

1925

Girls' 4-H Club

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Recommended Citation

Culbertson, Elsie R. (1925) "Girls' 4-H Club," *The Iowa Homemaker*: Vol. 5 : No. 10 , Article 7.
Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol5/iss10/7>

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GIRLS' 4-H CLUBS



Club Work Is Glorifying the Iowa Farm Girl

Purpose of Home Furnishing Club Work By Elsie R. Culbertson

Since we are so greatly influenced by our surroundings, it is the aim of every 4-H girl to have her room just as attractive and inspirational as possible. Oh! what a joy it is to really know how to do this. The best part of it all is that this sort of a room is not necessarily the elaborate one, but it is more often the simple, modest room which conveys on every hand the ingenuity of the one who furnished it.

The ability to furnish a home properly is not all together natural nor is it gained in a day, but it needs to be developed. The girl's room is the basis for this study. As she develops taste and knack in making her room attractive, the "home in good taste" becomes her ideal.

The Home Furnishing club girls in Iowa are using their own rooms as their workshops in developing these fine ideals. A girl enjoys having that one place she can call her very own and in which she can express her own individuality.

The club girl finds much pleasure in applying the correct principles of home furnishing to her own room, as she converts the simple, inexpensive things she has at hand into things of beauty and usefulness. With her limited amount of money she learns to make every penny count toward a definite improvement and a good investment. She develops skill in sewing as she makes practically everything that she uses in her room.

She learns to appreciate good design and wood in furniture and she often makes wonderful discoveries in the attic. On these old pieces she practices the principles of refinishing furniture.

She studies good pictures and music and realizes their value in the home. The club girl learns that home furnishing is an interesting and endless study, once into it there is always more to be gained.

The values of Home Furnishing Club Work cannot be estimated. The girl taking advantage of it is making a permanent investment with benefits in every day life absolutely guaranteed.

Home Furnishing Clubs

Home Furnishing club work is becoming increasingly popular. This year thirty-five counties have made plans for this type of work for the 4-H clubs. Clubs will base their programs for the year on one of the following main themes: General principles of room arrangement; floors and floor coverings; curtain, drapes and spreads; accessories; closets and closet arrangement.

Most of the girls will apply the principles learned to their own rooms, making it a demonstration of their ability.

"In the spring a woman's fancy,
Turns her household upside down,"



GIRL'S ROOM

Central Features of 4-H Home Economics
Exhibit, State Fair, 1925.

A Typical Girl's Room

Thoughtful planning, not great expenditure, made the room featured in the above picture attractive. The inspiration to remodel the room was the result of a 4-H Home Furnishing club program. The actual planning and work was done by Frances Baustian, a club girl in Scott County. Ivory, soft green and rose was the pleasing color scheme chosen. Frances refinshed the walls, woodwork and floor of her bedroom and closet, doing all the work herself.

The next step was improving the design of the furniture. The head board of the bed was sawed off, the poorly designed standards which held the mirror were removed from the dresser and the attractive writing desk was evolved from an ordinary washstand. The varnish was removed, then four coats of ivory paint and enamel applied to the furniture. The curtains are of marquise, the drapes of zephyr print of small design, harmonizing with the general color scheme. The print is also used as a border for the cotton shantung bedspread and for the bolster cover. The charming accessories were all developed with very little expense. The waste paper basket is a cracker box camouflaged by a covering of sanitas, made gay with an applied design in color, the same design being repeated in the book ends made from tin. The cheery quill pen was once a white wyandotte feather. This was dyed a rose tint and is held erect in a little painted glass filled with chicken grit. An artistic hooked rug was made from old bedspreads dyed in colors to harmonize with the other furnishings. The best part of the story of this room, which is charming enough to please even the most fastidious, is yet to be told. The complete cost for the entire room—refinishing walls and furniture, new curtains and spread, desk and dresser accessories and rug, was only \$29.45. The money was saved by keeping personal expense accounts. Any club girl with ambition and energy can have just as charming a room.

4-H Girls Appreciate Mr. Cory

The presentation of a Windsor chair to Mr. A. R. Cory, secretary of the State Fair, was a high light at the 4-H club luncheon during the State Farm Bureau Federation meeting. The chair was presented by Miss Nina Jones, a club girl of Polk county, in behalf of the over ten thousand club girls of the state, in appreciation of the many fine things Mr. Cory has done for club girls at the fair. The story of the chair is interesting. For a number of years it was a part of the furnishing of the sheep barn on the fair grounds and was, of course, in a miserable state of repair. Mr. Cory admired its good design and regretted that so good a chair should fall so low. It was spirited away from the barn and Nina Jones began the work of its rejuvenation. When her work was completed the chair was indeed lovely. The steps Nina used in refinishing the chair are as follows:

1. Used varnish remover.
2. Scrubbed with strong suds.
3. Washed with gasoline.
4. Rubbed with sandpaper and steel wool.
5. Two coats of walnut stain.
6. Two coats of shellac—rubbed lightly with pumice stone after each coat, applied with slightly dampened cloth.
7. Two coats of varnish—rubbed with pumice stone as before.
8. One coat of varnish—rubbed with pumice stone and raw linseed oil.
9. Lastly, rubbed with raw linseed alone.

4-H Club Girls Give Scholarship

The club girls of Iowa are all proud to have a part in making possible the non-collegiate scholarship which is to be given to the most deserving 4-H girl. This scholarship is made financially possible through the state 4-H club fund. Here is a real opportunity for some ambitious girl. Applications should be sent to the State Club Office just as soon as possible. Following are the terms of the scholarship:

- I. **By whom given:** The State 4-H Girls' Organization.
- II. **Eligibility of Applicant:**
 1. Any active Iowa 4-H girl who has been in Home Economics club work at least two years and is now in good standing in her club.
 2. Must be a rural girl.
 3. Must be a girl not qualified to do collegiate work.
 4. Must be in need of fellowship money.

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is made to give them any amount desired. The funniest thing I noticed here was a sign which read, "No Smoking—This Means You and I." Our guide gave us a very interesting talk in his office, emphasizing the brands of goods carried, explaining to us their origin and what they are attempting to make them mean. The company has been organized since 1912 and the plant is owned entirely by retailers over the state and a few in Missouri and Minnesota. They have no traveling men and return this saving to the retailer in the form of lower prices. They do have promotion men selling stock, however.

We stopped to see Mr. Redfern, but were all so tired we could hardly stand to listen to him. He told us about the classes A, B, C of weights, and their regulations, and showed us thru his chemistry laboratory.

The return trip was peaceful, indeed, some sleeping, some eating, all resting after a strenuous but very interesting and happy day.

4-H Club Girls Give Scholarship

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III. Responsibility of Applicant:

1. To stay in school for at least one quarter beginning March 24, 1926.
2. Apply for and fill out application blanks, returning same to 4-H Girls' Club Department, Iowa State College, Extension Service, Ames, Iowa.

IV. Responsibility of 4-H Club Department:

1. Judge applications impartially.
2. Announce successful applicant not later than March 1.
3. Present successful applicant with \$100.00 on March 24.

Housecleaning

(Continued from page 4)

equipment. It really costs no more in the long run for each piece of equipment lasts just twice as long. Almost as valuable as the cleaning closet itself is the cleaning kit, in which to put the small things needed, when carrying them from one room to another.

Of course, each housewife has to decide for herself just what methods are best to use in her own case. And she can do this by taking the professional attitude toward her work, determining to make it efficient in every detail. By this we mean the methods that obtain the best results with the least expenditure of time, money and human energy. Surely that is a worthy goal toward which any housewife may strive!

Ethics of the Crew

(Continued from page 3)

Resourcefulness
Confidence

and under the lintel of Social Fitness, enter together into the Temple of Right Community Relationships, which has over its altar the inscription:

"Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them."