

District History

The tremendous amount of work involved in linking local clubs with the State Federation is done by District officers. In the club year, 1927-1928, the state was divided into four districts. This was done to assist the Membership Chairman in her organization work. Each District Chairman had charge of the membership work in her area, working under the supervision of the State Membership Chairman.

This was the beginning of the District work which was developed so well in the Iowa BPW. With the spreading Federation spirit, a big start was made for more successful state coverage through District cooperation.

In 1928-1929, in response to the "growing pains" of Federation expansion, it was decided to create nine Districts instead of four. This change was made in order to carry on membership work more efficiently. Each District had a chairman whose duty was to assist with membership work. This plan gave the State Membership Chairman nine assistants instead of four, resulting in much more intensive work in each District.

In 1929-1930 four new clubs were organized. With Federation work becoming increasingly

state-wide in scope, District Chairmen made plans for what was to be Iowa's first series of District meetings.

The first such District meeting was held October 8, 1929, in Ames with over two hundred guests representing six clubs in attendance. On October 15, Keokuk hosted a District meeting. A little later a most successful meeting, in charge of the State Membership Chairman, was held in District four. Between these District meetings and organizational work in the state, the Membership Chairman and her co-workers were kept very busy.

The state membership report of 1931 included plans for fall meetings to be held in each District under the supervision of the District Membership Chairman. The programs developed for these meetings were such that they brought clubs in the District closer together and provided them with a better knowledge of the aims, ideals, and programs fostered by the BPW organization. These meetings developed Federation inspiration, as well as helping to solve club problems at round table discussions.

In 1937 the Seventeenth Convention was held under the auspices of District seven. This was the beginning of an increasing assumption of responsibilities by the Districts within the Iowa Federation.

When the United States became engaged in an "All-Out" war effort, the District Directors' meet-

CHARTER MEMBERS, WATERLOO BPW CLUB



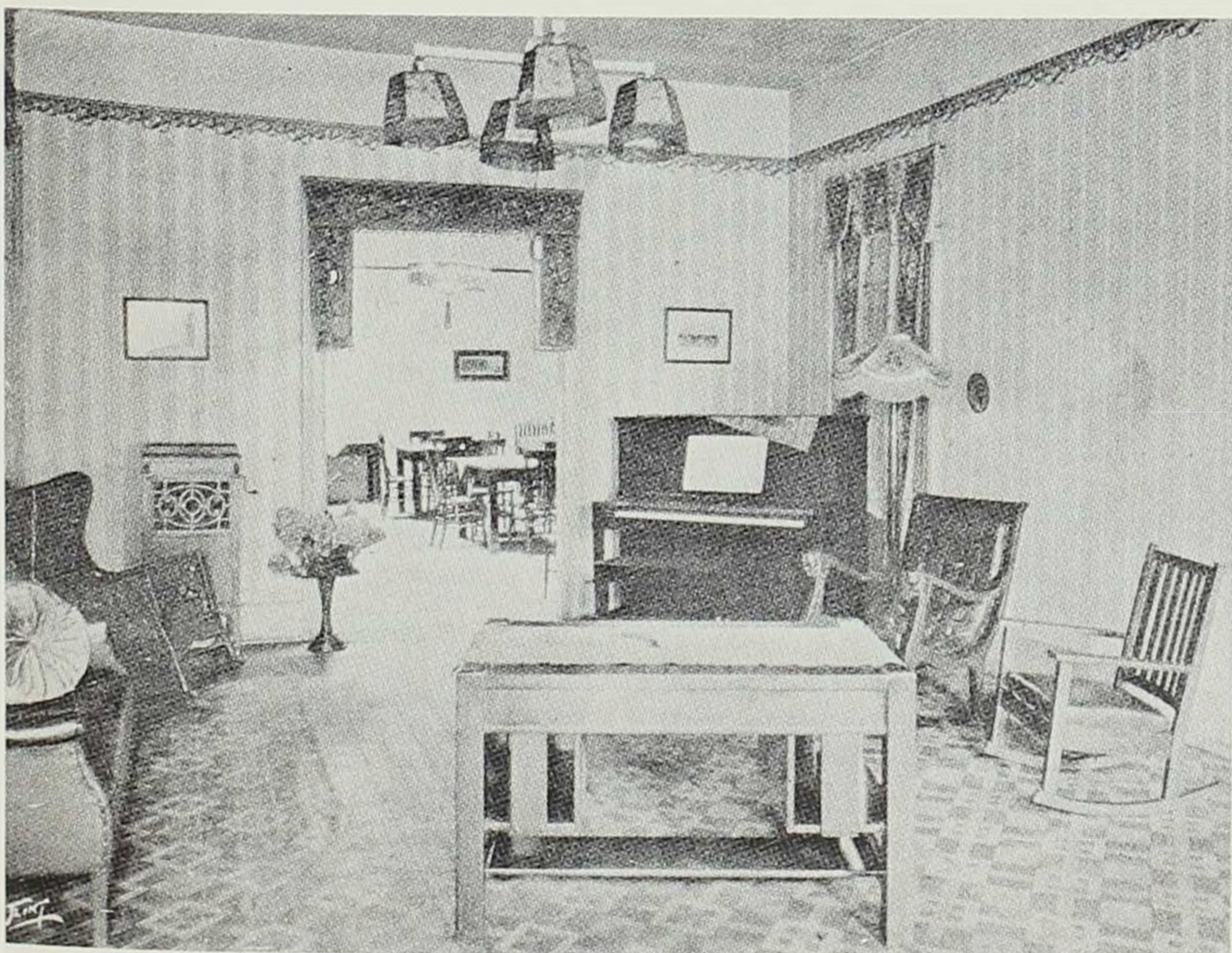
MAUDE HARMON



LILA MARCHAM



ALICE WYKOFF



The Waterloo BPW Club's first club home is pictured in 1920.

2:30 P.M.

Y W C A Parlor, May 31, 1919.

The Iowa Federation of Business and Professional Womens' Clubs was organized at a meeting held this afternoon at the Y W C A Business and professional women from Ft Dodge, Waterloo, Seymour, and Des Moines, were present. Miss Wilson, presiding. Miss Harsh, Secy pro tem. After a brief, but interesting and comprehensive outline of the purposes of this organization, by Miss Florence King of Chicago, who is president of the Woman's Association of Commerce of the U S A, a tentative organization for Iowa was formed with the following officers:

Miss Emma A Wilson, president; Miss Ada Pence, Vice prest;
Miss F A Harsh, Secretary; Miss Pearl Karnish, treasurer.
all of Des Moines.

State Board Members:

~~XX~~

Mrs F W Adams, Secy of Y W C A, Ft Dodge.
Mrs W G Ives, Waterloo, Iowa. Miss Ruth McGowan, Waterloo.
Mrs Lulu Blasier, Shenandoah, Iowa.
Dr Nelle Noble, Des Moines
~~XX~~
Mrs Ada B Talbott, Sioux City.
Mrs Emma Philleo, Cedar Falls

Miss King urged that as many of us as could possibly go, ought to attend the Convention in St Louis July 14/18 at which time it was probable the Woman's Assn. of Commerce would merge with the National Federation of Business and Professional W's Clubs, and at that meeting a National Constitution would be adopted, and that then the Iowa ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Organization could make By-Laws, and adopt a constitution in conformity with the National Constitution.

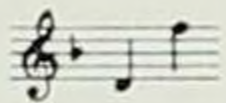
After an informal talk, enjoyed by all present, the meeting adjourned, as it was time for Miss King to make ready for her ret to Chicago that evening.

F. A. Harsh Secy

A piece of brown wrapping paper was used to record the minutes of a meeting held in Des Moines in 1919. From this meeting emerged the Iowa Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. It was the first meeting ever held seeking to bring together the membership of Iowa's business and professional clubs for women.

The Golden Key

Words and Music by
Carrie Jacobs-Bond



Moderato mp

Voice I

Piano mf rall. a tempo p

found a Gold - en Key one day, Up - on the path I

trod; And it un - locked a Gold - en Door, The

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of public performance for profit.

B. 245 c

When performing and programming this number on the air, kindly give credit to THE BOSTON MUSIC COMPANY

The Golden Key, with words and music by Carrie Jacobs-Bond, was dedicated to the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.



IVES—1920-21



MITCHELL—1921-22



LILYERSTROM—1922-23



PATTIE—1923-24



PLATH—1924-26



VAN BUSKIRK—1926-27



KENNEY—1927-28



CUNNINGHAM—1928-29



HENDERSON—1929-30



McKEE—1930-31



NICHOLS—1931-32



RAYBURN—1932-33



WORTH—1933-35



MAYTAG—1935-36



YOUNG—1936-37



IRWIN—1937-39



WARSAW—1939-41



BEDELL—1941-42



SCOTT—1942-43



STENNER—1943-46



BARKER—1946-48



VANDERBURG—1948-50



JORDAN—1950-52



NORMAN—1952-54



SCHROEDER—1954-56



PIERSON—1956-58



QUINN—1958-60



WELLE—1960-62



JONES—1962-64



WEBB—1964-66



THADA—1966-67



STAVELEY—1967-68



HEITSMAN—68-69



CAIRNS—1969-70



The Iowa breakfast was one of the highlights of the National BPW Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in July of 1946.



The Shenandoah BPW Club staged a style show in the early 30's. Taking part in the production were, left to right: (back row) Gladys Howe, Estella Mattox, Jessie Young (past state president), Kathryn Ross, and Katherine (Ford) Remy. (Center row): Naomi (McMahill) Schneider, Dorothy Gamble, and Nellie Herrold. (Front row): Letha Nelson, Mozelle (Racine) Palmer, Esther (Blank) Welty, Marjorie Funk, Jennie Blackburn, Leila Jackson, and Hele Muntzner.



William J. Petersen, superintendent of the State Historical Society, is pictured as he accepts a gavel, part of the historic material turned over to the Society by the Iowa Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. Making the presentation were Orlean Schroeder (center) and Ruth Webb, past presidents of the State group.



The 1969-70 officers of the Iowa BPW are pictured, (left to right): Marcia Traer, treasurer; Betty Wagner, second vice president; Irene Iverson, corresponding secretary; Ethel Cairns, president; Marie Smith, recording secretary; Marvell Harmel, first vice president; and Mildred Smith, third vice president.



EMBLEM BENEDICTION

This Emblem binds us all
In one great sisterhood
It binds us hear our conscience call
For a nobler womanhood.
God guide us when we wear
This Emblem o'er our heart
And keep us true and always fair
God bless us as we part.

CLUB OBJECTIVES

To elevate the standards for women in business and in the professions;

To promote the interests of business and professional women;

To bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the United States;

To extend opportunities to business and professional women through education along lines of industrial, scientific and vocational activities.

ing of February 7, 1942, in Des Moines, was concerned with the part the Federation would play in the struggle. Suggestions were made and acted upon, emphasizing the problems and responsibilities arising from war work. Throughout the years District duties have increased. One of the more important facets in Federation work is the Spring District meeting to engender interest in the State Convention. Fall District meetings are well attended. At the Fall and Winter Board meetings District officers have well-planned agendas for the representatives from their clubs.

The District Chairman with her secretary-treasurer visits each of the clubs in her District sometime during the year. The chairman and her assistants report to the club, after which members hear from a member of the State Executive Board, featured speaker for such meetings.

In concluding this summary it can be said that the District organization has given a good account of itself. As we enter our new "future" we can count on the Districts for the cooperation needed from local clubs to represent well all women who are involved in the business and professional world.

FLORENCE FALK