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Girls' 4-H Club

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GIRLS' 4-H CLUBS

Club Work Is Glorifying the Iowa Farm Girl

Conducted by Caroline E. Morrell



Dream Rooms

Every girl has dreams of some sort. They may be dreams of ambition or dreams of the "grown up time," or just dreams of what we will do this next summer vacation. At any rate, we would not have much hopes for the girl who does not have dreams and build castles. The most important part is to build castles and then see what we can do about them.

There are dozens and dozens of girls in the 43 counties of Iowa where Home Furnishing is the project being studied, who have dream rooms.

Here is where she works ideas all her own and settles the problem of the day. This room is her laboratory. She studies and plans the most attractive, useful and convenient ways and means to bring about this dream room. With lessons on color harmony, what is good in design, restful wall finishes, appropriate and lovely materials for curtains and scarfs, refinishing of furniture, how to make a few good accessories, she learns to spend wisely and work with what is at hand.

Who would want to redecorate and furnish a room all at once? It is much more fun to keep our eyes open and accumulate things. In the first place, the girl takes stock of what she has and then makes a definite plan. She does not make a rag rug with no thought of her room. On the other hand, she makes a rag rug because she needs one, because they are inexpensive, lovely and will fit into a particular decorative scheme.

There are as many different problems as there are girls. Some are fortunate, as was Esther Everett of Ma-



An Interesting Unit in 4-H Club Girls' Room
Elizabeth Wilson of Muscatine.

haska County, to have some lovely old pieces of furniture in the family that were of good design and good wood, but needed refinishing. Others have had as much fun making furniture out of boxes. Oh! the possibilities of an orange box. A can of paint can do wonders if there is a will.

How many attractive reading and writing centers have been made out of the discarded commode and wash stand! You wouldn't recognize them. Who could get along without a waste basket now when it is so easy to make one out of an oil can, a peanut bucket or a heavy pasteboard box of right size and proportion?

Bolts of colorful English prints, gingham, figured batiste and lawns are now being converted into curtains, scarfs, bed spreads and chair covers. Where there is little money to spend, some interesting results have come when sugar sacks could be made colorful and useful with a bit of colored tape or print. We saw some lovely curtains made of the lowly cheese-cloth.

Above is just one example of the

many interesting units in the 4-H club rooms.

Elizabeth Wilson of Muscatine County had an interesting story. This little corner did not exist before Elizabeth's club took up Home Furnishing. The little table was doing service elsewhere in the home. The hanging bookshelf was bought at small cost and painted ivory with the other furniture in the room. The curtains are plain material trimmed in colored bands. Doesn't the lamp base interest you? It is an old crockery fruit jar, now adorned with a lamp shade made of wrap-

ping paper.

An unusually good finished product in the rag rug came out of materials in the rag bag.

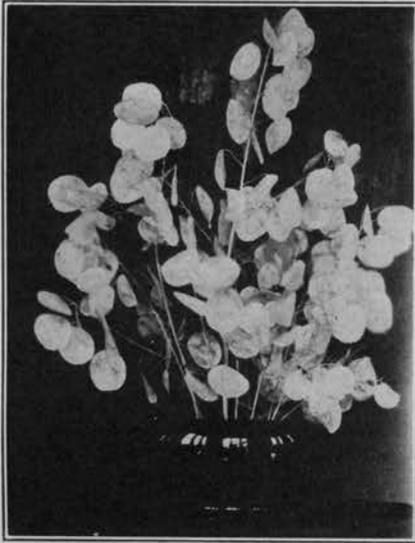
What three counties and what three girls will have their dream rooms at the State Fair?

Keeping Up 4-H Standards

Evelyn Turner, a former 4-H club girl of Montgomery County, has made a very enviable record in activities and scholarship during her three years at Iowa State College. Because of her high standing in scholarship and interest professionally, she was elected to Phi Upsilon Omicron, honorary home economics society. She holds the office of corresponding secretary in this organization.

Just recently she was elected president of the Y. W. C. A. cabinet.

We might mention other accomplishments of former 4-H club members on the campus, but space does not permit. We do assure you that much is expected of these girls and they are living up to the regular 4-H club reputation.



An Arrangement of Honesties in Black Bowl.

Plan Now for Winter Cheer

Selecting seeds for summer bouquets is fascinating work, but looking ahead for bouquets for winter decoration is even more so. It is such an easy matter to grow everlasting or straw flowers, every club girl should select at least a few varieties to grow this summer.

With these we may make some very interesting bouquets for the few months of the year when it is almost impossible for the rural girl to have fresh flowers, and at the same time take the place of paper flowers and painted weeds. If we choose to grow a variety, it will not be necessary to "keep" a bouquet until it has lost its interest and bright color.

Most of the everlastings are easily grown annuals. Gomphrena (Bachelor Button or Globe Amaranth) has a clover-like blossom in pink, red and white. The pink is the best color to buy in this variety.

Annual statice should be in every garden. Most varieties produce spikes of small flowers. The colors are lavender, rose and yellow. If possible, buy colors separately, although the mixture will give nice results.

The acroclinium (rose everlasting) has dainty, daisy-like flowers, single and double, in pink and white. A mixture of these will give a well selected assortment of pink and white flowers.

Helichrysum (common strawflower) is the most common straw flower. Buy separate colors of these in yellow, salmon and violet. A mixture of seeds for this flower often results in all reds. The flowers are large and colorful and

are an addition to the garden as well as bouquets.

The Xeranthemums will give you lovely pinkish lavenders in a daisy-like flower.

Perennials in the everlastings are worth starting and are easily grown

The Chinese Lantern plant bears lantern-like husks in a beautiful orange and red color, the second year from seed. Better still, secure a few roots from some old bed and in a very short time you will have many sprays for yourself and friends.

Honesties or Lunaria are one of the most interesting plants to grow. The silver-like seed pods are the part used for decoration. The plant blossoms early the second year from seed and the seed pods are picked as they turn brown. Later on the outside covering loosens and the lovely iridescent center comes into view.

Perennial statice or sea lavender gives panicles or cloud-like sprays of delicate lavender, which are indispensable in softening bouquets.

An important point to remember in raising everlastings is to pick the flowers before they open. If allowed to remain too long on the plant, the petals turn back in an unnatural position when dry. Pick the flowers with long enough stems to permit graceful arrangements.

Aside from the pleasure derived from raising these flowers, there is always a demand for extra sprays one wishes to sell. Boxes of these flowers are a very nice Christmas gifts, so plant them plentifully this spring.

Miss Ruth Cessna, food specialist in the Extension Department, between trains and weekly trips to the counties, has time, with her mother, to plan and produce one of the loveliest gardens we have had the pleasure of visiting. She "knows her flowers", so we have asked her to give you a few suggestions on flowers that you find little written about.

Cherokee County Again a Winner

When Nettie Nelson of Boone County was unable to accept the scholarship to attend twelve weeks' work in the Non-collegiate Department of Iowa State College, Ona Mongan of Cherokee County was the fortunate girl to be next in line. Even though Ona missed a week's work, she is making this up quickly and is now becoming acclimated and enjoying her work immensely.

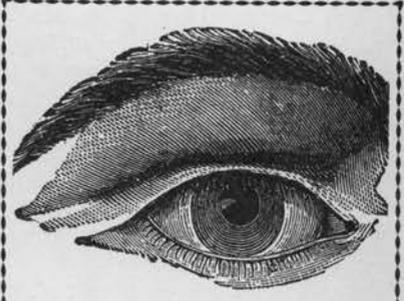
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