

1930

Girls' 4-H Club

Helen Melton
Iowa State College

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Recommended Citation

Melton, Helen (1930) "Girls' 4-H Club," *The Iowa Homemaker*: Vol. 10 : No. 2 , Article 7.
Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol10/iss2/7>

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GIRLS' 4-H CLUBS



Club Work Is Glorifying the Iowa Farm Girl

Helen Melton

A 4-H Room That Travels

"Oh, she's going away to college this fall and that'll be the last of her as a club girl! She'll forget all about us and the club when she gets into college and associates with all those college people."

Although many 4-H girls have this thought when they see some promising member of their club go off to college, the record of one club girl at least, on Iowa State campus shows that this is not the case.

When Clara Austin of Butler County came to Iowa State this year as a freshman, she brought with her the room that she had made in her home furnishing club. But when at Thanksgiving time her club needed her room for its Achievement Day, back to Austinville went Clara—room and all—to help make the day a success. Of course the room didn't really travel. It was rather the things that make a room a place to live—the curtains, spread, scarfs, cushions, pictures, accessories.

Clara has been a club member for five years. Entrance to a home economics school excludes her from active member-

ship, but "I'm still a club girl," she said. "They couldn't keep me out if they tried. My mother is the leader of our club and this summer I can probably help her. That will be heaps of fun!"

Clara says that she enjoys the home furnishing work more than any other project. "I had the most fun making my room for college," she said. "I knew I was going to have a single room so I planned everything just the way I wanted it."

Clara's room is distinctly 4-H in character—with simplicity, harmony of color, proportion. Her curtains are muslin with colorful edges of rick-rack and tape. Her bedspread, dresser scarf, and table cover are of natural color monk's cloth with colored threads drawn thru above the hems. Colorful cushions bedeck the bed and chairs, and on the floor is a quaint footstool, enameled, and covered with a gay print—a footstool which the owner explained "was formerly an ugly old fashioned affair that I found on the back porch at home." On the wall above Clara's bed hangs a picture "The Harp of the Winds"—one from the 4-H picture appreciation list. The lights in her room glow thru the soft colors of lampshades which she has made herself.

"I know I wouldn't have been here at Iowa State if it hadn't been for 4-H club work," Clara said. "And I'm so glad I'm here. I want to train myself so I can go back to the rural communities and carry on 4-H work after I graduate."

Clara is at present state secretary of Iowa 4-H clubs. She has had several offices in her local and county clubs and has demonstrated on teams at local, county, and state meetings.

4-H to Affiliate

The Campus 4-H Club will probably in the near future become officially affiliated with the American Country Life Association.

Student delegates at a meeting in Madison, Wis., March 28-30, considered plans for affiliation of rural life clubs with the American Country Life Association. A tentative plan was passed upon by the group and will be submitted to the associations for consideration. If the plan carries thru, the Campus 4-H Club at Iowa State along with Rural Clubs, Collegiate Country Life Clubs and other clubs with various names but a common interest, in colleges over the United States will become an official part of the A. C. L. A.

The plan of affiliation as worked out by the students gives a set of standards which a club must measure up to in order to be affiliated with the association. The

chief aim, as taken from the tentative plan, is to "dignify rural life, to promote interest in it, and to create the right kind of sentiment for it, thereby to develop in the hearts of students an appreciation of the advantages and disadvantages of country life."

Sixteen colleges and universities in nine states were represented at the conference with a total of approximately 50 students and faculty members. Besides considering affiliation plans, the delegates "set up" a plan for the Student Section Program of the 1930 A. C. L. A. Conference. The program will be built particularly around (1) the local club's extension activities for improving the standard of living of rural communities with which they come in contact, and (2) the result of club activities in training its members in leadership in improving rural standard of living.

Delegates from Iowa State at the conference were Helen Melton, representing the Campus 4-H Club, and Ralph Miller, president of the Vocational Education Club. Mrs. Josephine Arquist Bakke, state leader of Iowa 4-H Clubs, attended as faculty sponsor.

Conventions Coming!

4-H Convention time will soon be here again and Iowa State campus will be turned over for a week to a throng of blue-uniformed girls bubbling over with vim and pep.

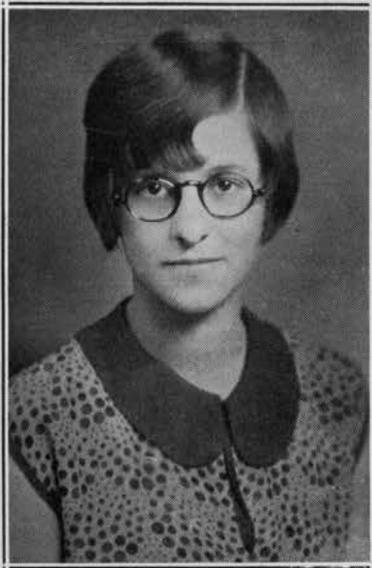
The third annual 4-H Girls' Convention will be held June 10-14. The state office is already buzzing with plans, and clubs all over Iowa are selecting delegates and planning for contests and events on the convention program. Music has been sent out for the state-wide orchestra and chorus, and the girls are working hard on selections for the music memory contest.

Every club which was organized by April 1 is allowed to send two delegates (either one girl and the leader or two girls). Each county may send three extra delegates, two who have unusual musical ability to enter the state-wide orchestra, and the county 4-H president.

The program for the convention is a secret as yet, but the club staff hints that all sorts of interesting things are under way.

A Call from India for 4-H'ers

Rural girls in India have an organization somewhat like 4-H clubs, according



Clara Austin

to Miss Phyllis Harley of Bombay, India, who was visiting on Iowa State campus the week of April 1-5.

The organization is called the Girl Guides and corresponds in form to the Girl Scouts organization, she says, but the work it covers is more nearly like that carried on in 4-H clubs. Health instruction, nutrition, clothing and other phases of home economics are included on their programs.

The organization is just in its early stages, Miss Harley explained, and the work of leaders and organizers is purely voluntary as yet.

"Why won't some of your 4-H girls trained in home economics come over to India and help us develop the work?" she asked. "Of course, there wouldn't be much financial return—not yet. But you would be developing a new field and I know you would like it."

Miss Harley is on the staff of the University of Women's home economics and social work here.

Student Industrial Group Organizes

The first Student Industrial Group in Iowa has been organized in Iowa State College as one of the major committees of the Young Women's Christian Association. According to Marjorie Thuier, who has been selected as chairman, similar organizations have been observed on campuses in Minnesota. The Y. W. C. A. at Drake is planning to watch the development and success of this committee with the idea that if it is successful, they will also organize. In that way the two committees would be of great service to each other by pooling the experiences and observations of each.

The aims of this committee is to study the working conditions of the factories as applied to women and girls. It is not only interested in the sanitary conditions that prevail but also in the attitudes that are characteristic of the employees. The two girls, Opal Baer and Myrtle Grace Ryan, who are planning on joining the student industrial group in Chicago this summer, are members of this committee. According to Miss Thuier, the ultimate aim of this committee is to attempt to give everyone the opportunity to realize full and creative life as it is meant for her.

Their program consists of a series of industrial projects including a study and comparison of the factory conditions of the various silk hosiery brands. Not only hose, but also gum and candy bars will be studied and compared. After they have made their investigations, the girls hope to go one step further and to promote a campus boycott for those materials which are manufactured under poor conditions.

—Elsa Sindt

Exit the Big Sunday Dinner

The honored and traditional custom of having the heaviest and most elaborate meal on Sunday—the day when one really needs the least—is a custom which is becoming obsolete. Wives are devoting more time to their families and less time to cooking and washing dishes on the Sabbath.

Simple Sunday meals, planned and prepared on Saturday, are rapidly replacing the traditional Sunday repast. Even though the housewife plans to have Sunday dinner, much of the drudgery and hard work can be eliminated if the meat and desert are prepared on Saturday and as few dishes as possible are used in serving the meal.

Sunday has ever been the day of visitation and recreation for the farm and town wife alike, and by following a new plan of Saturday preparation of the Sunday meal, she will have much more time to devote to her family, social and church duties.

There are nettles everywhere,
But smooth, green grasses are more common still;
The blue of heaven is larger than the cloud.

E. B. Browning

I burn my candle at both ends;
It will not last the night;

But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends,
It gives a lovely light.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

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