Iowa Staters at AHEA

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Recommended Citation
Watson, Cathy (1955) "Iowa Staters at AHEA," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 35 : No. 11 , Article 3.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol35/iss11/3
IOWA STATE AT AHEA

by Cathy Watson
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FROM THE MOMENT I stepped off the train June 26 in Washington, D. C., I was caught in a continuous maze of activity at the National Home Economics Convention.

Jane Armstrong and Marilyn Miller, other Iowa State delegates, and I skipped through general and special sessions at the National Guard Armory, college club meetings and get-togethers, professional and sight-seeing tours, breakfast firms and educational organizations featuring new products and equipment for home and teaching aids.

Nights we ate in recommended restaurants, examining the food and atmosphere very "home-ecishly," then crawled into bed after hours of talk. We couldn't help wishing that all of you were there with us.

Highlights of this 47th annual meeting included speeches by Sir Roger Makins, British Ambassador to the United States, Mrs. Agnes E. Meyer, author and journalist of Washington, D. C. and Mrs. Isabel LaFollette, wife of the former governor of Wisconsin.

Jane, Marilyn and I found that our greatest interests were centered in the activities of the College Club Section. President of the College Clubs, Miss Joyce Collins from the University of Rhode Island, was one of the main speakers at the opening general session of the convention. She said, "Home economics provides for a three-fold education — as an individual, as a citizen, and as a homemaker. A home economics education can satisfy persons who wish to give service as through teaching or research; those who want to work in the interest of their own family; or who desire a 'glamorous' type of position."

One significant fact I found was that Home Economics Clubs affiliated with AHEA are on 433 campuses and there is a membership of over 23,500 professional home economists.

The realization that home economics is worthwhile, and unbelievably interesting is the greatest thing I have gained in being a part of the Home Economics Club. Too often we ourselves acquire the attitude other people often have, that we are studying cooking and sewing and that is it. We can too easily lose sight of that end-product of understanding people in the purest form — the knowledge of how men think reflected by knowledge of how they live in their homes.

Next year the convention will be held at St. Louis, Mo., so I want to urge all of you who possibly can to attend, for I know you will have an experience of deep enrichment.