

## THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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Manuscripts offered for publication from those interested in our state educational problems should be addressed to the editor of THE VIRGINIA TEACHER, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

## EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

### HOME ECONOMICS MOVEMENT DEFINED

William Hard in 1910 in his *Women of Tomorrow* called the home economics movement "an attempt to bring the home and its occupants into the scientific and sociological developments of the outside world."

### LAUNDRY RESEARCH PROBLEM

During November the Home Economics department of the Harrisonburg State Teachers College made an investigation for the Virginia Laundry Owners Association to ascertain the reasons why Virginia housewives do not send more of their clothes and household linens to the commercial laundry. The questionnaire method was used for securing this information. Two thousand questionnaires, listing the usual reasons that are given for not patronizing the commercial laundry, were sent to housewives in various parts of the state. Space was also provided for housewives to give other reasons than those suggested. The response to these questionnaires was unusually gratifying and the results obtained most interesting.

A report of the investigation was made at the mid-winter meeting of the Laundry

Owners Association of Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia, at Danville, December 7-8, by Miss Julia Robertson, associate professor of home economics, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg.

A summary of this report appears in the February issue of *Laundry Age*.

### NEW BOOK ON HISTORY OF COOKERY

*A Source Book in the History of Cookery* has just been completed by Myrtle L. Wilson, associate professor of home economics, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg.

This book presents a fairly definite picture of the evolution of food preparation as well as the cultivation of food-stuffs. The advance that civilization has made in table etiquette is shown also to be due largely to the improvement in table service.

The arrangement of the material is in chronological order, namely, primitive, ancient, mediæval, and later, including American Colonial. Legends and stories are included which make otherwise commonplace statements about food-stuff take on a different meaning for those who must prepare and serve the daily meals, or for those who must instill into the minds of children and young people an appreciation of this homely task.

The book is designed as a textbook for classes in the history of cookery, and will be of interest to all those who are interested in foods.

### AMERICAN VOCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Miss Julia Robertson, associate professor of home economics, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg, attended the annual meeting of the American Vocational Association in Philadelphia, December 13-15.

Among the themes discussed at the home economics section sessions were:

1. Attaining Desirable Qualities of Leadership.
2. The Home Management House.



### 3. How Can Home Economics Be Made More Interesting to the Adolescent Girl?

#### RESEARCH IN HOME ECONOMICS

The fundamental purpose of the home economics education section of the American Home Economics Association is research.

Among many interesting research problems that are being pursued is the study of science courses as related to home economics courses in schools and colleges. The committee working on this subject considers two projects necessary: one, to determine the science needs of home economics courses in colleges and universities; and the other, to determine to what extent these needs are served by existing science courses and to make recommendations for improving the latter.

Another newly appointed committee has been studying the intelligence of pupils electing home economics as compared with that of all pupils in junior and senior high schools which offer home economics as an elective.

#### HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS IN LONDON

"A graduate summer session course in household economics will be given for American teachers under the auspices of Teachers College, Columbia University, in London, England, in July, 1929, by Professor Benjamin R. Andrews, Teachers College. The plan is to study home and community living conditions at first hand, particularly as regards housing and town planning, coöperative enterprises, public health, education, and organizations for homemaking, child care, social insurance, various aspects of industry, and other factors affecting family life."

ADELE R. BLACKWELL

### THE READING TABLE RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN HOME ECONOMICS

It would be impossible to give a complete list of everything that has been published in the past year in the field of home economics. I should also like to call attention to the chief organ of our work, *The Journal of Home Economics*, and *The Journal of Nutrition*, published by the American Institute of Nutrition, Inc., Springfield, Ill.

There have been several surveys made. And a notable report from the American Home Economics Association, Baltimore, Maryland, on *Child Development and Parental Education in Home Economics*, by Anna E. Richardson and Mabel Lawrence Miller, should receive our special attention.

Another survey of Public School Courses in *Child Care for Girls*, by Lelah Mae Crabbs and Mabel Lawrence Miller under the direction of Edna Noble White of the Merrill-Palmer School of Detroit, Mich. is a valuable report.

#### *Child Care*

CHILD CARE AND TRAINING. A Reading Course For Parents. Prepared by the Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 1928. Pp. 180. \$1.00.

A course of sixteen lessons for non-credit correspondence course in child care and training. A valuable book list for children is given and a bibliography of the general subject of child development, especially planned for those who are studying or planning courses in this field.

PSYCHOLOGY OF INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD. By Ada Hart Arlitt. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1928. Pp. 228. \$2.00.

A textbook for colleges and universities by a professor of child care and training in the University of Cincinnati. A list of references and class exercises are given with each chapter.

THE BEHAVIOUR OF YOUNG CHILDREN OF THE SAME FAMILY. Harvard Studies in Education, Vol. 10. By Blanche C. Weill. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1928. Pp. 220. \$3.00.

Case studies of the habit clinic of the Massachusetts State Division of Mental Hygiene and the author's personal knowledge of a number of the families. The book is of interest to parents and teachers.