1940

Biography of a Home Economist

Eleanor White

Iowa State College

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Recommended Citation

White, Eleanor (1940) "Biography of a Home Economist," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 20 : No. 1 , Article 14.
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Biography
of a Home Economist

MARGUERITE ROOT, '39, as secretary of girls' work in the Rogers Park YWCA, Chicago, has charge of all the various activities that are provided for high school and grade school girls who attend the YW.

A group of girls desiring to join the YW come to Miss Root, who helps them organize and secure a leader. Group leaders are chosen from the women of the community who are interested and have expressed a desire to sponsor such a club.

The YW provides pianos, table tennis equipment, pool tables—practically every indoor sport imaginable. When the clock rolls around to 3 in the afternoon, the YW becomes a popular place. In every room there are games or meetings. The schools in Rogers Park dismiss at this time, and the girls waste no time in coming over to the YW.

Also there is a crafts shop. Miss Root, who was an art major in college, is especially enthusiastic about this department. She has been able to suggest new things for the girls to make and is constantly being sought for personal help, which she enjoys giving.

This YW also has a summer camp located on a small lake about 30 miles out of Chicago. It is part of the secretary's job to serve as director of this camp. Working with the head of the YW, Miss Root chooses counselors, cooks and all other camp help. She attends and supervises the functions of the camp.

The young girls look forward to this summer camp where they can enjoy swimming, canoeing, archery, tennis, golf, long hikes—practically every outdoor sport imaginable. Stables near the camp make it possible for them to go horseback riding.

—by Eleanor White

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Ames Dress Club ........................................ 16
Ames Laundry ............................................. 21
Ames Pintorium ........................................... 19
Bauer Shoe Co. ............................................ 23
Boyer Studio .............................................. 17
Campus Drug .............................................. 17
Carr Hardware ............................................ 19
Cartier Press ............................................. 23
Coe's ...................................................... 22
College Book Store ..................................... 29
College Press ............................................ 18
Cowdikes .................................................. 16
Events ...................................................... 20
Fair Store ................................................. 17
Field's .................................................... 24
Florence Langford ...................................... 39
Hart Studio .............................................. 22
Hazel Buckman .......................................... 23
Hill's Studio ............................................. 14
Iowa State College ..................................... 15
Josephs .................................................... 14
Judith Bros. ............................................... 25
Lindquist's ............................................... 19
L-Well Cafe ............................................... 22
MemorialUnion ......................................... 22
O'Neill's Dairy .......................................... 23
Petya Style Shop ........................................ 29
Rainbow Coffee Shop .................................. 14
Rogers Shop ............................................. 19
Stephenson's .......................................... 24
Superior Cleaners ..................................... 22
Talbert Jewelry ........................................ 24
Western Grocer Co. ................................... 23
Younters .................................................. 20

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