

1926

Girls' 4-H Club

The Iowa Homemaker

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker>



Part of the [Home Economics Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

The Iowa Homemaker (1926) "Girls' 4-H Club," *The Iowa Homemaker*: Vol. 6 : No. 7 , Article 9.
Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol6/iss7/9>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Homemaker by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.



GIRLS' 4-H CLUBS



Club Work is Glorifying the Iowa Farm Girl

For More Attractive Rooms

The 4-H club girls of Iowa have one project that teaches interior decoration. It is called Home Furnishing and the girl uses her own room as her subject of study and laboratory. Good taste in decorating a home is not a talent, but with a desire, it may be cultivated. So a knowledge of what is true beauty in home furnishing, of fundamental principles of good color, line, arrangement and fitness, of the importance of simplicity is gained through this study. The girls learn that through thoughtful planning, not great expenditure, they may have more attractive rooms.

In 1926 there were 36 counties that had as their project, Home Furnishing. In these counties, the girls not only learned to select or make rugs, window draperies, lamp shades, refinish furniture and much else for their own rooms, but they passed this information on to hundreds of others by way of their demonstrations. Thirty-five counties sent Home Furnishing demonstration teams to the State Fair and 32 counties sent exhibits, not to say anything about local and county exhibits over the whole state.

The year 1927 will find more counties taking up this project and more girls having the joy of re-decorating their rooms as well as storing away a fund of knowledge for this ideal home to come.

From Nina's own story, her room was originally furnished with odd pieces of furniture, light and dark,

with woven rugs, and walls done in all too blue a color, the result not at all pleasing and not nearly as useful as it might be.

The articles were moved to the attic when Nina became the proud possessor of the black walnut chest of drawers (that is seen in the picture). It belonged to her great-grandmother. A search began for other articles that would fit in with this chest. In many of these hunts in hay lofts and attics, she found interesting articles, some whole, some pieces. One was an old spinning wheel.

After many, many hours of scraping, oiling, waxing and rubbing, the lovely old chest was ready to use. Two chairs, 64 years old, of good lines, but light, soft wood and bottomless, were stained and recaned. Her grandfather's old walnut washstand, refinished now, serves duty as a writing desk. Above it hangs a soft wood bookshelf. This was painted apple green and fits in very nicely with the color scheme, with a simple waste paper basket with colonial silhouette and other accessories completing writing a center unit.

The mirror with walnut frame that hangs over the chest was quite small, so an inexpensive piece of cretonne with quaint design and lovely color was chosen to hang as background for the mirror, as well as a note of interest and color. Then there is the tip-top table that sits beside the bed with the kerosene lamp that belonged to her

(Continued on page 18)

Home Furnishing Teaching

The club girls attending the recent Short Course and taking the work in the Home Furnishing division had the rare opportunity of looking back into



Scott County Home Furnishing Team proves that any girl can have a pretty room.

the rooms of our great, great-grandmothers with the instructors of the Applied Art Department. The week's work ended with the climax of the lovely presentation of a Girl's Room Today.

Mrs. C. C. Culbertson had as her part in this story, "Furniture, Good and Bad." Miss Frances Jones, one of the editors of the 4-H News, gave us this fine report.

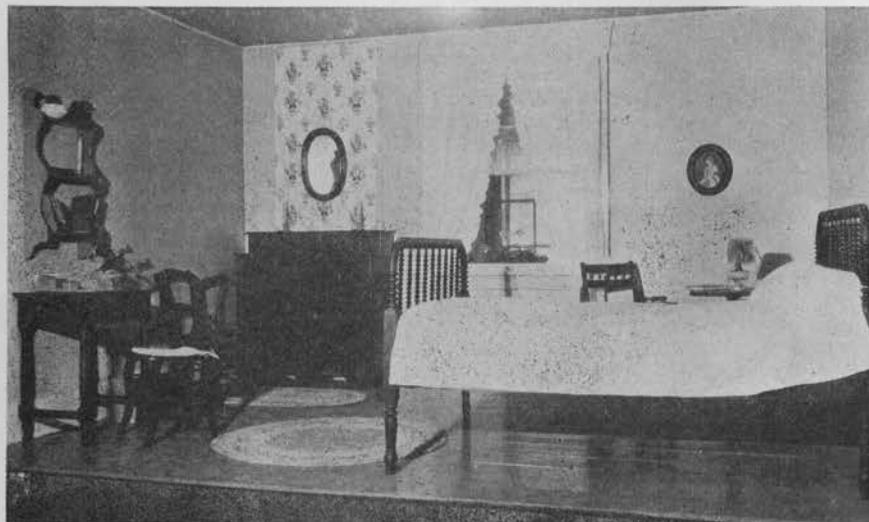
"Furniture, Good and Bad"

Our heritage is the home of our great, great-grandmother. Each of us may have a little bit of her beautiful, simple home in our own home.

You are a rescue party to save from the dusty attic and dustier barn, the pieces of old furniture which are quaint bequests of our great, great-grandmothers.

You will find old furniture worth rescuing and refinishing because it was made of good, durable wood; usually walnut, maple, cherry or hickory. It also has the finest of workmanship because it was made by hand and built to last. It has good design because

(Continued on page 18)



This is Nina's transformed room.

ances such as light, moisture and heat, special care must be taken in storing food. Canned goods should be kept in a clean, dry, cool closet or store room on narrow shelves so spoilage can be quickly detected. It is unwise to store canned foods in the kitchen because of the heat and steam.

Flour, cereals, sugar, raisins and other dry foodstuffs are best kept in cans or boxes placed where mice cannot reach them. Coffee and spices should be kept in air tight containers to prevent loss of flavor. Dry foods should never be stored in a place which is the least bit damp because of the insects which are certain to find them.

In storing vegetables it is important to see that they have no worm holes or bad spots on them. If they have, and it is impossible to use them immediately, it is well to keep them in a separate container and use them first. Vegetables such as squash and cabbage, potatoes, onions, and most root vegetables are easily stored in a dugout or cave with an earth floor. The only thing which is important in storing these kinds of vegetables is that the temperature be kept between 32 and 40 degrees F.

Since heat and light are conducive to ripening fruit and vegetables, it is necessary to exclude these two to a certain extent if the food is not to be ripened immediately. In storing fruits a cool, dark, but not damp cellar is most often used.

Fresh meats must be kept in a refrigerator which has a temperature of about 40 degrees. (Meats may be kept frozen for nine months without deteriorating, but after the third month meat is considered well ripened.) Smoked and salted meats are subject to infection by larvae and worms, particularly when the salt and smoke have not been well applied. These meats are best kept by hanging in a dry, cool and dark room, well-ventilated, and free from all dust and dirt.

In preserving eggs a solution of water-glass is most generally used. Eggs to be preserved must always be inspected before putting down in the crock of solution. Only strictly fresh, clean and candled eggs may be successfully preserved. The longer eggs are kept, the weaker the yolk and white becomes. Eggs can generally be used successfully after the eleventh month, but not after the twelfth month. If eggs are frozen they should be kept at a temperature of from 20-32 degrees F.

Of course only the foods which are in the best condition are supposed to be stored. Foods stored should always be of the same quality. There should not be any chance of a small bit of one food spoiling the entire shelf of food. To a great extent food should be of one grade.

A new method of storing just coming into general use is the electric refrigerator. The principle of this is that gas is condensed and the evaporation of it cools the air in the box. This is not a new method for it has been used in commercial establishments for a great many years. The cost of "iceless refrigeration" is con-

siderably more than the ice box, but later it will be found that a more even temperature may be maintained and the cost of operating it is decidedly less than the cost of ice and trouble of having the ice brought to the house.

Refrigeration and storage in the home is absolutely essential. Since the warehouses take such great care in storing their wholesale products, and the producers and growers are so careful in shipping their foods to the housewife, is it not then important that the housewife do her part in keeping the food the best that she can until she has had opportunity to use it?

Since food is the most important thing of which modern man has need, it must be the duty of the housewife to provide such variety and nutritive value that man can build the future on it. Consider the possibilities of planning a menu from a well-stocked fruit and vegetable cellar, cereal cupboard and refrigerator. There is almost nothing that the housewife cannot preserve for a length of time. Great amounts of money, labor and time may be saved by proper storing of food products so that when the occasion demands, the store rooms can supply practically every item needed for a well balanced meal.

Be Happy in a Lovely Room

(Continued from page 7)

it was made simply, but done with care and with a regard for graceful lines.

Perhaps you know the Carver chair, the Windsor chair, and the slat back, or ladder back, chair. All of them were found in the homes of our great, great-grandmother and belong to us today. The old ones are the nicest, but since we all can't have them, some very good modern reproductions are made.

In your own home, you may have a modern wing-back chair or just perhaps an old one. Did you know that in the day of our great, great-grandmother, the wing-back chair was always set in front of the fireplace with the back to the door, so that the draft wouldn't fall on great, great-grandfather's bald head and give him a cold?

Great, great-grandmother's home wasn't always very big and she had to save space in some way, just as lots of people in apartments do today. She had tables with drop leaves that saved space. Some of the supports for the leaves were shaped like a wing and when the leaves were up, the table looked like a big butterfly and so was called the butterfly table. The gate leg table, too, was a space saver.

After Revolutionary days, our great, great-grandmothers disliked England, but greatly admired France, who had aided them in the war, so they wanted

Smith Jewelry Co.
For all that's good in jewelry.
First Door East of
Woolworth's

Best Electric

Student Supplies
"Everything
Electrical"

130 Main Phone 123

G. T. HART
The G. T. Hart Studio

PHOTOS THAT PLEASE
FRAMES THAT SATISFY

When it's from Hart's
It's right

We Are
the
College Girls'
Shoe
Store

Trueblood's
South of Campus

PARNO'S
Jewelry Store
CRANFORD BLDG.

EXPERT WATCH, CLOCK &
JEWELRY REPAIRING
Over 25 years' experience
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Phone 251

"Get an ideal, life becomes real."—
Spanish Proverb.

Watches Diamonds

C. W. Dudgeon

Jeweler

Ames, Leading Jeweler for Over
33 Years

Fine Watch and Jewelry
Repairing

Ames Iowa

A complete line of

Dennison's

Crepe paper, Wax, Rope,
Tags, Labels or Wire will
be found here at all times.

Reynolds & Iverson

Ames News Stand

—•••••

New Silks

New Woolens

New Wash Goods

at

Stephenson's

OPPOSITE CAMPUS

HOME JOURNAL
AND
VOGUE
PATTERNS

—•••••

to have French-like things. French people used more elaborate furniture and so American furniture copied from the French had more carving, more curves and graceful lines.

Not all of us can have a house full of our great, great-grandmother's lovely furniture, but we can have a piece or two, which will dignify our whole house and show to others that we do appreciate nice furniture.

Many a club girl has already rescued a lovely little table, or a day-bed, or a chair. Still there are many, many pieces hiding away for other club girls to find them and make them a part of her own room.

Mary Carolyn Davies has expressed the appreciation of little lovely things we may have from our great, great-grandmothers when she says:

"Furniture, pottery, pewter and brass, And a little gray home will come to pass,
A sink and a cook stove, windows, trees,
A little brave home is born of these. Calico covers on painted chairs;
A strip of carpet on curving stairs,
Glass and silver and iron and tin,
And a mat at the door that says 'Come in'."

Ingeniousness Brings Distinction Here

(Continued from page 7)

great-grandmother. For the lamp she has made a parchment shade.

The oval walnut picture frame belonged to an aunt. For this, Nina found a picture of a lady with a quaint lace collar and a blue and old rose dress.

For a cover for the lovely old bed, Nina copied the quilt that belonged to her father. The design known as "Rob Peter to Pay Paul" was worked out in plain blue gingham and a print material of tiny blue figures on an old background. Two braided rag rugs of gray blue and red rose for the floor fit perfectly into the scheme. The curtains were made of soft, creamy ruffled voile.

Last, but not least, is an old discarded sugar bowl that serves as flower container. The picture speaks for itself. Any of us would be proud to own this room. It was no small piece of work to bring the room to pass, but ah! the joy!

What did it cost to rejuvenate this room? Eight dollars and fifty-nine cents is the small sum.

Nina, a small miss with golden hair and blue eyes, fits into the color scheme of gray, blue, old rose and apple green and fine old furniture with memories

of the past, good wood, lovely lines and substantial structure.

Not all girls have been as fortunate as Nina has in falling heir to furniture like this. Maybe you have odd pieces of soft wood. Many Iowa girls have had fascinating results with the paint pot and these odd pieces. Every girl wants a pretty room.

Making a House a Home

(Continued from page 1)

ture must be "boy-proof" and one should not have too much of that, for the furniture must not interfere with the activities of the home. One must remember that a kitchen is made for candy pulls, fireplaces were invented so that children might lie before them "stomach down" and pop corn and toast marshmallows over the glowing embers.

If parents would hark back to their own childhood days and enter into the spirit of child life around them, they would be rather surprised at the urgent requests which they would receive to become a part of young frolics. They would not be made to feel that their presence cast a damper on the fun. Their neighbors' children and their own might honestly prefer their company to anyone's.

Outside the house enough ground should be provided so that everything from a dog kennel to a tennis court may be built upon it. Many a boy has spent an unhappy childhood because he was denied pets and was not allowed to "clutter up the yard" with his loved equipment. Father and mother should enter into the play of their children. The child's heart swells with pride if father can jump higher than he can or can "whitewash" him in a game of tennis. It may take some sacrifice on the part of parents to keep physically fit in their sports of college days, but it will mean far more to them than a few dollars or cents added to the bank account, for it will mean health and happiness and gaining the complete confidence of the child. It will also provide easy means of teaching rules of sportsmanship that must apply to the entire game of life. Then, too, the children will consider father and mother with a new respect for they become "individuals" to them and not just parents in a relationship taken for granted.

The children should be encouraged in beautifying the lawn by planting flowers and shrubbery, building lattice work and bird houses so that they will take a personal interest in the appearance of the home and so that they may feel that they have had a share in the result obtained. One result of this

SE-MA CREAM
FOR THE TOILET

CAGWIN DRUG STORE