

Tell Housekeepers How To Make a
Iceless Refrigerators and Many
Labor-saving Devices.



Miss Rhea C
Scott,
Virginia Field
Agent for Labor
Saving Devices
of Department
of
Agriculture.



Homemade Combination
Roller Tray and Serving
Table

charming wheel trays, the fashion of which came from England with the importation of the function of afternoon tea.

One of the most active field agents in the promulgation of the ideas of the Department of Agriculture and in the making of labor-saving devices, notably the iceless refrigerator, is Miss Rhea C. Scott, whose territory is in Virginia. At the request of the department, Miss Scott has compiled a book which em-

This dress or covering will have to be hooked around the top edge also. Two double strips one-half the width of each side to form wicks should be sewed on the top of each side and allowed to extend over about two and one-half or three inches in the pan of water. This is to prevent the glass

"One of the pleasant features of this work is that women of every age are eligible," said Miss Scott. "We have members in the clubs who are mothers who are 75; and into the lives of some of the older women it has brought an interest undreamed of before," said the speaker. "The work, then, too, some of the most valuable suggestions come from these mature women, who have passed a life-

time coping with the difficult problem of the weather. As to the efficiency of this refrigerator, Miss Scott declared it to be entirely satisfactory, and quoted from the experience of an Oklahoma woman who had lived in the house for some time. "The house is just as perfectly sweet in an atmosphere ten degrees cooler than the outside air and states that since she has had it her appetite has improved and butter have been much improved."

life in the cramping atmosphere of pinching poverty. The conscientious housewife of every class wants to improve her methods of work, and the whole idea of the department is to develop the mental capacity of the country woman."

Asked about the actual construction of the devices, Miss Scott brought forth some photographs which illustrated the work in which she had been engaged for the Department of Agriculture. All were homemade, and the cost of each has been estimated and is recorded in the

The roller tray and serving tray is a thing of beauty and of use as utility, and if made according to the directions of the Department of Agriculture, can be constructed at a cost of a dollar. This convenience comprises a china closet, serving table and roller tray in one. The fruit for the rolling box five inches deep for the top is made with wooden posts for legs. Dimensions: Top of table, 31½ inches long by 16½ inches wide and 23 inches high, and a serving compartment 6 inches deep.

The wireless cooker is composed of a wooden box, which is used as the outside container of the cooker, and is lined with two thicknesses of paper before packing. Cut newspapers and excelsior are used in the packing of the cooker, and the whole is in a yellow glyster can. This nest is wrapped

on the outside with asbestos, and a piece of asbestos is placed under the bottom to prevent the cooking of the food by the heat of the compartment used. Any kind of a hot vessel with a top that will fit snugly into the nest is used for cooking. The cooking is done with adequate utensils as made by many clubs is estimated at 25 cents.

The companion convenience to the top of the compartment is a small box which is used for the storage of the silver. Below this serving compartment is a drawer, which is divided in the middle. The left side of the drawer is used for the linen and one side for the silver. The silver is lined with blue outing flannel because this serves the same purpose as the silver.

fireless cooker for the hot Summer day is the iceless refrigerator, which has been made by several clubs at a cost of about a dollar. As made by the Alleghany County Club the directions are as follows:

as follows: The screen is made three and a half feet high, with other dimensions 12 by 15 inches. Place two one-inch wooden strips across the top over the screen, low enough to allow a square of material to be drawn down the sides. Have two movable shelves, 12 to 15 inches apart in it. Use a pan 12 inches square for the bottom. The whole is made of wood and one-half inches square with rollers. It is drawn from top yagons or discarded baby coaches are used. This is an improvement because the tray rolls.

In some cases the legs from old tables are used in place of having these made. The legs are cut off so that the table can be pushed or pulled into any desired compartment with one handling only.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—(Special.)—Never, perhaps, was truism better expressed than in the words "Not half the world knows how the other half lives." And it has never been realized until within the past few years that the 11,000,000 of women and girls who pass their lives upon the streets of the great cities of America are in need of almost all that they should have to make conditions as livable as their might be.

But there has been an awakening upon the part of the United States Department of Agriculture to this state of affairs; and it is righting it as rapidly as possible. Farm women are now having their chance to better home conditions.

The Department of Agriculture inaugurated and now carries on its work in the home communities of the most tender work in home economic. The movement is enthusiastic over the manner in which the mothers and daughters' co-operative movement has taken hold upon the mothers whom it has been taught, and its benefits are already enriching a large section.

The men who had this work in Heretofore the south has been back-

ward in progressive movements, but with its recent awakening to the value of its own resources and opportunities, its people are taking up new interests with all the ardor and vigor of a system which has lain fallow for time enough to conserve its power against the day of need.

So it happens that the women of the South are taking the lead in co-operating with the Department of Agriculture in its home extension work among farm women. The work is developed gradually and is carried on by clubs which are organized and directed by trained agents of the department. The experience, so far, has been that once properly established upon a correct, well studied scientific basis the inter-

well studied scientific basis the interest and impetus engendered among the members keep the organization going by its own momentum.

Begun with the industry most familiar to the farm woman, egg and poultry raising and selling associations were formed last year upon strictly scientific and business bases. These worked an immediate and large increase in financial returns. There were

6781 women, in 15 states who were

materially benefited last year by this one feature of home extension work.

Buttermaking was next taken up, with a correspondingly high average in increased efficiency in preparing the product for home consumption and for sale, with a financial increase correspondingly improved. Every agriculturist knows that the highest quality of butter, which naturally affects the financial return, cannot be made under unfavorable conditions and without proper equipment.

The field agent of the department was prepared for this emergency, and improved churns, butter workers and molds were shown. As properly cooled and kept cool milk is the first requisite for a maximum of quantity and quality of butter, she was also prepared to set before the farmer's wife remote from ice and manufactured cooling apparatus a home-made iceless refrigerator, which she demonstrated would keep milk products in Summer at the temperature for the proper forming and ripening of cream to produce high-grade butter.

The result was that last year more than 600 iceless refrigerators were constructed at home, which proved efficient aids to home comfort, sanitation and profit. The homemade fireless cooker

has proved a boon to thousands of women in remote southern districts who never before knew that the lightest meal might be prepared without the aid of a heavy armful of wood and the enervating task of standing over a hot stove in summer time. Now the best small oil heater has been introduced for the preliminary heating of the food before its completion by a

few hours' repose in a fireless cooker.
So successful has been this intro-

duction that 2151 effective fireless cookers were constructed by the women themselves at their club meetings under the direction of the department's field agent. A simple homemade fly-trap suggested by the department attracted the attention of the women and they have made nearly 3000 destroyers of this insidiously working little house pest, which has for centuries been one of the banes of Summer life in the more remote rural communities.

A simple device of wood and cloth makes jelly straining an easy and sure operation. A strictly utilitarian article with a grandiose title is a scrubbing chariot, while a dustless mop saves times and strength, and a folding ironing board, which is suspended from the wall, is always conveniently at hand when wanted and out of the way when not in use.

A shower bath which may be constructed at home for less than 50 cents has brought coolness and comfort to many bathless households, and quite frequently leads up to the installation of the \$10-home-manufactured water works recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

One step in progress leads to another

and the home extension club women have advanced steadily through the strictly utilitarian to the beautiful combined with the useful; and the department, appreciating the use of beauty, encourages the venture. I was, therefore, ready with a simple homemade design, when the country club woman followed her city sister's desire for possession of one of the