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Lakewood College Club's Forty Years 1926/1966

MARGARET MANOR BUTLER

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Margaret Manor Butler

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has been made possible
by
Mrs. Leonard Schlather's legacy
to the Lakewood College Club

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Foreword

No one is better qualified to write the history of the Lakewood College Club than Margaret Manor Butler, as is shown by the fine books she has already compiled. Her research is most conscientious and she gives unsparingly of her time and efforts to make a complete story. A graduate of Smith College, Margaret has been a member of the Lakewood College Club since 1940. She has been chairman and hostess for many groups, and a member of the board of trustees for six years serving as vice president in 1948-49.

I am sure that Mrs. Leonard Schlather, who left our Club a legacy to be used for something of lasting value, would have approved of spending the money for a permanent record of the growth of this organization. It is wise to make such a record at a time when those who were involved in its beginnings can be helpful with suggestions and memories.

The Lakewood College Club should be congratulated on its fortieth anniversary for its great contribution to this community in offering fellowship, study and stimulating programs to a large membership.

Mrs. A. N. Dawson
First President
The Lakewood College Club

April 1966



Mrs. F. J. Doudican
Organizer of the Lakewood College Club

The Turbulent Twenties

Lakewood College Club was born during the turbulent 1920's when a host of revolutionary inventions and ideas were altering the basic pattern of American life. People either embarked on aimless orgies of self-expression or clung to some of the old traditions. The college-trained woman found herself the first of her sex in history to have both the intellectual preparation and the social emancipation to explore a whole new exciting, ever-changing world. She viewed with interest, enthusiasm, and sometimes alarm the three recent inventions having the greatest impact on society -- the automobile, the radio, and motion pictures.

The automobile, a luxury such a short time before, was becoming a necessity. With it came better roads, more employment, numerous mechanical devices for greater speed, and comfort in driving. On the negative side it created havoc in many homes when the younger generation used the family car as a means of escape from parental supervision. Many blamed the auto for the increase in crime and accidents.

The radio, still in its infancy, held great promise. People who seldom read newspaper editorials were being influenced and persuaded by commentators with on-the-spot news from all corners of the United States, thus creating national unity never before possible. This new mass media not only had the power of bringing Americans closer to-

gether; it also enabled listeners to do their own thinking and to debate the merits of what they heard. As controversial questions were brought vividly into the home, religion versus science, or "Should evolution be taught in the public schools?" caught the attention of the entire country during the Scopes trial at Dayton, Tennessee. Such sensationalism in radio newscasting was part of a long period of ballyhoo in which countless heroes, murderers, or racketeers reached the limelight. Familiar names were Babe Ruth, Tilden, Dempsey, Tunney, Darrow, William Jennings Bryan, Lindbergh, Peaches, Daddy Browning, the Hall-Mills murder trial, the Floyd Collins cave rescue, marathon dancers, flagpole sitters, bootleggers, Al Capone and his gang of cut-throats.

Motion pictures too gained popularity and added to the enlightenment of the average citizen. Millions who seldom read a book of any kind were suddenly exposed to film versions of such literary classics as "David Copperfield," "Anna Karenina," "Wuthering Heights" and "Little Women." Scenes and actors in exotic settings captured the imagination and provided escape into a world of romance, riches, and adventure. Commercial movies were setting the fashions in clothes, home furnishings, even love and domestic life. Clara Bow, Rudolph Valentino, Charlie Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks, and Gloria Swanson were emulated on many occasions.

The demand for leisure-time activities brought Cleveland a host of new buildings for public entertainment and promotion of the arts. The Public Auditorium with its seating capacity of 12,000 drew nationwide attention by presenting the Metropolitan Opera and international music festivals. Three large theaters - the State, Ohio, and Allen - opened within a few months of each other. These theaters, along with the high-rise Hanna and Keith buildings, changed the face of Euclid Avenue at East 14th Street. Farther east, "Millionaire's Row" of world-famous homes was being

taken over by various agencies whose business requirements demanded turning ballrooms and bedrooms into offices, and dining rooms with long banquet tables into impressive conference rooms. Going still farther east, it appeared that University Circle would become the cultural center, as thousands came to view the Cleveland Museum of Art, considered one of the outstanding museums of its kind in the world. Western Reserve University, University Hospital, and Case School of Applied Science were becoming magnets, attracting a great variety of cultural activities.

The ease of mobility by auto over improved roads stimulated a general retreat from the overcrowded city to suburbs, where the private home and garden were cherished and little provision was made for community recreation or cultural activities. Lakewood was such a suburb, its expanding population content with its reputation as the City of Homes. Six movie theaters were available, but the offerings were not always very edifying. In the 1920's community activity seemed to center around such mundane concerns as elimination of the West 117th Street railroad crossing, the building of Fire Station #3, the acquisition of a new fire truck, aid to victims of the Lorain Tornado, and dedication of the Hilliard Road Bridge.

Since the women's suffrage movement had opened wide many avenues of participation in events outside the home, more and more women were eager to share in community affairs. Liberated to some extent from Victorian morality and household drudgery, the college graduate eagerly sought new outlets for her energies, sought to understand the changes taking place in her society, and made an effort to direct the course of events. She was in a position to question and evaluate, to weigh the past against the present, the traditional against the radical, and as never before her opinions carried weight. Many women realized that fast-moving events called for continued learning after college and free interchange of ideas with other college women.

The Women's City Club and the College Club of Cleveland, both veteran East Side groups, were attracting women interested in civic and cultural pursuits, but Lakewood had few cultural opportunities to offer in the 1920's. The Parent-Teacher units were becoming more active. Their main purpose, however, centered around solving problems tied to the schools and their children, or providing equipment not included in the school budget. Lakewood Woman's Club, starting as a civic group, was beginning to expand and to win approval for its promotion of a music scholarship fund for talented Lakewood children. The South Lakewood Woman's Club was engaged in philanthropy, the YWCA in service and missionary work, and several study clubs with limited membership were appearing on the scene.

These groups did not provide sufficient outlets for the restless energies of Lakewood's growing number of college graduates. College women needed an organization where their years of education could be applied to a variety of activities. Aware of this need was enthusiastic Susan Doudican (Mrs. F. J.), a slight woman of medium height with a warm personality and an abundance of energy. She rallied a sizable group of friends on April 6, 1926, for a meeting at her home to discuss formation of a Lakewood College Club. Discussion at that meeting and at two subsequent gatherings centered on rounding up eligible members and writing a constitution and by-laws. By the 6th of May 93 women, representing 45 colleges, had joined by paying annual dues of \$5.00. At that meeting the group resolved that those whose dues were paid by October 15 would be considered charter members and would be exempt from the entrance fee. Those joining after that date would be required to pay an entrance fee of \$5.00, but would be allowed three months in which to pay the annual dues of \$5.00. Before the end of the month, fortified by the wise counsel of the College Club of Cleveland, the constitution had been adopted and members were given an opportunity to choose

fifteen from a group of twenty-five to serve as a board of directors.

On June 3, 1926, Jean Dawson (Mrs. A. N.) was elected the first president, and on the following Wednesday the by-laws were read and adopted. Regular membership required graduation from an accredited college or university and associate membership required one and a half years' credits in a degree-granting institution. But no distinction was made in the privileges granted regular or associate members. The first regular meeting was a tea on September 15 at the Lakewood Library with the new trustees serving as hostesses. Mrs. Addison C. Waid, retiring president of the College Club of Cleveland, gave a brief summary of that organization's 28 years of trials, tribulations, and progress. This was the beginning of a friendly relationship between the two groups and the exchange of annual visits all through the years, when invitations for special programs were extended first to the entire membership and then later only to members of the board.

Events started in earnest in October with an evening meeting the first Wednesday of the month, an afternoon meeting the third Wednesday, and group meetings either after the general meetings or at times convenient to those who participated. True to the purpose of continuing their education, the Club agreed to schedule intellectual pursuits. The first post card sent to members announced formation of groups in psychology, French conversation, English literature and drama, and interior decoration.

At the first general evening meeting Mrs. Grace Rush of Western Reserve University spoke on Development of the Mind. This was the introductory talk sponsored by the psychology group. The afternoon meeting brought Earl Martin of "The Cleveland Times" to talk on News and Newspapers. In November there was a talk on Russia and another on Art. The December meeting instituted the annual Christmas tea, to which young girls home from



Mrs. A. N. Dawson
First President

college were invited. In an endeavor to make the afternoon meetings friendly affairs, it was agreed to serve refreshments after each meeting. Hostesses from the colleges having the largest representation -- namely Western Reserve, Ohio State, and Oberlin -- were found for the first three meetings. Hostesses for the next six meetings, January to June 1927, were secured by the formation of six polycollegiate groups.

Husbands were invited to the January evening meeting to see pictures of Alaska. This set a precedent for escorts at all evening meetings. Subject matter for all general meetings read like an encyclopedia of knowledge, including lectures and discussion on art, music, drama, literature, science, travel, civic affairs, and foreign relations. Most of the talks were serious, but occasionally a speaker caused merriment. Long remembered was the visit in April by Mrs. Demarchus Brown of Indianapolis, who told of her journey to Capetown. She held her audience spellbound with her vivid descriptions of African life, interspersed with amusing anecdotes. She recalled how flattered she was to have an African chieftain exclaim that she was the most beautiful white woman he had ever seen. Later she learned that he considered a woman's beauty proportionate to her rotundity. Board members were especially interested in Mrs. Brown because there had been much debate about engaging an out-of-town speaker whose fee was \$50 plus expenses, a large sum for such a new organization. They agreed later that it was well spent, for she proved to be a delightful speaker and was one of the few people asked to return three years in a row.

Finances were the most trying of problems in those early days. Although membership by May was 250, representing 63 colleges, money had a way of evaporating. The first dance at the Clifton Club, at \$5.00 a couple, was a huge success in fun but quite a disaster financially with a deficit of \$37.45. To help cover this loss a new ruling was

established requiring payment of fifty cents for each guest at general meetings.

After only one year, the Lakewood College Club was recognized as a vital part of the community. In August the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce asked for assistance in a community reception for the new superintendent of schools, Mr. Julius Warren. Still worried about finances, the Club donated only \$5.00 toward refreshments and offered help of members as hostesses. In October the Club and the Adult Education Association jointly sponsored a two-day Institute on Public Affairs at the Congregational Church. Patterned after the Institute of Politics held each summer at Williams College, this was a first for Lakewood. It featured outstanding college professors from Western Reserve and Ohio State and was open free to the public. Social highlight of the year was an afternoon musicale and tea for members and prospective members in Eleanor Chandler's (Mrs. Horace) beautiful garden in Clifton Park.

The first honorary membership was conferred on librarian Miss Roena Ingham for her cooperation in making the group welcome at the Lakewood Library. Fifty dollars was donated to the library for each of the two years as a token of appreciation for use of its rooms as headquarters. General meetings the first two years were held on the second floor in a large room called the auditorium. Facilities for serving refreshments were meager. Frustrated hostesses remembered brewing pots of tea over a Bunsen burner in a small room, then carrying them precariously up a few steps over a landing called the "bridge of sighs" through the storage room to the auditorium. Dishes and all facilities had to be brought in by members.

In January 1928 a current events group was formed. Husbands were invited and this soon became one of the most dynamic and enthusiastic groups. Increased membership and attendance posed a problem in the limited space of the library, and it was necessary to find larger quarters. The

solution came with the formation of a Community Center Company in which the Chamber of Commerce, the Lakewood Woman's Club, the South Lakewood Woman's Club, the Community Church Group, and the Lakewood College Club each purchased stock and paid a monthly rental for the second floor of the newly completed Gehring Building on the northwest corner of Detroit Avenue and Warren Road. The first meeting was held there in September 1928. Board members were jubilant and their feelings were expressed in the poem written for the occasion by Jessie Metcalf (Mrs. I. S.):

How soon hath time, the subtlest thief of all
Stolen on his wing, the second of our years
Our hastening days fly on with full career
And we are gathered here in our new hall.
Who of us dreamed last year that by this fall
Our club forsaking its old quarters drear,
In such a fitting room as we have here
Would gather at our genial leader's call!
We are no longer an experiment.
The College Club has proved itself a go.
Then let us in the coming year
So strong and substantially grow
That we shall never worry 'bout the rent,
Lost opportunity our only fear.....

A desperate need for furnishings in the new club rooms made it necessary for the Community Center Company to raise funds, an endeavor in which the Lakewood College Club participated. There was ticket selling for a lecture series, a subscription dance, and a performance at the Ohio Theater to see the original New York cast in "Bachelor Father." At this time a separate reserve building fund was established as insurance against future moves.

Alert to the educational needs of the community, various groups were invited to enjoy the general programs. Goucher

alumnae and mothers of students were invited when Katherine Gallagher of the Goucher history department was the speaker. Junior and senior high school students were given an invitation when Captain Kilroy Harris gave an illustrated lecture on Australia. A scheduled afternoon meeting was changed to evening to include husbands and friends for the return engagement of popular Mrs. Demarchus Brown to hear of her experiences in the South Sea Islands. Because of the Club's generosity in including others to share its programs, pressure was soon brought from outside groups to join in their activities. The Lakewood College Club had to make it clear that its main purpose was educational and it could not engage in the time-consuming surveys and demonstrations which a number of organizations were conducting. Hence it was decided to withdraw membership from the Civic Association and the Peace Committee, two groups the club had been supporting.

In April 1929 the first roster was published, an impressive list of college women. In June Mrs. Dawson completed the first three successful years and Mrs. I. S. Metcalf was elected to the presidency. The first action of her board was the election of two representatives to the Community Center Board.

In October the stock market collapsed. On the surface Lakewood College Club activities continued as before. There was no mention of the crash in the minutes, but a month later the Board granted permission to four young women to postpone payment of their dues. There was also concern over fourteen members who were in arrears. The decade came to an end for the club December 30, with a musical of French carols of the seventeenth century and a tea for college girls home for Christmas vacation, a cheerful interlude to a year of worry for many families who had suffered heavy losses in the stock market crash.

The Bewildering Thirties

On the wave of the stock market crash of 1929, our country plummeted into the thirties, a period of uncertainty, fear, and bewilderment. In the midst of plenty, poverty stalked the land. Farmers were faced with the paradox of abundant agricultural production bringing so little return that bills could not be paid and homes were threatened with foreclosure. When business investments and industrial output declined, millions were thrown out of work. Bank failures multiplied as unsound loans were lost and frantic depositors tried to withdraw their savings. Local and state governments reached the limit of their resources and many Americans felt there was no place to turn for help but the national government.

However, President Herbert Hoover, a believer in rugged individualism, was sure that economic recovery could be gained through the natural process of supply and demand; if not manipulated by the government, consumer and producer could solve their own problems. But as bread lines grew longer and the unemployed raised their voices, he realized that this was different from previous depressions and something had to be done. Attempting to improve the economy from the top, he recommended the establishment of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) to lend money to banks, insurance companies, and railroads, from whence prosperity would filter down to the rest of society. He tried to restore prosperity by supporting



Executive Board, June 1931. Standing: Mrs. Jackson Blair, Mrs. Herbert Geist, Miss Charlotte Holden, Mrs. Whitney Rudy, Mrs. Anthony Poss, Mrs. Arthur Zwierlein, Mrs. W. A. Terrell, Mrs. F. J. Doudican. Seated: Mrs. M. M. Chew, Mrs. W. E. Roberts, Mrs. I. S. Metcalf, Mrs. A. N. Dawson, Mrs. Horace Chandler, Mrs. Carl Barth.

appropriations for road building, dams, and home construction, but he opposed direct federal aid to individuals on the grounds that it would destroy self-reliance and self-respect.

By 1932 the depression had deepened in almost every community and created intense frustration among interest groups who felt that they were getting a poor deal from their government. During the summer the Veterans marched on Washington demanding half of their promised bonus. When they were forcibly dispersed with bayonets and tear-gas bombs, national indignation reached fever pitch against the Administration. Throughout the West, cattle producers demanded some governmental help in raising prices for their products. Bankers and depositors wanted some assurance that their funds would be protected. Depositors were withdrawing their money and hoarding gold, forcing even the strongest banks to close their doors. Despair and distrust enveloped the entire country and Hoover's former prestige hit rock bottom. He had little chance of winning a second term.

In contrast, confident, energetic Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who took office in March 1933, during the time of greatest stress, was a welcome change to worried citizens who were demanding action. Millions heard his inaugural address over radio. His persuasive, friendly, and intimate voice seemed to dispel fear and inspire confidence; his reiteration that "we have nothing to fear but fear itself" and his positive program of recovery brought new hope to a weary nation. He blamed the "money changers" for the present state of affairs and promised a "New Deal" which would bring back prosperity.

His first act was to declare a four-day bank holiday for inspection of all banks and the reopening of sound banks under stricter supervision with insurance protection of deposits. In his first fireside chat he urged citizens to return to normal banking habits and to turn in their gold.

During the next few months Congress passed more legislation in a shorter period of time than ever before, all aimed at relief, recovery, and reform. Roosevelt was especially concerned with providing direct federal benefits to those hardest hit by the depression -- the farmers, laborers, and the elderly. The Agricultural Adjustment Acts of 1933 and 1938 were designed to aid distressed farmers by paying them to reduce production of their crops. The National Recovery Act (NRA) attempted to shorten working hours, raise wages, end child labor, and guarantee laborers the right to collective bargaining, thereby helping to strengthen the unions. The Social Security Act furnished the states with money grants to assist in caring for the blind, crippled, dependent children, and the aged.

While the United States was preoccupied with its economic depression in the 1930's, dictators with insatiable desires for conquest were consolidating power in Europe and the Far East, confident they would have no interference from the Western Hemisphere. Americans were horrified when they learned that Hitler's army had invaded Poland and with a vast armada of planes had destroyed its cities, while England and France stood by, powerless. Somehow Poland seemed a long way off and home problems were of increasing concern. Few Americans believed that European disruption was a threat to America, or that Japan's invasion of Manchuria and China could do the United States much harm.

Clevelanders for the most part shared the United States policy of isolation. Although most had suffered to some degree in the crash of 1929, the outward appearance of the city as late as 1932 showed few signs of the troubles ahead. New impressive buildings were rising in the downtown area and at University Circle. The Public Square was being transformed. Fourteen hundred buildings had been razed to make room for the new terminal railway, the Terminal Tower, the Higbee Company, and later the Post Office.

Sport fans were more than enthusiastic over the new stadium with its seating capacity of 100,000. A little east of the stadium, the Cleveland Board of Education building was being erected. At University Circle, Severance Hall was opened with a brilliant symphony by the Cleveland Orchestra, and Lakeside Hospital was added to the University group of hospitals. The city appeared prosperous and thriving, but 1932 and 1933 brought an obvious change and many Clevelanders considered this period the cruelest of the depression. Panhandling increased and breadlines grew longer. Entire families slept in autos or on park benches. Approximately 31 per cent of Cleveland's labor force was out of work. Churches and relief agencies pooled their resources to distribute food and clothing to the needy. Even the city government was in distress and was forced to issue scrip in lieu of currency to city workers.

In an effort to flee the realities of economic distress, Greater Cleveland families turned to light, inexpensive entertainment. Radio held the spotlight as millions enjoyed and quoted Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Eddie Cantor, Fibber McGee and Molly, or hummed tunes made popular by Kate Smith and Bing Crosby, or followed the jazz orchestras of Paul Whiteman, Benny Goodman, and Tommy Dorsey. Inexpensive recreation took the form of bicycling, hiking, tennis, and picnics. Indoors, bridge and Monopoly were the rage. However, piggy banks were depleted to attend the most expensive movies -- "Gone With The Wind," "Green Pastures" and "Goodbye, Mr. Chips."

A revival of business and industry began in Cleveland during 1935 and 1936. One of the New Deal projects, the Public Works Administration (PWA), began construction of three housing units: Cedar-Central, Outhwaite, and Lakeview Terrace, all designed to put men to work and to eliminate unsightly slums. The Great Lakes Exposition, which glorified Cleveland as an iron and steel center, lured visitors and industrialists from all over the country and

boosted the city's economy. Business in the area boomed when many organizations such as the Republican Party, the American Legion, and the Rotarians chose Cleveland for their national conventions. Cultural interests began to revive in 1937 and 1938 when the Metropolitan Opera set a record by playing in one season to 68,078 music lovers. The fine arts were made more widely available to the city's citizens when the Cleveland Board of Education pioneered in establishing WBOE, Cleveland's first educational radio station. Little theatre groups, among them the Lakewood Little Theater, were finding expression in various parts of the country.

Lakewood, of course, was touched by all the things happening in the nation and especially in Cleveland. But since Lakewood was largely a white-collar and professional residential suburb, its citizens were not as hard-hit by the depression as many in the nation or elsewhere in the county. Most Lakewoodites were able to camouflage hardships by depleting their savings and greatly restricting expenditures. By 1939 business and industry were on the upswing and Lakewood was able to enjoy a week-long celebration of its golden anniversary with a spectacular parade, exhibits, and a dramatic presentation of local history.

Lakewood College Club provided wholesome entertainment and valuable educational activities at a very low cost. It became for many members the only recreation and culture they could afford. The outdoor group increased in popularity, and the favorite indoor pastime was contract bridge. The contract bridge craze had swept the country and permeated almost every social group. Culbertson's book on bridge had become a best seller, and his recommended plays were discussed pro and con by skillful players. It was also an inexpensive game, a welcome diversion during the depression. Lakewood College Club met the demand by offering special instruction and making

arrangements for neighborhood bridge groups and general tournaments. It became the custom to play bridge after an absorbing lecture on national or international affairs or the problems of our adolescents. Evening meetings usually ended with an old-fashioned sing after the bridge game.

There was a drive for new members in 1930. To entice young people to join, dues were waived for those in their first year out of college. A letter to prospects stated that the Lakewood College Club had 260 members representing 72 colleges; that the evening meeting was a lecture followed by bridge to which members were privileged to bring guests and that the afternoon meeting was a program followed by tea in the lounge. Six study groups offered courses in literature, current events, interior decorating, psychology, and beginning and advanced French. There was no extra charge for these courses. Minimum requirement for membership was 45 hours of accredited academic work in a college authorized to confer degrees. A few years later requirements for associate membership were increased to sixty hours.

May 20, 1931, marked the first appearance of the Lakewood College Club Quartet, which was to become a feature on special occasions and at the Christmas season. The original group consisted of Mrs. Brice Bowman, Mrs. Carl Brown, Mrs. A. N. Dawson and Mrs. Elmer Jessup, with pianist Mrs. J. C. Andrews. Big event of 1931 was the bridge tournament play-off in February. The next month, classes in contract bridge were organized for the small fee of \$1.00 for six lessons. Beginning and advanced German groups were added, and a new ruling was made to permit some nonmembers the privilege of joining the German and French study groups. Psychology was dropped because attendance was small and the subject was being covered very well by PTA groups.

A new roster in 1932 listed 309 members, many of whom were beginning to feel the effects of the depression. Enter-



Lakewood College Club Quartet, 1931-1944. Mrs. Elmer Jessup, Mrs. Brice Bowman, Mrs. Carl Brown, Mrs. A. N. Dawson.

tainment was planned at the lowest possible cost. The Clifton Club catered to a bridge party at 65 cents per person. A cooking class added in September was a great inducement to learn the art of gourmet cooking from a professional, Mrs. Arthur Zwierlein. Testing, tasting, and sharing prize recipes encouraged closer fellowship in this kitchen group. Years later participants still drooled over their favorite dessert, Grape Meringue Pie, a cherished treat when food delicacies were scarce. There were demonstrations on how to make Hungarian strudel, English scones, and decorated sandwiches. Most helpful during the depression were suggestions and recipes for feeding a family of five on \$4.50 per week.

The annual spring party in April 1933 was an informal affair held in the Club rooms with dancing and card playing for only 50 cents per person. A significant notice appeared in the June bulletin: "Due to our frozen bank deposits, the Lakewood College Club faces the end of the year with unpaid bills amounting to \$320.19, one of them the past four months rent for the Club rooms and the three summer months ahead. All members are urged to pay 1933-1934 dues this month." Speakers were asked to wait for their fees.

During the summer the Lakewood College Club joined the Adult Education Association in planning leisure time activities for college-age youth. They appointed recent college graduates to head discussion, recreation, writing, and dramatic groups. The first meeting attracted one hundred young people representing twenty-five schools. There were talks on health, religion, psychology, and current events. A number of committees planned dramatic productions, tennis parties, outdoor picnics, card parties, and group singing. Many of the college-age sons and daughters of members who shared this experience voted it a summer of wholesome fun and hoped it would be repeated.

Best remembered event of 1934 was Men's Night on

February 7, when husbands of present and former board members did a take-off on a board meeting with Dr. A. N. Dawson presiding. He was assisted by Arthur Jewell, Ike Metcalf, F. J. Doudican, and Elmer Geist. Participants and costumes had been a closely guarded secret; hence Mrs. Dawson was startled and amused to see her husband arrayed in her best black satin dress, her large black hat with the red rose on the front of the brim and her boa furpiece tossed at a fashionable angle. The husband of each board member impersonated his wife, and routine business of the Club was highlighted with some ridiculous incident, the "piece de resistance" occurring when John McQuade, dressed as a cabaret dancer, applied for membership. With Victorian disdain he was unhesitatingly rejected. Four of the men did an amazing imitation of the Quartet, and the meeting adjourned when Dr. Dawson was handed a huge wooden key to the city. Another evening of wry humor was provided by the drama group, which gave its first production, "Stuffed Owls," with Dorothy Teare (Mrs. Wallace) in the lead. The Club continued to sponsor leisure activities for young adults, now giving them the use of the club rooms free each Wednesday evening for discussion groups, current events, bridge, and parties of their own planning.

October 1935 brought another major move for the Club when the Community Center Company engaged rooms in the building at St. Charles and Detroit, owned by Mrs. Leonard Schlather, who was eager to cooperate in making the new quarters as attractive as possible. Members were delighted with the large, bright auditorium, its seating capacity for six hundred, a floor suitable for dancing, an attractive lounge decorated in rust and green, and a kitchen with modern gadgets recommended by home economics experts.

On April 15, 1936, the Club celebrated its tenth anniversary, honoring Susan Doudican, guiding light and organizer of the Club, who recalled the group's early days and growing pains. Members of the College Club of Cleveland,



Executive Board, June 12, 1934. Standing: Mrs. R. W. Coltman, Mrs. Charles L. Delano, Mrs. John D. McQuade, Mrs. W. E. Benninghoff, Mrs. Jackson Blair, Mrs. William D. Gailey, Mrs. Brice Bowman, Mrs. Arthur Jewell, Mrs. E. A. Williford. Seated: Mrs. Anthony Poss, Mrs. Whitney Rudy.

who had given sage advice many years before, were invited to share the event and to see the organization that had grown from 93 members supporting four groups to 334 members and eight groups. In the fall the constitution was changed to limit membership to four hundred and omit the section on associate membership. Before the year ended there was a waiting list, an indication that the Lakewood College Club had become an important part of the community.

More groups began welcoming men to share their activities. The outdoors group asked men to join members for tobogganing, hay rack rides, and moonlight picnics. Men took an active part in dramatics, current events, bridge, and dancing; and in 1936 the Club formed a mixed choral group of almost fifty, directed by T. R. Evans. They made their first appearance a few months later and from then on were in demand for many events.

The Club was saddened by the death of Susan Doudican in England on February 1, 1937, less than a year after she had summarized the ten years' growth of the Lakewood College Club she had organized. Programs for the year touched on historic Mexico, old Peking, England, and an African safari with Dr. George Crile. The climax for the year was the Christmas program with the popular Quartet performing as usual, but with a new accompanist, Berneda Frackelton (Mrs. Ralph J.). Later Mrs. Bowman was replaced by Mrs. Mercein Dittes, who stayed with the group until it disbanded December 20, 1944.

The 1938 Men's Night was once again a take-off on a board meeting, entitled "Euclid Alone Has Looked on Beauty Bare." It poked fun at programs, and the important place bridge had taken. It was a delightful parody with digs at group chairmen and their husbands. No one admitted being the author, but the verses made one suspect that George Grill, assistant superintendent of schools, who was the narrator, had undoubtedly imitated some of Shake-

spere's rhythm and wit for his prologue. A few scattered stanzas herewith may indicate the flavor of the skit.

PROLOG

It hath been said by certain catty dames,
That programs have been slipping of late years.
There's loss today of former lofty aims,
And dewy eyes become suffused with tears.
The programs seem to have less punch, they say.
And less of paprika and pep and zest,
Than in the heyday of the Club's first May,
When men were men with hairs all o'er their chest.

Perhaps the children had behaved less well
Than brats in cultured homes should e'er behave.
For cultured brats sometimes behave like hell
And cause their fond mamas to rant and rave.
Whate'er the cause, the gossip's in the air,
The Board is in the doldrums, and the Ship
Of State lies on a windless sea, though fair,
Bereft of thought, of action and of ZIP.
Such gossip soon can kill the liveliest group,
E'en though a Queen Fish be its President.
And Mermaids and Mermen do shout and whoop,
And the luster of a Marjorie Jewell be lent.

And so tonight, with many a song and jest,
With quips and cranks and many a wanton wile,
With many a Rabelaisan verse, to test
The strength of stomach of the rank and file...
The cast will now present in full detail,
A meeting of the Board as it should be,
Depicting all the steps, which, without fail,
Should be took with Grace and symmetry.

Let now the velvet curtain pull aside,
Behold the Board prepared to do their act.
They're all about to be taken for a ride,
Some fantasy, you'll see, and much cold fact.

Note: Queen Fish refers to the president of the club, Mrs. C. C. Fish. Merman is for Mrs. Howard Meermans, and Marjorie Jewell for herself. Grace is for Mrs. Grill.

The thirties ended with apprehension as Club members listened to Marge and Art Jewell's first-hand report from England about black outs, bomb shelters, sandbags, and balloon barrages. Others told of bitter suffering they had encountered in Europe while on vacation. The future looked very bleak.

World War II and Aftermath

The 1940's witnessed a world holocaust with all the horrors of man's inhumanity to man, which awakened the United States to her global responsibilities.

After the collapse of Poland, Germany took over, one by one, nearly all the European countries and with the assistance of Mussolini invaded North Africa. Then with little warning she attacked and nearly conquered her own ally, Russia, and started intense aerial bombardment of England. Unless Britain and Russia received aid quickly, there was little chance of their holding out against Germany's might. Their defeat would make Hitler a very real threat to the entire Western Hemisphere. The United States therefore began to emerge from its isolation by joining with the South American countries in a mutual defense agreement and by sending fifty destroyers to bolster Britain's fleet. Because German submarines were destroying merchant ships as fast as they neared the English coast, the United States also sent heavily guarded ships with food and supplies to prevent starvation and possible annihilation of the British Isles.

While we were engrossed with affairs in Europe, Japan had gradually taken over a large part of China and was preparing to conquer rice and mineral-rich southeast Asia. The United States had sent verbal protests when the Japanese took over Manchuria and invaded China, but had continued to sell them scrap iron, copper, and machine

tools to carry on their wars. As American policy became more stringent, these purchases were prohibited and efforts were made to dissuade Japan from continuing her conquests. Believing it necessary to destroy the United States' naval power in the Pacific in order to carry out their conquest of Asia, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. Thus the United States was thrust unwillingly and unprepared into war, not only with Japan but with Japan's allies, Germany and Italy.

Now there was no time to lose, and mobilization was stepped up with feverish speed. Enlistments of both men and women increased and industrial production rose to an all-time high, especially in the building of planes and parts. With this wartime boom in production, every hand was fully employed. There was more money to spend now but few places to spend it, and people were persuaded to put their extra dollars into government bonds. Limited supplies of consumer goods brought about rationing of sugar, meat, and canned goods. As men were called into service, women replaced them in industry and offices. Housewives volunteered wherever needed: in Red Cross, Civil Defense, hospital work, the USO, teaching, and caring for children while other mothers were employed.

Fliers sent to England joined the British Air Force in continued bombing of German industry and transportation. In November 1942 a British-American army attacked the Germans and Italians in North Africa and forced them to surrender. Then came the surrender of Sicily and Italy, the liberation of France, and the final capitulation of Germany on May 7, 1945, less than a month after the death of Roosevelt.

President Harry Truman was now faced with the possibility of a long war in the Pacific against fanatical Japanese war lords. The President and his advisors had to make one of the gravest decisions in our history -- whether or not to drop the atomic bomb on Japanese civilian populations. On



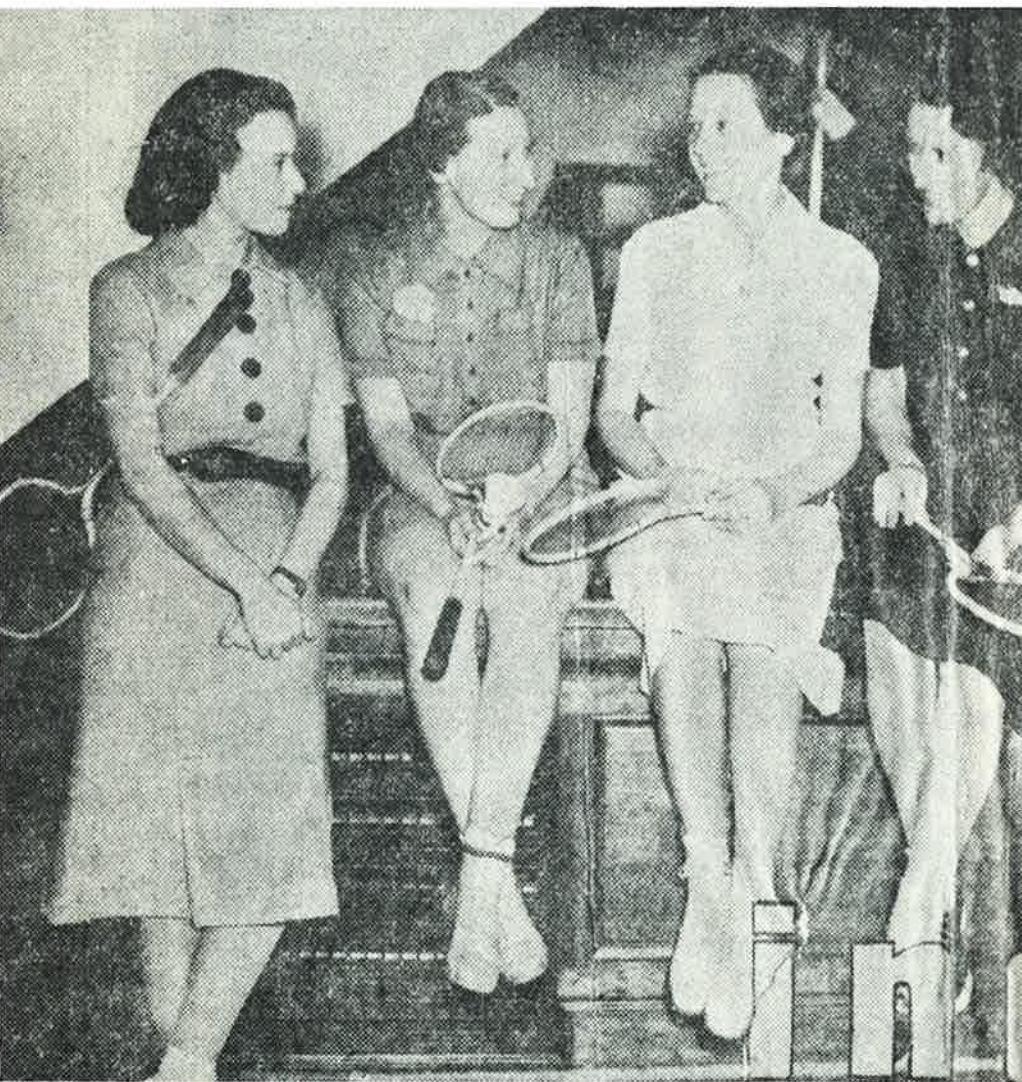
Outdoors activities, January 24, 1940. Snake dance on ice at City Ice and Fuel Rink: Mrs. Raymond Remler, Mrs. Allison LePontois, Mrs. R. W. Linden, Mrs. T. F. McDonald, Mrs. Bruce Wright.

August 6 and 9, 1945, Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed, forcing the unconditional surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945.

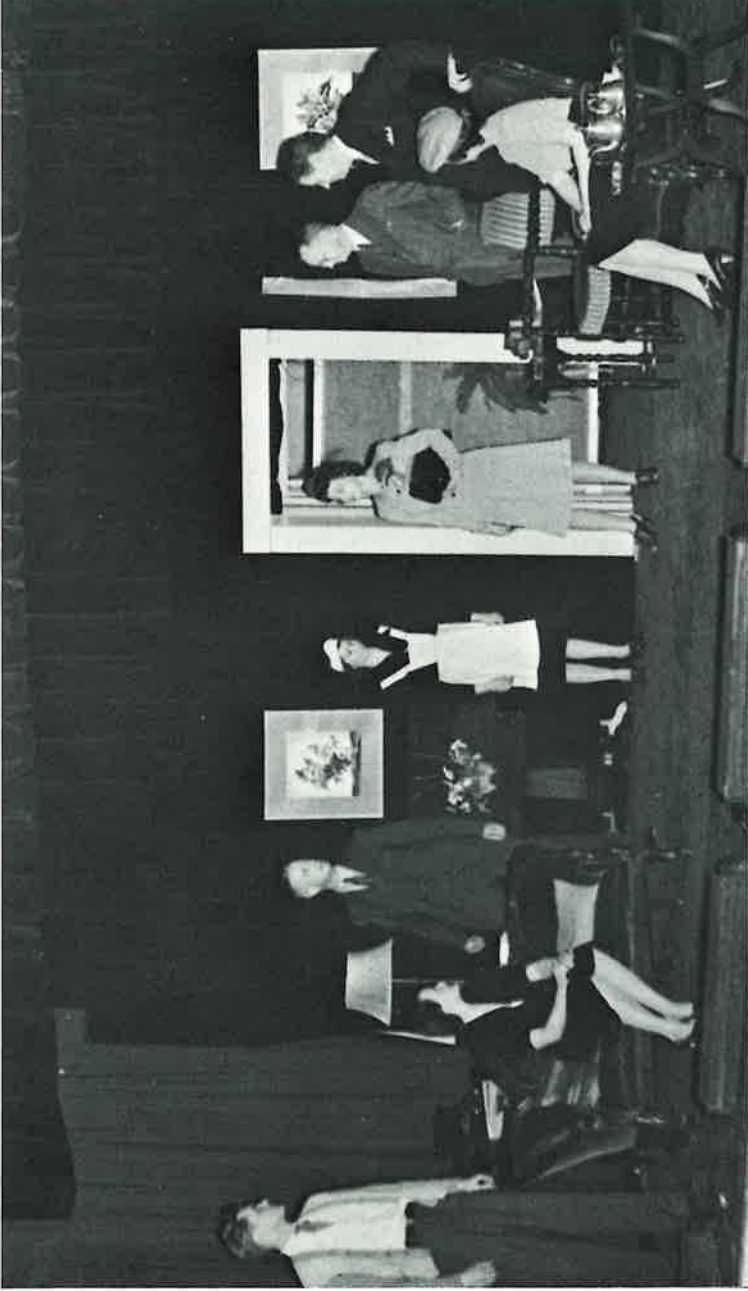
With the end of the war Americans had to make many adjustments. A return to normal living in the United States was urgently desired. Instead of a depression as many had expected, a period of inflation began. Employment was high and there was a pent-up demand for consumer goods -- refrigerators, washing machines, radios, and automobiles heading the list. There were also many demands for aid in war-torn Europe, which the Marshall Plan and UNRRA helped alleviate. Organized groups, churches, and individuals sent vast shipments of food and clothing abroad. While satisfying a long-repressed desire for material prosperity, most Americans were equally concerned with the maintenance of world peace for which they had fought so hard. To this end the United States helped to found the United Nations and became one of its strongest supporters. In the years following the war Soviet expansion also convinced Americans that they could never again live in isolation from the rest of the world.

Cleveland, which had been one of the leading suppliers of war materials, quickly converted its factories to peacetime demands for plastics, synthetic fibers, new foods, drugs, and insecticides. It still retained its lead as an iron and steel center, as a pioneer in electrical lighting developments, and in the manufacture of forgings, castings, and machine tools. It was known as one of the leading ports on the Great Lakes, attracting foreign lines regularly. It gained stature when the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics chose the Cleveland airport for headquarters to study flight problems and to continue research on aircraft engines. The National Air Races, quiet during the war, were resumed in 1946.

During these tumultuous 1940's Lakewood College Club members were aware, perhaps sooner than the average



Indoor activities, January 24, 1940. Time out for badminton: Mrs. Duncan Gage, Mrs. Paul Hoover, Mrs. Byron King, Mrs. Perry Hobbs.



Drama group production "The First Mrs. Fraser," April 1, 1942. George Martindale, Mrs. John C. Wertz, Edward Hanson, Mrs. Clyde H. Butler, Mrs. Harold Hodgkin, Herbert Gaeckle, Harold Hodgkin and Mrs. Hanson.

citizen, of the growing tensions in the world. One of the first travel talks in 1940, given by a Club member, Estelle Andrews (Mrs. A. S.) upon her return from a trip around the world, concentrated on the little-known areas of Ceylon, India, and Burma. The current events group led by Spencer D. Irwin, foreign affairs columnist of "The Plain Dealer," attracted over two hundred at a meeting, all eager to ask questions and enter into the discussion. A talk by Dr. George Hunt of Cleveland College on the Monroe Doctrine and the Western Hemisphere aroused concern over probable Nazi subversion in Latin America, and "Can Anybody Stop Japan?" by Gordon Enders, former foreign advisor to the Grand Lama of Tibet, brought everyone up sharply on the ambitions of Japan in Asia. In 1941 "The Tragedy of Norway," a hair-raising tale of escape from brutal Nazi rule, was recounted by the Honorable Theodor Brock, Mayor of Narvik, Norway.

The year 1942 was filled with war activity and reminders of the war. Even a dinner dance had place cards with a patriotic theme, individual hand-painted sketches of a nurse and soldier dancing together. College Club members were among the first to fill needed jobs in aircraft and parts factories; they answered the call for substitute teachers; they gave time and skill to an endless number of volunteer jobs in Civil Defense, as air raid wardens and fire fighters; they became Red Cross workers, travelers' aides, blood donors, citizenship teachers, and active victory gardeners. They discussed sugar hoarding, gas and tire shortages, rationing, and nutrition. They faithfully stomped on tin cans and turned them in for scrap collection. In January Mayor Kauffman gave a check for \$1,719.78 to the Lakewood Red Cross for these tin cans. A sizable sum for the war chest of the Community Fund was secured during a McGuffy program, featuring a spell-down and box lunch auctioned to the highest bidder. The drama group production "The First Mrs. Fraser," attracted a full house and re-

lieved some of the war tension. But members still followed the progress of the war daily and listened avidly to "The Battle of the Pacific" as related by Frederic S. Marquardt, Far Eastern Expert for "The Chicago Sun," and the "Pacific Triangle" as described by Syud Hossain of the University of Southern California.

By 1943 the war was hitting closer to home, as husbands, sons, and daughters enlisted in the service. Emphasis was placed on keeping calm and doing what was needed on the home front. Mrs. Robert Coltman was appointed war service chairman to coordinate and evaluate the entire war effort as it affected Club members. She noted that there was less card playing, more sewing, knitting, and canning of produce from victory gardens. Most fun for the year was a railroad station party held in the club rooms. A satire on wartime restrictions on travel, it depicted a busy railroad station in a period of great affluence, teeming with bustling crowds, plenty of Red Caps loaded with luggage, a Goofyville band, hobo artists, a barbershop quartet, and impersonators of celebrities, among them Gertrude Stein and Rosa Ponselle.

There were more calls for volunteers in 1944 from several agencies aiding the war effort. The Civil Defense office issued an emergency call for women to help in day care centers and for recreational leaders to work with adolescents. The Welfare Federation asked for volunteers to address envelopes, answer phones, type, and teach dancing, sewing, and cooking; and the Red Cross wanted staff assistants, home nursing helpers, motor corps drivers and people to sew and make bandages. At one meeting Congressman Frances Bolton brought touching stories from the hospitals in England and France. Another meeting featured a panel discussion by outstanding authorities on "The World at The Moment," and still another presented Kay Halle on "Washington Personalities." And David Dietz took a forward look with his subject, "What to Expect When The War Is Over," by describing new medical



Executive Board, June 6, 1946. Standing: Mrs. Howard Sprague, Mrs. W. A. Hartford, Mrs. George Young, Mrs. David Gilchrist, Jr., Mrs. Clarence Fowerbaugh, Mrs. James T. Ledman, Mrs. T. R. Evans, Mrs. James T. Hoffmann, Mrs. Paul Wagner, Mrs. Gordon Ridgeway, Mrs. Ray T. Kelsey, Mrs. Clyde H. Butler, Mrs. Bernard Vixseboxse. Seated: Mrs. Herbert Gaeckle, Mrs. F. T. Bowditch, Mrs. Julius A. Ruetenik, Mrs. W. Earl Monson.

advances such as penicillin, blood plasma and sulpha drugs.

War was still the center of everyone's thoughts in 1945. Lakewood College Club members manned a Blood Mobile unit. They listened eagerly to Ray Turk, war correspondent, just returned from the South Pacific, where he visited with the boys of Ohio's 37th Division. The surrender of Germany on May 7 was welcomed with subdued rejoicing, for there was still a war going on in the Pacific and it was not until the surrender of Japan on September 2 that vigilance could be relaxed.

Demobilization caused many workers to fear a depression; hence a wave of strikes sprang up in industrial sections of the country demanding higher wages and guaranteed benefits. One such strike upset the routine of all our Club members when Cleveland's three newspapers went on strike for thirty days from January 5 to February 6, 1946. April 6 marked the twentieth anniversary of the Lakewood College Club. It was celebrated by honoring eight members of the original board and bestowing an honorary life membership on Mrs. A. N. Dawson, the first president.

There were more reports in 1946 and 1947 of devastation and famine in Europe. Of special interest was the talk by Belle Greve of methods of rehabilitation as accomplished by UNRRA in Greece, where she had spent ten months. Music had always been a favorite with the Club's members and now with life in Lakewood getting back to normal, it became the subject of many programs. There was renewed interest in studying librettos under versatile Frances Kelley in preparation for the coming operas. Capacity audiences welcomed three popular programs: the two-piano recital by Frances McDowell and Florence Ruetenik, the Lakewood High "a capella" choir with T. R. Evans directing, and "The Significance of Christmas Carols," by Dr. F. Karl Grossman.

Two programs of 1948 indicated an increasing interest



Drama group production "Manana," May 4, 1949. Standing: William Furry, Charles Geiger, Tom Ferguson. Seated: Vickie Mink, Emily Geiger, Linda Overmyer, Mrs. Lester Drusendahl, Judy Flack (in front).

in the needs of our community as well as those of other lands. Frank Baldau spoke on intergroup relations in Cleveland, and Rabbi Brickner described the problems facing the new state of Israel.

By 1949 most people were weary of world responsibilities. They wanted their boys back home, they wanted more money to travel and to purchase some of the luxuries they had given up during the war years. Material prosperity seemed very important, and there was an urgent desire on the part of women to delve into the mysteries of investments and securities. This was the year Lakewood College Club dropped its current events group and started a new group on investments and securities, where members could study this complex field of making one's money work, an area previously considered the domain of men. The drama group provided evenings of fun on May 4 and 6 with the Pan-American comedy "Manana," a rollicking satire of the American tourist in a Mexican boarding house in glamorous Cuernavaca. It was filled with color, music, dancing, and south-of-the-border atmosphere. On November 16 the Club voted to make Mrs. Leonard Schlather an honorary life member for her many services to the community.

Although most club activities for the 1940's were influenced by the war, there were many light and pleasant occasions such as informal dances, dinners, picnics, trips to the art museum, concerts, and small group meetings where members shared their common problems and enjoyed the study of literature, book reviews, music appreciation, bridge, and crafts.

The Cold War

The 1950's dawned with a new set of problems, the most poignant and troublesome the waging of the cold war. Our good will toward Russia, when she was our ally, changed to fear and distrust after the war. Her leaders preached peace, prosperity, and equality, yet practiced subversion abroad and enforced severe inequalities at home.

The United States made every effort to establish a balance of power against Russia through defensive alliances such as NATO and SEATO and by giving economic and military aid to countries threatened by Communist take-over. Food and technical know-how were forwarded to European countries through the Marshall Plan; special aid was sent to Greece, Japan, and Formosa; and combat troops transferred to Korea and Berlin. A divided Germany still caused friction, and a precarious truce was signed in a still divided Korea in 1953.

Explosion of the first hydrogen bomb in the Pacific in 1952 increased world tension and brought home with frightening impact the lethal effect of a radioactive cloud which could spread death and destruction over thousands of square miles. When Russia, the following year, also exploded a hydrogen bomb, President Eisenhower proposed an international atomic stockpile to make nuclear materials available to all countries for peaceful research purposes and suggested that Russia and the United States permit mutual inspections of their installations. Russia, continuing

her crash weaponry and space programs, turned a deaf ear to the President's plea and in 1957 astounded the world by orbiting its Sputnik.

The policy of the Eisenhower administration throughout the 1950's was a combination of military resistance to communism, economic support for "free" nations, and constant endeavors to find a basis for real peace. The President and Congress advocated support of the United Nations as our best hope for peace, despite the fact that the Russian veto often frustrated United States objectives.

On the home front, television, scientific research, automation in industry, growth of the labor movement, increased status of women, demands for more education, and increased opportunities for Negroes, brought sweeping changes in the American way of life. Television seemed to have the greatest impact on the family. It came into its own with the Presidential conventions of 1952 and the election of Eisenhower, when men, women, and children in all walks of life were given the opportunity of viewing politics in action, of evaluating United Nations debates and crime investigations, and of becoming self-appointed experts on the problems of the world.

The merger of the AFL and CIO in 1955 brought together about 15 million workers whose demands for shorter hours, better wages, and fringe benefits brought a higher standard of living for its members. However, the merger did not prevent an economic recession in 1957-58 when layoffs in industrial plants caused serious problems. But an upturn in the economy followed a rise in federal expenditures for government housing projects, aid for private home building, an increased defense budget, and the expansion of Social Security coverage. Instead of the expected crash, prosperity increased, and with it came more leisure, more cars, more suburban shopping centers, more motels, more air travel, busier and more distant vacation spots. This was a period of exuberance and extravagant spending when

many people tried to keep up with the Joneses by lavish displays of bigger, chrome-encrusted, deluxe cars, expensive furs, and a split-level home in the suburbs.

Automation in industry brought demands for specialized education, more skilled workers, engineers, technicians, statisticians, and executives. But government aid to education was frowned upon, with the exception of the G.I. Bill of Rights for veterans. Communities feared that federal aid to schools would dictate school policies. The National Defense Education Act of 1959 helped to strengthen some phases of education by giving aid to guidance and testing programs, by furthering instruction in mathematics, science, and languages, by aiding needy college students, and by developing graduate study programs.

There were some surprising advances in medicine. The discovery of the Salk vaccine was wiping out dreaded polio. Penicillin and sulpha, which had reduced infection of wounds during the war, were now helping to combat diseases among civilians and were definite aids in increasing life expectancy, which in turn created another problem -- how to care for the growing elderly population.

The status of women was changing too. Many women held on to their jobs after the war, their ability recognized by employers who were reluctant to lose them. More executive jobs were being filled by women and an increasing number were entering politics.

This was a decade of conflict over civil rights. Having gained desegregation in transportation, Negroes were demanding voting rights and integration of schools. Non-violent marches brought their cause before the public, enlisted the sympathy of many whites, and convinced legislators of the need to enforce existing laws in favor of justice to all citizens regardless of color. This was only one of a number of civil rights struggles. Another was the campaign for civil liberties which centered on freedom of association and freedom of speech.

Reports of Soviet technological and military progress and their stepped-up space program gave our State Department some concern, and a request was made for a reorganization of our Department of Defense. In 1958 Congress made vast appropriations for the production of long-range bombers, nuclear-powered submarines, missiles and missile bases, and provision for space projects. To coordinate the space program NASA was established. The United States was determined both to contain Communist expansion and at the same time to work toward world peace.

While the world hung on the precipice of nuclear war, many Americans were preoccupied with the rapid growth of their cities. Cleveland's downtown was changing rapidly. The Illuminating Company and East Ohio Gas Company buildings brought "modern," standardized curtain-wall construction to downtown Cleveland. Entire sections of the area were evacuated for the Erieview project, and other slum areas were cleared for freeways and urban renewal. With the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway, ocean-going freighters were entering the harbor, and the Lakefront Airport made downtown Cleveland a more attractive headquarters for businessmen on the go. The exploding metropolitan population made it imperative that suburban shopping centers with plenty of parking space relieve the congested downtown shopping area. Large downtown stores had no choice but to build branches in these suburban centers. Euclid Avenue to East 40th Street witnessed a major change during this decade, as the beautiful mansions of another generation were gradually replaced by modern industrial buildings. University Circle churned with activity as new buildings or additions were constructed for the museums, universities, and hospitals.

Lakewood was slow to change, but the 1950's brought destruction of the last pioneer homes with the exception of the Nicholson homestead and the Oldest Stone House. And

modern apartments along the lake and in other parts of the city meant much-needed increase in the tax duplicate. In April 1953 Lakewood joined other communities in celebrating Ohio's sesquicentennial with a pageant, exhibits, a parade, and dedication of the Stone House as a museum. Lakewood High opened its new student center and gym, and at last the municipal swimming pool was constructed, its long delay due to the scarcity of metal brought on by the accelerated defense program and the lengthy 1951 steel strike. In 1956 Lakewood Library's new addition and renovation was completed with much fanfare, and in 1959 the new Municipal Building was dedicated, the first new city hall in the community's history.

Despite the appeals of more mundane affairs all around them, Lakewood College Club members maintained their interest in political and cultural developments. They chose expert speakers on foreign affairs and tried to keep abreast with advances in medical science, the labor movement, civil rights, and education. In March of 1950 Dr. Younghill Kang, Korean author and authority on Far Eastern civilization gave an enlightening talk on the psychology of East and West. In April Miss L. E. Ebeling, personnel director of Sherwin-Williams told about the International Labor Conference in Geneva, where she represented management's viewpoint. This unusual managerial responsibility illustrated the continued improvement in the status of women which had begun during World War II. Later in the month Dr. Carroll H. Lewis who had been with Bradley's First Army in charge of displaced persons and concentration camps impressed his audience with his Formula For Freedom, after seeing thousands who had no liberty. In September Miss Dorothy Rupp, a Lakewood teacher, told of her life as an exchange teacher in France. She explained the French educational system, and stressed her belief that people from other countries must know each other as friends if they wish to have peace.

In 1951 Dr. Joseph Remnyi discussed how writers and poets mirror the problems of Europe. Dr. Claude S. Beck, famous heart specialist, presented his color film on heart surgery, illustrating one of the recent wonders in medical science. Bernice Goetz astounded everyone with her daring account of a woman alone in the jungle, describing her travels by dugout, canoe, and on foot through the jungles of Columbia and Brazil. The College Club celebrated its 25th anniversary with a skit, a surprise return of the popular Quartet, and a brief history of the Club's minutes of the past 25 years by Mary Gaeckle (Mrs. Herbert).

In April 1952 Elinor Kemper Wolf, a lovely young lecturer, economist, and world traveler spoke on Operation Democracy. She had served with UNRRA and was prominent in various philanthropic, educational and political organizations. In September five new groups were added: American Heritage, Music Participation, Stay Young, Tailoring, and Tusitala (writing). In October Seth Taft, nephew of Senator Robert Taft, presented important issues in the fall campaign and the qualifications of state and national candidates. In November Morris Barr, director of the Melbourne Conservatory of Music, who was engaged in making a world survey of music education, told about Australian culture.

The first long-range planning committee was appointed in 1952 with Mrs. Alfred S. Andrews as chairman. Its purpose was to study and investigate suggestions received from the membership that had bearing on the future of the Club. Some of the suggestions concerned groups, newcomers, and hospitality, but the most important one was "a home of our own." This was thoroughly explored with visits to all places available to rent or buy. Members were polled for ideas and contributions. The sentiment was against buying a home and contributions were small (72 people contributed a total of \$632.00). In 1948 when the building at St. Charles and Detroit was sold, it was nec-

essary to find other quarters on short notice. Mrs. Andrews again headed a new planning committee, composed of all past presidents living in the Lakewood area and the five outgoing members of the 1958 board. Of all the places explored, the new Lakewood YM-YWCA came closest to desired specifications, and arrangements were made for its use as College Club headquarters. The final recommendation was to use the "Y" for most meetings but engage the Rocky River Memorial Hall for events that attracted exceptionally large audiences.

In 1953 Major William R. Hutton, M.C., foreign correspondent for the London Daily Mail in Moscow, related some of his harrowing wartime experiences as a spy in Russia and Egypt. Don Ebright, just returned after seven exciting years in India, brought fascinating stories of his associations with people of various religions and social classes and his interviews with political leaders. In October Mrs. George M. Young was appointed chairman of the endowment fund. A new venture this year was publication of a newspaper called "The 500 of Lakewood College Club," its purpose to build interest and cement friendship. Only four issues were published in 1953 and 1954 and one in 1956. In December Tusitala sponsored an eight-week course in creative writing with Irv Lieberman. Just before Christmas Mrs. Jonathan Baker organized a club choir to sing nationality carols for the holiday meeting.

An account of a South American journey was brought to the group in January 1954 by three traveling members -- Mrs. E. M. Shelton, Mrs. Clarence Fowerbaugh, and Mrs. Alfred Andrews. "Cuckoos on the Hearth," a mystery comedy with unusual and sinister characters, was the drama group presentation for the year with Helene Geiger (Mrs. Charles) and Dana Bailey taking important parts and Evelyn Broker (Mrs. Thomas) as the director. Sally Banks (Mrs. Harold) had an interesting story to tell of her ten-month stay in Venezuela when she accompanied her husband



Drama group production "Cuckoos on the Hearth," March 26, 1954.
Dana Bailey, Mrs. Charles Geiger.

on a construction assignment. In October the Lakewood College Club voted to become a corporation, adopted a code of regulations, and elected directors and officers. The Herbert Gaeckles took the group via film on their 25,000-mile air trip. At the Christmas meeting a gift book of original stories and verses was given to each member by the Tusitala writers.

1955 was a light year with spring decorating, spring fashions, a style show and bridge, a musical, an evening with the poets, and a glimpse of the "Family Album" with cartoonist Ed Kuekes and his wife.

On January 2, 1956, the Club mourned the loss of honorary member Mrs. Leonard Schlather, its good friend and landlord at the Community Center building. The following month her attorney informed the Club that Mrs. Schlather had left a legacy of \$5,000 to be used for "something of lasting value."

"African Roundup" brought movies of the Stouffer safari on behalf of the Cleveland Zoo. On the Club's 30th anniversary in April a "College Club Cruise" featured the recent travels of Mrs. Harold Lamb, Mrs. Jonathan Baker, and Mrs. Andrews. A change in the Constitution boosted membership to 550 and granted honorary life memberships to past presidents who had been members for 25 years. In October there was a tour of Lakewood churches and in November a summary of world affairs by Benjamin Brown of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs.

In 1957 members heard about Dr. and Mrs. Adalbart Magyar's trip to Hungary; the colorful dances and music of Japan by Sahomi Tachibana; "Moby Dick" as interpreted by Rev. Chave McCracken; and life on an island in a remote lake in northern Ontario. Dan T. Moore, internationally known counterspy, traveler, and author told of his experiences in the Boiling Pot of the Middle East. A local affairs panel brought the latest news about the community with C. Robert Carr as moderator and participants Mayor Frank



New Year's Day: family party and tea dance, 1958. Watching the Peppermint Puppeteers: Amy Lawrence, Paula and David Brentlinger, Tommy Bennett, Bobby Zack (in foreground).

Celeste, School Superintendent William B. Edwards, Dr. George Drew of the Lakewood Congregational Church and Tom Haley of KYW-TV. A do-it-yourself Christmas workshop with leaders giving demonstrations at various tables proved most popular.

On New Year's Day 1958 at the annual party and tea dance, the young children of members had the most fun as they watched Mrs. Ralph Foeking's Peppermint Puppiters in "A Present for the Princess." In March a science panel, "The Layman Tries to Understand Today's Science," brought expert instruction from Dean Karl McEachron of Case Institute, Dr. J. A. Krumhansi of the National Carbon Research Laboratories, and local surgeon Dr. R. W. Kapp, with Paul Brentlinger as moderator. On February 19 papers were signed which initiated sale of the Community Center building for over \$90,000. The four groups involved all relinquished their right to purchase, the company was dissolved, and each club found other quarters. In May there was a progressive dinner for members only, with courses at four homes and dessert and card party at the Community Center.

1959 brought a variety of events and presentation to the "Y" of a mirror and four coat hanger racks, as well as the use of three platforms and steps. Lectures included a lesson in beauty by hair stylist Jo Portoro, early Ohio architecture by Pat Ingram, a trip to Russia with Dr. George Drew, and around the world with Dorothy Fuldheim. In November Margaret Butler was appointed the Club's first historian and made custodian of all the scrapbooks and records not in use by chairmen. The decade came to a close with a Christmas luncheon featuring talented member Mrs. Willard Sander reading "The Gift of Christmas." and the choral group singing favorite carols.



Knit-Wits meet to sew, knit, or mend while a member informs them on new books, current events, stories, and poetry; October 4, 1959. Mrs. Hugh Hawthorne, Mrs. Ralph Foecking, Mrs. Jack S. Davis, Mrs. William Littell.



Furniture refinishing, October 4, 1959. Mildred Gleason, Mrs. Donald Paine, Elsa Kraemer.

A New Era

Charter members of the Lakewood College Club never dreamed of an age when, via communications satellite and television, one could view the spires of London one moment, the fountains of Rome the next, and the streets of Paris the next. It would have been hard to believe in the 1920's that someday one could board a plane in Cleveland and arrive in New York an hour later, or fly across the entire country in a super jet in about three hours. They might have labeled as impossible machines that could solve immensely complex mathematical problems or translate Russian into English. Most spectacular and hardest to believe would have been the space programs of both Russia and the United States.

On February 20, 1962, John H. Glenn became a hero overnight when he completed his three-orbit flight around the world. Causing even more excitement was the amazing space walk of astronauts Edward White and James McDivitt outside their orbiting space craft in June 1965. But the space program of the United States was not designed just for national prestige or military superiority; it was also aimed at increasing knowledge about our atmosphere and outer space and improving weather data and global communications.

In the early 1960's Nikita Khrushchev inaugurated a radical new departure in Russian foreign policy and in Marxist theory. Now, he said, communism would triumph

not by violent revolution but by demonstrating its economic superiority over capitalism. With both the United States and Russia recognizing that nuclear war was unthinkable, severe conflicts between two super-powers -- the U-2 incident, the Berlin Wall, and the Cuban crisis -- were resolved without resort to war. But the more radical Chinese, labeling Russian policies as a "revisionist" betrayal of the Revolution, stepped up their efforts to encourage brushfire "wars of liberation" in the underdeveloped, newly-independent nations of Africa and Asia. Thus, both the United States and the USSR became entangled in the frustrating turmoil of civil strife among peoples whom neither fully understood. The prospects for world peace seemed to be growing dim in the mid-sixties.

At home, President Lyndon B. Johnson carried on and greatly expanded the programs inaugurated by John F. Kennedy. The war on poverty, guarantees of civil rights, federal aid to education, Medicare, and programs to combat illness, urban blight, and pollution were all aimed at rectifying some of the most urgent problems the nation faced. At the same time the nation's economy continued to expand at a remarkable rate.

Cleveland in the 1960's was completing some of the improvements started in the preceding decade. There was further progress on the Erieview project, new freeway construction, a new Cleveland State College, and additional improvements in the University Circle area.

Lakewood called attention to its history with a spectacular fiftieth anniversary celebration February 17, 1961, when 400 people, many of them Lakewood College Club members, their husbands and children, participated in a pageant depicting the beginnings of the city in 1911. The Westerly, Lakewood's first apartment for the elderly, was opened in 1963, and life on Lakewood's Gold Coast with its luxury apartments, glass-enclosed lounges, sun decks, swimming pools, and marinas was attracting many East Siders. After

years of controversy, the Clifton-Westlake Bridge was finally dedicated in January 1964.

The 1960's brought a great variety of programs to Club members. With no great cause to champion, no war or economic depression, this might be identified as a period of adjustment to a new era, a search for basic truths and self-expression. The March 1960 bulletin listed thirty special groups any member might join, catering to every possible interest, including antiques, book reviews, current events, literature study, great books, music appreciation, choral work, drama, furniture refinishing, flower arranging, creative writing, travel, bridge, bowling, and various crafts to name a few. The two general meetings each month also catered to a variety of tastes. In January Dorothy Ruth and her husband Paul displayed art objects and costumes and gave a vivid description with color slides of their 28 days of living in Japan with a Japanese architect as their host guide. In February members learned how to decorate with antiques and were given an opportunity to quiz an investment panel of experts. In October Ed and Thelma Winters, famous sculptors, illustrated their method of making enamels. Holiday ideas at Hixon's Barn furnished a fascinating afternoon with practical suggestions for December decorations.

In January 1961 Mrs. Harold Lamb took members on a delightful "Shopping Trip Abroad," and Kent Weeks held them spellbound with his account of a Fulbright scholar in New Zealand. In September there was intriguing music by a Lebanese group, and in October Warren Plohr of NASA, who helped train astronauts for their first journey into space, explained Project Mercury and its slogan, "Bring 'em back alive." Ellis V. Rippner told the group what they should know about wills and Norman Shaw of "The Cleveland Press" led a discussion about Freedom of the Press -- Do We Have It? December brought the Hermit Club Choral Group and "Christmas Customs around the World."



Mrs. Paul Ruth brings back a bit of Japan, January 20, 1960.

The 1962 programs showed an increasing concern with world affairs. A book review on "Revolt in Paradise" gave an accurate picture of Bali and Indonesia and the rise of Sukarno. Dr. John B. Crane, syndicated columnist, told about Russia from the inside upon his return from an extensive tour. There was a touching story, "From Refugee to American Citizen," by Mrs. Warren Eastham, who suffered seven years of Nazi domination in Czechoslovakia, was evacuated by the Russians, made her way to Germany and then to the United States. In April members took an armchair tour by jeep around the world with Ted Bumiller. In November Don Bolt, CBS commentator, gave a clear picture of Latin America, the powerful unknown.

In 1963 the Club heard about a teacher's life in China, the Boiling Pot of the Middle East, Latin America and you, our role in a changing world, and the great need for CARE packages in underprivileged areas. Appreciation for the home town was brought by Meredith B. Colket, Jr., director of the Western Reserve Historical Society, with his pictures of famous old Euclid Avenue homes, and by Harold E. Wallen's talk, "Spring Comes to Rocky River Valley." There were several social events, such as the spring dinner dance at the Mid Day Club, a dessert luncheon, a dance with midnight breakfast at Thirteen Colonies restaurant, and relaxation in listening to the touring play readers of the Play House Women's Committee. On November 22 the shocking news of the assassination of President Kennedy stunned the whole world and deeply saddened all Lakewood College Club members.

In 1964 Madame Rajan Nehru, a cousin of Jawaharlal Nehru, interpreted the changes that have taken place in India over the past decades; Zelma George traced the song heritage of the Negro; Mark C. Schinnerer told of his latest experiences in the Soviet Union; and Dr. Lucy Jen Huang described the changing family life in Communist China.

In 1965 Miss Hazel Fitzgerald entertained the Club with

her unorthodox method of traveling in Europe and Asia by burro, camel, elephant, horse, rickshaw, helicopter, or flying boat, often sleeping in tents or native huts. Ken Armstrong gave a factual description of South Vietnam, land of ambush, where he followed activities of the troops and the natives. Dickey Chapelle, foreign correspondent, told her story behind the story of violent action and human suffering in the wake of war since 1942. Art took the spotlight when Marion Bryson demonstrated her water-color technique; Edris Eckhardt told of her rediscovery of the ancient art of gold glassmaking, lost for 1500 years, and how she made use of this medium in the modern art world; and Jacques Maloubier presented his Paris Sketchbook, reflecting the spirit of Paris, its artistic past and present, its paintings, music, and zest for life.

Because of the brevity of this Lakewood College Club history, it was impossible to list the many volunteer contributions made by members to the community. They have served as presidents or officers of PTA units, Lakewood Board of Education, Lakewood Library Board, Lakewood Little Theater, Lakewood Historical Society, Lakewood Garden Club, Lakewood and greater Cleveland hospital boards, clubs and welfare organizations, church organizations, the Radio-Television Council, Lakewood and county political organizations. Among its members are musicians, artists, authors, poets, and feature writers. Three members have been cited as Outstanding Citizens of Lakewood: Mrs. Arthur Jewell in 1941 for her exceptional work with the American Red Cross; Mrs. Clyde H. Butler in 1949 for her history of the community "The Lakewood Story"; and Mrs. Andrew Ewing, who received a joint award with her husband in 1951 for years of service in guiding youth at Lakewood's Hi-Tac Canteen.

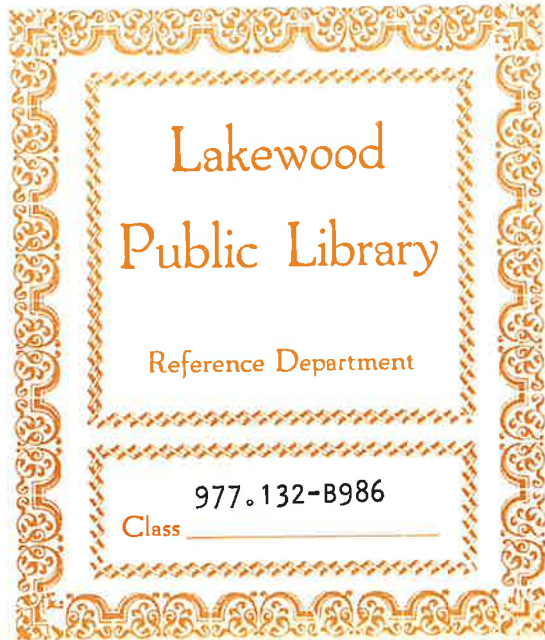
On Lakewood College Club's 40th Anniversary, April 1966, it is fitting to appraise the Club's worth. No other period in American history has covered such a wide span

of changes. Charter members have literally lived through and shared events from the horse-and-buggy days to the space age. They have learned to adjust and revise their thinking from Victorian ethics and self-satisfied United States isolationism to a respect for other cultures, creeds, and colors and to view all nations of the world as neighbors. For the past forty years the Club has grown in stature and has filled a needed place in the community. It deserves a salute on this birthday.

PRESIDENTS

- 1926-1929 *Mrs. A. N. Dawson
1929-1931 Mrs. I. S. Metcalf †
1931-1932 Mrs. W. E. Roberts †
1933-1934 *Mrs. W. A. Rudy
1934-1935 *Mrs. Anthony Poss
1935-1936 *Mrs. Jackson Blair
1936-1938 *Mrs. Charles L. Fish †
1938-1940 *Mrs. H. H. Bosworth
1940-1942 Mrs. Hadley F. Freeman
1942-1943 *Mrs. Thomas M. Smail
1943-1944 *Mrs. Ralph J. Frackelton
1944-1945 *Mrs. Alfred S. Andrews
1945-1946 *Mrs. W. Earl Monson
1946-1947 *Mrs. T. R. Evans
1947-1948 *Mrs. Julius Ruetenik
1948-1949 *Mrs. F. T. Bowditch
1949-1950 Mrs. George M. Young
1950-1951 Mrs. John R. Milligan
1951-1952 *Mrs. Herbert W. Gaeckle
1952-1953 Mrs. Carey Mann
1953-1954 Mrs. Fred V. Mink
1954-1955 *Mrs. Thomas M. White
1955-1956 Mrs. W. G. Bartenfeld
1956-1957 Mrs. Ben Dobben
1957-1958 Mrs. L. G. Drusendahl
1958-1959 Mrs. Richard Nielsen
1959-1960 Mrs. Paul Brentlinger
1960-1961 Mrs. Roger Middlekauff
1961-1962 *Mrs. W. B. Heiser
1962-1963 Mrs. W. B. Edwards
1963-1964 *Mrs. Harold W. Lamb
1964-1965 Mrs. Richard J. Collins
1965-1966 Mrs. Harry L. Fichter

* Life member † Deceased



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