

Women in Wartime



Heyn Photo

Frances Range



Patriotic League at Drill



Cassie Riley



Mrs. James Burke



Iona Mustain ★ Mildred Joy Mekeel

Hoover's Omaha Aides Carry Food Conservation Gospel to 20,000 Homes

THE message of food conservation has been carried personally to 20,000 homes in Omaha, according to the report of the first year's work, issued by Miss Nellie Farnsworth, emergency home demonstration agent for the government. This monumental task was accomplished by the splendid organization, the Central Conservation council, which Miss Farnsworth instituted in Omaha. Mrs. R. E. Winkelmann, chairman, and Mrs. E. B. Gwynne-Vaughan, secretary, spread the conservation gospel by a square block campaign, enlisting the aid of over 1,000 block captains.

South Lincoln district, captained by Mrs. G. N. Sears, made the record for the largest number of calls, 1,624 in all. Saunders, Mrs. R. E. Winkelmann, was second with 1,000 personal calls. Webster, Mrs. C. J. Johnson; Park, Mrs. Lysle Abbott; Clifton Hill, Mrs. F. E. Gilbert; Central, Mrs. J. H. Craddock, and Miller Park, Mrs. Dena Gregg, chairman, each reported more than 700 calls.

The work has taken a little different form in Kellom district, where the talks have been given to groups in various societies. "Miss Lottie Guttman is chairman. In Long district Mrs. A. S. Pinto, chairman, written reports were brought in of the conditions found in each home. In Pacific district, Mrs. L. A. Kiger, chairman, two meetings have been held where interpreters aided in making clear the message. Many calls have been made, but owing to several classes of foreigners it was not possible to give each a personal message.

At Windsor, Mrs. Herbert Woodland, chairman, the people are having block meetings, where recipes and conservation suggestions are exchanged.

What the work of the Conservation council has accomplished for women is best told by the women themselves. Said Mrs. R. E. Winkelmann, the chairman:

"While magazines and papers have set forth the needs of conservation in a general way, it took the organized effort obtained by means of the Central Conservation council to bring home to each woman her individual responsibility in the matter. Through the block chairman, women of Omaha have been aroused to a deeper sense of their responsibility in winning the war through the conservation of food.

The instruction classes held by Miss Farnsworth have created a deeper interest in food preparation

and have given a dignity to the homely duties of every-day life. Patriotic service these days may be rendered quite as efficiently in the kitchen as in a public way.

"How many times one has heard the remark, 'Why, conservation I have been taught from my youth, and yet not one of us has realized the true meaning of the word conservation until we became engaged in this great war,' said Mrs. Lysle I. Abbott. "I believe in every true American household today Hoover's instructions are being carried out with pleasure, and it will be one of the many lessons we will have profited by when this war has ended."

"This campaign has given us a definite idea as to what food conservation means and has deepened our sense of responsibility and of the great importance of this work as an aid to winning this war," is the way Mrs. Horace M. Higgins expressed it. "The kitchen, the heart of the home, has become the throbbing heart of a nation, answering with conservation the appealing call of the allies. Busy mothers, busy housewives are now standing shoulder to shoulder, conserving, substituting, saving, happy in the knowledge that we are part of the great army fighting that liberty might live," said Mrs. George E. Bergerow.

Retail Grocer's Viewpoint.

"About seven months ago our government through the food administration and its agents said we must conserve and do our part in teaching the people conservation. To teach the use of the substitutes has been no easy matter but our customers have been loyal and patriotic and while the work of the women has naturally meant a decrease in our per centage of business, the use of substitutes has helped," said Edward E. Wise, president of the Retail Grocers' association.

War Work Notes

Mrs. George E. Nichols was Friday named chairman of the First Presbyterian church Red Cross auxiliary which meets each Friday between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. and again in the evening at 7:15 o'clock in the church basement, to make surgical dressings. Mrs. Nichols succeeds Mrs. E. C. Twamley.

Fifteen-cent luncheons are served to the workers. Mrs. Herbert Rogers is recruiting additional workers for this unit, whose meeting place is one of the coolest hot weather spots for work in Omaha.

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Omaha Girls Organize Patriotic League for Fosdick Board Work

IN the drama of the war, social life of the men with the colors plays a vital role. All work and no play would make Sammy, not only a dull boy, but an inefficient soldier. To provide aftertraining hours of relaxation for a couple of million men suddenly flooding the land is a task which the War department had to accomplish. So Uncle Sam founded the Fosdick War Camp Activity Commission and through that appealed to the women of the land to act as a special entertainment committee for his boys.

Not all the wounds of war are inflicted by shot and shell. Back of the lines—at home, by-products of war, come the experiences that shatter the spirit and ruin lives. In order to repair these damages and to prevent them, the Patriotic League of Omaha has been established.

Miss Frances Range, special representative from this war camp service, has launched the venture so successfully in the past few weeks that a dozen groups of the league now flourish in Omaha.

Each band has its own voluntary leader, a young woman of more time and broader experience than the members to whom they may turn in need of advice. Miss Range has established a course which is soon to be opened for these leaders. Men and women who are versed in social welfare and dramatics have been secured to give semi-weekly lectures. Talks on dress, health and deportment are given for the girls.

Every one is a soldier now, so there is the drill and setting up exercises to complete the picture. Several classes gather at the Young Women's Christian association Monday and Tuesday evenings to learn from a dapper young lieutenant the meaning of "squads right!" "double quick" and "mark time," incidentally to counteract the effect of leaning over a desk or typewriter. Out-of-door drilling will later be adopted.

Pioneer among the groups is the Isabella club. Mrs. James Burke is the moving spirit. The workers have devoted their efforts to the men at Fort Crook. They have given a series of the most enjoyable dances. The presence of many comfy chairs, attractive pillows and other reminders of "home and mother" as well as the furnishings for the altar in the Knights of Columbus hut, are proofs that the Isabella club understands fully the meaning of the word "patriotic."

Florence field and Fort Omaha have been the objects of attention of enthusiastic members of the Columbian club. So alive to the present situation are these north side workers that no one may join who does not promise to do some patriotic work other than the league work.

In between acting as hostesses at a series of parties they have fashioned a large number of war cases, neat little pocket books fitted with a medal, rosary and tiny prayer book. When 50 girls busy themselves with these

remembrances, the result is an amazing number. Miss Katherine Lowry is leader for this band.

"I will do my bit" is the slogan of another division of the league. It is known as the "I Will" club. In the beginning the members sent candy and tobacco to the men in the base hospitals "over there."

Since the War department issued orders that no packages be sent to the American expeditionary forces, the "I Will" girls have devoted themselves to entertainments for the men at home.

Many novelties have been introduced at the dances held during the winter. The final one of the series took place Tuesday evening at the Rome hotel. Miss Nina Dalley, the dancer and Walter Adams, presented the Ak-Sar-Ben vampire dance. One of the honor guests, formerly with the Field Minstrels, sang. Miss Iona Mustain is leader of these workers. Red Cross work will be done during the summer.

One of the most efficient leaders is Miss Mildred Joy Mekeel, a young college woman who recently came to make her home in Omaha. Her club is in the making. They are employees of Shafer & Co.

Burgess-Nash salespeople are organized into a splendid working group. The last dance which was sponsored by them took place at the Knights of Columbus hut at Fort Omaha. The first dance, a circle one-step, was used as such an effective "ice breaker" that everyone had a "wonderful time," Miss Caroline Burke is leader.

The "Joan of Arc" club, led by Miss Cassie Riley is one of the most perfected organizations. Miss Range says that these young women are doing the finest work imaginable. They are planning many features of entertainment and betterment for the future.

Miss Frances Sawyer is the leader for a number of girls who work for the Fairmont Creamery Co. Miss Van Sant Jenkins directs the work of a club of office girls. Other clubs just forming have as yet no leader.

"A united community spirit is one of the essentials," explains Miss Range. "We are planning a wonderful big 'sing' at which I hope to have a couple thousand girls take part. It will be staged in one of the parks and patriotic numbers will be given."

When all is said and done concerning the benefit to the fighting men of the plan now started on its goal of success, consider the advantage to the members.

The Patriotic League of Omaha, still in its infancy, has set such a shining example; that the women of the Gate City, following its example are sure not only to paint the most silvery lining to the war clouds, but also bring forth the rainbow of hope for a world at peace.

For the first time women will serve on the public library board. Mayor Smith Saturday announced the appointment of Miss Kate McHugh and Mrs. N. P. Feil for this work. A happier choice of well-qualified women could hardly be made, Omaha women concede. Miss McHugh is a former principal of Central High school and president of the Drama league. Mrs. Feil is one of Omaha's best read women. She is active in Mu Sigma, the oldest study club in the city, and directed the Defense council registration of women for war service last fall.

Gabby Detays Relates Gossip of Interest

She Has Weekly Store of Sotto Voce Tales, as It Were, for Your Choice Perusal

COULD DIETZ have the distinction of having entertained Colonel Teddy Roosevelt on each of the three visits made to Omaha by the former president. Each time Mr. Dietz has taken his guest to call on his mother, Mrs. L. A. Dietz, 82 years old. On his last trip, Mr. Dietz enjoyed breakfast, luncheon and dinner in Mrs. Roosevelt's company.

EFFICIENCY is a large word and very popular these days, for we hear it on every side. If it can be said of you that you are "efficient," your success is assured, but it is really amusing to see how far this wave of excellence in all things goes.

When Junior Nash was asked who were the best boys in his school he mentioned one or two. Did they excel in their studies or were they extremely proficient in athletics? Neither, they were the best "swearers."

TWO Omaha war workers cannot be called "summer slackers." They are Mrs. F. W. Carmichael, chairman of Red Cross auxiliaries and Miss Nellie Farnsworth, federal food agent.

So indefatigably have these two labored in their different fields of war work that Mrs. Carmichael has lost 29 pounds in weight and Miss Farnsworth, 30 pounds.

Mrs. Carmichael instituted the public workshop and made a tremendous success of it, giving every day of her time. Miss Farnsworth organized the Central Conservation council which has done great service in food saving.

DID you notice the rather ordinary gray suit worn by the invincible "Teddy" when in Omaha? Nothing much on looks or style?

Well, it's a better one, at that, than the one President Wilson wore when he was in Omaha, according to testimony by the Fontenelle hotel tailor.

The tailor knows, too, for he pressed the suits of both celebrities and he is a good judge of materials. This is what he whispered to Gabby Detays—President Wilson's suit was bought ready-made! Roosevelt's bore the name of a Fifth avenue tailor.

The tailor also confides another interesting fact—he received no tips for either service.

JUNE sunshine brings out other things besides the roses, for Gabby has noticed a number of sparkling stones on as many feminine lauds the (Continued on Page Two.)