

## Reflections From the Past: History Worth Remembering

Phyllis Northway (WI), NEAFCS Past President, 1974

This article was originally written by Phyllis Northway (1974 NEAFCS President) and appeared in the May/June/July/August 1990 issue of *The Reporter*. Northway served as National Historian from 1987 to 1991.

Allow me to sub-title this column, "Did you know . . ." that:

. . . in 1937, a survey showed 32 Extension Home Agents had Master's degrees and one Agent had a Ph.D.? (Of 260 responses) (206 paid members).

. . . the Treasurer's balance in June, 1937 showed \$107.53? Expenses for the year were \$15.38.

. . . in 1938, minutes record a motion to "allow expenses for the President and Secretary to attend the Annual Meeting — not to exceed \$100"?

. . . NAEHE adopted green and gold as their official colors in 1945?

. . . the Eastern Region donated \$650 to the Florence Hall Fellowship Fund at the 1953 Annual Meeting in Buffalo, New York? The donation was in lieu of providing "souvenirs" for all Annual Meeting participants.

. . . NAEHE gave a 5-piece sterling silver tea and coffee service to the National 4-H Center, Washington D.C. on the day of its formal opening and dedication, June 16, 1959? Florence Hall personally assisted in shopping for the tea service.

. . . you could have secured a twin-bed room, with bath, for the 1961 Annual Meeting at the Statler Hotel in Boston, for \$17.50 to \$19.50?

. . . in 1970, NAEHE donated \$5000 to AHEA's Anniversary fund to provide draperies for the new headquarters in Washington, D.C.? A brass plaque recognizing the gift was installed in the first floor reception area.

. . . NAEHE was mentioned in the "Hints for Heloise" column printed in the *St. Joseph (Missouri) Gazette*, on December 11, 1987? In the column, she lauds Extension Home Economists as having expertise in home management, children and families, food preparation, health and even energy conservation. "Just about everything involved with day-to-day living is home economics these days." She went on to explain that every state and county in the U.S. has an Extension Home Economist and how to locate them in your phone book. "Some specialize in urban areas and some Extension Home Economists may be men!" Do we need more Heloise's?

. . . on September 10, 1984, NAEHE made the front page of *USA Today* — credited with a graph showing the four most important issues facing American families. The data was based on the 500 Extension Home Economists across the U.S., conducted in conjunction with our 50th Anniversary year. The four major issues — medical costs (61%), pay equity for women (40%), preschool child care (31%) and care for the elderly (30%) became the focus for Public Policy Forums in subsequent years.