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METHODS

Home improvement is taught through lectures and demonstrations at women's and girls clubs, through demonstrations of actual furniture arrangement etc. in individual homes which serve as examples for the community, through county wide campaigns in cooperation with the school teachers, through the demonstrations of club members who have had special instructions and through the girls annual short course where girls are trained to act as local demonstrators or leaders.

At the state short course for girls held in Raleigh when 130 were present instructions in household furnishings were given ^{on} each of five days. The girls were taught to do over old furniture and actually cleaned, painted and decorated with a neat stencil a table and four chairs and turned out a most creditable job. They were taught something of harmony, balance and the use of colors and were taken to a house furnishings' department to give them a chance to show what they could do in applying what they had learned to actual selection.

The Franklin county home agent planned and carried out the first home and school improvement campaign ever held in North Carolina. After explaining in detail the cooperation of the schools and the plans she says of her second campaign held in 1922: Teachers had pupils write articles on the improvement made in their homes or rooms thus correlating the work in English with club work; club women wrote papers which were read at club meetings. The best of these articles by the girls and women were printed in the county paper. The teachers told me that their pupils could scarcely wait for the paper to see if one of their articles had been published that week. My column in the county paper was never so interesting or so widely read. The phases of the home and school improvement work that cost the least and meant more to the appearance of the homes were painting, foundation planting and doing over old furniture for the girls rooms. One of my club officers ^{has} painted her six room home, interior

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and exterior, herself and paid for the paint with money realized from the sale of soup mixture. In another home, two children, 12 and 16 years of age hauled rock in a wheel barrow to build up the opening between the house and the ground. Not only did they pick up the rock and haul them but they laid the stones themselves.

The Pasquotank home agent did good work in this line this year. 100 girls and 200 women were enrolled in the Home Improvement Campaign. The girls had for their project the arrangement and doing over of their own bed rooms. 250 rooms were rearranged; 400 floors improved; 350 walls calcimined; 150 kitchens rearranged; 5 water systems installed; 8 lighting systems; and 400 rooms screened. There were 300 demonstrators enrolled in yard improvement; 5 planted grass; 300 planted shrubs and many of these shrubs were native shrubs that are so beautiful in Pasquotank county; 600 girls and women beautified their homes with flowers; and 75 removed fences and delapidated buildings, making the service part of the yard to the rear. The home agent said that for a few years the people thought they could not have attractive yards on account of the cattle, but at last they are aroused to the possibilities and several in each club are putting out shrubs, flowers and trees. The agent often carries her car full of plants from club to club as her friends are glad to share their flowers. Plants and gardens are discussed in the meetings and definite ideas are taken home as to the arrangement of the home grounds. *are taken home*

The following comes from Polk a new mountain county: "These homes have been screened. These were a little show, in fact so much so, that I started the screening by personal example. In two homes I screened a window each and left the others to be completed by each family. The merchant in Columbus told me later that all of a sudden many calls came for wire screening. Up to that time only a few yards had been sold. I believe from this little effort a campaign along this line next summer will be much helped. More people will screen because of a concrete example.