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pages will seem very small indeed. But we do not feel small in any way, except in number. We are large in our ambitions, endeavors and good will. Our club is a small one of only 14 members, but we all realize that never in the annals of history has women's work been in such demand as it is today, and we are trying to fill that demand to the best of our ability. But they are such busy women in this district, nearly all of them are doing their own work in the house and helping with the out-door chores, such as milking, feeding calves, and, of course, caring for the poultry, and still they make time to meet once a month, to discuss ways and means of meeting the demand made to them for patriotic purposes. I can truly say they are the most congenial group of women I have ever seen work together.

Now it would be very difficult for me to give an adequate estimate of what our club has really achieved along patriotic lines in the last year. We know there is no other line of work needed so much at this time as knitting, sewing and doing all we possibly can for those brave boys who have sacrificed so much for us. We have done, and are still doing, all the Red Cross work we can, and have answered every appeal that has been made to us in that line. Our last meeting was held at the home of Mrs. H. McCoughen, and was acknowledged one of our best. Our hostess, in her genial way, extended a hearty welcome to us all. After the routine business was disposed of, the Alameda rest room was discussed, and we all felt that a step had been taken in the right direction, when a place was provided for the comfort and convenience of the prairie mother and her children. A collection was taken up to help support this rest room, all donating generously, even in these cruel war times we must not entirely forget our motto for "home and community," as those local matters must be taken up from time to time, as the occasion demands. However, working for patriotic needs and other good causes give us very little time for definite local advancement.

At the close of our last meeting Mrs. McCoughen served a delicious lunch, which reminds me, that the splendid lunches and invigorating cups of tea our club women have been enjoying at our meetings in the past will be conspicuous by their absence in the future. We have been preaching the gospel of thrift and food conservation and must practice what we preach. We thought it would be better to dispense with such luxuries now, while the voluntary system was in vogue, than to be compelled to give them up later in order to help feed the Allies.

In speaking of farm women, I can confidently say we have derived great good from trying to do "our bit" as an organization. Countless pairs of socks have been knitted for loved ones "over there" and the women are still knitting and will knit on with untiring patience until this cruel war is over. Some of our boys are at the front. Two have given their lives, while others still must go. We know that we are working in a great crisis, the greatest the world has ever known, a crisis from which we shall emerge victorious if we do our best, and trust in God to do the rest. But we shall not have done our best until we have put our greatest efforts into the struggle, without regard for our personal welfare. This war is drawing us together as a people as nothing else could have done. We are finding ourselves as one people in sympathy and sorrow. That is common to all classes of society today. There are the women, for instance, who, before the war, cared for little else beyond their own family and home, and whose sons were the centre of all their hopes. One son now lies buried "somewhere in France." Surely this war is bringing us together in a way that prosperous peace could never have done. We are fighting the spirit of self-interest, and if we remain true to our purpose, even to the end, victory shall be ours all along the line. Some day the soldiers will come home again from France, And England will be hung with banners gay.

And I shall see them marching past—the comrades of my boy.
—A Douglaston Homemaker.



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