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Trained for Action

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Home Economics Club members are contributing valuable wartime services, says Lois Stewart.

WARTIME service dominates the program of the world’s largest Home Economics Club. Here freshmen and upper-class women alike find an opportunity to fit their specialized training to war emergency needs.

Although Tuesday at four is the hour traditionally set aside for Home Economics Club meetings, the expanding activities of the departmental clubs include a full program of community service throughout the week. Child development and home management majors last year helped the women of Ames set up child disaster stations and volunteered to take active part in caring for children in the event of catastrophe.

Women in the Technical Journalism Club purchased a world map and posted it in the Collegiate Press Building, which houses the campus publications. Daily moving pins record the latest military advances, helping to keep students informed on war developments.

By enrolling in the Ames canteen corps, Foods and Nutrition Club members have obtained familiarity with canteen service and gained working experience with equipment and service of food.

Members of the Education Club published a news letter last spring which was designed to help high school girls make wartime adjustments. The letter stressed new ways of doing without former luxuries. Emphasis was upon simple, practical home economics principles of clothing conservation and food substitution.

Members of the Child Development Club designed toys from materials found in the average home and collected amusing games, stories and songs to entertain children confined to a disaster station. Lists of the games and display boxes of ideal toys produced by club members were left at the child care station centers in each city ward.

Several divisional home economics clubs have devoted their meetings to a few hours of work in the campus Red Cross sewing room. Despite the war emphasis, however, the regular professional activities of the Home Economics Club are not neglected. Still foremost among its aims is the advancement of professional home economics among college students.

Especially planned to help the freshman adjust herself to the problems of life as a college home economics student, the Freshman Home Economics Club provides an introduction to the more specialized activities of the departmental clubs. Orientation programs, panel discussions, debates and speeches on specific campus problems acquaint the freshmen with the field of home economics and help them choose their major interests.

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Front Office Financier

Like any business, Memorial Union has its “front office.” It’s on second floor, and in the “front office” sits the man who can tell you just how Memorial Union did financially last month. He’s W. L. (Willie) Gardner, head of the Accounting Department.

From the figures accumulated by Mr. Gardner, the managing director and department heads can tell how Memorial Union is being operated. Mr. Gardner’s efforts help the officers direct a sound financial course for your Memorial Union.

His duties are routine, like that of almost any accountant—paying bills, collecting bills, making out payrolls and keeping the books. But these routine duties aren’t what make Mr. Gardner outstanding in his role as head of the Accounting Department. He’s a business man with ideas and always is ready to cooperate with anyone in supplying information about Memorial Union.

Mr. Gardner came to Memorial Union 12 years ago after having spent many years in the accounting field. At that time, when Memorial Union was cutting its eye teeth, 3 persons handled the work. Today, with 10 times more work, 8 persons juggle figures, keep the datebook, handle calls and keep the “front office” running. When peacetime comes again, and the Navy men, Curtiss-Wright women and other special armed-force groups will not eat at Memorial Union, 6 persons will be able to handle the duties.

An idea as to just how much Memorial Union has grown since its beginning can be obtained by using the business office as a barometer. There now is a 1,000 percent more work to be handled by the “front office” crew than 12 years ago when Mr. Gardner started his present work.

From what has been said it is hoped that you Iowa State alumni will understand that your Memorial Union is being run as a business... that economy and service are the two guiding words constantly in the minds of Memorial Union officials.

MEMORIAL UNION

... Our College Club ...

Trained for Action

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The highlight of last year’s freshman activities was a general convocation planned by the freshmen for the upperclassmen. The principal war contribution of the freshman club was the making of scrapbooks for the Red Cross children’s center.

Other aids to the freshman in her choice of a major are the general convocations which are held once a month to acquaint members with new developments and problems in the various fields of home economics. This year the club will stress the importance of choosing a major field in which one can make a real contribution to the war as well as to peacetime living.

As another service activity, the club awards $50 scholarships each spring to outstanding juniors who work more than 25 hours a week. Last year’s winners were Helen Horton, Rachel Ann Lusher, Betty Meierhoff and Delores Stewart.

Among the social functions which have played a prominent part in Home Economics Club activities in past years are the reception for new students, at which club members assist the home economics faculty, and the Home Economics Ball, opening the fall formal season on the campus.

The governing body of the Home Economics Club is the Home Economics Council, composed of the officers of the general club, presidents and junior representatives of the departmental clubs and the freshman president. Mary Jane Drake is president of Home Economics Club and Lorna Gallaher is vice-president. Secretary is Kathleen Posakony; Patricia Gilchrist is treasurer. Mrs. Irene Buchanan, of the Textiles and Clothing Department, serves as advisor.

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