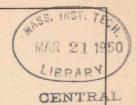
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Announcing the establishment ... 1941



Announcing

the establishment of

THE ELLEN H. RICHARDS INSTITUTE

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at

The Pennsylvania State College

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*** as a consolidated research unit to study certain aspects of the improvement of standards of living in the fields of food, clothing, and shelter, the Institute to be administered jointly by the School of Agriculture and the School of Chemistry and Physics

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THE ELLEN H. RICHARDS INSTITUTE

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There is a generally growing interest in the accumulation of research data which will lead to the improvement of standards of living in the three fields of food, clothing, and shelter. A recognition of this interest has led the Trustees of The Pennsylvania State College to establish the Ellen H. Richards Institute as a consolidated working research unit covering some of the investigations formerly carried on in the Departments of Chemistry and of Home Economics and in the Agricultural Experiment Station at the College.

Studies in textile technology, which have been carried on at The Pennsylvania State College in the Department of Chemistry since 1919, will be included in the work of the new Institute. These have been concentrated on investigations on the durability of textile articles in relationship to fabric construction and types of dyes, and on methods of laundering and drycleaning. Research fellowships maintained at the College by the Pennsylvania Association of Dyers and Cleaners, the Pennsylvania Laundryowners Association, and the Pennsylvania State-Maintained Institutions of Welfare, Public Instruction, Health, and Military Affairs have enabled the College to achieve a foremost place in the field of research in the chemistry and physics of detergency.

Research studies in human nutrition, begun at The Pennsylvania State College in 1935, will also be continued in the Ellen H. Richards Institute. These include a pioneer investigation on the relationship of dietary intake to family nutritional status, and a similar study in child nutrition begun co-operatively with the Department of Health of the Commonwealth in 1936. In both of these investigations, people



chosen in different communities in Pennsylvania as representative of various socio-economic and racial groups are being studied in order to learn their food habits, their degree of growth, skeletal status, hemoglobin, vitamin status, and numerous other evidences of nutritional well-being. Efforts to change nutritional status for the better by such means as parental or child education and the provision of a school lunch have been tried and the results measured.

Investigations of the suitability of many new materials for the construction of houses or parts of houses, and of the performance of various new types of household equipment have recently interested some of those working at The Pennsylvania State College, and a study of some of these physical aspects of housing is in immediate prospect in the newly created Institute.

The Ellen H. Richards Institute was named for the first woman to receive a degree in chemistry from one of the great institutions of learning and research in the country, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a woman who was the founder of household science in this country in its modern sense. As a research chemist and teacher, Ellen H. Richards (1842-1911) devoted her professional life to the application of chemistry and of the scientific method to improving home living conditions, and to establishing household science as a field for study in the improvement of standards of living.

Dr. Pauline Beery Mack, who has been on the staff of the School of Chemistry and Physics at the Pennsylvania State College since 1919 and Director of Research in Home Economics at the College since 1935, will be the first director of the Ellen H. Richards Institute. She has resigned the directorship of research in home economics to assume this responsibility. The Institute will be administered jointly through the School of Agriculture and the School of Chemistry and Physics.

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¹Carrying on research sponsored by The Pennsylvania Association of Dyers and Cleaners

²Carrying on research sponsored by The Pennsylvania Laundryowners' Association

³Carrying on research sponsored by the State-Owned Institutions in the Departments of Health, Military Affairs, Public Instruction, and Welfare, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania