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How to Organize and Conduct
A Girls' Canning Club

(Circular No. 12 Revised and Enlarged)

BY

MRS. BIRDIE I. ROBINSON

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INTRODUCTION

The growth of the Canning Club movement in Alabama has reached such proportions during the past twelve months and the demand for literature, bearing on the methods of organizing and conducting clubs, has become so great, that we deem it expedient to publish a bulletin as a guide and help to those interested in furthering the cause in their respective counties. As a basis of this publication we have used Circular No. 12, December, 1911.

The Canning Club work was introduced in Walker and Pike counties in the spring of 1911 and during the year a membership of 261 was reached. As a result of the work accomplished twelve other counties were organized in 1912, with an enrollment of 2610 members. However, the membership of a number of clubs in unorganized counties is included in this number.

In the organized counties there is a local agent employed jointly by the County Board of Revenue, Extension Department of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute and the Farmers' Co-Operative Demonstration Work of the United States. It is the duty of said agent, working under the direction of the State Agent in Charge of Girls' Work, to visit the club members from time to time, to conduct canning demonstrations for their instruction, to collect, compile and submit reports to the state agent at the end of the season.

Such an urgent demand for the work has come from interested teachers in a number of those counties in which organizations have not been perfected, that those in charge of the state office have adopted the policy of giving encouragement to them in their efforts to organize and conduct clubs. Without the instruction, received from a county supervisor, however, these teachers will be greatly handicapped. For their instruction and encouragement this revision is made.

OBJECTS

1. To teach the best methods of growing tomatoes and to increase interest in home gardening.
2. To teach the best methods of canning and to stimulate interest and wholesome co-operation among the members of the family in the home.
3. To assist the mothers in always having a supply of

vegetables for the tables. This makes possible better living at a lower cost and saves the vegetables often wasted.



Fig. 1.—Instructions Followed to the Letter.

4. To provide means, with an educational value, by which girls may earn money.

5. To put the home and school in closer relationship, thus increasing the interest in home life and encouraging girls to think along the line of home-making.

THE TEACHERS' OPPORTUNITY

Any movement which enables the teacher to more fully discharge his or her duty to the child, the parent and community, affords an opportunity that should be readily grasped.

The Canning Club work, as the name indicates, is decidedly practical and being based on tried theories, is pedagogical. It affords a most excellent opportunity for correlation work in that it can be combined successfully with every subject taught in the school room. Such combination so vitalizes subjects, which otherwise might be dull and uninteresting, as to remove from the teacher much of the drudgery which invariably creeps into the class room. Nothing offers a better opportunity for service than a line of work which enables the teacher to prove his or her ability and

worth to the community. Such is afforded in this line of endeavor which makes for better schools and better homes. It takes the school to the home; it takes the interest of the teacher from the school room to the garden plot; it brings the teacher in contact with pupil and patron in the capacity of interested friend and co-operating adviser. In short, the canning club will stimulate an interest in both school and home as no other work can.

COMMERCIAL VALUE OF THE WORK.

The problem of the production of the home supplies is a problem of the home, a vital and all-important feature in the economy of the farm. We quote from Year Book of the Department of Agriculture, 1911: "Many house-keepers have long been in the habit of 'putting up' vegetables for family use, and nowadays canning on a large scale is growing in importance as a home industry not only on farms but anywhere that a cheap supply of fresh vegetables can be obtained. When canning is done on a considerable scale,



Fig. II—A School Demonstration. A Community Picnic.

even in private homes, regular canning outfits often replace the old household appliances. As everyone knows the

commercial canning of vegetables has developed in half a century into a very important enterprise."

Hundreds of carloads of vegetables are shipped into Alabama each year from neighboring states. These are consumed by people who live in a state endowed with the greatest of possibilities for the production of vegetables and fruits, and there is no reason, with the modern conveniences accessible for canning and preserving, why surplus products should not go on the market in Alabama from the garden plots of the canning club girls.

The work of growing and canning tomatoes carried on by the girls of the rural and urban schools, affords them the opportunity for a business both pleasant and remunerative and at the same time gives them the protecting influence of home.

There is unquestionably a demand for the canned products of the girls, and this demand will be a continuous one, provided the products measure up to the standard of excellence, both in quantity and quality.

It will, therefore, be the aim of those directing the work to impress upon the girls the importance of seeing that every can is well filled with ripe and sound vegetables.

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

In the organized counties the school is the unit of organization. The County Agent in Charge of Canning Clubs, acting under the direction of the State Agent in Charge of the Girls' Work, is the county leader. Her success depends largely on the co-operation of the county superintendent.

Before attempting an organization, it would be well to talk to the girls of the school regarding the movement, calling their attention to the results of the work in other sections and to the interest aroused in some schools; explaining the advantage it would be to the school to have an enthusiastic canning club and to them, as members, to grow and can the products from a one-tenth plot.

When some degree of interest has been aroused, appoint a time for an organization meeting. Invite all the girls of school age in the district, and others who are interested. If possible, the teacher should get some one in the neighborhood of the school to talk to the girls on the purposes and advantages of club work. It would also be well to have short talks by a number of interested patrons. However, it would not be well to extend an invitation without notifying the one invited as to the length of

time he or she would be expected to talk. On such occasions talks longer than fifteen or twenty minutes often hurt, rather than stimulate, the cause. If it is found impossible to arrange such a program, let the teacher rise to the occasion, hold a short, interesting meeting and perfect an organization.

The club should be organized with a president and secretary as officers, and the teacher as club leader. Although it is not absolutely necessary for these officers to be members of the school, such has proven the best policy in a number of schools. If the matter is handled tactfully, the club members will usually elect a competent corps of officers, but should any mistake be made in choosing such officers, then, the teacher is in position to hold the organization intact and successfully carry on the work.

PRIZES.

Nothing so stimulates the girls to their best efforts as prizes offered for excellence in the results from their plots, and every teacher who looks for success should see that one, or more prizes, is offered to her club. It has been found that it is better to offer a number of small prizes rather than one or two large ones.

The securing of county prizes should be looked after by the county agent, and for such all club members are eligible to compete. The state agent will provide certain prizes for which all club members between the ages of 10 and 18 years may compete.

Prizes may often be secured by canvassing the business men of the school district; by soliciting small contributions from others interested in school work; by interesting women's clubs and church organizations; finally, and always surely, by giving a school entertainment.

SUGGESTED CONSTITUTION

Article 1. Name. This organization shall be known as the School Canning Club of County.

Article 2. Purposes. The purposes shall be to make better homes and life on the farm more attractive; to provide for the independence of the members; to afford the means of teaching agriculture in a more practical and interesting manner and to weld a link between the school and home.

Article 3. Membership. Only the girls between the ages .

of ten and eighteen years, on January 1st of any given year, shall be reported as members to the Auburn office. However, school girls over eighteen years of age and others may become honorary members. Only girls of the above mentioned ages may compete for county and state prizes.

Article 4. Officers. The Club shall have a president, a secretary and a leader.

Article 5. Duties of Members. The duties of members are such as are outlined in rules and regulations contained in this pamphlet.

Article 6. Duties of Officers. (a) It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings and further the interest of club work among the girls of the school district. (b) It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a roll of all members and the minutes of the meetings. (c) The teacher shall be the director of the club and together with the president and secretary shall constitute a committee to solicit prizes. It shall also be the duty of the teacher to visit the plot of each girl at least once during the growing season.

BY-LAWS GOVERNING A CANNING CLUB

1. Girls joining clubs must be between the ages of ten and eighteen years of age on January 1st of any given year. Special classes may be organized for older girls, but they will not be allowed to compete with the younger ones.

2. Members of the club must agree to read all instruction on girls' demonstration club work. No girl shall be eligible to receive a prize unless she becomes a member of the club and plants a garden containing one-tenth of an acre.

3. Each girl must plant her own crop and do her own work. It will be permissible to hire heavy work done, but the time must be charged.

4. Each girl must keep a careful record of her year's work. In this way only, can the history and account, required in awarding prizes, be secured.

5. Those girls who submit their reports in the form of a written, attractive, and illustrative booklet, shall be granted credit by the committee of judges in awarding prizes.

6. In estimating profits the following uniform prices must be used: \$1.00 for rent of land; 10 cents for each hour of work; \$2.00 for a two-horse load of stable manure; and actual cost of commercial fertilizers and other things purchased or furnished.

7. The garden products must be carefully measured, and

two disinterested witnesses must attest the reports submitted at the close of the season.

8. Award of prizes and honors shall be based on the



Fig. III—The Mothers Take Interest in the Work.

fresh and canned products of the garden according to the following schedule:

(a) Quality	20 points
(b) Quantity	20 points
(c) Variety	20 points
(d) Profit	20 points
(e) History	20 points
Total	100 points

9. In making financial report record number of cans sold, with proceeds; number of cans on hand for sale; number of cans kept for home use and proceeds from sale of fresh vegetables.

CLUB COLORS

The Club colors are dark red, leaf green and white.

CLUB MOTTO

"To Make the Best Better," signifying the aim of the girls to improve on their best products of one season during the next.

CLUB PENNANT

A triangular pennant of acute apex, the body of green and white with a red tomato on white field.

THE DEMONSTRATION EMBLEM

Parts of the Emblem. Book, four-leaf clover, tomato, and the four H's. In addition to this at the top of book appears the word "Demonstrator" and at the bottom of the book the words "Girls' C. & P. Club."

The regular emblem of the Girls' Club Work will be the trade mark of the "Girls' Demonstration Clubs," and will be found upon all labels used on canned products, grown and packed by regular members of the club.

MEANING AND STORY OF EMBLEM.

The Boys' and Girls' Demonstration Work represents a "Four-Square" training of the members of the "Four-Square" needs of citizenship and home life.

The four H's represent the equal training of the head, heart, hands and health of every child.

The H's have a trinity training value:

Train head to:

- a. Think,
- b. Plan,
- c. Reason.

Train Heart to:

- a. Be kind.
- b. Be true.
- c. Be sympathetic.

Train Hands to:

- a. Be useful.
- b. Be helpful.
- c. Be skillful.

Train Health to:

- a. Resist disease.
- b. Enjoy life.
- c. Make for efficiency.

Book: The book, as a background, signifies the need of education and definite knowledge on farm life and home interest in order to make for better rural life.

Four-Leaf Clover: The four-leaf clover represents the principles of scientific farming,, rotation of crops, soil building, and larger productions and greater profits on less acres for the farmer.

Objective Interests: The tomato, signifies the relation of the garden products to a happy and contented citizenship.

"Demonstrator:" The word "demonstrator" means that every club member is a demonstrator of the best known methods in modern agriculture and that they have not only agreed to read the instructions furnished by the Department of Agriculture, but have agreed to follow them during a period of not less than one year, or not less than

one-tenth acre, in the Girls' Canning & Poultry Club Work.

PRICE OF EMBLEM.

Gold plated	\$0.12	each
Solid silver (hand engraved)25	each
Rolled gold40	each
Solid gold (hand engraved)85	each
Solid gold (with safety catch)	1.00	each
Solid gold (hand engraved) 25 or more75	each

All orders for emblem should be accompanied by cash and mailed to

The Christian Finance Association,
80 Maiden Lane, New York City, N. Y.

CORRELATION WORK

So many teachers have expressed interest in doing cor-

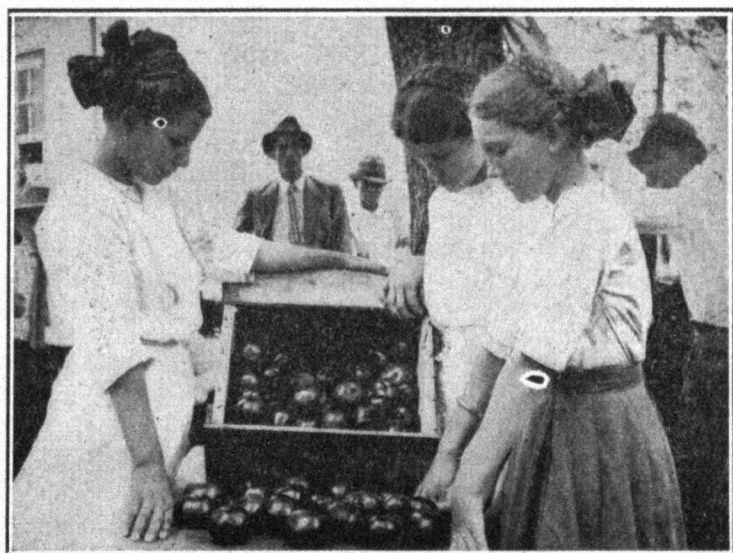


Fig. IV—Some Choice Fruit.

relation work in their English classes, that we are herewith giving an outline for booklet.

OUTLINE FOR ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET
OR HISTORY ON
GIRLS' GARDEN AND CANNING WORK

(O. H. BENSON)

Use good grade of drawing paper about 9 by 11 inches.

Make a cover design which will, in a neat and attractive manner, indicate just what may be found within the booklet. Do not make the cover design too gaudy in color. Use water-color paints, if possible, in drawing letters, tomato, marginal lines, etc. Bind the booklet at the top with a modest colored baby-ribbon or cord.

Topics to be treated in consecutive order in booklet:

1. The object of the Girls' Canning and Poultry Club work.

2. Why I enrolled as a club member.

3. Life history of tomatoes, snap beans and cucumbers. It would be well to use but one of these subjects in each booklet, beginning with the tomato.

4. Soil study, seed bed, cultivations. Tell how a garden seed-bed should be prepared.

5. Management of plants from cold frame to maturing of crop. Tell here, how to raise plants, transplant, cultivate, stake or rack up plants.

6. Management of diseases and insects.

7. Management of fruit and vegetables, ripening, picking and marketing fresh products. Tell best method to pack and crate ripe tomatoes.

8. Canning processes, labeling of cans, meaning of label and trade mark.

9. Exhibits; relation to school work.

10. Discussion of uses for tomatoes, snap beans and cucumbers. Give recipes of important and practical dishes and food values.

11. Give account of your yield, total number of pounds, how much used for home use and how much sold, number of cans, etc.

12. State briefly what your club work has done for you in interest, instruction, health and money value.

EIGHT IMPORTANT REASONS

(O. H. BENSON)

1. It encourages a great deal of extra and supplementary reading, thus stimulating to greater efficiency in "Reading."

2. It teaches useful information by the three most effective methods; viz: (a) By getting the child to seek and find truth largely by his own effort. (b) By illustrating their truth in drawing and picture. (c) By writing about subjects in the child's own language.

3. It teaches the correct use of English and renders the "Grammar Bugbear" a thing of interest and daily practice, instead of a jumble of technical, analytical points which are, as a rule, fit for theoriest only, and not food for boys and girls.

4. It trains for better penmanship, by giving definite



Fig. V—A Successful Tomato Grower.

directions and daily practice, live practice, in which interesting truth is involved.

5. It teaches the child how and where to go in quest of truth; from all sources of men, books, paper, nature, and from experiment and demonstration.

6. It trains in neatness and organizing ability—facts must be organized in sequel order in booklet work.

7. The booklet develops individuality, originality, inde-

pendence, in their educational training. (Property rights are also incidentally taught).

8. It trains for economy by encouraging the child to use waste papers, farm journals, catalogs, and material making up the neat and attractive booklet for local, county, or state exhibits.

9. It brings the home, school and farm into closer co-operation.

Note. The booklet work in the hands of a wide-awake teacher will do more to make for an intelligent and self-expressive school of boys and girls than any other method of instruction. In selecting the subject for booklet work the teacher must first of all know the child and his environments, and assign the subject "cow," "dog," "corn," "bread-making," etc., along the line of his greatest interest and information. Make the first step easy. Do not flaunt before the child that he shall write an "essay," or "composition;" there is some danger in naming the "composition" effort; simply ask them to find out all they can about "tomatoes" in writing; then again to organize their subject matter and illustrate "cover design" and pages as they proceed. Do not overdo and allow the child to overwork in this line. Keep a sensible balance on this effort.

The illustrated booklet work is correct from every rational, historical, pedagogical point of view, true to the doctrine of Pestolozzi, Froebel, Herbert, Mann, Colonel Parker and others of world-wide distinction.

ESSENTIALS TO SUCCESS

We are impressed with the fact that those teachers who have carefully read the thoughts outlined in this bulletin are interested in the movement and will profit by the following suggestions which are absolutely essential for successful work:

1. Have a list of prizes ready to announce to club on day of organization.

2. See to it that every club member is visited in her home.

3. A visit to the plot of the club member will afford an opportunity for encouragement and instruction.

4. Be diligent to see that each member sets out her plants.

5. The teacher should sow seed in order to supply plants to those who lose theirs.

6. So many children are not aware of the size of one.

tenth of an acre, consequently it would be well for the teacher to explain that such a size plot contains 4356 square feet. Require the girls to measure the length of ground to be planted by them and calculate with them its width.

7. Encourage the purchase of canning outfits and during the canning season have the president of the club arrange a canning party.

8. Impress upon the club members the importance of filling the cans well. The cans that have a commercial value are those that have not only been filled but well packed before sealing.

9. Encourage the club as an organization to make an exhibit at the county fair. If there is no fair in the county it would be an excellent idea to make an exhibit in the school building.

10. The most essential feature of the work is the securing of reports from each club member, and a faithful teacher will stress this feature.

ADDRESSES OF COMPANIES FROM WHOM CANNING GOODS, LABELS AND FRUIT JARS MAY BE PURCHASED

(Ask for catalogues and quotations before you buy).

HOME CANNERY OUTFITS.

Home Canner Co., Hickory, N. C. Hot water and steam canners, cans and all supplies.

Farm Canning Machine Co., Meridian, Miss. Hot water canners, cans, etc.

Geo. L. Eubanks, Union City, Ga. Hot water canners, cans, etc.

The Royal Canner Co., Chattanooga, Tenn. Hot water canner.

The Raney Canner Co., Chapel Hill, N. C. (Also Texarkana, Ark.-Tex.) Hot water canners and cans.

Griffith & Turner Co., 205-207 N. Paca St., Baltimore, Md. Steam canners, cans and supplies.

Northwestern Steel & Iron Works, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Steam pressure canners, etc.

American Can Co., Atlanta, Ga. (Marietta St. and Jones Ave). Home canners, cans, etc.

Modern Canner Mfg. Co., Chattanooga, Tenn. Home canners, cans, etc.

Dixie Canner Co., Little Rock Ark. Steam pressure canners, etc.

F. S. Stahl Canner Co., Pekin, Ill.

LABELS.

Labels designed for Girls' Club Work, including tomatoes, beans, catsup, and all other canned products, canned and packed by regular club members, may be bought of:

The United States Printing Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. (Also New York City and Baltimore, Md.)

EMBLEMS.

Corn, Cotton, Canning and All-Star Clubs:

Christian Finance Association, 80 Maiden Lane, New York City.



Fig. VI—Alabama's Prize Winning Team of Tomato Club Girls, National Corn Exposition, Columbia S. C., January 28th-February 8th—These girls, together with a team of twenty Corn Club boys, won the National Trophy, a Bronze Bust of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp.