

READING IN THE HOME

In discussing the problem of reading matter in the home, Miss Mary Mantle, Winnipeg, suggested that much of the good of reading was lost by not reading aloud. The books that we read aloud not only passed the time and drew us together over a common interest but they entered into our lives and we lived them. Reading aloud to children is a true pleasure. They catch afire so beautifully. A mother can acquaint them and herself with the best literature by this method, explaining things as she goes along, and showing them bit by bit wherein lies the power and the worth of the book.

To provide reading matter the plan suggested by Miss Mantle was to form a Book Club and make the yearly cost of membership the price of one good book. By that is meant that every member should buy one good book each year, the book to remain her property. After reading a book she would pass it on to whoever was next on the list. A library started in this way might quite conceivably develop in a few years into a community affair. The smallest beginning is worth while so long as it is regarded only as a beginning, working towards bigger things. Once started a library of this kind could be open to all, men, women and children, on similar terms.

Two points to be most careful about are: the one you put in charge and the place where the books are kept. It was suggested that they might be left with the Postmaster, or that a place be appointed where the members could get their books on a Saturday afternoon. It was also suggested that each member might have for her sole responsibility in connection with the club work, the charge of the books for short monthly periods.

DECORATION AND FURNISHING

"No one lives an independent life, and we mortals are influenced more than we realize by our surroundings" said Mrs. Jean E. Lyons, Saskatoon. "Let us enter a home kept by a loving soul, a sweet, kindly-spirited home-maker, and we feel somewhat as we do when we listen to sweet music, the song of a Nordica, or the tone of a Kukulik's violin. The centre of all good citizenship is the home."

Some of the things which the family of ordinary means can possess in common with others better endowed with worldly goods, and which add largely to the convenience and beauty of the home,