

Finding Aid to the Rich Valley Homemakers Club Records

Rich Valley Homemakers Club (Esmond, N.D.)

Rich Valley Homemakers Club Records, 1928-1969

1 linear foot

Collection number: Mss 58

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OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Mrs. Jerome Nissen, 1972 (Acc. 1886 and 2018-011irs).

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Rich Valley Homemakers Club Records (Mss0058), Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

The organization of the Rich Valley Homemakers Club was part of a movement across North Dakota by the Home Demonstration Department of the Cooperative Extension Service located at the North Dakota Agricultural College in Fargo. Such homemakers clubs had been begun in North Dakota as early as 1918. Prior to 1927, three clubs had been organized in Benson County, North Dakota. In June 1927, 21 women met at the Rich Valley Consolidated School, located in Rich Valley Township, to organize the new club. Twelve of these women had earlier signed a petition for organization at a meeting of the Rich Valley Farmers Club. The first officers were Mrs. Lloyd Newman, Mrs. Art Hunter, Mrs. M.W. Buttz, Mrs. David Arnold, and Mrs. Harvey Hunter.

The Club became very active in its various projects and included a Girls Clothing Club. It also became an important community social center. In 1947, a large crowd of club members and their families celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the club. The club continued its many activities but declining membership caused it to disband in August 1969. It was initially to be a one-year suspension but the club was never reactivated.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Rich Valley Homemakers Club Records document the activities of this club established at Esmond, N.D. The records have been organized into the following series: program booklets, correspondence, secretary's record books, major project record books, subject files, and 4-H Club records.

The **Program Booklets Series** is not complete. They give the officers, members and the monthly programs for the upcoming year.

The **Correspondence Series** contains only three letters, all of which are thank you notes.

The **Secretary's Record Book Series** is the major series in this collection. They cover from 1933 to the Club's demise in 1969. There are scattered years missing including the formative years of 1927 to 1932. These are pre-prepared books by the NDSU Extension Service and contain sections for officers, members, and meeting minutes. The extant books appear to have been filled out quite completely.

The **Major Project Record Books Series** again are NDSU Extension Service prepared booklets listing the project undertaken by the Club members, as well as various supporting information worksheets.

There are only two **Subject Files Series** files. The Benson County Homemakers Council contains a program of the 1929 Benson County Achievement Day and scattered council meeting minutes from 1947 to 1957. The last file contains "Special Interest Topics" forms for the club which evidently were filed at NDSU and which requested program packets for the next year

The **Rich Valley Maids 4-H Club Series** consists of correspondence, pamphlets, awards/certificates, and a binder of clothing projects with Members Manuals.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

The following non-manuscript items have been removed from the Rich Valley Homemakers Club Records and sent to the section indicated:

Photographs (Institute Photographs)

- Group Photograph (510.1)

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Content
1/1	Finding Aid
	Program Booklets Series
1/2	1928/29-1932/33; 1936/37-1938/39; 1939/40; 1947/48
1/3	1948/49; 1951/52; 1957/58; 1959/60
	Correspondence Series
1/4	1943-1947
	Secretary's Record Book Series
1/5	1929/30; 1931/32
1/6	1932/33-1933/34
1/7	1934/35; 1937/38-1938/39
1/8	1939/40-1940/41; 1944/45
1/9	1945/46-1947/48
1/10	1948/49-1950/51
1/11	1951/52; 1953/54-1954/55
1/12	1956/57-1958/59
1/13	1959/60-1961/62
1/14	1962/63-1964/65
1/15	1965/66-1968/69
	Major Project Record Books Series
2/1	1936/37; 1938/39; 1940
2/2	1941/1942; 1943/44; 1945/46-1946/47
2/3	1947/48-1950/51
	Subject Files Series
2/4	Benson County Homemakers Council, 1929, 1947-1957
2/5	Program outlines, 1950-1959
	Rich Valley Maids 4-H Club Series
2/6	Correspondence, 1945-1946
2/7	4-H Shopper Circulars, 1945

- 2/8 4-H Pamphlets and Leaflets, 1945
- 2/9 *4-H North Dakotan*. March 1945
- 2/10 *Neighborhood Activities in Country Communities*, October 1940
- 2/11 Play and Poem Material for Meetings, 1936
- 2/12 4-H Awards and Certificates, 1947-1954
- 2/13 4-H Achievement Institute Annual Meeting, 1950
- 2/14 National 4-H Camp, 1950
- 2/15 North Dakota Homemaker's Council, 1951
- 2/16 4-H Clothing Project and Leaflets, 1945
- 2/17 Members Manual *4-H Girls Participate in Home Living*
- 2/18 Members Manual *Home Improvement*
- 2/19 Members Manual *4-H Clothing Demonstration Suggestions*
- 2/20 Binder used for 4-H Clothing Project and Members Manuals