

NEWS LETTER

Vol. 4

Raleigh, N. C., January, 1949

No. 1

The Homemaker As A World Citizen

By MRS. NORMAN JOHNSTON
Rt. 2, Benson, N. C.

For a few minutes, will you think with me on the subject of the Homemaker as a World Citizen. Most every-time we read the newspaper or listen to the radio news, we hear such phrases as "atomic age", "changing world", "World peace", "Threatening War" and such like. And I wonder, if you, like me become quite bewildered and wonder if our reason for being is in vain. Our grandmother's life was bounded on the north by "What shall I get to eat", on the south by "What shall I wear", on the east by "What John thinks", and on the west by "What the children said or did". Now, whether we like it or not, we are citizens of the world.

Now, we, as homemakers, must not only look well to the ways of our households, but there are two forward steps we must take: The first step is education for citizenship. We must continue our own learning processes, or our own education. We must continually be learning the habits and customs of our neighbors, friends, races and peoples the world over so as to arrive at a better understanding of each other.

Women must enter more actively into another phase of education, that of the legal side in respects to the education of our children. How many of you are members of your local school committees, on county board of education, on the State board? We need to do our share in the formal legal side of education. We have taken our place as teachers. It is time we yield our influence in the development of better teachers, in the selection of good teachers and equipment for our children in our schools. Secondly, we need to step forward in the field of politics and take our place. We need to become politically effective. We need to express ourselves after having studied political issues and candidates who are in the running. If we think politics are *dirty* it is time we do something about them.

I do not wish to leave the thought in any of your minds that I think women should rush in and take over and run education or politics. Neither

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JANUARY ISSUE

News Letter Committee hopes that the January issue will be of help to you in the February Program on "Take Time To Be A Good Citizen."

Fortified

By GRACE NOLL CROWELL

I have never seen disaster crush them quite:

*Those families who rear
Their altars underneath small sheltering roofs,
And year by year*

Trust God, and serve him, seeking advice,

*And waking by his Light,
Though there be grief and hardship they must meet,*

I have never seen disaster crush them quite.

I have never known divorce to break a home

*Where a man and woman pray
Kneeling together by their fireside
At the close of day,*

*Or reading in the early morning there,
God's word to help them through*

The hours ahead I have never known divorce

To break such homes, have you?

*A man and woman and their children,
side by side,*

Heeding God's word, are truly fortified.

What Does Home Demonstration Work Mean to You?

One farm woman's evaluation is:

"We learn the value of time, the success of perseverance, the pleasure of working, the dignity of simplicity, the worth of character, the power of kindness, the influence of example, the obligation of duty, the wisdom of economy, the improvement of talent, the virtue of patience, and the joy of originating."

Excellent Response to "The Crusade for Children"

Mrs. George Apperson, President of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, saw the great need of children in Europe during her visit to Europe in the Fall of 1947. Infant mortality had jumped to 330 deaths per thousand, compared with the United States rate of 38.3 per thousand.

Tuberculosis had doubled in many areas, especially among children. Lack of food had vastly increased such diseases as rickets, scurvy and pellagra.

Mrs. Apperson appealed to the Home Demonstration Club members in North Carolina to share from our bounty with the children in these countries. Club women could not say "no", so "Give a Chick and Save a Child" became the slogan throughout the State. Mrs. Eva U. Person, State Federation Treasurer, reports that the fund for "The Crusade for Children from the Home Demonstration Club members now totals \$2,937.26. We were glad to share with children of other lands. This was a splendid thing for the Home Demonstration Club members to do. Congratulations.

"What use is the best of all possible worlds if children do not exist?"

March Of Dimes

What can we do for our own children's protection against infantile paralysis? Last year Home Demonstration Clubs in North Carolina contributed \$8,179.00.

During 1948 the National Foundation sent to North Carolina 60 percent more than to any other State in the Union to take of the 2506 cases of polio within our borders.

The National Foundation funds are exhausted. There are cases now in North Carolina needing attention but funds cannot be secured until after the "March of Dimes". What will Home Demonstration Club members do for our own children?

1949 FARM AND HOME

CONVENTION

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 demonstration club women.

Our Communities

Our communities will only be as fine as the love we have in our hearts for the fine things of the community. We must love our communities into places of larger life and fuller beauty.

Our communities will only be as fine as our eyes see all that is fine in them; and we can, with keen imaginative eyes of hope and faith and vision, make new communities of our old communities.

Our communities will only be as fine as in our courage we will make them fine; and by our courage the communities can be changed into the kind of communities we want them to be. For we build communities, as we build our lives, by dreams and by ideals and by daily work.

For nearly all of us Courage, Adventure, Beauty will only come to us where we live. Here or nowhere else on earth we shall find them.

—Charles W. Pipkin.

(Continued from page 1)

was instituted for either male or female. They were instituted for all. We should, as homemakers, be willing to achieve unity. Homemakers should be willing to concern themselves with real issues and to work realistically at the place where those issues are being decided.

We must, if we become good citizens of the world, start at the beginning. And if you remember anything I have said, it is my hope you will remember this:

“As a man thinketh, so is he”—
 paraphrased “What a homemaker thinketh, so is she.”

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MRS. MALCOLM BYRNES, President of the National Home Demonstration Council

Mrs. Malcolm Byrnes of Ethel, Louisiana, was recently elected President of the National Home Demonstration Council in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She succeeds Mrs. J. Wayne Reiner of Morgantown, West Virginia. Mrs. Byrnes has served three years as Vice-President of the National Home Demonstration Council, and has been a member of the National Council for eighteen years. Mrs. Byrnes lives on a 125-acre farm. The new president has three children. Malcolm 18, is a sophomore at Louisiana State University; Mary Eleanor, 15, and Anne, 10, are still at home. All three have been active in 4-H Club work.

There Are Homes

*So long as there are homes to which
 men turn*

At the close of day;

*So long as there are homes where
 children are,*

Where women stay—

*If love and loyalty and faith be found
 Across the sills—*

*A stricken nation can recover from its
 gravest ills.*

*So long as there are homes where
 fires burn*

And there is bread;

*So long as there are homes where
 lamps are lit*

And prayers are said

*Although a people falter through the
 dark—*

And nations grope—

*With God Himself back of these little
 homes*

We have sure hope.

THE HOME AND COMMUNITY

—Mrs. O. J. Smyrl, President
 South Carolina Council of
 Farm Women
 Camden, South Carolina.

A good home is the sweetest place on earth. It is the foundation of all our national life, the hope of the future peace and brotherhood of the world, and our eternal anchor. The home is the first and best school for training our future generation and leaders of tomorrow. Science would tell us there is no defense against the atomic bomb, but they are wrong. One million good homes can make it unnecessary for the world to fear atomic or any other kind of warfare. Just one generation of children brought up to love God, respect the rights of others and to express good will and friendliness toward others because they had learned it in the play pen of their own homes, would build a world in which the brotherhood of man was not just an intellectual abstraction, but a living, breathing reality, because the children would be living it in all their relationships every day of their lives. If then the peace and brotherhood of this world depends on us as mothers, on the kind of home we make and the kind of children we rear, how important and far reaching are our duties and responsibilities.

To me it seems that our greatest concern for our future welfare as rural women should be for a greater number of good, sound, united homes, where Christianity is taught, where love reigns. It is still true that “A nation is no greater than its homes”. So if we are to have a great nation and a peaceful world we must strengthen our homelife, and the task is ours as homemakers. The challenge is so great that we must tremble when we think of it.

We are horrified when we read of the increasing number of broken homes and realize what it does to the lives of the children of those homes. We are inclined to blame the automobile, the picture show, cocktail parties, and cards and liquor for breaking up an ideal institution; yet actually nothing disintegrates except from its own inner emptiness. It takes a lot of living in a home to make a home. There is a great lacking somewhere in the meaning and purpose for establishing these homes. There are two essential things we must teach our children if we would have right world citizens for tomorrow.

I. Devotion

There must be a deep and abiding love between the members of a family.

The trouble with too many people is that they were not lovingly enough raised themselves to know how to be good parents, or even good enough husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, or friends, neighbors and citizens of the world. Most people will find it difficult to admit this even to themselves, yet our present day civilization bears testimony that many people have been brought up by parents who were inadequate for the job, unable to love their families enough or to teach them the fine art of living and loving.

Not only do the mothers of today need to foster love for one another in the home, but there is a real vital need for the teaching of devotion to God and all Christian virtues. The world will have no fear from war and all its evil when homes have family altars, when the Sabbath is observed and Christ and His word is taught.

Then there is also the duty of teaching brotherly love for all men by precept and example in the home. Here the parents can lay a sure foundation for peace and understanding. If children are taught to live together in peace and harmony in the home, and to have respect for the rights and privileges of others there will be far less chance of their infringing on the rights of other people on through the rest of life, and nation would also respect nation. Yes, it is the duty of the home "To bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it".

The second thing we must teach our children, if we are to have the right citizens of tomorrow is

II. Discipline

Now I do not mean necessarily punishment. However, I do think that punishment for wrong behavior, when rightly and wisely administered, is good in its place and valuable lessons are learned and remembered that otherwise might be forgotten.

The home is a splendid place to teach the child discipline in the fundamental things of life. If a task is given to a child in proportion to his ability, then he should never be allowed to leave the job half done just because he gets a little weary of it. If a task is worth doing it is worth doing well.

The home, too, is a fine place to learn the lesson of disciplining ones self in steadfastness and loyalty. Here a child can learn, early, loyalty to family and friends; and a high purpose even in the face of suffering. Here the child is taught to stick to what he believes to be right. Too many people are too easily led into the wrong way, are too easily per-

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP RECOGNIZED

Their Combined Service Represents 52 Years



MISS
FLORENCE COX

MRS. ELIZABETH
L. TUTTLE

MISS
FLORA McDONALD

Pictured above are the three Tar Heel home agents who were recognized at Chicago, December 1 for their outstanding service as home agents for ten years or more. Miss Cox, Halifax County's home agent, has served in this capacity in Halifax, Hertford and Polk Counties for the past 21 years. Mrs. Tuttle has served the homemakers in Forsyth County for the past 17 years. Miss McDonald began work as home agent in Moore County in 1934 and has remained there since that time.

sued to do the wrong thing because they were never taught to discipline themselves, were never taught true values.

The home would do well, too, if it taught the young child the value of right living, clean lives, pure hearts and Christianlike characters. We hear of much delinquency now among our youth. Yet, any right, sound-thinking person has to admit the fault is not so much with our youth as the homes in which they were raised. The greatest number of criminals are young people, and one of every three marriages is broken.

The task of the mothers of our coming generation is certainly a big one, but there is no other career so rewarding. She does not work with clay or stone, but with living souls and future lives and characters. Yes, the hand that rocks the cradle still rules the world and determines the future peace and brotherhood of the world.

Not only does the rural woman have duties and responsibilities as a world citizen in her home, but in her community also. Here she may put into practice the lessons she has been teaching in her own home. Here she can set a fine example of working together with her neighbors for the common good of all. By pooling their efforts more can be accomplished, for in unity there is strength. By working together rural women can secure better Churches, better health, good clean recreation for all. Through club work

she not only learns to be a better homemaker and citizen, but is able to use her influence to help others and to demonstrate what neighborliness can mean to the world. As she works with others in her community for a more abundant home and community life she is setting a fine example for her children; and, too, she is doing her bit as a world citizen to promote brotherhood and establishing world peace. Yes, our only need to banish forever the fear of any future war is enough good homes in which Christianity is taught and lived. This should be our 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. And O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD LOSES OUTSTANDING LEADER

Country women the world over mourn the sudden death of Mrs. Alfred Watt at the home of her son, Sholto, in Montreal, Canada, on November 29th, 1948, at the age of eighty.

A life of activity directed towards the improvement of living conditions for rural women is ended.

Widowed in 1913, she took her two young sons to England where, at the request of the British Government, she organized Women's Institutes for the specific purpose of increasing and conserving food supplies during World War I.

Mrs. Watt's outstanding executive ability was seen at its best in her work with the Associated Country Women of the World—the international organization of women's groups in many lands devoted to the betterment of rural living. She was one of the founders of the A. C. W. W. and became its first president. She held that office from 1933 until 1947 when she retired and became its first Honorary President.

Following the Washington Conference in 1936, Mrs. Watt toured the world visiting in their homelands the many societies affiliated with the A. C. W. W.

During the Second World War, she convened a Regional Conference in Ottawa for member societies on this side of the Atlantic.

As recently as May, 1947, she flew to England to address the Annual Meeting of the National Federation of Women's Institutes. In September of that year she presided—in her usual gracious and capable way—at the Fifth Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World held in Amsterdam.

Her memory will linger long in the hearts of her friends and the "Million Members" of THE A. C. W. W.

(Continued from page 2)

What people do is largely a matter of what goes on deep in their hearts. It is the homemaker, the mother, who builds values into the hearts of the family. She instills their attitudes or prejudice, intolerance, and selfishness—or gentleness, nobility, and faith.

A part of a Chinese saying goes like this: "If there is harmony in the world, there is peace in the home. If there is peace in the home, there is love in the heart."

(Continued column 3)

Associated Country Women of the World Goals

To cultivate international understanding and friendship; to create appreciation of talents and achievements of the People in all countries; to study their varied contributions to culture, and to the beauty and wealth of One World.

To maintain the highest ideals of home life; to share growing knowledge of home-making at its best; to place service above comfort; to let loyalty to high purposes silence discordant notes; to be discouraged, never; to let international neighborliness supplant hatreds.

To so guide children that their minds may be clear, their spirits happy, their characters generous, and their good will so genuine that Peace on Earth, for which the People yearn, will come to pass.

To pledge allegiance to righteousness in relations between countries; and to help build a better civilization, through fidelity to the United Nations, with abiding faith in its promise of more abundant life for all Peoples.

These are Goals of the Associated Country Women of the World.

Dr. Ruby Green Smith
Cornell University

A Little Parable For Mothers

By TEMPLE BAILEY

The young mother set her foot on the path of life.

"Is the way long?" she asked.

And her guide said: "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning."

But the young mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, and gathered flowers for them along the way, and bathed with them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this!!"

Then night came, and storm, and the path was dark, and the children shook with fear and the mother drew them close and covered them with her

mantle, and the children said, "Oh, mother, we are not afraid for you are near and no harm can come," and the mother said "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

And the morning came and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there". So the children climbed and when they reached the top they said, "We could not have done it without you, mother". "This is a better day than the last for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I have given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth—clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled, and the Mother said, "Look up! Lift your eyes to the light!" And the children looked and saw above the clouds and Everlasting Glory, and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the Mother said, "This is the best day of all for I have shown my children God!"

And the days went on, and the weeks went and the months and the years, and the Mother grew old, and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong and walked with courage. And when the way was hard they helped their Mother, and when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather, and at last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates open wide.

And the Mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them." And the children said, "You will always walk with us Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A Mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living Presence."

(Continued from Col. 1)

We are not old-fashioned in lowering our hemlines if fashion decrees it. Are we going to be old-fashioned in becoming good world citizens?

Annual Meeting of North Carolina
Federation of Home Demonstration
Clubs—Thursday, August 11, 1949