

NEWS LETTER

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No. 2

Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World



NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK

National Home Demonstration Week, May 2-8, again brings home to us the significance and importance of its theme, "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World," a topic of real concern to every person living in these trying times.

In an effort to emphasize National Home Demonstration Week attempts will be made to draw the attention of Americans to what the rural home has contributed toward progress and a better world.

The philosophy of our organization is to teach the use of talent, time, material and money to the best possible advantage in helping the homemaker solve her problems.

Home Demonstration Club work is by far the most inclusive organization of today; neither race, nor creed, nor social, nor financial condition is a barrier to membership. Special effort is made to reach the women from remote communities who are most likely in need of improved home-making practices.

Most noticeable is the fact that wherever Home Demonstration work is carried on, we see club women gaining techniques and skills which are helping them make their homes more convenient and more attractive; their family life one of richer experience and more valuable service.

Women are being trained in cooperation, leadership and in many other ways that will help them carry on in other activities of school, Church and community.

Millions of rural women today are concerned with the problems of health, medical facilities, education, recreation and housing; and they are faced, too, with the more common problems of food, nutrition, gardens, poultry, home dairying, food preservation, home furnishings, family life, clothing and home management. Through the concentrated efforts of Specialists and Home Agents rural women are being instructed in all these, and their homes are undergoing changes for the better.

It is right and most fitting that we should set aside one week in which to focus the attention of our whole nation upon the great work being done by the Home Demonstration Clubs in thousands of rural communities of our land, for so much of our greatest strength and hope for the future lies in these homes.

Beulah V. Apperson, President
N. C. Federation of Home
Demonstration Clubs.

Let's Go Forward

Once again you home demonstration club women are cooperating in a Nation-Wide celebration of home demonstration work. The time is May 2-8. Did you know that your organization is the largest adult education organization of its kind in the world? It is. More than 3½ million women will, in different ways, tell a story of how club work is bettering today's home for a better world of tomorrow.

You have every reason to be proud of your long and worthy history, and I know it is a privilege you welcome to present a report of achievement to the people who give both financial and moral support in its maintenance. You can salute the past with considerable pride and satisfaction, but you must face the future, a challenging one, with great concern and circumspection. Home demonstration work has had an infancy, childhood, and adolescence. Your organization has the largest membership with the widest geographic spread, and the best organizational inclusiveness in its history. All of this sounds mighty good, doesn't it? But let's not settle back and talk about our past. We're "Half-Way Up and Half-Way to Go." Home Demonstration work in an atomic age has a new setting and certainly should have new objectives, a new pattern by which to work and grow.

We must lengthen our scope, we must work in broader fields and we can, with your cooperation. This pattern should be designed to meet the felt needs of more people—the masses—the ones who really need help most. Won't you accept this challenge as officers, leaders, and good followers? Let's resolve during this week of celebration to give every aspect of home demonstration work in North Carolina a new momentum, a new and irresistible appeal, a new vitality. You can if you want to.

Ruth Curent,
State Home Demonstration Agent.

Mrs. Glen Duncan, past President of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, has been appointed Chairman for the Health Committee of the National Home Demonstration Council.

NEWS LETTER

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 demonstration club women.

The Executive Board Meets

The Executive Board and Directors of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs met on April 2nd and 3rd in Raleigh.

Mrs. George Apperson, President, presided at the business sessions.

Plans were made for 1948 Farm and Home Convention and for the Annual State Federation Meeting to be held on September 2nd.

Mrs. Raymond Sayre, President of the A.C.W.W., will be the guest speaker on the Federation Program, September 2nd.

She Shared Her Prayer

Keep us, O God, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face without self pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Let us take time for all things; make us grow calm, serene, and gentle.

Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are as one.

And may we strive to touch and to know the great common woman's heart of us all; O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

Miss Stewart dedicated this prayer to the Associated Country Women of the World.

This beautiful collect is not only used by home demonstration clubs

International and National Presidents
Talk Things Over

Mrs. Raymond Sayre, Ackworth, Iowa, (left) elected president of the Associated Country Women of the World at the recent meeting in Amsterdam, Holland, discusses plans with Mrs. J. Wayne Reiner, Morgantown, West Virginia, who has completed two years as president of the National Home Demonstration Council. Mrs. Sayre will be the guest speaker for the N. C. Federation program on September 2nd, 1948.

throughout the United States, but it is the official prayer for clubs in Canada and Great Britain and for Associated Country Women of the World. According to Mary Cotten Davenport, past president of N. C. Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, this is the history:

"The above collect was written neither as a creed nor a club collect, but as a personal prayer. Mary Stewart wrote it in 1904 as a prayer for strength and guidance. She had just graduated from the University of Colorado and was beginning her first position as principal of the Longmont High School in Colorado.

"The prayer must have been a source of inspiration for her because her life was one of service and devotion.

"In the early 1900's when she was dean of women in the University of Montana she became associated with the National Federation of Women's Clubs. She took an active part in the early struggle for woman's suffrage, as well as equal rights for women in educational institutions. In 1919 she helped organize the National Business

and Professional Women's Club and served on the national board of that organization until her death.

"In 1928 Miss Stewart was employed as assistant director general of the Employment Bureau in the Department of Labor, and as assistant director of Education of Indian Affairs in the Department of Interior. Shortly before her death, she retired and went home to Ohio.

"Miss Stewart offered her prayer for use as a collect for women's clubs because she felt that women working together with such wide interests and for such large ends was a new thing under the sun with need for special petition.

"Woman's horizons are ever widening and her field of service is now as large as the universe. Regardless of that change, Mary Stewart's collect will always have its own niche in the 'great common woman's heart.'"

Tulsa, Oklahoma, will be the site of the next meeting of the National Home Demonstration Council and Country Women's Council in October, 1948.

1948 Officers for the National Home Dem. Council



Left to Right, sitting: Mrs. S. S. Studebaker, Ohio, secretary; Mrs. Jo Wayne Reiner, West Virginia, president; Mrs. Chas. Gray, Michigan, treasurer; Standing, Mrs. C. E. Bausman, Ind., central director; Mrs. J. A. Randle, Mississippi, southern director; Miss Jennie Williams, Wyoming, western director. Officers not included in the picture are Mrs. Clyde Taylor, Arkansas, vice-president, and Mrs. J. Atlee Armour, Maryland, eastern director.

NATIONAL PROGRAM

Please study the National Program to determine if North Carolina and your Club are carrying out the program as adopted last Fall at the meeting of the National Home Demonstration Council members.

Following is the Seven-Point Program as adopted:

1. Promote a study of the world food situation as it relates to international understanding and world peace. Relate this study to fulfill our responsibilities in obtaining world peace.
2. Study and interpret the objectives and purposes of U.N.O. giving emphasis toward the study and support to certain programs with U.N.O., namely—UNESCO and FAO.
3. Promote a health program with particular emphasis on some definite health problem, such as
 - a. Health as it is affected by housing;
 - b. Health as it is affected by nutrition;
 - c. Health as it is affected by medical facilities and service.
4. Study proposed legislation as it affects the rural family, both from the

national and international standpoint.

5. Give emphasis to safety—
 - a. In the home;
 - b. On the farm;
 - c. On the highway
6. Work toward interesting young women in training for professions closely related to rural welfare, particularly home demonstration work.
7. Develop a year-round information program to tell the story of home demonstration work.

PEACE

I think the greatest peace is found
 By those who live near to the ground,
 Who find their work and play and rest
 Close to the kind earth's warm, brown
 breast;
 Who work with flowers and trees and
 grain;
 Who feel the summer sun and rain;
 Who hold dumb creatures in their care,
 And plan for them a daily fare;
 Who read with understanding eyes
 The changing message of our skies,
 And see in earth, from sky to clod,
 The open living books of God.

Mary E. Rock.

International Children's Emergency Fund

Mrs. George Apperson, President of N. C. Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs called the attention of the Home Demonstration Club members in North Carolina to the International Children's Emergency Fund for the relief of children in wartorn countries.

Contributions to this fund now amount to \$443.52. Wilson County alone contributed \$105.92 and Rutherford County \$80.80.

Bishop Clare Purcell sent Miss Mildred Sedberry, Home Agent in Rutherford County, the following letter from a mother which shows the need of the children in the war-torn countries.

Somewhere near Bastogne
 Dear Fellow Christians:

Yesterday the old pastor of our neighboring town was here. He is the only pastor for miles and miles around. He is taking a census to see how many Christians are still available for a Congregation. In our town, which once numbered 12,000 there are now 4,000 left. Only 82 are able-bodied men. Over 2,000 are children. Our family of five all signed up to belong to the congregation. They already have over 900 who can help. Our eldest is a boy of 15. The three girls are younger. I sometimes wonder if I shall raise them all.

I got much help from the pastor's visit. He tells me I am not alone in my night troubles. You see, the children so often have bad dreams and nightmares. First one wakes and screams. Soon all are wild. One cries, "There! There! O hurry! There goes a jeep. Run! Maybe Americans will throw away food." Then they run down the hall and I must catch them lest they fall from fatigue. I quiet them. I put them to bed again but for hours I hear their empty stomachs growl. I hear their teeth grind. I hear sobbing in the night. Sometimes I think I cannot stand it. Then often I seem to hear my husband's voice saying, "Now, now, Anna, be brave. I am counting on you."

The day brings hope again. Last week our boy worked 60 hours opening graves. It meant a meal a day and sometimes something in his pocket for us when he came home. The government is doing all it can to prevent epidemics. The graves are dug ready now before the freezing. Into them will be placed those of us who will not survive the winter for want of food and clothing. It is a sobering thought but we do not talk much of it. We all realize it cannot get worse, and there

(Continued on Page 4)

"There Are Two Seas"

"There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh, and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it, and stretch out their thirsty roots to sip of its healing waters.

"Along its shores the children play, as children played when He was there. He loved it. He could look across its silver surface when He spoke His parables. And on a rolling plain not far away He fed five thousand people.

"The river Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. And men build their houses near to it, and birds their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

"The river Jordan flows on, south into another sea.

"Here is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy above its waters, and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink.

"What makes this mighty difference in these neighbor seas?

"Not the river Jordan. It empties the same good water into both. Not the soil in which they lie; not the country round about.

"This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another drop flows out. The giving and receiving go on in equal measure.

"The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously.

"It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps.

"The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. This other sea gives nothing. It is named The Dead.

"There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine!"

Bruce Barton expressed his thought in the above article taken from the April, 1928, "McCall's Magazine."

Which Way

To every man there openeth
A way, and ways and a way.
And the high soul climbs the highway
And the low soul gropes the low
And in between, on the misty flats,
The rest drift to and fro.
But to every man there openeth
A high way, and a low—
And every man decideth
The way his soul shall go.

—John Oxenham.



RUTH CURRENT

1947 Woman Of The Year

The Home Demonstration Club members in North Carolina were pleased that their State Home Demonstration Agent, Miss Ruth Current, was selected in January 1948 by the Progressive Farmer as the 1947 Woman of the Year.

Because of Miss Current's excellent leadership the club members recognize this as a well deserved honor—and are looking forward to her guidance in the coming years.

Visitor From Sweden

Americans are the world's friendliest and best-fed people! That is one of the impressions expressed by Miss Elsa Lindstrom, Halmstad, Sweden, after seven months of touring the United States.

Miss Lindstrom is here for a year's study of American methods for streamlining housework. The U. S. has figured out more answers to that problem than any other country, says Miss Lindstrom.

An Extension worker for the Swedish Department of Agriculture. Miss Lindstrom says one of her country's major problems in rural areas at present is keeping girls from leaving the farm to go to the city to work. The only way to do this, she says, is to make farm life easier and more attractive.

Although American homes have much more labor-saving equipment than Swedish homes, living standards are on the average higher there. About 95 per cent of rural homes in Sweden have electricity, while only 50 per cent of rural homes have electricity in the

United States. However, she points out, the cost of electrical appliances in Sweden is 50 per cent higher than here.

According to Miss Lindstrom, Extension work in Sweden is similar to the work done in this country. Extension in Sweden is a cooperative enterprise as in the United States.

National Program

(Continued from Page 3)

is the hope that help will come. We can endure all things through Christ who strengthens us.

We wonder sometimes how things are with you. You too have had a war. You too must have suffered much. Tonight when my little ones cry I will comfort them saying, "This day I wrote American friends. I told them of our daily life. Now, my little one, you must be brave. Perhaps help will come. Sleep well. American friends are counting on you to keep the faith."

Across the waters we send you all that we have, our faith. Yes, we have kept the faith and it has kept us. May you keep it too.

Sincerely your fellow Christian,
Anna Schmid.

P.S. This morning our littlest one, Anna Marie, did not wake up. Now we are four. Sometimes I wonder . . .

"What we need now is the faith to believe that all peoples of this earth possess a common decency, a common set of wishes, hungers and emotions, a common value and a common goodness in the eyes of the Creator."

National Home Demonstration Week will be observed May 2-8, 1948.

REMEMBER FARM AND HOME CONVENTION
AUGUST 30 through SEPTEMBER 2

The day will bring some lovely thing,
I say it over each new dawn:

"Some gay, adventurous thing
To hold against my heart when it is gone."

And so I rise to go and meet the day
With wings upon my feet.

I came upon it unawares,
Some hidden beauty without a name:

A snatch o' song, a breath o' pine,
A poem lit with golden flare.
High, tangled bird notes keenly thinned

Like flying colors on the wing.

No day has ever failed me quite,
Before the grayest day is done,
I come upon a misty bloom,
Or a late line or crimson sun.
Each night, I pause remembering
Some gay, adventurous lovely thing.