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Chapters in Action

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Chapters in Action —



ASWA members telling "all" to women majoring in accounting at Central Missouri State College are, from left to right: Virginia Huntington, C.P.A., Florence Jones, Grace Berkley, Carmoleta Field, Moderator, Hildred Pendleton, Josephine Dahlin, President, Kansas City Chapter, and Mary Stoes.

Guidance in Action —

To interest and provide guidance for young women in the accounting profession is a major objective of the Kansas City Chapter of ASWA. The Education Committee arranges a dinner meeting each year on the campus of a college or university, within a 50-mile radius of Kansas City, with women accounting students and faculty as our guests.

In February, our chapter held a dinner meeting at Central Missouri State College at Warrensburg, Missouri. Twenty-two women accounting students and six faculty members were our guests. Mrs. Mildred M. Lass, accounting instructor at the college, gave a review of the accounting curriculum and apprenticeship training program at Central Missouri State College.

A panel discussion by our own members on "Opportunities for Women in Accounting" was a feature of the program. Our moderator, who outlined the trend of women in the profession, was a practicing accountant and accounting instructor in our local Junior College. It was pointed out that in 1940 there were an estimated 18,265 women accountants in the nation as against 55,660 in 1950. Women were only 8% of all accountants in 1940 as compared to 15% in 1950. A recent Kansas City wage survey by the U. S. Department of Labor shows, "Hand book-keepers were the highest paid group of women office workers." This, together with the average salary of women accountants as compiled in a preliminary report from a questionnaire sent to ASWA and ASWCPA members, gives a real incentive to women to enter the profession.

Our past-president related the history of our organization, emphasizing its purpose. Other members of the panel, representing various phases of accounting, told of the duties and responsibilities of their positions. One of the main points brought out by the panel was that "Adaptability" is a great asset in bridging the gap between the educational training received at college and the practical situations encountered in offices. Recent copies of "The Woman CPA" and the booklet "To Be Or Not To Be a CPA" were distributed to the guests.

It was the consensus of opinion of those present at the meeting that we had accomplished a good public relations job and clarified for the students the qualifications for and the responsibilities of our profession. We feel that to continuously promote a cooperative relationship with colleges in our area and to provide guidance and information to students on opportunities for women in accounting is a sound method of maintaining our prestige in the profession. We are all looking forward to next year when we will visit another campus.

—Carmoleta G. Field
Kansas City, Missouri