

## 1944-1945

By June 1944, 11 years after organization, membership had grown from 29 members from 13 states to 1,342 members from 30 states and the treasury had increased to \$880.71.

The 1944 NHDAA was rather eventful. Due to the influx of people to the Republican Convention, rooms reserved for the NHDAA meetings had been usurped and changes had to be made. The Executive Committee thought the constitution needed changing again, but this time it could not be done until members had a three-month notice so a constitution committee was appointed. Mrs. Killey, chairman of the National Home Demonstration Council, attended the meeting.



Miss Flora Ferrill (Ark.)

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE RECOGNITION**

The first Recognition ceremony took place this year, June 23, 1944. Miss Evelyn Morrow, second vice-president, presented a rose to the outstanding member nominated from each state. The four outstanding agents by districts were then recognized and these agents were presented a gardenia. These first four were: Miss Alda Henning, Kentucky, southern district; Miss Ruth Appelthun, Colorado, western district; Miss Clara R. Brian, Illinois, central district; and Miss Mae Pritchett, West Virginia, eastern district.

Each committee gave a report at this meeting. Councilors in the eastern, western and southern districts were to be given an allowance up to \$50 for organization expense in unaffiliated states. The newsletter was to be continued and was given the title, "The Letter." It would be mimeographed and sent to state secretaries asking them to distribute it.

The home agents' time, or rather lack of time continued to be a problem. However, Cecelia M. Shestock, home demonstration agent from Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., said:

I believe the efficiency of a Home Agent is decreased if she is required to spend almost every evening doing work relative to her job. If there is a certain amount of recreation, her whole attitude on life and meeting people is a much pleasanter one because if one spends day and night on the job one begins to get a very narrow view on life. I have always felt that one's recreational needs are directly related to the conception one has about one's job. It has

been my conclusion during my experience as Home Agent that recreation must be planned for as carefully as one's work.

State presidents also reported on what their state and Association were doing.

The national Association had a second meeting in 1944, on Dec. 6-8 with representatives from 19 states attending.

### STATE PRESIDENTS' GROUP

Mrs. Luella Condon, state president of Iowa, was appointed chairman of State Presidents and committee chairmen. This group was charged with making suggestions and recommendations for the "Journal of Home Economics."

At this meeting it was decided that the December meeting be a policy-making and legal business session and states would have representatives attending. A formal report would be given at the annual NHDAA meeting.

The president of the NACAA, Mr. E. D. Beck attended this meeting and gave information on accomplishments of the Association and something of the workings of the association.

Mr. M. L. Wilson, director of Extension was also present and spoke on "The Field of Home Economics." He said, "The home demonstration agent will become an advisor or executive instead of a demonstrator." He further stated, "Extension has become a profession. It is work that requires skill."

Other speakers were: Miss Mary Louise Collings, senior home economist, division of field studies and training, USDA, Washington, D. C., Mr. R. A. Turner, senior agriculturist, USDA, Miss Gertrude L. Warren, 4-H Club work, USDA.

Attending the banquet in the Morrison Hotel with the NACAA was one highlight of this meeting. Assistant Director Reuben Brigham spoke on "Hawaii."

### LISTING IN COUNTY AGENTS' DIRECTORY

By 1945, the Association was growing in many ways and becoming more actively involved. The names and addresses of the Executive Board had been sent to the County Agents' Directory and was published in the 1945 edition.

Miss Evelyn Morrow, St. James, Minn., filled the unexpired term as president; Miss Flora Ferrill had resigned in February 1945. Since Miss Clara Brian was also retiring from Extension work in September, Miss Emelda Kunau, home economist from Anamosa, Iowa, was appointed historian and served in this capacity until 1947.

Miss Grace Frysinger was asked to serve in an advisory

capacity to the NHDAA. In June at the Executive Board meeting, previously called Executive Committee meeting, Miss Frysinger's letter relative to organization of the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association was read. Some quotes from this letter are:

"Especially in the formative years of the Association's growth and program activities, I think it would be well to have an advisory committee—

"My idea is that the members of that committee should recognize that the committee is to function solely in an advisory capacity and that no pressure should be exerted by them upon the Home Demonstration Agents' Association officers or members. They should also realize that despite their membership on such a committee, they do not have membership privileges in the Association and are not eligible to attend meetings of the Association unless specifically invited to do so by officers of the Association.

"I should like to see the county home demonstration agents, through their Association, develop a statement of their philosophy about their work. Call it a 'Creed for County Home Demonstration Agents' or a 'Goal of Endeavor for Home Demonstration Agents' or whatever you will. I would like to see them put down on paper the fine philosophy and desirable attitudes which are so characteristic of an able and experienced home demonstration agent."

Miss Frysinger wanted to offer a \$10 prize, if this would meet with the approval of the Executive Board, as an incentive for agents to work on such a creed or goal.

In the June 1945 board meeting, Mrs. Carmen Johnson moved that a creed be written. The councilors were to be responsible and copies were to be sent Miss Frysinger by November 1. A committee would make the final decision.

### COLORS AND EMBLEM

Green and gold were selected as national colors for the Association, and the same emblem used for the Home Demonstration Clubs was used for the Association with "NHDAA" at the bottom of the emblem.

The Association continued to be concerned about salary, retirement, time management, work load and working conditions, primarily in the offices of the home agent.

An invitation to a breakfast given by the International Harvester Company for December 4 was accepted by the Association. A committee composed of Association members and

representatives from International Harvester Company met and planned the breakfast. Miss Evelyn Morrow presided and reiterated the objectives and purposes of the Association.

A score card with requirements to be used in selection of agents for recognition was presented to the Executive Board for approval. It was accepted and put into action immediately. The president asked the councilors to devise a Certificate of Award to present to the agents receiving recognition in December.

Other decisions made at the Executive Board meeting in June, 1945, were: To charge a \$1 registration fee at the annual meeting and to have two "Newsletters" each year—one in March and the second in October. The board also discussed the possibility of the "Newsletter" being printed. A Program Planning Committee for the December meeting was appointed.

#### **THEME**

At the December meeting in 1945, a theme was selected: "Today's Vision—Tomorrow's Action."

Dr. Leta Lane of the University of Illinois, a person of note and wide experience, was guest speaker at the second Recognition Banquet. Twenty-three home demonstration agents were recognized for their service.

Choosing the theme of the meeting for her subject, Dr. Lane said, "You cannot separate vision from action. You never grow unless you stretch. Making a life and making a way of living are inseparable."

Again, Director Wilson, Miss Mary Louise Collings and Miss Gertrude Warren were on the program.

On Friday night, December 7, some of the home demonstration agents were guests at the County Agricultural Agents' Banquet at the Morrison Hotel. Mr. H. R. Tolley, chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA, was guest speaker.

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Following Miss Frysinger's suggestion for an Advisory Committee, one was appointed and started functioning in 1946. The members were:

Miss Mena Hogan, field agent, Southern States, Washington, D. C., Chairman

Miss Gertrude Humphreys, state home demonstration agent, Morgantown, West Virginia, Eastern Region

Miss Pauline Gordon, home management and house furnishings specialist, Raleigh, North Carolina, Southern Region

Miss Helen Prout, state home demonstration agent, Fort Collins, Colorado, Western Region

Miss Edith Barker, 4-H Club work, Ames, Iowa, Central Region

Mrs. Leta Lane, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois

Miss Gertrude Diekin, Farm Journal, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania