Home Economics in Iowa:

I am happy to have been invited by you to extend my greetings to you. First, I want to extend the season's greetings to each of you, and the best of good wishes for your continued success in this our great work of Home Economics education. On behalf of the Staff of the Iowa Homemaker, I am happy to offer our services to you in any way in which the work of Home Economics can be promoted by this paper.

We are very glad that you have made the Iowa Homemaker, the official organ of the State Home Economics Association, and I hope each of you will take advantage of this opportunity to let all of us know what you are doing in your school, or bits of interesting news for Home Economics people in Iowa.

Our able association editor, Mrs. Fred Ferguson, will do her part, but she does need the help of each member of the association to make this a truly representative organ.

I am eager to see our association active one, enlisting the interest of every member. No teacher should be working alone, if there is no other teacher in your town, get in touch with the teacher in the nearest town, or associate yourself with the club in your community, which is working for the advancement of home and community.

Can we make our association New Year's resolution? To make contact, before another month, with my nearest Home Economics neighbor. We know we are promoting the work, which is of the most far reaching importance to the welfare and happiness of our state, but it is so big and important that we cannot do it alone, we need your help, and thereby many times multiply the effectiveness of your effort.

As a National Vice-President, I am of course ambitious to see our association in the front ranks. We are way down the list at present for our membership is behind other states of our size. We cannot be satisfied until every teacher of Home Economics is a member of the National Association and has placed it's stamp of appreciation on your association resolution.

Yours in Home Economics

Anna E. Richardson
Dean of Home Economics, Iowa State College.

Editor's Note: Last we forgot that not all home economics work is done in high schools and colleges, we are glad we have this report of the results of the home projects in Iowa for 1923-1924.

money and energy. It has helped them to study the business of homemaking and to enlarge their vision concerning the importance of the job.

Altho this subject is more directly related to the subject of "gifted Income" all other projects have made their reports. Home furnishings have done its part thru refinishing of furniture, home dyeing and the making of home made rugs. Nutrition has placed its emphasis of the doctrine, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Hundreds of letters from the leaders prove that it has succeeded. Clothing projects have saved hours of time and hundreds of dollars as actually reported by the leaders. Directly or indirectly the question of income has been stressed by project work in 95 counties.


Now comes health, upon which no money value can be placed, it is priceless. The farm women, thru townships and county committee organizations have helped to conduct Baby Health Clinics in every county in the state. That job alone justifies the money and effort put into the organization.

Farm women conducted nutrition projects in 38 counties in 1923-1924. They state their reasons as follows: "For Health and Economy." Is it a worth while reason? Is it worth while to conserve health? Is disease an economic waste?

3. Education.

Farm women believe that life becomes broader and brighter thru study. They believe that all project work contributes toward this end, thru facts learned and desire for study.

4. Recreation.

One of the big events of the year is the "Farm Women's Camp" held at Camp DeWitt, July. The women enjoyed play, rest, and a week while program each day for one week. Plans are made to hold a similar camp this year. They believe that all work and no play does indeed dull one's outlook upon life.

5. Appreciation of the Beautiful.

Sixty-five counties conducted clothing projects partly because they enjoy good color combinations and good design in dress. Fourteen counties conducted home furnishing projects because they enjoy pleasing pictures and restful colors in the home.

Some counties conducted projects in landscape work because they want the inspiration and pleasure from beautiful surroundings.


Seven thousand farm women enjoyed the spirit of service when they passed the work they received at training schools on to their neighbor women. Service is closest kin to religion. The Iowa farm women say, "My church work consists of helping other people, and thereby my community work is for agriculture."

7. Community Surroundings.

Township committee in 1260 townships are using their organizations to further and develop boys and girls clubs, school activities, church activities and for cooperation with other organizations.

8. Social Responsibility.

This includes the leadership and social responsibility the broad vision and the real citizenship of the 7500 local leaders who are devoting time, thought, and energy.

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With Iowa Home Economics Association
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8. Social Responsibility.
This includes the leadership, personal responsibility the broad vision and the real citizenship of the 7000 local leaders who are devoting time, thought, money and energy to the development of the farm, home and community life in Iowa. Signed by the State Committee of Farm Women.

1st District, Mrs. J. A. Randall, New London, Iowa.
2nd District, Mrs. H. Woodward, Williamsburg, Iowa.
3rd District, Mrs. Helke A. Rust, Sheffield, Iowa.
4th District, Mrs. George Peckham, Castalia, Iowa.
5th District, Mrs. M. D. Frye, Vinton, Iowa.
6th District, Mrs. Clarence Decatur, Grinnell, Iowa.
7th District, Mrs. Jacob Solberg, Nevada, Iowa.
8th District, Mrs. Harley Condra, Seymour, Iowa.
9th District, Mrs. Eugene Culler, Logan, Iowa.
10th District, Mrs. Van Bloom, Daytorn, Iowa.
11th District, Mrs. Frank Wright, Monticello, Iowa.
Chairman of Committee, Mrs. Ellsworth Richardson, Pella, Iowa.
Home Economics Extension Work with farm women, Neals S. Knowles, Ames, Iowa.

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viewpoint to take on the matter. A good quality of machine made lace has its place in wearing apparel just as any good, artistic, inexpensive fabric has. It seems to me that it would indicate a lack of good judgment for one to scorn using a good imitation val or filet for trimming, and then perhaps deny himself actual necessities in order to buy handmade val or filet.

The most of us find handmade lace beyond our means, at least a certain satisfaction may be had in being able to recognize it when we see it. Certain differences between "the real thing" and imitations are: machine lace is not made with looped stitches like needle point lace, nor do we find in it the effect of plaited threads as in Pillow lace; the "tide" of machine lace is often found to be ribbed, like the ribbed texture of a knitted stocking; while old Needle and Pillow lace is always worked with line thread, machine lace is very generally made of cotton.

Furthermore, machine lace is too perfect; the irregularities of hand made lace denote its origin. But, as Mrs. Sharp, author of "Point and Pillow Lace," says, "We are so made that the imperfect even, pleases us more than the perfect, if it tells us that human beings have expended time and zeal in their efforts after perfection."

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