

Ellen Brewer House Is Lovely Setting for Home Management Training

HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS LEARN IN "DREAM HOUSE"

By PATTY LEWIS

Aspiring young homemakers find the perfect situation for learning all that is involved in keeping house and managing a home in the Ellen Brewer House.

What home economics majors of the past called a "Dream House" stands south of Hunter Hall; it changed from a dream to a reality because of the generosity of one man, Talcott Wait Brewer, and the dedication and vision of one woman, Ellen Brewer.

The purpose of the house is to provide a place where home economics majors can have resident home management training. Home economics majors elect to take the

course, which consists of living in the home management house for four weeks, for two hours of credit.

For many years this course was conducted in the "home management apartment" which consisted of three suites in Vann Hall. But the college grew until it finally had to take back this dormitory space, and a house on Hillsboro Street was rented for the homeless homemakers. Miss Ellen Brewer, chairman of the home economics department from 1922 to 1966, recalls how inconvenient this arrangement was for Meredith students since the house was located near Pullen Memorial Church. "The girls sometimes had a car, but most of the time they rode the bus to classes," commented Miss

Brewer.

Mr. Talcott Brewer heard about the dilemma and determined that what Meredith really needed was a home management house which would be a real part of the campus. Mr. Brewer and his family have for many years been closely identified with Meredith College, his father Samuel W. Brewer having been a trustee and his uncle Dr. Charles Edward Brewer having been president of the college from 1915-1939. He made the decision himself, and his announcement that he would give such a house to Meredith came as a "complete surprise."

This generous man gave money for the house and its furnishings and watched with interest as the house was planned, constructed, and furnished as an ideal home. Miss Brewer relates that no expense was spared to make it exactly as it ought to be.

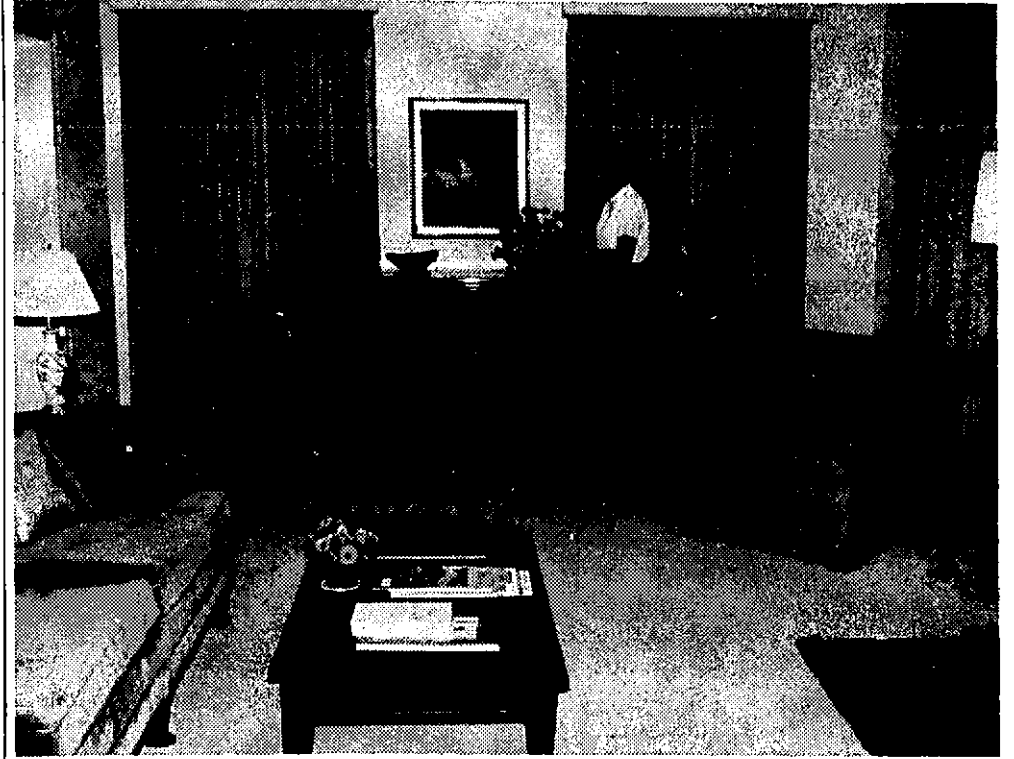
The first girls moved in the completed house in the spring semester of 1959-60. The first contribution of students to the house was helping to make the draperies. Girls have been working ever since to keep it as lovely as it was intended to be.

Interesting Furniture

The Georgian-style house is tastefully decorated and contains several pieces of fine furniture. In the living room is an especially beautiful piece, a reproduction of a secretary in Tryon Palace. Of several pieces of furniture given for the house from the estate of Miss Lilly Grandy, the most valuable is a bow-front chest, also a part of the living room. Much of the other furniture was made by Craftique in Mebane, North Carolina, and was selected to suit the style of the house.

One of the most interesting features of the Ellen Brewer House is largely a result of Miss Brewer's planning — the attention to details which make the house worth seeing by anyone who has visions of a home someday. Roll-out cabinets and storage bins in the kitchen, shelves which open into the kitchen or the den-breakfast room, ample closet space, and cabinets for china, crystal, and linen which utilize in a unique manner the space under the stairway help make the house a model home.

From the Georgian exterior to the panelled family room the Ellen Brewer House is a home which deserves Miss Brewer's praise; she says she "glows with pleasure" each time she thinks of it.



The bowfront chest is one of the highlights of the home management house.



The home management house's efficient kitchen helps make cooking fun for Jan Haywood and Retta Clements.

Meredith Girls Take Courses at State, Find Experiences Different, Worthwhile

By BETH KING

After twelve years of co-education, Meredith students, having once entered these hallowed halls, seldom venture back into a classroom of men. Summer schools sometimes afford such an opportunity, and a few brave students register for courses at North Carolina State University.

Jan McCrary, a senior math major, related one of her experiences in a history of mathematics course at State last spring. Her professor obviously believed in the inferiority of women. He compared the female to the even integers which can easily be torn apart; however, the male was regarded as strong like the odd integers!

On the other hand students taking the programming course at State found their professor very interested and concerned about their progress. A man from Chapel Hill who audited the course transported the girls back and forth to class and even tutored them in their assignments.

Macki Rudisill, a senior biology major and one of three girls out of sixty students in an animal hus-

bandry class, was appalled when the boys regularly went to sleep during a class if the lecture became boring. "At least," she said, "we try to give the appearance of being awake."

After nervously asking a question for the first time, Macki says that she never hesitated again.

Are the boys friendly? Trish Wynn answers, "Sometimes." "They are not as competitive as Meredith's math majors. They just don't worry over grades like we do," she said.

Differences in class procedures are natural. For example, assignments are given for every class, but

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