

A STUDY OF HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND
PREFERENCES IN YAZOO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
AND IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNTY EXTENSION
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

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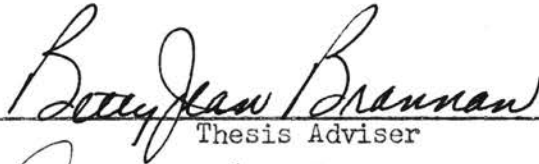
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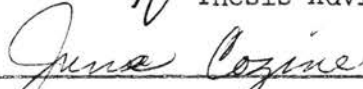
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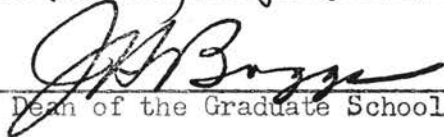
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM	1
II. HOUSING IN THE EXTENSION FAMILY LIVING PROGRAM	7
Home Economics Extension Work	8
Importance of Housing to Family Living	14
Related Studies	21
Summary	33
III. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY	35
Characteristics of Homemakers	36
Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences	55
Plans for Changes and Improvements	76
Sources of Information	78
Summary	80
IV. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS	82
Summary and Conclusions	82
Implications	85
BIBLIOGRAPHY	89
APPENDIX	93

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
I. Place of Residence of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	38
II. Ages of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	39
III. Educational Levels of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	41
IV. Marital Status of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	42
V. Employment Status of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	43
VI. Annual Family Income of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	45
VII. Ages of Household Members As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	47
VIII. Ownership of Presently Occupies Houses As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	48
IX. Number of Years Homemakers Lived In Present House As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	50
X. Year In Which Homemakers' Houses Were Built As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	51
XI. Number of Houses In Which Homemakers Had Lived As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	52
XII. Utilities In Present House of Homemakers As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	54
XIII. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Building Materials As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	56

Table	Page
XIV. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For The Number of Stories As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	58
XV. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences As Pertains To Heating and Cooling, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	59
XVI. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For The Entry Hall, Living and Dining Areas, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	62
XVII. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Storage, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	65
XVIII. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Workroom Areas As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	67
XIX. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Recreation Areas, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	69
XX. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Number of Bedrooms: Guest Bedroom, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	71
XXI. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Number of Bathrooms, As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	73
XXII. Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences For Lighting As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	75
XXIII. Changes and Improvements In Houses Planned Within The Next Three Years As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers	77
XXIV. Sources of Ideas and Information On Housing Improvements As Reported By Two Groups of Mississippi Homemakers . . .	79

CHAPTER I

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

The home economics extension program is an informal educational effort concerned with the improvement of home and family living. Since housing is fundamental to family living, home economics extension personnel are interested in the development of more satisfactory housing for all families.

During the past few years, home economics extension personnel have been evaluating subject-matter content and teaching methods of the program to determine its effectiveness, and to make plans for future development. Extension staff at federal, state, and county levels have felt the need for more information about the housing situation and the social, psychological and economic factors that affect housing.

Little research has been done to identify the housing features, satisfactions and preferences of families in a specific locality and to use this information for county extension program development. Therefore, this study will deal with the following problem: What are the housing features, satisfactions, and preferences of selected groups of homemakers in a specific area in Mississippi?

Reasons for Selecting the Problem

This problem was selected for study for the following reasons:

1. Few studies concerned with housing features, preferences and satisfactions have been done within a county area. Extension personnel at county, state and national levels have expressed a need for conducting research in this area.
2. Members of the Cooperative Extension Service recognize the need for obtaining more information concerning housing and have expressed an interest in this study.
3. As a county home demonstration agent, the writer recognized the need for more research in the area of housing and hoped this study would contribute later to the further development of such a program in her own situation.

Purposes of the Study

The seven purposes of this study were:

1. To review the program of the Cooperative Extension Service with emphasis on family housing as a part of the program.
2. To identify the features of the houses presently occupied by a selected group of home demonstration club members and a selected group of non-members of a home demonstration club.
3. To determine the degree of satisfaction of the two groups of homemakers with selected features of their houses.
4. To identify the two groups of homemakers' housing preferences for selected features in their houses.
5. To identify housing improvements the two groups of homemakers plan to make within the next three years.
6. To determine sources from which homemakers obtain information and ideas concerning housing improvements.
7. To develop implications for a county extension program in housing.

Statement of Hypothesis and Assumptions

The hypothesis used in the study was: the housing features, preferences and satisfactions of a selected group of home demonstration club members and a selected group of non-members of a home demonstration club can be identified and may be used as a basis for developing a county

extension housing program.

The assumptions underlying the hypothesis were:

1. The Cooperative Extension Service is an educational agency designed to serve all people in the various phases of individual, family and community living.
2. Since housing is recognized as an important aspect of individual family and community living, it is considered as an important and timely area of emphasis of the Cooperative Extension Service.
3. A family's hierarchy of values is instrumental in determining the family's choices and desires concerning housing.

Definition of Terms

The following terminology will be used throughout this study:

- (1) Extension, or Cooperative Extension Service refers to the educational agency sponsored jointly by the United States Department of Agriculture, the state land-grant institution, the county and the local government.
- (2) Housing features as used in this study refer to the significant characteristics of the homemaker's dwelling, and the use of space within and related to the dwelling that may contribute to the homemaker's family's needs, pleasure or convenience.
- (3) Housing satisfactions pertain to how well pleased the homemaker is with the present house in terms of family's needs, comfort and desires.
- (4) Housing preferences apply to the features or characteristics of a dwelling which the homemaker considers desirable.

Limitations of the Study

Data were collected from one county. The following criteria were

developed for selecting the county: (1) county contains both rural and urban population; (2) county population derives a large portion of its income from agricultural and industrial sources; (3) county is located in the western half of the State of Mississippi; (4) county extension personnel are interested in developing a county housing program, and in this research project; and (5) appropriate state office personnel approve of the county being used in this study. On the basis of this criteria, Yazoo County, Mississippi was selected.

The sample included women from two specific groups, home demonstration club members, and non-members of a home demonstration club who were members of an organized group.

The home demonstration club members attended the regular April meeting of the home demonstration club. The non-members of a home demonstration club attended the regular April meeting of an organization to which they belonged. Since family housing is concerned with all members of the family unit, the values and satisfactions expressed in this study are not necessarily expressions of families, but of the home-maker.

The data were collected by questionnaire. The first part of the questionnaire was concerned with general information about the respondents. The second part dealt with selected features, satisfactions and preferences that affect housing, as defined through a review of current literature. It was also designed to determine whether or not the home-maker had the feature in her present house, if so, how well satisfied she was with it, and whether or not she would prefer to have the feature in her house.

The third part of the questionnaire was designed to determine

actual plans for housing changes or improvements to be made within the next three years. The last section was designed to learn the sources from which homemakers obtain their ideas and information pertaining to housing.

The questionnaire was administered to the sample under the supervision of the home demonstration agent. Since the data were collected by questionnaire that was administered by an individual who did not assist with its formulation and development, there were possibilities for error. The results of this study are limited to the sample described.

Procedure

The problem was developed from a review of literature in the area of housing and related studies and as a result of the writer's experiences as a county home demonstration agent.

A tentative questionnaire was developed and pre-tested with 15 home demonstration club members from Payne County, Oklahoma, eight homemakers from Stillwater, Oklahoma, and eight homemakers from Sharkey County, Mississippi. The tentative questionnaire was also reviewed by Oklahoma and Mississippi state and county extension personnel, and by staff members of the College of Home Economics, Oklahoma State University.

The questionnaire was revised, duplicated, and copies sent to the Yazoo County home demonstration agent, who administered the questionnaire to home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club. The respondents attended the April, 1963 meeting of their organized group. Two hundred twenty-two (222) questionnaires were returned to the home demonstration agent, who forwarded them to the

writer. Twenty-six questionnaires were insufficiently answered and were not used. Responses from 196 homemakers, including 94 home demonstration club members and 102 non-members of a home demonstration club, comprise the findings of this study.

The data were tabulated. As a result of the findings of this investigation, implications for extension program development in the area of housing were developed.

The purposes, hypotheses, assumptions, procedure, and other pertinent information concerned with the development of this study are outlined in this chapter. Chapter II includes information pertaining to home economics extension work, the importance of housing to family living and a review of studies related to this investigation. The findings of this study are summarized in Chapter III. The summary and recommendations for the further development of a county extension program in the area of housing are presented in Chapter IV.

CHAPTER II

HOUSING IN THE EXTENSION FAMILY LIVING PROGRAM

The quality of our national life is affected by our housing. However, housing is not the same thing to all families. All families do not need, nor do they want the same kind of shelter. Families are consumers, and as a product, housing must meet some of the consumer's needs, satisfactions and desires. The purchase of a house is likely the greatest single expenditure of a family. The consumer may build his house and make the decisions concerning it, or he may purchase a home constructed by a builder at the site, or a pre-fabricated house manufactured miles away from the site.

Architects, sociologists, builders, representatives of industry and government are concerned with families as consumers of housing. These professional groups and families often have different concepts of housing, and often lack communication with each other.

The Cooperative Extension Service is an educational agency. One of its concerns is housing for the family. Through the extension family living program, all people have access to better communication and continuing education in housing. The extension home economics program was the background for the framework of this study. This chapter presents a discussion of home economics extension work, the importance of housing to family living, and a review of research related to this study.

Home Economics Extension Work

The Cooperative Extension Service is an outgrowth of several movements to establish an educational program designed to serve all people, particularly those in rural areas. In 1862, federal legislation was enacted which provided for the establishment of the United States Department of Agriculture. The purpose of this agency was two-fold, namely:

. . . . to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture in the most general and comprehensive sense of the word. . . .¹

From its beginning the United States Department of Agriculture has had an educational function.

Before 1860, religious schools, liberal arts colleges and private schools were the primary institutions of higher education. Most of these were concerned primarily with the education of men of the upper social class. The majority of people became dissatisfied with the classical type of education. Several attempts were made for federal legislation to establish institutions of higher education to serve the masses of the people. Finally, in 1862, the Morrill Act was passed. As a result the land-grant college system was established.

The new concept in education was designed to serve the people of every social and economic class. Emphasis was placed on education of youth in the subjects of agriculture, mechanical arts and military tactics.

It is significant to note that the newly created state institutions

¹The Organic Act, Passed by 63rd Congress, 1913-15, Vol. 38, Part I, Public Law, 1863, p. 373.

were to be under state control, even though they were operating under federal law. Within a short period of time, the various states accepted provisions of the Morrill Act and established new institutions or revised existing ones in order to qualify for federal assistance.

As a result of the request by state educational leaders and congressional interest in agricultural research, the Hatch Act was passed in 1887. This act created an Agricultural Experiment Station at each land-grant institution. The station was to be under the direction and supervision of the institution and was to be free of federal control. The act also provided that the findings of research would be printed and disseminated to the people.

Practical education was reinforced for both men and women with the passage of the Second Morrill Act of 1890, which stipulated that federal funds would be used specifically for teaching agriculture, mechanical arts, and the English language, with reference to the application of these subjects in the industries of life.²

The teaching and research which was done at the land-grant college was having its impact upon the masses of the people. Leaders soon realized that information must be carried directly to people in their own situation. As a result, several efforts were made to establish an off-campus educational program from the land-grant institutions. Efforts were also made to instigate an informal educational program for rural people.

In 1914, Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act which provided for the

²Lincoln David Kelsy and Cannon Chiles Hearne, Cooperative Extension Work (Ithaca, New York, 1963), p. 30.

establishment of the Cooperative Extension Service. This legislation stipulated that an informal off-campus educational program in agriculture and home economics was to be a partnership undertaking between the land-grant institution and the United States Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the local government and local people.

Following 1914, several Congressional enactments provided for the continued development of the Cooperative Extension Service. The amended Smith-Lever Act of 1953 expanded the scope of the agency. It stated:

Cooperative Agricultural Extension work shall consist of the giving of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture and home economics and subjects relating thereto to persons not attending or resident in said colleges in the several communities, and imparting information on said subjects through demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, and for the necessary printing and distribution of information in connection with the foregoing; and this work shall be carried on in such manner as may be mutually agreed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the State Agricultural College or Colleges receiving the benefits of this act.³

Several attempts have been made to define the scope and responsibility of the Cooperative Extension Service. The latest was done in 1958 by a committee appointed by the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy of the American Association of Land Grant Colleges and State Universities. This committee's statement is often referred to as the Scope Report.⁴

The Scope Report re-emphasized the educational function of the agency as stated in the Smith-Lever Act. It pointed out that in performing this educational function, the Cooperative Extension Service

³Ibid., p. 31.

⁴Paul A. Miller et al, A Statement of Scope and Responsibility of the Cooperative Extension Service (Washington, D.C., April, 1958).

helps people to:

- (1) Identify their needs, problems, and opportunities;
- (2) study their resources; (3) become familiar with specific methods of overcoming problems; (4) analyze alternative solutions to their problems where alternatives exist; and (5) arrive at the most promising course of action in light of their own desire, and resources and abilities.⁵

The Extension Committee on Organization and Policy pointed out significant trends which have had an impact upon program development in the Cooperative Extension Service. These included: (1) adjustments in the family farm economy; (2) off-farm influences; (3) population changes; (4) rising education levels; (5) changes influencing family living--rural and urban; and (6) increased demands on the natural resources.⁶

In keeping with the legal framework of the Smith-Lever Act and other legislation and with the social and economic changes, the Scope Report outlined several major areas of program emphasis which should be receiving high priority attention. One of these areas was family living, or home economics extension work.

Since the origin of the Cooperative Extension Service, education in home and family living has been recognized as an important aspect of the total extension program. The beginning of home economics extension programs was centered around the development of skills. Emphasis was placed on food production, preparation and preservation, and clothing construction.

The teaching technique used in the home economics extension program was primarily the demonstration method with community groups. These

⁵Ibid., p. 12.

⁶Ibid.

organized groups later became known as home demonstration clubs. The major objective of the program was the improvement of family life.

The Committee on Statement and Philosophy of the American Home Economics Association pointed out that the aim of home economics is to help individuals and families develop competencies fundamental to effective living. It outlined these competencies as:

Establish values which give meaning to personal, family, and community living; select goals appropriate to these views.

Create a home and community environment conducive to the healthy growth and development of all members of the family at all stages of the family cycle.

Achieve good interpersonal relationships within the home and within the community.

Nurture the young and foster their physical, mental, and social growth and development.

Make and carry out intelligent decisions regarding the use of personal, family, and community resources.

Establish long-range goals for financial security and work toward their achievement.

Plan consumption of goods for financial security and work toward their achievement.

Purchase consumer goods and services appropriate to an overall consumption plan and wise use of economic resources.

Perform the tasks of maintaining a home in such a way they will contribute effectively to furthering individual and family goals.

Enrich personal and family life through the arts and humanities and through refreshing and creative use of leisure.

Take an intelligent part in legislative and other social action programs which directly affect the welfare of individuals and families.

Develop mutual understanding and appreciation of differing cultures and ways of life, and cooperate with people of other

cultures who are striving to raise levels of living.⁷

The responsibility of the home economics program of the Cooperative Extension Service is to aid families in acquiring the knowledge, experience and understanding that will make them capable of adjustment to the world's constantly changing social and economic conditions.⁸

The various phases of home economics in the extension program are for the purpose of helping families adjust to the constantly changing world through new knowledge, purposeful experience and better understanding.

The Home Economics Development Committee outlined the fundamental responsibilities of home economics extension as:

The optimum development of children, youth, and adults as individuals and as members of a family and community.

The management of human and material resources to achieve goals the family considers important.

The assistance to family members in attaining a high level of competence in the needed homemaking skills and techniques.

The promotion and maintenance of good health, including the establishment and wise use of health facilities and services.

The assistance to family members in understanding the community and its organizations and services, and in participating in these organizations and services.

The further development of an informed leadership is equipped to appraise and solve its own problems in a democratic society through effective individual and group participation in a solution of the various problems affecting the welfare of the family and community.

⁷Dorothy Scott, et al, Home Economics, New Directions, A Statement of Philosophy and Objectives (Washington, D. C., 1959), p. 9.

⁸Lela O'Toole, et al, Home Economics in Land-Grant Colleges and State Universities (Washington, D. C., 1960), p. 9.

The orientation of programs toward interest and needs of all families, rural--urban. (These programs are to be adjusted to stages and development of the family, such as young homemaker, the working wife, the mother and the elderly person.)

The identification of research problems and the encouragement of an expanded research program in areas such as food and nutrition, home management, family economics, clothing and textiles, housing and equipment, consumer preferences, and human behavior in order to provide a continuous flow of valid information which helps families to solve their problems.⁹

The development of the individual is the important objective of home economics in the Cooperative Extension program. Since the individual is a part of the family unit, family living is strengthened as the family meets and solves problems to improve their home and community.

The previous discussion has pointed out that the major objective of the extension family living program is the improvement of individual, family and community living. It is this program which forms the background for the framework of this study.

Importance of Housing to Family Living

Family housing has been recognized by the Cooperative Extension Service as an important factor in family living. As an educational agency, the Cooperative Extension Service acknowledges its responsibility to help people improve and make use of their housing.

Housing not only provides shelter, but is also an influence on the daily lives of the family members. Families' use of houses vary, yet the members demand common requirements and satisfactions such as comfort, health, contentment, aesthetic satisfaction and family status symbolism.

The family may measure success in terms of the development of its

⁹Ibid., pp. 9, 10.

individual family members and the short and long time goals reached by the family unit. Housing is likely to be included in all goals, as housing affects the many facets of family life. As the family members evaluate their housing features, satisfactions, and desires, they can enjoy better family living and contribute more to society.

There does not seem to be a standard definition of housing agreed upon by authorities. Those who have realized the far reaching importance of housing have attempted to describe it. Beyer stated:

...neither does Federal housing legislation provide a standard definition of farm and non-farm housing even though separate agencies are authorized to deal with farm housing programs. It is doubtful that state and private agencies concerned with either farms or farm housing use definitions that are any more uniform.¹⁰

Agan and Anderson¹¹ described housing as including shelter, home equipment, furnishings and environment.

The American Health Association is interested in the relationship of housing to health and has recognized the affects of housing on mental and physical health. This health group defined housing in terms of adequate dwelling space and as a place that gives:

(1) a dwelling unit for each family; (2) provisions for household activities; (3) suitable conditions of temperature and light; (4) sanitation and health; (5) protection against accidents; (6) provisions for personal satisfactions.¹²

Generally, people are less aware of the influence of housing on

¹⁰Glenn H. Beyer and J. Hugh Rose, Farm Housing (New York, 1957), p. 120.

¹¹Tessie Agan and Elinor M. Anderson, Housing the Rural Aged in Kansas, Agricultural Experiment Station, Kansas State University of Agriculture and Applied Science. (Bulletin 427, March, 1961.)

¹²Committee on the Hygiene of Housing, American Public Health Association, Basic Principles of Healthful Housing (May, 1939), p. 86.

mental health than on physical health. The Committee on the Hygiene of Housing declared that:

...More damage is done to the health of the children in the United States by a sense of chronic inferiority due to the consciousness of living in sub-standard housing than all the defective plumbing these buildings may contain.¹³

Housing affects the social aspects of man as it determines his environment. The location of his house probably determines his social environment, the schools attended by his family, the social, economic, and political organizations to which he belongs, and his friends and neighbors. Only in recent years have sociologists studied the social aspects of housing to learn some of the less obvious reasons behind man's actions.

Sociologists also say that limited data are available on the effect of housing disorder on the family. Anshen stated that few American families escape classification among the inadequately housed. She listed the following to describe families that are inadequately housed:

- (1) Families living in indecent, unsafe, or unsanitary housing.
- (2) Families tied down by houses they should not have bought.
- (3) Families with an other-than-normal size or composition that is unsuited for traditional housing.
- (4) Families whose personal social needs or way of life are hampered by the traditional dwelling.
- (5) Families unable to find quarters because of the housing shortage.¹⁴

Housing authorities call attention to the specialized housing needs of different segments of the population. These needs concern not only the aged but also those families which do not follow the traditional

¹³Ibid.

¹⁴Ruth Nanda Anshen, The Family, Its Function and Destiny (New York, 1949), pp. 475-476.

family unit--the father, mother, and children. According to Anshem these might include:

- (1) Single, divorced, or widowed men or women, living alone.
- (2) Adult companion, living in one household.
- (3) Unusually large families of seven or more people.
- (4) Families with only a male head and others, but no homemaker.
- (5) Families with a working female head.
- (6) Families with children past the traditional age of staying at home.
- (7) Families who have voluntarily moved into one house.
- (8) Families with servants who have children.
- (9) Families with both husband and wife working.¹⁵

Authorities concerned with the social and economic aspects of housing report that the stages of the family life cycle influence a family's housing. They point out that there are six basic stages of the life cycle, during which the family exerts the greatest influence on the housing market. These influences, as pointed out by Foote and associates¹⁶ will be presented in the following discussion.

The Pre-child Period. In the American culture, the family is formed with marriage, and a new family usually means a new household. A family's first house is usually small, rented, near the center of a town or a larger city, and inexpensive to maintain.

The Child-bearing Period. As the children are born, the family's needs and resources probably change and adjustments usually follow. A family's mobility is likely to be greatest and of most important influence during this period. An average family usually moves three or four times. Children also influence housing choices as related to neighborhood character, proximity to schools, recreation areas, and general comfort

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁶Nelson Foote, et al., Housing Choices and Housing Constraints (New York, 1960), pp. 109-118.

of the house. During the child-bearing period, the average family is likely to live in another apartment, a small house, or a two- or three-family house in a declining district away from the high rent areas. During the later phase of the child-bearing period, the suburbs may offer the family some preferences in housing, household equipment, and neighborhoods at a price that the family can afford. This house is likely to be considered a temporary home, and is probably a compromise until the family's income makes more expensive preferences of the family possible.

The Child-rearing Period. This is probably a period of the family's adjustment to new living patterns. The husband's occupation may change little and the family's housing is also likely to remain stable.

The Child-launching Years. During this period, the children are older and the parents and children desire more privacy. The house is more likely to be a symbol of status and success, and is of greatest value to the family at this period of their lives. After the next move, the family may be in a custom-built house in a spacious, older, established neighborhood.

The Post-child Period. The former house may likely be too large for the family now except for visits from guests and the entire family. The house is likely to be a hobby, rather than a need as in earlier years. The family at this stage has the highest ratio of home ownership and the lowest rate of mobility. The average couple is probably dissatisfied with suburban living and may move to a smaller house or to a city apartment.

Later Life. The average wife outlives her husband by six years. After the death of her husband, the average widow continues to live in

her home until she reaches the age of 65. She may move into a house with her adult sons or daughter. Her continuing to live in her own home is often against her own interest and the public interest, especially if others need the space.

The custom of the American culture is to give principal attention to the economic value of goods and housing is no exception. The monthly cost of housing is the largest item in the budget after food, for low and middle income families.¹⁷ Housing is probably the most costly single consumer item for all income groups.

The cost of land accounts for approximately 15 percent of housing costs. Since the house cannot be detached from the land, the site is an integral cost factor in housing. This may be a contributing element to the housing supply with a surplus of housing in one area and a lack of housing in another area.

Few families can buy a house and pay cash for it. Interest on mortgage loans, especially for longer periods of time, adds to the overall cost of housing for the family.

In addition, housing provides employment for many people. During 1950, the peak post-war building year for home construction, 1,175,000 workers were employed in new, non-farm residential construction at the building site. The number of workers at off-site construction was only slightly less than those employed at on-site-construction. New homes require home furnishings and equipment. They also create other types of construction such as schools, hospitals, streets, public utilities, and

¹⁷Anshen, p. 476.

these in turn contribute to the economy of the area.¹⁸

Economists have stated that housing influences business cycles and that building booms are higher and its depressions are lower than those of other industries. Federal credit policies have been to counter economic trends. Some authorities tend to believe that such policies have been used at the expense of stabilizing the housing industry.¹⁹

The federal government has been active in financial insurance for housing since the depression years when the Federal Home Loan Bank system was established. The purpose of this system was to increase the flow of mortgage money among savings and loan associations as a recovery measure.

Various laws influencing housing have been enacted during the past thirty years; however, the United States Housing Act of 1934 was the beginning of influential housing legislation. The purpose was to:

...encourage improvement in housing standards and conditions, to facilitate sound home financing on reasonable terms and to exert a stabilizing influence on the private housing market.²⁰

This law was amended in 1949, in 1954, and again in 1961. The principal provisions are for federal assistance with:

- (1) Housing for displaced and moderate income families.
- (2) Home improvement loans.
- (3) Mortgage insurance for experimental housing.
- (4) Housing for the elderly.
- (5) Public facility loans.

¹⁸Martin Meyerson, Barbara Terrett, and William L. C. Wheaton, Housing, People and Cities (New York, 1962), pp. 242.

¹⁹Ibid.

²⁰Ibid.

- (6) Public renewal.
- (7) Open-space land.
- (8) College housing loans.
- (9) Advances for public works planning.²¹

Other federal agencies have been delegated various responsibilities for the federal housing program. These responsibilities change from time to time. Rapid technological, social, and economic changes have greatly influenced the area of family housing. For effective Extension program development, Extension personnel must keep informed of these changes and be sensitive to families' needs, satisfactions and preferences as they guide Extension programs.

Related Studies

Early research in housing pertained to the spatial needs of families. These studies centered upon the activities carried on by different family members, and the amount and kinds of equipment and furnishings owned by the families. One of the earliest such studies was conducted by Wilson, Roberts, and Thayer.²² Their study was concerned with comfortable heights for working surfaces and space needed for activities carried on within the house.

Heiner and McCullough²³ investigated spatial needs as related to household supplies and equipment. Later they developed standards of

²¹Urban Affairs and Housing: The Coordinated Programs of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, U. S. Government Printing Office (Washington, D. C., 1962), p. 17.

²²Maud Wilson, Evelyn H. Roberts and Ruth Thayer, Standards for Working Surface Heights and Other Space Units of the Dwelling, Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 348 (Corvallis, 1937).

²³M. K. Heiner and H. E. McCullough, Functional Kitchen Storage, Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 846 (Ithaca, 1948).

space requirements for all kinds of household activities. Other such studies were: Trotter's²⁴ study of space requirements as required by a pre-school child; Marley and Fitzsimmons'²⁵ investigation of space needs as related to family clothing; and Hollifield and Reroad's²⁶ research of space needs as related to sewing activities.

Riemer,²⁷ a leading sociologist, was the first to approach housing research through a study of the social as well as the work activities of families.

In 1948, the United States Department of Agriculture conducted the first nation-wide housing study entitled Housing Needs and Preferences of Farm Families.²⁸ This was done in seven southern, 12 north central, 11 western, and 12 northeastern states. The objectives of the study were: (1) to find out the kinds and scope of activities carried on in farm houses in order that space needs could be determined; (2) to find out the kinds and quantities of objects stored in farm houses; (3) to determine the preferred locations of activity areas and for certain

²⁴Virginia Yapp Trotter, "Housing Preferences of Nebraska Farm Families," Journal of Home Economics, XLIII (December, 1951), p. 802.

²⁵Helen Marley and Cleo Fitzsimmons, "Space Needs for the Family's Clothing," Journal of Home Economics, XXXI (May, 1947), pp. 247-251.

²⁶Grace Hollifield, "Space Needs for Sewing Activities in 50 Rural Homes in Bostic, North Carolina" (unpublished Master's thesis, Ohio State University, 1950).

Margaret Flow Reroad, "Management and Equipment Problems Related to Planning Rural Home Sewing Centers" (unpublished Master's thesis, West Virginia University, 1951).

²⁷Svend Riemer, "A Research Note on Sociological Home Planning," American Journal of Sociology, XLVI (May, 1941), p. 865.

²⁸Housing Needs and Preferences of Farm Families, United States Department of Agriculture, ALB96.

features of construction; and (4) to learn how existing farm houses were used in backgrounds for interpretation of other data.

The Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics developed a basic interview schedule. The data for the southern regional housing study were obtained by personal interview with 1313 white and 194 negro homemakers in owner-operator families.

The household activities studied were: (1) meat cutting; (2) lard making; (3) food preservation; (4) meal service; (5) laundering; (6) sewing; (7) entertainment of guests; and (8) baking and butter making. The families were classified into four socio-economic groups, three family type groups, and six household groups.

The median house had five rooms; was heated by fireplaces or heaters, or both, supplemented by the kitchen range. About three-fourths of all houses had electricity and about one-third had running water. Slightly less than twenty percent had a bathroom. Three-fourths of the homemakers preferred a house of one story construction. A majority of the respondents considered storage facilities to be the most important housing feature. The homemakers preferred a guest room as they had overnight guests frequently.

Eighty percent of the respondents did home sewing. Those in the two lowest socio-economic groups preferred the bedroom for sewing; those in higher socio-economic groups preferred a separate room for sewing. Respondents used the house little as a center of business activities.

The first concentrated housing study in a large, specific area of Mississippi was done under the supervision of Dr. Dorothy Dickens of the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station, and was a part of the

Southern Regional Housing Study.²⁹ The objectives of this study were: (1) to learn the characteristics of the dwellings in the lower coastal area of Mississippi; (2) to find out the activities and attitudes affecting housing requirements.

A report from a national study, conducted by the Federal Extension Service in 1957,³⁰ showed some of the housing changes planned and the information wanted by home demonstration club members. Eleven thousand, five hundred white home demonstration club members from 110 counties in 15 different states were interviewed.

Forty percent of the group had planned housing changes in their homes within two or three years. Forty percent planned for general remodeling. Twenty-five percent planned to add one or more rooms. More changes in housing were planned by homemakers under forty years of age than those in any other age group. However, more changes for redecoration were planned by those sixty years of age and over.

Those with family incomes between \$2,500 and \$7,000 planned changes to greater extent than those in the lowest or in the highest income levels. Homemakers employed away from home planned changes to a greater extent than those not employed. As income and educational levels increased, the percentage of homemakers desiring housing information increased.

²⁹Farm Housing in the South, Southern Cooperative Series Bulletin No. 14, United States Department of Agriculture.

³⁰Houses Planned and Wanted, United States Department of Agriculture, Extension Circular 525, 1957.

Agan and Anderson,³¹ who studied housing of the rural aged in a selected area of Kansas, found that the aged prefer smaller houses, independence and living with people of their own generation as long as possible. This makes safety features such as adequate wiring and lighting, grab bars in the bathroom, and one story construction without steps and stairways even more important.

This study also emphasized the need for provisions for resting in a house. A majority of the older people in this Kansas study rested from one to four hours daily, and they rested by sitting rather than lying down. Living rooms, bedrooms, and dining rooms were preferred for resting because of their convenient location, nearness to other people, and because these rooms were usually warm.

Since older people are sensitive to drafts, fluctuating and extreme temperatures, heating and cooling are particularly important. Few aged in Kansas had central heating and cooling.

Cutler's³² study was probably one of the first and most important investigations concerned with the relationship between family values and houses. Through a review of literature pertaining to housing values, she identified ten basic values that are associated with an individual's or family's housing choices. The identified values were: (1) beauty; (2) comfort; (3) convenience; (4) location; (5) health; (6) personal

³¹Tessie Agan and Elinor M. Anderson, Housing the Rural Aged in Kansas, Agricultural Experiment Station, Kansas State University of Agriculture and Applied Science. (Bulletin 427, March, 1961.)

³²Virginia Cutler, Personal and Family Values in the Choice of a Home, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 840, Nov. 1947.

interests; (7) privacy; (8) safety; (9) friendship activities; and (10) economy.

After identifying the values, Cutler developed and tested an instrument that would help a family determine their own desires and needs as a standard for house evaluation. The instrument included two parts. Each part was designed to help the individual question the satisfactions received from his own house, and to help him recognize ways of improving his own house to achieve desired satisfaction.

To test the instrument, 50 families representing three social classes--upper, medium, lower--responded to the test. The test profiles showed that values at the top of the functional pattern for an individual were given frequent mention in the interpretation of other values.

With these results, Cutler stated:

The individual's pattern does not consist of a list of isolated characteristics. Instead, the upper portions of the pattern are interpreted as being a cluster of interrelated characteristics, which contain the values most important to the person.³³

In 1952, Beyer, Mackesey, and Montgomery³⁴ conducted a study to determine more clearly what housing values were held by a sample of urban families in Buffalo, New York. In addition, they wanted to learn to what extent these values motivate in the selection of housing, and if the families were satisfied with the houses they had bought. They also wanted to illustrate how values might be incorporated into house plans.

To select the values that might be considered to be linked with housing, the group reviewed previous research to see what values had

³³Ibid.

³⁴Glenn H. Beyer, Thomas W. Mackesey, and James E. Montgomery, Houses Are For People, Cornell University Housing Research Center, 1955.

been identified by others. The research group conducted a series of intensive interviews with a few informants. Those interviewed were asked to reveal their deeper feelings when they were questioned about their housing values. Questionnaires were developed and administered to approximately 150 persons in the Buffalo, New York area. From this procedure, nine values were chosen for intensive study, namely: (1) economy; (2) family centrism; (3) physical health; (4) aesthetics; (5) equality; (7) freedom; (8) mental health; and (9) social prestige.

The validity of these values was examined with two sets of interviews administered separately to husbands and wives to determine how they agreed and differed in their housing attitudes. Interviews were held with 1,032 urban families, which were selected according to certain criteria from the Buffalo, New York area.

The research group found that families' values fell primarily into one of the three housing value types. These were: (1) "economy value group"; (2) the "personal value group"; and (3) the "family value group." The "prestige value group" was included because the sociologists thought that families who emphasize prestige influence housing to a large degree. A description of these families' value groups as outlined by the research group follows.

(1) "Economy" Value Group. Families of this group emphasize the economic aspect of any subject, and housing is not different. Since they are disturbed by economic pressure, they take only calculated risks. Their decisions are made with what they believe to be sound, practical, business judgment.

Family ties and sentiments are important, but financial matters come first. They like informality and will likely eat their regular

meals in the kitchen more than members from any other value group. Social scientists agree that these families' economic attitudes and values are more likely to be in low-income groups, and tend to be more neighborly than those from higher income groups. They are more concerned with the size and durability of their house than with its appearance or style. Maintenance costs, taxes, probable resale value, and essentials, rather than luxuries, are of primary interest.

(2) "Family" Value Group. The health and well-being of the family is first in importance to this group. Family members accept each other without question and are more devoted than the average family to grandparents, in-laws, and other relatives.

Relatives visit each other in their homes. Generally the members of this value group prefer to live in the suburbs. The family's housing needs and wants are quite different from those of the other groups, as comfort of the whole family must be considered. This family type also stresses health, safety in the house, on the lawn and on the street. Their home will likely be open to sunlight, well ventilated, well heated, and ample in size.

(3) The "Personal" Value Group. Families of this housing value type are motivated more by the desire for self-expression, freedom and independence than any desire to impress other people. Individualism, good taste, orderliness, harmony, and completeness are also characteristics.

Reading is their preferred form of entertainment. This value group feels that others have the right to live their own lives. They are more formal, value privacy, and self-expression. Their home is likely to reflect good taste and satisfy the particular individuals.

(4) "Prestige" Value Group. The family's social status, social mobility upward, and the opinions of others show this group's basic interests. They are sensitive to the opinions of friends, are conscious of the latest styles; and the "correct" way of living is of basic influence to them. This value group is found at all income levels, and to many, there is a limit to finances that can be spent to secure the latest fads and styles. Individuality is desired. The preferred location of the house is in a good neighborhood. The house appears up-to-date. The house must also take care of formal entertaining needs.

A significant finding of the study was that the higher the socio-economic status, the greater the disagreement between husband's and wife's reaction to housing. The higher the wife's educational level, the greater was her desire for better housing.

A part of the study was also to find out the value of housing to all the families. They were questioned as to their choices between good housing and "many nice clothes," "expensive vacations," and a "college education" for their children. Good housing was the choice regardless of income or educational level, except as compared with "college education" for their children.

As a result of the study, the authors developed some general guides for housing based on the four value groups. In the house plan itself, they gave consideration to sleeping and dressing, food preparation, dining, leisure, entertaining, the bath, miscellaneous, and storage.

With the lot and location, they considered privacy requirements, sociability requirements of adults and sociability requirements of children. Guides and diagrammatic plans were developed for the "economy house," the "family house," the "personal house," and the "prestige

house."

Montgomery, Sutker, and Nygren³⁵ studied processes, images, and values related to rural housing in Garfield County, Oklahoma. This research group thought that much public effort was being put forth to increase farm production, but that little was being done to improve rural housing. In general the study was designed to add to the broad understanding of rural housing and to delineate the social and economic factors which are closely associated with housing.

The data were collected by interview of 195 homemakers and 17 men. The research team thought that the socio-economic status of rural families, age, educational leve, occupation of the household head and the family's position in the family life cycle would be related to housing.

The purposes of the study were:

- (1) To describe the characteristics of a sample of rural owner occupied dwellings and to learn the extent to which families are satisfied with them.
- (2) To examine housing improvements made within the past year and those planned for the next year.
- (3) To investigate the processes by which home improvements are made and new houses are built.
- (4) To discover the image of the house rural homemakers would like to have.
- (5) To identify the major values associated with housing behavior.³⁶

The characteristics or features of the housing studied were

³⁵James E. Montgomery, Sara Smith Sutker, and Maie Nygren, Rural Housing in Garfield County, Oklahoma, Department of Housing and Interior Design, Oklahoma State University, Vol. 56, No. 2 (August 1, 1959).

³⁶Ibid.

generally those of past decades. Two-thirds of the houses were one-story, of midwest cottage, Cape Cod or bungalow type of architecture, and of frame construction. The houses were found to be large, with one or more porches, one or more bathrooms, wired for electricity, had a telephone, and almost 40 percent had a separate utility room.

Thirty-one percent of the houses were classified as in good general condition, 27 percent as fair, and 42 percent as poor.

Better housing was found to be associated with higher socio-economic status, younger age, and with younger children living at home. Little relationship was found between the size, style, and condition of the dwelling and type of occupation.

To determine the satisfaction respondents felt concerning their houses, they were asked how well satisfied they were with houses as a whole, and how well satisfied they were with each of the following ten items: (1) kitchen in general; (2) number of bedrooms; (3) bathroom facilities; (4) bedroom storage; (5) kitchen storage; (6) general storage; (7) family dining area; (8) traffic ways in the house; (9) heating system; and (10) water supply.

Almost one-half, 48 percent, of the respondents said that they were "very well satisfied"; and only nine percent said they were dissatisfied." Farmers were significantly more satisfied with their dwellings than were non-farm people. Those making the study thought that age might have been a primary factor affecting satisfaction with the house. They found socio-economic status not to be significantly related to housing satisfaction. The most complaints and least satisfactions concerned the bathroom facilities, bedroom storage and general storage.

As the research team was interested in housing improvement, they

asked three questions pertaining to the subject. They were: (1) whether improvements costing \$25 or more had been made in the past year, (2) whether such improvements were planned for the next year, and (3) what specific types of improvements were planned for the future. Three-fifths of the respondents had made a minimum of one improvement in the past year, and almost 40 percent had no plans for the next year. As the educational level of the respondent increased, the interest in home improvement increased. The younger homemakers and those with children still living at home were also more apt to be interested in improvement. The interviewers observed, however, that a majority of the houses had already been upgraded during the past 12 months.

The research trio also made an effort to find out some major values which influence housing choices. The six values examined for major importance were: (1) comfort; (2) economy; (3) family centeredness; (4) beauty; (5) privacy; and (6) prestige. A large majority of the respondents rated comfort first, followed by family centeredness, economy, beauty, privacy, and prestige.

The sources of ideas for improvement were also of interest to the research group. These sources were classified into two broad categories, direct experience and mass media. Women's and farm magazines were important to all of the respondents. Public institutions of education and federal agencies did not seem to have much impact upon the thinking of rural people as related to housing.

Nygren³⁷ studied the housing images held by high school freshmen

³⁷Maie Anabel Nygren, The Housing Images of Selected Freshmen and Secondary School Students in Certain Communities in Oklahoma (Oklahoma State University, 1961).

and seniors to gain some understanding of their ideas and conceptions concerning housing. Nygren proposed to determine if sex, socio-economic status, the general location of the parental home, and peer-group contacts were associated with the housing images held by the specified freshmen and senior students.

Nygren obtained the data by questionnaire, which she administered to student groups at 51 cooperating schools in 15 Oklahoma counties. She found that the housing images of the students were related to their secondary school standing. The differences between the group's housing images existed more in the extent to "which certain component features are held by the freshmen and seniors than in the general content of the image."³⁸ The high school freshman showed less realism than seniors concerning housing images. She also found that the student's sex, the family's socio-economic status, and the general location of the parental home appeared to be associated with his housing image more than his secondary school class standing and his peer groups contact.

Summary

The Cooperative Extension Service is the off-campus, informal, educational program of the land-grant institution and the United States Department of Agriculture. Education in home and family living has been recognized as an important aspect of the extension program since its beginning. The phases of the home economics extension program are designed to help families improve individual, home, and community living.

³⁸Ibid., p. 164.

Family housing has been recognized as an important phase of the extension family living program. The Cooperative Extension Service recognizes its responsibility is to help families improve and make good use of their housing.

For some time, housing research has been a matter of concern to home economists, architects, and sociologists. The first studies on housing dealt with spatial needs.

In 1948, the United States Department of Agriculture conducted the first nationwide study on housing. This study was concerned with the housing needs and preferences of farm families. Regional and state studies were also conducted.

In 1947, Cutler made the first significant investigation concerned with family values to housing. As a result of this study other investigations were conducted to determine the relationship of values to housing selection and satisfaction.

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

This chapter summarizes the findings of the study. The purposes outlined for this research were: (1) to review the program of the Cooperative Extension Service with emphasis on family housing as a part of the program; (2) to identify the features of the houses presently occupied by a selected group of home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club; (3) to determine the degree of satisfaction in the two groups of homemakers with selected features in their houses; (4) to identify the preferences for housing features of the two groups of homemakers for selected features in their houses; (5) to identify housing improvements the groups of homemakers plan to make within the next three years; (6) to determine the sources of information from which the homemakers gain ideas concerning house improvements; and (7) to develop implications for a county extension housing program for Yazoo County, Mississippi.

Methodology

After reviewing literature related to this study, a tentative questionnaire was devised. It was pre-tested with 15 home demonstration club members and eight non-members of a home demonstration club from Payne County, Oklahoma, and eight homemakers from Sharkey County, Mississippi. The tentative questionnaire was reviewed by selected

personnel of the Mississippi and Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

The questionnaire was revised. The first part of the questionnaire was related to general information concerning the respondents. These items pertained to the place of residence, age, educational level, marital status, employment status, family income composition of household, ownership of house, length of time the family had lived in the present house, the number of houses in which the family had lived, and utilities in the present house. The second part of the questionnaire pertained to selected housing features and was designed to determine: (1) whether or not the homemaker had the feature in her present house; (2) how well satisfied she was with the feature; and (3) whether or not she preferred to have the feature in her house.

The third part was concerned with changes or improvements which the homemakers actually planned to make in their housing within the next three year period. The fourth part was planned to find out the sources from which homemakers obtain their ideas and information pertaining to housing improvements.

The questionnaire was sent to the county home demonstration agent, who administered it to the home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club in the selected county used in this study.

Characteristics of the Homemakers Included in the Study

The discussion which follows gives general information concerning the respondents.

Place of Residence of Homemakers

A summary of the place of residence for the 196 homemakers included

in this study is presented in Table I. Over one-half of the home demonstration club members lived in an urban area with population over 2,500. The second largest group (17.3%) lived on a farm. Less than five percent of the homemakers lived in a town with fewer than 2,500 population. The 50-50 rural-urban ratio as found in this study is approximately the same as found in the 1957 national study of home demonstration club members made in the United States.¹

A majority of the homemakers who were non-members of a home demonstration club (79.4%) lived in a city. A small percentage (2.9%) resided in a town with population less than 2,500. Only five percent lived on a farm.

Ages of Homemakers

As indicated in Table II, the largest number of home demonstration club members (36.2%) were in the 30-39 years of age group. The second largest group of club members (26.6%) were those 40-49 years of age, and the third largest group (12.8%) were young homemakers 20-29 years of age.

The largest group of non-members of a home demonstration club (33.3%) were 20-29 years of age. The second largest number (25.5%) were young women 30-39 years of age. Slightly over 20 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club were in the 60 years of age and over category.

On the whole, the non-members of a home demonstration club were younger than home demonstration club members.

¹Home Demonstration, Members, and Their Families, Federal Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington, D. C.).

TABLE I

PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF HOMEMAKERS
AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Place of Residence	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
On a farm	34	17.3	29	30.9	5	4.9
In the country, but not on a farm	26	13.3	13	13.8	13	12.7
In a town with population less than 2,500	7	3.6	4	4.3	3	2.9
In a city with population more than 2,500	129	65.8	48	51.1	81	79.4

TABLE II
 AGE OF HOMEMAKERS AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
 OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Age	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
19 years or under	1	.5	1	1.1	0	0
20-29 years	46	23.5	12	12.8	34	33.3
30-39 years	60	30.6	34	36.2	26	25.5
40-49 years	38	19.4	25	26.6	13	12.7
50-59 years	18	9.2	11	11.7	7	6.9
60 years or over	33	16.8	11	11.7	22	21.6

Educational Level of the Homemakers

As indicated in Table III, the majority of home demonstration club members (58.5%) had completed the twelfth grade in school. Four percent of the home demonstration club members had completed four or more years of college. Five percent of the home demonstration club group had completed only through the eighth grade.

The largest percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club respondents (32.5%) had attended college from one to three years. Approximately one-fourth of the group had attended college for four or more years and are considered to be college graduates. Slightly less than eleven percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club group had completed from nine to eleven years of school. None of the non-members of a home demonstration club had completed only through the eighth grade.

Marital Status of Homemakers

As depicted in Table IV, most of the homemakers included in this study were married. Ninety per cent of the home demonstration club members were married, as compared with 83 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club.

Six percent of the home demonstration group were widowed compared with nine percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club group. A larger percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (3.9%) were single than the home demonstration club members (2%).

Amount of Employment Outside the Home

A summary is presented in Table V of the employment status of the homemakers included in this study. Almost 18 percent of both groups worked outside the home 35 hours or more per week. About one-fourth of

TABLE III
 EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF HOME MAKERS
 AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
 MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Highest Educational Level Completed	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
8th Grade	5	2.6	5	5.3	0	0
9th-11th Grade	20	10.2	9	9.6	11	10.8
12th Grade	83	42.3	55	58.5	28	35.2
1-3 years of College	57	29.1	21	22.3	36	26.4
4 or more years of College	31	15.8	4	4.3	27	25.5

TABLE IV
 MARITAL STATUS OF HOMEMAKERS
 AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
 MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Marital Status	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Single	4	2.0	0	0	4	3.9
Married	172	87.8	86	91.5	86	84.3
Widowed	16	8.2	6	6.4	10	9.8
Divorced or Separated	4	2.0	2	2.1	2	2.0

TABLE V
 EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HOMEMAKERS
 AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
 MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Amount of Employment	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
<u>Working Outside the Home</u>						
Thirty-five hours or more weekly	35	17.9	10	10.6	25	24.5
Less than thirty-five hours weekly	11	5.6	4	4.3	7	6.9
<u>Not Working Outside the Home</u>	150	76.5	80	85.1	70	68.6

the non-members of a home demonstration club worked outside the home compared to only one-tenth of the home demonstration group. Six percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club worked less than 35 hours per week, compared with five percent of the home demonstration club members.

The total percentage of home demonstration club members working outside the home in this study is about the same as was found in a national study of home demonstration club members made in the United States in 1957.²

Family Income

Data shown in Table VI indicated that the family income of 42.7 percent of the home demonstration club members was above \$5,000 during 1962. Almost one-fifth had an income between \$8,000 and \$10,000 per year. Thirteen percent had an income over \$10,000 annually.

One percent of the total sample reported less than \$1,000 income during 1962. Seven percent of the home demonstration club group and five percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had an annual income between \$1,000 and \$3,000.

Non-members of a home demonstration club had a higher family income than did their counterparts. Twenty-one percent reported an income in the \$8,000 to \$10,000 category. Twenty-two percent had more than \$10,000 income annually.

A higher percentage of the homemakers in either group reported an annual income over \$5,000 than under \$5,000.

²Ibid.

TABLE VI
 ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
 OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Family Income	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Less than \$1,000	2	1.0	1	1.1	1	1.0
\$1,000 - \$2,999	12	6.1	7	7.4	5	4.9
\$3,000 - \$4,999	26	13.3	10	10.6	16	15.7
\$5,000 - \$7,999	66	33.7	38	40.4	28	27.5
\$8,000 - \$9,999	37	18.9	17	18.1	20	19.6
\$10,000 and over	32	16.3	11	11.7	21	20.6
No response	21	10.7	10	10.6	11	10.8

Ages of People in Homemakers' Households

The ages of the people in the households of the two groups of homemakers are presented in Table VII.

Over one-fourth of the home demonstration club member's households (29.4%) compared with one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club households (50.0%) included pre-school age children.

Almost one-half of the home demonstration households (42.2%) had school age children, between six and 12 years of age. One-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club homemakers' households had family members in this age group.

Over one-third of the home demonstration club members' households (37.3%) had adolescents between 12 and 19 years of age, while slightly over one-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club households had family members in this age category.

Concerning adults in the households, the households of the non-members of a home demonstration club had a larger portion of younger adults than did the households of the home demonstration club members.

A larger portion of households of non-members of a home demonstration club than home demonstration club members' households (28.4%) included family members who might be near retirement years, 60 years of age and older.

Ownership of Present House

Information presented in Table VIII indicates the ownership of the house in which the homemakers lived. On the whole, a large majority of the families owned their own homes. Only eight percent of either group were renters. About three percent of either group had their houses provided by landlords or employers.

TABLE VII

AGES OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Ages of Family Members	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Under 6 years of age	77	39.3	30	29.4	47	50.0
6-12 years	74	37.8	43	42.2	31	33.0
12-19 years	58	29.6	38	37.3	20	21.3
20-29 years	65	33.2	22	21.6	43	45.7
30-39 years	74	37.8	37	36.3	37	39.4
40-49 years	35	17.9	18	17.6	17	18.1
50-59 years	28	14.3	14	13.7	14	14.9
60 years and over	58	29.6	29	28.4	29	30.9

TABLE VIII.

OWNERSHIP OF PRESENTLY OCCUPIED HOUSES
AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Ownership	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Owner	168	85.7	79	84.0	89	87.3
Renter	17	8.7	8	8.5	9	8.8
Provided by Employer or Landlord	7	3.6	4	4.3	3	2.9
Other	4	2.0	3	3.2	1	1.0

Number of Years Homemakers Lived in Present House

As shown in Table IX, the majority of homemakers studied have lived in their present houses for varying periods of time.

The largest percentage of home demonstration club members (35.5%) had lived in their present house between one and five years. The second largest percentage of club members (23.7%) had lived in their present house over 20 years.

A greater percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (41.2%) than home demonstration club members had lived in their present house over 20 years.

A greater percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (41.2%) than home demonstration club members had lived in their homes between one and five years. The same proportion of non-members of a home demonstration club (15.7%) had lived in the same house from 11-20 years as those in the over 20 years category.

Year House Was Built

The highest percentage of the houses lived in by home demonstration club members (65.9%) had been built since 1940, as indicated in Table X. More houses were built before the 1920's than during the 1930's.

One-fourth of the houses of the non-members of a home demonstration club had been built before 1920. However, the percentage of houses of the non-members of a home demonstration club that had been built since 1960 is almost double the percentage of houses of home demonstration club members that have been built since the same period.

Number of Houses Lived In By Homemakers

Table XI shows that one-fourth of the home demonstration club members had moved between one and five times since household formation.

TABLE IX
NUMBER OF YEARS HOMEMAKERS LIVED IN PRESENT HOUSE
AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Number of Years	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Less than one year	24	12.2	8	8.5	16	15.7
One - five years	75	38.3	33	35.1	42	41.2
Six - ten years	29	14.8	17	18.1	12	11.8
Eleven - twenty years	38	19.4	22	23.4	16	15.7
Over twenty years	29	14.8	13	13.8	16	15.7
No response	1	.5	1	1.1	0	0

TABLE X
 YEAR HOMEMAKERS' HOUSES WERE BUILT
 AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
 MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Year	Total N=196 Houses		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94 Houses		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102 Houses	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Since 1960	33	16.8	11	11.7	22	21.6
1950-1959	64	32.7	30	31.9	34	33.3
1940-1949	30	15.3	21	22.3	9	8.8
1930-1939	15	7.7	11	11.7	4	3.9
1920-1929	9	4.6	6	6.4	3	2.9
Before 1920	38	19.4	13	13.8	25	24.5
No response	7	3.6	2	2.1	5	4.9

TABLE XI
NUMBER OF HOUSES LIVED IN AS
REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Number of Houses	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
One	38	19.4	14	14.9	24	23.5
Two	26	13.3	13	13.8	13	12.7
Three	35	17.9	16	17.0	19	18.6
Four - Five	35	17.9	16	17.0	19	18.6
Five - Ten	33	16.8	23	24.5	10	9.8
Over Ten	13	6.6	6	6.4	7	6.9
No response	16	8.2	6	6.4	10	9.8

One-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club had lived in five to ten houses since marriage.

Approximately 15 percent of the home demonstration club members had lived in only one house. This compares to 25 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club who had lived in only one house. About seven percent of the home demonstration club members and seven percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had moved over 10 times.

Utilities in Homemakers' Present House

Over 96 percent of the home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club lived in houses with running water, as presented in Table XII.

Almost 95 percent (94.7%) of the home demonstration club members compared to 98 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club lived in houses with running hot water.

A very high percentage of home demonstration club members (97.9%) lived in houses with electricity. All non-members of a home demonstration club lived in houses with electricity.

Over one-half of the home demonstration club members (54.3%) lived in houses which had natural gas. Forty percent of the group used propane or butane. Since 30 percent of the home demonstration club members lived in rural areas, it was expected that a large portion of them would have reported using propane or butane gas.

Ninety percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had natural gas in their houses. Slightly less than 10 percent of this group reported using propane or butane gas.

TABLE XII
 UTILITIES IN PRESENT HOUSE OF HOMEMAKERS
 AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF
 MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Utilities	Total N=196 Houses		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94 Houses		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102 Houses	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Running water	192	98	91	96.8	101	99
Running hot water	189	96.4	89	94.7	100	98.0
Electricity	194	99	92	97.9	102	100.0
Natural gas	143	73	51	54.3	92	90.2
Propane or Butane	48	24.5	38	40.4	10	9.8

Housing Features, Satisfactions and Preferences

The following section summarizes the housing features, satisfaction, and preferences as reported by home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club.

Building Materials

The largest percentage of home demonstration club members (40%) and non-members of a home demonstration club (42%) lived in a house built with a combination of materials, as indicated in Table XIII. The second highest percentage of each group studied lived in a house built of wood. The abundance of wood within the area probably influenced its use as a building material.

The third highest percentage of home demonstration club members (16%) occupied a house with asbestos shingles or siding for outside construction. Fourteen percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club used brick, which was the building material used by the third highest percentage of this group.

A small proportion of the homemakers in either group lived in a house constructed of concrete blocks or with other materials such as aluminum siding.

A majority of the homemakers in either group who lived in a house made of brick and wood was "very well satisfied" with the building materials. A large portion of the non-members of a home demonstration club were "very well satisfied" with concrete blocks (85.7%) and a combination of materials (78.6%) as building materials. On the whole, few homemakers were "dissatisfied" with the material from which their present houses were constructed.

TABLE XIII

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES FOR
BUILDING MATERIALS, AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Building Materials	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%		
Brick	10	10.6	7	70.0	0	0	1	10.0	48	51.1	15	14.7	14	93.3	1	6.7	0	0	50	49.0
Concrete blocks	3	3.2	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	1.1	7	6.9	6	85.7	1	14.3	0	0	1	1.1
Asbestos shingles or siding	15	16.0	7	46.7	4	26.7	3	20.0	6	6.4	13	12.7	5	38.5	8	61.5	0	0	7	6.9
Wood	21	22.3	11	52.4	6	27.5	2	9.5	9	9.6	21	20.6	15	71.4	6	28.6	0	0	12	11.8
Combination of materials	40	42.1	20	50.0	11	27.5	6	28.6	13	13.8	42	41.2	33	28.6	7	16.7	2	4.8	13	12.7
Other	4	4.3	2	50.0	1	25.0	1	25.0	2	2.1	4	3.9	2	50.0	1	25.0	1	25.0	2	2.0
No response	1	1.1																		

Brick was preferred for the building material by a large portion of home demonstration club members (51.1%) and non-members of a home demonstration club (49%). Few homemakers preferred a house using concrete blocks instead of wood with asbestos siding.

Number of Stories In House

Over 90 percent of the home demonstration club members lived in a house of one-story construction and 70 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club lived in a house of one-story construction as depicted in Table XIV. Few homemakers of either group lived in houses of one-and-a-half stories, while 3.2 percent of the home demonstration club members and 17.6 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club lived in a house of two or more stories.

A large percentage of homemakers in either group were very well satisfied with this feature of their house, particularly with the one-story houses. However, home demonstration club members (33.3%) expressed the highest percentage of dissatisfaction with houses of two stories. The highest percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (33.3%) were dissatisfied with houses of one-and-a-half stories.

Heating and Cooling Systems

The largest portion of the respondents in either group used space heaters (gas or electric) for heating their houses, as indicated in Table XV. More than one-fourth of the home demonstration club members (29.8%) had a floor furnace. More than one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club (36.7%) used a central heating system for heating their houses.

Over one-fourth of the home demonstration club members had a fireplace in the house. Slightly less than one-fifth of the non-members of

TABLE XIV

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
 FOR THE NUMBER OF STORIES, AS REPORTED BY
 TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Number of Stories	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%
One story	86	91.5	69	80.2	11	12.8	2	2.3	50	53.2	81	79.4	60	74.1	14	17.3	4	4.9	51	50.0
One and a half stories	2	2.1	0	0	1	50.0	0	0	8	8.5	3	2.9	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	8	7.8
Two stories or more	3	3.2	2	66.7	0	0	1	33.3	7	7.4	18	17.6	10	55.6	3	16.7	4	22.2	15	14.7
No response	3	3.2																		

TABLE XV

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES AS
PERTAINS TO HEATING AND COOLING, AS REPORTED
BY TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Heating and Cooling	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94									Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102										
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%		
Type of Heating	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Central heating	17	18.1	16	94.1	1	5.9	0	0	57	60.6	37	36.3	35	94.6	2	5.4	0	0	66	64.7
Space heaters(gas or electric)	56	59.6	21	37.5	8	14.3	20	35.7	3	3.2	42	41.2	24	57.1	14	33.3	4	9.5	15	14.7
Wood heater	1	1.1	0	0	1	100.0	0	0	1	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fireplace	25	26.6	9	36.0	2	8.0	10	40.0	18	19.1	19	18.6	10	52.6	1	5.3	7	36.8	18	17.6
Floor furnace	28	29.8	9	32.1	10	35.7	7	25.0	11	11.7	19	18.6	8	42.1	5	26.3	4	21.1	7	6.9
Other	8	8.5	0	0	4	50.0	1	12.5	1	1.1	8	7.8	3	37.5	2	25.0	1	12.5	2	2.0
Type of Cooling																				
Central air conditioning	9	9.6	8	88.9	0	0	0	0	56	59.6	16	15.7	16	100.0	0	0	0	0	62	60.8
Unit air conditioning	53	56.4	24	45.3	22	45.5	4	7.5	17	18.1	74	72.5	38	51.4	4	5.4	4	5.4	22	21.6
Attic fan	35	37.2	10	28.6	17	48.6	4	11.4	6	6.4	41	40.2	15	36.6	6	14.6	6	14.6	9	8.8
Window fan	29	30.9	3	10.3	8	27.6	7	24.1	4	4.3	15	14.7	3	20.0	5	33.3	6	40.0	2	2.0
Other	4	4.3	0	0	0	0	1	25.0	0	0	10	9.8	1	10.0	1	10.0	5	50.0	0	0

a home demonstration club lived in a house with this same feature. Only one respondent, a home demonstration club member, reported using a wood burning heater.

Ninety-four percent of the respondents in either group who had central heating in their homes reported that they were "very well satisfied." No one stated that they were "dissatisfied" with this feature.

About one-third of the home demonstration club members who reported having space heaters in their house were "very well satisfied," and about the same portion were "dissatisfied" with this feature. More than one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club stated that they were "very well satisfied," and only one-tenth stated that they were "dissatisfied" with space heaters (gas or electric) for heating their houses.

More than one-fourth of the home demonstration club members (29.8%) used one or more floor furnaces for heating their houses. Less than one-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club reported this feature. Over one-third of the home demonstration club members (35.7%) who had a floor furnace for heating purposes were "fairly well satisfied" with this feature. However, approximately one-fourth of the homemakers in each group were "dissatisfied" with the floor furnace for house heating purposes.

Over 60 percent of the homemakers in either group preferred a central heating system in their houses. The second highest percentage of either group reported that they preferred a fireplace. Few homemakers in either group stated preference for a floor furnace or for space heaters.

Almost three-fourths of the non-members of a home demonstration

club (72.9%) and over one-half of the home demonstration club members (56.4%) reported using unit air conditioners for cooling the house. More home demonstration club members (30.9%) than non-members of a home demonstration club (14.7%) reported using a window fan. A small percentage of each group had central air conditioning in their houses.

Homemakers with central air conditioning reported that they were "very well satisfied" with the feature. A majority of the homemakers in each group reported that they were "very well satisfied" with unit air conditioning. More than one-fourth of the home demonstration club members and more than one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club stated that they were "very well satisfied" with an attic fan, however, almost 50 percent of the home demonstration club members reported that they were "fairly well satisfied" with this feature. Slightly over ten percent of each group expressed dissatisfaction with the feature. Only less than ten percent of each group preferred to have an attic fan in their houses.

Entry Hall, Living and Dining Areas

Features of the homemakers' houses concerned with the entry hall, living and dining areas, the degree of satisfaction with the features and preferences for the feature are indicated in Table XVI.

Twenty-one per cent of the home demonstration club members and 27.5 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had an entry hall in their house. Eight percent of the home demonstration club members compared to 50 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club were "very well satisfied" with this feature. A small portion of the non-members of a home demonstration club, 10 percent, expressed dissatisfaction with this feature. Slightly over one-half of the home

TABLE XVI

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES FOR THE
ENTRY HALL, LIVING AND DINING AREAS, AS REPORTED
BY TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOMELAKERS

Living and Dining Areas	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94									Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102										
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissatisfied		No.	%				
A living room separate from dining room or family rm.	61	64.9	46	75.4	8	13.3	0	0	75	79.8	78	76.5	67	85.9	6	7.7	0	0	76	74.5
Entry Hall	20	21.3	16	80.0	1	5.0	0	0	53	56.4	28	27.5	14	50.0	4	14.3	3	10.7	68	66.7
A living-dining combination	26	27.7	10	38.5	12	46.2	2	7.7	15	16.0	33	32.4	16	48.5	10	30.3	5	15.2	17	16.7
A separate dining room	38	40.4	28	73.7	2	5.3	4	10.5	46	48.9	55	53.9	44	80.0	4	7.3	2	3.6	58	56.9
A dining area in kitchen	42	44.7	28	66.7	4	9.5	5	11.9	16	17.0	48	47.1	27	56.3	11	22.9	5	10.4	27	26.5
A dining area in family room	11	11.7	7	63.6	0	0	3	27.3	19	20.2	16	15.7	10	62.5	3	18.8	2	12.5	10	9.8
No response	4	4.3									6	5.9								

demonstration club members compared to two-thirds of the non-members of a home demonstration club expressed a preference for an entry hall.

Table XVI also shows that 64.9 percent of the home demonstration club members and 76.5 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had a living room separate from the dining room for a family room. A large majority of the homemakers in either group were very well satisfied with this feature. None stated that they were dissatisfied with it. About three-fourths of each group expressed preference for an entry hall if they were building or remodeling their house.

Concerning the dining area, the largest percentage of home demonstration club members (44.7%) had a dining area in the kitchen. The highest percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (53.0%) had a separate dining room. Less than one-fifth of the participants in each group had a dining area in the family room. Slightly more than one-fourth of the home demonstration club members and less than one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club had combined living and dining areas in their houses.

On the whole, the respondents were "very well satisfied" with the dining area in their present houses. Less satisfaction was expressed by a larger portion of homemakers with the living-dining room combination than a dining area in the family room. Less than one-half of the home demonstration club members and one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club stated that they were "fairly well satisfied" with a living-dining room combination.

Twenty-two percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club compared to 9.5 percent of the home demonstration club members reported that they were "very well satisfied" with the dining area in the kitchen.

The largest portion of homemakers in the two groups studied expressed preference for a separate dining room. The second highest percentage of home demonstration club members (20.2%) preferred a dining area in the family room. The second highest percentage of the non-members of a home demonstration club preferred the dining area in the kitchen.

Storage

Table XVII presents the responses of the homemakers dealing with food storage, household equipment and household items. Over sixty percent of either group of homemakers had houses with the kitchen only for the storage of food and equipment. About one-fourth of the homemakers in the two groups studied had a pantry in addition to kitchen storage. Few homemakers reported living in houses with a "pantry only."

Over 80 percent of the homemakers in either group had storage for in-season clothing. Approximately one-half of the club members and the non-members of a home demonstration club reported having storage for out-of-season clothing. A majority of either group had storage space for linens.

Less than one-half of the homemakers in either group had storage space for cleaning equipment. Approximately one-fourth of each group had storage for recreation equipment.

Approximately three-fourths of the homemakers in each group who reported having both kitchen and pantry storage were "very well satisfied" with it. Forty-one percent of the home demonstration club members and 50 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club who reported having storage in the kitchen only were "very well satisfied" with this feature.

Over half of the respondents in either of the two groups preferred

TABLE XVII
HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
FOR STORAGE, AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Storage for Food and Equipment	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94									Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102										
	Have Feature	Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	Have Feature	Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature				
		Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied				Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied						
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Kitchen only	58	61.7	24	41.4	18	31.0	14	24.1	11	11.7	68	66.7	34	50.0	9	13.2	24	35.3	21	20.6
Pantry only	2	2.1	2	100.0	0	0	0	0	31	33.0	1	1.0	1	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pantry & kitchen	30	31.9	21	70.0	6	20.0	0	0	53	56.4	24	23.5	18	75.0	3	12.5	1	4.2	57	55.9
Other	3	3.2	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	22	23.4	1	1.0	1	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No response	1	1.1									8	7.8								
Specific storage for:																				
In season clothing	79	84.0	36	45.6	19	24.1	9	11.4	62	66.0	83	81.4	58	69.9	18	21.7	5	6.0	76	74.5
Out of season clothing	48	51.1	30	62.5	9	18.8	2	4.2	57	60.6	45	44.1	32	71.1	7	15.6	3	6.7	73	71.6
Cleaning equipment	38	40.4	23	60.5	7	18.4	2	5.3	51	54.3	49	48.0	29	59.2	12	24.5	5	10.2	58	56.9
Linens	58	61.7	29	50.0	13	22.4	5	8.6	56	59.6	59	57.8	39	66.1	11	18.6	6	10.2	73	71.6
Recreation equip.	25	26.6	12	48.0	3	12.0	2	8.0	41	43.6	24	23.5	18	75.0	3	12.5	2	8.3	47	46.1
No response	7	7.4																		

both kitchen and pantry storage; however, approximately twice as many non-members of a home demonstration club (20.6%) as home demonstration club members (11.7%) preferred a "kitchen only" for food and equipment storage.

A majority of the homemakers in either group preferred storage for in-season clothing, out-of-season clothing, cleaning equipment and linens, but not for recreation equipment.

Workroom Area

Table XVIII shows little difference between the percentage of home demonstration club members (43.6%) with a separate workroom or laundry room, and the percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club (44.1%) with the same feature.

Approximately one-third of the homemakers of either group reported a laundry area in the kitchen.

A small portion of the home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club reported having an office or business center in the house.

Over 80 percent of homemakers in the two groups who had a separate workroom or laundry room were "very well satisfied" with it. At least thirty percent of each of the two groups studied who had the laundry area in the kitchen were "very well satisfied"; however, 36.7 percent of the home demonstration club members and 43.2 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club were "dissatisfied" with this feature.

A large majority of the homemakers in either group preferred a separate workroom or laundry room. A small portion of either group preferred to have a laundry area in the kitchen. Less than one-fifth of the homemakers in either group preferred a house with an office or

TABLE XVIII

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
FOR WORKROOM AREAS, AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Workroom Area	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%
A separate work- room or laundry	41	43.6	36	87.8	2	4.9	1	2.4	65	69.1	45	44.1	37	82.2	0	0	0	0	64	62.7
Laundry area in kitchen	30	31.9	9	30.0	7	23.3	11	36.7	6	6.4	37	36.3	13	35.1	0	0	16	43.2	18	17.6
Office or business center	1	1.1	1	100.0	0	0	0	0	14	14.9	8	7.8	5	62.5	2	25.0	1	12.5	18	17.6
None	8	8.5	4	50.0	0	0	4	50.0	0	0	12	11.8	0	0	0	0	9	75.0	0	0
No response	10	10.6																		

business center.

Recreation Area

Table XIX presents a summary of the responses pertaining to the recreation area of the house. The recreation area may be a structural part of the house, or it may be an outdoor living room.

Approximately one-third of the home demonstration club members (34.0%) and one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (47.1%) lived in a house with a family room or recreation room. A large majority of the two groups who had this feature were "very well satisfied" with it. Although no respondent expressed dissatisfaction with their family or recreation room, only one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (50.0%) and slightly less than one-half of the home demonstration members (45.7%) stated that they preferred this feature in a house.

Over one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (56.9%) and less than one-half of the home demonstration club members (44.7%) had television in the family room. A large majority of each group was "very well satisfied" with this arrangement, and preferred this feature in a house.

About one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club and almost one-half of the home demonstration club members had television in the living room. On the whole, the respondents were not well satisfied with this feature. A very small portion (less than one-tenth) of the homemakers in either group preferred television in the living room.

A small percentage of home demonstration club members (19.1%) and non-members of a home demonstration club (8.8%) lived in a house that had a special room for sewing or other hobbies. There was relatively

TABLE XIX

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
FOR RECREATION AREAS, AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Recreation Area	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature	Degree of Satisfaction								Prefer Feature	Have Feature	Degree of Satisfaction								Prefer Feature
		Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied						Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied				
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Family room or recreation room	32	34.0	28	87.5	3	9.4	0	0	43	45.7	48	47.1	45	93.8	0	0	0	0	51	50.0
T.V. in living room	42	44.7	12	28.6	18	42.9	6	14.3	6	6.4	32	31.4	11	34.4	6	18.8	8	25.0	4	3.9
T.V. in family room	42	44.7	32	76.2	5	11.9	1	2.4	46	48.9	58	56.9	49	84.5	4	6.9	3	5.2	61	59.8
A special room for sewing or other hobbies	18	19.1	17	94.4	0	0	0	0	36	38.3	9	8.8	6	66.7	1	11.1	0	0	31	30.4
A place for sewing in bedroom	33	35.1	15	45.5	12	36.4	3	9.1	16	17.0	28	27.5	11	39.3	4	14.3	10	35.7	16	15.7
An outdoor living room	24	25.5	18	75.0	2	8.3	1	4.2	46	48.9	20	19.6	20	100.0	0	0	0	0	44	43.1

high degree of satisfaction with this feature, as two-thirds of the non-members of a home demonstration club (66.7%) and almost all of the home demonstration club members (94.4%) reported that they were "very well satisfied" with the feature. However, only about one-third of each group preferred to have a special room for sewing or other hobbies.

One-fourth or more of the homemakers of either group had a place for sewing in a bedroom. Slightly less than 50 percent of the home demonstration club members and forty percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club stated that they were "very well satisfied" with their place for sewing in a bedroom. Only a small percentage of each group preferred this feature.

Approximately one-fourth of the home demonstration club members and one-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club had an outdoor living area. Approximately three-fourths of those reporting the feature stated that they were "very well satisfied" with it. Almost half of the homemakers preferred to have an outdoor living area.

Number of Bedrooms; Guest Bedroom

Responses of the two groups of homemakers concerning the number of bedrooms and the guest bedroom are presented in Table XX.

Slightly more than one-half of the homemakers in each group lived in houses with three bedrooms; more than one-fourth of the home demonstration club members and slightly less than one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club lived in houses with two bedrooms. Approximately one-tenth of each group had houses with four or more bedrooms. A very small portion of either group lived in a house with only one bedroom.

Almost three-fourths of the home demonstration club members and

TABLE XX

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES FOR
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS: GUEST BEDROOM, AS REPORTED
BY TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Number of Bedrooms; Guest Bedroom	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissatisfied		No.	%	Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissatisfied		No.	%		
Number of bedrooms	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
One	2	2.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2.0	2	100.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two	26	27.7	10	38.5	7	26.9	8	30.8	6	6.4	33	32.4	10	30.3	19	57.6	4	12.1	11	10.8
Three	53	56.4	27	50.9	18	34.0	7	13.2	36	38.3	56	54.9	36	64.3	12	21.4	8	14.3	32	31.4
Four or more	11	11.7	8	72.7	2	3.8	1	1.9	37	39.4	10	9.8	7	70.0	1	10.0	2	20.0	38	37.3
Guest bedroom	21	22.3	16	30.2	2	3.8	0	0	70	74.5	32	31.4	18	56.3	4	12.5	2	6.3	71	69.6

non-members of a home demonstration club who lived in a house with three bedrooms were "very well satisfied" with the feature. Approximately one-half of those in either group who lived in houses with three bedrooms were "very well satisfied" with the number of bedrooms.

Slightly less than one-third of the non-members of a home demonstration club and approximately one-fifth of the home demonstration club members reported having a guest bedroom. More than one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (56.3%) and three-fourths of the home demonstration club members (76.2%) were "very well satisfied" with this feature. Approximately three-fourths of the homemakers in each group preferred to have a guest bedroom in their house.

Number of Bathrooms

As indicated in Table XXI, the largest portion of home demonstration club members (68.1%) and non-members of a home demonstration club (43.1%) lived in a house that had only one bathroom. The second largest portion of either group lived in houses with two bathrooms. Slightly less than five percent of the home demonstration club members compared to almost 20 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had one and one-half bathrooms in their houses. A very small percentage of either group lived in houses that did not have a bathroom.

As was expected, the larger the number of bathrooms in a house, the greater was the degree of satisfaction reported. Of the homemakers who reported two or more bathrooms, 81.8 percent of the home demonstration club members compared to 94.7 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club were "very well satisfied." Approximately one-half of each group was "fairly well satisfied" with one-half bathroom facilities. However, almost one-half of each group was "dissatisfied" with only one

TABLE XXI

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
FOR NUMBER OF BATHROOMS, AS REPORTED BY
TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOME MAKERS

Number of Bathrooms	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94										Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102									
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied	Fairly well satisfied	Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%
One	64	68.1	9	14.1	22	34.4	31	48.4	6	6.4	44	43.1	9	20.5	10	22.7	19	43.2	11	10.8
One-and-one-half	4	4.3	1	25.0	2	50.0	0	0	27	28.7	18	17.6	8	44.4	19	50.0	1	5.6	21	20.6
Two or more	22	23.4	18	81.8	3	13.6	1	4.5	59	62.8	38	37.3	36	94.7	1	2.6	1	2.6	67	65.7
None	4	4.3					4	100.0			1	1.0					1	100.0		

bathroom in their houses.

A majority of the home demonstration club members and the non-members of a home demonstration club preferred to have a house with two or more bathrooms. Approximately one-fifth of each group preferred a house with one and one-half bathrooms. Ten percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club and six percent of the home demonstration club members preferred to have only one bathroom in their house.

Home Lighting

A summary of the responses to the items dealing with home lighting are presented in Table XXII.

Over two-thirds of the homemakers in either group reported having a central lighting fixture in each room. Approximately 25 percent of the home demonstration club members and 10 percent of the non-members of a home demonstration club had valance or cornice lighting in their living room and/or dining room. Approximately 60 percent of either group reported having a lamp for reading or study.

One-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (50.0%) and slightly over two-fifths of the home demonstration club members (42.6%) had a light over the sink. Approximately one-half of each group reported having a light over the range.

Six-tenths of the home demonstration club members and three-fourths of the non-members of a home demonstration club had a light for the bathroom mirror. Approximately one-third of either group lived in houses with a light in the bedroom closets.

On the whole, the homemakers seemed to be very well satisfied with the lighting situation in their house. A majority of the homemakers in either group who reported having central lighting fixtures in each room,

TABLE XXII

HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES
FOR LIGHTING, AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS
OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAkers

Lighting	Home Demonstration Club Members N=94									Non-Members of Home Demonstration Club N=102										
	Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature		Have Feature		Degree of Satisfaction						Prefer Feature	
	No.	%	Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied		No.	%	No.	%	Very well satisfied		Fairly well satisfied		Dissat- isfied		No.	%
Central light fix. in each room	65	69.1	43	66.2	9	13.8	4	6.2	55	58.5	74	72.5	64	86.5	3	4.1	3	4.1	77	75.5
Valance or cornice light in living or dining room	24	25.5	15	62.5	6	15.0	0	0	39	41.5	12	11.8	7	58.3	2	4.4	1	8.3	40	39.2
Lamp for reading or study	56	59.6	35	62.5	9	22.5	3	7.5	65	69.1	63	61.8	54	85.7	5	7.9	0	0	65	63.7
Light over sink	40	42.6	33	82.5	2	5.0	2	5.0	61	64.9	51	50.0	45	88.2	2	3.9	1	2.0	72	70.6
Light over range	50	53.2	39	41.4	1	2.0	1	2.0	51	54.3	45	44.1	37	36.2	3	6.7	3	6.7	57	55.9
Light for bath- room mirror	57	60.6	34	59.6	3	7.5	2	5.0	62	66.0	77	75.5	67	87.0	1	1.3	3	3.9	74	72.5
Light in bedroom closets	33	35.1	22	66.7	2	6.1	1	3.0	56	59.6	37	36.3	30	40.5	3	8.1	1	2.7	61	59.8

valance or cornice lighting, a lamp for reading or study, light over the sink or light for the bathroom mirror, were very well satisfied with the feature.

Over one-half of the homemakers in each group preferred to have all of the lighting features listed on the questionnaire, with the exception of valance or cornice lighting in the living room or dining room.

Plans for Changes and Improvements

One of the purposes set forth for this study was to determine what changes or improvements the homemakers planned to make in their housing within the next three years. A summary of these findings are presented in Table XXIII.

Few homemakers in the home demonstration clubs plan to build a new house, whereas almost one-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club reported that they plan to build a new house. A very small portion of either group reported that they anticipated renting a different house. This was expected because of the high degree of home ownership.

Approximately one-fifth of each group reported plans for redecorating. A small portion of each group reported plans for making other changes listed on the questionnaire. As was expected most of the changes which the largest portion of the two groups reported planning were those involving a minimum of expenditure and those which the homemaker and/or her family could easily do.

TABLE XXIII

CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN HOUSES PLANNED
 WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS AS REPORTED
 BY TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Changes Planned Within Next Three Years	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
No changes anticipated	78	38.8	26	27.7	50	49.0
Build a new house	27	13.8	9	9.6	18	17.6
Rent a different house	3	1.5	2	2.1	1	1.0
Remodeling existing house	19	9.7	10	10.6	9	8.8
Add a room on to the house	18	9.2	11	11.7	7	6.9
Add or improve bathroom facilities	23	11.7	10	10.6	13	12.7
Improve floors	28	14.3	17	18.1	11	10.8
Redecorating (change color of walls by papering or painting)	52	26.5	29	20.2	23	22.5
Remodel or rearrange work and storage space in kitchen	16	8.2	11	11.7	5	4.9
Add or rearrange storage space in other rooms	8	4.1	5	5.4	3	2.9
Improve house wiring	10	5.1	8	8.5	2	2.0
Improve heating system	7	3.6	4	4.3	3	2.9
Adding or improving cooling system	27	13.8	17	18.1	10	9.8
Improve house lighting	10	5.1	8	8.5	2	2.0
Others	14	7.1	6	6.4	8	7.8

Sources of Ideas and Information on Housing

One of the purposes outlined for this study was to learn the sources from which homemakers get ideas and information about changes and improvements related to housing. A summary of these findings as presented in Table XXIV may point up desired routes of communication for a well coordinated county extension program in housing.

As was expected a large portion of home demonstration club members reported that they received ideas and information about housing from personnel of the Cooperative Extension Service. Less than one-fifth of the non-members of a home demonstration club reported that the county or home agent was a source of housing information. However, few homemakers in either group reported using government publications in the area of housing.

Over one-half of the non-members of a home demonstration club (59.8%) and of the home demonstration club members (51.1%) reported their own or their husbands' ideas as their source for housing ideas and housing improvements.

A large portion of the non-members of a home demonstration club (54.0%) and of the home demonstration club members (41.5%) stated that "houses in which they had visited" were an informational source for housing improvement.

Non-members of a home demonstration club (43.1%) reported using more advertisements, commercial bulletins and leaflets than did the home demonstration club members (37.8%). Approximately one-fourth of the home demonstration club members (23.4%) and of the non-members of a home demonstration club (27.5%) obtained housing ideas for change or

TABLE XXIV

SOURCES OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION ON HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS
AS REPORTED BY TWO GROUPS OF MISSISSIPPI HOMEMAKERS

Sources of Ideas and Information About Housing Improvements	Total N=196		Home Demonstration Club Members N=94		Non-Members Home Demonstration Club N=102	
	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent	Number Reporting	Percent
Architects	16	8.2	7	7.4	9	8.8
Builders, draftsmen or carpenters	30	15.3	15	16.0	15	14.7
Extension Service (county or home agent)	69	35.2	52	55.3	17	16.7
Home economists (teacher or utility company)	31	15.8	19	20.2	12	11.8
Relatives or friends	51	26.0	17	18.1	34	33.3
Your own or your husband's ideas	109	55.6	48	51.1	61	59.8
Government bulletins (USDA, Mississippi Extension Service)	20	10.2	14	14.9	6	5.9
Houses in which you have lived	28	14.3	10	10.6	18	17.6
Houses in which you have visited	95	48.5	39	41.5	56	54.9
Advertisements, commercial bulletins or leaflets	74	37.8	30	31.9	44	43.1
Home shows, builder, open houses, exhibits	50	25.5	22	23.4	28	27.5
Others	11	5.6	4	4.3	7	6.9

improvement from "home shows, builders, open houses and/or exhibits."

A small portion of the homemakers reported receiving ideas or information from architects; builders, draftsmen or carpenters; home economists (other than extension service); houses in which they had lived; or relatives or friends.

Summary

The home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club had similar personal characteristics. When compared with the non-members of a home demonstration club, the home demonstration club members: (1) were slightly older; (2) were not employed outside the home; (3) had a lower educational level; (4) had fewer children under six years of age, and more children between 12-19 years of age; (6) lived in older houses; and (7) had lived in five to ten different houses.

The two groups of homemakers included in this study lived in houses with similar features. The majority of each group stated that their houses: (1) were built of a combination of materials; (2) were of one story construction; (3) were heated with space heaters (gas or electric); (4) were cooled with one or more unit air conditioners; (5) had a separate living room; (6) had dining area in the kitchen; (7) had storage only in the kitchen for food and equipment; (8) had storage for in-season clothing and linens; (9) had three bedrooms; (10) had one bathroom; and (11) had a central lighting fixture in each room, a lamp for reading or study and a light for the bathroom mirror. A small portion of the respondents in each group reported having: (1) a separate workroom for laundry; (2) a separate office or business center; (3) a

special room for sewing or hobbies; (4) storage for cleaning equipment; (5) an outdoor living area.

On the whole, the homemakers of each group were "very well satisfied" with the features in their present house. One-third of the respondents in each group stated that they were dissatisfied with the following: (1) laundry area in kitchen; (2) one bathroom; (3) fireplace; and (4) window fan.

The homemakers in the two groups varied in their housing preferences. On the whole they preferred: (1) a house made of brick building materials; (2) a one-story house; (3) central heating and central air conditioning; (4) a living room separate from the dining room or family room; (5) a separate dining room; (6) a family room or recreation room; (7) television in the family room; (8) kitchen and pantry storage for food and equipment; (9) three or more bedrooms; (10) a guest bedroom; (11) two or more bathrooms; (12) a separate workroom; (13) storage for in-season clothing, cleaning equipment and linens; and (14) a central lighting fixture in each room, lamp for reading or study, light over sink, light for range, light for bathroom mirror, and a light in bedroom closets.

The home demonstration club members obtained information and ideas concerning housing improvements from Cooperative Extension Service personnel, themselves, or their husbands, and from commercial sources. The largest portion of non-members of a home demonstration club obtained their ideas and information concerning housing improvements from their own or their husbands' ideas; houses in which they had visited; and from advertisements, commercial bulletins, or leaflets.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

Summary and Conclusions

This study has been concerned with the housing features, satisfactions, and preferences of home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club.

The findings of this study tend to validate the hypothesis; the housing features, preferences and satisfactions of a selected group of home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club can be identified, and may be used as a basis for developing a county extension housing program. To this point, the writer believes the first portion of the hypothesis to be validated because of the degree of accomplishment of each of the following purposes, which were outlined in the study.

The first purpose was to review the program of the Cooperative Extension Service with emphasis on family housing as a part of the program. The program was reviewed through a study of literature concerning the Cooperative Extension Service, home economics as related to the Cooperative Extension program, and housing in the home economics extension program.

The second purpose was to identify the features of the houses presently occupied by a selected group of home demonstration club

members and non-members of a home demonstration club. To obtain the desired information, the writer developed a tentative questionnaire from a review of literature. The questionnaire was pretested with 15 home demonstration club members from Payne County, Oklahoma, and eight homemakers from Stillwater, Oklahoma, and eight homemakers from Sharkey County, Mississippi. The tentative questionnaire was also reviewed by selected Oklahoma and Mississippi state and county Extension personnel.

The questionnaire was revised. Copies of the questionnaire were sent to the home demonstration agent of Yazoo County, Mississippi, who administered the instrument. Information from 196 respondents, including 94 home demonstration club members and 102 non-members of a home demonstration club, comprised the findings of this study.

The two groups studied had similar housing features in their houses. The majority of homemakers in each group reported that their houses: (1) were built of a combination of materials; (2) were one story; (3) were heated with space heaters (gas or electric); (4) were cooled with unit air conditioners; (5) had a separate living room; (6) had dining area in kitchen; (7) had kitchen only for storage of food and equipment; (8) had storage for in-season clothing and linens; and (9) had three bedrooms; (10) had one bathroom; and (11) had a central lighting fixture in each room, a lamp for reading or study, and a light for the bathroom mirror. A small portion of the homemakers in either group reported having: (1) a separate workroom or laundry; (2) a separate office or business center; (3) storage for cleaning equipment; (4) special room for sewing or hobbies; or (5) an outdoor living room.

The third purpose of the study was to determine the degree of satisfaction of the home demonstration club members and non-members of a home

demonstration club with the selected features of their house. If the respondent lived in a house with a specified feature, she was to indicate whether she was (1) very well satisfied; (2) fairly well satisfied; or (3) dissatisfied with the feature.

On the whole, the respondents were "very well satisfied" with the features in their present house. However, at least one-third of the respondents in each group who reported having the following features were dissatisfied: (1) laundry area in kitchen; (2) one bathroom; (3) fireplace; and (4) window fan.

To identify the preferences for housing features of the two groups of homemakers for selected features in their house was the fourth purpose of this study. The respondents in the two groups varied in their housing preferences. On the whole they preferred: (1) a house made of brick building materials; (2) a one-story house; (3) central heating and central air conditioning; (4) a living room separate from the dining room or family room; (5) a separate dining room; (6) a family room or recreation room; (7) television in the family room; (8) kitchen and pantry storage for food and equipment; (9) three or more bedrooms; (10) a guest bedroom; (11) two or more bathrooms; (12) a separate workroom; (13) storage for in-season clothing, out-of-season clothing, cleaning equipment and linens; and (14) a central lighting fixture in each room, lamp for reading or study, light over sink, light over range, light for bathroom mirror, and light in bedroom closets.

The fifth purpose was to identify the housing improvements the home demonstration club members and non-members of a home demonstration club plan to make within the next three years. The respondents of the two groups selected from a list the changes or improvements they actually

planned to make within the next three-year period.

More home demonstration club members than non-members of a home demonstration club planned to make changes or improvements in their houses within the next three years. The largest percentage of home demonstration club members plan to redecorate, improve floors, and add to or improve the cooling system in their house. The largest portion of non-members of a home demonstration club planned to redecorate, build a new house, and add or improve bathroom facilities.

The sixth purpose was to determine the sources from which homemakers obtain information and ideas concerning housing improvements. The largest portion of home demonstration club members received information and ideas from personnel in the Cooperative Extension Service, themselves, or their husband, and commercial sources. The largest percentage of non-members of a home demonstration club obtained their ideas and information concerning housing improvements from their own or their husbands' ideas; houses in which they had visited; and advertisements, commercial bulletins or leaflets.

To develop implications for a county extension housing program was the seventh purpose. These are presented in the following section.

Implications

The writer offers the following implications for guiding county extension program emphasis as related to housing.

1. Devise means for developing more effective cooperation and communication among individuals, agencies and commercial organizations concerned with sources from which homemakers obtain ideas and information related to housing. In addition to personnel of the Cooperative

Extension Service, these may include: (1) home economists and others in related educational organizations; (2) builders, architects, draftsmen, and construction and planning agencies; (3) state and federal agencies; (4) lending agencies; and (5) community, county and state leaders.

2. Work with other county extension personnel, individuals and commercial firms to plan and conduct "special interest" activities or schools in the area of housing for various groups of homemakers and their families. The findings of this study show that within the next three years a large portion of the families in both groups plan to make changes that involve: (1) house remodeling; (2) building a new house; (3) selecting floors and floor covering; (4) adding or improving bathroom facilities; (5) selecting and using large household equipment, particularly cooling and heating systems; and (6) redecorating. These may be used as a basis for short-time goals in county program development in housing.

3. Assist utility companies, real estate developers, home building associations, building supply firms, and house furnishing dealers with "demonstration" houses, home shows, and exhibits for educational purposes in urban and rural areas. These may be planned primarily for families in the child-bearing and child-rearing stages of the family life cycle and for the aging population. From such educational educational materials, families may see how features of the house with which they were "dissatisfied" can be altered to more nearly meet the family needs. Suggested topics to be covered include: (1) storage areas; (2) laundry areas; (3) heating and cooling systems; (4) bathroom; and (5) bedrooms.

4. Extension service personnel may guide program emphasis for the

homemakers who are "very well satisfied" with their present housing situation by helping them and other clientele: (1) plan for future housing needs as the family changes from one stage of the family life cycle to another; (2) develop an awareness of their own housing problems; (3) develop an interest in community housing problems and cooperate with efforts for solving them; and (4) become aware of new materials and technological changes that may affect individual and family values and standards as related to housing.

5. Develop educational materials and activities in the area of housing which are suitable for various youth groups in the county.

6. Use television, radio, newspapers, and other mass media to help clientele become informed about the housing situation and problems in the county as shown through this and related studies, and to stimulate interest in solving them.

7. Work cooperatively with community improvement groups, resource development organizations, civic and professional organizations and commercial establishments to make extension publications in the area of housing available to homemakers and their families by placing them in: (1) public buildings; (2) office buildings; (3) public and school libraries; (4) transportation centers; (5) commercial service centers; (6) places where homemakers are employed; (7) meeting places of civic and professional groups; and (8) building supply establishments.

With the above implications for county extension program development, the writer believes the second portion of the hypothesis to be validated.

If additional studies are made concerning the extension housing program, the writer suggests that consideration be given to: (1) an

investigation and comparison of housing features, satisfactions and preferences of families in rural, urban, and suburban areas; (2) the satisfactions and preferences of older people for housing; (3) the influence of second homes or vacation homes on family living patterns; and (4) the influence of increased leisure time on family living.

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A P P E N D I X

Dear Homemaker:

The attached questionnaire is concerned with family housing and related problems. A group of home demonstration club members and non-home demonstration club members of Yazoo County are being asked to fill out the questionnaire. This is a part of the graduate study of a Mississippi Home Demonstration Agent at Oklahoma State University.

Information obtained will be used for planning the Co-Operative Extension Housing Program in our county.

PLEASE READ EACH PART OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE CAREFULLY AND ANSWER EACH ITEM.

Since we are the only County in Mississippi participating in the study, I know that you will co-operate.

Return the questionnaire to me as soon as possible. Thanks for your co-operation.

Sincerely,

/s/ (Mrs.) Ollie Jean Lane
Home Demonstration Agent
Yazoo County

PART I - PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. Are you now a home demonstration club member? Yes ___ No ___
2. Where do you live? (Check one)
 ___ (1) on a farm.
 ___ (2) in the country, but not on a farm.
 ___ (3) in a town with population less than 2500.
 ___ (4) in a city with population more than 2500.
3. In which age group do you belong?
 ___ (1) 19 yrs. or under
 ___ (2) 20-29 yrs.
 ___ (3) 30-39 yrs.
 ___ (4) 40-49 yrs.
 ___ (5) 50-59 yrs.
 ___ (6) 60 yrs. or over
4. What is the highest grade you completed in school? (Check only one)
 ___ (1) 8th grade or less
 ___ (2) 9-11th grade
 ___ (3) 12th grade
 ___ (4) 1-3 years of college
 ___ (5) 4 or more years of college
5. What is your marital status?
 ___ (1) single
 ___ (2) married
 ___ (3) widowed
 ___ (4) divorced or separated
6. Are you employed outside the home for a salary? Yes ___ No ___
 If yes, approximately how much? (Check one)
 ___ (1) 35 hours or more each week
 ___ (2) Less than 35 hours each week
7. About how much was the income of your family during 1962?
 ___ (1) Less than \$1,000
 ___ (2) \$1,000-\$2,999
 ___ (3) \$3,000-\$4,999
 ___ (4) \$5,000-\$7,999
 ___ (5) \$8,000-\$9,999
 ___ (6) \$10,000 and over
8. Write in the number of people in each age group living in your house at the present time. Include yourself, husband, children, relatives, roomers and others.
 ___ (1) Under 6 yrs. of age
 ___ (2) 6-12 yrs.
 ___ (3) 12-19 yrs.
 ___ (4) 20-29 yrs.
 ___ (5) 30-39 yrs.
 ___ (6) 40-49 yrs.
 ___ (7) 50-59 yrs.
 ___ (8) 60 yrs. of age and older
9. Indicate the ownership of the house in which you live.
 ___ (1) Owner
 ___ (2) Rent from non-relative
 ___ (3) Rent from relative
 ___ (4) Provided by employer or landlord
 ___ (5) Other (list) _____

10. How long have you lived in your present house?
 _____ (1) less than 1 yr. _____ (4) 11-20 yrs.
 _____ (2) 1-5 yrs. _____ (5) over 20 yrs.
 _____ (3) 6-10 yrs.
11. Approximately when was the house built?
 _____ (1) Since 1960 _____ (4) 1930-1939
 _____ (2) 1950-1959 _____ (5) 1920-1929
 _____ (3) 1940-1949 _____ (6) Before 1920
12. Since you established your home, in how many houses have you lived?
 _____ (1) one _____ (4) 4-5 houses
 _____ (2) two _____ (5) 5-10 houses
 _____ (3) three _____ (6) over 10 houses
13. Does your house have? (Check yes or no on the following)
- | | Yes | No |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Running Water | _____ | _____ |
| Running Hot Water | _____ | _____ |
| Electricity | _____ | _____ |
| Natural Gas | _____ | _____ |
| Propane or butane | _____ | _____ |

PART II. HOUSING FEATURES, SATISFACTIONS AND PREFERENCES

Column 1. Listed on the next page are selected features that affect housing.

Do you have the feature in your house? Check in Col. 1.

Yes, if you have this feature in your present house.

No, if you do not have this feature in your present house.

Column 2. How well satisfied are you with the feature in your present house? Check in Column 2.

Very well satisfied if the feature in your present house meets the needs of your family.

Fairly well satisfied if the feature in your present house is acceptable, but does not completely meet your family's needs.

Dissatisfied, if the feature in your present house does not meet the needs of your family.

Column 3. If it were possible for you to remodel your present house, or build or buy a new house, which of these features would you want? Check in Column 3.

Yes, if you would like to have this feature in your house.

No, if you would not like to have this feature in your house.

Selected Features	Column 1 My present house has this feature		Column 2 This is how well satisfied I am with this feature			Column 3 I would like to have this feature in my house	
	Yes	No	Very Well Satisfied	Fairly Well Satisfied	Dis- satis- fied	Yes	No
	A. BUILDING MATERIALS OF HOUSE:						
(1) Brick	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Concrete blocks	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Asbestos shingles or siding . .	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Wood	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) Combination of materials	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(6) Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
B. NUMBER OF FLOORS; LEVELS OR STORIES							
(1) One floor	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) One and a half floors	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Two floors or more	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
C. HEATING SYSTEM:							
(1) Central heating	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Space heaters (gas or electric)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Wood heater	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Fireplace	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) Floor furnace	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(6) Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
D. COOLING SYSTEM:							
(1) Central air conditioning	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Unit air conditioning	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Attic fan	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Window fan	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
E. LIVING AREA:							
(1) A living room separate from dining room or family room . . .	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Selected Features	Column 1 My present house has this feature		Column 2 This is how well satisfied I am with this feature			Column 3 I would like to have this feature in my house	
	Yes	No	Very Well Satisfied	Fairly Well Satisfied	Dis- satis- fied	Yes	No
F. DINING AREA:							
(1) A living-dining room combination	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) A separate dining room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) A dining area in kitchen	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) A dining area in family room . . .	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
G. KITCHEN STORAGE: (Food and Equipment)							
(1) Kitchen only	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Pantry only	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Pantry and kitchen	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
H. WORKROOM AREA:							
(1) A separate work or laundry room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Laundry area in kitchen	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Office or business center	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) None	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
I. RECREATION AREA:							
(1) A family room or recreation room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) TV in living room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) TV in family room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) A special room for sewing or other hobbies	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) A place for sewing in bedroom . .	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(6) An outdoor living area	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
J. BEDROOMS:							
(1) One	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Two	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Three	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Four or more	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Selected Features	Column 1		Column 2			Column 3	
	My present house has this feature		This is how well satisfied I am with this feature			I would like to have this feature in my house	
	Yes	No	Very Well Satisfied	Fairly Well Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Yes	No
K. BATHROOMS:							
(1) One	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) One and one-half	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Two or more	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) None	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
L. SPECIFIC GENERAL STORAGE FOR:							
(1) In season clothing	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Out of season clothing	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Cleaning equipment	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Linens	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) Recreation equipment	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
M. LIGHTING:							
(1) Light over sink	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Lamp for reading or study	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(3) Valance or Cornice lighting in living room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(4) Light for bathroom mirror	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(5) Light over range	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(6) Central lighting fixture in each room	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(7) Light in bedroom closets	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
N. MISCELLANEOUS:							
(1) Entry hall	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) Guest bedroom	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

HAVE YOU CHECKED COLUMN 1, COLUMN 2, AND COLUMN 3?

III. What plans do you have for making changes or improvements in your house within the next three years? (Check only those which you actually plan to do.)

- (1) No changes anticipated
- (2) Build a new house
- (3) Rent a different house
- (4) Add a room on to the house
- (5) Remodeling existing house
- (6) Improve floors
- (7) Redecorate (change color of walls by papering or painting)
- (8) Remodel or rearrange work and storage space in kitchen
- (9) Add or rearrange storage space in other rooms
- (10) Improve heating system
- (11) Improve home wiring
- (12) Adding or improving cooling system
- (13) Improve house lighting
- (14) Add or improve bathroom facilities
- (15) Others (specify) _____

IV. Where do you get ideas and information about housing improvements?

- (1) Architects
- (2) Builders, Draftsman or Carpenters
- (3) Extension service (County or Home Demonstration Agent)
- (4) Home economists (teacher, utility company)
- (5) Relatives or friends
- (6) Your own or your husband's ideas
- (7) Government bulletins (USDA, Mississippi Extension Service)
- (8) Houses in which you have lived.
- (9) Houses in which you have visited
- (10) Advertisements, Commercial Bulletins or Leaflets
- (11) Home shows, builders, open house, exhibits
- (12) Others (Specify) _____

Thank you for filling out the questionnaire.

Please return to:

Mrs. Ollie Jean Lane
Home Demonstration Agent
Yazoo City, Mississippi

VITA

Auba Nell Price

Candidate for the Degree of
Master of Science

Thesis: A STUDY OF HOUSING FEATURES, PREFERENCES AND SATISFACTIONS IN
YAZOO COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI AND IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNTY
EXTENSION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

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Biographical:

Personal Data: Born near Prentiss, Mississippi, September 20, 1924,
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Education: Attended grade school and high school at Prentiss
Consolidated School, Prentiss, Mississippi; received Bachelor
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College for Women, Columbus, Mississippi, May, 1946; attended
Mississippi State University, Summer 1951, 1961; Colorado
State University, Summer 1959; completed requirements for the
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1964.

Professional Experience: Assistant Home Demonstration Agent,
Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, July 1, 1946 to August 25, 1946;
Home Demonstration Agent, Kemper County, Mississippi,
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Professional Organizations: American Home Economics Association;
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stration Agents Association; Mississippi Home Demonstration
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