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BOX 1 FOLDER 19

"Home Economy Theme of Talks"

circa 1917 or 1918

HOME ECONOMY THEME OF TALKS

**One Hundred and Thirty-five
Assembled at Luncheon in
Y. W. C. A. Building—
Work of War Gardens.**

At the luncheon held by the Home Economics Association of this city in the Y. W. C. A. cafeteria on Saturday last, 135 were present.

The dining room was beautifully decorated with flags, autumn leaves and asters. The general arrangement of the luncheon was managed by a committee headed by Mrs. Jacob A. Emery. Those who assisted Mrs. Emery were Mrs. L. R. Brooks, Miss Riesenbergh, Mrs. Roy E. Wildey, Mrs. W. H. Anderson, Mrs. R. G. Chatterton, Mrs. Alfred Launder, Mrs. Wells M. Sawyer, Mrs. E. A. Truran, Mrs. E. J. Carruthers, Mrs. M. Newby and Miss Stoutenburg of the Y. W. C. A.

The chairman Mrs. J. J. Carr opened the luncheon with a few words of welcome to the members and friends present. Miss Helen Sanders then welcomed them in behalf of the Young Women's Christian Association.

The first speaker of the day was City Judge W. A. Walsh who spoke on the important place that the Home Economics Association can and does hold in this city. He referred to recent experiences he had had in Court,

in regard to the war garden: where small boys had been brought before him for stealing vegetables. It had been necessary to fine the boys for the offense and this brought the price of the corn, etc., they had stolen a great deal higher than if bought in the open market he said. The Judge then said that he found that some of the same boys, it had been necessary to fine, had proceeded to plant gardens of their own and in that way the Judge had accomplished indirectly some excellent war work.

Mrs. Thomas Burgess of Scarsdale, who was head supervisor of the very successful community farms in Scarsdale this summer said that the women and children were the greatest help to her and that "were all the women and children of the world to stop all work at this moment, the war would end. This being a war in behalf of democracy for our country and for all of the world, inasmuch as the work of the women and children has been recognized as so necessary to the progress of the country—just as necessary as that of the men—why should they not be recognized as citizens in other capacities, namely in the capacity of voting citizens." Mr. and Mrs. Burgess are staunch supporters of the cause of woman suffrage, also Judge Walsh and his wife.

The Association was also honored with the presence of Dr. N. A. Warren, former Mayor of Yonkers and head of the Chamber of Commerce, who spoke of general conditions in the city. He mentioned the war gardens and the badly trained boys who steal from them. He ended by referring to the new Food Bill. The delay caused by the refusal to accept George W. Perkins as head of the Food Commission to enforce the law was much regretted by Dr. Warren.

Mrs. Carr then arose and told what the Home Economics Association had done in trying to induce Senator George A. Slater of this district to hurry the food law into operation "and support the best man possible despite personal animosity or party lines. The people must have food. The farmers have an abundant crop. Why shouldn't the people in Yonkers have the benefit. The new food bill provides for public wholesale markets in certain Hudson River cities of which Yonkers should be one. The farmers produce would be shipped to us along the State waterways on barges, a much cheaper method of transportation than rail, especially as the railroads are over-burdened now."

Mrs. V. Everit Macy, formerly of Briarcliff, and now of Washington, D. C., put stress on the importance of following the rule laid down by the U. S. Food Administration under the direction of Mr. Herbert Hoover.

Mr. R. A. Stevenson honored the organization with a resume of the work of his Food Conservation Committee in this city this summer. Mr. Stevenson expressed appreciation of the assistance given him by the Home Economics Association.

Miss Martha Van Rensselaer of Cornell University had promised to be a special guest for the luncheon, but was unable to attend and Miss Florence Winchell of City College, N. Y. C., took her place.

A testimonial from Mrs. J. A. Emery stated that the organization had taught her a new meaning of word economy.

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