

A READING: HOUSE, HOME AND GIRLS FROM NANNIE HELEN BURROUGHS WRITINGS IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS FILES

“THERE IS A VAST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A HOUSE AND A HOME. A HOUSE IS A BUILDING, INTENDED FOR HABITATION. A HOME IS A HOUSE MADE INTO A HOME BY ELEMENTARY SOCIAL VIRTUES AND VALUES: LOVE, GODLINESS, UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION, INDUSTRY, KINDLINESS, COURTESY, UNSELFISHNESS, CLEANLINESS, ORDER AND HAPPINESS. THESE SOCIAL VIRTUES AND VALUES CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE TO MAKE A HOME. IF TWO PEOPLE ‘WHOM GOD JOINED TOGETHER’ PUT THEIR HEARTS AND HEADS TOGETHER ---A HOUSE WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME A HOME.”

IN AN ARTICLE ENTITLED: “THERE’S NOBODY HOME” BURROUGHS APPEALS TO PARENTS TO SAVE THEIR GIRLS, CIRCA 1942

“IF EVER THAT APHORISM IS TRUE, IT IS TODAY. MOTHERS ARE WAR WORKERS. LITTLE CHILDREN AND TEEN-AGE GIRLS ARE LEFT AT HOME TO SHIFT FOR THEMSELVES. WHAT THE HARVEST (MORAL AND SOCIAL) WILL BE, ONLY GOD KNOWS. TOO MANY PARENTS ARE GOING TO LOSE MORE THAN THEY GAIN. WHAT WILL IT PROFIT THEM TO MAKE MONEY AND FACE THE FACT THAT WHILE THEY WERE HERE AND THERE, THEIR CHILDREN WENT TO THE DOGS OR THE DOGS CAME INTO THEIR HOMES AND GOT THEIR DAUGHTERS. MOTHERS OF TEEN-AGE GIRLS, TAKE OUR ADVICE, “YOU BETTER MIND” BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. OUR RACE WILL BE MORALLY BANKRUPT IF PARENTS DO NOT PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST IN THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF THEIR DAUGHTERS. IF THEY MUST BE AWAY ALL DAY, THEY SHOULD SEND THEIR DAUGHTERS TO THE BEST CHRISTIAN BOARDING SCHOOL, SO THEY CAN GET THE KIND OF TRAINING THAT WILL PREPARE THEM FOR THE GREAT DAY OF ECONOMIC COMPETITION THAT IS SURELY COMING. OUR GREATEST DESIRE IS TO SEND YOUNG WOMEN OUT FROM THIS SCHOOL TO

CONTRIBUTE THEIR PART IN HELPING TO IMPROVE HOME LIFE AND REMAKE THEIR COMMUNITIES. WE INSIST THAT EVERY GIRL SHOULD KNOW HOW TO DO AT LEAST ONE THING SUPERBLY WELL. TO THIS END, WE OFFER STANDARD ACADEMIC COURSES – JUNIOR HIGH, HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE AND TRADE COURSES. OUR THREE-FOLD PURPOSE IS: 1. DEVELOP EVERY STUDENT IN POSITIVE CHARACTER TRAITS – THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARDS WORK AND PRIDE AND SKILL IN THEIR CHOSEN PROFESSION. 2. PREPARE THEM TO ENTER INTO COMPETITION WITH ANY AND ALL WORKERS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN THE SAME FIELD, WITHOUT FEAR OR APOLOGY. 3. PREPARE THEM TO CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY LIVE. WE CALL OUR SCHOOL “THE SCHOOL OF THE THREE B’S. BIBLE, BATH AND BROOM” – SYMBOLIC OF CLEAN LIVES, CLEAN BODIES, AND CLEAN HOMES. THIS IS MORE THAN A FELICITOUS SOBRIQUET, BECAUSE THE RACE THAT EXCELS IN THE USE OF THESE THREE INSTRUMENTS IS THE MOST HIGHLY CIVILIZED. THE AMERICA OF TOMORROW WILL STRESS SKILL AND PRIDE IN THOSE SERVICES THAT CONTRIBUTE MOST TO HEALTH, STRENGTH AND CHARACTER OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IN THE NATION, WHEREVER HE OR SHE LIVES, AND IN THE DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT OF HOME LIFE. “