

The Essential Character of the Home.

1. A nation, ^{not} strong, not because of the number of individual citizens, nor is its future determined by the numerical strength of its families. A nation's ^{strength} ~~is~~ is in direct proportion to the number of ideal homes it possesses. Nations of the past have swung to the heights of national glory, and fallen - because of the decadence of their homes. Our nation will not be an exception.

I. Homes of Yesterday.

1. The homes of colonial days were not wholly ideal; they faced strenuous hardships, they had a heroic birth rate and an alarming death rate, yet they produced men & women of sterling character who became nation builders and continental conquerors. It is a phenomenon calling for explanation that a few settlements of 13 weak colonies, hugging the coast line, with barely 3 million people, and meager material & cultural resources should in a century and a half grow into a dominant world power. What made it possible? material resources, yes - plus the old-time home and its

company of study character, faith
courage and skill.

Independence of Old Time
Home. - G. W. Fiske says the
old time home was dependent
on God and the weather and but
little else. It supplied practically
all its needs. -

Art & Craft - note them
no such thing as high house
keeping. no tide-gauges in the
old time home.

The home was center of
everything. ^{note.} Religion - Education -
social life. - It was the
first complete social center
in history.

Civilization has broken the
monopoly of the home - other in-
stitutions have come from
the family hearth. - the
functions of home scattered.
I need not cite the lengths
to which we have gone. Has
the home surrendered
functions which it should
have retained?

Fault of old home. -

Homes of today. - Centrifugal -
no longer home centered.

enlarge
Home has abdicated

its responsibilities.

A young school teacher at a recent educational conference said. "When I was a young teacher, church took care of the child's religion; the home of his manners and morals, and the school of his intellect; but now the whole care of the child is dumped on the school," even to his eyes and his teeth."

Benedy today,

The greatest need of America
is religion, the religion
that centers in the
"home" - Calvin Coolidge

Divorce in religious
families are exceedingly
rare

Calvin Coolidge