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Homemakers Department

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*Iowa State College*

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FROM a department with instructors loaned from the Foods and Nutrition, and Textiles and Clothing Departments, Household Administration has grown to have its own faculty, which at the present time numbers 12, with Dean Richardson as its head. Some of the newer developments in Home Economics are to be found in this department, thru courses in child care and training, equipment and home management. Miss Davison is in charge of equipment work; Mrs. Lancaster directs the child care and training program, and Miss Lindquist is responsible for the home management courses. Dr. Elizabeth Hoyt is Dr. Hazel Kyrk’s successor this year and is directing a study of consumption habits in Iowa farm homes as a part of the program of research on the economic problems of the home.

The Home Management Houses

Remember the days when you took “practice house” down on Kellogg avenue and how long you waited for cars? Those days are gone forever, for in 1920 the Knapp House on the campus, just across from the Knoll, was opened in place of the first one, and since that time two others have been added. The Beach house, back of Chemistry building, was furnished and ready for use in September, 1923, and one year later Gray cottage was taken over temporarily. This past fall the Sloss house, which had been moved from the site of the new building to the open space beyond Physics Building, was remodelled and now houses a family of nine—seven students, a resident adviser and a child.

Each of the houses bears a name which is significant in the development of Home Economics. The Knapp house has become the Mary B. Welch House, in honor of the first director of Home Economics at Iowa State College from 1869-1883. The Beach house is known as the Ellen H. Richards House, to commemorate the name and spirit of Mrs. Richards, a pioneer in Home Economics. The Sloss House has been named for Miss Isabel Bevier, formerly head of the Home Economics Department at the University of Illinois and a national figure in Home Economics. At the semi-centennial anniversary at Iowa State College in 1920, Miss Bevier was given an honorary degree. At present she is a professorial lecturer at the University of Arizona.

Mrs. Lancaster is giving full time to the development of the child care and training program and Miss Elizabeth Rivers of the University of Minnesota has succeeded her as resident adviser at the Ellen H. Richards House. In addition to her direction of the home management house, Miss Rivers is teaching foods and home management in the homemakers’ unit courses.

The youngest member of the home economics student body, Grotchen, graduated last summer and is now with her family in Ames. Sonny is living at one of the houses until June, and Ellen, age 13 months, Charles, who is 12 months, and Betty, two years, are all important members of the families.

For the alumnae, the latch string at the three houses is always out and the families are more than happy to have each of you drop in when you are on the campus.

Homemakers Department

BY ELIZABETH M. RIVERS
Instructor in Home Economics.

HAVE you, since leaving Iowa State College, met girls or women, already homemakers, who were interested in studying home economics, but who have not the high school education required for college entrance or who could afford the four years time, but would like to study subjects directly relating to the home for a year or even three months? If you have, did you tell them that we have a department at Iowa State College which would supply their needs?

The Homemaker’s Department will soon be established in its new home in the Home Economics Building on the first floor in rooms 106, 108 and 110, comprising a foods laboratory of the unit kitchen type, a clothing laboratory and an applied art studio.

When you come to visit us you will find to welcome you Miss Georgia Belle Elwell, who is head of the department and teaches the clothing work; Mrs. Ness, who for the past three years has had charge of the handicraft and art classes, and Miss Elizabeth A. Rivers, the instructor in foods and home management classes. This course is the outgrowth of what was once called the two-year home economics course, which was established by Miss Myrtle Ferguson. Miss Julia Hurd headed the department for three years, 1921 to 1924, and was followed by Miss Agnes McCarthy, who is now Mrs. A. C. Ott of Duluth, Minnesota.

This course is planned for any woman 17 years of age or over, who desires instruction in the following homemaking subjects:

How to plan, cook and serve meals
How to market economically
Garment construction
Making of art products for the home
Problems centering around child development

How to efficiently equip and manage a home
The refinishing of woodwork and old furniture
Plant and floral culture
Physical education

It is also possible to enter classes in English, Public Speaking, Civics, etc. A fee of $5.00 per unit is charged, or $24.00 for five or more units. We feel this is a splendid opportunity for the women of Iowa, and believe you can do much in your community to interest them in this work.

When you come back to visit Iowa State College, do come to see our department and learn about the interesting things being done here.

Grace (Gray) Dewey, ’24, is living near Cleveland, Ohio, where her husband, Kirk M. Dewey, has a pastorship. She is very happy in being a pastor’s wife.