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"An Inspiring Teacher And Devoted Friend"

The Iowa Homemaker

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MISS GENEVIEVE FISHER came to Iowa State as Dean of the Home Economics Division in September, 1927. In this capacity she has become widely known and respected, nationally as well as throughout Iowa. High standards of intellectual and professional achievement for which this division has been recognized have been consistently maintained under Dean Fisher's able leadership.

There has been a steady growth in student enrollment in the division during Dean Fisher's administration. There has also been a continual development in the program. When she came, the division consisted of departments in Applied Art, Foods and Nutrition, Household Administration, Textiles and Clothing, Vocational Education in Home Economics, Physical Education for Women and the Homemakers' Unit Courses. This latter unit was of non-collegiate credit and was dropped within two years.

In 1928-29 the Household Administration Department was divided into the three departments of Home Management, Household Equipment and Child Development.

Beginning in September, 1928, institution management, which had been given as courses in the Foods and Nutrition Department, was organized as a separate department. In 1931-32, the name Vocational Education in Home Economics was changed to Home Economics Education.

A wide range of choices from which students could select their major fields of professional specialization have thus been possible through the eight departments. The importance of the personal development of the student and of her well-rounded preparation for homemaking has not been overlooked in the basic curriculum plan directed by Dean Fisher.

She has encouraged a coordinated program with the division and with departments in other divisions in which the work is related to home economics. Students and faculty at Iowa State who have had the privilege of working closely with Dean Fisher appreciate the friendly spirit and intellectual honesty with which she approaches problems at all times.

During the time Dean Fisher has been in Iowa, she has rendered valuable service to the rural women of the state through her active interest and support of the home economics extension and 4-H club work. She has observed rural conditions and home problems in several other countries including England, Denmark, Estonia, Russia, Mexico, Cuba and Hawaii.

Miss Fisher was born in Lovington, Ill. The first three years of her college work was at the University of Chicago. At later times, she pursued college study at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, from which she was granted a B.S. degree in 1914 and an A.M. degree in 1927.

After teaching in the public schools of Springfield, Ill., Miss Fisher accepted college positions in the Southeast Missouri State Normal School, Cape Girardeau, the School of Education of the University of Chicago, the Illinois State Normal University at Normal and the Eastern Illinois State Normal School at Charleston. Her service to Iowa State dates back to 1914, the year after home economics was made a division of the college, when she joined the staff which directed teacher education work in home economics.

The Federal Board for Vocational Education called her to Washington, D. C., in 1919, to serve as one of the two regional agents in home economics. She thus had an opportunity to play an important role in the development of the national program of vocational education that had been initiated in 1917 when Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Act. In 1922 she went to the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pa., to take charge of their home economics teacher education program, where she remained until she was asked to return to Iowa State as Dean of Home Economics in September of 1927. This position involved the direction of the home economics program for teachers in service for Western Pennsylvania, conducted by the University of Pittsburgh, and the direction of the teacher-training program at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Dean Fisher's membership in honor and professional societies is testimony to her attainments. These include Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Delta Pi, Omicron Nu, Phi Upsilon Omicron, Sigma Delta Epsilon and Mortar Board. She served as national president of Omicron Nu from 1924-26. She is listed in American Women, Leaders in Education and Who's Who.

As an active member of the American Home Economics Association, the Land Grant College Association, the American Vocational Association and the Federated Women's Clubs, Dean Fisher has rendered distinguished service to the field of home economics.