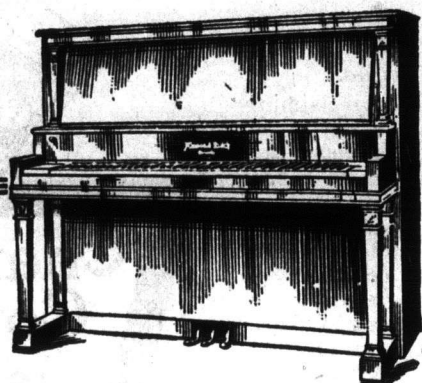




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first lieutenant in the housekeeping. Their amusements are carefully chosen and temperately indulged in. The parents are companions to the children in their work and in their play. Each member of the family is contributing his share to the maintenance of that institution and, furthermore, the parents are making home-keeping their business, and not a side issue. Now you may tell which family is producing the strong social unit.

You ask, "Is it possible that all the homes need reclaiming?" No, we find one valley in the land now fast drying up, and in that valley are the homes of the middle class. Here the fathers and mothers are reigning in homes built on the foundation of love. Here they are kept too busy providing the necessities of life and instilling the principles of right into their children, to let the vitiating elements of social evil creep in. The children have their share in maintaining the family institution—the boys are growing to be strong men, the girls are learning to be home-keepers. All are growing up to be useful, contributing factors in the social mass. However, it is a most deplorable fact that even in the valley of the middle class, we find the cacti of luxury, vitiating amusements, and sloth gradually crowding out the golden grain of womanhood and manhood.

In this age of indulgent, lazy (forgive the word) parents, it is refreshing to go back in our imaginations, and visit the home of Suzanne Wesley. With a family

ever present, is that of the women in the commercial world. Women's true sphere is not the commercial world but the home. We all know this, and yet the facts face us—she is there, and for reasons that involve us in lengthy discussions. The industrial world has edged itself into so many different phases of our life, that, directly and indirectly, it has affected the home and other institutions. Better industrial conditions will improve home conditions, and the reclamation of the home must improve industrial conditions.

We have discussed the reason for reclaiming the home, the duties of the home, the fields to be reclaimed, and their respective problems. We have suggested the problems of suffrage and industry, and yet above all these vital questions remains the integrity of the home. This above all else must be maintained. It is the lack of this essential element which is daily causing the disintegration of our homes. The divorce proceedings in our courts are so appalling we can scarcely believe the statistics. Domestic storms, broken homes, and divorce suits follow in the wake of ignorance, irresponsible indulgent, and luxurious living. Rome fell when her people reached this condition. Shall we repeat her story? Or shall we stop the flow of loose living? The homes of the future must be freed from these things, and this can be done only by reclaiming the home-makers of the future. Upon your children and your children's children rest the



The egg industry is a paying one. When the children are permitted to show in the profits, they make willing little helpers. Boys' and Girls' Club, Gladstone, Man.

of twenty-two children—yes, we hear you say, "Disgraceful," but not nearly so disgraceful as a family where there might be children and are none—she took care of all their physical needs taught them their lessons, and had time to give each child an hour each week of personal counsel and communion.

Place over against this the rich mother of to-day who has one or two children whom she relegates to the nursery and private tutors, while she is indulging in a good time. The children have everything they desire, except the true mother's love to guide and direct them wisely, preparing them for life, and making them positive units in society and the nation.

Some one is asking, "What is the effect of the woman's suffrage movement on the homes of America?" The anti-suffragist immediately answer that woman's suffrage is most detrimental to that most sacred of all institutions, the home. But this could hardly be said to be true when most of the suffrage leaders are women of fifty years and more, who have reared their families to the age where they can care for themselves. They are women who realize the worth of pure home life to that extent that they have it upon their hearts to bring about conditions which will help to educate those families without ideals, and help convict those people who have lost sight of home ideals in living lives of luxury and selfishness, convict them of their duties and responsibilities. The sincere suffragists are seeking to reclaim the homes of the land.

A difficulty which presents a much graver problem than suffrage could

homes of the future. Will you reclaim your home before it is too late for your children to reclaim theirs?

Our nation is dying, while we are busy in the valley with the ambulance. Let us be busy at the top of the cliff, building fences whose pickets are pure, sweet homes, where noble fathers and mothers are giving earnest, responsive God-fearing children to the world, which shall make our nation a nation among nations, its homes reclaimed for humanity and God.

In the late financial stringency a clerk in one of the New York banks, was trying to explain to a stolid old Dutchman why the bank could not pay cash to depositors as formerly, and was insisting that he be satisfied with Clearing House checks. But the old man could not grasp the situation, and finally the president of the bank was called upon to enlighten the dissatisfied customer. After a detailed explanation of the financial situation, the president concluded: "Now, my good man, you understand, don't you?" "Yes," dubiously replied the Dutchman, "I tinks I understand. It's just like this: ven my baby vakes up in der night and cries for milk, I give her a milk ticket."

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