

Definition of the Home

By

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THE home is a most important factor in the life of an individual. And its influence has very much to do in his development. Take, for instance, a child of the best heredity and the best native endowments brought up amid unfortunate circumstances or undesirable home conditions. Compare him with another child of average heredity but whose childhood environment was more desirable. This second child will undoubtedly develop to be the better man, the better citizen.

This example certainly shows the place that the home takes in a country. This being the case, it is but important to know what a home is. Volumes have been written about "home" and that it should be. All the authors agree that a true home should not only satisfy the human needs, as food, shelter, and clothing, but it should also satisfy these needs in accordance with the rules of right and healthful living which pre-supposes order, propriety and charm, so that it might bring about the life lived in honor and happiness—the supreme goal of all men. Since a home is a group possession, a home may mean a rest place for all, a work place for some, a place for free expression, a place that offers opportunity for creative work, a place to rehearse and to show off, a place to cooperate, a place where one receives encouragement and the best guidance, and a place which satisfies those who live in it.

Lila Bones describes an ideal home as a place which is
"Economically sound,
Mechanically convenient,

Physically healthful,
Morally wholesome,
Mentally stimulating,
Artistically satisfying,
Socially responsible,
Spiritually inspiring,
Found upon mutual affection
and respect."

The demand of our country is for women who can make real homes, who do not consider house work a drudgery but a pleasure and a duty, who plan their work so they save time and energy, who have time for play and rest, who do not do their house work after a certain prescribed way just because that way was their mothers' way, but are alert and are ready to change their home making methods to follow the progress of the homes in progressive countries; women who are aware of their duties and responsibilities, who can make their homes the most beautiful, interesting and pleasant place to live in, women who can make homes that will turn out desirable citizens—loyal, peace-loving, industrious, law-abiding citizens that our Commonwealth will be proud to have.

Let me quote to you what Justin and Rust said about the influence of the home to the nation.

"The influence of the home has long been recognized as a powerful force in the life of the nation. The individual citizen, being a product of the home, reflects directly in his own standards of living the ethical and intellectual standards, as well as the physical standards, of his home. To the extent home standards are high, the standards of the na-

The summer Home Institute for Girls which started April 15th closed May 29th with seventy girls receiving certificates. About 180 girls enrolled, but for some reason or another some failed to continue the course. Others continued, but failed to comply with the prescribed program requiring regularity and punctuality of attendance, accomplishment of some work, proper spirit with which the work was done, and volunteer service. Judging from the oral testimonials which formed part of the program during the closing exercises, and the written testimonials submitted to us, the girls really feel that they have accomplished much through the Institute.

Certificates were also awarded to the women who have diligently attended and worked in the different diet kitchens.

The Institute closed with a program. Miss Aune Guttrich, who spoke on the significance of the pioneer work and Miss Orosa who spoke on the home were honor guests. Extracts of Miss Orosa's speech are reproduced on this page.

At the close of the Institute, rugs, garments and other interesting objects which the girls accomplished while taking the summer course were exhibited.

The following testimonials which they submitted were very encouraging:

"The cooking demonstrations have inspired me so much that I do the cooking at home which I never did before."

"After some weeks' attendance at the Institute my husband and children were surprised at the general improvement in the house; and some of my friends who could not attend that Institute felt quite envious."

"The first thing I learned was economy—the wise use of money, time, and energy."

"At first I hesitated to enroll because of my age, but desirous of obtaining knowledge that will contribute to a better home, I finally gathered courage, and enrolled. Notwithstanding the fact that I enrolled quite late, I have learned so much that I wish I were present on the very first day of the Institute."

The girls were unanimous in wishing that the Home Institute will be offered every year.

tion are raised. It has often been stated that the greatness of America lies not in the granaries, filled with corn, nor in the railroads stretching across the continent, nor yet in mighty armies. The greatness of America lies in the American home.

"If the greatness of the nation is to be built not in the victories of armies, nor in the strategy of statesmen, but in the successful functioning of the millions of home-

making partnerships throughout the country, then knowledge of the functions of these partnerships and the ability to solve the problems arising in their development is vitally important to our people."

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