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Biography of a Home Economist

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Biography of a Home Economist

WHAT have we here? Miles Standish, Priscilla and a pair of Quakers, keeping company with a lovely Dresden dancing lady and a small, brown postman. But these unique people do not have to be fed, even though their mistress is Mabel Anderson, manager of the Memorial Union food service, for they are only a few of her large doll collection.

Probably the first of Miss Anderson's collections was a teacher's lifetime certificate from the University of Minnesota where she majored in institution management. After a position as matron of the dining room at West Central School of Agriculture in Minnesota and then as one of the food managers of the Eat Shop Cafeteria System at St. Paul and Minneapolis, Miss Anderson came to Ames in 1925 to the Maples Tea Room, which is now Music Hall.

The old Y.M.C.A. cafeteria was also under her management in 1928. At the time the Memorial Union was built, the Maples was discontinued and Miss Anderson came to the Union.

The food service then consisted only of a cafeteria, Oak Room and grill service. On the first day, 230 people were served. September 28, exactly ten years later, the number had grown to 3,054. Last Veishea brought the peak load of all time when over 8,000 orders were filled. The credit for the beginning and growth of the fine Union service can be attributed to Miss Anderson.

"There's a keen satisfaction in feeling that you're a part of an organization which helps students get an education, and I like the college atmosphere too much to get into strictly commercial work," says Miss Anderson. So perhaps she will forget about her secret desire to own and manage a chain of tourist camps and will continue to "feed her flock."

—Edith Wahrenbrock

Alums---

(Continued from page 15)

Katherine Bruntlett, Duluth, Minn.; Helen Clark, Public Service Co. of Northern Illinois, Maywood; and Joy Olson with the Interstate Power Co., Oelwein, are '39 graduates with public utility companies. Mabel Laurence, '35, is with the Public Service Co. of Northern Illinois, Chicago. Lucille Manchester, '36, nursery school, Neighborhood House, New Haven, Conn.; and Jacqueline Sparling, '39, Dell Nook of Learning in Des Moines.

Changes and placements in extension work were reported. Home demonstration agents are Clara Byan, '38, for Logan and Onawa; Luella Candon formerly with Howard and Chickasaw Counties, now with Dallas County; and Carol Syndergaard, '39, for Redwood County, Minn. Others in extension work are Bernice Hooper and Jeanne Vern, both '39, who are with Iowa Extension Service as home demonstration agents, and Mrs. Helena Mahnke Hunt, '39, who is home adviser for Effingham County, Ill.

Mrs. Dorothy Lee, '39, is with Farm Security Administration, Ottumwa; Marjorie Griffin, '37, formerly with Successful Farming in Des Moines is now writing the "Prudence Penny" column in the Detroit Times.

—Grace Strohmeier

November, 1939