

# NEWS LETTER

Vol. 6

Raleigh, N. C., October, 1951

No. 4

## WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

Attending the National Home Demonstration Council Meeting was a rare privilege for me. The words of greetings and welcome were so inspiring and sincere. Mrs. Malcolm Byrnes, President, National Home Demonstration Council, brought greetings. In her greetings, she urged all the women to do everything possible to help "Preserve our Heritage." Mrs. Lloyd Spencer welcomed us on behalf of the Michigan Home Demonstration Council. She gave a brief, but interesting account of the history of the State of Michigan. Governor Williams was unable to attend but sent a member of his staff who welcomed us most ably. He said, "Where, but in our country, could a young man, who five years ago sat on the front seat in this auditorium a Freshman under the G. I. Bill of Rights, and now, five years later, stand on the platform speaking in behalf of the Governor welcoming a National Group of women." Dr. Marie Dye, Dean of the School of Home Economics gave such a warm welcome. She gave some very interesting facts about Michigan State College, stating that Michigan had the first Land Grant College dating back to 1855.

Everyone that brought greetings made us feel so very welcome and so much at home. Mrs. W. A. Kopp  
Bolivia

## CIVIL DEFENSE

Mrs. John L. Whitehurst, Assistant to the Administrator of the Federal Civil Defense Administration, said women have a vital role to play in the nation's civil defense program, and constant vigilance is the keyword.

She warned that residents of small towns and farms are the most likely victims of biological warfare which may be aimed not only at animals and crops, but at people.

Mrs. Whitehurst called on American women to answer a challenge that cannot be faced by men alone. She called for alertness by women for new insects, unusual plant or animal diseases which may signal an enemy's use of biological warfare and if any of these are found, report immediately to community authorities.

## FIRST EVENING SESSION

The Monday night program was as planned, plus interesting and amusing numbers by the Michigan 4-H club members. The two programs were combined because of rain in the late afternoon.

The 4-H talent show offered a variety of vocal and instrumental music, a monologue, baton twirling and ballet dancing.

The Indiana Home Demonstration Council was in charge of the music which was produced by the Tippecanoe County chorus. This chorus of robed singers, under the direction of Al Stewart of Purdue was aided by a narrator in telling the life of James Whitcomb Riley, the Hoosier poet. Pride and discouragement in his literary attempts, his final acceptance by his own state and then by the world were told in song and story.

A skit "March of Time on TV" given by Hancock County of Indiana portrayed home economics in the old days contrasted with today. The audience got many laughs from this true to life play.

Mrs. George E. West  
Dover

## FAMILY RELATIONS

Mrs. Lynn F. Perkins, Chairman, Family Relations Committee N. H. D. C., gave a splendid report. She spoke of the contribution of the following: The Home Demonstration Agents, The Home-maker, and Both Parents.

She said that cooperation is the keyword of the family relations program. There is great need for more togetherness. There should be regular family devotions with Bible reading and study; church attendance in family groups.

She urged us to make the most of every opportunity to guide and train our youth. She said that each of us should ask himself this question: What can I do to help?

Mrs. W. Clarence Cole  
Chapel Hill

Women are also needed in nursing, nurses aid, and home nursing jobs and to work on the blood program.

Mrs. Raymond E. Hill  
Route 4, Winston-Salem

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Mrs. Everett Spangler, Omaha, Nebr., reporting for the International Relations Committee, at the Sixteenth Annual meeting of the National Home Demonstration Conference, at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., August 15, 1951, announced, as a part of her report, the collection of \$10,837.92 for "Pennies For Friendship," collected by the individual clubs.

She also reported 12,923 "Letter Friends," 304 Exhibits, as a part of a study of International Relations, placed at Fairs by American women, and that more than 360 homes of members of demonstration clubs were opened to foreign visitors.

Home Demonstration women made more than 12,000 United Nations Flags, and 1,924 clubs reported special recognition of United Nations Day.

Approximately 7,000 club programs were based on study of foreign countries.

Mrs. V. I. Hockaday  
Halifax

## INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESS

It was so interesting to know that so many important women of the Press attended the National H. D. Council; women that we had read of but never expected to see: Clara Ackerman, United States Dept. of Agri., Washington, D. C.

Jessie Heathman, Home Economics News & Radio Editor, Extension Service, Urbana, Ill.

Beth Petersen, Home Economist in Public Relations, Du Pont Co.

Gertrude Dieken and Tracy Richard, from *Farm Journal*.

Laura Lane, from *Country Gentleman*.

Carol Towers, from *Successful Farming*.

Betty Wolcott, Editorial Service Bureau of Eastman Kodak.

Helen Greenwood from *Michigan Farmer*.

Also Miss Margate Kienast from the Forestry Service of the United States Dept. of Agri., who contacts all women organizations and gives talks.

## NEWS LETTER

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## COMMENTS ON MRS. SAYRE'S TRIP

When Mrs. Raymond Sayre arrived at Hawaii, the state leader of Home Demonstration work took her around. They gave songs and dances for her which were very nice. The people there want you to know that they belong to the United States.

Most countries were too small and had too many people on one farm. They also had very inefficient means of production. But she did find that the people do want peace although the women do not understand what kind of peace they want. If the women of the world expect to solve the problems of fear and peace they must get out and do something about it. They cannot stand behind closed doors.

Mrs. E. H. Swindell  
 Swanquarter

## American Library Association

Since Mrs. Loleta Fyan, National President, could not be present, her assistant was there and announced that a display of books was in the lobby for us to inspect. She also announced that Ford had made two grants to help train leaders for more rural reading. Knowledge is of two kinds, "We know a subject ourselves or we know where we can find information upon it."

Mrs. B. E. Warner  
 Murphy

## THE NATION IS THE REFLECTION OF MANY HOMES

"The nation is the reflection of many homes," was the topic of M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Service from Washington, D. C., as he addressed the N. H. D. C. at Michigan State College. He commented on both material and non-material aspects of better living and said that Home Demonstration work was dynamically going forward.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that the Home Demonstration program is broad gauged and alert to recognize all advances in the field of home making. He said that through this program rural women of America have become some of our best informed citizens, thus bringing rural living to a higher level.

He summarized Home Demonstration work by saying it helps to maintain a balance of such materials as technical advantages and work saving methods to such non-materials as citizenship activities, reading and increasing interest in worldly affairs.

Mrs. Aldon Gurley  
 Pikeville

## CONDITIONS IN EUROPE

It was a real treat to hear Miss Mena Hogan, Home Economist for the Southern States on the U. S. D. A., tell of her recent six months tour of Europe. Miss Hogan observed schools and homes in countries as part of her assignment in cooperation with E. C. A. from office of Foreign Agriculture Relations. Her experience with their language and food was somewhat humorous.

There was also a more serious side—that of dangers of Communism in Europe. There is a lag in progress in home and farm. Drudgery and poverty are the greatest enemies. She pointed out that foreign education may be a part answer to the problem. By studying our conditions, they would be able to carry back our ideas to their country.

The women are the hope of Europe. A gradual awakening is taking place among the men and women. Europe has many things we need, among them a better understanding of each other.

Mrs. W. J. Barnacassel  
 Rt. 2, Windsor

**Tennessee has joined the National Home Demonstration Council. This Makes 100% Membership From the Southern District.**

## CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM, COMMUNISM

The National Home Demonstration Council listened with interest to an address on CAPITALISM—SOCIALISM—COMMUNISM given by D. B. Varner, Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State College, on Wednesday, August 15th.

By the use of charts and maps he gave comparisons of the three economic systems. Following is a summary of his explanation of the three systems.

Economic activity rests upon the same general foundations in all economic systems, the abundance of human wants and the scarcity of means to satisfy them. Economic systems may differ with respect to the importance which they attach to the problem of satisfying the economic wants of their citizens and the means or mechanisms used to perform the functions of the economic system.

The capitalistic system depends upon private property, freedom of enterprise, the price system, competition and the motivating factors of individual factors of initiative and self interest to stimulate production and economic development.

Under socialism the ownership and control of the land and the producer good industries are vested in the government or society as a whole.

The main comments of his address brought out that the American people should recognize that they are leaders of free people and that they must accept their responsibility. He warned us that if we turn our back on starving nations the communist will move in. To be able to cope with the situation we will have to be strong militarily.

Mrs. Jack Fries  
 RFD, Salisbury

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

According to Mrs. Edgar F. Leming, of Cornelius, Oregon, who is Chairman of the Health Committee, National Home Demonstration Council, Home Demonstration work has done more to improve health in rural areas than any other organization.

An informed and educated public is one of the best guarantees of effective health service. The health department carries on continuous campaigns of public education and information on how to achieve optimum health, how to prevent illness and disability and how to make use of available facilities and services.

Mrs. Wallace Goodwin  
 Edenton



## ADVENTURE IN INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

We almost forgot the chaotic situation in which our world is placed when we were privileged to hear a panel discussion between Mrs. Louise Carpenter and seven foreign students, their subject being: *Adventure in International Understanding*.

These students, representatives of many international students at Michigan State, are seeking to break down barriers between peoples of other lands and America during their stay in the United States. Under the able leadership of Mrs. Carpenter, who is a consultant for continued education at Michigan State, they are carrying out this project by separately touring many communities, visiting in homes, attending social gatherings, and in doing so, they learn the customs, religions, attitudes, and philosophies of the people which make up our nation.

Of these seven students, one was a lovely dark-eyed girl from Pakistan; another was a young Czechoslovakia boy who said he was not allowed to go back home. Next to him was a boy from Egypt, a Ph.D. student; another was Tony, from Peru, who was working on his Masters. A French boy and a Norwegian girl were in the group.

The panel discussion allowed us to ask these students questions about their own respective countries. It was extremely interesting to learn that these representatives from other nations, in their experiences here, have found our country to be much like their countries in many ways.

Such a discussion, led by this international group, brought home the fact that this world of ours, after all, is not so large that through full cooperation it could become a world of united brotherhood. Mrs. John L. Geer Rutherfordton, N. C.

## REPORTS OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 16, was the last day of the 1951 National Home Demonstration Council and we heard the Regional Director's reports.

Mrs. Duane Lynne, the Eastern director, from Lincoln, Delaware, told us that these three years as director and working with our well-equipped staff had meant so very much to her in her own personal life.

Our Western director-from House, New Mexico, Mrs. T. W. Coleman, reported to us that her district has been on its toes and that every state

## WORLD'S BEST HOPE FOR PEACE

Miss Mabel Head, lecturer on World Affairs and Director of the Institute of World Missions, had as her topic "The World's Best Hope For Peace."

She pointed out to us ways in which she felt we could accomplish much in the cause. Among other things she said we should strive to build a confidential public sentiment towards our government and the United Nations. Every influence must be used to strengthen the United Nations, the cost of which is insignificant in comparison to military expenditures—only eight cents per person last year. In the five and one half years of existence, they have done much to preserve peace by settling by conciliation what could have been the beginning of the fifth world war.

One half of the world is in a perpetual state of hunger and consequently are easily led by anyone who offers something better or different. There is the work of the International Children's Emergency Fund and the World Health Organization, who are doing much to stamp out diseases in backward areas, and to give an extra meal and milk for ten million children a day should not be overlooked.

Miss Head concluded, "The United Nations is not a perfect organization, but it does hold nations together. It provides a place and a way for them to work together to solve problems of inequality and injustice and set up institutions for a better world."

Mrs. S. H. Atkinson  
Siloam

had sent in their reports. Also every state in her district had delegates present with the exception of Idaho.

Mrs. Verne Alden, of Wellsville, Kansas, the Central Director, gave her report on her first year as a director. Her region has also done very well for each state has turned in reports. She also told us that the Home Demonstration women helped out with flooded areas as an extra and very worthwhile project.

Our Southern director, Mrs. R. Cosby Newton, from Bennettsville, South Carolina, reported that in the Southern district there are 14 states and all of the states except Tennessee are members of the National Council.

These regional reports helped each of us to gain an insight into our National work and let each of us see clearly that the Home Demonstration women are "coming up in this world."

Mrs. Leonard McDonald  
Rockingham

## DEMOCRACY BEGINS AT HOME

The members of the National Home Demonstration Council were privileged to hear an address entitled "Democracy Begins at Home" by Dr. Amalie K. Nelson, Psychologist, Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Nelson is also "Mrs." and a "homemaker." She thought parenthood is perhaps the most important role that anyone of us has in life, since we are directing and guiding the next generation of young people.

"We need to do some serious thinking about the pattern of democracy we are giving them. We must help our children to realize the true meaning of the precepts of democracy, because democracy begins at home," Dr. Nelson emphasized.

"In a democratic family, we help each other to grow less selfish and kinder, and more understanding. We accept each other's temporary hates and jealousies, but help each other to overcome them," she continued.

In short, she said that a democratic home operates on the principles of equality of opportunity and freedom for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, for all members of the family, from baby to grandmother.

Mrs. Tom Moxley  
Laurel Springs

## COUNTRY WOMEN'S COUNCIL

*Penny for Friendship*: Total — \$16,000.00. This is the best and largest amount ever sent. North Carolina sent \$558.07.

*Letter Friends*: Eighteen Clubs, including North Carolina, exchanged program material with foreign groups.

*Exchange Program*: Sixteen foreign countries asked for Programs.

*Country Women*: 490 Subscriptions sent to London. The Subscription list is growing.

*Publicity*: Twenty-four Women editors.

*Study Folder*: Many folders were sent to Foreign Countries. Medal given to C.W.C. for cooperation in World understanding.

*Membership*: Forty-one state members.

*Friendship Parcels*: 10,026 abroad.

*International Visitors*: 600 foreign persons entertained in U. S. Students are expected to visit the International Conference to be held in Ontario, Canada, at a later date.

*UN Committee*: Reports tree planting and lessons on status of Women. Recommended to foreign countries.

Mrs. Walter Rhodes  
Beulahville

## THE PICNIC SUPPER

At 6:00 o'clock, we were directed by lovely ladies wearing large white aprons to the Band Shell Campus for a Barbecued Chicken picnic. The ladies were members of the Michigan Home Demonstration Council. Each person was served one-half of a chicken with a large helping of baked beans, slaw, and a huge block of ice cream. Tea and coffee were the beverages.

The feeding of the five thousand came to my mind when I saw these twelve hundred women sitting about in groups on the grass. After the picnic, singing and square dancing was enjoyed by all.

This same evening, there were good shows in the auditorium for those who cared to attend. They were "Michigan In Winter," "Conservation and Breeding of Fish," "Canoe Trails," and "The Care of Fruits and Vegetables."

Mrs. W. C. Coffey  
Lenoir

## CLUB WOMEN ENJOY TOURS

One of the many courtesies extended by Michigan Home Demonstration Club Women to delegates to the National Home Demonstration Council Meeting, was the planned tours. Scheduled buses with guides were provided.

A tour of the Olds Motor plant and tours of the M. S. C. Campus were scheduled daily. The tours were well patronized by the delegates. Delegates from several states went on the tours in a body.

The tour through the Olds plant required ninety minutes. The ladies were amazed at the things they saw in the plant. One lady, on returning from the Olds tour remarked, "After seeing all the skilled and hard work that goes into the making of a car, I shall appreciate more and take better care of mine."

The Campus tours were really thrilling. The spacious buildings, the trees and shrubs that grew on the beautiful green lawns, the colorful flower gardens and the miles of roadways and walks were really a feast for the eyes.

The Campus of Michigan State College is not only a credit to Michigan but to the Nation as well.

Mrs. O. H. Ross, Sr.  
Rt. 4, Burlington.

**National Home Demonstration  
Council—North Carolina  
October 27-30, 1952**

## "A HEAP O' LIVING"

On Wednesday evening the Indiana Home Demonstration Chorus, under the direction of Al Stewart, gave the musical program, "America Sings." "Let My People Go," "The Pledge to the Flag," "White Cliffs of Dover," "Breathes There a Man with Soul so Dead," "Get Along Cindy," and many other well known selections were given. The music produced an atmosphere of good will. There were three hundred in the group. Three thousand ladies from Indiana went to Washington for the program there. They are planning a good will tour to South America.

Following this, Edgar A. Guest was introduced. He is a newspaper man and has been with the Detroit Press fifty-eight years. He said, "singing was a lesson to scatter cheer." The chorus was compared with the robins who put on so many free shows. All of his poems are filled with the love of family, home, and people. Life, as Mr. Guest defines it, is made of two parts—physical and spiritual. It is a tremendous responsibility and we are sent to this earth for a purpose. He closed his talk with "A Heap of Living to Make a Home." The audience was spellbound. There was something in the atmosphere that made me come away with a feeling of humility and with the desire to serve my community better.

Mrs. L. R. Harris  
Rt. 1, Warrenton

## LEGISLATIVE-CITIZENSHIP COMMITTEE

"It is not enough that we *know* we must *do*," declared Miss Pearl E. Barnes Chairman of Legislative-Citizenship Committee of the National Home Demonstration Council.

Such current problems as taxes, social security, price controls, inflation, local government, etc., which confront all citizens, club women should study and know, realizing that duties and obligations must counterbalance the privileges our democracy guarantees.

Without recognition of responsibilities and the acceptance of duties, our present privileges could be endangered.

For instance, Miss Barnes asked: Have you found that it is better to put the right person in office than to talk about it afterwards?

Reported by:  
Mrs. Gilbert R. English  
Rt. 2, Trinity

## TALK ON UNESCO

"In Greek mythology, wisdom was the gift bestowed on the goddess Minerva. We need that same gift to face the challenge of living today. I ask you to have courage." These were the opening words of the inspiring speech of Mrs. Kathleen Lardie. Mrs. Lardie was a member of the first United States National Commission for UNESCO and has served as a delegate at successive conferences.

At the first meeting in the State Department there were one hundred people, despite their high positions, meeting for four days trying to work out some way of peace. This conference lasted for six months. Delegates were sent to Mexico City, and then returned to Washington to study reports.

The third general meeting was held in Beirut, Lebanon, to which Mrs. Lardie was sent as a delegate. Forty-six nations were represented at this assembly. Color, nationality and creed were forgotten as they worked out a program to promote peace. The delegates pledged themselves to go back to their countries and help introduce the Declaration of Human Rights which was accepted on the last day of the conference.

We must have courage and do our part in helping people have hope to carry on toward this program of peace. UNESCO is that hope!

Mrs. J. Roy Wilkerson  
Wilson

## SUMMARY OF NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION CONFERENCE AS GIVEN BY MISS FLORENCE HALL

Miss Hall used a cellophane hat box as a "Bag of Loot," and in this box she said she would put the following: Friendly Associations, Kindly Hostesses, Inspirational addresses, Memories, and Color of Michigan State College, The Beautiful United Nations Flags which decorated the stage, Music on the Green, Beautiful furnishings of the buildings on the campus, and last the grand programs containing the wonderful reports of the States and Districts.

Taken as a whole this was one of the best conferences ever held by the National Home Demonstration Council.

Mrs. Dennis Higdon  
Sylva

**Country Women's Council—  
N. C., October 30-31, 1952**