1953

Socialize or Study in Room 18

Jane Brintlinger
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker

Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation
Brintlinger, Jane (1953) "Socialize or Study in Room 18," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 33 : No. 3 , Article 4.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol33/iss3/4
Socialize or Study in...

Room 18

by Jane Brintlinger
Technical Journalism Junior

STUDENT PLANS carried out by students for students describes Room 18, Home Economics Building – the Student Activities Room. Any home economics student may use this room whenever she wishes. There are comfortable chairs in which to relax and tables for studying and playing cards. Come in when you have a few minutes between classes to do a quick review for a test, or study for as long as you wish. The Activities Room is quiet, so you can rest and relax. But talking is by no means prohibited, which means you can study out loud or talk with a friend.

Take a Nap

The rest room adjoining the Activities Room has four beds – for your use. This is the place for more complete rest and quiet, for a nap during a free hour. Late in 1951, the Building Improvement Committee for Home Economics asked the president of Home Economics Council to form a committee to revamp the Activities Room so students would use it.

A representative from Delta Phi Delta, art honorary; Omicron Nu, home economics scholastic honorary; and Phi Upsilon Omicron, home economics professional honorary, completed the committee.

To give lightness and airiness, Victorian gray was chosen for the two walls receiving the most light. The west wall was painted wheat brown. Then to give more color, laurel green was chosen for the south wall. The green and brown are close in value, so there is no obvious line where those walls meet.

Relax Several Minutes

The furniture repeats the colors of the walls. The student planners seemed almost overly conscious of texture, for in the original plans, each upholstered piece was highly textured. Since such a combination would absorb too much light, the committee added some pieces with luster, to give off light. Now the rich dark values of tobacco brown and dark green are enhanced by five chairs upholstered in a plastic imitation leather.

The blonde wood of the furniture adds warmth to the room. Modern and practical describes these pieces designed by Thonet. They are sectional pieces, chosen for dual and triple purposes. Three formica-topped tables may be used individually for studying or playing cards. Pushed together, they form a conference table. The sectional chairs make possible a variety of arrangements.

The present furniture arrangement was done by the students to make good lanes of traffic. A direct path is provided to the resting room, another to the conversation area, each without disturbing other occupants of the room. Fluorescent lighting has replaced the original ceiling lights. An exhaust fan was installed, to be used to lessen the stale smoke smell which might accumulate.

The two small paintings now hanging in the Activities Room were given by the Applied Art Department. One is a decorative flower study of an Egyptian lotus. The other is an abstract by Feininger. The newest addition is a John Marin marine scene of the Maine coast. Marin is known today as one of the top American water colorists. This painting is larger than the other two and is in keeping with the proportions of the room.

Meet Your Friends

Rules for the use of the room are included on the bulletin board. They were compiled by the committee so that the room might remain a pleasant place for studying and relaxing. An important decision made by the committee was that this room shall never be reserved for the exclusive use of any club. Though groups may use the Activities Room for meetings, the room will always be open to the students.

The four home economics groups represented on the Activities Room committee are the sponsors and financiers of the room. Delta Phi Delta gave $40; Home Economics Council, $100; Omicron Nu, $100; and Phi Upsilon Omicron, $100. Through a rotation system of committee membership, different members of these groups will be directly working on the room.

Future committees will keep the room in good condition and make any additions or changes which they feel are desirable. The committee represents you, and its goal is to make the Student Activities Room a room you will use and enjoy.