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Uniting Home and Community Interests

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Uniting Home and Community Interests

By Mrs. H. W. Spaulding

Written for Better Homes of America Campaign in Ames, Joanna M. Hansen, Chairman

The influences in modern life affecting the home are creating problems that can be solved only by combining home and community affairs. The right cooperation between the home and community must be maintained if both are to function properly.

What takes place behind the scenes in our home affects for good or ill the communities in which we live. The ideals of the community but reflect the family life. Public libraries, art, town beautifying, the religious life of the community and even our public schools owe their very existence to the high ideas maintained. The home should be and is a redeeming influence in the community life. Child welfare is first of all of home interest and how quickly it becomes a community problem and at once changes to Public Welfare. A crime committed in the community affects all homes and so the home links up with the problems of delinquency. Our Mothercraft must extend into the community.

Great is the responsibility of the homemaker of today, as it is on the homes that the whole structure of our future government rests. In this connection we have brought to our attention the importance of law enforcement in the community, brought about through the influence of the home and school. Every true mother and homemaker is making a study of foods and clothing and all things pertaining to the morals of her family, but her interests extend beyond all this. She knows the importance of each home in the affairs of the community and she is constantly considering the wisest ways of financing, of beautifying and making more attractive the home. She is placing in that home the labor-saving devices within the reach of the moderate income. She is also investigating the most efficient sources of education and the activities with which she may cooperate most successfully in making the home of greatest value to the community, at the same time giving to her children the ideals which shall fit them for citizenship of a high order and homemaking of the finest type.

It is to help foster and encourage all this that the Model House is being demonstrated in many communities and Ames is to be congratulated upon her efforts in this direction. Already the Ames Demonstration House is receiving much favorable comment and will certainly be productive of lasting good.

Better Homes in America Campaign—May 12 to May 21

One of the most vital and far-reaching projects of the year is that of furnishing the Better Homes House. This is the third year that the interior house design classes in applied art and the household equipment classes of Iowa State College have, in cooperation with the merchants of Ames, furnished and equipped the “Better Home.” The youth of the city have been actively engaged in assisting in this project. The high school girls, under a home economics trained teacher, have furnished the girl’s room, and a committee of boys selected by the Boy Scouts, conferred with the college girls in applied art in furnishing the boy’s room “just as a boy’s room should be furnished.” The room was indeed a success from the boy’s standpoint. The owner’s room was furnished with old furniture that had been done over, and the hooked rugs, table, and dresser cover, wall hangings and accessories were, with the exception of the pottery, made in college classes. The room, although very simple, fairly sings with color, cheer and happiness. The Boy Scouts and Campfire girls have planted trees according to landscape plans. Experts in many lines have given radio talks and written articles.

High school girls and high school boys were entertained by two of the local women’s clubs and the 100 Campfire girls invited the 400 4-H club girls to the house. The Better Homes committee, consisting of Misses Henderson, Russell, Rhoads, O’Bryan, Waugh, Proctor, Brashear and the chairman, Miss Hansen, representative women of the city and the college girls acted as hostesses. Five thousand persons visited the house during the week of Veilsho, the college celebration.

In addition to the Ames Better Homes House, the Ellen H. Richards Home Management House, which con-
maintains a nursery, and the interior house design laboratory and had an apartment of four rooms furnished, were open to visitors. The three different types of home furnishing projects were part of the Home Economics Open House during Veishea.

Health, child care, spiritual and intellectual growth, the wise use of leisure, the development of fine appreciations and the enjoyment of a simple home which contains the elements of comfort and beauty, may in one project be unified.

Lita Bane

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provinces of Canada. At this time she assisted in formulating organization policies, and represented the American Home Economics Association in the Women's Joint Congressional Committee.

As the first recipient of the Ellen H. Richards fellowship awarded, Miss Bane the following year, 1925-26, studied at the University of Chicago and Columbia University. At present she is teaching primarily a training course for extension workers and household administrative courses dealing with economic and social aspects of home economics at the University of Wisconsin.

Miss Bane is a member of Gamma Phi Beta, social sorority, Omicron Nu and Phi Upsilon Omicron, national honorary home economics sororities, and Kappa Delta Pi, honorary educational fraternity.

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Simple Table Service for the Home

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but cook it so that the family will want to eat it. It does not require elaborate methods to prepare simple, attractive and wholesome food. The morale of the family is raised when good, well selected meals are carefully served.

Service—The kind of menu planned will determine the service, in part at least. The housewife should adopt a service that will make it unnecessary for her to leave the table during the meal, except for just a moment or two.

A serving table or a table to her right, can hold extra dishes and silver, and when possible, the dessert, in order that she may stay seated. The food should be served at the table by the man of the family; a pitcher of water and the bread may be placed near some other member of the family, so there will not be any necessity for anyone to rise until it is time to remove the soiled dishes, before the dessert is served. The dessert may or may not be served at the table. If it is of the kind that can be placed on the serving table before serving the meal, then it can easily be placed in front of each person, or passed. A tea-wagon is most helpful to the woman who has no help in serving. This can be wheeled in with the extra dishes, silver, and food, and be taken out with the soiled dishes.

A woman tired with preparing an elaborate meal and serving it does not make an interesting table companion for either the family, or guests, if there are any.

Simple food well selected in regard to body needs, for each member of the family, wholesomely and appetizingly prepared, served attractively on a clean, well arranged table, will do much to build up a good and happy home life.

What the Warm Day Waffle Will Wear

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1 ½ cups flour
⅛ tsp. ginger
⅛ tsp. soda
1 tsp. baking powder
½ cup melted butter

Beat eggs until light, add sugar, melted butter, molasses, sour milk and dry ingredients which have been sifted together twice. Beat until smooth and bake on waffle iron. Serve with sliced