

Y. W. C. A. IN COUNTRY

Penn State Students' Social Service Activities Lauded—Speaker Sees Much Good Done in Local Rural Communities—Recent Girl Graduate Appointed Secretary.

In connection with her visit to the summer session last Wednesday, Miss Jessie Field, of Philadelphia, county secretary of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A., made the following statement regarding the organization she represents and its relation to country girls:

"To you at State College who are familiar with the splendid service which your students, men and women, have given in the country communities around your campus, one does not need to explain the possibilities there are for the Young Women's Christian Association to be of real use to country girls.

"For many years, this great movement of Christian girls and young women has been gaining momentum and reaching out to different groups of girls. But, until very recently, it has centered its efforts in student centers and in cities. Its realization, that, as an organization, it could adapt itself to country communities and that from among the ranks of country girls, there would come a wealth of leadership and strength to the association, has been splendidly justified, in the way in which the response has come.

"There are two forms of work carried on. First, there is the Eight-Week club plan, through which college girls from country communities are trained and appointed as leaders for summer clubs with the girls in their home neighborhoods. For two years State College has sent out some splendid leaders of Eight-Week clubs, taking to the girls who could not come to college the spirit of service and the practical knowledge and outlook which State College has given to them.

"The other form of work, is the regularly organized country Young Women's Christian Association, which places a trained young woman as county secretary and leader for the development of work with groups of girls in various parts of the county. There are now fourteen county Young Women's Associations in the United States and number is rapidly increasing.

"Miss Carolyn Foresman, 1915 State College, and president of the student Young Women's Christian Association the past year, is to take the position of field county secretary for Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, August 1. Her headquarters will be at Philadelphia and she will be responsible for developing the work with the girls in rural communities in these three States. Under her leadership, there

will doubtless develop some county associations in these States.

"In all this, the national board of the Young Women's Christian Association wishes to express their genuine appreciation for the type of trained and consecrated country leadership which State College has furnished to the whole country life movement."

COLLEGE TEACHES FARMING TO THOUSANDS BY MAIL

More than 19,000 men and women of Pennsylvania who could not find time or the funds to attend college have studied agriculture by correspondence with the Pennsylvania State College. About fifty per cent of them completed the courses, and were awarded certificates of proficiency.

Professor T. I. Mairs, who has charge of the long-distance instruction, said the courses attracting most attention were: poultry raising, farm book keeping, gardening, fruit growing and general agriculture. He added that the new course in cooking is rapidly gaining in popularity.

"The enrollment of more than 1,500 persons each year in these correspondence courses," said Professor Mairs, "is good evidence that teaching agriculture by mail has become an important phase of the extension work of the American agricultural college." In his opinion it reaches people who cannot leave the farm or the place of business.

Last year, according to Professor Mairs, 15,000 papers were examined and returned to the correspondence students. He finds the individuals most interested are young farmers, from 20 to 30 years old, farm women, clerks, business and professional men.

Prentiss Turnbach, Ph. D., of Hazleton, vice principal in Hazle township, is enrolled in the mathematics and poultry courses. He received his doctorate degree from Lafayette College.

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FIRST GIRL AGRICULTURIST TO MANAGE CATTLE RANCH

Miss Honora Whalen, of Erie, Pa., the first girl to be graduated from the school of agriculture at the Pennsylvania State College, today announced to her friends that she is going to attempt the management of her father's ranch in South Dakota. She has completed the four-year course in agronomy, a special line of agricultural study.

Two years before entering Penn State, Miss Whalen came East to study home economics. She believed no girl should undertake farming—"a man's work," she termed it, until she could perform the woman's duties in the household. Consequently Miss Whalen has mastered sewing, cooking, home nursing, household management, and the chemistry of foods before starting her agricultural career.

Miss Whalen approved of farming as a woman's vocation, providing the individual was fitted for the task and had some idea of the farm work through personal experience. Miss Whalen spent her early life on the western ranch she is about to superintend. It is her plan to raise beef cattle for the eastern market, shipping them from her ranch to a farm in northeastern Pennsylvania for fattening before sending to market. She is confident of the financial success of her venture, quoting statistics to show that the growth in population has long since out-distanced the production of beef.

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