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HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF HOME ECONOMICS

by

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Foods and Nutrition

The Department was established in 1903, and it was called the Department of Domestic Economy. Up to this time nothing had been done elsewhere in the state in instruction in Home Economics.

Edith McDermott was the first instructor to be employed and at first she taught both cooking and sewing. She was a graduate of Drexel Institute. Miss McDermott had a very vivacious personality, and she was full of wit. Her work was new to the campus and she was very popular.

The department was first housed in Morill Hall--then the Chemistry building. In connection with the very early history of the department we do not wish to forget to speak of Professor Elton Fulmer. If we ever had a friend and a staunch supporter he was one. Dean Fulmer's office was on the main floor and was the place for the assemblage of guests when the girls in Domestic Economy were serving meals. Our Cooking Laboratory was just above his office on the second floor. Sometimes when frozen desserts were being made and the girls were crushing the ice with a wooden mallet, he would climb the stairs and say with a smile on his face that his delicate analytical balances would not act just right with that sort of treatment.

In the Fall of 1905 Miss Julia Davidson came as an instructor in sewing. She was also a graduate of Drexel Institute. Her laboratory was in the basement of Morill Hall, just under Dean Fulmer's office. My initiation into this institution took place when I took a course with her in the summer session of 1906. It was at this time that she and Professor Cloe were married. They left soon after to go to Chicago University. Professor Cloe was a member of the Chemistry