

A Tribute To Leaders

We believe we speak for a great many 4-H Homemaking Club members and ex-members, for mothers of club girls and for the Women's Institutes that sponsor clubs, when we express our appreciation of the tremendous contribution the local leaders are giving to this work.

In the accompanying article, women now married and with families of their own leave no doubt as to what their club experience means to the smooth running of their homes.

We would also express our appreciation of the Institutes that support club work by showing their interest in what the girls are doing, having them demonstrate their work at Institute meetings, giving such financial support as leaders' travelling expenses to training schools and perhaps extending a bit of hospitality on Achievement Days.

We would compliment the Women's In-

stitutes too on the care they take to find the right type of leader for each project—not just asking for someone to volunteer for the job. Naturally a woman who would be just the right leader for a Foods club, a woman both capable and interested in cooking, might be entirely out of her element as a Clothing teacher. A lot of the effectiveness of a club depends on having an enthusiastic leader. And of course a leader must like girls and "have a way with them." The ex-club members who answered our questionnaire mentioned over and over again the influence of their club leaders, and their inspiration and example apart from anything that had to do with a club project.

It is possible that no one realizes just how much the leaders and supporters of girls' 4-H Homemaking Clubs are doing for the homes of the future.—Ed.

completed twelve units as a club member and has since led or assisted in leading six.

The units on house furnishing were commended by a number of women. Mrs. Bill Long said: "I was glad to have my record books to review when I had the task of making curtains and drapes and the planning of colour schemes. And the unit on Clothes Closets was a great help in a house that had no ready made closets. In foods, the 'Meat in the Menu' unit has been of great value when our own meat supply was depleted and I had to buy meat; before I took the club work I had no idea what to look for to make the most of my money. In sewing I learned many short cuts and finishing touches as well as how to alter patterns; what I learned about flower arrangement has been indispensable; and the etiquette we studied and practised in our clubs is of use both in the home and wherever we are."

Mrs. Harold Burke who has been not only a club member but a leader of several clubs is especially grateful for what she learned in sewing. She says: "Apart from my club work I never had any sewing lessons except when I bought my machine and I do all my sewing and enjoy every minute of it. Sometimes I am able to help my friends with their sewing difficulties."

Mrs. George Fitchett was one of a large family and she says that although no two of the children liked the same vegetables, the club leader taught so many ways of preparing vegetables and they grew such a variety because of the garden club, that it made a great difference in the quantity of vegetables they ate. The bedspread and dresser scarf she made in club work have been used a great deal in her home since she married; and the first aid taught in "The Club Girl Stands On Guard" unit has proved a great help when her children have had some of the minor accidents that often happen to children.

Mrs. Evelyn Oates believes that the sewing projects helped her most "because," she says "I think sewing is something you have to be taught and

taught right." She sews now for her daughters, aged eight, four and three—as well as for their dolls—for herself and for anyone else who asks her. She says: "I now have my own little home-making club as my oldest daughter wants to bake and knit, and my memories and patience turn back to the Saturday afternoons spent at our club meetings . . . Also, I remember that one project we took included first aid. I believe this is something every mother needs to know when she is raising a family, especially out in the country far from doctors and hospitals." Mrs. Oates had learned a lot about cooking from her mother, but her mother died when she was sixteen; after that she got her teaching about homemaking in club work.

Mrs. Florence Culham has found that one of her greatest benefits from club work is the help in planning and budgeting the family menus. She says: "The food clubs are just full of new and exciting ideas and it always seems to brighten a day when a new dish has been successful." The hospitality project, "The Girl Entertains" has been very helpful too; and the choosing of clothing styles to suit the individual. She looks forward to doing more club work and also to the time when her daughter will be old enough to take part.

Another young mother, Mrs. Derk Veldman, has found the first aid in the Home Defence club a great help in taking care of her young family. She has found the gardening, clothing and food clubs of practical value too; incidentally her sewing training helped her to win a rather special prize at a fair last fall. Last year, although she was married and had a little girl two years old, she wanted to do more club work, so she took over the leadership of the club, Being Well Dressed and Well Groomed, doing the project as a member at the same time.

Mrs. Lorne Mitchell mentions the following ways in which her club training is helping her as a young homemaker: "When we were setting up our home, planning colour schemes and decorat-