

C. Child Care Threatened With Cuts

Hempstead Sentinel, September 27, 1945

Mothers Urge Operation of Child Center

There is a definite need for the continuation of the Hempstead Child Care Center and working mothers are willing to pay increased fees to assure its continuation after October 31 when the Lanham Act funds stop, according to sentiment expressed

There were 50 working mothers present at the meeting out of the total of 58 whose 73 children are now enrolled in the center. They voted unanimously that there is a need for the center to remain open after October 31.

Wives of men who are still in the service, who have 35 children in the center, mothers still employed at war plants, nurses, telephone operators, and owners of small stores urged the continuation of the center and vouched for its continued need.

Of the 73 children now registered at the center, 35 are from homes where the father is still in service, six are from homes where there are no fathers, eight are from "broken" homes and two from homes where the father is unemployed.

The center can be operated after October 31, without causing any increased taxes to property owners The increased fees, with state aid and federal lunch money and the usual local voluntary contributions will be sufficient to operate the center

The Hempstead child care center opened September, 1942 and operated until April, 1943 on voluntary contributions. In May, 1943, federal and state aid started.

Questions:

1. Why was a child care center started in Hempstead?
2. Whose children were cared for by the center?
3. Why were women fighting to keep the center open?
4. In your opinion, should child care have continued after the war? Why?