Girls' 4-H Club

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First 4-H Convention a Success

Iowa's first 4-H convention is history, and one that every leader, state, county and local, and club girl is proud of. Girls and leaders came by train, bus and car from every point in the state. We wish we might say that every county was represented. Perhaps the 1929 convention is to have that honor and the Henry, Johnson and Jefferson Counties will make it possible to send delegates.

At this time we are unable to give an official summary of attendance. However, the figure now stands as 2,700. Every facility on Iowa State College campus was taxed to the utmost and in some cases overflowing.

We are sure that tongues are still wagging, telling the home folks of the different lectures and events. As Miss Arnquist stated, "Each one was appointed a committee of one to carry home enough ideas and inspirations to last a year, and better still, to last a lifetime."

It is impossible in this short time and small space to fully describe the convention. I think the feeling of every girl is well summed up in the expression of a club member from Green County, "I wish I were four people, so I might attend each session." If we were to ask each girl just what part of the program she enjoyed most, we're sure that each number would come in for its share of praise.

Members of the Iowa State College faculty, Miss Fannie Buchanan of the Victor Talking Machine Co., Mrs. Gladys Coon Sommers of the National Dairy Council, Miss Helen Bennett of Chicago and Mrs. Pauline Devitt of Oskaloosa and much other special talent presented a program full of ideas, inspirations, entertainment and ideals.

One of the outstanding features of the week was an orchestra, directed by Prof. Oscar Hatch Hawley. This was made up of 74 girls representing 34 counties. The results after three short practices were far beyond any of the leaders' expectations. Such finish and fine interpretations of music was remarkable. The orchestra presented, Thursday afternoon, Overture, Royal Palm, Indian Palm, Indian Serenade and Amaryllis.

When the State-wide 4-H Girls' Chorus, under the direction of Miss Rosalind Cook, sang "The Sun Worshipers," a Zuni Indian melody, we almost had to pinch ourselves to believe that such results were possible to obtain from two practices. Thursday afternoon the chorus presented three other numbers that completely brought down the house with applause. Both directress and chorus covered themselves with glory.

If you were not in attendance, you could not believe that 40 girls and leaders were able to play two selections on a harmonica, never having had a harmonica in their hands before. Under the direction of James Hartley, harmonica artist with the Hohner Company of Chicago, the folks could play "The Iowa Corn Song" and "Old Black Joe." We suggest that you watch out for these artists in your counties.

There is endless possibility in the lowly "mouth organ."

Perhaps the most spectacular in every respect, from point of beauty, extent of organization and complete review of ideas and ideals was the pageant, "The 4-H Clover Triumphant." Under the management of Mrs. Beatrice Thurston, her assistants and State Club Departments, Home Demonstration agents, faculty and many others, it was possible to stage this complete and lovely review of the life of the Iowa farm girl for the last 100 years.

Following the beautiful prologue, which was the crowning of the Iowa 4-H Queen, Esther Miller of Page County, the first Iowa Farmerettes, or Grundy County Indians, took the audience back 100 years. From then on, an episode for each twenty-year period very vividly depicted the life of a girl in play or work.

In keeping with the music appreciation study of the Iowa 4-H Club girl, the music for the pageant was especially well chosen and appropriate for the occasion.

With clockwork execution of the pageant, the entrancing beauty of the natural surroundings near the Campanile, ever episode and special feature has brought nothing but high praise and compliments. Eight hundred girls took part in the pageant.

4-H queen, Esther Miller, Page County, and her attendants. Esther Sietmann, spirit of club work.
National 4-H Club Camp
On June 19, three delegates from the 4-H Clubs of Iowa were speeding to Washington, D. C., to attend the Second Annual National 4-H Club Camp. They are Miss Josephine Arnquist, state girls’ club leader; Esther Everett, Mahaska County, and Ina Fae Paul, Muscatine County. Representing over 20,000 4-H girls is no small responsibility. So with the other numerous affairs that have taken place this June, these delegates have been very busy getting ready for camp.

First of all, they have been gathering interesting information and pictures that other states might be interested in. Naturally, girls are always concerned with appropriate clothing. The camp uniform is a green broadcloth tailored dress, comfortable shoes and hose, and soft white felt hats. Then the delegates are going with eyes, ears and every other sense open and clear to absorb every good thing possible to bring back to us.

Accompanying the girl representatives are P. C. Taff, assistant director of extension; Raymond Sorensen, Cerro Gordo County; state president of 4-H Boys’ Clubs, and Everett Taylor of Wayne County.

We’re proud of them and send our best wishes with them.

Honors Bring Added Responsibility
When the last book was checked and the records completed, these ten counties won honors in the 1927 State Contests. These are the winners and their prizes, presented at the final convention meeting: 1. Gladys Coze Grundy County, Singer sewing machine, for the best one-year clothing record; 2. Lillian Wiggers, Muscatine County, mahogany writing desk, best one-year home furnishing record; 3. Bessie Scott, Ida County, Burpee tin can sealer and 100 cans, best one-year Canning Club record; 4. Dora Thompson, Butler County, enameled kitchen table equipped for bread making, for best one-year Bread Club record; 5. Elizabeth Wilson, Muscatine County, picture and one year subscription to Homemaker, best two-year Home Economics Club record; 6. Phyllis Langerman, Fayette County, sewing chair, best three-year Home Economics Club record; 7. Mary Donahue, West Pottawattamie County, sewing cabinet, best four-year Home Economics Club record; 8. Lola Scuffham, Kossuth County, book case, best five-year Home Economics Club record.

Honorable mention was given to these girls: Iola Graves, West Pottawattamie; Blanche Brobesi, Sac County; Bertha Souls, Marshall County; Allda Abbey, Sioux County; Alice Pierce, Louisa County; Ellen Sporland, Hamilton County; Florence Shoemaker, Woodbury County; Thelma Rutherford of the History Department the election was carried off in a snappy and businesslike way.

The successful candidates are:
Pauline Hufford of Polk County for president.
Mary Johnson of Sac County for vice-president.
Katherine Gros of Poweshiek County for secretary.
Grace McCormac of Louisa County for historian.

The girls were chosen from a large field of capable and loyal 4-H’ers, so we are sure they will fulfill their offices in the very finest ways you would have them.

One of their first duties was to assist at the National Home Economics Meeting in Des Moines. These four girls presided over the guest books, which afforded an opportunity for conventioners to leave messages for friends. This was a big honor and one that these officers did justice to.

Music Memory Contest
The Second State Music Memory Contest was won by Polk County. They lacked one point of winning a perfect score. A Portable Victrola is the prize.

Scott County was a close second, winning a complete set of records.

Dallas County, third, six records.

Mahaska County, fourth, four records.

Sac County, fifth, six pieces of sheet music.

The Style Show will be featured in the next issue.

Iowa 4-H Girls Hall of Fame
For some time it has been the plan of the State Club Department to compile a complete record of those girls who have brought honor to themselves and county through effort and consistent application. At the state convention, a lovely folder with a cover by Bob Smith, depicting the spirit of 4-H, was presented to the girls. If you do not receive your copy on Rally Day or at your club banquet, write to the State Club Department.