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12-1-1921

Boys' and Girls' Club Work : Initiation Service for Standard Clubs

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

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Recommended Citation

South Dakota State University, Cooperative Extension, "Boys' and Girls' Club Work : Initiation Service for Standard Clubs" (1921). *SDSU Extension Leaflets*. 4.
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EXTENSION LEAFLET NO 4.

DECEMBER 1921.

BOYS' & GIRLS' CLUB WORK.

INITIATION SERVICE
for
STANDARD CLUBS.

Prepared by
State Club Leaders.

Extension Service,
W. F. Kumlien, Acting Director.

South Dakota State College of Agriculture and U. S. Department of
Agriculture Cooperating. Issued in furtherance of Acts of May 8,
and June 30, 1914.

INITIATION SERVICE.

President, Secretary and four members are seated at front of room, other club members at rear. Guide brings candidates to front row of chairs facing President. The entire club stands as candidates are ushered in, and remain standing until candidates are in place, when President indicates that all are to be seated. As each member at front of room addresses the candidates he stands.

GUIDE: Mr. President, I present these candidates for initiation into Boys' & Girls' Club Work.

PRESIDENT: Before proceeding with the initiation service, it is necessary that the candidates know the laws of this club as set forth in its constitution. The candidates are requested to consider carefully, as the constitution is being read, whether they are willing to pledge themselves to its fulfillment.

SECRETARY: Reads Constitution.

PRESIDENT: Before you take the vows which will bind you to our aims and purposes, we wish to explain to you the nature of our organization, its ideals, and its goal.

FIRST GIRL: The purpose of Boys' & Girls' Club Work may be summed up in one word--service. And in proportion to the amount of service it renders will Club Work grow in value and importance and become a vital factor in the development of the country.

Boys' & Girls' Club Work forms one link in a great co-operative chain of service, which begins with the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. There, and at the various State Agricultural Colleges, workers are constantly experimenting and are almost daily discovering new facts and better methods that will lighten the burden and increase the efficiency of the farmer and housewife. To carry this valuable information to the people of the country in the quickest and most efficient way, the Cooperative Extension Service has been developed--a Service which, through County Extension Workers, brings to the farmer and housewife the latest findings in the better practices in Agriculture and Home Economics. And we who, as club members, are receiving this valuable information, form one link in this chain of Extension Service, and to us falls the duty of carrying on the work of this vast body of workers.

It is our duty as club members to demonstrate to the people about us the better methods in agriculture and homemaking which are advocated by the United States Department of Agriculture and South Dakota State College.

To do this we must first use those methods ourselves, and convince people by our success that the methods used are worthy of adoption; and second, we must keep a record of our work, not only to reinforce our demonstration, but to bring to light all weaknesses and strong points in our work in order that we may constantly improve upon it. By planning and executing our work carefully and systematically, by following the methods taught us through the Extension Service, and by keeping a complete record of our work, each of us can carry on a small but valuable demonstration, and the combined effect of the thousands of demonstrations carried on by club members cannot but be of immense value in improving the farms and homes of the nation.

PRESIDENT: You have now heard the purpose of Boys' & Girls' Club Work. Are you willing to accept that purpose as your own.?

CANDIDATE: I am.

PRESIDENT: Do you promise to conduct your demonstration to the best of your ability?

CANDIDATE: I do.

PRESIDENT: Do you promise to keep a complete record of your work?

CANDIDATE: I do.

PRESIDENT: Having accepted the purpose of this organization and pledged yourselves to carry it out to the best of your ability, you are now entitled to know the Club Creed.

SECOND GIRL:

THE NATIONAL CLUB CREED

I believe in Boys' & Girls' Club Work and the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.

I believe in the training of my HEAD for the power it will give me to think, to plan, and to reason.

I believe in the training of my HEART for the nobleness it will give me to become kind, sympathetic, and true.

I believe in the training of my HANDS for the dignity it will give me to be helpful, useful and skilful.

I believe in the training of my HEALTH for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, resist disease, and make for efficiency.

I believe in my country, my state, and in my responsibility for their development.

I believe in the great trinity of Club Work--the home, the school, and achievement.

In all these things that I believe, I am willing to dedicate my life for their fulfillment.

PRESIDENT: Do you pledge your faith to this Creed?

CANDIDATE: I do.

PRESIDENT: You will now be told the meaning of the badge of Boys' and Girls' Club Work and the motto of the organization.

THIRD GIRL: The badge of this organization is in the form of a four-leaf clover, with an H on each leaf to signify the equal training of the Head, the Hands, the Heart and the Health. Members are entitled to wear this badge on the completion of one year's work in the Club.

FOURTH GIRL: The motto of this organization is to "Make the Best Better". Inspired by this motto, we shall strive ever toward higher achievements. Instead of being satisfied with our success, we shall make it but a stepping stone to greater success; instead of feeling content with personal achievement, we shall rest content only when that achievement serves others. Following the urge of our motto through life, we shall work always toward higher education, nobler living, greater service.

PRESIDENT: You have now pledged your support to the purpose and ideals of Boys' & Girls' Club Work and have accepted its Creed as your own. Having thus declared your sympathy and your allegiance to the organization, we ask that you now sign your name to its constitution.

Candidates are led to Secretary, where each signs constitution. They are then led back to former places.

PRESIDENT: I now pronounce you duly initiated members of Boys' and Girls' Club Work.

At signal from President, all members rise and repeat Creed.