

1950 - 1951

"Challenges and Opportunities at Mid-Century" was the theme of the 1950 annual meeting.

Open house was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel the first evening for home demonstration agents, county agricultural agents and 4-H agents. This was the first time that the three groups had met together and it was a nice gesture on the part of the county agents to extend such an invitation.

The National Home Demonstration Agents Association was officially called to order at 9:15 a.m. on Monday, November 27 by Mrs. Mary S. Switzer, president.

Interesting features on the program included a talk "The Associated Country Women of the World," by Miss Myrtle Weldon, state leader, Kentucky; a panel discussion, "Highlights For the Development of Home Demonstration Work," by A. E. Bowman, director of Extension, Wyoming; Mrs. Kathryn Van Aken Burns, state leader, Illinois; Miss Lora V. Hilgard, clothing specialist, Montana; Rex Carter, president NACAA; Miss Katie Marie Adkins, home demonstration agent, Missouri; Mrs. Gayle Wilson, home demonstration agent, Texas, and chaired by Director M. L. Wilson. Mr. Christopher Tenley, assistant director of Extension, USDA, talked on "Retirement." This subject was of great importance and many questions were asked because the retirement plan had been available to Extension workers for four years, but all states had not adopted it because of: (1) initial cost; (2) some states had a plan that used some federal funds.

"Women's Responsibility for American Culture" was presented by Mr. Theodore Walter from the American Book Company and Miss Florence Hall, Eastern field agent, USDA gave a talk on "Looking Ahead."

Ten educational exhibits were on display: U. S. Rubber, Nestlé, Best Foods. S. C. Johnson Company, Mangus Brush, Proctor Electric, Ribbon Guild, National Dairy Council, Hoover, and Kellogg Company. State Presidents were guests of Nestlé Company at a breakfast; General Foods gave a luncheon for entire group; the annual Friendship Party was sponsored by Corn Products Company and the agents from the Southern Region. Officers and committee chairmen had breakfast with the Lamont Corliss Company. A meat cutting demonstration and dinner were given by Kroger Company; a luncheon by Interna-



Mrs. Mary S. Switzer (N.Y.)

tional Harvester Company. Through the entertainment, exhibits and lectures given by these companies, home demonstration agents always learn many educational facts which can be used in their programs.

Fifty-three agents from 39 states and Puerto Rico were presented certificates at the annual Recognition Luncheon which was hosted by the Spool Cotton Company and Simplicity Pattern Company. Director M. L. Wilson was the speaker for the occasion. His topic was: "Mid-Century and Home Demonstration Work."

The year 1951 saw many changes for continued growth and development.

GRACE FRYSDINGER FELLOWSHIP

In 1950 when the fellowship fund was discussed it was the unanimous decision of the board to name it the Grace Frysinger Fellowship Fund as a tribute to Miss Frysinger's interest and help in launching the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association.

The next step was to develop an application form, establish regulation and eligibility. In 1951 it became a reality.

The Grace Frysinger Fellowship has been established by the National Home Demonstration Agents Association to give opportunity for a home demonstration agent to study and observe home demonstration work in another state or states.

The Fellowship was established as a tribute to Grace E. Frysinger because of her years of service as a field agent, because she promoted the organization of the NHDAA, and because of her fine contribution to the Extension Service.

The following qualifications and requirements have been worked out for the fellowship:

1. The amount of the Grace Frysinger Fellowship is \$500.00 to be used for one month's travel, living expenses, and duplicates of the report of the recipient. She must submit a statement of expenses and refund any surplus.

2. The length of time for each fellowship shall be one month. The study must be completed before the next NHDAA meeting after the one at which the fellowship has been awarded.

3. The recipient must have had a minimum of five years experience in Extension work, and must be a member of the NHDAA.

4. The recipient must agree to send duplicate copies of the highlights of her study to the fellowship committee; to her state home demonstration leader; to the state home demonstration leaders in the states where she made her study; and 125 copies for the annual meeting.

5. She must be willing to make an oral report of her visit at the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association meeting, following the completion of her study.

6. The president of each state Home Demonstration Agents' Association should encourage agents to apply by furnishing copies of blanks to be filled out and make every effort to submit an application from her state. Agents who have applied in previous years may re-apply to the state committee by sending in a revised application.

7. Any eligible agent may submit an application to the state committee. The state committee is composed of: state home demonstration leader, president of state association and chairman of the fellowship committee of the state Home Demonstration Agents Association. This state committee selects *only one* application to be sent to the national committee by May 1.

8. Application, plan of work and personal rating sheet, approved by the state committee, must be sent to the chairman of the national fellowship committee, no later than May 1.

9. The selection of the recipient will be made by a national committee. The president of the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association will appoint a committee consisting of a regional field agent, an officer of the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association and two state demonstration leaders to serve with the chairman of the fellowship committee.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

The constitution in its revision had included the office of president-elect. She was to be elected and serve in this capacity in the odd years and to take office as president in the even years. Mrs. Carmen Johnson, Colorado, was elected to this office for 1951.

The public relations report at the June board meeting was most lengthy. Emphasis was given to recruitment of girls for home demonstration agent positions; members to continue advanced study and professional improvement; promote and maintain good public relations with other organizations, groups and the general public; keep informed on matters and policies relating to Extension and home demonstration work; and encourage membership in AHEA.

NHDAA was asked to have representation at the following meetings; Land Grant Organization and Policy Committee; Civil Defense Meeting; Assembly of Women's Organizations for National Security; Herald Tribune Forum; NACAA Officers and Directors meeting; Food Preservation Committee for Secretary Brannon; Conference on Rural Reading; the Freedom Crusade

and Foundling Assembly for a new Adult Education Association. After a report on this meeting, the NHDAA voted to have membership in it.

A standard form for submitting state officers and chairmen was adopted at this June board meeting.

Modane Marchbanke wrote President Switzer asking for information concerning NHDAA and home agents. After the board heard the reply they thought it was so well worded that copies should be made and similar information be made available to all business groups.

ANNUAL MEETING OUTSIDE CHICAGO

The 1951 annual meeting of the NHDAA was called to order by the president, Mary Switzer at 9:35 a.m. Monday, November 5 at the Hotel Texas, Fort Worth, Texas. President Switzer welcomed the largest number ever to attend the annual meeting and also the first annual meeting ever held outside of Chicago. The theme of the meeting was "Broader Horizons for Home Demonstration Work."

The "eye-opener" talk was by Miss Florence Hall and she used the theme for her topic. She stressed the fact that how we look at things and what we see depends on the kind of glasses we wear:

1. Magnifying glasses are needed only part of the time. We need to be analytical but must not magnify troubles and problems.
2. Rose colored glasses—sometimes but not all the time.
3. Far-away glasses for broader horizons. Take the world as you find it, but don't leave it that way. Possibility vision is unlimited.

Mr. Edward Aiton, executive director, 4-H Foundation, spoke on the Foundation, and he said it was an educational non-profit organization and it would be what Extension makes it.

Mr. Kenneth B. Anderson, National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club work, spoke on "Extension and Youth," emphasizing the importance of work with youth. He said, "The job we have to do in Extension is turn out exceptional Americans."

"Achieving Distinction in Dress" was the title of a talk by Miss Iris Davenport, editor, Women's Department, "Southern Agriculturist." She advised, "Never take it for granted that you can get by because you are you. We should advertise ourselves well."

Miss Mena Hogan, consultant, office of Foreign Agricultural

Relations, USDA, spoke on: "A Home Economist Looks Over Her Sisters Across the Ocean." Miss Hogan stated that home economics work is making a great deal of progress throughout the world.

An unexpected and unplanned feature of the program was the showing of a captured Russian propaganda film by Mr. Patrick Condon of the State Department.

FIRST FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Mrs. Louise M. Craig, Somerset, Kentucky, was the first recipient of the Grace Frysinger Fellowship and the presentation was made by President Switzer. Applications were received from 25 states.

In her application, Mrs. Craig said, "I have a twofold purpose in applying:

To compile detailed information concerning certain phases of the Home Demonstration Program in two states so that it will be of value to home demonstration agents in my own state and other states and to myself as a home demonstration agent.

To gain personal knowledge and inspiration so that I will be a better home demonstration agent in my own county and state.

When Mrs. Craig gave her report to NHDAA she said:

There are no words in the dictionary to describe this unique and very rich experience which was my privilege to enjoy under the Grace Frysinger Fellowship this year. I received a wealth of valuable information, met such wonderful people and enjoyed every minute of this experience. I wish every home demonstration agent could have just such an experience.

After the president gave her report, the meeting adjourned to the Colonial Country Club for the Recognition Luncheon. Fifty-three were honored. Director Wilson spoke on "Broader Horizons for Home Demonstration Agents." He said, "The essence of Extension work is the county workers who come in direct contact with farm families. Home demonstration work has a place of importance in defense mobilization. Other important fields of endeavor include professional improvement and building for world citizenship."

The Land Grant College Association Headquarters in Washington, D. C., was the site for the 1952 mid-year Executive Board meeting.

In the business session, the proposed budget showed a marked increase in payment of secretarial help, but the Asso-

ciation was growing and the duties and responsibilities of officers were also increasing.

Some states continued to be negligent in submitting dues. It was the recommendation of the Distinguished Service Committee recognition be refused members from any state which had not paid national dues by "due date."

The Mid-Century Committee on Children and Youth had sent a letter to President Carmen Johnson, appealing for funds. The Association contributed \$25.00.

The number of commercial exhibitors was increasing each year. Up until this year, an exhibitor would pay his fee and use whatever space he felt he needed. There needed to be some uniformity. The Exhibits Committee established a space of 10 feet per booth, stating that an exhibitor could purchase more than one booth space if it were needed.

The Committee on Cooperative Buying had more or less served its purpose, so it was removed from the list of standing committees. However, two new committees were added: Committee on International Relations and a 4-H and Older Youth Committee.

The Association continued to hold a two-day Pre-Convention meeting just prior to the annual meeting of the American Home Economics Association. Some business was discussed with all Extension home demonstration personnel, and some committee reports were given. Advisory Council members made short talks relative to strengthening the NHDAA and also the role of the Extension worker. Miss Iris Davenport gave her version of a good recruitment program, namely: (1) Be enthusiastic; (2) Look the part; (3) Do the part; (4) Speak the part.

The Pre-Convention was in Atlantic City at the Hotel Marlborough-Blenheim. The New Jersey Home Economics Extension workers hosted a breakfast and the Pennsylvania Home Economics Extension Service sponsored a colorful luncheon. Speakers included Dr. Hazel Stiebling, chief of the Bureau of Human Nutrition, USDA, who used as her subject, "The Work of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics"; and Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of Rutgers University, who spoke on "Tomorrow's Challenge to the Extension Service."

A panel discussion was given by home demonstration agents from each of the four regions on "What We Do and How."

Mrs. Eleanore Thompkins, New Jersey, who was the representative of NHDAA in the assembly of Women's Organizations for National Defense, attended the reception for Queen Juliana in Washington in April of this year and she gave a glowing account of the occasion.