

A STUDY OF THE RELATION OF NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE  
HOME ECONOMICS ARTICLES TO THE HIGH SCHOOL  
HOME ECONOMICS CURRICULUM

by

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## INTRODUCTION

Home Economics people were content for many years with teaching merely cooking and sewing and in so doing believed that they were giving the high school girl the training which she needed most both for the present and for the future. A general dissatisfaction with the high school Home Economics curriculum has been felt in the last few years. Because of this, efforts are being made to determine the needs of the girl, in order to prepare her better to do systematically and economically the activities she is doing now as well as those which she will do later.

Analyses of home making have been made and the home maker's day has been studied. The results have shown that the home maker has many more responsibilities than the preparation of food and the construction of clothing. A detailed list of the home-making duties of a high school girl shows that she, too, has a variety of responsibilities. To determine which of the home-making activities are the most important and those for which training should be provided in the high school becomes a vital problem for the Home Economics teacher.

The desire to obtain more information regarding the

home-making interests and needs of the home maker so that high school Home Economics can be made to meet more nearly the needs of the home, brought about this study.

The large subscription lists of the various dailies, weeklies, and monthlies indicate an extensive reading public. Apparently the number of homes whose members do not have access to some sort of publication is relative small. It has long been felt that newspapers and magazines have a definite educational value, which depends upon the material that these publications contain. It appears that this material is controlled to a certain extent by the interests and needs of its readers. The definition of news itself indicates this fact. News is defined by Bleyer (Johnson 1926) as anything timely that interests a number of persons, and the best news is that which has the greatest interest for the greatest number.

Just so, then the Home Economics material which appears in the various publications shows to a certain extent the interests and needs of the home makers. Since many of the publications are being read by the high school girl no doubt her home-making interests and needs also are indicated to some degree.

The purpose of the study was to study the Home Economics articles appearing in a number of daily and weekly newspapers, and monthly magazines commonly read in Kansas homes



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to secure objective findings which will aid in determining what should be included in the high school Home Economics curriculum; to determine what type of Home Economics material is read in the homes as is indicated by the material appearing in these publications; to make a comparison of the Home Economics material in these publications with activity analyses of home making; to make definite and specific recommendations for the construction of the high school Home Economics curriculum as a result of the findings.

Few studies of this type have been made even though the influence of the press has long been recognized. Hopkins (1925) made a study of magazine and newspaper science articles with relation to courses in sciences for high schools. The main purpose of this study was to see what scientific information a person needed to know in order to read intelligently the daily newspapers and a selected list of magazines. The study was made with Denver newspapers and commonly read weekly and monthly magazines. The study indicated the need of a closer relationship between the high school science curriculum and the science needs and interests of the people.

Coss (Department of Superintendence, N. E. A., 1928) made a study to determine some of the vital social home problems on a basis other than conjecture. In this study a group of forty-five representative current periodicals were read and the contents examined for material relative to home

life. Articles relative to the home and family appeared with first frequency and child development second. From these findings recommendations were made to organize Home Economics work so that it will be more vital to the home and its problems.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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#### METHOD AND PROCEDURE

The first problem for consideration in making this study was to select the publications. After consulting news dealers, librarians, extension workers, college teachers and home makers, and after observing and inquiring into the subscription lists of publications commonly found in different Kansas homes, a group of ten daily newspapers, six weekly newspapers and magazines, and eight monthly magazines were selected.

Six daily newspapers were chosen from the various

sections of the state. These were the Topeka Daily Capital, Salina Journal, Hutchinson News, Atchison Daily Globe, Parsons Daily Sun, and Wichita Beacon. Four out of state papers were selected because they were so widely read in Kansas homes. These were the Kansas City Star and Times and Kansas City Journal and Post. The issues of each daily were collected for one month from December 3, 1927 to January 3, 1928.

The weekly publications were chosen to represent both farm and urban interests. They were the Cappers Weekly, Weekly Kansas City Star, Kansas Farmer, Saturday Evening Post, Pathfinder and Colliers. Six consecutive weeklies were collected during the months of December and January.

The monthly magazines also were chosen to represent the farm and urban interests. Magazines were omitted which dealt largely with fashions. Those chosen were Farm and Fireside, Popular Science, Household, Good Housekeeping, Successful Farming, Ladies Home Journal, Farmers Wife, and American.

In order that the four seasons of the year should be represented, the February, April, June, August, October and December issues for 1927 were collected.

Since the width of columns, size of type and spacing between words varied in different publications, upon the

suggestion of the Department of Journalism at the Kansas State Agricultural College, two and one sixth inches were used for the standard width for each column. The length of each column was determined by the actual length in inches. The publications were examined and the average number of pages per issue were determined. The average number of pages per issue was then converted to average number of inches of space per issue. This was found by multiplying the number of columns per page by the length of each column by the average number of pages.

The average amount of space per issue devoted to reading material was determined for each paper. This was done by measuring the reading material in a week's issues of each of the dailies and the alternate issues of each of the weeklies and monthlies, then computing the average for each publication. All pictures, notices, and advertisements regardless of the type were omitted.

These publications were examined again for articles and illustrations of Home Economics nature. Home Economics was defined by the American Home Economics Association (Cooley, Winchell, Spohr, Marshall, 1921) as "a subject that centers around the problems of the home and other institutions whose problems are of similar nature. It includes a study of food, shelter and clothing. Viewed from the standpoint



of hygiene, economics, art and the study of the relations of the family to each other and to society." Home Economics was divided into seven major groups which represent the various phases of home making. These groups were Clothing, Home Furnishings, Foods, Household Management, Family Relationship, Home and Community and Child Development.

Clothing included budgeting, construction, textiles, hygiene, care and repair and selection as represented by choice, art and purchasing; Home Furnishings included purchasing, planning, construction, care and repair and selecting; Foods included selection as represented by marketing and planning, care, preparation, serving, nutrition and preservation; Household Management included shelter as represented by house plans, owning and renting, care of house, grounds and yards, financial and time budgets and schedules; Family Relationship included hospitality, divorce, recreation, education and similar home problems; Home and Community included sanitation, illness, health, milk supply and care of the sick; Child Development included training, health, physical care, clothing and food.

The Home Economics articles were cut, labeled with the name and date of publication, and classified into the seven groups. The material was all measured and the average amount of space for each group per paper was determined.

The total average Home Economics material was also estimated.

Percentages were computed for all amounts in order that a satisfactory basis of comparison could be obtained. The monthly magazines were also classified into farm magazines, women's magazines and magazines of general interest.

The results were tabulated and comparisons drawn. Further comparisons were made with several activity analyses of home making. Recommendations for the construction of the high school Home Economics curriculum and conclusions were based upon these findings.

#### TABULATIONS AND RESULTS

The amounts and percentages which were determined in this study were classified and grouped into a number of tables.

Tables I (a), (b) and (c) show the average number of pages per issue, the average number of inches of space per issue, the average number of inches of reading material per issue and the average per cent of reading material per issue. The approximate per cent of space which was devoted to actual reading material in these publications was, dailies 37 per cent; weeklies 47.9 per cent; monthlies 35 per cent.

TABLE I (a).  
DAILY NEWSPAPERS

| Name of Paper        | Average no.<br>pages per<br>issue | Average no.<br>inches per<br>issue | Average no.<br>inches of<br>reading material<br>per issue | Average per cent<br>of reading material<br>per issue |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Topeka Daily Capital | 20                                | 3200                               | 1190  | 37   |
| Kansas City Post     | 18                                | 2880                               | 1213  | 42   |
| Kansas City Journal  | 13                                | 2080                               | 1126  | 54   |
| Kansas City Times    | 24                                | 3840                               | 1191  | 31   |
| Kansas City Star     | 38                                | 6080                               | 1557  | 25   |
| Salina Journal       | 14                                | 2296                               | 914   | 39   |
| Hutchinson News      | 18                                | 3024                               | 1004  | 33   |
| Atchison Daily Globe | 13                                | 2002                               | 655   | 34   |
| Parsons Daily Sun    | 12                                | 2016                               | 720   | 35   |
| Wichita Beacon       | 23                                | 3864                               | 1688  | 43   |



TABLE NO. I (b).

## WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

| Name of Paper           | Average no.<br>pages per<br>issue | Average no.<br>inches of space<br>per issue | Average no.<br>inches of reading<br>material per issue | Average per cent<br>of reading material<br>per issue |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Cappers Weekly          | 7                                 | 1120  | 565  | 50   |
| Weekly Kansas City Star | 12                                | 1764  | 887  | 50   |
| Kansas Farmer           | 31                                | 1736  | 813  | 46   |
| Saturday Evening Post   | 151                               | 7248  | 2346   | 32   |
| Pathfinder              | 36                                | 1080  | 692  | 64   |
| Colliers                | 52                                | 2496  | 1066   | 42   |



TABLE NO. I (c).

## MONTHLY MAGAZINES

| Name of Magazine    | Average no.<br>pages per issue | Average no.<br>inches of space<br>per issue | Average no.<br>inches of<br>reading material | Average per cent<br>of reading material<br>per issue |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Farm and Fireside   | 77                             | 2541  | 778  | 31   |
| Popular Science     | 159                            | 4770  | 1807   | 40   |
| Household           | 39                             | 2028  | 691  | 34   |
| Good Housekeeping   | 282                            | 8460  | 2350   | 27   |
| Successful Farming  | 101                            | 3030  | 1258   | 41   |
| Ladies Home Journal | 214                            | 10,272                                      | 2505   | 24   |
| Farmers Wife        | 47                             | 2256  | 1093   | 48   |
| American            | 201                            | 6030  | 2323   | 38   |

Tables II (a), (b) and (c) show the average number of inches of space per issue, average number of inches of Home Economics material per issue, average per cent of inches of Home Economics material per issue, average number of inches of reading material per issue, average per cent of inches of Home Economics material in the entire reading material per issue, average number of inches of Home Economics reading material per issue, average per cent of inches of Home Economics reading material in the entire reading material per issue, average number of inches of Home Economics illustrations per issue, average per cent of inches of Home Economics illustrations in the entire reading material per issue and average number of Home Economics articles per issue.

TABLE NO. II (a).

## DAILY NEWSPAPERS

| Name of Paper        | Average no. of inches of space per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material in the entire reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. reading material in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. illustrations per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. illustrations in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. articles per issue |
|----------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| Topeka Daily Capital | 3200                                     | 42   | 1.3   | 1190  | 3.5  | 33   | 2.7  | 9   | .8   | 4  |
| Kansas City Post     | 2880                                     | 114  | 3.8   | 1213  | 9  | 91   | 7.3  | 23  | 1.7  | 14                                       |
| Kansas City Journal  | 2080                                     | 33   | 1.6   | 1126  | 2.9  | 24   | 2.1  | 9   | .8   | 4  |
| Kansas City Times    | 3840                                     | 14   | .3  | 1191  | 1.1  | 14   | 1.1  | 0   | 0  | 2  |
| Kansas City Star     | 6080                                     | 95   | 1.5   | 1557  | 6.1  | 64   | 4.1  | 31  | .2   | 12                                       |
| Salina Journal       | 2296                                     | 31   | 1.3   | 914   | 3.3  | 25   | 2.7  | 6   | .6   | 3  |
| Hutchinson News      | 3024                                     | 16   | .5  | 1004  | 1.5  | 14   | 1.4  | 2   | .1   | 3  |
| Atchison Daily Globe | 2002                                     | 3  | .1  | 655   | .4   | 2  | .3   | 1   | .1   | .4                                       |
| Parsons Daily Sun    | 2016                                     | 7  | .3  | 720   | .9   | 7  | .9   | 0   | 0  | 2  |
| Wichita Beacon       | 3864                                     | 59   | 1.5   | 1668  | 3.4  | 50   | 2.9  | 8   | .5   | 7  |



TABLE NO. II (b).

## WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

| Name of Paper               | Average no. of inches of space per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material in the entire reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. reading material in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. illustrations per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. illustrations in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. articles per issue |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| The Weekly Kansas City Star | 1764                                     | 59   | 3   | 887   | 6  | 35   | 3.9  | 24  | 2.1  | 5  |
| Cappers Weekly              | 1120                                     | 59   | 5   | 565   | 10.4   | 39   | 6.9  | 20  | 3.5  | 12                                       |
| Kansas Farmer               | 1736                                     | 84   | 4.1   | 813   | 10.3   | 71   | 8.7  | 13  | 1.6  | 10                                       |
| Saturday Evening Post       | 7248                                     | 0  | 0   | 2346  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0   | 0  | 0  |
| Pathfinder                  | 1080                                     | 64   | 5.9   | 692   | 9.2  | 48   | 6.9  | 16  | 2.3  | 11                                       |
| Colliers                    | 2496                                     | 44   | 1.8   | 1066  | 4.1  | 41   | 3.8  | 3   | .3   | 1  |



TABLE NO. II (c).

## MONTHLY MAGAZINES

| Name of Paper       | Average no. of inches of space per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. material in the entire material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. reading material per issue | Average per cent of inches of H. Ec. reading material in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. illustrations per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. illustrations in entire reading material per issue | Average no. of H. Ec. articles per issue |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| Farm and Fireside   | 2541                                     | 243  | 9.5   | 778   | 31.2   | 174  | 22.4   | 69  | 8.8  | 10                                       |
| Popular Science     | 4770                                     | 315  | 6.6   | 1807  | 17.4   | 226  | 12.5   | 89  | 4.9  | 11                                       |
| Household           | 2080                                     | 365  | 18  | 691   | 52.6   | 213  | 30.8   | 152   | 21.8   | 11                                       |
| Good Housekeeping   | 8460                                     | 953  | 11.2  | 2350  | 44.7   | 545  | 27.4   | 408   | 17.3   | 27                                       |
| Successful Farming  | 3030                                     | 326  | 10.7  | 1258  | 19.5   | 236  | 18.8   | 89  | 7  | 21                                       |
| Ladies Home Journal | 10,272                                   | 1198   | 11.6  | 2505  | 47.8   | 677  | 27   | 521   | 20.8   | 26                                       |
| Farmers Wife        | 2256                                     | 432  | 18.1  | 1093  | 39   | 321  | 29   | 111   | 10   | 12                                       |
| American            | 6030                                     | 80   | 1.3   | 2323  | 3.4  | 80   | 3.4  | 0   | 0  | 1.5                                      |

Table III summarizes Tables II (a), (b) and (c) as follows:

1. The approximate average per cent of Home Economics material in relation to the entire reading material ranges from 3.2 per cent to 29.7 per cent.
2. The approximate average per cent of Home Economics reading material in relation to the entire reading material ranges from 2.5 to 19.5 per cent.
3. The approximate average per cent of illustrative material ranges from .7 to 11 per cent.
4. The average number of Home Economics articles appearing in each issue ranges from 5 to 14.9.
5. The monthly magazines were first in the amount of space devoted to Home Economics, the weeklies second and the dailies third.
6. Further comparison of the classified monthly magazines in relation to Home Economics material shows:
  - (a) The approximate average per cent of Home Economics material in relation to the entire reading material ranges from 10 to 46 per cent.
  - (b) The approximate average per cent of Home Economics reading to the entire reading ranges from 7.9 to 28.5 per cent.

- (c) The approximate average per cent of illustrative material to the entire reading material ranges from 2.5 to 17.5 per cent.
- (d) The average number of articles ranges from 6.75 to 19.
- (e) The women's magazines ranked first, the farm magazines second and the magazines of general interest third.



TABLE NO. III.

SUMMARY OF TABLE NO. II, (a) (b) and (c)

| Group                         | Average per cent<br>of H. Ec. material<br>per issue | Average per cent<br>of H. Ec. material<br>in the entire<br>reading material<br>per issue | Average per cent<br>of H. Ec. reading<br>to the entire<br>reading | Average per cent<br>of illustrations<br>to entire reading<br>material | Average no. of<br>articles |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|
| Dailies                       | 1.2   | 3.2  | 2.5   | .7  | 5.14                       |
| Weeklies                      | 3.9   | 8  | 6   | 2   | 7.8                        |
| Monthlies                     | 10.8  | 29.7   | 19.5  | 11.1  | 14.9                       |
|                               |   | CLASSIFIED MONTHLIES   |   |   |                            |
| Farm Magazines                | 10.1  | 25.3   | 20.6  | 7.9   | 15                         |
| Women's<br>Magazines          | 15  | 46   | 28.5  | 17.5  | 19                         |
| General Interest<br>Magazines | 3   | 10.4   | 7.9   | 2.5   | 6.25                       |



Table IV shows the per cent of Home Economics reading material and Home Economics illustrations. The average per cent of Home Economics material which was illustrations was dailies 17.7 per cent; weeklies 20 per cent; monthlies 29 per cent.

TABLE NO. IV.

## HOME ECONOMICS READING MATERIAL AND ILLUSTRATIONS

| Name of Paper           | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. reading material per issue | Average no. of inches of H. Ec. illustrations per issue | Per cent of H. Ec. material which is illustrative |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| Topeka Daily Capital    | 33   | 9   | 21  |
| Kansas City Post        | 91   | 23  | 20  |
| Kansas City Journal     | 24   | 9   | 29  |
| Kansas City Times       | 14   | 0   | 0   |
| Kansas City Star        | 64   | 31  | 33  |
| Salina Journal          | 25   | 6   | 19  |
| Hutchinson News         | 14   | 2   | 12  |
| Atchison Daily Globe    | 2  | 1   | 30  |
| Parsons Daily Sun       | 7  | 0   | 0   |
| Wichita Beacon          | 50   | 8   | 13  |
| Weekly Kansas City Star | 35   | 24  | 40  |
| Cappers Weekly          | 39   | 20  | 34  |
| Kansas Farmer           | 71   | 13  | 15  |
| Pathfinder              | 48   | 16  | 25  |
| Colliers                | 41   | 3   | 7   |
| Farm and Fireside       | 174  | 69  | 28  |
| Popular Science         | 226  | 89  | 28  |
| Household               | 213  | 152   | 41  |
| Good Housekeeping       | 545  | 408   | 41  |
| Successful Farming      | 236  | 89  | 27  |
| Ladies Home Journal     | 677  | 521   | 43  |
| Farmers Wife            | 321  | 111   | 25  |
| American                | 80   | 0   | 0   |

Tables V (a),(b) and (c) show a classified grouping of the Home Economics material in all of the publications, average number of inches of space, average percentages and average number of articles.

TABLE NO. V (a)

## DAILY NEWSPAPERS

| Home Ec. Groups      | Topeka Daily Capital                                |                                      |                                | Kansas City Post                                    |                                      |                                | Kansas City Journal                                 |                                      |                                | Kansas City Times                                   |                                      |                                | Kansas City Star                                    |                                      |                                |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                      | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue |
| Clothing & Textiles  | 3.7   | 11                                   | .7                             | 22  | 24                                   | 5                              | 2.7   | 11                                   | .7                             | 1.3   | 9                                    | .3                             | 17  | 26                                   | 4                              |
| Home Furnishing      | 1.4   | 4                                    | .3                             | 6.7   | 7                                    | .5                             | .14   | .6                                   | .1                             | .15   | 1                                    | .04                            | 3.8   | 6                                    | .7                             |
| Foods                | 2.5   | 7                                    | .3                             | 15  | 18                                   | 2.8                            | 2.1   | 8                                    | .3                             | 2   | 14                                   | .2                             | 21  | 32                                   | 3                              |
| Household Management | 1   | 3                                    | .1                             | 4.3   | 5                                    | .8                             | 8   | 33                                   | 1.1                            | .4  | 3                                    | .08                            | 2.6   | 4                                    | .3                             |
| Family Relationships | 1.5   | 4                                    | .3                             | 2   | 2                                    | .4                             | 4   | 17                                   | .1                             | 2   | 14                                   | .2                             | 6   | 9                                    | .7                             |
| Home and Community   | 4.7   | 14                                   | .6                             | 12.7  | 14                                   | 1.8                            | 3   | 12                                   | .5                             | 6   | 44                                   | .8                             | 2   | 3                                    | 3                              |
| Child Development    | 18  | 54                                   | 1.7                            | 24  | 26                                   | 2.6                            | 7   | 29                                   | 1                              | 3.6   | 23                                   | .5                             | 13  | 20                                   | 1.3                            |
|                      | Salina Journal                                      |                                      |                                | Hutchinson News                                     |                                      |                                | Atchison Globe                                      |                                      |                                | Parsons Daily Sun                                   |                                      |                                | Wichita Beacon                                      |                                      |                                |
| Clothing & Textiles  | .5  | 2                                    | .4                             | 1.8   | 13                                   | .7                             | .3  | 15                                   | .1                             | 1.7   | 24                                   | .4                             | 4   | 8                                    | .6                             |
| Home Furnishing      | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | .3  | .6                                   | .03                            |
| Foods                | 4   | 16                                   | .3                             | 3   | 21                                   | 1.0                            | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | 1   | 14                                   | .12                            | 6.7   | 13                                   | .6                             |
| Household Management | .7  | 23                                   | .1                             | 1.6   | 11                                   | .3                             | .4  | 20                                   | .07                            | .04   | .6                                   | .04                            | 1   | 2                                    | .3                             |
| Family Relationships | .9  | 3.6                                  | .3                             | .8  | 6                                    | .04                            | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | 3   | 42                                   | 1                              | 7   | 14                                   | 1                              |
| Home and Community   | ---   | ---                                  | ---                            | 5   | 36                                   | .7                             | 1   | 50                                   | .1                             | 1.2   | 17                                   | .2                             | 7.7   | 15                                   | 1                              |
| Child Development    | 18  | 72                                   | 2                              | 1.2   | 8                                    | .2                             | .2  | 10                                   | .04                            | .3  | 4                                    | .04                            | 20  | 40                                   | 3                              |



TABLE NO. V (b).

## WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

| Home Ec. Groups      | Weekly Kansas City Star                             |                                      |                                | Cappers Weekly                                      |                                      |                                | Kansas Farmer                                       |                                      |                                | Pathfinder  |                                      |                                | Colliers  |                                      |                                |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                      | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue |
| Clothing & Textiles  | 11  | 31                                   | 1                              | 18  | 46                                   | 4                              | 11  | 16                                   | 3                              | 11  | 23                                   | 3                              | 15  | 36                                   | .3                             |
| Home Furnishings     | --  | --                                   | --                             | --  | --                                   | --                             | 1   | 2                                    | .1                             | 4   | 8                                    | 1                              | 8   | 19                                   | .1                             |
| Foods                | 13  | 37                                   | 1.5                            | 13  | 36                                   | 3                              | 18  | 26                                   | 2                              | 9   | 19                                   | 2                              | --  | --                                   | --                             |
| Household Management | 1.5   | .4                                   | .3                             | 4   | 10                                   | 2                              | 10  | 14                                   | 2                              | 7   | 14                                   | 2                              | 9   | 21                                   | .1                             |
| Family Relationship  | --  | --                                   | --                             | 1   | .3                                   | 1                              | .5  | .7                                   | .1                             | 1   | 2                                    | .2                             | --  | --                                   | --                             |
| Home and Community   | --  | --                                   | --                             | 1.6   | .4                                   | 1                              | 16  | 22                                   | 1                              | 14  | 29                                   | 3                              | 9   | 21                                   | .1                             |
| Child Development    | 8   | 22                                   | 1                              | --  | --                                   | --                             | 11  | 16                                   | 2                              | 1   | .2                                   | .3                             | --  | --                                   | --                             |

TABLE NO. V (c).  
MONTHLY MAGAZINES

| Home Ec. Group       | Farm & Fireside                                     |                                      |                                | Popular Science                                     |                                      |                                | Household   |                                      |                                | Good Housekeeping                                   |                                      |                                |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                      | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue | Average no. of inches of reading material per issue | Average % to H. Ec. reading material | Average no. articles per issue |
| Clothing & Textiles  | 24  | 13                                   | 2                              | .5  | .2                                   | .1                             | 80  | 37                                   | 5                              | 134   | 24                                   | 10                             |
| Home Furnishings     | 19  | 10                                   | 2                              | 80  | 35                                   | 5                              | 1   | .4                                   | .1                             | 65  | 11                                   | 3                              |
| Foods                | 23  | 13                                   | 1                              | 11  | 4.8                                  | .5                             | 49  | 23                                   | 1.3                            | 183   | 33                                   | 4                              |
| Household Management | 33  | 19                                   | 2                              | 112   | 49                                   | 6                              | 49  | 23                                   | 2                              | 78  | 14                                   | 4                              |
| Family Relationship  | 9   | 5                                    | 1                              | 3   | 1.3                                  | .1                             | 8   | 3.7                                  | .1                             | 61  | 11                                   | 1                              |
| Home and Community   | 13  | 7                                    | .3                             | 12  | 5                                    | 1                              | 0   | 0                                    | 0                              | 12  | 2                                    | .5                             |
| Child Development    | 50  | 29                                   | 2                              | 6   | 25                                   | .3                             | 26  | 12                                   | 2                              | 44  | 8                                    | 2                              |
|                      | Successful Farming                                  |                                      |                                | Ladies Home Journal                                 |                                      |                                | Farmers Wife  |                                      |                                | American  |                                      |                                |
| Clothing & Textiles  | 31  | 13                                   | 3                              | 133   | 19                                   | 10                             | 32  | 10                                   | 3                              | 0   | 0                                    | 0                              |
| Home Furnishings     | 29  | 12                                   | 2                              | 131   | 19                                   | 5                              | 18  | 6                                    | 1                              | 0   | 0                                    | 0                              |
| Foods                | 58  | 24                                   | 6                              | 75  | 12                                   | 5                              | 63  | 20                                   | 3                              | 0   | 0                                    | 0                              |
| Household Management | 83  | 34                                   | 6                              | 75  | 12                                   | 2                              | 71  | 22                                   | 4                              | 3   | .4                                   | .1                             |
| Family Relationship  | 20  | 7                                    | 2                              | 35  | 6                                    | 1                              | 44  | 13                                   | 1                              | 60  | 75                                   | 1                              |
| Home and Community   | 8   | 3                                    | .5                             | 54  | 9                                    | .5                             | 22  | 7                                    | 1                              | 0   | 0                                    | 0                              |
| Child Development    | 21  | 7                                    | 2                              | 121   | 19                                   | 4                              | 71  | 22                                   | 4                              | 17  | 21                                   | 1                              |

Table VI summarizes Tables V (a), (b) and (c) and shows for each group of publications the average per cent of Home Economics material per issue, the average per cent of Home Economics reading material per issue and the average per cent of each Home Economics group to Home Economics reading material. In computing the average the Saturday Evening Post was omitted since it contained no Home Economics material in the issues used in this study.



TABLE NO. VI.

SUMMARY OF TABLES V (a), (b) and (c)

| Group     | Average % of H. Ec.<br>material per issue | Average % of H. Ec.<br>reading material<br>per issue | Average % of cloth-<br>ing reading mater-<br>ial to H. Ec. read-<br>ing | Average % of home<br>furnishings mater-<br>ial to H. Ec.<br>reading | Average % of Foods<br>reading material to<br>H. Ec. reading | Average % of house-<br>hold management<br>material to H. Ec.<br>reading | Average % of home<br>& community reading<br>to H. Ec. reading | Average % of family<br>relationship mater-<br>ial to H. Ec.<br>reading | Average % of child<br>development mater-<br>ial to H. E.<br>reading |
|-----------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Dailies   | 32  | 2.5  | 14.3  | 19.2  | 14.3  | 8.4   | 20.5  | 9.6  | 28.6  |
| Weeklies  | 8   | 6  | 30.4  | 5.8   | 23.6  | 12.5  | 15.2  | 1.1  | 8   |
| Monthlies | 29.8                                      | 19.5   | 14.5  | 11.9  | 16.2  | 22.1  | 4.1   | 15.2   | 15.5  |
| Average   | 13.6                                      | 12.7   | 19.7  | 12.3  | 18  | 14.3  | 13.3  | 9  | 17.3  |

(CLASSIFIED MONTHLIES)

|                                  |      |      |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |
|----------------------------------|------|------|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Farm Magazines                   | 10.1 | 25.3 | 13 | 11 | 19  | 27 | 5  | 6  | 18 |
| Women's Magazines                | 15   | 46   | 23 | 8  | 22  | 18 | 5  | 8  | 15 |
| Magazines of<br>General Interest | 3.9  | 10.4 | .1 | 17 | 2.4 | 26 | 25 | 38 | 12 |

Table VII shows the classified Home Economics reading material arranged according to percentage.

A study of Tables VI and VII indicates:

1. Child Development was highest in the dailies.
2. Clothing was highest in the weeklies.
3. Household Management was highest in the monthly magazines.
4. Household Management is highest in the farm magazines.
5. Clothing is highest in the women's magazines.
6. Family relationship is highest in the magazines of general interest.

TABLE NO. VII.

CLASSIFIED HOME ECONOMICS READING MATERIAL ARRANGED ACCORDING TO PERCENTAGE

|                               |                              |                            |                            |                              |                           |                            |                             |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Dailies                       | Child Development<br>28.6    | Home and Community<br>20.5 | Home Furnishings<br>19.2   | Clothing<br>14.3             | Foods<br>14.3             | Family Relationship<br>9.6 | Household Management<br>8.4 |  |
| Weeklies                      | Clothing<br>30.4             | Foods<br>23.6              | Home and Community<br>15.2 | Household Management<br>12.5 | Child Development<br>8    | Home Furnishings<br>5.8    | Family Relationship<br>1.1  |  |
| Monthlies                     | Household Management<br>22.1 | Foods<br>16.2              | Child Development<br>15.5  | Family Relationship<br>15.2  | Clothing<br>14.5          | Home Furnishings<br>11.9   | Home and Community<br>4.1   |  |
| Farm Magazines                | Household Management<br>27   | Foods<br>19                | Child Development<br>18    | Clothing<br>13               | Home Furnishings<br>11    | Family Relationship<br>6   | Home and Community<br>5     |  |
| Women's Magazines             | Clothing<br>23               | Foods<br>22                | Household Management<br>18 | Child Development<br>15      | Family Relationship<br>8  | Home Furnishings<br>8      | Home and Community<br>5     |  |
| Magazines of General Interest | Family Relationship<br>38    | Household Management<br>26 | Home Furnishings<br>17     | Child Development<br>12      | Home and Community<br>2.5 | Foods<br>2.4               | Clothing<br>.1              |  |



Table VIII shows the ranking of the classified Home Economics material in the publications. A study of the ranking indicates:

1. The average of the ranking of the classified Home Economics material in these publications placed Child Development and Foods first, Clothing second and Household Management and Home and Community third.
2. The average of the ranking of the classified Home Economics material in the classified monthlies placed Household Management first, Foods second and Child Development third.

TABLE NO. VIII.

## RANKING OF CLASSIFIED HOME ECONOMICS MATERIAL

| Group                | Dailies | Weeklies | Monthlies | Average Rank | Classified Monthlies |         |                  |              |
|----------------------|---------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
|                      |         |          |           |              | Farm                 | Women's | General Interest | Average Rank |
| Clothing             | 4       | 1        | 5         | 3.3          | 4                    | 1       | 7                | 4            |
| Home Furnishings     | 3       | 6        | 6         | 5            | 5                    | 6       | 3                | 4.6          |
| Foods                | 5       | 2        | 2         | 3            | 2                    | 2       | 6                | 3.3          |
| Household Management | 7       | 4        | 1         | 4            | 1                    | 3       | 2                | 2            |
| Family Relationship  | 6       | 7        | 4         | 5.6          | 6                    | 5       | 1                | 4            |
| Home and Community   | 2       | 3        | 7         | 4            | 7                    | 7       | 5                | 6.3          |
| Child Development    | 1       | 5        | 3         | 3            | 3                    | 4       | 4                | 3.6          |

Table IX shows the average number of Home Economics articles and the average number of articles for each Home Economics group for the publication.

Table X shows the classification of the Home Economics articles arranged according to number of articles.

Table XI shows the ranking of the Home Economics articles.

A study of Tables IX, X and XI indicates:

1. The average of the ranking of the publications, as to the number of articles, placed Clothing first, Foods second and Household Management third.
2. The average of the ranking of the classified monthlies, as to the number of articles, placed Household Management first, Child Development second and Foods third.



TABLE IX.

## HOME ECONOMICS ARTICLES

| Group                         | Average no. of articles | Average no. articles of clothing per issue | Average no. of articles of home furnishings per issue | Average no. of foods articles per issue | Average no. of articles of household management per issue | Average no. articles of family relationship per issue | Average no. articles of home and community per issue | Average no. articles of child development per issue |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Dailies                       | 5.14                    | 2.19                                       | .179  | .854                                    | .415  | .324  | .854   | 1.23  |  |
| Weeklies                      | 7.8                     | 2.3  | .23   | 1.7                                     | 1.3   | .26   | 1.05   | .66   |  |
| Monthlies                     | 14.9                    | 4.1  | 2.2   | 2.6                                     | 3.2   | 0.9   | .47  | 2.1   |  |
|                               |                         |  |   |   | CLASSIFIED MONTHLIES                                      |   |  |   |  |
| Farm Magazines                | 15                      | 2.5  | 2   | 3.5                                     | 4   | 1.5   | .4   | 4   |  |
| Women's Magazines             | 19                      | 7  | 2.3   | 4.1                                     | 3   | .54   | .3   | 1.5   |  |
| Magazines of General Interest | 6.25                    | .01  | 2.3   | .25                                     | 3.01  | .5  | .5   | 3   |  |

TABLE NO. X.

## CLASSIFIED HOME ECONOMICS ARTICLES ARRANGED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF ARTICLES

|                                  |                                 |                                |                                |                                |                                 |                                |                                 |  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Dailies                          | Clothing<br>2.19                | Child<br>Development<br>1.23   | Foods<br>.854                  | Home and<br>Community<br>.854  | Household<br>Management<br>.415 | Family<br>Relationship<br>.324 | Home and<br>Furnishings<br>.179 |  |
| Weeklies                         | Clothing<br>2.3                 | Foods<br>1.7                   | Household<br>Management<br>1.3 | Home and<br>Community<br>1.05  | Child<br>Development<br>.66     | Home<br>Furnishings<br>.24     | Family<br>Relationship<br>.26   |  |
| Monthlies                        | Clothing<br>4.1                 | Household<br>Management<br>3.2 | Foods<br>2.6                   | Home Fur-<br>nishings<br>2.2   | Child De-<br>velopment<br>2.1   | Family Re-<br>lationship<br>.9 | Home and<br>Community<br>.47    |  |
| CLASSIFIED MONTHLIES             |                                 |                                |                                |                                |                                 |                                |                                 |  |
| Farm<br>Magazines                | Household<br>Management<br>4    | Child<br>Development<br>4      | Foods<br>3.5                   | Clothing<br>2.5                | Home<br>Furnishings<br>2        | Family<br>Relationship<br>1.5  | Home and<br>Community<br>.4     |  |
| Women's<br>Magazines             | Clothing<br>7                   | Foods<br>4.1                   | Household<br>Management<br>3   | Home<br>Furnishings<br>2.3     | Child De-<br>velopment<br>1.5   | Home and<br>Community<br>.3    | Family<br>Relationship<br>.54   |  |
| Magazines of<br>General Interest | Household<br>Management<br>3.01 | Child<br>Development<br>3      | Home<br>Furnishings<br>2.5     | Family Re-<br>lationship<br>.5 | Home and<br>Community<br>.5     | Foods<br>.25                   | Clothing<br>.01                 |  |



TABLE NO. XI.  
RANKING OF HOME ECONOMICS ARTICLES

| Group                | Dailies | Weeklies | Monthlies | Average Rank | Classified Monthlies |         |                  |              |
|----------------------|---------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
|                      |         |          |           |              | Farm                 | Women's | General interest | Average Rank |
| Clothing             | 1       | 1        | 1         | 1            | 3                    | 1       | 7                | 3.6          |
| Home Furnishings     | 7       | 6        | 4         | 5.6          | 4                    | 4       | 3                | 3.6          |
| Foods                | 3       | 2        | 3         | 2.6          | 2                    | 2       | 6                | 3.3          |
| Household Management | 5       | 3        | 2         | 3.3          | 1                    | 3       | 1                | 1.6          |
| Home and Community   | 4       | 4        | 7         | 5            | 6                    | 6       | 5                | 5.6          |
| Family Relationship  | 6       | 7        | 6         | 6.3          | 5                    | 7       | 4                | 5.3          |
| Child Development    | 2       | 5        | 5         | 4            | 1                    | 5       | 2                | 2.6          |



## COMPARISON WITH ACTIVITY ANALYSES OF HOME MAKING

Various activity analyses of home making have been made. These all show that the home maker has many different duties to perform. The high school girls are also assisting with these tasks. The results of these analyses have been an important influence in determining curriculum content. For this reason the results of the present study were compared with the findings of several activity analyses.

The Kansas State Home Economics Association (1928) made a survey of the activities performed by girls in the home during the week, Saturday and Sunday, and of activities carried on generally in the home. The relative frequency of purchase and home construction of different articles and the relative frequency of the remodeling of different articles in the home were checked. Questions regarding social and school activities as well as those directly related to the home were answered by the girls. This study showed that more than thirty per cent of the girls were doing such tasks as caring for children, helping care for the sick, making furnishings for the home, making and remodeling garments, helping with the preparation and

serving of food and meals, sharing in the various family activities and performing many duties which pertain to household management. The Kansas state course of study for Home Economics was based upon this survey.

An analysis of the home makers' job was made by F. Henrietta Brett (1924), Head of Home-making Department, Part-Time School, Albany, New York. The job of the home maker was analyzed into many activities which were grouped into three separate divisions, the home makers' job for a day, the home makers' job for a week and the home makers' job for a year. These groupings were used as a basis for courses of study. The analysis of the day served as a basis for a course for seventh and eighth grades, the analysis for a week served as a basis for ninth grade, and the analysis for a year served as a basis for tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades.

A study was made by Mrs. Mildred Weigley Wood (1924) with a group of fourteen home makers who had been married for ten years and who had children. These home makers had had no Home Economics training. They were asked to state the information and training they found themselves in need of in the early years of their home making; also that which they did not possess and could not get quickly with the time and facilities at their command. More than fifty

per cent of these home makers reported needs in how to sterilize and care for bottles for babies, how to plan a budget, what to read to little children, information concerning baby clothes, the quantity, kind and method of making, what to plan for toys for small children, best methods for washing baby clothes, information concerning cuts of meat, how to save time and how to select furniture, rugs and hangings.

A study was made by May E. Davis (Department of Superintendence of N. E. A. 1927) at the University of California in which the household activities, preferred and those actually performed by the junior high school girl, were determined. The results showed that both lists included many phases of home making other than cooking and sewing.

A comparison of these analyses and the results of the present study indicate a close relationship. The phases of Home Economics which were given space in these publications were Clothing, Home Furnishings, Foods, Household Management, Home and Community, Family Relationship and Child Development. The importance of any one phase of Home Economics as indicated by the amount of space used was not uniform in all of the publications. The dailies showed Clothing first and the monthlies showed Household Manage-



ment first. The classified monthlies showed Household Management first for farm magazines, Clothing for women's magazines, and Family Relationship for magazines of general interest.

An average of the per cents for the seven groups of Home Economics in all the publications showed Clothing 19.7 per cent, Foods 18 per cent, Child Development 17 per cent, Household Management 14 per cent, Home and Community 13 per cent, Home Furnishings 12 per cent and Family Relationship 9 per cent. This indicates that as far as the interests and needs of women are shown by newspaper and magazine articles there is small difference placed upon the relative importance of the various phases of Home Economics. That Family relationship is as low as 9 per cent probably is due to some extent to the lack of available material on this subject.

### CONCLUSIONS

Since this study was made primarily to aid in determining curriculum content for high school Home Economics courses, no attempt has been made to use the data for other comparisons. It was made to obtain further information concerning the needs and interests of the home.

Other studies for this purpose are much desired.

The conclusions based upon these findings are:

1. A marked relationship exists between Home Economics reading material in the publications studied and home-making activities.
2. Educators are no longer justified in centering Home Economics courses around cooking and sewing.
3. Home Economics work can be strengthened by closer relationship between journalism and Home Economics.
4. Courses including Child Care, Household Management, Home and Community, Family Relationship, should be offered for the high school girl. Provisions should be made to include all of the important phases of home making in the high school Home Economics curriculum.

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