



**DOMESTIC**

**SCIENCE  
AND ART**

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Although the Department of Domestic Science and Art, as now organized, has the same aim as it has doubtless had from the beginning of this type of work in the college some fifteen years ago, namely, the fitting of young women in the best possible way to meet life's problems, particularly those of the home which are distinctly her own, the plan for the work of the school is somewhat different.

The predominating idea is the correlation of the school work and that of the dormitory, that each may serve the needs of the other. The dormitory work originates and offers the solution to practical problems, such as planning the meal, cooking and serving it; together with the furnishing of the home, caring for it and for the people in it. The student has thus the opportunity of cooking in large quantities without expense to the school, as the products may be used in the dormitory. The school makes the daily problems of the dormitory significant, and saves money for the student and the college by making the practice work the necessary work of the home: at the same time making the student feel herself an essential part of her environment.

The aim of this correlative plan is, through class work, to qualify the student to dispose of practical matters, such as the selection of a site on the college campus for a house designed to accommodate a moderately sized family. The plan of the house is to be the result of the student's best thought. The scheme for decorating and furnishing is also to be the result of class work, curtains, pillows, baskets, household linen, being supplied by class efforts as far as practicable. Each student during her course lives in this house, perfectly kept by students themselves. She during this time performs every phase of housework from scrubbing the floors to being hostess at a dinner party.

The work of such a school has two distinct phases of almost equal importance; and although very different in subject matter, they are closely allied in aim and in their relation to the problems of daily life. Cookery, dietetics, home nursing, and laundry work, on the one hand, are based upon scientific principles, each contributing to the interest and value of the other: science making the cookery seem much more worth while, the cookery the science more real and necessary in the school curriculum. On the other hand, sewing, millinery, embroidery and various other types of hand work, house construction and house furnishing are based upon art principles and demand mental control of motive activities, which gives vitality to art, while art brings beauty into the commonplace things of life.