

Economist

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sylvania with a minor in clothing.

As an undergraduate she was historian of the Indiana Chapter of the American Home Economics Association and State secretary. She was corresponding secretary of her social sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, and was a member of Kappa Omicron Phi, a home economics honorary and vice president of Kappa Delta Pi, honorary education sorority.

Anne was a 4-H club leader in her home county one summer during college, and for two summers she worked as dietitian in Bloomsburg Hospital. She said she helped plan menus and assisted with the ordering of supplies and food, and talked with patients about their diets after they left the hospital. Anne said, "It was a worth while experience because I had never seen a food service operation before."

When she graduated in 1972, she accepted a position in Monroe County where she was the only woman in the office. She said, "I learned in a hurry, out of necessity. It was a satisfying experience, but I just struck out blindly. I was in charge of everything - the nutrition program, the 4-H program and the adult program."

One of her first experiences in her new job, she recalls with a laugh, was to lead recreation at a 4-H camp - during Hurricane Agnes! She said, "We really learned to improvise."

Anne said she gained many friendships in Monroe County because of her close work with other social service agencies, including the Mental Health Clinic, the Visiting Nurses Association and the Meals on Wheels program.

Ann reflected, "In a way the transfer (to Lancaster County) was unfortunate because I had gained self-confidence in my job, had some direction and knew the available resources. But those 10 months' experience are a help now because I learned a lot of the mitty-gritty which makes the job here go easier." But still, she

says, "I'm always asking Doris (Thomas) questions."

Anne added, "At times the job here seems easier because there is such a large staff and everyone is willing to answer questions. You don't have the full load on yourself. There is a moor coordinated effort here and projects don't have to be just your thing. Because of the larger staff, many problems have already been solved and the process moves along smoother."

There was not much farming in Monroe County, and Anne says it created problems of identity for the Extension office. Here, she says, "The Extension office is recognized as a helping hand, and they have really expanded to meet the needs of all the people."

"Another reason why I like Extension work is that there is no routine and you are really on your own. You must be your own manager because there are a lot of things happening."

"One of the best programs I've seen in Extension is the nutrition aide program. It's really working across the state, and they are meeting the needs of people who can benefit from it." She said it is not only valuable to the homemakers it reaches, but it enriches the aides who are doing the work. "It's a much needed service. Many agencies have the right idea about helping people, but they don't know how to reach them. Individual attention and help is really valuable."

Anne assists with the nutrition program by giving training demonstrations to the aides. But one of her hopes is to help conduct other educational programs for the homemakers who are being aided by the program. She said, "These homemakers are shut off from the mainstream and are not group oriented." But Anne would like to develop clothing construction courses for them.

Anne spoke thoughtfully of several other areas she would like to develop programs for as she continues her work in Lancaster County. She is very interested in housing, not just interior decorating, but all that is involved in buying and maintaining homes.

She said she'd like to get involved in marketable crafts,

"possibly with an eye to the bicentennial. I feel there is a trend back to crafts because people get a lot of satisfaction out of creating things with their own hands." She pointed out that homemakers really don't have more time on their hands now because of their labor-saving equipment, because the time they save in actual labor is being utilized in different ways.

Anne said she would also like to stress "the youth end of consumer education. Youth are a big market and they are not getting enough information. I'd like to see every 4-H project consumer-oriented, and instead of just learning skills, 4-H'ers could learn to make more and better decisions on the market." She is currently working with the 4-H'ers who will represent Lancaster County in the consumerama division of State Days.

Anne is obviously a woman who enjoys her work. She is already developing a strong attachment to Lancaster County and its people and she says, "I think Lancaster County will be my home for quite a while."



Relaxation for Anne includes finding a few hours to do the sewing which she enjoys so much. Because time is so limited, she said she usually selects a simple pattern.

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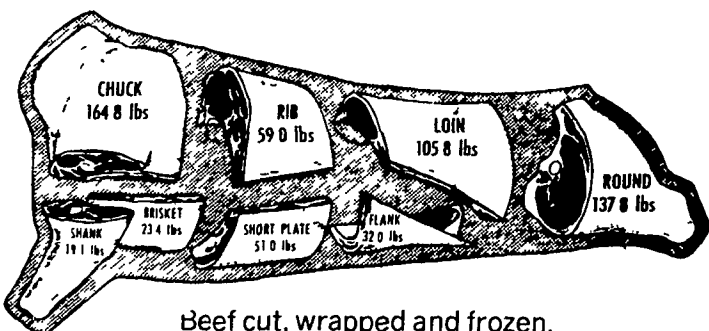
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