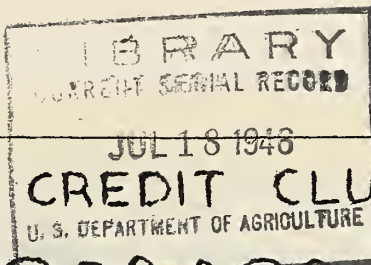


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THE FARM CREDIT CLUB
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grapewine

Vol. 5

June 26, 1946

Special

ANNUAL REPORT OF FARM CREDIT CLUB

The Farm Credit Club presents below its annual report of activities for the year June 1, 1945, to May 31, 1946. A careful attempt has been made to list each activity and event sponsored by the Club.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

F. W. Smith

During the club year, the board of directors endeavored to continue the high quality and quantity of club-sponsored events and activities as has been characteristic of the Farm Credit Club in the past. A glance at the committee reports which are a part of this publication will reflect, for the members, the degree of success achieved.

Normal club activity was augmented in January when the Administration announced the proposed move to Washington. Since that time, the club has been constantly on the alert to be of service to its members and the administration in the many problems connected with such a venture. We feel that we have already aided materially in several problems to the interest and advantage of club members.

During the year, the by-laws of the Club were amended by the board to reflect the changes approved by the members at the last annual meeting. Those changes provided for the formal election of the club editor as a member of the board of directors, and placed a limitation of two consecutive terms on any officer or director of the club other than the Executive Secretary.

Throughout the year the Club has received the wholehearted cooperation of its members, the various committee chairmen and their associates, and Administration officials.

In closing, I wish to say that I, personally, am greatly appreciative of the opportunity I have had to serve the membership and feel certain that my associates on the board join me in this expression.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

F. W. Smith, President; F. D. Van Sant, Vice President; V. A. Bixler, Treasurer; Louise M. Pressgrove, Recording Secretary; Katherine Delany, Executive Secretary; J. R. Maguire, George Olson, Ray Mischler, Don Russell and Al Mattern, Directors. Ex-members of the board who served during the year were: Agnes Nemanich, Vice President; J. P. Markey, Treasurer; Ann S. Buchanan Club Editor.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CONTACT COMMITTEE

Dick Robertson, Chairman

The Committee functioned for most of the Club Year under the able chairmanship of Don Warburton. In addition to sale of 574 memberships, Committee members provided a general information service to new members and supplied a smoothly functioning group of key-men for Club activities. They assisted the Social Committee, handling sales of dance tickets, and made collections for such special activities as War Chest, Red Cross, and Polio Campaigns. Committee members are at present working with the housing unit by circulating current memoranda.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Marie Fuhr, Chairman

Around 200 different people took part in the various activities of the Educational committee in the club year 1945-46--the tours, bridge, classes, etc.

Probably around one out of every two FCA employees attended some activity sponsored by this committee in the year.

Advanced Bridge
Evelyn Gibson

The first of two tournaments got under way Monday evening, Sept. 24, in the clubroom. Sixteen players were entered. John Maguire, who maintained a lead throughout the tournament, proved that it's not all luck.

A second tournament began on January 14th and ended with an April Fool's Day cake-and-ice cream party. Winner Louise Pressgrove took the bows.

Beginners Bridge

Elizabeth Welch

Mrs. David Owen conducted a 10 weeks' course in Beginners Bridge.

Twenty-four FCA people took the course, two husbands, and two friends of FCA girls, making 28 in all, or seven tables. At the first meeting the fee of \$4.00 for the series of ten lessons was collected from each person, and orders taken for the instruction book to be used: Culbertson's Bridge Summary."

The classes were well attended. When the lessons were completed on November 27, it was decided to take a holiday until January 8, when several met each Tuesday night at 6:00 to play. There were ten "regulars" in this group, and enough substitutes usually to make three tables.

Bulletin Board

Jane Nevin, Chairman

Among the varied activities of the educational committee of the Farm Credit Club, comes the ever enlightening and informative bulletin board. All kinds of news and helpful information can be derived from it. As a matter of fact it is the "key word" to the Club's educational activities, as it tells when, why, and where things are going to happen. A duplicate bulletin board makes it possible for everyone to read notices with convenience. The boards are kept up to date with the latest activities, and usually something new is added at least once a day. Our slogan is "To keep up with the times, keep up with the bulletin board."

Dressmaking

Sarah Schneider

A number of girls benefited by attending the sewing classes at the Y.W.C.A. during the past year. At the end of each term, style shows were held in which the girls modeled their garments and very interesting evenings were planned. Miss Franco did a commendable job of instructing the girls and the finished products included spring and winter coats, suits and dresses. It was interesting to see how a little effort combined with ingenuity transformed men's tuxedo suits into fashionable women's tailored suits. Considerable savings were effected in this pleasant enterprise so that two or sometimes three garments could be made for the price of one at retail stores.

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Riggs-Miller, a Spanish teacher of some prominence in Kansas City and a native of Spain, taught the intermediate Spanish class.

Alberto Herrera, a Peruvian civil aeronautics student only 20 years of age, taught the beginning Spanish class.

El Club Vespertino, the FCA Spanish Club organized in January 1945, made rapid strides in establishing itself in the Pan American activities of Kansas City. In addition to practicing Spanish conversation, the club has shown motion pictures of Latin American countries and has been addressed on a number of occasions by such persons as Father Gabriel Perez who spoke of his trip to Mexico; Sr. Eduardo Sanchez, Cuban Consul, who gave an insight into United States-Cuban relations during the war and dwelt upon the export-import business of Cuba; Sr. Rafael Andrade, a Mexican, who told of fiestas in Mexico; Sr. Alberto Herrera, a young Peruvian, who explained the political situation in Peru.

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The club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month and both classes meet on Wednesday of each week. All of those members of the club who are not Latin Americans are also studying Spanish outside of FCA. Two are taking private lessons, two are studying with Spanish classes, and one attends a class in commercial Spanish.

A small group organized a Portuguese class with Gwendolyn Goode as teacher. This

class later disbanded with the members continuing their instruction outside of the FCA classes.

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The pictures were obtained from motion picture companies in Kansas City and from various private concerns in the city. A few of the films were obtained from film companies in New York City, Washington, D. C., Pittsburgh, Pa., and Jefferson City, Missouri.

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The members wish to thank Jane Nevin and Will Henry Campbell for their fine

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Sketch Class

Catherine E. Hardy

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Alma E. Day

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Approximately 40 inquiries were made with reference to nearby resorts and when something of special interest was found out about a resort after a trip was made, the information was reported and placed in the files for the benefit of future vacationists.

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Laura Miller, Vice President

Evelyn Gibson, Secretary-Treasurer

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The chairman wishes to acknowledge assistance of committeemen W. C. Frazee and Lucille Achauer and of the Club Librarians.

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the Farm Credit WAGS organization, and at the annual Farm Credit Christmas party in the Little Theater. Waverly Haynes assumed the direction of the singers after the Christmas season, when Mr. Fern was unable to continue. In view of the pending move to Washington the group discontinued its activities in April 1946.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Geo. T. Hinde, Chairman

The Social Committee, consisting of Walter Hein, Bernice Nilson, Ann Buchanan, W. A. Cleveland, and Geo. Hinde, arranged two dances and a Christmas party during the past year.

The dance of October 1945 was given at the Ad Club with music furnished by Kenny White and his orchestra. According to reports from many of the 300 persons who attended, the evening, as well as the Paul Joneses, was too short.

At the Christmas party on December 21, 1945, in the Little Theater the crowd, gay and full of holiday spirits, enjoyed dancing, refreshments, and entertainment furnished by FACers. The black-faced "Andrews Sisters" singing in pantomime "One Meat Ball" were the highlight of the afternoon.

Another dance was given at the Ad Club on February 15, 1946, and unlike the October dance there were gentlemen left without partners at the end of the Paul Jones scrimmage. When the midnight hour struck, the partygoers gave no signs of leaving, "So the Band Played on" much to the delight of the enthusiastic guests.

Plans for the annual picnic have not materialized due to the uncertainty of FCA's stay in Kansas City.

SPECIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

J. D. Connor, Chairman

Work of the Special Services Committee continued in high gear throughout the year, in spite of the fact that V-J Day

occurred on August 14. Throughout the year volunteers gave unselfishly of their time and effort in alleviating suffering and making the lot of those who were still in the Service more tolerable. Many of our members served food in Servicemen's Clubs and Canteens including Olathe Naval Air Base; some donated blood; others performed all the services required of Gray Ladies and nurses' aides.

Three special drives in which this committee took an active part brought a total of \$6,237.68 to their causes. The first of these, the Community and War Chest Fund Drive, in the hands of Katherine Delany, Agnes Nemanich, T. W. Pritchard, Marie Fuhr, and Donald Warburton, netted a total of \$3,784.

The appeal for funds to fight infantile paralysis met with hearty response, both in cash contributions, and by girls who volunteered to solicit funds in theaters and night clubs. Through these sources a total of \$653.68 was turned in to the local chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Under the chairmanship of Ralph Foster, the Red Cross Campaign was brought to a successful close with contributions totaling \$1,800.

Clothing for needy in foreign lands was collected by a committee headed by Rose Fleming. Several boxes of clothing contributed by FCA employees were turned over to the Salvation Army Receiving Station, for packing and shipment to war sufferers.

As this report is written, a committee headed by Rose Fleming, and including Tom Pritchard, Isabella McGinnis, and George Hinde, is making plans to take part in the campaign to provide food for famine relief in war torn countries.

SPORTS

Bob Yorkdale, Chairman

Generally, the sporting program did not reach the heights attained in previous years. Some few activities carried on, however, with varying degrees of success.

Men's Golf
Kenny Light

Increased pressure of work, the demands of the armed services, and transportation difficulties combined to preclude any Club-sponsored tournaments during the past year, although the perennial and many of the occasional golfers managed to keep their swings in the groove through privately arranged matches. Plans for a banner year for 1946-1947 are already reaching fulfillment and the outlook for a successful season is excellent.

Women's Golf
Eloise Moss

The Ladies (Bless 'Em) managed to hold two very successful golf tournaments during the club year. Eileen Hague was the successful contestant in the main Club-sponsored tournament, and received a cash prize donated by the club. Eileen also won the first Blind Bogey in the second tournament, and the second Blind Bogey prize was split between Louise Pressgrove and Eloise Moss, who fought to a final tie. Each of the participants received a golf ball donated by the Club.

FCA Hiking Club
Dorothy Dick

There was only one scheduled hike during the past year. On October 13, 1945, twelve of the members enjoyed a 5-mile hike and steak fry in scenic Wyandotte County Park.

Later a group of 41 hikers and friends spent Armistice Day week end at Lake view Beach near Versailles, Missouri. The campers reported such a wonderful time that plans were made early in the Spring for a return trip. Because of the large number desiring to go, the group was divided, 38 going the week end of May 3 and 28 the week end of May 24. The enjoyment of camp life and the natural beauty of the Ozarks made these trips some of the most interesting activities of the club while in Kansas City.

Ping Pong
Dick Prewitt

Table Tennis came in for its share of popularity, although lack of space made it impossible to hold any tournaments to select a champion. The Club hopes to include this popular sport in the yearly club program when we return East, as the cooperation and sportsmanship of the addicts warrant continuation of the game.

Men's Softball
Bob Yorkdale

The Club sponsored a Softball team in the Federal Employees' Softball League in KC last year. While the team was definitely not a winner, much appreciation should be extended the group of has-beens and Four-F's who demonstrated at least that they were not quitters. They took their lickings with good grace.

Women's Softball
Mary Jane Blyholder

The 1945 Girls' Softball Teams, the Humdingers and the All Stars, finished the season with a gala steak fry at Swope Park. The Humdingers, as winners of four of the seven-game series, were awarded Certificates of Good Sportsmanship, and the losers received novelty baseball-mit key rings as mementos of the season.