

AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF

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Title--PLANS FOR A DEMONSTRATION CENTER FOR THE IMPROVEMENT--  
-----OF RURAL HOMES IN THE RICE-TEA AREA OF CHINA.-----

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Abstract Approved: [Redacted for privacy]  
(Major Professor)

In view of the fact that about eighty percent of the Chinese population is rural and that most of the natural revenue is from agriculture, it is clear that it is desirable to begin the improvement of China with rural society.

In rural China, however, homes were, and to a very large extent now are, the basic social units. The improvement of rural China should in turn begin with the improvement of rural homes.

For two years the writer has served the rural people in Lichuan, which is a county within the Rice-tea area. This area has therefore been chosen as a district in which a demonstration center is to be introduced. This study represents a general plan for the organization and functioning of a proposed center.

The Rice-tea area is a district of one quarter of a million square miles, and its major crops are rice, tea and rapeseeds. It is mountainous, with valleys between. The climate is warm in summer and cold in winter.

The density of population is about eight hundred per square mile, and the size of a household is 4.4 people. The birth and death rates are both very high, but the rate of natural increase of population is difficult to ascertain because of famine, pestilence and war.

The average crop area of a farm is 2.2 acres. The net family income is about \$110.00 yearly in American currency.

Most women in rural China are engaged in home industry, such as spinning, weaving, raising hogs, chickens, ducks, etc.

Transportation and communication are to a great extent still difficult. Modern means and methods of transportation and communication are not yet available to the masses, who travel to a great extent by foot.

The standard of living for rural families is very low. Buck reports that there are only twenty pieces of garments per family head, and the majority of these are of cotton. To the writer these figures appear high. The food is poor and consists largely of rice. Milk is not available. Meats are occasionally used, fresh vegetables are scarce in winter, but soybean products are used throughout the year. The homes are usually not built to keep off either the heat or the cold. Floors are usually of mud. Air and light conditions are poor. The arrangements and the use of the rooms is undesirable; privies and barns are either in the house or near by. Buck reports that there are 1.3 rooms to each person in a family. The writer believes, however, that for the rural area fewer rooms per person are available.

More than half of the Chinese males and a great majority of females are illiterate.

The health of rural Chinese is poor. The services of modern trained doctors are not available to the masses.

The foregoing statements of rural conditions in China should lead us to realize the problems and difficulties that are faced in carrying on a home improvement program. These problems may be classified as educational, health, production, family living and social.

Having studied the conditions in the Rice-tea area, the writer has proposed a home improvement plan. The aims of the plan are: first, to give rural people a more abundant life, second, to train them for better citizens and, third, through a center to provide a laboratory which will serve for college students in domestic and social sciences.

The writer believes that this kind of work can better be accomplished by first solving the economic problem of the people. The methods of approach should include educational principles combined with mutual cooperation.

The general organization of the Demonstration Center includes: (a) physical set up, (b) administrative set up, (c) plans for introducing the program of the center. The physical set up consists of a head station which cooperates with the surrounding substations. The former serves as a demonstration and training headquarters which has seven departments. The substations are located within walking distance, or a radius of five miles from the head station. The departments rotate from head station to substation in carrying on different projects

The administrative set up consists of the seven departments and coordinating bodies. The center is under the auspices of a university which functions as a cooperative unit with the coordinating bodies. The administrative executive of the center is the director, and those who are responsible for the departments are the department heads.

The work of the Center is planned on a five year basis. The work is gradually developed from year to year by expanding from the

head station to the substations. Toward the end of the five years an intensive leaders training program will be carried on so that the people may help themselves with the least possible assistance from the outside.

The writer has suggested a plan for a handicraft project and one for a demonstration home. The first aims primarily to improve homes through the improvement of economic conditions.

The demonstration home project is a unique one which has not yet been tried in China. In addition to the functions of the demonstration home it serves to coordinate all fields of work in the Center and it also serves as a melting pot for the workers and the people in the Center.

PLANS FOR A DEMONSTRATION CENTER  
FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL HOMES  
IN THE RICE-TEA AREA OF CHINA

by

SUEN I WU

A THESIS

submitted to the  
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degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

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PLANS FOR A DEMONSTRATION CENTER FOR THE IMPROVEMENT  
OF RURAL HOMES IN THE RICE-TEA AREA OF CHINA

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

China is an agricultural nation. About eighty percent of her population is rural and her national revenue largely comes from agriculture.

The Chinese farmer lives in villages. The basic social group in the village is the "Chia", (or the expanded family). The members of this group are related and possess common property, keep a common budget, and through a division of labor cooperate in pursuing a common pattern of living. It is also in this group that children are born and reared and through them material goods, knowledge and social positions are inherited.

Larger social groups in villages are formed for various purposes by combining several "Chias". These are combined on the basis of kinship or territorial nearness. Association or social relationships are based on family membership rather than on an individual basis. Thus there are Wang or Lee villages indicating that all the villagers are originally descendants of a Wang or Lee family. Sometimes it is customary, however, for the villagers to have different surnames instead of one in common. This latter plan indicates that they are originally descendants of several families. In any event, those who live in the

same village are closely related to each other. One may be the cousin of another or the niece of a third person. Thus it clearly shows that rural China consists of villages which may well be regarded as an extension of families. Because of the Chinese family organization one cannot fail to see the importance of rural homes as the fundamental social units of rural China. The improvement of rural China should in turn begin with the improvement of rural homes.

China, however, is a large country. Its area is about one fifth larger than that of the United States. It would be unwise to begin the improvement of rural China and to disregard the differences in physical, agricultural, social and economic conditions. With this in mind the writer has selected the Rice-tea area (See Plate I, Page 3) as the region to carry out plans for the improvement of rural homes. In view of the fact that this type of program has not yet been initiated in China, such a program naturally needs very strong support from the standpoint of finance, personnel and facilities for research. The writer has had three years of experience working in rural homes, and during the third year she was a staff member in the Rural Service Department of Ginling College. Based on her experience, she believes that this work needs to be affiliated with a college such as Ginling.

## Plate I

Map of China Showing the Location of Rice-Tea Area



## CHAPTER II

## CONDITIONS IN THE RICE-TEA AREA

## GEOGRAPHICAL

Topography

The topography of the Rice-tea area may be divided into three divisions; namely, Southeastern Mountain complex, Hills and Valleys and the Basins of Yantze. Throughout the Southwestern region there is a net work of mountains and hills, with no broad plains and with a limited amount of level land, mainly along rivers. In the Hills and Valley region are found rolling hills and low mountains with many large and small hills undulating to flat basins between. The Basins of the Yantze are flat, alluvial regions with considerable areas of lake.<sup>1</sup>

Climate

The humidity is usually high. The mean annual rainfall is 58 inches. On the higher hills and mountains there is mist which makes tea culture possible. There are about nine months free of frost. The mean temperatures in January and July are 37.13 F. and 41.5 F. respectively.

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
pp 93-94, 96, 99-100

The annual mean precipitation is 1466 mm. The number of days in the growing season is 308.<sup>1</sup>

### POPULATION

In the entire Rice-tea area of China the farm population totals about 47,027,000. The total number of farm households is less than eleven million and there are 4.4 persons to each household. The density of population per square mile of crop area is about 1,788 people.<sup>2</sup>

#### Sex and Age Distribution

In both North and South China the resident rural population is characterized by a larger proportion of males. The ratio is of 108 males per 100 females.<sup>2</sup> It is probable that the large proportion of males recorded in China is due in part to a less complete enumeration of females than males, and in part to the fact that female mortality rates in relation to those of males were higher.

The age distribution of people in North and South China is shown in Table I. Figures are also included to show comparisons with the United States.

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
pp 32, 67, 73
  2. *ibid.*, p. 362

TABLE I

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION IN  
CHINA AS COMPARED WITH UNITED STATES <sup>1</sup>

Age	China (1929-1931)			United States (1930)	
	Total Sample	North	South	Total	Rural
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9
Under 10	25.0	24.1	25.7	19.6	22.7
10-19	19.3	19.1	19.4	19.2	21.5
20-29	17.0	16.7	17.3	19.9	15.1
30-39	13.8	13.4	14.2	14.9	12.6
40-49	11.4	12.3	10.6	12.3	10.9
50 and over	13.5	14.4	12.8	17.1	17.1

Attention is called to the fact that in China the total percent of children under ten years of age is greater than in the United States. In the United States the percent of people over thirty years of age is greater than in China.

Birth Rate

There are no accurate records of the birth and death rate in the Rice-tea area. But in general the figures for North and South China are a fairly good index of the general condition. The birth rate of China is about 38.3 per 1,000 population. A comparison of the birth rate of a number of countries with those of China is as follows:

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 14, p 377

TABLE II

CRUDE BIRTH RATES AND BIRTH PER 1,000 MARRIED  
FEMALES 15-44 YEARS OF AGE, FOR VARIOUS COUNTRIES<sup>1</sup>

Country	Birth per 1,000 Population		Birth per 1,000 Married Female 15-44 Years of Age	
	Year	Rate	Rate	Year
China	1929-1931	38.3	207	1929-1931
North China	"	37.4	201	"
South China	"	39.0	212	"
India	1931 (a)	34.3	-	-
Japan	1930 (b)	32.4	230	1925 (c)
Soviet Republics	1928 (b)	42.7	-	-
Australia	1931 (b)	18.2	154	1929-1931 (c)
England and Wales	1931 (b)	15.8	131	1927 (c)
France	1931 (b)	17.4	131	1926 (c)
Sweden	1930 (b)	15.4	130	1930 (c)
United States (Registration Area)	1930 (b)	18.9	131	1930 (d)

#### Death Rate

The crude death rate in China as compared with other nations is shown in Table III.

1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 20, p 383

TABLE III

CRUDE DEATH RATES FOR VARIOUS COUNTRIES<sup>1</sup>

Country	Years	Death per 1,000 Population
China	1929-1931	27.1
North China	"	24.1
South China	"	30.0
British India (a)	1931	44.9
Japan (b)	1930	18.2
Australia (b)	1931	8.7
England and Wales (b)	1931	12.3
France (b)	1931	16.3
Soviet Republics (b)	1928	18.8
Sweden (b)	1930	11.7
United States (b) (Registration Area)	1930	11.3

Concerning the infant mortality rate in rural China, accurate information is not available because still births and infants who die shortly after birth are not generally considered as having lived. Large numbers of children are born in most families and frequently parents do not remember definitely how many children they have had. The results of Dr. J. L. Buck's study are shown in the following table. The results of other studies support the evidence that the rate of 156 for deaths under one year of age per 1,000 population is too low. In Ting Hsien, for example, the infant mortality figures have varied from 185 to 199 since the registration area was established.

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 24, p 388

TABLE IV

INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN CHINA <sup>1</sup>

Region and Sex	Death under 1 Year of Age Per 1,000 Births	Death under 1 Year of Age	Live Births
China			
Total	156	1,212	7,751
Male	160	656	4,105
Female	152	556	3,646
North China			
Total	155	567	3,649
Male	152	294	1,929
Female	159	273	1,720
South China			
Total	157	645	4,102
Male	166	362	2,176
Female	147	283	1,926

Natural Increase

The rate of growth for Chinese population during the last ten years has been rapid. The Population Survey records show that there was a natural increase of 11.2 per 1,000 inhabitants. At this rate of increase the Chinese population would double in less than 65 years.<sup>2</sup> Unfortunately the problem is not so simple, since the birth and death rates are not entirely reliable, and there have been periods of famine and pestilence and war which have wiped out the entire increase.

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 25, p 389

2. *ibid.*, p 395

## AGRICULTURE AND HOME INDUSTRY

Agriculture

The major crops in the Rice-tea area are rice, tea and rapeseed. In this area there is much grass land of Cogonal type and also trees, such as camphor, peacock, cypress, peaches, persimmons, pears and oranges are common. Podzolic and red soil are predominant in this region.

The total area of the Rice-tea area is one quarter of a million square miles, of which about 12% is under cultivation.<sup>1</sup> The average size of a farm in crop area is 2.2 acres.<sup>2</sup> The chief farm animals are water buffaloes, oxen and hogs. The percent of farmers who are owners is only 28.<sup>3</sup> The figure for tenants is 19%.<sup>4</sup> The net family income, according to Dr. Buck, would probably not exceed \$400.00 maximum (or \$112.99 in American money) even when the value of all the products supplied by the farm were included. The average exchange rate for 1929-1933 of United States money is about one to three or

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
p 33
  2. *ibid.*, p 36
  3. *ibid.*, Table 1, p 34
  4. *ibid.*, Table 1, p 34

\$1.00 of United States money = \$3.54 Chinese currency.<sup>1</sup>

Most people, however, estimate the exchange value to be about one half as good as the above mentioned figure. Of the 73% of the males engaged in agricultural pursuits more than one third found it necessary to supplement their income by part time work in other of the industries.<sup>2</sup>

### Home Industry

In China about one percent of the males and 1.3% of females are either engaged full or part time in home industries.<sup>3</sup> This figure seems rather small because the writer believes that at least most women in rural China are engaged in some sort of home industry.

The most important and prevalent home industries are spinning, weaving, raising hogs, chickens, ducks, etc. There is a strong tendency for spinning and weaving industries to decrease and for the hog industry to increase.

## TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

### Transportation

The chief means of transportation are rivers, country paths, highways and railway. Of these, the first

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
p. 375

2. *ibid.*, p. 326

3. *ibid.*, Table 9, p. 372

two are still most relied upon. Railways are few in number and also they are not used to any great extent by the farmers. Highways in this area have been undergoing rapid development. Wherever they have come into existence they have replaced the uneven, narrow, country roads. Nevertheless, the bus is less frequently used on these modern roads than is the wheelbarrow. The methods of transportation in probable order of frequency, as used by the farmers, are, man-carrying, wheelbarrows, junks, animals, trucks, steamboats and train.

#### Communication

Methods of communication which are available include mail, telephone and telegraph. Post offices and their agencies are established in almost every market town, and their services are available to farmers. Telephone and telegraph offices are generally found in the county seats, and their services are largely confined to business men. A more common practice is for the farmers within a county to communicate with each other by asking some one to take "oral messages" to those whom they desire to contact.

#### THE RURAL FAMILY

The term family in Chinese (as indicated before) is "Chia". This term includes children even when they are grown and married. Sometimes it also includes relatively

remote patriarchial kinsmen. "Chia" may be called an expanded family because it includes the expansion of the family due to the reluctance of the sons to separate from their parents after marriage.

The average size of a family for all rural China is 5.3, and for the Rice-tea area alone it is 5.1. The four person family is however more common.<sup>1</sup>

The so-called large family is found chiefly in the village. In the "Chia" the parent-child relationship seems very important. Furthermore, to find a bride for a young man is regarded as part of the parental obligation. Mates are selected and ceremonies arranged by the parents. The main purpose of marriage, in the village, is to secure the continuity of descent. The term for continuity of descent is "continuity of incense and fire". This means a continuity of ancestor worship. The general view is that the spirits live in a world very similar to ours, but that economically they are partially dependent upon the contributions of their descendants. These contributions are made periodically by burning paper money, paper clothes and paper articles. Therefore, the Chinese believe it is essential to have someone to look after one's well-being in the after world.

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 7, p. 370

## STANDARD OF LIVING

Clothing

Clothes of the rural Chinese are usually made of cotton. This is also true even in the case of "dress" garments. The average number of work and dress garments per family head is about 20 pieces.<sup>1</sup> The domestic industry of weaving in the village has been practically discarded. Although most of the homes have wooden weaving looms, there are only a few that still operate. The material for clothing therefore comes largely from the outside.

Food

The Chinese are for the most part vegetarians and their staple food is rice. Vegetables include cabbage, fruits, nuts, potatoes, beans and turnips. Pork is the most popular meat. For these rice-eating people about 91.8% of the calories come from seed products, as contrasted with 38.2% for the people of the United States. On the other hand, Chinese derive an average of only 2.3% of their food calories from animal products, whereas the Americans get 39.2% from this source. For vegetables, sugar and fruits the caloric percentages given for Chinese diets are 5.2, 0.5 and 0.2 respectively, whereas for the United States

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
p. 38

these are 9.0, 10.1 and 3.0.<sup>1</sup>

Three meals are served each day: morning, noon and evening. The woman is the first to arise in the morning. She cleans the stove, warms the water and then prepares the meals. Breakfast consists of rice porridge with preserved salty cabbage. The lunch is comparatively heavy. In ordinary times meat is seldom served, except during the period of agricultural work, or on special occasions; such as weddings and birthdays.

### Housing

The typical farm house in the Rice-tea area consists of about five rooms. About eighty two percent of the houses have tile roofs. The walls of the houses in about twenty two percent of the cases are of tamped earth; and in thirty two percent they are of brick. About eighty two percent of the floors are of earth, and only about one percent of the farm houses have brick floors.<sup>2</sup>

There are, on the average, about 1.3 rooms, 1.6 doors and 0.8 windows for each person living in the house.<sup>3</sup> As a rule the windows are small and few in number. This is for protection against thieves and for the superstitious

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
p. 414
  2. *ibid.*, Table 5, p. 443
  3. *ibid.*, Table 9, p. 449

reason that too many or too large windows will allow the wealth of the house to escape.

In some cases the stables or privies are near the kitchen and in other cases these are at the entrance to the house. Many houses are affected by dampness.

The amount of furniture per farm family averages 31.1 pieces, of which there are 3.2 beds, 4.3 tables, 4.1 chairs, 11.9 benches, 2.4 cabinets, 2.9 chests, 0.6 cupboards, 0.2 desks, and 1.5 cooking stoves, or an average of 0.5 bed, 0.6 table and 1.7 bench to each person in the family.<sup>1</sup>

Most of the farmers in this area, and also in China as a whole, use one or more of their rooms for both family and farm use. This is not only because of limitation of space but because of the desire to keep watch over the stores of food and seed. In a number of families live stock is also kept in the kitchen.

In general we know that the standard of living among Chinese farmers is low. The following two comparisons between China and the United States are sufficient to support this belief.

"The expenditure of \$228.32 per farm household of 5.94 persons in China may be compared with that of (Gold) \$5,598.00 for goods consumed per farm household of

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1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 14, p. 456

4.8 persons in the United States of America (1922-24, (1), with the Yen 1,253 per household in Japan (1925), (2), and with Danish Crowns 5,314 per farm household in Denmark (1925-26), (3). In equivalent Chinese currency these amounts are \$2,988, \$958.00 and \$2,391 respectively. The ratio between China and the United States on an equivalent currency and per capita basis is 1 to 16.6." <sup>1</sup>

## EDUCATION<sup>2</sup>

Statistics show that less than one half of the males and only two percent of the females seven or more years of age have ever attended school. Only thirty percent of the males and one percent of the females have attended school long enough to learn to read a common letter. Modern education constitutes more than sixty percent of the schooling received by females and less than thirty percent of that received by males. The modern school system has replaced the old type very rapidly. The old type of school emphasized classical study and neglected the whole personality development of the student. In China there is now a greater and more complex social development, because of better communication with the outside world. This change has

- 
1. Buck, J. L. - Chinese Farm Economy  
p. 389-390
  2. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
pp. 373-374

created a demand for education. The more progressive families are the ones who send their daughters to school, and since they are progressive they choose a modern education.

#### HEALTH

The health of a person depends to some extent upon his occupation or his contact with communicable diseases. As a whole Chinese farmers do not enjoy good health. Diseases such as smallpox, typhoid, dysentary, tuberculosis, cholera, measles, diphtheria, pneumonia, skin disease, malaria, scarlet fever, tetanus, typhus, plague, leprosy, etc., (listed in order of importance)<sup>1</sup> account for more than one half of the total number of deaths. The higher mortality of childhood and early adult life is largely due to the ravages of contagious and infectious diseases which continue virtually unchecked.

The average annual cost of medicines and doctor's service is \$4.40 per family.<sup>2</sup> It is to be understood, however, some of the treatment is based upon religious customs rather than on scientific knowledge. Burning incense to idols or other forms of worship play an important

- 
1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China
  2. Buck, J. L. - Chinese Farm Economy  
p. 412

part in the attempt to keep well or to find cures for ailments.

### RECREATION

Recreation is associated with religious practices. Many families probably have no public recreation apart from idol processions, cult practices or festive and worship days at temples. Gambling during the Chinese New Year is considered recreation. At this time dragon displays or lion displays draw the interest or direct participation of all villagers. On the fifth day of the fifth moon in places near a river, farmers usually have a dragon boat race in observance of the Dragon Festival. On the seventh day of the seventh moon, men, women and children bring their offering to the grave yard in memory of their ancestors. On the fifteenth day of the eighth moon people celebrate the full moon.

### CUSTOMS

Many customs are associated with weddings and funeral ceremonies. All are considered "happy" events. When a ceremony is to be held, all those who are invited to a ceremony must be present in person or by a representative. Nearly every woman will be accompanied by children who contribute nothing to the revenues, but add enormously to the expenses.

Although much can be said in favor of such customs, there are things which need immediate improvement. One is extravagance in ceremonies. Dr. Buck estimates that a wedding on which an average of \$173.00<sup>1</sup> is spent, costs about five months of net family income. He further states that the cost of the customary funeral is about \$100.00, or about three months net family income. A dowry means almost an equally burdensome outlay, averaging about \$136.00. For the celebration of a birthday \$50.00 is expended, and for a celebration of the birth of a son about \$27.00.<sup>2</sup>

Another point to be mentioned is the time consumed in observing such ceremonies, in attending the feasts and celebrations. Sometimes a wedding feast lasts for three days; a funeral ceremony lasts for forty nine days. Even a birthday celebration may also last for several days. Although these are happy occasions for those who are invited, they are burdensome to the ones concerned.

#### RELIGION

Rural people worship many gods in addition to the ancestral spirits. These include: God of Earth, God of

- 
1. Buck, J. L. - Land Utilization in China  
Table 22, p. 468
  2. *ibid.*

Wealth and also the Goddess of Kuan Ying, which is worshipped by women who desire to have children. The kitchen god receives sacrifices most frequently. He is the supernatural inspector of the household, sent by the Emperor of Heaven. His duty is to watch the daily life of the house and to report to his superior at the end of each year. The god is symbolized by a picture with an inscription which is placed above the stove in a "little palace". This god receives sacrifices at least twice a month, regularly on the first day and the fifteenth day of each month, and also on other occasions. The sacrifice is made by laying dishes on the platform before the "little palace", lighting a pair of candles and burning a bundle of incense as an invocation.

## CHAPTER III

PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HOME IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM IN THE RICE-TEA AREA OF CHINA

## INTRODUCTION

Each country or nation has specific problems which must be considered in the organization of an educational project. Programs which have been developed in one country must be modified and adapted before they can be used in another country. In this part of the study the writer has attempted to set forth some of the specific problems and conditions of the Rice-tea area in China, which influence the development of her proposed program.

## PROBLEMS

Educational Problems

- a. The percent of illiteracy in China is high.
- b. The modern school curriculum has little application to the work of the farm. It also conflicts with village economy. For example, hog raising has become an important domestic industry. Pigs are kept in huts and the food which is collected for them has become the job of the children.
- c. The literary training which is offered in

schools has not been used in community life.

d. Illiterate parents do not consider education seriously. Without the cooperation of parents, primary education is not successful. Parents prefer that sons study classical books in school merely because this has been considered the accepted form of education.

e. Education for girls is considered unnecessary.

f. There is a serious shortage of well-trained teachers and especially of women teachers.

g. School equipment is insufficient, inadequate and poorly adapted to the type of education that is most needed.

h. The school budget is very small and teachers are poorly paid.

i. Little opportunity for adult education is available.

#### Health Problems

a. Living conditions are unsanitary.

b. There is a lack of knowledge in controlling contagious and infectious diseases.

c. The source of drinking water is usually contaminated.

d. Dependence on idols causes delay in seeking better methods in the care of illness.

e. The direct application of human and animal waste as fertilizer to plants is responsible for many diseases.

f. There is a lack of well-trained doctors.

g. It is difficult to change the old local method of medicine practice.

h. There is a general tendency to neglect sickness during its first stages.

i. Ventilation in the house is poor.

j. The practice of keeping animals in the house and of having unsanitary open toilets in or near the house is dangerous to health.

#### Production Problems

a. There is a strong tendency for handicraft such as weaving, spinning and embroidery work to decrease.

b. The quality of hand work products are not always sufficiently high to meet competition and market demand.

c. There is a lack of scientific methods in raising and breeding hogs, chickens and other animals.

d. There is a need for cooperation among producers in purchasing and marketing.

e. Communication and transportation are slow, difficult and expensive.

Family Living Problems (Housing, Clothing, Food, Family Relationship)

- a. There is a lack of mutual understanding among family members, especially between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law.
- b. There is no period of courtship between couples before marriage.
- c. The head of a large family has the entire financial responsibility.
- d. Attitudes of parents toward children hinders optimal development during childhood.
- e. There is a lack of privacy in home life.
- f. Childrens' clothes are ill fitting and uncomfortable.
- g. There is lack of balance in the diets.
- h. Methods of cooking and preserving food are frequently destructive to the food values.
- i. There is a lack of interest in growing vegetables and fruits.
- j. The diet for infants and children is inadequate.
- k. There is a need for knowledge in home management.
- l. The construction of houses does not comply with economy and fitness to living conditions.

Social Problems

- a. The birth rate is high and not in proportion to parents' ability to support children. There is a need for preventing child marriages.
- b. There is a need to correct the traditional desire for male children.
- c. There is a need to check the high infant mortality.
- d. There is a need to reduce the high death rate of mothers by enforcing prenatal and postnatal care.
- e. Weddings, funeral ceremonies and birthday celebrations are far too costly and wasteful.
- f. Rural people are too dependent on the "blessing" of dead ancestors and idols, and they have too much faith in predestination.
- g. There is a lack of wholesome recreation centers to develop a good spirit of cooperation, competition, human virtues and talents.
- h. The importance of recreational and educational play for children is neglected.
- i. There is a need of community consciousness and group cooperation in matters of social, political and economical significance.

## DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED

- a. Home improvement programs in China are new and have not yet developed a "pattern" formula.
- b. It is very difficult to break through the traditions of rural life and introduce a program which involves change.
- c. It is not always possible to get quick and concrete results which demonstrate values to the rural people and thereby win their confidence.
- d. There is a lack of individual personality in rural womanhood. Women have difficulty in exercising their own will with regard to accepting changes or improvements.
- e. It is difficult to discover talents or recognized local leadership.
- f. It is difficult for the local women to continue professions for which they are trained.
- g. It is difficult to obtain well-trained rural workers.
- h. It is difficult to win the confidence and support of a community for development of a rural home improvement program.
- i. It is difficult to get financial support from the local outside sources.

## CHAPTER IV

A PROPOSED HOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR RURAL  
CHINESE FAMILIES IN THE RICE-TEA AREA

## INTRODUCTION

Rural Chinese people need training in better methods of homemaking and home industry. This study represents a proposed plan for establishing a training program which is available to the people in the Rice-tea area.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE DEMONSTRATION CENTER

Aims

The aims of the proposed plan for home improvement in the Rice-tea area of China are: first, to help rural people, especially homemakers, attain and enjoy a "more abundant life"; second, through the improvement of rural homes to help train better citizens for the reconstruction of China; third, to serve as a laboratory for college students in domestic and social sciences.

Objectives

a. To help rural families increase money and commodity income, thus making it possible for them to raise their standards of living.

b. To help rural people, especially homemakers, make the wisest possible use of all available commodities

including cash, time and other resources.

c. To help rural people with problems of sanitation, nutrition and hygiene.

d. To help rural people reestablish a sense of values and a standard of morality.

e. To help rural people improve relationships, and more fully appreciate and enjoy their home life.

f. To develop rural leadership so that rural communities, through their own efforts, may be able to gain independence, self-government and cooperation.

#### SOME GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In carrying out this program the writer plans:

a. To assist rural people in learning how to help themselves.

b. To utilize local material resources, such as ancestral halls, temples and schools for the accommodation of the center.

c. To develop a program which will better conditions by utilizing local funds belonging to people of common ancestry.

d. To cooperate with research groups and academic institutions.

e. To limit the expenditures of the center to a basis which conforms with the people's economic capacity.

f. To utilize good teaching principles.

g. To give due consideration to local traditions, customs and beliefs before initiating a new program.

h. To start first with those projects which meet the most immediate and fundamental needs of the people.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF THE CENTER

The improvement of rural homes is a complicated task because there are many needs which involve social, economic, education and health problems. In as much as the needs are numerous and fundamental, rural families should have help, but they cannot be expected to accept all desirable changes at once. Rural workers are therefore confronted with the problem of first gaining the confidence of the people and helping them see the value of these proposed changes. Some believe that the root of the trouble in rural homes lies in the ignorance of the rural people. They advocate education as a means cure. Others believe that the cause of all trouble lies in non-cooperativeness and advocate closer organization. The writer's observation has been that ignorance, poor health and selfishness are brought about by extreme poverty. Only when people enjoy protection against hunger can treatment for ignorance, selfishness and poor health be administered effectively.

From the standpoint of policy it is best to treat the educational, political and health problems after the economic problem is at least somewhat improved.

From the standpoint of attitude and method of attacking this kind of work there are also sharp differences in opinion. One group emphasizes the importance of political force on the ground that it gives quicker and more complete results. Another group advocates the application of educational methods. A third group stress the value of "love" in carrying out a program. Although there are varied opinions the writer believes that a combination of educational methods and a "spirit of love" and friendship would ultimately bring better results, although this procedure may progress more slowly.

#### GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF THE CENTER

##### Physical Set Up

The writer has developed a plan for the organization of a head station which will cooperate with substations, thus forming a demonstration center. (See Plate II) The head station will serve as a demonstration and training station. The organization of this station includes headquarters for seven departments. Each of these departments will have its own training program with research and demonstration laboratories. In the six substations, which are to be located within a radius of five miles from the head station, the departments rotate in carrying on different projects. The various heads of departments go to the

several substations to organize short projects or units of work. They will also serve as the directors and teachers until the projects are well under way. Assistants will remain in the substations to complete the projects, and the secretaries or department heads will then all return to the head station at a given time for conferences and an exchange of ideas and information. In this way the work of the center is to be coordinated and the most important needs are to be given immediate attention as plans for other projects and assignments of work are made.

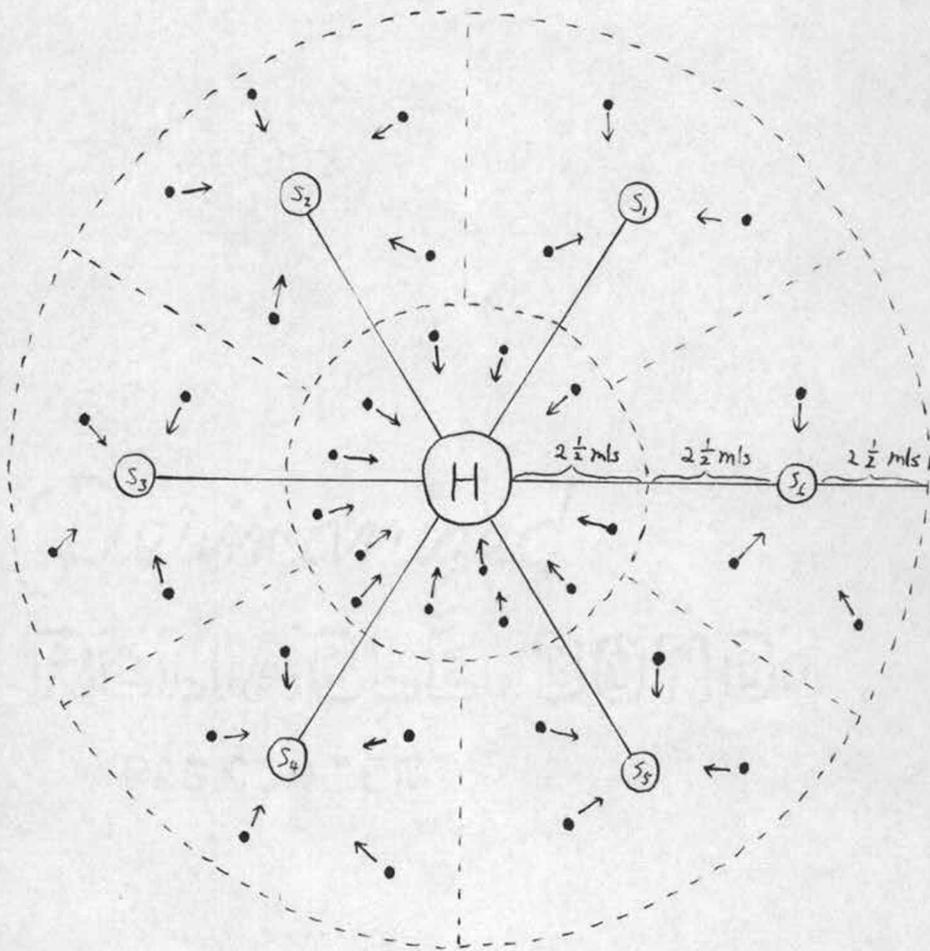
Within the substations lay leadership training is also to begin, which will be carried on later by an educational program for lay leader training in the station headquarters, where laboratory facilities, library and other equipment is available.

Direct contact with homemakers will be made through each of the stations, including the head station.

As shown by Plate II "H", the location of the headquarters of the demonstration center is to be in a market town to which the people in the surrounding villages come to buy and sell. Around the head station, and for a distance of about five miles, there are to be a number of substations. Each substation is situated in a large village which in turn is surrounded by smaller ones. With this type of set up it is expected that the villagers, within walking

## Plate II

## Physical Set Up of A Demonstration Center



Head Station



Substations



Villages

distance of two or three miles, can be benefited by the services of either the head station or the substation.

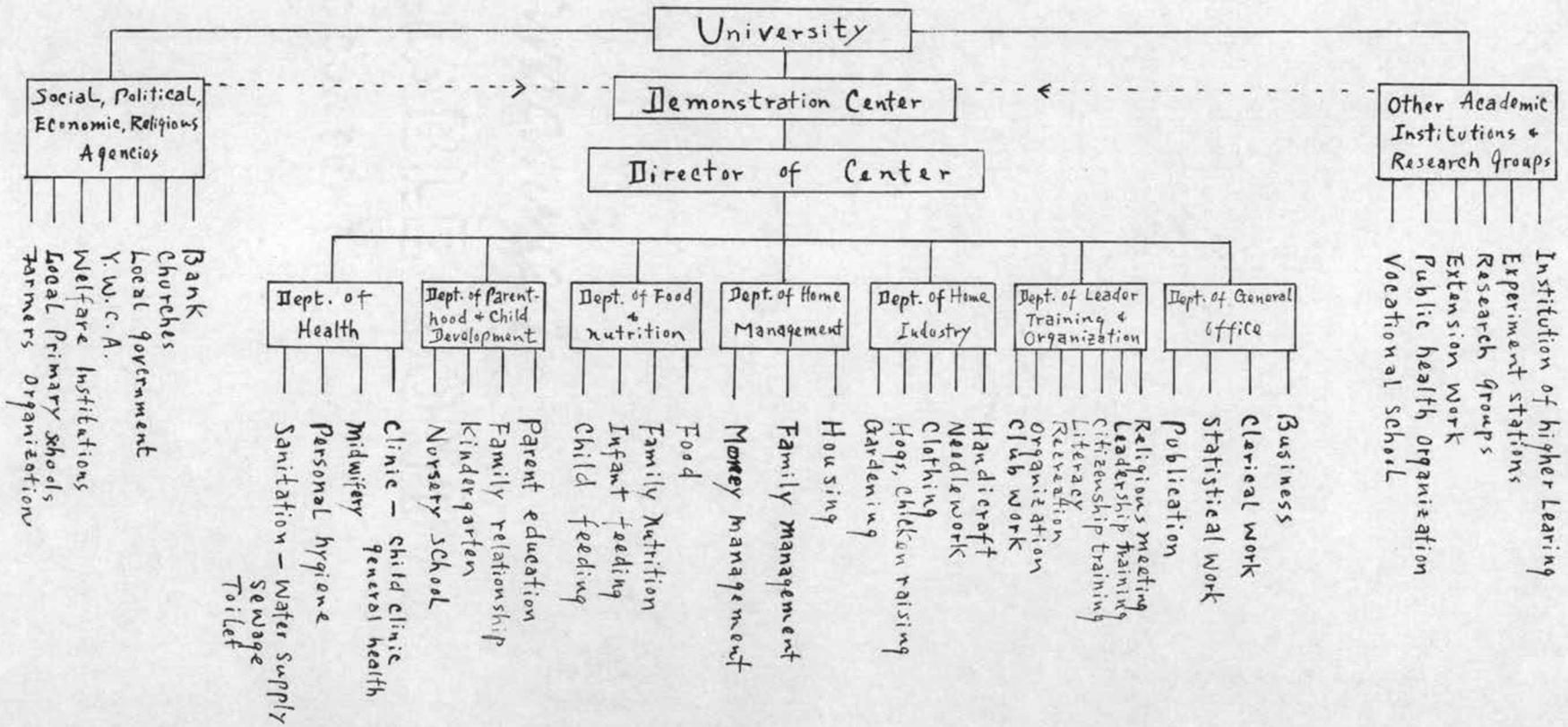
The total population in a seven and one half mile radius is, on the average, about one hundred forty thousand, and includes about twenty eight thousand families. The estimated population around the head station, within a radius of two and one half miles, is calculated to be about fifteen thousand five hundred people, or about three thousand one hundred families. The average population around each substation within a radius of two and one half miles is approximately equal to the number around the head station.

Public buildings such as the temple, schools or ancestral hall may be used for the center headquarters. A home-like building is desirable because the writer plans to include a demonstration home, various laboratories such as kindergarten, nursery schools, clinics and a demonstration kitchen in the set up of the center. This center will also serve as the residence of the workers. There will also be a large room which is convenient for general meetings.

In the head station the various activities are to be centralized and coordinated. In the substations the work will be more or less distributed, therefore rural homes are to be used for various activities. When the workers are in the field they will stay in rural homes. This will help

# Plate III

## Administrative Set Up of A Demonstration Center



them to get better acquainted. The public buildings are to be used for training and group meetings.

#### Administrative Set Up

The foregoing diagram, Plate III, shows the proposed administrative set up of the center. It consists of several major units, the seven departments of work and the coordinating bodies such as the different agencies and institutions. The center is to be under the organization of a university and functions as a cooperating unit. The chief executive of the center is to be the director who confers with the president of the university. She is to preside over the executive meetings which are attended by the heads of various departments. The director and the heads are also to be members of the staff of the university. The director is to be a person with experience in rural work and also well prepared from the standpoint of technical training. She should at least be a college graduate. The heads of various departments are to be persons with special training in the particular field in which they are working, and they will be required to have some type of experience with rural people. They are to be placed directly in charge of specific departments, with assistants helping the heads in carrying out the programs. The assistants are not to be placed on the staff of the college, but they will be employed by

the director as members of the local staff. They are to be well trained local lay leaders. They may be graduates from high schools or "primary schools", but they must be interested and well qualified to do a constructive piece of work.

The center will obtain its material, technical and personal helps from the various coordinating units, and the workers in the centers will render assistance to the rural homemakers in need of help.

#### Plan for Introducing the Program of the Center

The work of the center is planned on a five year basis, with the realization that it may require more than five years to introduce the work of the center. In the first year efforts are to be confined largely to the head station. Later the work will be extended to the different substations. A general plan for the development of the work from year to year is shown as follows:

##### First Year Program of Work

##### 1. First Half Year

- a. Select a desirable market town for the head station and call on the local leaders to secure their cooperation.
- b. Start general publicity work by means of posters, cartoons, stage performances and home visits.

- c. Make a general survey of available facilities within the town.
- d. Erect or repair buildings for use by the head station.
- e. Install equipment for the various projects.
- f. Make a specific investigation of community needs as they are related to each project.
- g. Organize a general health clinic.

B. Second Half of the First Year

- a. Start a few handicraft projects for women around the head station.
- b. Establish a nursery school and a kindergarten in the head station.
- c. Organize a girls club in the head station.
- d. Promote community recreational activities.

Second Year Program

- a. Initiate functioning of the remaining two departments, namely: Department of Home Management and Department of Food and Nutrition.
- b. Select villages for the substations.
- c. Extend the work of the Home Industry Department and the General Health Clinic to one or two substations.

### Third Year Program

- a. Carry on and expand the work of all the projects of the different departments in the head station.
- b. Extend additional programs to the already functioning substations.
- c. Organize the women for different club projects.
- d. Establish additional substations and extend home industry and the general health clinic.
- e. Train local project leaders in the head station.

### Fourth Year Program

- a. Extend all the projects of the different departments to all the substations.
- b. Train local project leaders in different substations.
- c. Organize all of the women cooperating with the different substations.

### Fifth Year Program

- a. Continue leadership training and the organization program.
- b. Make a general survey of the five years work, particularly in relation to the following points: efficiency, attitude of the people

toward the work, changing standard of living, increase of income, number of womens' and girls' organizations, decrease in illiteracy, improvement of health conditions, etc.

- c. Make a yearly plan on the basis of this survey.

## FINANCE

### Sources

The funds for the proposed educational program are to be procured from a university or college with which the center is affiliated. It is expected, however, the local, provincial and central governments will give subsidy. As the work expands and develops it should later be entirely financed by the governments concerned. In China there are also public funds and property belonging to villages of common ancestry, and a part of this money may be used for educational purposes. If the work of the center convinces the people that it has merits, they would probably be willing to donate at least a part of the funds and properties to this work.

### Budgeting

The budget of the Center will fall into two divisions. One includes the initial expenses, and the other the current expenses. The total amount needed for these two items may be as much as \$21,000 mex. This amount has been determined on the basis of a population of 14,000, the number of people within the area having a radius of seven and one half miles from the head station. The writer assumes an average per person of \$.15 mex (about four cents in American currency) can be provided for this work of the Center. Thus the total amount is about \$21,000 mex. In view of the limited funds it appears advisable to spend less for erecting and repairing buildings, but more for the necessary equipment. The amount for salary and activities should be well balanced. There should be an adequate sum in a revolving fund, especially for the home industry projects. The fund for miscellaneous expenses needs to be rather liberal. In general the budget should be flexible and be carefully made according to sound economic principles.

### METHODS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROGRAM

In general the three steps for attaining good results in the program are as follows: The first step is

to arouse interest through publicity. The second step is to obtain the confidence of the people through participation in the program. The third step is to follow up the practices adopted by the people.

The methods to be used in the first step are home visits, exhibits, posters, plays, cartoons, general meetings and news stories. Exhibits and plays are effective methods, but under Chinese conditions it is usually difficult to obtain the necessary material and personnel at the beginning of the work. Posters and news stories are also not adapted to rural China because most women are illiterate. Thus it seems that cartoons, home visits and general meetings should be more effective in arousing the interests of the people.

The methods to be used in the second step are:

- a. method demonstrations, b. result demonstrations,
- c. tour, and d. discussion method. Whenever possible demonstration methods should be used so that the people may have a chance to see what is being done, and to perform what has just been demonstrated. The discussion method is especially valuable because it gives a chance for the women to express themselves, although at the beginning it is rather difficult to get women to take an active part in the discussion.

The methods used in the third step are chiefly

leader training and supervision. It is to be understood, however, the methods used in each step are not exclusive for that step. For instance, home visits or demonstration methods, though mentioned in connection with the first two steps, are also applicable in the last.

## A SUGGESTED PLAN FOR HANDICRAFT PROJECTS

### Introduction

The writer realizes that whether during war time or during the period of reconstruction, or in the height of peaceful prosperity it is essential to help people help themselves. In order to effectively and fundamentally help the distressed people they should be encouraged and assisted to maintain their self-respect by providing opportunities for earning their own living rather than be content to subsist upon charity. This can be done by supplying them with productive and constructive work so they may feel that by applying their strength and their energy to the production of the necessities of life they are earning their own livelihood and are, at the same time, contributing their part to national resistance and reconstruction.

In the demonstration center girls and women may be trained to do handicrafts and needlework. After training they may be organized into industrial cooperatives in their

own villages. They can then make the articles not only for their own use, but also for commercial purposes, including exports.

#### Problem to be Considered in Handicraft Projects

a. How to promote revival and improvement of handicraft industry.

#### Conditions Now Existing Which Need Improvement

- a. A gradual disappearance of all Chinese handicraft.
- b. A strong tendency toward modern machine made goods.
- c. A lack of market for typical Chinese handiwork.
- d. A very low farm income.

#### Aims

- a. Revival of old Chinese art and handicrafts.
- b. Increase in production.
- c. Increase in income and also ultimately an improvement of the standards of living.
- d. Help balance international trade with China.

Objectives

- a. To develop appreciation of and an evaluation of old Chinese handicraft.
- b. To make better use of leisure time.
- c. Through this project other kinds of programs for improvement of rural homes may be promoted.
- d. To organize the women into strong social units, such as handicraft cooperatives.
- e. To raise the level of womanhood and family life.
- f. To find marketing facilities for the products.
- g. To increase efficient management.

Cooperative Agencies Which May Contribute to the Solution of Problems

- a. The China Industrial Cooperative Association.
- b. Banks
- c. Schools - vocational and art schools.
- d. Universities and colleges.
- e. New Life Movement Headquarters.

Methods Used

- a. Home visits
- b. Method demonstration meetings and leader training meetings - ten to twenty persons in each unit.

- c. Adult result demonstration.
- d. Junior result demonstration.
- e. Discussion meetings.
- f. Exhibits.
- g. Half day schools for women and girls.

### Suggested Handicraft Projects

The articles listed below are suggested as possible handicraft projects. In making these, local materials and typical Chinese patterns will be used.

Embroidery Work: such as hangings, purses, coats and slippers.

Articles Made of Bamboo: bamboo perfume boxes, vases, flower bowls, screens, curtain pulls, blinds, picture frames, boxes, furniture - tables, stools, chairs, paper weights, paper knives, letter openers, buttons, lapel ornaments, cufflinks, baskets, book-ends, napkin rings, book supports, waste baskets, woven table mats.

Articles Made of Beads: chains, belts, purses.

Articles Made of Paper: decorative paper for gifts, etc., cut outs - Christmas cards, place cards, book marks, book plates, frames for pictures, etc., stationary, paper flowers.

Articles Made of Leather: Book-ends, comb cases, key cases, coin cases, purses, bill folds, book covers,

cigarette cases, belts, bags, napkin rings, camera cases, boxes covered with leather, guest books, desk sets.

Wall Decorations: Iron pictures, wood-carved wall hangings, stencil projects, paintings, wall hangings made of cut outs, embroidery pieces.

Articles Made of Raffia: Sewing baskets, woven table mats, plant baskets, "lazy squaw" baskets, hot and cold pads, fruit baskets, shopping bags.

Needlework Projects: Table cloths and napkins with cross stitch decorations, table runners, holders for teapot handles, handkerchief and work bags, embroidered purses, handkerchiefs, needle cushions, needle cases, napkin rings, laundry bags.

Articles Made of Rope: Rugs, table runners, seat weaving.

Rug Projects: Rugs made of rope, rugs made of yarn, braided, hooked and woven rugs, knit rugs.

Quilt Projects: Bedspreads.

Frog and Button Projects: Various colors and patterns of frogs which may be used as dress fastenings.

Toy Projects: Toys made of cloth, straw, corn husk, paper, yarn, bamboo.

Measures of Activities

- a. Total enrollment at meetings.
- b. Number and kinds of handicraft projects that have increased.
- c. The quality, quantity and variety of products increased.
- d. Number of handicraft cooperatives organized.
- e. Regularity of attendance by contacted people.
- f. Number of cooperative units increased.
- g. Number of rural women participating in the project.

Measures of Educational Growth Changes in Knowledge, Changes in Attitudes and Changes in Skill, as Evidenced by:

- a. Size of cooperative membership.
- b. Number of rural families who assisted in increasing the income through the handicraft cooperatives.
- c. Number of rural families adopting new practices for the improvement of homes.
- d. Number of rural families assisted in making adjustments to homemaking and who have gained a more satisfactory standard of living.
- e. Number of farm families budgeting expenditures with a good relationship to their income.
- f. Number of rural families assisted in reducing

cash expenditures by adjustments in relation to making more things for home consumption.

g. An increased interest in old Chinese handicrafts.

h. An increased and prolonged cooperative spirit.

#### A SUGGESTED PLAN FOR A DEMONSTRATION HOME IN THE HEAD STATION

##### Introduction

Each type of work in the different departments is designed to solve problems of a particular phase of home life. The home industry work, for instance, attempts to solve an economic phase of home life. It seems necessary to have some plan which deals with all phases of home life or which integrate the entire program. Moreover, there should be a plan that will show desirable conditions and demonstrate what satisfying home life is like. Rural women are more or less conservative in accepting new ideas, therefore learning exercises should include visual aids. In other words it is desirable to have a demonstration home which will serve the purpose.

##### Objectives

Generally speaking, the primary objective of the

demonstration home is to serve as a model for rural homes.

But specifically, the chief objectives are as follows:

- a. To demonstrate to the rural people that they can build a better house and purchase more household furnishings within their limited means.
- b. To demonstrate what constitutes a balanced diet which is of primary importance to good health.
- c. To demonstrate how to manage rural homes.
- d. To demonstrate how to take care of babies and children.
- e. To demonstrate how to make a time schedule for daily work.
- f. To demonstrate wholesome family relationship.
- g. To set a standard for sanitation.

#### CONDITIONS

a. This plan for a demonstration home would be more valuable if the director, who is married, were placed in charge, and her family would live with her in the demonstration home. In case the director is single, the head of the Home Management Department could take charge of this project.

b. In this home there should be a baby and some older children. In case this family has no child of its own, arrangements could be made to take some orphans.

c. This home should be especially built to accommodate an average size family.

d. The arrangement and the size of the rooms, the air and the light conditions, sewage, equipment and household furnishings should be adaptable to local conditions and also comply to sound principles, including the art of good living.

e. The cost of the building and equipment should approximate that of a house for a family of average income.

f. The home management house should be close to the demonstration home.

Responsibilities and Obligations of the Family Living in the Demonstration Home.

a. The family occupying this house should pay no rent.

b. The family should be entitled to receive an adequate amount of allowance from the center when it cares for orphans.

c. This family would entertain rural couples regularly. The various couples would be guests for a few days at a time. The cost for entertainment would be paid by the center.

d. This family would practice the best accepted methods of management and family relationships.

- e. The family would live within the income of an average family.
- f. The family would keep daily accounts and records.
- g. The family would serve as a demonstration family and also as a research laboratory for new practices.
- h. This family and the Home Management Department should especially work together for common purposes.

#### Expected Outcome of the Demonstration Home

The particular mission of this demonstration home is to serve as a living pattern of actual home life. It would also serve to demonstrate wholesome family relationships. It seems that neither in the home management house nor in other learning situations can this intangible relationship actually be vividly demonstrated. Furthermore, this demonstration home serves best to promote intimate friendship between the workers and the rural people. Finally, this demonstration home serves as a nucleus and integrating factor for all departments of work in the center.

## CHAPTER V

## SUMMARY

In view of the fact that about eighty percent of the Chinese population is rural, and that most of the natural revenue is from agriculture, it is clear that it is desirable to begin the improvement of China with rural society.

In rural China, however, homes were, and to a very large extent now are, the basic social units. The improvement of rural China should in turn begin with the improvement of rural homes.

China is a nation whose area is about one fifth larger than that of the United States. It is necessary to choose an area in which the agricultural, geographical, climatical and cultural aspects are similar. For two years the writer has served the rural people in Lichuan, which is a county within the Rice-tea area. This area has therefore been chosen as a district in which a demonstration center is to be introduced. This study represents a general plan for the organization and functioning of a proposed center.

The Rice-tea area is a district of one quarter of a million square miles, and its major crops are rice, tea and rapeseeds. It is mountainous with valleys between. There are a great number of rivers, the most famous being the Yantze. The climate is somewhat like that of the

Midwestern United States, being warm in summer and cold in winter.

The density of population is about eight hundred per square mile, and the size of a household is 4.4 people. The birth and death rates are both very high, but the rate of natural increase in population is difficult to ascertain because of famine, pestilence and war.

The average crop area of a farm is 2.2 acres. The net family income is about \$110.00 yearly in American currency.

Most women in rural China are engaged in home industry such as spinning, weaving, raising hogs, chickens, ducks, etc.

Transportation and communication are, to a great extent, still difficult. Modern means and methods of transportation and communication are not yet available to the masses who to a great extent travel by foot.

The standard of living for rural families is very low. Buck reports that there are only twenty pieces of garments per family head, and the majority of these are of cotton. To the writer these figures appear high. The food is poor and consists largely of rice. Milk is not available. Meats are occasionally used, fresh vegetables are scarce in winter, but soybean products are used throughout the year. The homes are usually not built to keep off either the heat

or the cold. Floors are usually of mud. Air and light conditions are poor. The arrangements and the use of rooms is undesirable; privies and barns are either in the house or near by. Buck reports that there are 1.3 rooms to each person in a family. The writer believes, however, that for the rural area fewer rooms per person are available.

More than half of the Chinese males and a great majority of females are illiterate.

The health of the rural Chinese is poor. The services of modern trained doctors are not available to the masses.

Recreation is associated with religious practices; thus, the opportunity for having recreation is quite limited.

The most important customs are wedding, funeral and birthday ceremonies. These are wasteful and a burden to the people.

The gods that rural people worship most are: God of Earth, God of Wealth, God of Kitchen and Goddess of Birth. In addition to these, all rural Chinese worship their ancestors.

The foregoing statements of rural conditions in China should lead us to realize the problems and difficulties that are faced in carrying on a home improvement program. These problems may be classified as educational, health,

production, family living and social. The difficulties are many. These, however, are not particularly Chinese in nature. One finds similar difficulties in the United States as well as in Europe. The difficulties which are particularly characteristic of the Chinese are due to the peculiar cultural setting in China.

Having studied the conditions in the Rice-tea area, the writer has proposed a home improvement plan. The aims of the plan are: first, to give rural people a more abundant life, second, to train them for better citizens and, third, through a center to provide a laboratory which will serve for college students in domestic and social sciences.

The writer believes that this kind of work can better be accomplished by first solving the economic problem of the people. The methods of approach should include educational principles combined with mutual cooperation.

In carrying out the plan the writer has listed nine guiding principles, most important of which is to assist the people in learning how to help themselves.

The general organization of the Demonstration Center includes: (a) physical set up, (b) administrative set up, and (c) plans for introducing the program of the center. The physical set up consists of a head station which cooperates with the surrounding substations. The former

serves as a demonstration and training headquarters which has seven departments. The substations are located within walking distance, or a radius of five miles, from the head station. The departments rotate from head station to substation in carrying on different projects.

The administrative set up consists of the seven departments and coordinating bodies. The center is under the auspices of a university which functions as a cooperative unit with the coordinating bodies. The administrative executive of the center is the director, and those who are responsible for the departments are the department heads.

The work of the Center is planned on a five year basis. The work is gradually developed from year to year by expanding from the head station to the substations. Toward the end of the five years an intensive leaders training program will be carried on so that the people may help themselves with the least possible assistance from the outside.

The financial support for this work is to be obtained from the university, but local funds are also to be secured. The budget is made so that there will be sufficient funds to carry on the projects of the different departments. Care is taken not to make a budget which is beyond the financial capacity of the people.

The methods used in carrying on a project involve

many principles which are in accordance with the organization of the project. The first step is to arouse interest through publicity, the second step is to obtain confidence through practice, and the final step is to follow up the practices by training local project leaders.

The writer has also suggested a plan for a handicraft project and one for a demonstration home. The former aims primarily to improve homes through the improvement of economic conditions. This project is the first one to be carried out in the Center, and the writer would expect to receive a favorable reaction to it from the rural women, and thereby open the way for carrying on other projects.

The demonstration home project is a unique one which has not yet been tried in China. In addition to the functions of the demonstration home it will serve to coordinate all fields of work in the Center, and also serve as a melting pot for the workers and the people in the Center.

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